swaivay mudia

Movie Review

"The Color of Money" **Directed** by **Martin Scorsese** Starring Paul Newman and Tom Cruise ****1/2

Ratings based on a five-star system.

Fast Eddie Felson was one of the hottest pool hustlers in the country.

But that was 25 years ago. According to Felson, it was over before it really began.

Now Eddie has met a is a wiz on the pool table.

Eddie thinks that he can use Vince to hustle lots of money at the game, but the kid doesn't really care about money, he just wants to play the best game he can.

"The Color of Money," a new film from director user. She uses Vince to of the best actors to come Martin Scorsese, is the story of Eddie and Vince.

Scorsese has the uncanny ability to capture common characters and their lives on the streets make money hustling on film. "Taxi Driver" was pool. a gripping portrait of a Vietnam veteran who gets men go to the pool halls involved with a prostitution ring in an attempt to rescue a 16-year-old lose, one of the tricks a hooker. "Raging Bull" was a intense biographical look at a boxer and his groom Vince for a pool fights in and out of the tournament in Atlantic ring. "The King of Comedy" was a bizarre story of Vince wins too many a comedian who gets his games before the tournabig break by kidnapping ment, the word will get Color of Money." If anythe host of a popular out and Eddie won't be one had any doubts beshow and demanding a able to find many people. guest shot on the show. willing to bet against his he can act. Last year's "After Hours" was a wonderfully dark comedy which was too gins to question his own most people would not be confusing to try to explain pool playing ability. here

picks up the story of Fast once he suffers a humiliat-Eddie, the subject of Rob- ing defeat at the hands of ert Rossen's 1961 film, another hustler, he real-"The Hustler," which was izes he has lost some of based on a novel by Wal- his fire. ter Tevis.

ey," Paul Newman re- and starts working to imcreates his role as Fast Eddie from "The Hustler," only now Eddie's older and has a comfortable job as a liquor salesman. He still hangs around the pool halls but he never picks up a pool cue.

Tom Cruise, star of "Taps," "Risky Business" and the extremely popular "Top Gun," portrays Vince.

Vince has a nice job at kid, Vincent Lauria, who a toy store and enjoys playing pool and video games.

> He is somewhat of a flake — he twirls his pool cue like he's performing kendo.

His girlfriend, Carmen (Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio), is somewhat of a get a better life for herself.

Fast Eddie sees what type of person Carmen is and uses her to convince Vince to go on the road to

of Chicago. Vince is good player but doesn't like to good hustler has to know.

City. Eddie knows that if protege.

"The Color of Money" into the game himself but,

Eddie sends Vince and In "The Color of Mon- Carmen out on their own

our readers spend a lot of time between the covers.

prove his game. He wants to win the tournament himself but realizes he will have to play Vince. Eddie doesn't really care if he wins or loses. He just wants the chance to play his best.

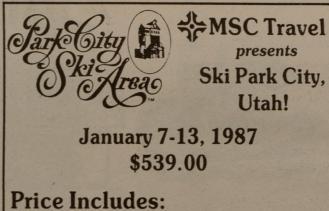
"The Color of Money" is a great film with superb acting. Newman has distinguished himself for years in such great films as "The Sting," "Butch Cas-sidy and the Sundance Kid," "The Verdict, "Harry and Son" and the classic "Cool Hand Luke." He's one of the last of the great leading men and is able to bring great sophistication to any role he tackles.

Cruise is probably one out of the '80s. He was wonderful as the overanxious cadet in "Taps." In "Risky Business" he played a straight-laced kid who was able to successfully deal with everything Eddie, Vince and Car- when his life went crazy. He was the only thing worth watching in "All the Right Moves," "Losin' It" and "Legend." "Top Gun" pushed Cruise up Eddie is trying to to idol status as a cocky, arrogant navy pilot.

It took a lot of guts for Cruise take on the role of Vince, a good-looking, airheaded kid in "The fore, this film shows that

The Color of Money" After a while, Eddie be- is like a slice of life that able to experience if it He wants to get back weren't for actors like Cruise and Newman and directors like Scorsese. Some viewers may feel the ending of the film is a bit ambiguous, but life is often that way.

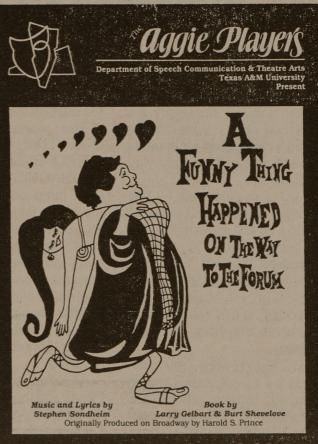
-Review by Karl Pallmeyer



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