

Jamal Jeffries is one basketball star who stirs up heat both on and off the court. This player's got game, girls and attitude to spare. But when one confrontation too many gets him booted out of the league, Jamal is gonna need a lot more than a good agent to get him back on the courts. He's gonna need brains, creative ball-handling, and just the right shade of lipstick.

Jamal's only chance to get his game back is to join up with the *other* league—the women's basketball league. With coerced support from his reluctant agent and a heavily padded sports bra, Jamal transforms himself from the bad boy of basketball to its newest female role model: Juwanna Mann!

The Juwanna Mann team consists of MIGUEL A. NUÑEZ, JR. (Why Do Fools Fall in Love, Life) in the dual role of Jamal Jeffries and his female alter-ego, Juwanna Mann; VIVICA A. FOX (Soul Food, Independence Day) as Michelle Langford, Team Captain of the Charlotte Banshees; KEVIN POLLAK (The Usual Suspects, The Whole Nine Yards) as Jamal/Juwanna's agent Lorne Daniels; TOMMY DAVIDSON (Bamboozled, TV's In Living Color) as Juwanna's would-be suitor and wanna-be mack-daddy rapper, Puff Smokey Smoke; best-selling R&B singer GINUWINE as Romeo, Michelle's philandering boyfriend; KIM WAYANS (Don't Be a Menace to South Central

While Drinking Your Juice in the Hood, TV's In Living Color) as the ultra competitive power forward Latisha Jansen; and a special appearance by double-Platinum hip-hop sensation LIL' KIM as Jamal's trophy girlfriend, Tina Parker.

The film is a Morgan Creek Production directed by JESSE VAUGHAN with JAMES G. ROBINSON, BILL GERBER and STEVE OEDEKERK producing and JONATHAN A. ZIMBERT and Emmy Award-winner RALPH SINGLETON serving as executive producers. BRADLEY ALLENSTEIN wrote the screenplay. The behind-the camera talent includes ASC Award-nominated director of photography REYNALDO VILLALOBOS (*Love and Basketball*); production designer EVE CAULEY (*The Patriot*); editor SETH FLAUM (*The Replacements*); composers WENDY MELVOIN & LISA COLEMAN (*Soul Food*) and costume designer PEGGY FARRELL (TV's *American Gothic*). The film is distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures, an AOL Time Warner Company.

This film has been rated PG-13 for "language and sex related material."

www.juwannamann.com / AOL Keyword:

Juwannamann

### ABOUT THE STORY

Juwanna Mann tells the story of a professional basketball player who blows his career but gets a chance to bounce back by ditching his jock strap for a sports bra. Miguel A. Nuñez, Jr. makes his motion picture starring debut as Jamal Jeffries, star player of the Charlotte Beat, whose prowess on the court is matched only by his outrageous antics both on and off of it.

"Jamal is a pro player who is extremely pompous and arrogant," says director Jesse Vaughan. "He has the wrong perspective on his career and, like so many professional athletes today, he's doing it all for the glitz, glamour and money. Since he's at the top of his game, he feels like he can get away with anything."

But when Jamal finally goes too far by stripping off his entire uniform in front of millions of fans, he's slam-dunked with a dose of reality by getting himself kicked out of the league. "He loses his Hummer limo, he loses his girl, he loses everything," says Nuñez. "Jamal is really brought down to earth by the circumstances. But desperate times call for desperate measures, so he comes up with a plan so unbelievable, he's positive he can make it work." Jamal's plan: dress up like a woman and try-out for the Charlotte Banshees-the women's basketball team. If he can pull it off, he'll at least be able to collect a paycheck while waiting to get reinstated into the men's league.

So with the help of his Aunt Ruby, he puts on the right wig, some form-fitting falsies, and suddenly, Jamal Jeffries magically transforms himself into Juwanna Mann, a smart-mouthed country girl who can slam the boards like no other. "Juwanna is straight up from the country," laughs Nuñez. "Her first basketball rim was a toilet seat. Her family was so poor at Thanksgiving, they didn't have turkey—they had possum."

At the tryouts, Juwanna has all the moves of an A-player and is quickly offered a spot on the team. And it's Jamal's unsuspecting agent, Lorne Daniels, who negotiates Juwanna's basketball deal. "It's only after the deal has been finalized that Juwanna reveals her scheme to him," notes Pollak. "Lorne doesn't want any part of it, so he spends all of his efforts desperately trying to get Jamal back in the men's league in order to stop this ridiculous ruse."

