

COMING ATTRACTIONS

SCHEDULED TO OPEN
FRIDAY, NOV. 22

DIE ANOTHER DAY

Pierce Brosnan returns as agent 007, James Bond, who this time comes up against a North Korean General Zao, who gets his hands on a device that lets him change his facial features. Bond travels to Iceland, where he must unmask the traitor and prevent a war of catastrophic consequence. Features players include Halle Berry, John Cleese and Judi Dench as Bond's boss. M. Lee Tamahori directed the twelfth installment of the James Bond series. (MGM/UA) This film is not yet rated.

FRIDAY AFTER NEXT

The third installment in the series takes place during the Christmas season back in the old neighborhood where it all began. Although cousins Cris (Ice Cube) and Day (Mike Epps) have left behind the security of living with their parents, the rundown apartment they now share is filled with all the accoutrements and spirit of the holiday season. Everything is idyllic until a ghetto Santa Claus breaks in and steals their Christmas presents and the real money hidden in their stereo speakers. Other featured players are K.D. Aubert, and John Witherspoon. Marcus Robey directed the comedy, marking his feature directorial debut. (New Line) Rated R

FAR FROM HEAVEN

From the director of *Safe* comes a contemporary drama set in a suburban American community in the 1950s, where the ideally perfect glittering surfaces often hide a repressed world of great portions. The story, which crosses both sexual and racial lines, revolves around a privileged family whose lives are filled with daily family etiquette, social events at the club, and an overall desire to keep up with the Joneses. The family is turned upside down when both husband and wife are faced with choices that not only create a gossip mill for the entire community but also change their entire lives forever. Starring Julianne Moore, Dennis Quaid, Dennis Haysbert, and James Rebhorn. Directed by Todd Haynes. (FOCUS Features) Rated PG-13

EMPEROR'S CLUB

Arthur Hundert, a dedicated and inspiring Classics professor who has devoted his life to teaching at an elite boys' prep school. When a new student, Sedgewick Bell, the headstrong son of a powerful senator, joins his class, Mr. Hundert's life is inexorably altered. It is a clash of wills and personalities as these two people seemingly battle for the hearts and souls of the other students at St. Benedict. Spanning 20 years, the story resumes when Bell, now a powerful and influential businessman, brings the retired professor back into his life and world. At a reunion of his students, Hundert is faced with the fear that he may have failed the most important challenge of his life - to have been a great teacher. Stars Kevin Kline, Steven Culp, Embeth Davidtz, Patrick Dempsey, Joel Gretsch, Edward Herrmann, Emile Hirsch, Rob Morrow, Harris Yulin. Directed by Michael Hoffman. (Universal) Rated PG-13

PERSONAL VELOCITY

Based on Rebecca Miller's acclaimed book of short stories, *Personal Velocity* tells three tales of women who have reached a turning point in their lives. Kyra Sedgewick is Delia, a spirited working-class woman from small town New York who leaves her husband and sets out on a journey to reclaim the power that she has lost. Parker Posey is Greta, a cookbook editor who is "torn with ambition" and struggling (not too hard) with issues of fidelity to her kind, but un-



Dennis Quaid and Julianne Moore star in *Far From Heaven*, a drama set in the 1950s in suburban America. The movie opens in theaters on Friday, Nov. 22.

SCHEDULED TO OPEN
FRIDAY, DEC. 6

EMPIRE

Victor Rosa is all about the mighty dollar and aspires himself as a businessman on par with Rockefeller, Carnegie, and Bill Gates. With an iron fist, he runs a successful "street pharmaceutical" business that peddles a heroin mix he has named Empire. His beautiful fiancée, Carmen, a Borough College student, betrays him a classmate with an investment-banker boyfriend, Jack Wimmer. Victor meets Jack, and they instantly connect. Both are hard-core businessmen from two different sides of the legal fence. When Jack offers Victor a piece of the action on the stock market, he sees his ticket out of the violent streets of the South Bronx and jumps at the opportunity. But there is a bigger price to be paid than clean money for his gorgeous new Soho lifestyle. For the first time, Victor is confronted with a price tag that he will find difficult to pay. Stars John Leguizamo, Denise Richards, Peter Sarsgaard, Sonia Braga, Isabella Rossellini. Directed by Frac Reyes. (Universal) Rated R. Running time: 95 minutes

