ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT/Che Charlotte Post

Thursday, March 4, 2004

Savannah

'Passion' debut strikes chord

Continued from page 2D ning 7 percent behind last year's. After four straight weekends of declining revenue, the top 12 movies took in \$132.1 million, up 53 percent from the same weekend a year ago.

"The Passion" took in more money than the rest of the

top 12 combined, with other new movies making barely a ripple

The Ashley Judd crime thriller "Twisted" debuted at No. 3 with \$9.1 million from Friday to Sunday. "Dirty Dancing: Havana Nights," a prequel to the 1980s hit, opened in fifth place with

der what the heck he meant.

that makes this CD work. "Let's Stay Together" (not

the Al Green song, but in the

same vein) teams Cee-lo

with Pharrell. The duet isn't

needed to make the song

Still, it's the soul singing

\$5.9 million. The horror spoof "Broken Lizard's Dread" premiered at No. 10 with \$3 million.

Playing in 3,043 theaters, "The Passion" averaged a whopping \$25,041, compared to \$3,367 in 2,703 cinemas for "Twisted."

work, but it also doesn't

Cee-lo co-wrote and pro-

duced all of the songs, which

also speaks to his immense

talent. If this CD isn't suc-

cessful, the music industry is

really in a sorry state

detract.

Cee-lo reaches high with latest recording

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voice melts over the lyrics like butter on hot cornbread. Even when Cee-lo dabbles in spoken word - a genre I absolutely hate - he works. "I'm Selling Soul" and "Sometimes" doesn't ramble on each makes a point and moves on. You don't have to scratch your head and won-

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