**Human Stain leaves indelible mark**

By Chelsea Paxton
Contributing Writer

The question has been answered. The movie The Human Stain leaves indelible mark. The movie directed by three-time Oscar winner, Mike Nichols, and starring Sir Anthony Hopkins and Jessica Biel, is about a Jewish professor who gives up his career and his marriage to become a non-Jewish black professor. The movie is based on Philip Roth’s novel The Human Stain. The movie is about race, identity and sacrifice. The viewer finds out early on the conflict between the white and black community. The movie is a must watch for anyone interested in movie reviews.

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**Vertical Horizon releases Go, levels Variety Playhouse**

By Hillary Lipko
Contributing Writer

In a world where it seems that a good live show is a rarity rather than the norm, there are bands like Vertical Horizon. Let’s face it—any band can make itself sound good on an album, but putting on a stellar live performance is entirely different. Very few bands sound as good live as they do on a studio recording. Even fewer sound better. Last Saturday at the Variety Playhouse, Vertical Horizon showed Atlanta what it is in releasing a follow-up album to one as successful as Everything You Want. Vertical Horizon has been touring extensively since April of this year in support of Go, which was just released last month. A saunter toe-tapper with many bands of late, Go shows a band that has undergone a transformation. ‘With this album, we’re more certain than ever of our direction and identity,’ songwriter, lead singer and guitarist Matt Scannell said in a press release, ‘with our last album, we still had some unanswered questions about what kind of band we wanted to be.’

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**M orpheus says: “take the red pill”**

For those who need another reason to be excited on November 5, M. Night Shyamalan’s alien movie will be released. The movie is a science fiction thriller that has been anticipated by many. The movie is about a man who has to choose between two paths: the red pill or the blue pill. The red pill will show him the truth about the world, but the blue pill will keep him in a dream world. The decision is up to you. The movie is directed by M. Night Shyamalan and stars Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson.

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**Bring along your favorite ghoul**

Party this Halloween 99x style. Dressed as a favorite dead rock and roll star for “Dead Star Karaoke.” Costume prizes will be awarded. Abundantly loud music, drinks galore, tarot and palm readings, and a costume contest will complete the scene. Tickets are $20 through 99x.com, and are $22.00 at the door. Look for our review next issue. How deep does the rabbit hole go?

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**People are dying to get in there...**

Embark upon a guided tour of one of Atlanta’s best outdoor spaces, the cemetery. The cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is the burial place for several famous people, including M. Night Shyamalan. The cemetery includes the life story of a famous movie star, the life story of a famous television star, and the life story of a famous musician. The party is at the cemetery on October 31, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

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**Puppet Horror Show frightens**

Experience the bizarre world of scary puppets in the third annual spooky puppet horror show at the Atlanta Center for Puppetry Arts. Expect less-than-savory puppet acts combined with free beer for anyone afraid to try it. Strange acts in front of the audience. Aspiring puppeteers can even place their hand in the show. Admission is $14 to $18, and shows are today at 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.
Stain from page 17

able, in large part due to the markable acting of Wentworth Miller, who plays the young Coleman Silk.

Wentworth is a strikingly good-looking man with dark hair and light eyes; his ethnicity absolutely cannot be placed just by looking at him, which makes the story that much more believable.

In the close-ups of Anthony Hopkins you sense a deep sorrow and vulnerability in his eyes, which is the same sense of restlessness captured through Wentworth’s acting, and the timing of both the older and younger versions of Coleman Silk is dead on.

In talking with Wentworth immediately after the screening, one audience member commented on his impecable sense of timing, subtle, but crucial to filmmaking, especially when dealing with two actors playing the same role.

Wentworth stated that he and Hopkins met a few times to discuss their character, but in large part, Hopkins modeled his acting on Miller’s character since the younger scenes were shot first. This was, to Wentworth, “incredibly flattering.”

Born in England to an African-American father and white mother, Miller grew up in Brooklyn, where race was never really an issue.

“It’s such a rough and tumble kind of city, that you are just trying to make your way. And you are rubbing shoulders with whoever you can imagine... race, creed, religion, what have you,” he said.

It wasn’t until he was an English Literature student at Princeton University that he really began thinking about identity, which is natural at such a stage in life, he said. To him it was “a fertile time of who am I, who are you, who are we, and why are we here?”

