

'Wayne's World' unshakeable in over-the-top box-office spot

By David Kronke

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In the clash between "Saturday Night Live" stars at the nation's movie theaters, the upstarts trounced the veteran.

Audiences for the new Chevy Chase movie "Memoirs of an Invisible Man" were scarcely in sight its opening weekend, while "Wayne's World" partied on at the top of the box office pack for the third consecutive week.

"Wayne's World," the "SNL"

spinoff starring Mike Myers and Dana Carvey, grossed \$9.6 million over the weekend, registering a still-strong \$5,134 per-screen average. The \$14 million comedy has returned \$46.1 million on its investment to date.

"Memoirs," meanwhile, opened in second place but to disappointing business — \$4.6 million, averaging \$2,625 per screen.

Audiences seemed to stop seeing "Stop! Or My Mom Will Shoot" as the film's receipts dropped nearly 40 percent from its opening weekend to \$4.5 million, for a feeble \$2,280 per screen average.

"Fried Green Tomatoes" continued its impressive run, taking in \$4.35 million — good enough for fourth place — over the weekend. It has grossed \$47 million to date.

Fifth-place "Medicine Man" and sixth-place "The Hand That Rocks the Cradle" each took in \$3.5 million, separated from one another by a mere \$5,000 in re-

ceipts nationwide.

In 11th place was "Bugsy," whose 10 Oscar nominations helped rekindle interest — it grossed \$1.5 million, for a total of \$44.4 million. Oliver Stone's "JFK" came in 12th with \$1.25 million; it has earned \$65 million since its release.

Despite an aggressive ad campaign, the big-budget child-abuse opus "Radio Flyer" divebombed in its second week of release. The much-beleaguered film, plagued by production problems, grossed less than \$1 million, dropping more than 50 percent from its opening weekend.

In limited release, "The Mambo Kings" waltzed to a \$319,793 opening, averaging a swinging \$9,994 per screen. Nora Ephron's directorial debut, "This Is My Life," grossed \$313,964 at 31 theaters for a per screen average of \$10,128, and the erotic thriller "Under Suspicion" earned \$47,349 playing on just two screens.

WEEKEND MOVIE MONEymAKERS

Movie Distributor	Weekend gross screens	Total gross weeks in release	Local gross
1. "Wayne's World" Paramount	\$9.6 million 1,878 screens	\$46.1 million three weeks	\$78,000
2. "Memoirs of an Invisible Man" Warner Bros.	\$4.6 million 1,753 screens	\$4.6 million one week	\$52,000
3. "Stop! Or My Mom Will Shoot" Universal	\$4.5 million 1,963 screens	\$13 million two weeks	\$36,000
4. "Fried Green Tomatoes" Universal	\$4.35 million 1,329 screens	\$47 million 10 weeks	\$25,000
5. "Medicine Man" Buena Vista	\$3.5 million 1,363 screens	\$30.8 million four weeks	\$23,000
6. "Hand That Rocks the Cradle" Buena Vista	\$3.5 million 1,679 screens	\$69.7 million eight weeks	\$22,000
7. "Final Analysis" Warner Bros.	\$2.3 million 1,383 screens	\$22.7 million four weeks	\$19,000
8. "Beauty and the Beast" Buena Vista	\$2.1 million 1,346 screens	\$116 million 16 weeks	\$22,000
9. "Mississippi Masala" Columbia	\$1.5 million 1,163 screens	\$2.6 million 10 weeks	\$29,000
10. "The Prince of Tides" Columbia	\$1.5 million 1,163 screens	\$66.3 million 10 weeks	\$29,000

Source: Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc.

Figures for local grosses are compiled from the major first-run theaters in Los Angeles and do not represent the total local gross.