

Prepare to meteor maker in Deep Impact



Astronauts Mikhail Tulchinsky (Alexander Baluev, left) and Gus Partenza (Jon Favreau) plant a detonating device in an attempt to alter the course of the comet in *Deep Impact*.

It's that time of year again. Time for the studios to unleash their big budget action spectaculars on the movie going public.

First out of the gate in this, the year of the comet, is *Deep Impact*, a big, brash, splashy and silly end-of-the-world science fiction/action movie that pits humankind against a seven-mile-long asteroid hurtling towards earth.

It's the kind of movie that you find yourself watching and wondering what the filmmakers were thinking when they let some of this stuff through the editing process. In other words, parts of it are so dumb, corny or unrealistic that you can't help but roll your eyes in disbelief.

At the same time, though, it's strangely entertaining and not as downright atrocious as it could have been.

Tea Leoni (TV's *Naked Truth*) plays an ambitious TV reporter named Jenny Lerner who stumbles across what she thinks is a hot story involving infidelity, a woman named Ellie and a cover-up in the president's cabinet. But it turns out to be something different and much, much larger. The earth is actually on a collision course with a massive asteroid that threatens to wipe out the entire planet in less

than a year.

In an attempt to keep control of the situation, President Tom Beck (Morgan Freeman) gives regular televised updates of the world's attempts to destroy the threat.

First it's a joint US/Russian-manned mission to the comet's surface led by experienced moonwalker Spurgeon Tanner (Robert Duvall) on what he assumes will be his final mission. The plan is to plant a series of nuclear depth charges that will disintegrate the menace.

Meanwhile back on earth, the American public has been informed of a backup plan that involves a million people being randomly selected by lottery to take refuge in a so-called Ark project that will allow them to live underground for two years until the apocalyptic effects of the comet's collision have cleared.

Director Mimi Leder, whose previous credits begin and end with the slightly above average George Clooney action pic, *The Peacemaker*, is never able to rein in all of the elements.

Deep Impact isn't entirely without merit, though. Some fine performances and the clever twist writers Michael Tolkin and Bruce Joel Rubin have applied to an old concept make it bearable.

But most importantly, it isn't boring. All you can really ask for of a summer action film is that it entertains. And *Deep Impact* does.

This isn't intelligent or meaningful high art, it's escapist fun and as long as you remember that, you should have a good time.



Screen Scene

Stuart Green

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK DEVELOPMENT CHARGES

Take Notice that on Thursday, June 11, 1998, the Council of The Regional Municipality of York will hold a public meeting pursuant to the Development Charges Act, 1997, regarding proposed development charge rates and policies that will be applied throughout the Region of York. It is proposed that enactment of a Development Charge By-law by Regional Council would occur on a date subsequent to this public meeting.

Development charges are levied against new development, and are a primary source for funding growth-related capital expenditures. Regional capital services include water, wastewater, transportation (roads, transit) and general services (police, long term care, health, public works).

Regional Council is required under the Development Charges Act, 1997 to hold at least one public meeting to allow the public an opportunity to review and provide comments on the 1998 Regional Development Charge Study, related staff reports and the proposed Development Charge By-law. Regional Council has previously held a preliminary public meeting February 26, 1998, at which time public input received was considered by Regional Council on proposed development charge policies.

All interested parties are invited to attend on

Thursday, June 11, 1998
9:00 a.m.
Regional Council Chambers
17250 Yonge Street,
Newmarket, Ontario

Copies of the 1998 Development Charges Background Study, related staff reports, and the proposed By-law will be available through the Regional Clerk's office.

Written submissions are invited and should be directed to S.G. Cartwright, Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer, by no later than 4:30 p.m. on June 4, 1998. Written comments received prior to the meeting and submissions made at the public meeting will be considered by Regional Council prior to enactment of a new Regional Development Charge By-law. Inquiries should be directed to the Commissioner of Finance and Treasurer. Anyone wishing to address Council on the above-noted matters should advise D. Hears, Regional Clerk, at 895-1231, ext. 1309.