After graduating, Miller made the move to L.A., where he worked for a few years as a production assistant before landing roles on ER, Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Popular and the sci-fi mini-series D in to the. He most recently played the doctor who betrays Scott Speedman in Underworld, but that is incredibly rich, but it’s one that’s not often told. If you’re looking for some romance, some political themes, some fight scenes, Anthony Hopkins playing a black man... I mean, what’s not to love?”

He goes on, in a more serious tone, to say, “This is an adult movie; it has loose ends, it’s complicated, it’s challenging and it’s a lot like life.”

Miller hopes that this project will open doors but realizes the tenous nature of the business. He is open to working in other capacities such as directing and producing, as well as in other genres, but stated that he will remain choosy, whether scripts pour his way or not; it is inspiration that guides his best work.

The Human Stain is a film that is incredibly rich but it’s one that’s not often told.

Wentworth Miller
Actor

“I think this is a story that is incredibly rich but it’s one that’s not often told.”

Wentworth Miller
Actor

Stain is without a doubt his breakthrough role. I asked him if he drew on his background in approaching the intricacies of race in this movie, and he spoke of a quote from Toni Morrison about identity, which is natural at such a stage in life.

“Why should I spend what little money I have to see this movie as opposed to the others out there?”

Wentworth replied, “First of all, the performances are fantastic... I think this is a story that is incredibly rich, but it’s one that’s not often told. If you’re looking for some romance, some political themes, some fight scenes, Anthony Hopkins playing a black man... I mean, what’s not to love?”

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The Human Stain is a film that left me questioning how I perceive others and myself and further, questioning the basis for my life and beliefs; it offers the same promise to viewers everywhere.

Take a second to get to know music of 7 Sharp 9

By Christopher Rampton
Contributing Writer

7 Sharp 9 headlined at Smith’s Old Bar Friday night to a crowd of grateful twenty-somethings, happy to pay the $7 cover to see them crank out the songs from their recent full-length debut, Gathering.

The band responded well, too. In fact, lead singer Chris Wold couldn’t take himself seriously, despite his otherwise dark lyrics. I guess the girl dancing suggestively beside him onstage was distracting him; it appears he and his band-mate probably aren’t doing this for the music.

Gathering was released under Baby Godzilla Records.

Despite a decent album, 7 Sharp 9 showed that they were perhaps more into having a good time on stage rather than trying to make good music.
M Make sure not to pass up rising band Ingram Hill

By Art Seavey
Entertainment Editor

Concerts are not just about the headliners. O pening acts offer music
lovers the chance to discover their next favorite band. This was easily
true for many fans Saturday night when Ingram Hill opened for Vertical
Horizon. The band is currently on tour promoting their debut album, June's
Picture Show. Their southern origin is evident in the music, but by no
means is it even verging on country. Lead singer and guitarist Justin
Moore took time out to speak with the 'Nique.

Originally I had the chance to
see them in concert when they opened
for Better Than Ezra in W ashington,
D.C. over two years ago. Al-
though that was entertaining, their
current live show has improved by
leaps and bounds.

Moore said, “I think it’s a little
bit more mature sounding, it’s not
as the brooding Harry Senate or
boy M cIntyre (New Kids on the
Block) by playing Colin Flynn.

Occasionally, the show utilizes
gimmicks such as casting American
 Idol contestant Tammy Gray last
year as a girl with a golden set of
pipes (nice cross-promotion, Fox),
but the show functions at its best
when it sticks to the struggles of
the faculty.

Instead of focusing on the angst
of the young ones, we glimpse into
the lives of those who run the place
while fending off emotional break-
downs. Sort of above closed-doors,

“My southern upbringing,
I always knew that my hot teachers were
having sex with each other and
even students, but I never
stole a prosthetic
hand from them…”

By Jason Allen
Contributing Writer

W e all have our guilty pleasures,
never shared with even those closest
to us. M y name is Jason, and I am a
Boston Public fan.

Watching sporadically since its
debut in 2000, I’ve been drawn into
the03d reality of producer D avid
E. Kelley.

He pulled the strings on
his scholarship to Julliard. Beware
that bad things happen when you
kiss the principal’s girlfriend.