While Juwanna's playing style initially echoes Jamal's, it's up to Michelle Langford, captain of the Charlotte Banshees, to make Juwanna understand the meaning of the word "team." "Michelle would prefer to

keep Juwanna on the bench," says Vivica A. Fox. "The coach forces Michelle to turn Juwanna into a team player and through her efforts Jamal slowly comes to have a better understanding of women-and ends up a better ball player in the process."

"Jamal finds new lessons in life, having to live as a woman in a woman's world," adds Nuñez. "He slowly begins to realize that if he's truly going to make it, he has to make some major changes in his life."

As the "girlfriends" grow closer and Jamal contends with the tricky issues of away-game sleepovers, communal showers and team physical exams, he finds himself falling hard for his captain and teammate. "He starts to have feelings for Michelle but can't express them because she thinks he's a woman," says Fox. "And to make matters worse, she's already in a relationship."

Michelle's boyfriend Romeo is played by R&B star Ginuwine. "Romeo is a player," says Ginuwine. "He doesn't know how to treat women, and Jamal recognizes this because he's a player too. He knows exactly what Romeo is up to."

Unwittingly, Juwanna also catches the attention of an over-the-top rapper Puff Smokey Smoke, played by Tommy Davidson. "Puff Smokey Smoke doesn't know that Juwanna Mann is a man," says Davidson. "He just thinks that Juwanna wants a man. So, he's going, 'Hey, Juwanna Mann!' And she's saying, 'Juwanna bet?' So Puff Smokey Smoke has a very rude awakening in store for him."

Juwanna also gets thoroughly scrutinized by her fellow teammate Latisha, played by Kim Wayans. "Latisha's nick name is 'The Lizard' because she's always on the prowl," says Wayans. "She's the hard core member of the team, always talking trash to people, but she's got a pretty good game to back up that trash."

But even when a chance to return to the men's league becomes more

likely, Jamal finds himself irrevocably changed after his season with the Banshees. "We as men sometimes conceal certain qualities, such as being sensitive, understanding or considerate, that can make us a better person," says Vaughan. "By stepping into the body of a woman, Jamal comes to realize that it's all about the team-both on and off the court."

## ABOUT THE CAST AND THEIR ROLES

The filmmakers knew the key to the film would be the casting of the title character. "We all knew that this actor needed a range that went from comical hijinks to tender, sensitive moments," says producer and Morgan Creek CEO James G. Robinson. "We tested eight actors for the dual role of Jamal Jeffries and Juwanna Mann and from the very first, I was confident that Miguel Nuñez had the talent to pull it off."

"I don't think you could have asked for a more talented person to work with," says producer Bill Gerber. "You meet him first as a hardcore basketball player who has an urban edge to him. Then, he puts on a dress, some contact lenses, throws in that North Carolina accent and becomes a completely different person. There are a lot of talented people out there who are really good at what they do, but do they have the range of Miguel Nuñez? It's rare."

Creating the two totally opposite roles was a huge challenge for Nuñez. "It was hard because I wondered if I should just be Jamal playing a woman, or if I should be Jamal who <u>becomes</u> a woman," says Nuñez. "I'm from North Carolina, deep, deep, deep in the country just like Juwanna, so I modeled her after every trash-talking country girl that I knew, the ones who always ran their mouths. I also drew from my memories of growing up with seven aunts in my house—their attitudes and how they acted."

To play Banshees team captain Michelle Langford, Vaughan's first

choice was Vivica A. Fox. "I wanted her in our film first of all because she's a great actor," relates Vaughan. "Secondly, she has the ability to portray heartfelt sensitivity with that wonderful, beautiful smile of hers and, in a beat, turn it off to give her character an edge and street sensibility. She's an actor with a lot of range and great talent."

"It's not just her beauty," observes executive producer Jonathan A. Zimbert. "She's intelligent, intense and really gets into a part. Like Miguel, Vivica didn't have an extensive athletic background, but she came into the role and really worked it. With professional ball players all around her like Cynthia Cooper, Teresa Weatherspoon and Rita Williams, she makes you believe that she is part of this professional women's basketball team."

