

THE GLOBE

WEDNESDAY
JULY 6, 2011
ISSUE 5/SUMMER'11

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COMPUTER REPAIR CLINIC

Photo by Mallory Black

Technicians work at the Computer Repair Clinic held during spring semester.

TECH Club to aid with computer repairs

Ryan McDonald

Staff Reporter

On Thursday July 7, students at Salt Lake Community College will have the opportunity to get their computers repaired for free and donate to a good cause all at the same time at the Computer Repair Clinic, which will be sponsored by the TECH Club (formerly the Computer Synergy Club). This is the second such clinic sponsored by the club, with the first having been held last semester.

TECH Club Vice President Dean Elmore explained that the main reason behind holding such an event is the fact that such repairs

often cost students more money than they may have.

"It's something that most students need help with," he said. "Students do not have infinite funds, so this was something that we (the club) did because there are a lot of students who don't have the resources, and we have the knowledge and skills to do the repairs to the computers."

Held in the Student Events Center at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus, Elmore indicated that just the system itself will need to be brought in, as the club will have things like mice and keyboards there to set up. He said that while space allows for more than just smaller machines like laptops, only Windows-based machines will be examined.

He also indicated that some of the problems that arise with computers are due to the environment in which they are typically kept. Because the exact same environment will not be able to be duplicated at the clinic,

such problems will not be able to be fixed.

Perhaps the thing that Elmore stressed the most was the idea that not only will the technicians be working on the computers, but they will also be explaining why they are making certain repairs.

"It's always best to educate people," Elmore said. "It gives them a sense of empowerment. When we finish with a computer we will go through and explain what we did to fix it and things that they (the students) need to be aware of, like if there is no virus protection on the system."

Elmore advises that students arrive on time, with the event beginning at 1:30 in the afternoon. He indicated that at the first clinic, he was busy the entire time due to the volume of students that attended the event.

While helping students get their computers fixed is a main goal of the clinic for the TECH Club, there is a second important reason

behind holding the event. While the event itself is free, the club has decided to use these clinics as an opportunity to help those in need through providing an opportunity for students to donate to a good cause.

Last semester the club chose the Student Orphan Aid Program (SOAP) as its beneficiary. This organization aims to help young people who are the victims of civil war in their homelands have opportunities for higher education. This semester the club has chosen Copperview Elementary School in Midvale as its beneficiary.

"The TECH Club decided to check out some of the local causes for our second Computer Repair Clinic," said Mallory Black, club treasurer. "After some research online, we found a listing on CreateTheGood.org for Copperview Elementary, located in Midvale, which predominately

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Be creative for free

David Bell

Staff Reporter

Salt Lake Community College is offering a new Community Based Job Placement Grant that the school has received for students interested in majoring in the field of digital arts. This grant is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

"Students who want to qualify for the grant have to meet certain guidelines," Thomas Risk, Project Director, CBJT Grant, School of Arts, Communication, and New Media said. "Students must have either a high school diploma, or a GED (General Education Diploma)."

Risk is looking for certain types of students for the grant. Students need to be either a displaced homemaker, someone who has been receiving unemployment but is looking for employment, or a disadvantaged youth between the ages of 16 and 24.

Also, students with low income status, students that receive or have received food stamps in the last six

Creative/Continued on page A3

community
eco-friendly
alternative
to
paper
or plastic
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opinion
catch the
health
disease
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arts &
entertainment
larry
crowne
A5

SLCC Culinary Institute offers more for less

Brandon Crowley

Contributing Writer

Perhaps unbeknownst to many, Salt Lake Community College is home to one of the most highly accredited culinary institutes in the country, having repeatedly earned accreditation from the American Culinary Federation Education (ACFEF), the educational arm of the largest professional chef organization in North America.

Such an honor places SLCC's program, officially titled Salt Lake Community College Culinary Institute, among the leading culinary schools in the country, but at a fraction of the average tuition cost at other institutes.

"This is one of the highest rated programs in the country for culinary arts, so there are a lot of people from out of state coming here because of the price and the quality," said Daniel McIntosh, a second year student at the SLCC

Culinary Institute. "I did a lot of research before I chose this college. It was hard for me to move away from my family, but it's worth it in the long run."

