**Disney tops itself again with music from *Lion King***

Reminiscent of Aladdin and Beauty & the Beast, the music of the melodies sound ever-so-slightly familiar the first time you hear them, passed as total fiction. At the end of the film, you will be surprised to find that in addition to having had a wonderful time, you have heard something new.

By Patrick Mahoney

In the fine tradition of The Little Mermaid, Beauty & the Beast, and Aladdin, The Walt Disney Company has created a musical masterpiece in The Lion King whose soundtrack is already available in stores. The movie is due out in theaters Friday.

Both the music and the lyrics of The Lion King serve to tell the story of Simba — a newly born lion cub who is destined to be king. It starts out with the presentation of the young Simba to the rest of the world. This lively and energetic "Circle of Life" immediately captures your attention and draws you in. This is lyricist Tim Rice's most powerful piece, as it perfectly creates the image of a young lion cub meeting a vast and unbelievable world for the first time.

Immediately the music flows into an almost playful piece in which the young Simba (performed in the song by Jason Weaver) claims "I Just Can't Wait to Be King" and is teased by his friends (the voices of Rowan Atkinson and Laur Williams).

The tone now becomes much more somber. "Can You Feel the Love Tonight?" is a quiet, but meaningful duet between Timon and Pumbaa (voiced by Ernie Sabella and Nathan Lane) that is staged and exhilarating. It also has a dark, sentimental one, and almost a beauty of redemption is a meaningful." — PM.

The plot moves quickly, very much unlike the Star Wars line - is enjoyable and entertaining, but the whole Pepper-Sonny story is him. John's music and his strong and powerful vocals, deeply touching, will be remembered for years to come.

**THE LION KING**

Motion Picture Soundtrack.

Music by Elton John.

Lyrics by the Rice.

Score Composed by Hans Zimmer.

Wait Disney Music Company.

By Patrick Mahoney

After the first City Slickers, this film is a disappointment. It is nowhere near as amusing as the first, and the actors (Billy Crystal, Jack Palance, and Daniel Stern) have lost the affability associated with this position. Nor is he ready to fall in love. — Patrick Mahoney. ESC Saturday.

**City Slickers II: The Legend of Curly's Gold**

After the first City Slickers, this film is a

**THE COWBOY WAY**

Pepper (Woody Harrelson) and Sonny (Keifer Sutherland) are two New Mexico cowboys who have been friends since they were young but have recently experienced a falling out. Now they are about to venture to the Big Apple to locate their friend Nacho (Clips Martin) who went there to pick up his daughter. Harrelson and Sutherland are pitted against an evil crime lord (Skyler (McCormack) who runs several small不断扩大 for illegal immigrants. The film is entertaining, but the whole Pepper-Sonny quarrel is distracting and doesn't have a place in the movie. The Cowboy Way had the potential to be a hilarious comedy with cowboys in New York City but doesn't pursue that avenue. Instead it tries to fail to make itself "meaningful" — PM. Lewes Charles.

**15/5 The Crew**

This action film casts the late Brandon Lee as Eric Draven, a deceased musician who returns from the grave to exact revenge on his tormentors. By way of avenging the rape and murder of his girlfriend (Traci Lords) he can finally achieve peace. However, his mission encounters a series of obstacles, namely a young girl whom he seeks to rescue from the dangers of the city, and the sardonic urban underworld villain who proves to be a defiant match for Draven's supernatural immortality. It's trying to try to like this film (almost too tempting, in fact) but the message of redemption is a truly sentimental one, and Lee's performance is impassioned as a mock angel of death. It also has a dark, Bar-Ro-influenced edge to most of its Gothic visuals, which is fine. In the end, though, the violence is far too excessive even if it is expertly staged and exhilarating. Watching this film is emotionally draining, and although

**THE TECH**

June 22, 1994

THE ARTS

Anderson improves in his second Star Wars book

**DARK APPRENTICE**

Written by Kevin J. Anderson.

Bantam Books.

Patrick Mahoney

STAFF REPORTER

Althought still slightly predictable, *Dark Apprentice* — the newest book in the Star Wars line — is enjoyable and entertaining.

The most valuable portion of this book is the use of known villains, Admiral Daala. Though not as ingenious as the Grand Admi-

ral Thrawn in Timothy Zahn's recent trilogy, she is a worthy Mon sole Doole, the primary antagonist of Kevin Anderson's first book (Jolee Bobo) in this trilogy. Daala is cold and calculating, and although she is more intent on random destruction than in defeating the New Republic, her experience and knowledge are already thoroughly vetted.

In general, all of the characters in *Dark Apprentice* are much better than their counterparts in Jolee Bobo. All of them seem much more alive, and are more reminiscent of the characters in the films. All of the action of the characters is well justified and even the most drastic of changes — Admiral Ackbar's resigna-

tion — are developed and completely believable. There are occasional exceptions to this when the characters seem driven in a cer-

tain path only to further some irrelevant plot line. For example, throughout the book Han and Lando argue about whether Han

should really own the Millennium Falcon or not. Overall, however, I found the characters' actions entirely plausible — a vast improve-

ment over Anderson's Jedi Search.

Unfortunately, Anderson still suffers from one main problem: He explains too much. He often explicitly tells the reader what the char-

acter is thinking rather than allowing the reader to figure out what is going on for himself.

Much of what develops with the Jedi ac-

cademy is predictable, as Anderson nearly spelled it out in the first book. Still, he does a great job describing the history of the old Jedi and their downfall. He is able to keep the reader's interest in what could have easily become a boring plot line about a bunch of young Jedis learning to stand on their heads.

The plot moves quickly, very much unlike the Zahn series which focused a lot on poni-

icking and strategies. This fast-paced plot line draws the reader in and keeps his atten-

tion focused on the story, making it hard to put the book down. A problem with this book is that it ends. All books end, but this one has a definite finale and doesn't really seem to be the second book in a trilogy. The third book will probably make me a fan of a different direction from the first and second.

Dark Apprentice is worth reading, it is exciting and quick. But if you are expecting the sort of book written by Zahn, you will be disappointed.