

'The Widow of Saint-Pierre'

A film by *Patrice Leconte*

Starring *Juliette Binoche Daniel Auteuil Emir Kusturica*

Will be shown in Room 117 in the McGarvey Commons on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

by *Cindy Orton* contributing writer

Based on a true story from history, this romantic tragedy brings to question the justice of the death penalty in hazy situations.

In 1849, two drunken men stabbed a man to death. Although remorseful, one is convicted and sentenced to death by guillotine, one of the allegorical widows of the title. But, because they had to wait for the overseas arrival of the weapon to their island territory of France, the prisoner, Neel Auguste, was placed in the custody of the Captain and his wife, Madame La.

Madame La takes it upon herself to transform this sorrowful sinner into a moral upstanding citizen. This causes a huge uproar in the community, which questions the wisdom of allowing this convict to walk around, almost freely, in the town. The Captain, whose passion for his wife is the center of his life, allows her to proceed with her modern ideas for converting Neel. This causes an uprising against the authorities, pitting them against the native islanders.

Gradually during the next two months, Neel becomes a valued member of society to all but the few most narrow minded. He saves another's life and wins over the townspeople. This climaxes on the day when the guillotine finally arrives to the island. What will the people do? Will they uphold the court's sentence or will Neel's actions of repentance save him from certain doom? As for Madame La and her husband, the Captain, what will their repercussions be?

New Dave Matthews Band single rocks shelves in April

by *Amy Wilczynski* contributing writer

The Dave Matthews Band is scheduled to release "Where Are You Going," the first single from its upcoming album next month. This will be the band's sixth RCA studio album, set to hit record stores sometime this summer.

This album will be the follow-up to last year's "Everyday."

grim time for him.

"They inspired pity, self-pity-or pity for the sad bastard that wrote them. It was not a good time for me. I usually find that when I'm in one of those slumps I do the better part of my drinking," said Matthews in a previously published report.

The new album, which will likely showcase 12 tracks, is being co-produced by the band with longtime engineer Steve Harris.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.DMBAND.COM

'Dave Matthews Band' is auctioning front row tickets for every show on their 2002 tour through Yahoo! Auctions. All proceeds will go to the band's own charity, The Bama Works Foundation.

Steve Lillywhite, producer of "Everyday" has worked with the band to re-record several songs from the previous album including "Bartender," "Grey Street," "Digging a Ditch," and "Grace is Gone." These songs became collector's items when they were placed on the Internet and spread among fans last year. Matthews said that some of these older songs, which may be released on their new upcoming album, reflected a

seems like an eternity for the Dave Matthews Band, they will launch a 33-date North American tour on April 4, in Washington, D.C, recess for a month in June, and start again July 5 in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Supporting artists such as Soulive, Gov't Mule, Robert Randolph, Bela Fleck & The Fleckstones will open for DMB on various dates.

'Resident Evil' is no longer a game

by *Daniel J. Stasiewski* staff writer

As a person who has played the "Resident Evil" video games, I've never really been thrilled with the idea of it as a movie. It's not because video game adaptations are generally inferior films, but this particular game was a movie. The control over its outcome was the main attraction.

Writer/director Paul Anderson, a video game film veteran ("Mortal Kombat"), took the game's idea of control and morphed it into the theme of this version of "Resident Evil." Though the film's action sometimes mirrors the game, it turns out to be a ferociously frightening, but surprisingly intelligent survival horror tale.

In the underground laboratories of the Umbrella Corporation, experimentation with biological weapons is secretly taking place. When the release

ten, and her memories add another level of suspense to this already nightmarish horror film.

One blunder Anderson does make in an otherwise faultless film is his extreme loyalty to the game (or his fear of steering away from it). Like his adaptation of "Mortal Kombat," Anderson remains particularly close to visual characteristics of the video game. The action sequences, outside of the actors, might as well be shot from the game. Art and set directors do a fabulous job of mirroring locales, but anyone who's played the game isn't seeing anything extremely new beyond the supercomputer's chamber. With a thoroughly plotted game in "Resident Evil," Anderson is also able to follow a set story line. Luckily, the liberties he doesn't take with the appearance, he does take with the plot.

Two fine performances only add to the surprise-filled adaptation. of the experimental T-virus forces the artificial intelligence unit in charge of the lab to kill everyone inside, an elite team of special forces is sent to shut her down and investigate the cause for the slaughter.

"Everyday," which has spent 53 weeks on The Billboard 200, has sold more than 3 million copies in the U.S., according to SoundScan. The album included hit singles such as "I Did It" and "The Space Between," which was nominated for a Grammy.

After more than six months off the road, what

One of the team members, Alice (Milla Jovovich), was a special operative responsible for guarding the secret mansion entrance to the lab. After being gassed during the supercomputer rampage, Alice suffers acute memory loss. She doesn't have much time to attempt any recollection, though. Once the supercomputer is shut down, the team has to try and survive the mutants the T-virus created.

As the team attempts to escape the lab and its deadly predators, Alice slowly recalls the events and the people responsible for the underground outbreak.

When I went into "Resident Evil," I was very prepared to hate it. Even after the terrifyingly brutal infection sequence that opens the film, I waited for an inevitable wrong move. Every time something annoying did come along, however, something terrific eclipsed it.

