

ANDY LEA & MIKE WARD'S BIG STREAM

SPUTNIK (15)
(On digital platforms now)

★★★
THIS clever Russian horror shares the name with both the first man-made satellite and Putin's new Covid-19 vaccine. The film isn't quite as ground-breaking, shamelessly ripping off Ridley Scott's 1979 classic *Alien*. But the name is well chosen. In Russian, Sputnik means "fellow traveller" which is a neat description of the human-chomping, parasitic invader that is coiled up in the guts of a recently returned cosmonaut. While the alien isn't nearly as

terrifying as Scott's, the real horrors lurk in the secretive base in Kazakhstan where Soviet scientists are hatching a nefarious scheme. – *AL*
TED LASSO
(Apple TV+ from today)
★★★
THE idea of a fish out of water has always made for pretty decent comedy. Here, that tag applies to Jason Sudeikis's Theodore "Ted" Lasso, a guy from Kansas who somewhat surprisingly becomes manager at English Premier League football club AFC Richmond. While "Ted" doesn't entirely

lack experience as a football coach, the fact that he's only ever coached the American version is understandably raising more than just a few eyebrows. – *MW*
WORLD'S TOUGHEST RACE: ECO-CHALLENGE FIJI
(Amazon Prime Video from today)
★★★
BEAR Grylls hosts this pulsating new adventure series, where 66 teams from 30 countries race non-stop for 11 days across hundreds of miles of mountains, jungles and oceans, even though that's blatantly mental. – *MW*



SUPER STRENGTH: Foxx and Fishback in *Project Power*. Inset, Jamie

Hero flick power trip for Jamie

PROJECT POWER (15)
(Netflix from today)
★★★
AFTER playing the villain in the film that ended Andrew Garfield's *Spider-Man* career, **Jamie Foxx** returns to superhero movies with a diverting Netflix Original.

Here, he's on much better form as a super-tough, former soldier who teams up with Joseph Gordon-Levitt's cop and a teenage rapper (Dominique Fishback) to track down his missing daughter and take down a sinister conspiracy. A new drug has hit the streets of New Orleans that gives users sketchily-defined, animal-based, superpowers for just five minutes.

It sounds like a laugh but there are two

pretty sizeable catches. Firstly, you don't know what the superpower will be until you've popped the tablet.

Secondly, it's not 100% safe. If you've got the wrong genes, your entire body will explode in slightly shonky-looking CGI.

Still, while Marvel fans will notice the step down in budget, it's pacy and there are some entertaining action scenes.

These include a dramatic chase with a chameleon bank robber and a scrap with a goon who sprouts giant porcupine spines.

Fishback, who disappointingly doesn't pop a pill, is charming as the plucky and amusingly mouthy teen and Foxx delivers an acrobatic and charismatic turn as the film's grizzled avenger. – *AL*

WIN A crime thriller DVD bundle

LIAM Hemsworth, Clark Duke, Vince Vaughn and John Malkovich are among the stars of gritty US thriller *Arkansas*, out now on DVD.

And it comes as part of a bumper crime thriller bundle we're giving away to three lucky readers this week, also containing DVDs of *Knives Out*, *Destroyer*, *Anna* and *Sicario*.

For your chance to win, just tell us which US singer

Hemsworth was previously married to. **(A) Katy Perry (B) Taylor Swift (C) Miley Cyrus**

Email your answer (using "Arkansas" as the subject name please), plus your name, address and mobile phone number, to starcompetitions@dailystar.co.uk.

Entries close midnight this Sunday, August 16. Normal Daily Star rules apply. The Editor's decision is final.



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