Noレビュー

Cinema Paradise

This Italian film is simply incredible. It tells the story of the relationship of an old man and a young boy who grow up together in a small Italian town. Alfredo (Philippe Noiret) is the movie house operator in the town who shares his life and art with the young Salvatore (Jacques Perrin), who matures into a man through the course of the film. The masterfully charming film deals with friendship, love, community, family, and the beauty and power of cinema as a medium for both capturing reality and suggesting the filmic qualities of a past that never can be a part of it. -John David Anderson, LSC Friday

**** The Crying Game

Neil Jordan's story of an IRA terrorist (Stephen Rea) is a remarkably well-written and well-acted piece of work that at first seems to follow its protagonist inaimless yet intriguing direction, but eventually reveals itself to be a perfectly structured look at violence, love, and sexuality. Rea is ordered to guard a kidnapped British officer (Forest Whitaker), but he begins to care for the hostage and later flees to London, where he meets the officer's girlfriend (Jaye Davidson). The two halves of the film, which contain some completely unpredictable plot twists, become mirrors of one another. Rea is focusing on how understanding and compassion may be a means of salvation. -CR. Loews Harvard Square

**** A Few Good Men

Nearly every element of director Rob Roy's adaptation of the military murder/courtroom drama clicks into place with the efficiency of a finely tuned machine designed to churn out entertainment. Sure it's unoriginal, but it's also extremely effective. The performances by Tom Cruise and Jack Nicholson are striking, and the photography, with crystal clarity and frequent symmetry in its images, is polished until it shines. For the officers in the story, this production leads to tragedy, but for the film it leads to a triumph of sorts. -CR. Loews Harvard Square

****1/2 Hannibal Bound

Despite being aimed at a juvenile audience, the latest Disney release about two dogs and a cat travelling cross country to find their family is sophisticated enough to appeal to even a college audience. Michael J. Fox and Albert Brooks voice the two dogs and Sally Field provides the voice of the cat as all three pets think aloud while making their perilous journey. The song is well written and it is quite funny overall, despite the corny morals that are presented. The hilarious and amazing footage of the animals in action truly makes this film, though. -JA. Loews Copley Place

****1/2 Malcolm X

Spice Lee has translated the complex life of Malcolm X into a fascinating and involving epic which, like most of Lee's work, raises more questions than it does answers. Despite occasional lapses into excess and the omission of some of Malcolm's more incendiary remarks, the film is a well-balanced portrayal of a man who went through many different phases, each flawlessly acted out by Denzel Washington, in an attempt to right the injustices done to blacks. Although the film, like Malcolm, never comes to a truly workable solution, it expresses the racial problems at the roots of society more powerfully than any other recent movie. -CR. Loews Charles

****1/2 The Muppet Christmas Carol

The latest film featuring the late Jim Henson's Muppets provides a few solid laughs and is a fair version of Charles Dickens' perennial classic, but it is easily the weakest of the four Muppet movies. Michael Cain does a commendable job at playing a stagat rơi Scrooge while his more lively artificial costars contrast nicely with the dark London setting. And the movie makes the most it can out of amusing scenes involving singing vegetables, Dr. Human Handley and Beaker as charity collectors, and Fozzie Bear as Scrooge's former employer, Fozziwig, but most of the humor comes from the audience's prior knowledge of the Muppets rather than any genuine wit. -CR. Arlington Capitol

**** Peter's Friends

After going two for two with Henry V and Dead Again, actor/director Kenneth Branagh has made his first disappointing film. A comic drama about six college friends who reunite for the first time in years, the movie is fine when it sticks with its smart sense of humor. Unfortunately, it veers too often into smarmy and contrived melodramatic territory as every one of the characters faces some type of crisis. All the performers are good, particularly Emma Thompson and Stephen Fry, but most of the humor comes from the audience's prior knowledge of the Muppets rather than any genuine wit. -CR. Arlington Capitol

Sulper

This may be a movie about military men who shoot at Panamanian drug dealers for a living, but by the time the hero, Beckett (Tom Berenger), delivers an unmoving When-the- Hell's Over monologue, it is unclear whether he is a hero with a sensitive, nurturing side. At first Beckett mourns his dead partner by keeping the dog he guarded a kidnapped unit away from the action. When the dog is killed, Beckett looks into the eyes of his partner and realizes that he himself has become one of the Panamanian soldiers. It is easy to see why Beckett is a hero, but it is hard to believe that he himself has become one of the Panamanian soldiers. The film is wellacted and has occasional moments of tension, but it is ultimately a disappointingly incoherent and predictable film. -CR. Loews Fresh Pond

ALFREDO (Philippe Noiret, top) and Salvatore (Jacques Perrin) grow together in Cinema Paradise, a charming Italian film about the power of friendship, family, and film showing at LSC this weekend.

The 1993 Carroll L. Wilson Awards

4 Awards Planned:

2 Graduate Student Awards at $7,000 each, and
2 Undergraduate Student Awards at $5,000 each.

These awards have been established as a memorial to the late Carroll L. Wilson (’32), Professor of Management at the Sloan School and first Mitsui Professor in Problems of Contemporary Technology at MIT.

Professor Wilson devoted much of his career toward seeking solutions to important global problems through the application of scientific, engineering, economic, and political analysis to programs of action. The underlying goal of his work was the improvement of relations among countries and the strengthening of their institutions and people.

The purpose of the Wilson Awards is to provide opportunities for MIT students to pursue a challenging activity which would have excited the interest and enthusiasm of Carroll Wilson.

The prizes will be awarded to students in any department at MIT on the basis of a competitive evaluation of proposals by a Prize Committee.

Application deadline date: March 19, 1993

Interviews of Finalists

April 30, 1993

Announcement of winners:

May 10, 1993

Application forms and additional information are available from:

Ms. Sally Gatewood, 3-209
Ms. Joanna Hilles, E15-229
Ms. Susan L. Kendall, 20A-023
Undergraduate Education Office, 208-141

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