

Movie Review

Film 'Say Anything' has nothing new to say

By **JAMES DEAN**
Staff Writer

Frankly, for reasons that I won't bore you with, I haven't been able to get around to any of those hot new Hollywood releases this week. Not that any of them are at all riveting. But luckily, movie lovers, a close personal friend of mine for more than 20 years and a particularly reliable (not to say candid) source when it comes to movies, has agreed, after much persuasion, to open his heart about the new film from James Brooks' ("Broadcast News," "Big") production company, **Say Anything** . . .

JD: Is there anything you want to say about "Say Anything . . ."?

RS: Reliable Source. Frankly, James, see anything but "Say Anything . . ." It's the oldest plot in the book.

JD: I haven't got the book.

RS: Let me elaborate, then. Boy meets girl. Boy falls in love with girl. Boy sleeps with girl, until tragically girl's father's tax embezzlement from his own nursing home tears them apart. We've seen it all a thousand times before.

JD: We sure have. Especially the nursing home embezzlement racket. A lot of people will be able to relate to him at tax time.

RS: A timely release, indeed.

JD: So anyway, how does it all turn out?

RS: Well, I don't want to give away the ending. But I will say this. Boy follows girl to England to live off her fellowship money.

JD: Oh, an expensive production. I'm from England, you know.

RS: Actually, James, they don't even get off the airplane.

JD: Doing what, if I may intrude for one moment?

RS: In a suspenseful climax, they both wait for the seat belt sign to beep. Seriously, I'm not kidding.

JD: Don't you mean "bing." Don't seat belt signs bing?

RS: No, it's a definite "beep."

JD: Anyway, the question on everyone's mind. Do they live happily ever after?

RS: By that time, we were all hoping that the plane would crash.

JD: So what are you telling me here? You didn't like "Say Anything . . ."

RS: In a word, it was without question the worst movie I have seen since "Endless Love."

JD: What about the music? Was there a ballad to match the astounding power of the Lionel Richie-Diana Ross duet? I still weep when I hear it.

RS: No.

JD: Oh.

RS: We did have gratuitous lovey eye contact during Peter Gabriel's "In Your Eyes."

JD: I get it. Eye contact, in your eyes. That's neat.

RS: Followed by John Cusack standing outside her window at 5 o'clock in the morning playing the same song to remind her of the love they shared.

JD: In a sort of objective correlative manner.

RS: Sort of.

JD: There I go, weeping again. Does he have that look on his face?

RS: You guessed it. The "I'm-so-horny-I'll-do-anything-to-wake-you-up-baby" look.

JD: I know it well. So what we're saying here is that John Cusack has landed himself another terrible part in another movie that requires him to do the look.

RS: In a thigh, yes. I've seen all his movies, and this one ranks right up there with the worst of them, "Better off Dead," "One Crazy Summer," I could go on.

JD: No, it's okay. And he showed such promise in "The Sure Thing."

RS: That's because they took more than a half hour to write that script.

JD: It's such a tragic reflection

on the state of art in our society.

RS: If you say so, James.

JD: I do.

RS: And speaking of tragic reflections, Joan Cusack puts in a gratuitous appearance as John's sister.

JD: You mean —

RS: Yes, a neat bit of irony.

JD: It's funny how life can imitate art like that.

RS: One of the most mesmer-

izing brother-sister teams since Groucho Marx and Shirley Temple.

JD: Yes, indeed. When we were still in high school.

RS: The star of the show is John's 4-year-old kickboxing nephew.

JD: I heard he's the most accessible character.

RS: He's the only one you can stand to watch after the first five minutes, if that's what you're implying.

JD: You mean —

RS: Yes, the girl is a nightmare. One of the worst.