"The biggest challenge I faced was getting back in shape," says Fox.
"I played ball in high school, but that was about it. I thought I knew
basketball, but knowing basketball and playing with the actual WNBA pros
are two totally different things."

Playing the role of Jamal's sports agent is veteran actor/comedian Kevin Pollak, who based Lorne on an amalgamation of many of the agents he has dealt with over the years. "I took a variation of all of them and put it into this one little hotshot," he says. "My role is more fun than it is challenging. I get to play 'inappropriate anger,' which is a fun emotion to play. I studied at the theater of the great one, Jackie Gleason, who was the master of inappropriate anger. My character gets to go through every level of the panic/manic phase of just absolute terror and anger."

Another great addition to the cast is the comedic talent of Kim Wayans. "This movie is so special to me," says Wayans, "because I love the WNBA, I love women's basketball and it's just so cool that there's finally going to be a movie made about it."

Wayans, a veteran of In Living Color, was also impressed with Nuñez'

ability in the role. "Miguel has so much energy, it's amazing that he doesn't pass out by the end of the day," she says. "He's not afraid to try different things so you never know what he's going to do next. It reminds me of when I used to do sketch comedy and people would throw ideas at you and you just had to flow with it."

Another *In Living Color* vet, Tommy Davidson, plays Puff Smokey Smoke, a rapper who is madly in love with Juwanna. "Tommy Davidson is such a funny guy," notes Robinson. "The absurdity of being Juwanna's clueless suitor is comical, but add Tommy's over-the-top antics and it's hilarious! The more he pursues her, the funnier it is. In the end, when her identity is exposed, Puff's love is unwavering. It's similar to *Some Like It Hot*. It's Joe E. Brown suddenly realizing that Jack Lemmon is not a woman but responds by saying 'Nobody's perfect.' That's funny!"

# TURNING MIGUEL INTO JUWANNA

While other films such as *Tootsie*, *Mrs. Doubtfire* and *Big Momma's House* have featured actors donning the disguise of older women, *Juwanna Mann* marks the first time an actor has completely transformed himself into a <u>younger</u> woman.

From the beginning, the producers knew that Juwanna's hair and make-up must be both realistic and credible in order for her to pass as a woman. "We've all seen how makeup effects and prosthetic teams can transform a man into an older female by creating wrinkles and having them wear granny glasses," notes Robinson. "It makes the task much more challenging to create a younger woman and still be believable."

To create Juwanna, the filmmakers brought in makeup artist Kate Best, who has worked with numerous celebrities, including Vanessa Williams and Vivica A. Fox. It turned out to be one of Ms. Best's most challenging jobs, as the daunting task of transforming Nuñez into Juwanna would be a painstaking effort of up to four hours per day, not to mention the minute-by-minute on-set maintenance.

"I used to be the type of guy who didn't understand why it would take women so long to get ready," adds Nuñez. "I'd always joke that my next girlfriend had better be able to leave the house within fifteen minutes and no longer. But now I understand why. They have to pluck, shave, do their hair and apply their makeup. If they didn't, we'd be going out with a bunch of hairy monsters! I now sit patiently and wait—no matter how long it takes."

#### ON THE COURT

To tell their story, the filmmakers had to find the right locations.

Since most of the movie takes place on the basketball court, the challenge was to show the Banshees on the road to Philadelphia, New York, Charlotte and Phoenix all in one arena. The search ended in Charlotte, North Carolina.

"We did a location scout," says Gerber, "and found the Charlotte Film Commission to be very cooperative. The arenas were great and we knew that we could find everything we needed there."

"One of the interesting facts about this movie is that most of the scenes take place in Charlotte and, in reality, it was also shot in Charlotte," Singleton adds. "When the Banshees had to go on the road, we changed the look of the Charlotte coliseum for each location. We created three separate floors which we could use for the home teams—one for the mythical New York Nitros and the Phoenix Web, as well as the Charlotte home court for the UBA Beat, where Jamal starts and ends the film, and the WUBA Banshees, where he plays as Juwanna."

"Essentially," he continues, "it was a very complicated jigsaw puzzle that we had to make work. We had fifteen days to create and shoot three different coliseums with four different teams. One particular floor was actually redesigned the night before we were going to shoot. It was a matter of bringing out the paintbrush and fixing it on the spot. The scenes were set up the next morning so that we worked away from it while it dried."