Located at the SLCC Miller Campus, the SLCC Culinary Institute teaches more than food preparation. As an ACFEF accredited institution, the institute also teaches subjects such as risk management, human resource management, purchasing, food safety, and nutrition.

Leslie Seiferle, associate professor at the SLCC Culinary Institute remembers a time before the program was accredited in 1995 when SLCC's culinary school was much more laid back.

"Before we got accreditation, students were in the lab with shorts and sandals on," she said. "Once we moved into the accreditation arena, then we got very serious."

Today, the classes offered are not tailored to casual students. The

SLCC Culinary Institute caters exclusively to students who are seriously looking to have a career in the culinary arts.

"[The ACFEF] doesn't offer a blessing for continuing and community education. There is a lot of that that goes on all over the country, and thank heavens for it, but it is not something that there is accreditation from this organization available for," Seiferle said. "Someone outside of that sort of gets lost in the fray."

Students who are on the fence about committing to a culinary education can ask to sit in on a class as a guest-status student. Seiferle also suggested that "Kitchen Confidential" by chef Anthony Bourdain gives potential students a good idea of what to expect from the industry.

McIntosh decided to take the plunge two years ago, when he moved to Utah from Wisconsin to attend the SLCC Culinary Institute.

He had been in the food service industry for 20 years, and was tired of the insecurity that came from a lack of formal training.

"I lost jobs because I wasn't good enough, and I knew that. Going to school is the way to go, especially in culinary arts, because you get certified and everything. After attending, you do have personal knowledge. You do know what you're talking about. You do know what you're doing. There is no question of, 'What if this guy doesn't know this, this, or that? What if he isn't strong enough in this area?' There is none of that. It's confirmed."

McIntosh will soon see these benefits firsthand. In one more semester, he will have earned his degree, which also guarantees automatic membership in the American Culinary Federation.

"The degree is so high, and the price is so low. This is huge, and it's right here in your backyard."

STUDENT EVENTS

WED/6

All Day
The World of Harry Potter Contest @ TR Campus, Library.

3:30pm-4:30pm
Environmental Club Meeting @ TR Campus, Student Center Basement, Senate Chambers Room.

5:30pm-10pm
Corps Encore @ Rice Eccles Stadium.

THURS/7

8am-Noon
Session 2 Youth Summer Science Workshop @ TR Campus.

Noon-1pm
Education Presentation Defenders of the Rain Forest @ The Living Planet Aquarium.

1:30pm-4:30pm
Free Computer Repair Clinic @ TR Campus, Student Event Center.

FRI/8

2pm-3pm
Stingray Feeding @ The Living Planet Aquarium.

7pm-10pm
Sam Bush Band @ Gallivan Center.

8pm-9pm
Friday Night Flicks @ Riverside Park, 739 N. 1400 W.

11pm
Summer of 35mm 2011, Showing "The Birds" @ Tower Theater 876 E. 900 S. SLC, UT.

SAT/9

7:30am-11:00am
Haiti Kids 5k @ Sugar-house Park.

8pm-9:30pm
Murray Concert Band @ Murray City Park.

MON/11

All Day
New Student Registration @ All Campuses.

8am-Noon
Session 3 Youth Summer Science Workshop @ TR Campus.

8:30pm-10:30pm
Utah Symphony @ Utah Cultural Celebration Center, West Valley City.

TUE/12

8am-Noon
Session 3 Youth Summer Science Workshop @ TR Campus.

5:30pm-6:30pm
SLCC Tech Club Meeting @ TR Campus, Library, Lower Level Room 046.

SUN/10

Noon
Summer of 35mm 2011, Showing "The Birds" @ Tower Theater 876 E. 900 S. SLC, UT.

Submit student events to calendar.globe@slcc.edu
Visit slcc.edu/campusevents/calendar.asp for more student events

SLCC PICS



Each week a different picture from an SLCC campus will be featured. If you know the location and campus of this week's featured picture, enter to win a prize by emailing your answer to contest.globe@slcc.edu.

Deadline for entries is Tuesday, July 12th.

Entrants may only win once per semester. Mass Communication Center staff and faculty are not eligible to win.

