



**TUNE IN:**

Country music  
with Greg Coad

SOUTH Australian country artists Allan Webster and Leah Briggs will be appearing at various Tasmanian venues next month.

After the family emigrated to Australia from the UK in the 60s, Webster played in the successful group Road Runners.

After forming a country band in Mt Gambler with the sole purpose of entering the band section at the Riverland Country Music Festival in Barmera, which they won, Webster was encouraged to enter the male vocal section at Mt Gambler Festival. Taking out first place at this quest entitled him to enter the SA Champion of Champions held in Adelaide in July 1999, resulting in him winning this title.

Leah Briggs is a talented young country singer who has attained an incredible level of achievement for a 17-year-old. She began at the Francis Folk Festival in March 2001, where she took out first place for the 18 years and under female vocal. From there Briggs has gone on to enter and win many awards in SA, Victoria and NSW. Allan Webster and Leah Briggs will be appearing at the following venues.

Friday, May 11, the George Town RSL Club; Saturday, May 12, the Ulverstone Bowls Club; Thursday, May 17, The Southern Country Music Club, Glenorchy; Friday, May 18, The Cynnet Hotel; Saturday, May 19, The St. Helens RSL; Sunday, May 20, The Australian Italian Club, Prospect.

■ **JIMMY** Little has had the title Doctor conferred on him by the Australian Catholic University in Brisbane.

The University's vice chancellor Professor John O'Gorman said the honour was for Jimmy's legendary status as a performer and ambassador for indigenous issues. These have included going into rural areas to play music for indigenous kids, working with the Fred Hollows Foundation on eye disease and setting up the Jimmy Little Foundation to raise funds to combat diabetes in the communities.

■ **THERE** will be a country and western concert at the Sulphur Creek Hall on Sunday, May 6, starting at 1pm.

Artists appearing are, Alan Banks, Greg Etchell, Neil Ivory, John and Shirley Turnbull, Russ and Joy Sharmar, Ralph and Shirley Procter, Darrel Smith and the Emmertons. For further information phone 6452 1096.

■ **THE** Devon Country Music Club will hold a country music evening at the East Devonport Bowls Club from 7pm on Friday, May 4.

The music will be supplied by the Devon Music Club Band with guest artists Geoff Quinn and Graeme Best. The cover charge is \$6.

Counter meals are available from 5.30pm, but bookings are a must. For details, phone 6427 0830 or 6427 9574.

■ **LAUNCESTON** country rock band Apache will be providing the entertainment at a cabaret at the Australian Italian Club on Sunday, May 4, starting at 7.30.



**ON THE SMALL SCREEN:** with Simon Tennant

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**ERAGON**  
(20th Century Fox)

Director: Stefen Fangmeier.  
M-rated fantasy,  
99mins.

Stars: Edward Speleers, Sienna Guillory, Jeremy Irons, John Malkovich, Robert Carlyle and Rachel Weisz.

**GROWING** up under the tyrannical rule of the evil King Galbatorx (Malkovich), humble farm boy Eragon (Speleers) lives with his uncle and cousin, spending their days toiling in the field and nights honing their fighting skills. But when he discovers a mysterious blue stone, his life, and destiny, is forever changed. Instead, this humble stone is in fact the last surviving egg of the all-powerful dragons, which will only hatch when they come into contact with their one and only dragon rider, which just so happens to be Eragon. From the moment it's born, the dragon Saphira (voiced by Weisz) and Eragon share a bond stronger than life itself, and under the guidance of former dragon rider and mentor Brom (Irons), Eragon and Saphira must fight to rid the kingdom of the King, his evil sorcerer Durza (Carlyle) and their minions of undead.

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**ALL THE KING'S MEN**  
(Sony Pictures)

Director: Steven Zaillian  
M-rated drama,  
123mins.

**TOP 5:**

1. Casino Royale (M) Action
2. Crank (MA) Action
3. Saw III (MA) Thriller
4. The Departed (MA) Thriller
5. Children Of Men (MA) Drama



Stars: Sean Penn, Jude Law, Anthony Hopkins, Kate Winslet, Mark Ruffalo and James Gandolfini.

A **REMAKE** of the 1949 Oscar-winning movie of the same name and based on Robert Penn Warren's book. Set in the early 1960s in the deep US south, "Boss" Willie Stark (Penn) is a small-time ambitious politician from the wrong side of town who incredibly becomes governor by gaining the

support of the low income families that dominate the Louisiana electoral role at the time. But at the peak of his popularity, Stark is brought down by a rich, aristocratic Judge Iwini (Hopkins) who impeaches him. Determined to hold on to his governorship, Stark employs the services of former reporter Jack Burden (Law) to investigate Iwini's background and try to discredit him publicly.

The Good Husband of Zebra Drive  
Alexander McCall Smith  
UNSW Press (\$29.95  
hardback)

THIS is the eighth instalment in the No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency series by McCall Smith, so no surprises here.

Once again, detective and small business owner Precious Ramotswa deals with a range of problems including a rebellion from her

once reliable assistant Maa Makutsi.

This is further complicated when her husband, Mr J.L.B. Matekoni, decides he'd like to take on a case of his own.

With a mystery at her hometown hospital to solve, plus the usual cast of characters to deal with, Maa Ramotswa navigates the challenges with her usual stoicism and charm. It's very predictable and a little tired but still readable.

— **ARGUS BOSCO**



**SPIDER-MAN 3**

(TBC)

Starring Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst, Bryce Dallas Howard, Thomas Hayden Church

A complex web of secrets, vengeance, love and forgiveness, Columbia Pictures' *Spider-Man@3* is a riveting adventure that will transport worldwide audiences to thrilling new heights on May 3, 2007.

In *Spider-Man@3*, based on the legendary Marvel Comic series, Peter Parker has finally managed to strike a balance between his devotion to M.J. and his duties as a superhero. But there is a storm brewing on the horizon. When his suit suddenly changes, turning jet-black and enhancing his powers, it transforms Peter as well, bringing out the dark, vengeful side of his personality that he is struggling to control. Under the influence of the suit, Peter becomes overconfident and starts to neglect the people who care about him most. Forced to choose between the seductive power of the new suit and the compassionate hero he used to be, Peter must overcome his personal demons as two of the most-feared villains yet, Sandman and Venom, gather unparalleled power and a thirst for retribution to threaten Peter and everyone he loves.

*Spider-Man@3* reunites the cast and filmmakers from the first two blockbuster adventures - which have grossed more than \$1.6 billion worldwide.



**BECOMING JANE (PG)**

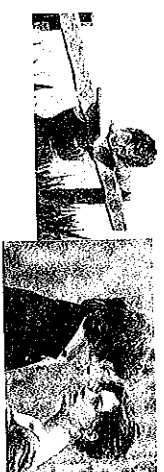
Starring Anne Hathaway, Julie Walters, James McAvoy, Maggie Smith

Jane Austen (Anne Hathaway) believes in love. Her parents (Julie Walters and James Cromwell) want her to marry for money and in 1795 England that was the way of the world for a young woman.

But when the 20 year old meets dashing young fisherman, Tom Lefroy (James McAvoy), his intellect and arrogance ignite Jane's curiosity and her world spins head-over-heels.

Can Jane afford to spurn the offer of Lady Gresham's (Maggie Smith) nephew, defy the authority of her parents and fly in the face of social convention?

In *Becoming Jane*, a young lady on the first rung of literary greatness risks a romance that was to shape her life and her work.



**SPIDERMAN 3 (TBC) and BECOMING JANE (PG)**  
Opens Thursday, May 3

**VILLAGE CINEMAS**  
LAUNCESTON

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