To make the cast look professional, the filmmakers recruited actual WNBA and NBA players. "Their expertise made our cast look like real ball players," explains Zimbert, "as they added a dimension of reality to the film."

The Los Angeles Lakers' Kurt Rambis agreed to help round up the talent from the NBA. This resulted in cameo appearances by such star players as Dikembe Mutombo, Mugsey Bogues, Rasheed Wallace and Vlade

Divac. On recruiting the WNBA players, Singleton adds, "Our casting director in Los Angeles, Pam Dixon, got in touch with an east coast casting director and from there we found Tammy Bagby, who has played basketball most of her life. She put the word out and we got more calls than she could handle. Out of this search came such players as National champion Cynthia Cooper, Teresa Weatherspoon and Rita Williams. These professionals came and played on separate teams, giving us the reality that the film needed."

## ABOUT THE CAST

MIGUEL A. NUÑEZ, JR. (Jamal Jeffries/Juwanna Mann) has had many challenging roles in a variety of feature films. He received rave reviews for these performances, which include his portrayal of 'Biscuit' in the hit film *Life* opposite Eddie Murphy and Martin Lawrence. As stated by the New York Times, Nuñez was "the most notable character" in the film. He was also singled out for his incredible portrayal of young Little Richard in *Why Do Fools Fall In Love* starring Halle Berry and (*Juwanna* costar) Vivica A. Fox. His other film credits include *Nutty Professor II: The Klumps*, *For Richer Or Poorer* and *A Thin Line Between Love And Hate*.

He will next be seen in the big-screen version of *Scooby-Doo*, set to be released in the summer of 2002. Nuñez was born one of nine children in New York and grew up on a farm in North Carolina. Besides acting, Nuñez is very active in the Los Angeles community. Once homeless himself, he helps the homeless at the Union Rescue Mission through his "Sparks of Hope" program. He currently resides in Los Angeles.

**VIVICA A. FOX** (Michelle Langford) has the enviable position of enjoying successful careers in both film and television. She made her feature film debut in the blockbuster *Independence Day* as the girlfriend of

Will Smith. Fox received numerous accolades for her high-wattage performance in *Set It Off* with Queen Latifah and Jada Pinkett-Smith and showed off her comedic talents in *Booty Call* with Jamie Foxx and (*Juwanna* co-star) Tommy Davidson.

In 1997, she starred as the seductive 'Ms. B. Haven' opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger, Uma Thurman and George Clooney in *Batman and Robin* and garnered MTV Movie Award and NAACP Image Award nominations for her starring role in *Soul Food* opposite Vanessa Williams and Nia Long. From there, Fox went on to star in the thriller *Teaching Mrs. Tingle*, the teen horror-comedy *Idle Hands* and the Frankie Lymon story *Why Do Fools Fall in Love*, with Halle Berry and (*Juwanna* co-star) Miguel A. Nuñez, Jr. Fox's television credits include the sitcom *Arsenio* with Arsenio Hall; *Out All Night* with Patti LaBelle; and her own series *Getting Personal* with Jon Cryer and Duane Martin, for which she was nominated for an NAACP Image Award for Best Actress in a Comedy Series.

Most recently, Fox appeared in the film *Kingdom Come*, alongside Whoopi Goldberg, LL Cool J, Jada Pinkett-Smith and Toni Braxton, and for the first time ever received top billing for her starring role as Shanté Smith in *Two Can Play That Game* with Morris Chestnut and Anthony Anderson. Fox can next be seen in *Boat Trip*, starring Academy Award winner Cuba Gooding, Jr. and *Ride or Die*, with Dwayne Martin. Vivica is currently filming *Kill Bill* with Uma Thurman, Lucy Liu, Daryl Hannah and David Carradine. Fox was born in Indianapolis, Indiana and now resides in Los Angeles.

as he headlined a sold out 20 city stand-up comedy tour. Prior to his film career, Pollak had been performing stand-up comedy since the age of 10. He became a touring professional stand-up at age 20, and then in 1988 landed a role in George Lucas' *Willow*, directed by Ron Howard. In 1990, he co-starred in Barry Levinson's *Avalon* and received an overwhelming response from the film community. It was Pollak's role in the 1992 film *A Few Good Men*, directed by Rob Reiner and starring Tom Cruise, Jack Nicholson and Demi Moore, that garnered him fellowship among a select group of highly respected character actors.

