

ENTERTAINMENT

MOVIE REVIEWS

Title: *The Matrix: Revolutions*
 Director: Andy and Larry Wachowski
 Starring: Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss, Laurence Fishburne, Jada Pinkett-Smith

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Have you ever seen a trilogy that is not as good as the two movies that proceeded it? Well this is *Matrix Revolutions*. I had to go see it for the sake of completing the story. Don't get me wrong, it is a good movie and I do suggest the viewing of it. It's just that the problem is the movie really did not have anywhere to go for its ending. Neo (Keanu Reeves) and Trinity (Carrie-Anne Moss) go on their own trek headed for Machine City while Morpheus (Laurence Fishburne) and Niobe (Jada Pinkett-Smith) travel to Zion. The only disturbance is that for a long period of time the action is drawn from Morpheus and Niobe when in actuality this does not help the movie, for you do not know anything that is happening with the main character Neo. In fact Neo is the only one people really care about.

In terms of the action I expected the finale' to go way and beyond it's previous movies. Neo is trying to prevent the program Smith from taking over the Matrix with a long drawn out fight scene at the end that looked totally computerized. Reminiscent of X-Men 2, it's like...come on now! This is Hollywood!!! We can look more realistic than what we are seeing on the screen. But it does keep you interested the whole time, but I don't know if it's from the action or just having something to talk about with my peers. It's a finale' that leaves you with the impression that there is a Matrix 4. You're probably wondering how could that be though, check it out and you'll see. I'll give it two stars.



Title: *Gothika*
 Director: Mathieu Kassovitz
 Starring: Halle Berry, Robert Downey, Jr., and Charles S. Dutton

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No! Halle Berry is not a poor waitress who demands that Billy Bob Thornton make her "feel good" in this movie, but instead she plays Dr. Miranda Grey, a psychiatrist, at a psychiatric prison, who treats violent criminals.

Just to give you a little rundown...one stormy night she is driving home from work and almost runs over a girl (Kathleen Mackey). The next thing you know she is getting out of the car, to see if the girl is all right...and in the next shot she wakes up in the prison she was once a doctor at.

The movie is a cross between *Sixth Sense* and *What Lies Beneath*. It is not a sit on the edge of your seat type of movie, the story line is more slow, giving you reason to believe that the previews are deceiving because they portray the movie as a horror flick. But then the drama picks up. Grey finds out who her husband (Charles S. Dutton) really is, which leaves you with the underlying fact that you really don't know everything about a person no matter how close they are to you.

The movie is worth your average \$6.00 to \$8.50, plus any movie Halle Berry is in, you have to see, so I suggest that if you haven't seen the movie, you should.



Rich Harvey

The University Players and the School of Arts and Humanities presented the play "Picnic" to ECSU audiences. The Compass regrets that the list of main characters was incorrectly reported in our last edition of the paper. The correct list of main characters, in alphabetical order is: Sabrina Brown as Rosemary, Danielle Burris as Helen, Dorothy Downing as Flo, Dr. Garnes as Howard, Ashley McCleary as Madge, Eric Peebles as Hal, and Jabari Young as Allen.

Grammy nominations announced

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 Staff Writer

Nominations for the 46 Annual Grammy Awards were announced at a press conference at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

Leading the long list of nominees were Beyoncé, Jay-Z, OutKast, and Pharrell with six nominations each.

This year, the awards will recognize not only the most important recording artist of the day, but will include several artists who recently died.

Warren Zevon, who never won a Grammy, was nominated for five awards this year, including song of the year for "Keep Me In Your Heart." Luther Vandross, who is recovering from a life-threatening stroke, was nominated for song of the year for "Dance With My Father."

Rap, a category added in the late 1980's, seems to be the most dominant category. Four of the five songs nominated for record of the

year featured rap artists. All 5 nominations for best collaboration between rap artist and singer are love songs, accounting for rap's growing acceptance into mainstream.

This year, the Grammy Awards plan to legitimize the vote-a-star process of the "American Idol" television show. This process will allow the fans to pick their favorite nominee. Kelly Clarkson and Ruben Studdard are both up for Grammy

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BOOK REVIEW

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The National Bestseller, *The Coldest Winter Ever*, by Sister Souljah is a stunning story of a young girl, Winter, who is the daughter of a Brooklyn drug-dealing family. Quick-witted, sexy, and money hungry, Winter knows and loves the streets and everything that comes with it. But when the streets of Brooklyn blow her life into a destructive path, she is forced to use her street smarts and seductive skills to

get by. Unwilling to be defeated by the streets, she will do anything to stay on top.

"When my girl Toshi had beef with these chicks from around the corner, me, Nat, Zakia, Simone, Monique, Reese, all of us took off our jewels, greased up our faces, braided down our hair, and had our razors under our tongues ready to go to war."

After reading this book, which only took me two days, I was completely in awe. Sister Souljah

gave her all in this breath-taking novel. The novel never left me feeling confused or disappointed. In my opinion, the book should not be in the category of fiction, but in the category of non-fiction because the story of Winter itself is based on the reality of many young women today, and is not the average fiction story of a man and woman falling in or out of love.

This book illustrates the old proverb that the love of money is the root of all evil.

MUSIC REVIEW

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 Staff Writer

Anthony Hamilton—Comin' from where I'm from

Anthony Hamilton, a native of Charlotte, gives a sigh of relief with his impressive release, *Comin' from where I'm from*. Hamilton, who previously collaborated with Nappy Roots, Tupac Shakur, and D'Angelo, brings back the B in R&B.

Unlike many contemporary R&B artists, Hamilton sings, writes, and produces intriguing songs pertaining to everyday situations, as well as love relationships.

Comin' from where I'm from gets off to a great start with the first track. On the Jermaine Dupri-produced song, "Mama knew love" Hamilton shows his appreciation for his mother. With a voice reminiscent of Bill Withers, Anthony sings: "up bright and early, scrambled eggs, swellin' in your legs, bills on the bed/ still you managed to show me a smile/ then you walked to work about two or three miles."

With this album, Anthony Hamilton displays warm, southern-bred soul with excellent string and keyboard arrangements assisted by precise, live drum performances.

On the self-produced, acoustic "Lucille" he sings about his girlfriend who has suffered physical abuse from a previous love relationship: "my old lady's on the other side of town with her ex-boyfriend/ drinking again, drinking again."

The album is steady paced with the hard, up-tempo "Since I seen't you" the funky "Cornbread, fish & collard greens" and the tear-jerking ballad "I'm a mess."

The title track is the album's centerpiece. Anthony again shows that he is more than a one-dimensional artist, with lyrics: "tried to be good, tried to keep from trouble / living too fast, trying to make good on a hustle."

Overall, Anthony Hamilton's effort is classic material. An album with this kind of depth and originality demands acclaim and praise from listeners between the ages of 18-50. This one is strictly for the grown and sexy! Down-home blues and hot-buttered soul is making a comeback and *Comin' from where I'm from* is a giant sized contribution to the movement.