THE LEGENDARY

The legendary "loot of a thousand words" inspires an intergalactic treasure hunt when fifteen-year-old Jim Hawkins stumbles upon a map to the greatest pirate trove in the universe. Based on the novel by Robert Louis Stevenson, the film follows Jim's fantastical journey across a parallel universe as cabin boy aboard a glittering space galleon. Betrayed by the ship's charismatic cook, John Silver, Jim blossoms under his guidance, and shows the making of a fine spacer as he and alien crew battle supernovas, black holes and ferocious space storms. But even greater dangers lie ahead when Jim discovers that his trusted silver is actually a scheming pirate with mutiny in mind. John Musker and Ron Clements directed the animated adventure. (Buena Vista Pictures) Rated PG

When he meets Davy, the head of marketing for the New York Knicks, Davy tries to convince him to convince him to coach the NBA team. Featured vocal talent include Adam Sandler as Whitley and Davy, Rob (The Animal) Schneider, Jon (Rat) Rared, Lovitz, and Kevin (Little Nicky) Nealon. Seth Kearsley directed the animated feature. (Sony Pictures) Rated PG-13

Based on the classic science fiction novel by Stanislaw Lem, *SOLARIS* centers on a psychologist who is sent to investigate unexplained behavior of key scientists on a space station orbiting the planet Solaris. Once aboard he, too, falls victim to this unique world's mysteries, as well as an erotic obsession with someone he thought he had left behind. Features players include George Clooney as the psychologist sent to Solaris, Malascha (Ronin) McElhone and Jeremy (The Laramie Project) Davies. Steven (Erin Brockovich) Soderbergh directed the sci-fi adventure. (20th Century Fox) This film has not yet been rated.

EXTREME OPS

A group of the world's top daredevil extreme skiers and snowboarders gather together for an amazing film shoot. But when the crew accidentally finds a murderous war criminal who has been hiding in the mountains, they find themselves skiing for their lives as they try to escape him. Stars Devon Sawa, Bridgette Wilson-Sampras, Rupert Graves and Rulus Sewell. Directed by Christian Duguay. (Paramount) Rating PG-13

THEY

After witnessing a horrible incident, a graduate student struggles to find the link between her childhood fear of the dark and the night terrors she now suffers. Could the things that scared her years ago have actually been... real? Stars Laura Regan, Marc Blucas, Dagmara Dominczyk, Ethan Embry, Jon Abrahams. Directed by Robert Harmon. (Dimension Films) Rated PG-13

ADAM SANDLER'S 8 CRAZY NIGHTS

Based on the characters from Adam Sandler's *Stan and Judy's Kid* CD, the story tells of Whitley, an elderly basketball coach who worships the mail.

Kevin Kline makes The Emperor's Club a must-see

BY KURT ANTHONY KRUG
CORRESPONDENT

Academy Award-winning actor Kevin Kline turns in a phenomenal performance as a professor of western history in director Michael Hoffman's affecting high-brow drama, *The Emperor's Club*.

In the movie, which takes place over the span of 25 years and is based on Ethan Carr's short story *The Palace Thief*, Kline plays William Hundert, a very passionate and very principled teacher at the St. Benedict's Academy for Boys. Hundert, whose world is built on discipline and order, is challenged by a new student, Sedgewick Bell (Emile Hirsch, *The Dangerous Lives of Altar Boys*), who is extremely anti-authority and defies him every step of the way.

The two engage in a battle of wits and wills, and after visiting Sedgewick's politician father (Harris Yulin, *Training Day*), their adversarial relationship transforms into a surrogate father/son relationship. In fact, Hundert inspires Sedgewick to aim for the stars and even arranges it so he is one of the three finalists in the school's Mr. Julius Caesar competition (the highest honor a student can receive at the academy).

