

# Pretty boy days over?

CONTINUED FROM B1

Rugged was the norm and old age, while not welcomed, was accepted as inevitably as the Lifetime Achievement Award. Now there is a bizarre belief that you can fool people into believing you're not getting older by cutting bits out of your face. Who are they kidding? Not us. We know how old they are.

Robert Redford was photographed emerging from The Ivy restaurant, in London, recently, with a face not so much "lived in" as vandalized. He no longer even looks like Robert Redford. Comedienne Joan Rivers claims he's had "bad" work done — and she should know. But he denies it. "I'm not afraid of aging," he has said. "It's a fact of life, unless you go to some length to arrest it, and that's not me." He has acknowledged that his "pretty boy" days are over. "Nobody is swooning over someone my age," he says.

Actresses know better. Their careers are largely dependent on their looks and they are attuned to a deterioration — from the point of view of the camera — from very early on. And from early on, they take action, be it careful maintenance (facials, treatments, peels, etc.) or subtle surgical intervention. Meryl Streep, 58, Michele Pfeiffer, 49 and Demi Moore, 44, have taken care of their faces and now look fantastic. They aren't playing romantic leads any longer, but good roles are still coming their way.

Some actors are genuinely smart and enter their "father of the bride" years with relish. Look at Jack Nicholson. Get up as close as you like. He doesn't care. He's honest, funny and recently enjoyed two of the best parts he's ever had — both written for a pensioner. He sent himself up delightfully in Something's Gotta Give, as a man with a young girlfriend who then falls in love with her mother, the fabulous Diane Keaton (who, at 61, plays a maturing sex symbol to perfection). In About Schmidt, he shared a hot tub, in a hilarious scene, with the frighteningly naked Kathy Bates.

Like Sean Connery and Dustin Hoffman, Nicholson didn't become famous just for his looks. And we've seen female stars who got to the top with a fierce intelligence and talent, rather than just a cute butt — Susan Sarandon, Jodie Foster, Helen Mirren, Catherine Deneuve — aging much more happily than their "babe" peers. Certainly, it is hard for Cruise and Grant et al. They live and work in a fantasy world. We believe — and, sometimes, they believe themselves — that they are like the people on the screen: fearless, witty, irresistibly sexy, able to run up mountains, stop a moving train and save the world. Why can't they accept it and avoid aging sadly?

# Grumpy Burger hits festival

## ARTBEAT

BY TED SHAW  
STAR ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

A new film about Windsor's Hi Ho Restaurant and a documentary about the late Kurt Cobain are among the 25 feature titles announced this week by the 2007 Windsor International Film Festival.

The third annual event runs Nov. 6-11 at four locations in Windsor and Lakeshore.

Windsor director Matt Gallagher's Hi Ho: The Rise & Fall of the Grumpy Burger, a film about filmmaking, is among seven gala presentations at the former Windsor Armouries on University Avenue East. It will be shown Nov. 10 at 9:15 p.m.

Gallagher trained his cameras on fe-

low filmmaker Marshall Sfalcin, who was attempting to make a movie about his grandfather's restaurant, the old Hi Ho on Tecumseh Road East.

• Kurt Cobain: About a Son was assembled in 2006 by director A.J. Schnack from interviews which the late leader of Nirvana made with journalist Michael Azerad. The film is fuelled by a superb soundtrack. It screens Nov. 9 at 9:15 p.m. at the Art Gallery of Windsor.

• The festival opens Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. with a screening at the Art Gallery of Windsor of Michael McNamara's 100 Films and a Funeral, a documentary about



Matt Gallagher

the demise of Polygram Pictures.

- Paul Schrader's latest, The Walker, starring Woody Harrelson as an escort for high-society women, will be shown at Windsor Armouries, Nov. 9, at 9 p.m.
- Persepolis is an animated feature from Frenchman Vincent Paronnaud adapted from the graphic novels of Marjane Satrapi. Windsor Armouries, Nov. 10, 5 p.m.
- When Did You Last See Your Father?, from Ireland's Anand Tucker, is a study of a man's dealing with the declining health of his father. It stars Colin Firth and Jim Broadbent. Windsor Armouries, Nov. 10, 7:15 p.m.

Other films will be screened at Palace Cinemas and Lakeshore Cinemas. For a complete list, go to [www.windsorfilmfestival.ca](http://www.windsorfilmfestival.ca).

**Stratford and Shaw on the road**  
With the end of the summer festival

seasons in Stratford and Niagara-on-the-Lake, its artistic directors are hitting the road and both will be in this area within a few days of each other.

Antoni Cimolino, general director the Stratford Shakespeare Festival, will be feted at a reception Nov. 3 at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center in suburban Detroit.

Cimolino will also bring some of the festival's actors for readings. The centre is located at 1516 South Cranbrook Rd. in Birmingham, Mich., near 14 Mile Rd. For information, call 248-644-0866.

Jackie Maxwell, director of the Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake, will address the University of Windsor's Humanities Research Group on Nov. 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Freed Orman Centre, 400 Huron Church Rd.

The lecture and reception are free. For more, call 519-253-3000, ext. 3506.

# Laurie called home

## ROLLCALL

From Star News Services

Dr. House is making an unscheduled house call to his native England.

The production schedule on Fox's hit medical drama House had to be reshuffled Thursday after star Hugh Laurie told producers that he had to go back home, and promptly took an afternoon flight to London.

"Hugh had family obligations in England to attend to, but production is continuing in his absence," said a Universal Studios spokeswoman.

Since the launch of House in 2004, Laurie has been separated from his wife and kids, who all still live in England.

A representative for the actor stressed that the trip had been cleared with the producers, and Laurie is expected to be back at work Monday.

It is understood that the sudden departure is not related to salary negotiations.

## Hilton's Rwanda trip postponed

LOS ANGELES

She can get out of jail, but Paris Hilton is having a harder time getting to Rwanda. The charita-

ble organization sponsoring Hilton's planned trip to the African nation, part of her aim to swap partying for philanthropy, said on Thursday it was postponing the journey.

## Screenwriters get new offer

LOS ANGELES

With less than a week to go before a presumed strike deadline, Hollywood studio executives sought to break a deadlock in contract talks with screenwriters by offering a newly condensed package of proposals. Initial reaction by the Writers Guild of America was chilly, with the chairman of the union's negotiating committee saying the studios' latest offer amounted to "minor adjustments to major rollbacks."

## Early Potter edition gets \$40,000

LONDON

A copy of the first trade edition of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, the first book in the seven-volume series, fetched \$40,000 at auction on Thursday, Christie's said.

The book was one of only 500 copies made of the edition, many of which were bought up by libraries, making pristine copies scarce and highly sought-after.

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Nick Roddick, Evening Standard

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Fri-Sat-Sun 1:10 4:20 6:50 9:25; Mon thru Thurs 4:20 6:50 9:25

THE COMEBACKS (No Passes) (14A)  
Fri-Sat-Sun 2:00 4:45 7:30 10:05; Mon thru Thurs 4:45 7:30 10:05

WE OWN THE NIGHT (18A)  
Fri-Sat-Sun 1:30 4:35 7:25 10:00; Mon thru Thurs 4:35 7:25 10:00

MICHAEL CLAYTON (No Passes) (14A)  
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