After co-starring with Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau in the box-office success *Grumpy Old Men* and its sequel, *Grumpier Old Men*, Pollak received an award from the National Board of Review for his work in *The Usual Suspects*. The film also won two Academy Awards and became an international sensation. Other highlights include working with Robert De Niro and Joe Pesci in Martin Scorsese's *Casino*.

In 1997, Pollak starred in *The Underworld*, a crime telepic for Warner Bros. Television and NBC, which he co-created and co-executive produced with Chris McQuarrie (Academy Award-winning screenwriter of *The Usual Suspects*) and his producing partner, Lucy Webb. He has also starred in two of his own HBO stand-up comedy specials, the latest being *Kevin Pollak: Stop With The Kicking*, directed by David Steinberg.

Pollak began 1999 starring opposite Arnold Schwarzenegger and Gabriel Byrne in the *End of Days*, directed by Peter Hyams. He followed this performance with a starring role in the political thriller *Deterrence*, written and directed by Rod Lurie (*The Contender*). The film received critical acclaim at the 1999 Toronto Film Festival.

Recently, Pollak has been seen in *The Wedding Planner*, which starred Jennifer Lopez and Matthew McConaughey, and the hit comedy *Dr.* 

Dolittle 2 with Eddie Murphy, as well as the Warner Bros. Pictures releases The Whole Nine Yards, directed by Jonathan Lynn, opposite Bruce Willis and Matthew Perry and 3000 Miles to Graceland starring Kevin Costner, Kurt Russell and Courtney Cox Arquette.

Due to the overwhelming response, Kevin has extended his stand-up comedy tour into 2002. Look for Pollak in the upcoming releases *Frank McKlusky C.I.* and *Stolen Summer* co-starring Aidan Quinn.

An actor, stand-up comedian, musician and singer, **TOMMY DAVIDSON**'s (Puff Smokey Smoke) exceptional range has made him a rising force in entertainment. Perhaps best known as one of the original cast members of the hit television show *In Living Color*, Davidson has parlayed that success into a flourishing motion picture career.

Most recently, Tommy starred in Spike Lee's *Bamboozled* where he received praise for his turn as 'Womack/Sleep 'N Eat', a character that showcased his comedic and dramatic acting abilities; and is the lead voice in Disney's animated show, *The Proud Family*.

He has also starred opposite Jada Pinkett -Smith in the romantic comedy *Woo*; starred in the provocative urban comedy *Booty Call* with (*Juwanna* co-star) Vivica A. Fox; was reunited with fellow *In Living Color* alumni Jim Carrey in *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls*; and in 1991 made his impressive film debut opposite Halle Berry in *Strictly Business*. Davidson started out performing stand-up in local talent showcases where he was spotted by concert promoters who booked him as the opening act for such major music stars as Patti LaBelle, Kenny G and Luther Vandross.

Part of a unique family of comedians, **KIM WAYANS** (Latisha Jansen) has enjoyed working with her brothers, film and television stars Keenen, Damon, Marlon and Shawn. She starred with all of them on the groundbreaking television comedy sketch show *In Living Color*, and has

worked with them in various combinations in such motion pictures as *I'm* Gonna Git You Sucka, Don't Be A Menace To South Central While Drinking Your Juice in the `Hood and Low Down Dirty Shame. Most recently, Wayans starred in the art film Talking About Sex and had a cameo in the feature film Floundering.

Her first break in entertainment came when she was booked to do stand - up comedy at The Improv clubs in Santa Monica and Hollywood. Since then, Wayans has made several guest television appearances and has starred as a regular on Quincy Jones's *In the House*, opposite Debbie Allen and LL Cool J. She is currently working as a story editor on the ABC comedy *My Wife and Kids*.

Although a relative newcomer to the world of acting, **GINUWINE** (Romeo) has seen his

career in the music industry skyrocket over the past year. His first album, *Ginuwine...the Bachelor*, blended soulful R&B, danceable hip-hop, and synth funk in a unique style that many critics compared to Prince. The album reached double platinum status thanks to the No. 1 million-selling R&B single "Pony" and established Ginuwine as one of music's most exciting, sexy new stars.

