

Aadarai Mang Aadarai

A modern Romeo - Juliet romance?

RUWIN JAYAWARDANA

Promising young actor Prageeth S. Ratnayake had taken on a new challenge on the reel by acting, scripting and directing a movie. The main roles, Pavan and Malmee, are portrayed by Prageeth and Chathurika Peries.

The story is based on the romance which unfolds between two lovers who represent two social strata. Pavan is a law student emerging from a high class family while Malmee, a kinder garden school teacher from a middle class background. They meet and fall instantly in love but even though all seems too good to

be true, they are forced to face many obstacles in their desire to unite as one. Will their romance blossom or will? Will their dreams ever take form or shatter into a million smithereens? Will the story end in a fairytale wedding or a tragic Romeo - Juliet death scene?

The production manager is Sampath Perera. Janaka Chamara is the art director. Victor Ratnayake and Uresha Ravihari will render their voices for the songs which are penned by Prof Sunil Ariyaratne, Kularatne Ariyawansha, Kumaradasa Saputhanthri, Wasantha Kumara Koswaka and Geethantha Kudalgama. The movie is a Romeo's Eye Picture Production.

The cast and well-wishers of *Aadarai Mang Aadarai*. Pictures by Tennyson Edirisinghe

Cinema Directory 2010

The National Film Corporation is gathering details of the artistes and all those involved in the reel scene for Cinema Directory for 2010. Actors, film directors, producers, art directors, music directors, vocalists, script writers, editors, cameramen, still photographers, make up artists, critics, production managers, dubbing artistes and film crew are requested to send in their correct details such as addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and web-site addresses along with the titles of the films that were involved in before September 15 to Promotions Manager, 224, Bauvaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7. For more details contact 0112593430.

'Transformers' beat 'Dinosaurs' at box office

Transformers: *Revenge of the Fallen*

The giant robots of "Transformers" emerged on top in their weekend box office battle with the prehistoric stars of "Ice Age: Return of the Dinosaurs".

The hugely successful "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" finished its second week in first place with 42.3 million dollars, boosting its overall earnings to 293.4 million dollars in only two weeks of release.

The kid-friendly "Ice Age" featuring the voices of Queen Latifah and Dennis Leary as prehistoric animals who discover a lost jungle inhabited by dinosaurs, took 41.7 million dollars in box office receipts over the three-day Independence Day weekend. In third place was new release "Public Enemies," starring Johnny Depp, as notorious US gangster John Dillinger, which pulled in 25.3 million dollars in its first week.

Meanwhile, fourth place went to "The Proposal," a romantic comedy starring Sandra Bullock as a pushy

boss who marries her assistant for a visa.

The light-hearted romp continued to draw audiences, taking in 12.8 million dollars in its third week in theaters.

"The Hangover," a raucous comedy about the fallout from a Las Vegas bachelor party, came in fifth place with 11.3 million dollars in this week, bringing its four-week total to 205 million dollars a massive gain on its \$30-million-budget.

Pixar's latest animated feature "Up," which tells the heartwarming story of a grumpy old man who finds adventure in Latin America, stayed strong into its sixth week in theaters for sixth place. The hugely successful movie added another 6.5 million dollars, increasing its earnings to 294.8 million.

In its second week in theaters "My Sister's Keeper," starring Cameron Diaz, slipped down in the rankings with box office receipts of 5.8 million dollars, claiming the seventh spot. **AFP**

Bollywood stars try their hand behind the camera

Bollywood actor Saif Ali Khan makes his debut as a producer this month, marking a growing trend for stars in India's Hindi-language film industry to get more involved behind the cameras.

"Love Aaj Kal" (Love Today and Tomorrow), a drama featuring Khan and actress Deepika Padukone, hits screens on July 31. It is the first venture by Illuminati Films, which he set up earlier this year.

"I have worked in the industry for the last 18 years. Now I want to do something different and therefore I am producing films," said the 38-year-old, best known for films like the 2005 hit "Salaam, Namaste".

"I want to be creative-



Saif Ali Khan

ly satisfied as an actor, therefore I am putting in my money in projects that I believe in."

Now others are following suit.

Anil Kapoor, recently seen as the quizmaster in the Oscar-winning film "Slumdog Millionaire," has produced

after failing to secure mainstream backing.

