

# film review

By LAURA COOK

## The Princess Diaries 2 ~ Royal Engagement



Five years after the box office hit The Princess Diaries, Anne Hathaway returns as the sensational royal Princess Mia of Genovia. Transformed from geek to gorgeous in the first film, Mia is now done college and close to being ready to assume her position on the throne. Now that she is twenty-one, the custom of the country is for the old Queen, played by Julie Andrews, to step down and allow the next in line to be instated. As with any good fairy tale, the evil Viscount Mabrey (Jonathan Rhys-Davies) wishes for his own part of the royal action and decrees that his nephew is the rightful heir. Mabrey reminds Genovian parliament that their law clearly states the princess shall be married before taking the throne. In an age of gender equality and women's rights, Mia surprisingly tries to abide by this rule in her designated thirty-day time limit resulting in some hilarious antics and realistic depictions of the paparazzi.

Although I had originally thought this film would be one of those great all ages Disney productions, The Princess Diaries 2 caters mainly to the ten and under age group who still have the naïveté to wish upon a star and hope to marry a handsome prince someday. With the exception of Julie Andrews' miraculously well-sung "Your Crowning Glory", (a miraculous feat after her botched throat surgery in 1997), the film unfortunately doesn't manage to incorporate many adult jokes or references to keep the adults awake. While I'm sure my seven year-old cousin would enjoy the many perks that Garry Marshall associates with being a princess, I would argue this film is merely a modern non-cartoon version of Cinderella that seeks to emphasize the colossal dream Disney has instilled in all girls, that everyone can indeed be a princess if you just have enough jewels and 'really believe you can'.

## halton happenings

### Volunteer Opportunity

Canadian Mental Health Association in Acton is looking for Volunteer Drivers to provide clients transportation to and from social recreational activities in the Acton and Milton areas. Drivers are used both for regular activities (generally daytime) and for special events. For more information, please call 519-853-9793.

### Volunteer Opportunity

The Museums of Burlington could use your help as a Museum Tour Guide or Education Program Assistant. Training is provided. For more information on this and other interesting volunteer opportunities, contact the Volunteer Program Administrator, (905) 332-9888.

### Adult Learning

ADULTS Learn to Read\*Spell\*Write Registrations being taken from Sept 8th. 905 873 2200 - Confidential service

## New Releases

### Man on Fire

A government operative/Soldier of fortune, has pretty much given up on life. In Mexico City, he reluctantly agrees to take a job to protect a child whose parents are threatened by a wave of kidnappings. He eventually becomes close to the child and their relationship reawakens and rekindles his spirit. When she is abducted, his fiery rage is unleashed on those he feels responsible, and he stops at nothing to save her.

Rated: 14A for language and strong violence

### Scooby-Doo

The city of Coolsville is threatened when an evil villain uses the Monster Machine to re-create ghouls from Mystery Inc's past, including The 10,000 Volt Ghost, Captain Cutler and The Creeper!

