

AT THE MOVIES

'The World's Fastest Indian' (C+)

In playing the New Zealand man who broke the world land speed record on his modified Indian motorcycle, Anthony Hopkins — an actor with a very large presence — finds himself in a decidedly small movie.

Hopkins plays Burt Munro, a man of barrel-chested ebullience who wastes little time judging the people around him.

Munro was 72 in 1967 when he broke the record at Utah's Bonneville Salt Flats, but there's something earnest and boyish about him. **Rated:** PG-13

'Big Momma's House 2' (C-)

If you saw the original "Big Momma's House," which came out back in 2000, you've already seen every joke you find here.

Rated: PG-13

Casanova (C)

Aside from having little to say, the new edition of "Casanova" — directed by Lasse Hallstrom of "Chocolat" fame — tries so hard to serve up a crowd-pleasing buffet that it turns into a scattershot series of unrewarding nibbles.

Heath Ledger ("Brokeback Mountain") turns his attention to a period comedy in which the world's most famous Lothario falls for the love of his life (Sienne Miller).

Not particularly funny and mostly lacking in the kind of calories that might fatten the intellect. **Rated:** R

Nanny McPhee (B-)

Emma Thompson, who has an Oscar for screenwriting ("Sense and Sensibility") and acting ("Howards End"), fills both roles here, not only starring as the snaggleteethed title character but also providing a witty, intelligent script.

Thompson is solid in her performance as the nanny who magically forces children to learn to behave.

The film is loaded with entertaining humor that manages to engage adults and children alike. **Rated:** PG

The New World (C)

Terrence Malick skimps on storytelling and character development for this underdone tale of John Smith (Colin Farrell) and Pocahontas (Q'orianka Kilcher).

Great efforts have been made to create a 17th-century environment, but that only means viewers are more interested in the scenery than the characters. **Rated:** PG-13

Something New (B)

This movie lives up to its title: a romantic comedy both romantic and funny and not nearly as formulaic as so many others tend to be.

Things get a bit obvious with some of dialogue, but the movie takes a refreshing approach to an interracial romance starring Sanaa Lathan and Simon Baker. **Rated:** PG-13

TAKE IT HOME ON CD

Josh Turner

Your Man (MCA Nashville)

Two years ago, baritone-voiced Josh Turner created a stir by selling a million copies of his *Long Black Train* debut on the strength of a title song with an explicit Christian message unusual even for country music.

He's taken awhile to follow-up, but the title cut of *Your Man* is Turner's second country Top 10 hit, and it too breaks precedent by presenting a classy come-on that directly addresses sex between a married couple, another unusual topic for the country charts.

The romantic theme is perfect for Turner's distinctive vocals, which marry Barry White's tonal richness with Don Williams' relaxed rhythms.

It's not the album's only carnal tune, either: On "No Rush," the newly married Turner speaks of taking his sweet-loving time with his partner.

Remy Ma

There's Something About Remy: Based on a True Story (SRC/Universal)

As the lone female rapper in the Terror Squad, the Bronx collective of MCs led by Fat Joe, Remy Ma is no stranger to rhyming in a man's world.

Her song-stealing verse on last summer's "Lean Back" proved that she can hang with the big boys.

Now, on her solo debut, Remy expends much energy usurping hip-hop's gender hierarchy. But her over-the-top power plays and a decidedly monochromatic flow keep Remy from being able to rightfully claim raps female throne.

Remy is at her best on the album in songs revealing her vulnerable side.

'Curious George' playful extension of storybooks

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The tagline alone for "Curious George" — "Show Me the Monkey!" — is enough to make you cringe with dread.

Oh, no, you're thinking. Not again. They took a classic children's story and crammed it with pop-culture jokes and self-referential humor like so many recent animated films simply to appeal to the adults in the audience.

Thankfully, they didn't. "Curious George" remains within its own candy-colored universe and stays true to the lighthearted spirit of the beloved books by Margret and H.A. Rey.

No "Jerry Maguire" jokes within the movie itself, but there are a couple of riffs on "King Kong," which are actually relevant and very funny.

The film is ideal for the same audience the books target (kids



AP PHOTO

Ted, The Man with the Yellow Hat (voiced by Will Ferrell), backs away with George after his furry friend's finger-painting escapades in "Curious George."

ages 4 to 8) which may make it tedious at times for the parents sitting alongside them.

George is buddies with all the baby elephants and zebras and

rhinos, whom he pals around with in his African jungle home at the movie's start.

Later he engages New York museum curator Ted (Will Fer-

rell) — you know, the dude in the yellow hat — in one of many playful games of peek-a-boo, bouncing and cooing the whole way through, before eagerly sneaking onto a ship and following Ted home.

There's something sort of refreshing, though, about its simplicity and innocence. Director Matthew O'Callaghan and screenwriter Ken Kaufman haven't tried to create a film that's hip, just one that's funny and sweet, and in that sense they've succeeded.

Plus, George is just so darn cute with his big eyes and bright smile and perpetually sunny disposition, he's pretty much impossible to resist.

For kids, he also represents the ultimate in wish fulfillment: He gets to make a mess of the bathroom by unrolling toilet

paper all over the place, he splashes a rainbow of paint across the white walls of a pristine apartment, and he never gets in trouble!