"When I went to producers nobody was willing to touch it," said Warsi. "Some were ready but they wanted to change a bit of it and commercialise it. So, I felt it was better to produce my own film and act in it."

Bollywood has traditionally been a family affair, with directors and producers, actors, musicians and singers, all tending to come from powerful dynasties.

But that and those filmmakers with links to the city's underworld in the 1980s and 1990s is increasingly a thing of the past, as big business looks to get a greater share of the lucrative 2.1-billion-dollar-a-year industry. **AFP**

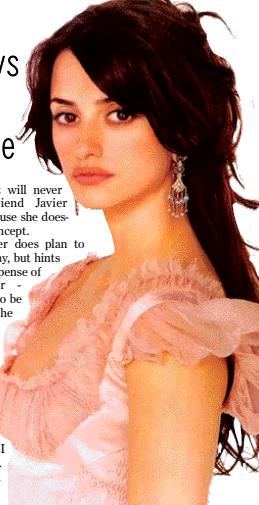
Cruz says 'No' to marriage

Penelope Cruz will never marry boyfriend Javier Bardem, because she doesn't believe in the concept.

The Oscar winner does plan to start a family one day, but hints it could be at the expense of her acting career - because she wants to be the best mum in the world.

Cruz reveals, "I want to have babies one day but not right now. When I do it I want to do it really well. I want it to be my best project in life. I don't know if I believe in marriage, I believe in family, love and children."

IMDB



I'm no heartthrob, says Radcliffe

The three 'Potter' stars, Rupert, Emma and Daniel at the premiere of 'Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince'. **AFP**

and socks is not quite so attractive to girls," Radcliffe admitted in an interview that girls scream at me... but the me that sits in a darkened room watching cricket for eight hours with a bowl of pasta in her underwear

aviewe: "We were all unbelievably horny from about the third film to probably about the end of the fifth; then it all settled down."

But Emma Watson, who plays the geeky Hermione Granger in the films, said fans should forget any hopes of her, Radcliffe and Rupert Grint - who plays the gawky Ron Weasley in the films - pairing off with each other in real life.

"When we were younger, we were always going back and forth to school so it is not as if Rupert and Dan were the only boys I saw," the 19-year-old said at the news conference.

"I know it would be of huge interest to the media if we were hooking up. But

we grew up together and we are just like siblings.

"There have not been any pairings like that (among the cast), I'm afraid."

Watson admitted that her decision to attend a university in the United States from August was motivated by her desire to "just be a teenager".

"I am just looking forward to meeting people my own age and having a normal life for once. But that does not mean that I'll never be acting again."

"It was always my dream (to go to university) before I did the films and so I don't see why I should change it," she said.

The six Potter films so far have earned 4.5 billion dollars (\$2.2 billion euros), making them one of the most successful film franchises in history.

"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" will open across the world from July 15.

AFP

War heroes get a dose of Tikiri Suwanda



Ven. Rambukkana Siddhartha Thera launches the website for *Tikiri Suwanda*. Ven. Galaboda Yamisara, Pothanegama Sumanaratne Theras, director Weerasiri and wife are also in the picture. Pictures by Saman Sri Wedge



Director Weerasiri donates a wheelchair for disabled war heroes. Ven. Athuraliye Rathana, Corporal Ariyapperuma and Lieutenant Ariyadasa are also in the picture.

It was an afternoon filled with serenity as the team of Sumi Aruna Weerasiri's maiden movie *Tikiri Suwanda* held a special Bodhi Pooja to evoke blessings for the country as well as the armed forces at the Humupitiya Gangaramaya Vihara.

The Maha Sangha, several politicians as well as celebrities took part in the ceremony titled *Rana Wijaya Prasada Pooyapahara*. Wheelchairs and other items were donated to disabled war heroes by the team. A website devoted to the film was also launched. **RJ**

International Documentary Film Festival On Migrations

Documentaries from Sri Lanka, France, Germany, India, Bangladesh and Cambodia (submitted in English) will be screened at the 'International Documentary Film Festival On Migrations'. The event will be held at the Alliance Francaise and Goethe Institut, Colombo, on July 17 and 18 at 3 p.m., 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Entrance free.