Rated: PG for frightening scenes



## Top 10 Rentals

THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES



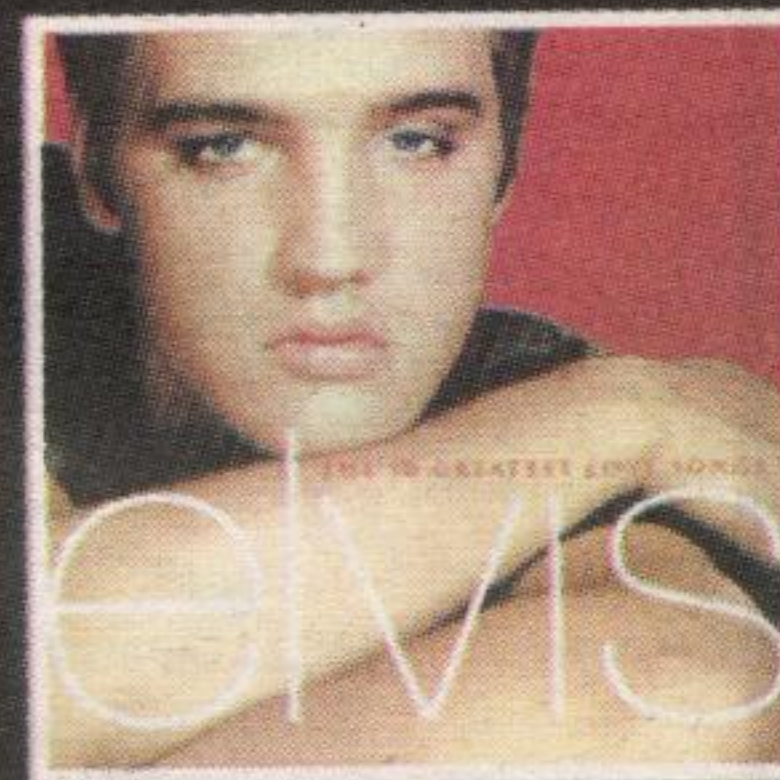
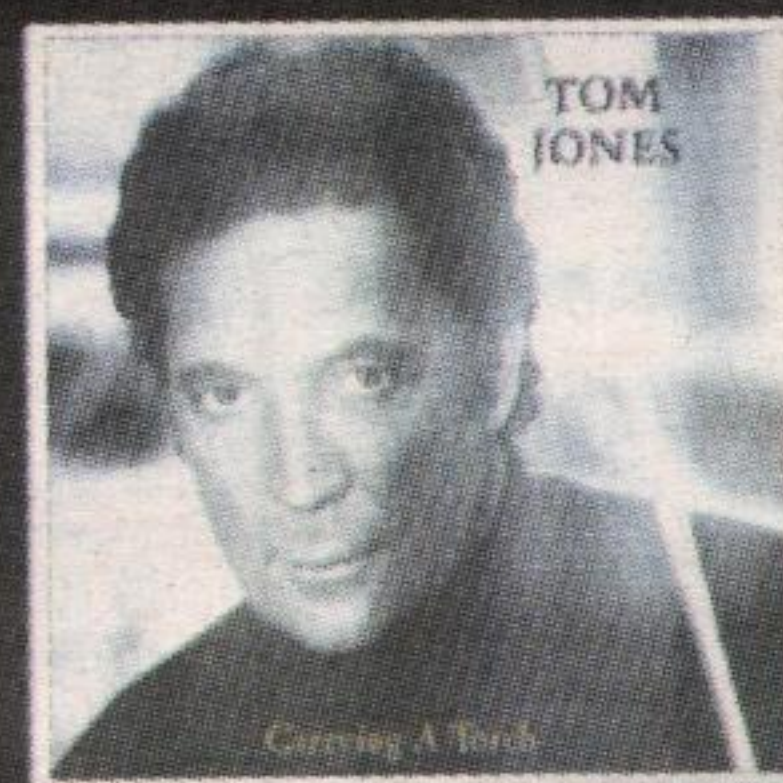
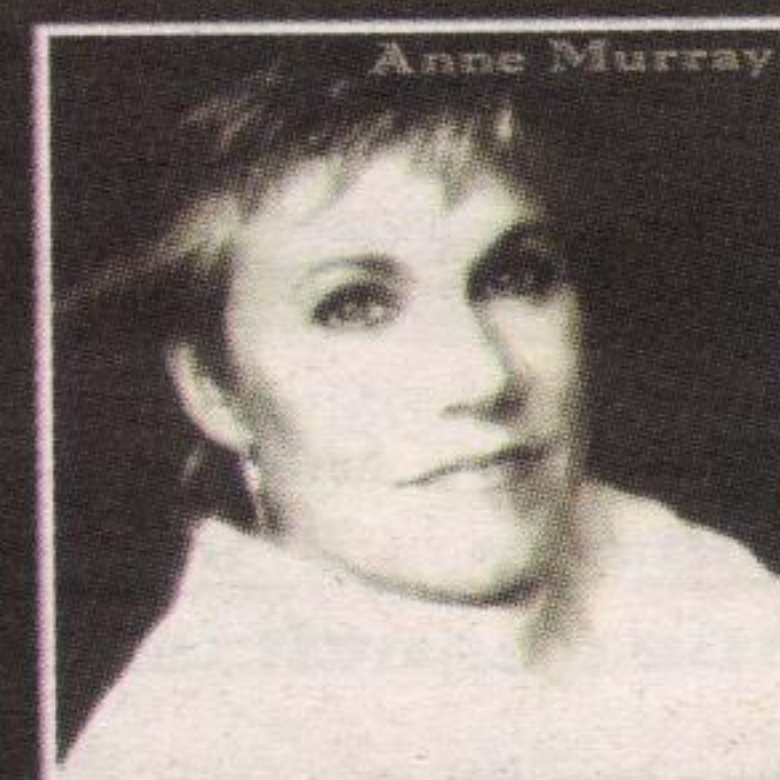
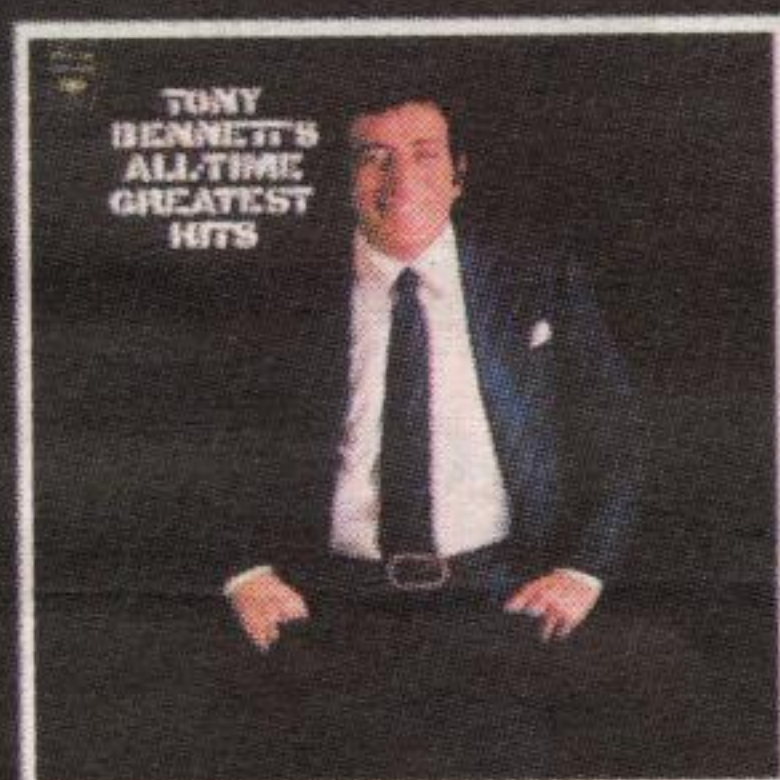
### Top 10 Platinum Rentals for the week of September 14th to 20th

1. Man On Fire
2. The Ladykillers
3. Scooby-Doo 2: Monster Unleashed
4. The Punisher
5. The Passion of the Christ
6. Twisted
7. Taking Lives
8. The Girl Next Door
9. Jersey Girl
10. Hidalgo

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prime time radio

## All Time Favourites



★ BEATLES ★ FRANK SINATRA ★ NAT KING COLE  
★ TONY BENNETT ★ DIONNE WARWICK ★ TOM JONES

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