

Stanley Kubrick's Lost Film  
Summer's Best Movie Posters

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ON HANKS in Stephen King's

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REVENGE OF  
THE NERD

ADAM  
SANDLER

HOW THE  
STAR OF  
BIG DADDY  
BECAME  
THE MOST  
BANKABLE  
DOOFUS IN  
HOLLYWOOD

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**Summer of Sam A** Back in 1995, Spike Lee's long-time poster designer Art Sims got in dutch for his *Clockers* campaign, which industry giant Saul Bass felt owed too much to his design for 1959's *Anatomy of a Murder*. With *Sam* (July 2), Sims scores a true original: an arresting gallery of tabloid headlines about serial killer David Berkowitz, starkly set off by a title logo and credits seemingly scrawled in blood.

It's the perfect mood setter for a fictionalized film about a neighborhood turned upside down by the real-life murders—as is the shorthand of the title, “SOS,” which has the ring of a cry for help.

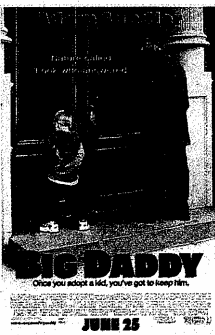


**Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me A—Wild Wild West B—**

If you're putting a major star in a period piece, it's best to set him up in costume and get out of his way. That's the smart tack taken for the *Powers* sequel, which shows off Mike Myers' red-velvet '60s suit to glorious effect in a series of posters, cardboard cutouts, etc., the best of which throws in a generous sampling of Heather Graham. The *Wild Wild West* campaign dudes up Will Smith appealingly enough in frontier garb but misfires in presenting Kevin Kline at his side (nobody ever said this was a Kevin Kline movie). Alternate posters hyping other cohorts (Salma Hayek, Kenneth Branagh, et al.) in solo bows suffer the same comparison problem. There's only one sure-shot draw at work here, folks, and that's Mr. Smith. He's ready for his close-up.



**Mystery Men D** They certainly are. Clearly this teaser was meant to be intriguing. It wound up inscrutable, with nary a credit and no image except a long-distance glimpse of a cast so shrouded in shadow you can't discern that the ensemble includes Ben Stiller, William H. Macy, Janeane Garofalo, and Paul Reubens. You'd certainly never guess that *Men* (Aug. 6) is a spoof of superhero sagas, with each actor playing a pathetically inept defender of justice. Time for a follow-up concept—quick.



**Big Daddy B+** Okay, so it's revolting. But whatever you think of Adam Sandler's winkle-winkle humor, you have to admit it does exactly what a poster should. You pretty much know the plot, the cast, and the tone of *Big Daddy* (June 25) in one quick glance. One question for the MPAA: Woody Harrelson as Larry Flynt in an American-flag diaper's *not* okay, but this *is*?