In 1999, Ginuwine followed up with his melodramatic double - platinum sophomore album, 100% Ginuwine that generated the hit "So Anxious" and for which he received the Soul Train Music Award for "Best R&B/Soul Album, Male" and the Online Hip-Hop Award for "Album of the Year - R&B." Ginuwine was also nominated for both a Blockbuster Entertainment Award as well as an American Music Award. This year saw the release of his third platinum album, *The Life*, which produced the hit song "Differences."

With success already achieved in the world of music, he segued to the

world of acting with a role in the CBS action series *Martial Law*. Although his heart still lies in his music, Ginuwine plans to continue to pursue further acting ventures in the future.

JENIFER LEWIS (Aunt Ruby) has drawn attention for a variety of character roles in film and television. In the Tina Turner biopic, What's Love Got to do With It? Lewis' critically acclaimed performances as Turner's mother, Zelma Bullock, garnered her an NAACP Image Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress. Her sharp-tongued humor can also be remembered in Penny Marshall's romantic comedy, The Preacher's Wife, with Denzel Washington and Whitney Houston, which also garnered her an Image Award nomination as Best Supporting Actress. Critics praised her for her role as the controversial lesbian Judge Rosetta Reide in the television series Courthouse.

She recently starred in Lifetime Television's Jackie's Back and can be heard as the voice of Bebe in the Eddie Murphy-produced animation the P.J.s. Additional television credits include starring roles in the cable series Line's, the movies-for-television Rituals and An Unexpected Life as well as the miniseries The Temptations. She has guest starred in the television series For Your Love, Touched by an Angel, The Cosby Show, Parenthood, Friends, Living Single, Dream on, New York Undercover, Murphy Brown, Lois & Clark, The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air and Hangin' With Mr. Cooper. She has had the added distinction of being Johnny Carson's final guest, with her friend Bette Midler on the last taping of the Tonight Show.

On the motion picture side, Lewis was in *Mystery Men*, opposite Ben Stiller and Janeane Garofalo. Her other feature film credits include *Girl 6*, *Dead Presidents, The Mighty, Blast From the Past, Sister Act, Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit, Panther, Corrina, Corrina, Renaissance Man, I'll Do Anything*, and *Poetic Justice*.

**LIL' KIM** (Tina Parker) made her feature film debut in the 1999 romantic comedy *She's All That* starring Freddie Prinze Jr. and Rachael Leigh Cook.

She first burst into the music industry in 1995 by making her presence known on Junior M.A.F.I.A.'s debut album *Conspiracy*. A native of Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, Lil' Kim grew up at home and in the streets until she and her rhyming skills came to the attention of rap artist Biggie Smalls who helped her cultivate her career. Smalls made her a member of Junior M.A.F.I.A. and Lil' Kim played a key role in the group's hit debut single, "Player's Anthem."

Following her success with Junior M.A.F.I.A., Lil' Kim appeared on records by Mona Lisa, the Isley Brothers, Total and Skin Deep. She then launched her solo career in 1996 with the release of her first platinum album, *Hard Core*. As the album's title implies, Lil' Kim was a rarity among female rappers -- one that not only concentrated on edgy hardcore rap, but also sexuality, two territories that had long been the province of male rappers. The album became a hit, debuting at number 11 on the pop charts. The first single from the album, "No Time," was a duet with Sean "Puffy" Combs and became a number one rap single.

Her long-awaited sophomore album, *Notorious K.I.M.* which is now platinum, debuted in June 2000.

#### ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

**JESSE VAUGHAN** (Director) makes his feature film directorial debut with *Juwanna Mann*. Prior to that, Vaughan directed a season of *In Living Color* and has directed numerous documentaries for MTV Networks, including pieces on Rod Stewart, Stevie Wonder and Melissa Etheridge.

Vaughan has also directed music videos for such artists as 'N Sync, Tevin Campbell, Eric Benet, SWV and Master P., and won an Emmy Award for directing a Coca-Cola music video project for NBC Sports' Barcelona Olympics.