Additionally, M r. H anan needs
to draw boundaries when his wife
welcomes a gay student into their
home. And strait-laced, N ass ass-
tendant, S cott G uber finds a
romantic interest. A porn star. Of

course, D ennis M iller returns for
his ranting.

Not an outright ratings-grabber,
Boston Public nonetheless has gar-
ned a devoted following. While
the biggest waves of gossip among
classemates at my high school was
generated after kids got busted for
passing counterfeit bills, the off-the-
charts craziness of these Northeast-
erners sets them apart.

I always knew the hot teachers
were having sex with each other and
even students, but I never stole a prosthetic
hand from them or had
a student with a mustache
that flashed me if I cranked out the
correct answers.

In Boston Public land, undercov-
er cops infiltrate the student body
to bust drug rings, teachers abuse
drugs, and students have to
wear matching ensembles to
make sure they’re not
违反ing hypothetical problems about
ack houses, prostitutes and pimps.

It’s not uncommon for an
American Idol contestant to win
an awards presenter, endangering
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Every time you go to a movie, you face one of the toughest moral quandaries that a human could possibly encounter: Do you buy popcorn or not?

On the one hand, popcorn is tasty, but on the other, you are stuck holding the popcorn throughout the movie while you eat it. If you’re claustrophobic like me, you are probably already squirming enough as you sit pinned between an armrest-grabbing friend and a sumo wrestler wearing a puff jacket. Behind you is a seven-year-old who shouldn’t be at the 10:45 showing. In front of you is an honest-to-goodness pimp wearing a wide-brimmed purple fur fedora. Beneath you is an uncomfortable seat with someone else’s food crumbs. The only unbounded direction you have is up, but if you’re holding the nine-dollar twin-and-leaf bag full of popcorn, you’re trapped there too.

If claustrophobia weren’t enough reason to have reservations about buying popcorn, you also have to worry about earthquakes. What if you buy that popcorn, and then the whole theatre starts to tremble? Every time you buy popcorn, you chance the faux pas of tossing a whole bag of popcorn on a nearby couple. Aside from the embarrassment you face, if you toss popcorn on them while they’re making out, you risk getting punched. Remember that sumo wrestler in the puff jacket?

Of course, if you don’t live in California, you still fill your lap with popcorn. Even if you combine The Force, the Vulcan Death Grip, and any other evil and allegedly fictional method for tightly holding stuff, there are always those one or two rogue pieces that fall out of every handful that you grab. You drop the popcorn in your lap, and your friends drop some in your lap, too.

In the aftermath of a quake; through claustrophobia, earthquakes and oil stains on your pants are compelling deterrents for eating popcorn, it is...good stuff.

Fortunately for popcorn fans everywhere, evil, manipulative, antiscientific, efficiency-driven managers (probably engineers) have pioneered a way to have all of the benefits of the fat and salt in popcorn without the unfortunate effects of holding the bag.

This came to my attention when I went to see a movie the other day with a friend of mine. He bought the colossal bag of popcorn and immediately started offering some to me as soon as we sat. “I have some popcorn. I can’t eat it all. Don’t you want some popcorn? It’s good. Sure you don’t want some popcorn? Eat some popcorn.”

After about the tenth offer, it became evident what he was doing. He was hoping that I would eat just enough popcorn to push me over the boundary for social debt—it’s just not right to keep eating someone else’s popcorn without sharing in the burden of holding it.

This seems to be a growing trend. People intentionally buy more popcorn than they can possibly eat and then they guilt-trip their friends into holding it. Don’t be fooled by this evil tactic! Beat them at their own game by completely eschewing etiquette and never offering to hold the popcorn. Each time they hold it towards you, grab a big handful and thank them, but then ignore their subsequent gesture to give you the bag. Completely subverting social mores doesn’t take a little practice, but with a little patience and ingenuity, your friends will become disinterested in holding the popcorn and will start the bag on the floor next to them. Once this happens, you get all the popcorn you could ever want, and you didn’t even have to pay for it.

Of course, there’s a lot more to seeing a movie than eating popcorn. With the smell of fresh popcorn, you’ll be eating Mike and Ikes like a fiend. But when corporate employees are forced to do or say things which are pointless, it just really rubs me the wrong way.