However, Sedgewick betrays the trust and respect of his mentor (I can't tell you how without giving away too much of the plot). When Hundert mentions this to the headmaster (Edward Herrmann, *The Lost Boys*), he tells him to look the other way since the boy's father made a hefty contribution to the academy. Sedgewick subsequently returns to his old rebellious ways, alienating Hundert.

The story then advances 25 years with Hundert, who was passed over for the headmaster position by one of his peers (Rob Morrow, *TV's Northern Exposure*), now on the verge of retire-

ment. The past comes back to haunt him as Sedgewick (now played by Joel Gretsch, *Minority Report*) offers to make a significant donation to the academy as long as Hundert attends his class reunion as the guest of honor.

Kline, with his commanding presence, shows once again he is more than capable of carrying a movie on his own thanks in great measure to Neil Tolkin's taut screenplay (a far cry from his 1995 Pauly Shore flick *Jury Duty*) and director Hoffman, whom Kline worked with on 1999's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and 1991's *Soupchick*.

While Yulin, Herrmann, Morrow, Gretsch, Patrick Dempsey (*Sweet Home Alabama*), and Embeth Davidtz (*Schindler's List*), provide Kline with a strong supporting cast, their roles are bit parts more than anything else.

I'd even go so far as to say that Kline deserves an Oscar nod for this role. He already won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actor for his role as oafish thug Otto in 1988's *A Fish Called Wanda*.

If there is anything wrong (for want of a better word) with this film is that it is somewhat too long. Be that as it may, it reaches a surprising—not to mention satisfying—ending before it drags out. Further, the ending is very affecting and not sappy. In the grand scheme of things, its longevity is a very moot point.

Similar to 1989's *Dead Poets Society* and, to a lesser degree, 1996's *Mr. Holland's Opus*, *The Emperor's Club* offers a refreshing solution for those who are seeking an alternative to the holiday-themed movies and the money-driven movies. It's definitely worth every penny.

SEXUAL PG-13 (some sexual content, very mild profanity).
RATING: 8 out of 10.

"Heart-pounding action from start to finish!"

THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE DEAD.

HALF PAST DEAD

Now Playing

THEATRE	TIME	THEATRE	TIME	THEATRE	TIME
AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00
AMC	1:00	AMC	1:00	AMC	1:00
AMC	2:00	AMC	2:00	AMC	2:00
AMC	3:00	AMC	3:00	AMC	3:00
AMC	4:00	AMC	4:00	AMC	4:00
AMC	5:00	AMC	5:00	AMC	5:00
AMC	6:00	AMC	6:00	AMC	6:00
AMC	7:00	AMC	7:00	AMC	7:00
AMC	8:00	AMC	8:00	AMC	8:00
AMC	9:00	AMC	9:00	AMC	9:00
AMC	10:00	AMC	10:00	AMC	10:00
AMC	11:00	AMC	11:00	AMC	11:00
AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00

"EVEN BETTER THAN THE FIRST."

Two Thumbs Up!

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Now Playing

THEATRE	TIME	THEATRE	TIME	THEATRE	TIME
AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00
AMC	1:00	AMC	1:00	AMC	1:00
AMC	2:00	AMC	2:00	AMC	2:00
AMC	3:00	AMC	3:00	AMC	3:00
AMC	4:00	AMC	4:00	AMC	4:00
AMC	5:00	AMC	5:00	AMC	5:00
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AMC	7:00	AMC	7:00	AMC	7:00
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AMC	11:00	AMC	11:00	AMC	11:00
AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00

ice cube make epps

friday after next

xmas in the hood

Now Playing

THEATRE	TIME	THEATRE	TIME	THEATRE	TIME
AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00
AMC	1:00	AMC	1:00	AMC	1:00
AMC	2:00	AMC	2:00	AMC	2:00
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AMC	5:00	AMC	5:00	AMC	5:00
AMC	6:00	AMC	6:00	AMC	6:00
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AMC	8:00	AMC	8:00	AMC	8:00
AMC	9:00	AMC	9:00	AMC	9:00
AMC	10:00	AMC	10:00	AMC	10:00
AMC	11:00	AMC	11:00	AMC	11:00
AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00	AMC	12:00