A relative newcomer to Hollywood, **BRADLEY ALLENSTEIN** (Screenwriter) has already written projects at several major studios. He wrote an updated version of Jerry Lewis' *The Bell Boy*, which stars Jackie Chan and begins shooting in 2002. He also wrote an original screenplay with his new writing partner, Robert Henny, called *Pimp Pasty*, which chronicles the rise, fall and eventual redemption of a manipulated (and utterly untalented) white rapper who starts to believe he is black. Most recently, Bradley completed an original screenplay, also with Henny, entitled *Mountain Men*, which award-winning video and commercial director Paul Hunter will direct.

JAMES G. ROBINSON (Producer) is founder, chairman and CEO of the Morgan Creek group of companies. Under Robinson's leadership, Morgan Creek has continued to be one of Hollywood's leading independent film entities, producing such films as Young Guns and Young Guns II, Dead Ringers, Pacific Heights, Major League and Major League II, Enemies: A Love Story, the 1991 blockbuster Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves, The Crush, True Romance, the break-out comedy Ace Ventura: Pet Detective and its hit sequel Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls. Most recently, Robinson and Morgan Creek produced American Outlaws, the spirited retelling of the saga of Jesse James.

Educated at the University of California, Santa Cruz, **BILL GERBER** (Producer) started his entertainment career in the music business,

promoting concerts, working at A&M and Nemporer/CBS Records and became a partner at Lookout Management where he represented The Cars and Devo. In 1984, Gerber began his producing career with projects at Warner Bros. Pictures and Paramount Pictures and, in 1985, formed Gerber/Rodkin, a management production company that represented Judd Nelson, Robert Downey Jr., Billy Zane, Sara Jessica Parker and Dan Hartman. In 1986, Gerber left his firm to join Warner Bros. Pictures as Vice President of Theatrical Production. He remained there for 12 years and was subsequently promoted to President of Worldwide Theatrical Production in 1996.

While at Warner Bros. Pictures, Gerber supervised the films L.A. Confidential, Unforgiven, Twister, Selena, GoodFellas, Heat, JFK, Disclosure, Grumpy Old Men, Grumpier Old Men, You've Got Mail and Analyze This.

In May of 1998, Gerber ventured out to form his own production company, Gerber Pictures. Since then, he has helped produce Morgan Creek's *American Outlaws* and *Get Carter* as well as executive produced the TNT original film *James Dean*.

**STEVE OEDEKERK** (Producer) is a successful stand-up comedian, performer, writer and director. He recently received an Academy Award nomination for Best Animated Feature for Jimmy *Neutron: Boy Genius* as well as starring in and directing the wild martial arts comedy *Kung Pow: Enter the Fist*.

While a staff writer on *In Living Color*, he and actor Jim Carrey shared an office and collaborated on various sketches. During that time, Carrey was developing *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective* and sought Oedekerk's input, which marked his first big screen collaboration with director Tom Shadyac.

Oedekerk then wrote and directed his next two films *Ace Ventura 2:* When Nature Calls and Nothing to Lose, followed up by a second collaboration with Shadyac on The Nutty Professor and writing the Golden Globe nominated Patch Adams.

Currently, Oedekerk is writing *Bruce Almighty* starring Jim Carrey, executive producing the *Jimmy Neutron* TV series, as well as creating and producing the first IMAX 3D animated feature *Santa vs. the Snowman*, releasing November, 2002.

**JONATHAN A. ZIMBERT** (Executive Producer), a graduate of UCLA, began his film career as an assistant to producer Frank Yablans on *Mommie Dearest* and *Monsignor*. He then associate produced *Star Chamber*, starring Michael Douglas and *Kidco*.

As a partner with Peter Hyams, Zimbert was associate producer of 2010 and *Running Scared*, starring Billy Crystal and Gregory Hines. Also with Hyams, he produced *The Monster Squad* and two Hyams-directed films, *Narrow Margin*, with Gene Hackman and Anne Archer, and *The Presidio*, starring Sean Connery, Meg Ryan and Mark Harmon.

Zimbert then joined Morgan Creek as a Vice President of Production. Promoted to Senior Vice President, he was the executive on *Ace Ventura:* 

Pet Detective, Major League II, The Crush and True Romance.

In 1993 Zimbert became President of the Kennedy - Marshall Co.

During his four-year tenure he supervised *Congo; the Indian in the Cupboard; the Sixth Sense*, starring Bruce Willis; *Map of the World*, starring Sigourney Weaver and Julianne Moore and *Snow Falling on Cedars*.

