



My VANCOUVER

Small-town boy Daniel Cudmore might be Hollywood's next big star **BY SHERI RADFORD**

At 6'6" tall, Daniel Cudmore knows his size has played a part in winning many of his acting roles. In his first-ever TV commercial, for a laundry detergent, he portrayed a football player outfitted in a pink prom dress, clashing with other similarly clad gridders on a field of blueberry pies in BC Place Stadium. "This is so cool!" Cudmore recalls thinking. "I'm getting paid for this!"

His first TV role was as one of the Jaffas on the Vancouver-filmed series *Stargate SG-1*. "I think every guy over six feet tall in Vancouver played one at some point as an actor."

Next up was a role in *X-Men 2: X-Men United* and *X-Men 3: The Last Stand*. His character's name succinctly sums up that part: Colossus. Now Cudmore is best known for portraying Felix, an imposing vampire member of the Volturi guard in *Twilight* movies.

Cudmore's size led him down a different career path initially. He grew up in Squamish, the self-styled outdoor recreation capital of Canada, and proved the city motto correct — by skiing, snowboarding, wakeboarding, surfing, skateboarding, running, mountain biking, road biking and in Motocross. He trained to be a rugby player but gave it up after several injuries forced him to realize he could never excel at the sport.

Now he devotes himself to the business of acting, but this former class clown never takes himself too

seriously. "You're playing make-believe for a living," he says with a grin. One day, he hopes to escort his mother to the premiere of a movie he's starring in. To find this marquee role, he's spending more and more time in L.A. "You can do quite well as an actor in Vancouver, but you're always a secondary character," he says. "You're a co-star. You're never going to get those lead roles."

While away filming, there's one thing Cudmore never misses about Vancouver: the parking. "That's my pet peeve," he says. "I really should just ride my bike everywhere."

He does, however, miss being near the ocean and staying in his East Vancouver apartment.

Cudmore shares a few more of his favourite things:

OUTDOOR SPOT The seawall

LOCAL SPORTS TEAM Vancouver Canucks

CLOTHING STORES Brooklyn Clothing, Dutil

RESTAURANTS Houseguest, Hawksworth, Guu, Burgoo, Bin 941, Pourhouse, Union, small sushi spots

MOVIES *Spaceballs* and documentaries

TV SHOW The early years of *Entourage*

Look for Daniel Cudmore in the films *Rites of Passage*, *The Baytown Disco* and *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2*. ■