When I walked in, I was greeted with a rousing chorus of “C’mon, Mamma!”, which is probably the reason I got served my culinary nemesis, Red Thai Curry, and didn’t get the downy painful name and interior that conjures up images of East meets West meets epileptic seizure design theory, things were not off to a good start. Also, the fact that they are owned by the same people that brought me culinary arch-nemesis, Moe’s Southwestern Grill, didn’t help much matters.

The food is delicious. It was only when I actually took a good look at my check that I stumbled upon what is perhaps the single biggest sticking point against my giving them a good review. I paid ten dollars for lunch. Now, this isn’t that terrible, but for the quality of their food, I felt that it would have been a little spicier. The presentation of the rice dishes was a bit on the “now, why do you suppose they want me and did that?” side of things; the rice and actual meal had clearly been delineated portions of the plate and were not mixed together. But that’s a minor gripe on its best day. The food is delicious.

Get on over to Mamma for top-notch Asian cuisine

Mama Fu’s, located at 193 Peachtree Road, could be a nice change to your dining lineup. The menu offers everything from Chinese to Vietnamese.

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**Two Bits**

As if those goobers are not addictive enough already

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When I walked in, I was greeted with a rousing chorus of “C’mon, Mamma!” from most of the staff. Now, this isn’t that terrible, but for the quality of their food, I felt that it would have been a little spicier. The presentation of the rice dishes was a bit on the “now, why do you suppose they want me and did that?” side of things; the rice and actual meal had clearly been delineated portions of the plate and were not mixed together. But that’s a minor gripe on its best day. The food is delicious.

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See Fu, page 23
Incoherent Scribblings by Matt Norris

We will now return to Monday night with Street Preacher Girl - Welcome Back Notch - Last Night Angels appeared to me and told me of the freeway fear of an angel for the heat that will be left behind.

In April of 2005, after the rapture, Jim Walton shall rise from his grave and begin Walmart's sinister make 2 of operation. Abandoning super Wal-Mart stores and taking strategic positions in huge, new mega Wal-Mart stores.

Then shall the sun go black, and the Wal-Marts led by the zombie-Jim Walton will invade and conquer West Virginia. Establishing their ultimate fortress under Wal-Mart. From there he will torment the remaining heathens.

GEEZ - I SHOULDN'T HAVE UP AND APPLIED FOR THAT GREATER JOB...

Fu from page 21

breaker, but if you're like most of the people reading this article (i.e. a broke, starving college student) this may not be the place where you want to spend what may very well be your last ten bucks.

I wish to digress here for a moment to tell you all about something both wonderful and magical that you can expect to find should you care to dine with Mama Fu's. It's the bathrooms.

I can hear you asking yourselves and each other, "Why is this jackass pimping the bathrooms?" Well, I can't tell you, because I don't want to reveal what could very well be one of the most defining moments of your life except to say that they are amazing beyond what words can adequately describe.

All that being said, Mama Fu's is a fine way to spend an evening or lunch, but only if you're willing to plunk down a little more change than usual for some Asian cuisine.

Ingram from page 20

quite so southern-rockish as its still southern a bit but it's not quite so southern rock. I think it's better. It's a nice pace which has gotten bigger and better as a band now.

Their sound does appeal to a wide audience, as they have performed as far north as Boston. "[Those] fans are really receptive to us, and we're selling CD's so we have to be doing something right," Moore said.

The band met at the University of Memphis where Moore was majoring in vocals before later switching to marketing. When things got going the group was spending a lot of time outside the city. "I wasn't really there that often so school actually got in the way of me being in the band. And so it actually took away from creativity. Because I had to do school work," Moore laughed.

Despite dropping by Atlanta often the group's members have never really had the chance to get out on the town. "Well, we recorded our record in Atlanta and of course all we did was work and hang out in the studio and the hotel. The whole time we were in Atlanta we wanted to go to a Braves game...we're always just there working," Moore said.

The work that Ingram Hill has been doing has definitely paid off as proven by their concert. Moore ended the interview with a message to all of the band's fans. "Buy our new CD - it's great. It's way better than anything we've ever done before. And...come out and see us live...that's what we're best at."

For tour dates and more information on the band's members check out www.ingramhillmusic.com.