ON THE SCREEN

**THE FIRM**

Director Sydney Pollock has assembled a fine ensemble cast in this screen adaptation of John Grisham's novel. The film version of Edith Wharton's novel is in no way a fictionalized version of New York and his passion for Ellen Olenska (Michelle Pfeiffer), his fiancée's independent and intellectual sister. Despite the Victorian setting, this obviously the work of director Martin Scorsese, who specializes in movies about people's struggles to make decisions. The direction is meticulous and the sense of authenticity is impressive. The chemistry between Day-Lewis and Pfeiffer is also powerful, but the camera focuses on the internal struggles of the two and thankfully avoids the torrid sex scene typical of Hollywood movies.

-Craig K. Chang, Loews Nicollet

**THE AGE OF INNOCENCE**

The ultimate chase movie begins with the ultimate special effect—a train and bus wreck staged not with miniatures, but with the real thing. The wreck frees Dr. Richard Kimble (Harrison Ford), wrongfully convicted of murder, from the bus transporting him to prison, setting up a two-hour chase between Ford and his pursuer, the dedicated federal marshal Sam Gerard (Tommy Lee Jones). Ford is the big name star, and though he gives a great performance, Jones gets all the good lines. His single-minded devotion to upholding the law makes him, in a strange way, a more interesting character than intelligent nice guy Kimble. "I didn't kill my wife," insists Kimble, trapped in a drainage pipe; "I don't care," replies Gerard, and attempts to bring in his suspect. The Fugitive is an exciting movie, and a well-paced one, too, as Kimble's escapes grow ever more narrow and improbable, eventually leading up to a taut climax and a satisfying ending. For once, the hype was worth the wait. —Deborah A. Levinson, Loews Copley Plaza

**GROUNDHOG DAY**

Phil Connors (Bill Murray) is an arrogant, self-centered weatherman for a Pittsburgh television station who is sent to Punxsutawney, Pa. to cover the annual Groundhog Day festival. All is well until Phil wakes up the next morning to find that first, it is Groundhog Day all over again, and second, he is the only one who realizes it. Phil soon recognizes that no matter what he does there are no consequences for his actions, and he therefore aims to try anything he can think of. Credit is due to director Harold Ramis who manages to keep the premise fresh through hundreds of repeated Groundhog Days. This is one of the freshest comedies to come out in recent memory. LSC Saturday, October 23, 10:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

**THE FUGITIVE**

Michelle Pfeiffer and Daniel Day-Lewis star in The Age of Innocence.