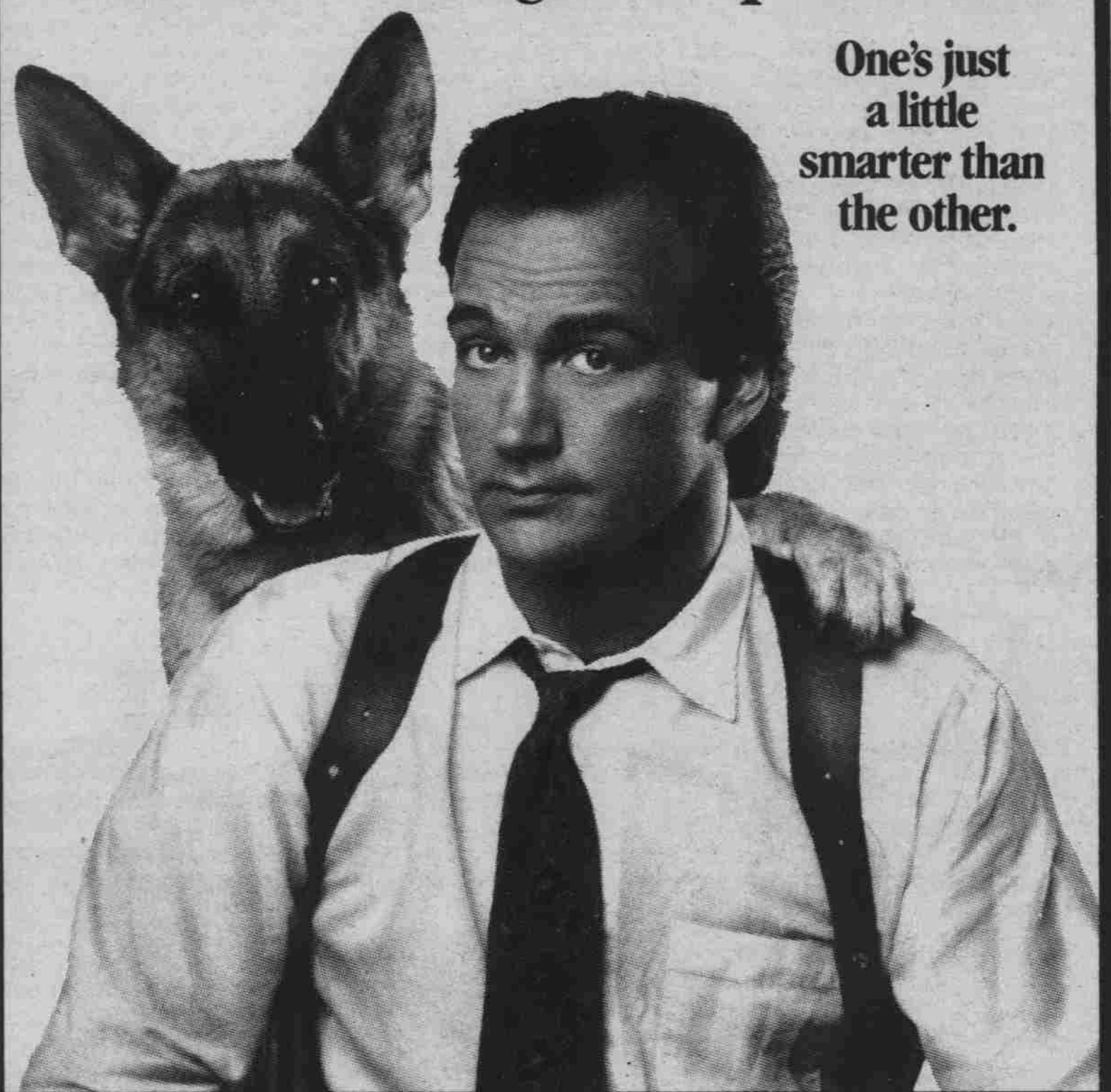
JD: Like the movie, by the sound of it. Your final recommendation?

RS: If anyone asks you to see this movie, say you're sick, say you have to wash your mother. Say anything . . . but don't go.

JD: Do you want to have lunch later?

RS: I thought you'd never ask.

Meet the two toughest cops in town.



One's just
a little
smarter than
the other.

JAMES BELUSHI

K-9

AND INTRODUCING JERRY LEE AS HIMSELF

GORDON COMPANY Production ROD DANIEL Film "K-9" MEL HARRIS Written by STEVEN SIEGEL & SCOTT MYERS

Music by MILES GOODMAN Co-Producer STEVEN SIEGEL Executive Producer DONNA SMITH Produced by LAWRENCE GORDON AND

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

CHARLES GORDON Directed by ROD DANIEL

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OPENS APRIL 28 AT A THEATRE NEAR YOU.

WNYC Top 20 Albums

ARTIST

1. Drivin-n-Cryin
2. Flaming Lips
3. FIREHOSE
4. Sidewinders
5. Neville Brothers
6. Dirty Dozen Brass Band
7. The Cult
8. Green on Red
9. The Clean
10. My Bloody Valentine
11. Peppino D'agostino
12. Wygals
13. The Brood
14. Zulus
15. New Model Army
16. Gaye Bikers on Acid
17. House of Freaks
18. Run Westy Run
19. Screaming Trees
20. Tall Dwarfs

ALBUM

1. Mystery Road
2. Telepathic Surgery
3. FROMOHIO
4. Witch Doctor
5. Yellow Moon
6. Voodoo
7. Sonic Temple
8. Here Come the Snakes
9. Compilation
10. Isn't Anything
11. Sparks
12. Honyocks in the Whithersoever
13. In Spite of it all
14. Down on the Floor
15. Thunder and Consolation
16. Stewed to the Gills
17. Tantilla
18. Run Westy Run
19. Buzz Factory
20. Hello Cruel World