

IN THEATERS

Foreign affairs: Clarkson and Siddig.



CAIRO TIME

Patricia Clarkson is sublime as a lonely diplomat's wife whiling away days in Egypt with the effortlessly elegant Alexander Siddig. Their talks are as subtly intense as their attraction. ★★★★★

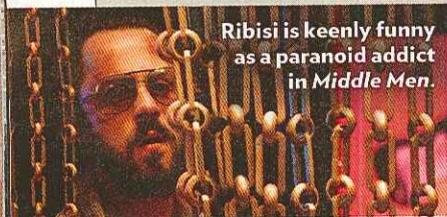
Exorcism is more tense than terrifying.



THE LAST EXORCISM

A shyster preacher (Patrick Fabian) tries to atone by helping a rural girl (Ashley Bell) in a well-acted thriller that doesn't thrill enough. Think *Blair Witch*, not *Rosemary's Baby*. ★★★☆☆

Ribisi is keenly funny as a paranoid addict in *Middle Men*.



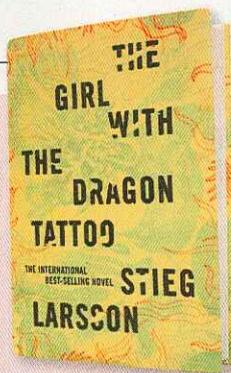
MIDDLE MEN

Luke Wilson is fine as a suit snared in the porn biz, but focusing on Giovanni Ribisi and Gabriel Macht's hilarious, drug-addled idea guys would've made a sharper, funnier movie. ★★★☆☆

WHO'S THAT GIRL?

ROONEY MARA

Five things to know about the dark horse, 25, who beat out a slew of A-listers to play *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo's* fierce, pierced heroine.



Mara's recent credits include *A Nightmare on Elm Street* and *Youth in Revolt*.

- 1 **SHE'S FOOTBALL ROYALTY** Mara is related to the founders of both the New York Giants and the Pittsburgh Steelers.
- 2 **SHE'S NO FACEBOOK ADDICT** "I very rarely use it," Mara, who stars in the upcoming Facebook movie *The Social Network*, told *Paper*.
- 3 **ACTING RUNS IN THE FAMILY** Her big sister Kate has appeared in *Brokeback Mountain* and *We Are Marshall*.
- 4 **SHE'S A PHILANTHROPIST TOO** Inspired by trips abroad, she founded Faces of Kibera, a nonprofit that helps Kenyan orphans.
- 5 **ROONEY IS ACTUALLY HER MIDDLE NAME** "I never felt like a Tricia," she has said of her legal first name, Patricia. "Rooney is more memorable."—ANDRA CHANTIM

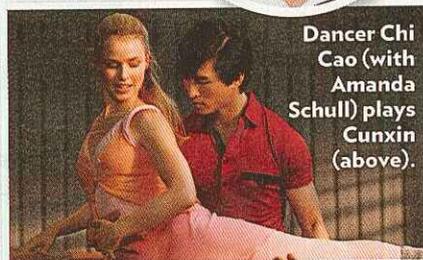
REAL-LIFE STORY

A DANCER'S DRAMA

Chinese ballet star Li Cunxin's controversial past inspired the new movie *Mao's Last Dancer*



When you ask ballet dancer Li Cunxin about his favorite movies, *Dirty Dancing* isn't on the list. "That's not real dancing!" says Cunxin, 49. For that, you'll need to watch *Mao's Last Dancer*, based on Cunxin's 2003 autobiography. The son of Chinese peasants, Cunxin trained at the Beijing Dance Academy from age 11 and came as an exchange student to Texas, where he sparked an international standoff when Chinese officials tried to have him deported. "Four guys came and locked me up in a room—I



Dancer Chi Cao (with Amanda Schull) plays Cunxin (above).

thought that was the end of me," says Cunxin, now a stockbroker in Australia with three kids. "The film really stayed true to my story."—RAMIN SETOODEH