

film

Factotum

Norwegian director Bent Hamer (*Kitchen Stories*) turns his lens on the seamy underbelly of America in this funny and gritty adaptation of Charles Bukowski's 1975 novel. Matt Dillon delivers a brilliant and unsettling performance as a boozier, gambler and struggling writer who bungles his way through a series of volatile relationships and degrading odd jobs. Lili Taylor has her best film role in ages as the unstable girlfriend, and Marisa Tomei makes a brief but memorable appearance as a floundering femme fatale. Opens Sept. 1 at Cinema 21. **A-**

—Stephen Blair

Heading South

Laurent Cantet (*Time Out*) confirms that he is one of France's top directors with this controversial and engrossing drama. Karen Young and Charlotte Rampling are terrific as sexually frustrated middle-aged women who vacation in Haiti in the late 1970s and pay a young Haitian man to get down and dirty with them. Viewing their beach resort as a private playground, they're more or less oblivious to the poverty and political unrest that surround them. In a unique and effective stylistic maneuver, all of the major characters reveal intimate details about themselves in a soliloquy. Opens Sept. 8 at Cinema 21. **A-**

—SB

Hollywoodland

Alternate title: *You'll Believe a (Super)Man Can Die*. Ben Affleck plays troubled actor George Reeves in the days when Superman ruled the TV airwaves

of the 1950s. When he appears to kill himself one evening, a detective (woefully wimpy Adrien Brody) investigates, finding many clues indicating it might have been murder that brought Reeves down, not suicide. Based on real events, this film tries for noir, but Brody just can't hack it, while some other actors chew the scenery as if starving. Not bad, but hardly super. Opens Sept. 8. **C+**

—Andy Mangels

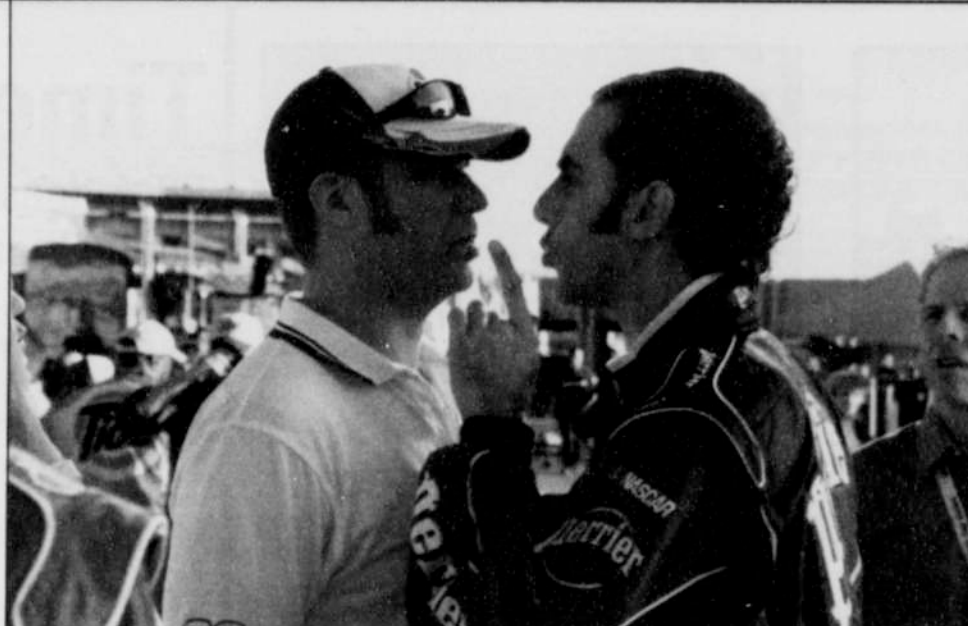
Idlewild

OutKast's André 3000 and Big Boi star in this Prohibition-era musical as a pair of lifelong friends who perform at a Southern speakeasy while chasing skirts and dodging gangsters. It might sound like fun—music video director Bryan Barber does demonstrate fresh visual flair—but the weak script and forgettable music make this a rare misstep for the hip-hop geniuses. Hey, if Prince survived *Under the Cherry Moon*, OutKast can survive this. **C**

—Jim Radosta

Lemming

This new thriller by French director Dominik Moll has it all: a wonderfully suspenseful storyline, an exquisite cast and the right twist. The story: A young couple, Alain (Laurent Lucas) and Bénédicte (Charlotte Gainsbourg), invite Alain's boss, Richard (André Dussollier), and his wife,



A redneck racer (Will Ferrell, left) gets ousted from his No. 1 ranking by a debonair French fag (Sacha Baron Cohen) in *Talladega Nights*.

Alice (Charlotte Rampling), over for a casual meal. The disastrous dinner is just the beginning of a series of unfortunate events, and it will hold your attention until the end. Opens Sept. 1 at Hollywood Theatre. **A**

—Yvonne P. Behrens

The Quiet

Dyke director Jamie Babbit (*But I'm a Cheerleader*) helmed this vile film about a supposedly deaf orphan (Camilla Belle) who lands in the home from hell. There she encounters a pill-popping mother (Edie Falco) and a snotty cheerleader daughter (Elisha Cuthbert) who's plotting to kill Daddy (Martin Donovan) in between their incestuous rolls in the hay. The whole mess might have been harmlessly laughable if the characters weren't so damn reprehensible. **F**

—JR

Ryna

Directed by Ruxandra Zenide, this drama tells the story of 16-year-old Ryna (Doroteea Petre), who lives with her despot, drunk father in small-town Romania. The father always wanted a son and raises Ryna as such, until she starts to rebel against him and tries to find her own identity. Longing to connect with her mother and searching for life outside the Danube Delta, Ryna pays a high price at the end for her freedom and to follow her dream to become a photographer.

Interesting insight into rural areas of an Eastern European country and how old traditions change under the influence of new material aspiration. Opens Sept. 8 at Hollywood Theatre. **B+**

—YPB

Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby

Who knew that the gayest mainstream movie of the year would come in the form of a NASCAR spoof? In his least annoying film role in ages, Will Ferrell plays a redneck racer who gets ousted from his No. 1 ranking by a debonair French fag (the hilarious Sacha Baron Cohen, aka Ali G). In a glorious affront to machismo, the rivals even engage in a marathon liplock. The premium supporting cast includes John C. Reilly, Amy Adams and Jane Lynch. **B**

—SB jo

NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE NIGHTLIFE

ICE ICE BABY
FROZEN
T SHIRT
CONTEST
 LABO 2 DAY WEEKEND
 SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 3RD
THE EGYPTIAN CLUB
 3701 SE DIVISION ST 503-236 8689
EROOMPODX.COM

SCANDALS

Do you believe in love
 at first sight ... or do
 you need another
 drink?

Portland's oldest & newest gay mens club
 1125 SW Stark Street
 Downtown Portland

monday • tuesday • wednesday • thursday • friday • saturday • sunday