He returned to Morgan Creek in 1998 as President of Production.

RALPH S. SINGLETON's (Executive Producer) many co-producing credits include Last Man Standing, Clear and Present Danger, Leap of Faith, Harlem Nights and Pet Sematary. He produced and directed Stephen King's Graveyard Shift and executive produced Another 48 Hours. For television, Singleton won an Emmy Award for producing the critically acclaimed series Cagney and Lacey. He most recently executive produced the big screen sci-fi epic Supernova.

A 30-year veteran who was Head of Production at Francis Coppola's Zoetrope Studios, Singleton's career began in New York. His many credits as a production manager and assistant director include such movies as Taxi Driver, Network, The Seduction of Joe Tynan, Three Days of the Condor, The Front, History of the World -- Part I and One From the Heart. Singleton is also the author of five highly respected books on film production: Film Scheduling, The Film Scheduling/Film Budgeting Workbook, Movie Production & Budget Forms...Instantly, The Filmmaker's Dictionary and Film Budgeting.

**REYNALDO VILLALOBOS** (Director of Photography) most recently shot the films *Love and Basketball, Return to Paradise* and the television series *L.A. Doctors*. Villalobos has well over two decades of experience as a cinematographer and an extensive roster of film credits, including *Telling Lies in America, Romy and Michele's High School Reunion, A Bronx Tale,* 

American Me, Major League, Punchline, 9 To 5, Blame It On Rio, Risky Business and Urban Cowboy.

For television, Villalobos received recognition for his photography on the 1992 television film *Sinatra*, including an Emmy nomination for Best Cinematography for Miniseries or Special and an American Society of Cinematographers nomination for Outstanding Achievement Award - Miniseries. His other television credits include *L.A. Doctors, Hollywood Confidential, The Wright Verdicts, Midnight Caller, A Christmas to Remember, L.A. Law, Deadly Intentions* and Remington Steele.

**SETH FLAUM** (Film Editor) previously worked with Howard Deutch on *The Replacements, Grumpier Old Men* and *The Odd Couple II*. His other feature editing credits include *The Guardian, Rampage, Open Season, Vegas Vacation* and *The Country Bears*. He also edited the cable features *Blue Ice, Rasputin, Tyson, Michael Jordan: An American Hero* and *Take My Advice: The Ann and Abby Story*.

**EVE CAULEY TURNER**'s (Production designer) credits include the award-winning feature *Bound* directed by the Wachowski brothers, starring Jennifer Tilly, Gina Gershon and Joe Pantoliano; The *War at Home* starring Emilio Estevez, Kathy Bates and Martin Sheen; S.F.W. starring Stephen Dorff and Reese Witherspoon; and the Dean Semler - directed *The Patriot* starring Steven Seagal. Cauley Turner was Set Decorator on the feature film *Home Alone* starring Macauley Culkin, *Dennis the Menace* starring Walter Matthau, as well as on Tom Clancy's *Netforce*. Her art direction can be seen in Gus Van Sant's award-winning drama *Drugstore Cowboy* starring Matt Dillon and Kelly Lynch and in *Sister Act* starring Whoopi Goldberg.

**WENDY MELVOIN** and **LISA COLEMAN** (Composers) first gained wide popularity as members of Prince's rock band The Revolution, and as writer/performers on numerous hit records for other artists. The duo subsequently established their own successful recording careers and acclaimed reputations as singer/songwriters on the following multi-platinum recordings: *Wendy & Lisa, Fruit at the Bottom* and *Erotica*. In addition, the soundtrack from the motion picture film *Toys* includes compositions and performances by the pair.

As record producers, their most recent credits include Madeleine Peyroux (Atlantic Records) and Doyle Bramhall (RCA). Their film scores include *Dangerous Minds*, directed by John N. Smith and starring Michelle Pfeiffer, *Soul Food* directed by George Tillman Jr. and *Have Plenty*, directed by Christopher Chero. The pair is currently working on the film *The Third Wheel*, directed by Jordan Brady and starring Ben Affleck, Denise Richards and Luke Wilson; *Second Skin*, directed by Darrell Roodt; *Crossing Jordan* for NBC and *Prince Charming* for TNT.

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