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VARSITY BLUES (R) 11:10 1:40 4:10 7:05 9:40 12:25
AT FIRST SIGHT (PG-13) 12:50 3:40 6:50 9:55 12:45
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R) 1:00 3:50 7:00 9:45 12:30
THE THIN RED LINE (R) 12:00 4:00 8:00 11:45
*A SIMPLE PLAN (R) 12:40 3:30 7:00 9:50 12:40
A CIVIL ACTION (PG-13) 11:20 1:55 4:35 7:30 10:10 12:50
PATCH ADAMS (PG-13) 11:30 2:05 4:45 7:40 10:20 12:55
STEPMOM (PG-13) 1:30 4:15 7:25 10:15 12:50
THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (PG) 11:55 2:15 4:55 7:15 9:35 12:19
A BUG'S LIFE (G) *11:40 2:00 4:25 *7:10
IN DREAMS (R) 12:30 2:50 5:10 8:05 10:35 1:00
YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG) 11:15 1:50 4:30 7:20 10:00 12:35
THE FACULTY (R) 12:20 2:40 5:15 7:55 10:30 1:00
*GLORIA (R) 7:35 10:05
THE WATERBOY (PG-13) 12:15 2:35 5:00 12:40
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AGGIELIFE



A Simple Plan

Starring Bill Paxton and Billy Bob Thornton
Directed by Sam Raimi
Playing at Hollywood 16
Rated R

Maybe it was snow-covered fields. Maybe it was the ominous tone in each scene. Whatever it was, *A Simple Plan* can only be described as bone chilling.

Based on the novel by Scott Smith, who also adapted the screenplay, this modern day morality tale is about two brothers, Hank (Paxton) and Jacob (Thornton) and their friend Lou (Brent Briscoe) who stumble upon \$4.4 million inside a duffel bag in a downed airplane.

Naturally, they assume it is drug money. After thinking about the morality and consequences of keeping the money, Hank decides he should hide the dough until spring. If nobody

comes looking for it, the three will split it. All they have to do is keep quiet.

Of course, mayhem ensues as men's greed takes over. The plan reaches a crucial turning point when the dim-witted Jacob is forced by Hank to side with his brother over his drinking buddy. Lou and Jacob are more alike in habits, but Jacob and Hank are tied by blood.

The film is emotionally complex. The love/hate relationship between the college-educated, married and successful Hank and his slow and limited brother, Jacob, is the linchpin of the film.

Thornton's performance (sure to be rewarded with an Oscar nomination) has moments of overacting, yet it also captures moments of depth and poignancy.

Thornton portrays Jacob, not in a *Rain Man*-esque caricature, but by bringing the resignation of his loneliness to a new level of loserdom.

The power of the film is that it pulls the audience into the degradation of these characters'

At First Sight

Starring Val Kilmer and Mira Sorvino
Directed by Irwin Winkler
Playing at Hollywood 16
Rated PG-13

Often, it is easy to take for granted the most basic things in life, such as the ability to see. *At First Sight* does a great job of demonstrating the world of the blind.

The story begins with Amy (Sorvino), a busy and talented architect, traveling to a stress-relieving resort getaway.

Her daily massage happens to be the irresistible Virgil (Kilmer). Amy receives a fantastic massage and realizes what she has been missing her entire adult life is sensitivity from a man.

On her brief visit to the quaint resort town, Amy and Virgil fall in love. However, his elder, over-protective sister Jenny (Kelly McGillis) sees this new relationship of Virgil's as a threat to their stable lifestyle.

Amy wants to share her life

with Virgil, so she researches his condition and successfully finds a way for him to regain his vision. Virgil decides to undergo surgery, despite the strong objections from his sister.

Complications arise because his eyes are not communicating correctly with his brain. The rest of the movie involves the trials Virgil and Amy must face during his rebirth.

Winkler displays the recovery of sight so creatively with vivid color and blurred images. This is probably the best performance offered by Kilmer since *The Doors*.

Sorvino showed the world her charm and talent for her Oscar-winning role in *Mighty Aphrodite* and doesn't fail in this film. Kilmer and Sorvino truly share romantic chemistry.

If sentimentality is not a problem, then take a date to this movie. It will make audiences laugh and cry and may also make a few people appreciate things that have always been taken for granted. (Grade B+)

— Jeff Kempf

In Dreams

Starring Annette Bening and Robert Downey Jr.
Directed by Neil Jordan
Playing at Hollywood 16
Rated R

In 1998, such releases as *Saving Private Ryan* and *The Prince of Egypt* have helped put DreamWorks studio on the map. It's newest release, *In Dreams*, is testing the studio's skill to create a horror/thriller film. Unfortunately, this movie, starring Bening, Aidan Quinn and Downey, is very reminiscent of Wes Craven's classic, *A Nightmare on Elm Street*. Even though elements of descriptive violence, jolting dream sequences and psychological abuse take place throughout the film, *In Dreams* does not make its mark as a great thriller.

This movie tells a story of Claire Cooper (Bening), an illustrator of children's books, who has been experiencing a series of frightful dreams. Claire soon realizes she is visioning the events surrounding vicious child murders. The story then begins to spiral into never-ending predictability, which seems

souls. Think what \$4.4 million could change a life; Smith's characters sure

Playing Hank's wife, Bridget Fonda decides that keeping the money would be wrong but eventually reasons that she is looking for coupons for dinner is a dilemma does not mock the characters' greed creates empathy with their plight.

Another aspect that makes *A Simple Plan* great is its economy. No frame is wasted is superfluous. Each scene propels the next. It is simply the most well-timed of the year. Raimi shows remarkable maturity and self-assuredness, severely contrasting his earlier forays into ridiculousness (*Dead Series* and *Darkman*) and dispensing the over-the-top theatrics of those films.

He creates a haunting vision that works on all levels: as entertainment and as a morality tale. (Grade: A)

to ruin the only strong possibility of this film, the violent supporting her

Downey shows his lack of career the film as the cause of a twelfth chaos. His character, Virgil, is riddled with the game past filled with abuse, also moved designed, but confusingly other elite underwater terror, all of which became seen in Claire's dreams. Aggie in his been somehow psychological Sharpe lea every thought. Cliché because, averts wards and doctors become with Junior's involved and seem to drag categories at 12 into frustration. The ending day's game surprise many and some Aggie coach a decent closure to the film. The Long

Bening and Downey Brown, who of great actors. They do name, 19.4 in for this movie and some name.

just not enough to keep Kim Lum afloat. *In Dreams* was with 12.4 po Neil Jordan, Oscar winner. Texas is in rector of great films state Wildcat *Crying Game*. Jordan late

his talents to this film. A&M has true lover of watching psy games again ic killings, this movie should of the please, but if not you'd be pay to go to check your paper's movie again. (Grade: D+)

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