The upstaging is a direct result of a tremendous script by Anderson. When the one-liners get to that point where you just want the characters to shut up, they actually do. Then, Anderson utilizes the silence to scare the hell out of you with heart-pounding, gut-wrenching volatility. In an unexpected twist, however, it's not this wild fright fest that makes the movie fantastic.

Unlike the usual dumb action/horror film, "Resident Evil" is a surprisingly thematic film. With a constant battle where there's no distinction of good and evil, Anderson is able to show what happens when humans give up control, but still crave it. The first instance can be found in the distrust of their artificial intelligence unit's actions. From that point it spirals into a battle to dominate the situation, the other team member, the virus, and the unit again. Directly related is Alice's need to understand what she's forgot-

Two fine performances only add to the surprise-filled adaptation.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UPCOMINGMOVIES.COM

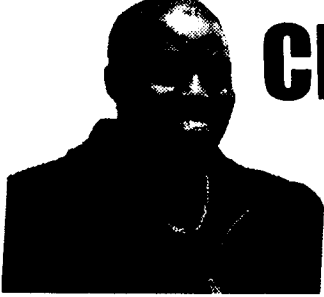
Based on the video game, 'Resident Evil' is an action-packed thriller which focuses on the battle of good and evil, humans vs. computers and the living against the undead.

Jovovich is perfect as the bad-ass heroine, Alice. As female action stars go, Jovovich is building a great resume. Her previous roles in dramas like "The Messenger" and "Chaplin" don't stand up to an inevitable wrong move. Every time something annoying did come along, however, something terrific eclipsed it.

Her costar, Michelle Rodriguez, is fantastic as the infected trooper who tries to hold off mutation. Proving her role in "The Fast and the Furious" was a waste of her talent, Rodriguez outperforms the rest of the "Resident Evil" cast. With the blazing performances, the two lead actresses both make "La Femme Nikita" look like strawberry shortcake.

Genuine in its ability to frighten and amazingly composed, "Resident Evil" is easily the best videogame adaptation ever to hit the screen. In that category, the competition isn't really fierce. So maybe I should go with this; the dinos in "Jurassic Park" might be facing extinction, as "Resident Evil" has changed the way we strive to stay alive in the survival horror genre.

★ ★ ★ 1/2 out of 4



Chris Flix's Video Picks

A weekly entertainment guide to current movie rentals

Once again Behrend movie watchers, Chris Flix returns on the scene to give you the high and low of this week's movie rentals.

In a world of endless criminal violence, it gets harder and harder for the typical boys in blue to stop, or at least slow down, the increase in crime. Because of this, a new type of police officer has evolved: the type that blurs the line between cop and criminal.

"Training Day" takes us through a single day as a rookie officer, played by Ethan Hawke, experiences his first

day as an inner city narcotics officer. He is escorted by a veteran, played by Denzel Washington.

Now, the storyline of the movie is pretty decent. I wouldn't say it is the best out there, but each of the actors kicked this movie up a few notches.

I am not surprised one bit that both Washington and Hawke are Oscar nominees in the Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor categories. I was captivated by them from start to finish and I am sure you will be, too, if you go pick up this movie.

Nothing too horrifically bad has come out this week, so I thought I would inform you of another decent movie that has graced the video store shelves.

"Joy Ride," starring Paul Walker and Leelee Sobieski, is a movie about a college kid (Walker) and his brother on a road trip to pick up his girlfriend. When they pull a prank on a lonely trucker, things turn a little bit deadly, and the trucker is determined to teach them a lesson.

Now, I am not a big fan of scary movies, simply because they usually aren't too scary, but I definitely enjoyed "Joy Ride."

For those of you living in the 21st century and have DVD players, I would highly recommend it, because there is so much extra footage and a few different alternate endings. It's almost as if the DVD has two or three movies on it. This is another movie targeted towards the Gen-X college crowd, so don't be surprised if "Joy Ride 2" pops up in the near future.

Chris Flix Grade: C+

So get out there and rent some movies. And that's the bottom line, because Chris Flix says so.

*Chris used to be a manager at a movie theatre in Virginia and is currently an employee at Giant Eagle's Iggle Video.

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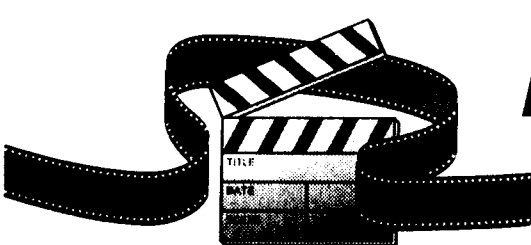
\$3.50 first matinee (Monday - Friday)

\$6.50 adults (Sunday - Thursday)

\$4.50 seniors and children

\$6.75 adults (Friday - Saturday)

\$4.50 shows before 5:00pm



New Releases

Movies

- 'Blade 2'
- 'Sorority Boys'
- 'E.T.: the 20th Anniversary'

Video*

- 'Riding in Cars with Boys'
- 'Training Day'
- 'Love and Rage'

Music*

- Jimmy Buffett
- Megadeth
- Ol' Dirty Bastard

DVD*

- 'Riding in Cars with Boys'
- 'Training Day'
- 'The Hunchback of Notre Dame'
- 'Oz: 1st Season'

*Release Date: 3/22