Ted is always there to bail him out, until he's finally had enough of George's impish antics and angrily sends him away, which is surprisingly moving.

Ironically, Ferrell is less animated doing the voice of an animated character than he is playing actual people in movies like "Elf," but he's just as likable when he tones it down.

The rest of the vocal cast is similarly solid, including Drew Barrymore as a teacher whose crush on Ted inspires her to repeatedly drag her students to the museum and Dick Van Dyke as the museum owner who sends Ted to Africa looking for the lost idol of the Zagawa tribe.

MOVIE REVIEW

'Curious George'
• Rating: G
• Stars: 2½ out of four

MUST-SEE MOVIES COMING SOON

'Ice Age 2: The Meltdown,' March 31

A woolly mammoth, a sloth and a saber-toothed tiger walk into a sequel ...

Ray Romano, John Leguizamo and Denis Leary reunite as mouthpieces for the mismatched trio from the 2002 animated smash, joined by Queen Latifah, who provides the voice of a fellow mammoth.

'Poseidon,' May 12

Director Wolfgang Petersen updates the 1970s disaster tale "The Poseidon Adventure," about a monster tidal wave that tips an ocean liner upside down.

The cast of survivors struggling to the bottom, er, top of the vessel includes Josh Lucas, Kurt Russell, Emmy Rossum and Richard Dreyfuss.

Petersen ("The Perfect Storm," "Das Boot") knows water, promising to make "Poseidon" just the sort of visual feast to make the cruise-ship industry sweat a bit about last-minute cancellations.

'The Da Vinci Code,' May 19

Adapted from Dan Brown's best-selling murder-thriller that dissects the origins of Christianity, the film stars Tom Hanks as a symbologist caught up in the mysteries of an ancient, shadowy religious society.

'Over the Hedge,' May 19

This animated film enters on that demarcation line where human suburbia meets the realm of furry animals in the wild.

Among the voice cast: Bruce Willis as a wily raccoon, Garry Shandling as a timid turtle, Steve Carell as a frenzied squirrel, William Shatner as a possum that specializes in playing dead, Avril Lavigne as the possum's daughter, Wanda Sykes as a saucy skunk and Nick Nolte as a bear.

'Cars,' June 9

Owen Wilson, Paul Newman and Bonnie Hunt lead the voice cast in the tale of a race car that learns about life in the slow lane when he's sidetracked into a

snoozy burgh called Radiator Springs.

'Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest,' July 7

Hard to believe that just a couple of years ago, Johnny Depp was box-office poison.

Depp returns as woozy buccaneer Capt. Jack Sparrow, reunited with co-stars Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley.

'Flight 93,' April 28; 'World Trade Center,' August

The curiosity factor bodes well for the first theatrical dramatizations about the terrorist attacks to hit the big screen.

Oliver Stone's "World Trade Center" stars Nicolas Cage and Michael Pena in the real-life story of policemen trapped in the twin towers.

"Flight 93," directed by Paul Greengrass ("The Bourne Supremacy") uses a cast of unknowns as passengers who fought back against terrorists on the plane that crashed Sept. 11 in Pennsylvania.

• Single

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1)

thousands of units, they don't see any royalties. The costs of re-recording CDs dig into any profits.

"The record has traditionally been the loss-leader to focus attention on the tour and the other ways where you can actually make some money," Bliesener says. "We decided to do these podcasts and release the record that way."

Digital music downloads offer a level of consumer choice that's completely unprecedented, says Geoff Mayfield, senior analyst for Billboard magazine.

"Even in the heyday of singles, there were only X-number of songs released as retail-available singles. In the world we're living in right now, as soon as an album comes to market, in most cases virtually every song on that album is available a la carte."

All of which doesn't mean albums will go away, Mayfield says.

"The Bruce Springsteen fans aren't going to cherry-pick the songs. They're going to buy the Springsteen album," he said. "There are always going to be artists who sell albums."

FRANKLIN COLLEGE

Announcement

Non-credit course registration is open now for evening, daytime and weekend classes in a variety of subjects. To see the complete listing, go to www.franklincollege.edu and click on the "Continuing Studies" link at the bottom right of the page.

All events are free unless cost is listed.

Friday, February 10

6 p.m., Franklin College Sweethearts Event, Franklin Room, Napolitan Student Center. Alumni and friends are welcome to attend this event which will include dinner and the classic film "Breakfast at Tiffany's" at The Artcraft Theatre in downtown Franklin. Cost is \$30 per couple. Please contact the Alumni Relations Office at 738-8050 for reservations.

Saturday, February 11

3 p.m., Women's Basketball: Franklin College vs. College of Mount St. Joseph, Spurlock Center Gymnasium. Admission: adults, \$3; high school and college students, \$2; middle school students and younger, free.

Wednesday, February 15

7:30 p.m., Women's Basketball: Franklin College vs. Transylvania University (Senior Night), Spurlock Center Gymnasium. Admission: adults, \$3; high school and college students, \$2; middle school students and younger, free.

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To schedule an appointment with Dr. Travis or the other Johnson Memorial Health Affiliates physicians, please call (317) 346-3883, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Dr. Travis and Johnson Memorial Health Affiliates are currently accepting new patients.