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Due to the high volume of requests for articles we receive, The Globe may not be able to reply to every letter. Due to our limited staff, The Globe may not be able to attend or cover every event or issue submitted. The Globe encourage emails/notices of events. However, any request of coverage of an event or issue should be made within a time frame of at least one week.

The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0601

ACROSS

1 Soprano Nixon

6 Infielders' stats, for short

9 Software prototype

13 Demanding instructor's cry

14 "Love the skin you're in" sloganeer, once

17 Part of DKNY

18 Make heads or tails of something?

19 Undergrads' Greek leadership society

21 __, Straus and Giroux (publisher)

22 Actress Hatcher

23 "... like THAT!"

26 Magical

27 Front cover?

29 Turkish capital

31 Steering system part

34 Roman 209

35 Warren Buffett's sobriquet

39 Gazillions

40 Many a nursery chair

41 Racy, say

44 Line part: Abbr.

45 Blood-typing letters

48 Garden party?

49 Target of many a New Yorker cartoon

52 Sent

54 You need to raise your hand to receive this

56 Drunkard

59 Doesn't include

60 Pulitzer-winning novel by Willa Cather

61 Mixed bags

62 ___ 'Pea

63 What "-" means in a Google search

64 First course?

DOWN

1 Financial scammer

2 Old Greek markets

3 Was used up

4 S.F. footballer

5 How a fatwa might be issued

6 Tip politely

7 Pre-episode

8 Dirtball

9 ___ Burger (veggie patty)

10 "Turn to Stone" grp.

11 Skater Babilonia

12 Author Rand

15 "The Makropulos Affair," for one

16 "Oliver Twist" creep

20 Bay window

23 Composer with 20 children

24 Song on a stage

25 Top (out)

28 ___ Rabbit

30 1981 Chrysler debut

31 ___ Gallery

32 Tic-tac-toe line ... and a hint to this puzzle's theme

33 R.A.F. awards

35 Patron saint of Norway

36 Repetitive learning

37 Vermont ski resort

38 Big bust

39 It might come after you

42 Tom Thumb, for one

43 Five to one, e.g.

45 Keys of music

46 Invite

47 "Potemkin" port

50 Olympic snowboarding gold medalist White

51 2009 U.S. Open winner Juan Martín del ___

53 "___ to Pieces" (Patsy Cline hit)

54 Cousin of an English horn

55 Suffix with song

56 Aegean tourist mecca

57 Fort Myers-to-Tampa dir.

58 Wide shoe spec

PUZZLE BY ELIZABETH C. GORSKI

The Globe is an independent student newspaper published Wednesday during Fall and Spring Semester (excluding holidays) and Wednesday during Summer Semester. The Globe editors and staff are solely responsible for the newspaper's content. Funding comes from advertising revenues and a dedicated student fee administered by the Student Media Council. To respond with questions, comments or complaints, call (801) 957-4019 or visit slccglobelink.com. The Globe is distributed free of charge, limit one copy per reader. Additional copies may be made available upon request. No person, without expressed permission of The Globe, may take more than one copy of any Globe issue.

CAMPUS

campus.globe@slcc.edu

Creative

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months, students that receive financial assistance, are homeless or in foster care, Have been terminated or laid off (any age), someone who has exhausted their unemployment compensation (any age), and if there is someone who works in the digital arts field but wants to get a skills upgrade.

“I signed up because I think it would help further my education,” Nicholas Cooper, new student said. “It was easy to apply.”

There are two people at the South City Campus in the enrollment office who work on the grants.

The application process is relatively easy. Students just have to fill out a short application that Risk will

turn in to the DWS who will verify the information on the application, and determine if a student qualifies for the grant. They also help with getting books and supplies, and then helping with job placement.

The reason for the grant program is due to the high demand for people in the field of digital arts. In the past few years, this job market has seen rapid growth in the opportunities and demand for qualified people to work in this field.

Students interested in these fields should apply for the grant. These fields include web designing, graphic design, multimedia art, animation, film and video art, illustration, photography, motion graphics artist and special effects artist.

Students have a wide variety of degree choices to

choose from. They can receive associate’s degrees in video, film production, and visual art and design. There are also certificates of proficiency in web graphic design and visual art and design. A certificate of completion can be earned in web graphic design. The school will be offering other degrees in the future. A certificate for game testing is in the planning stages. The school will be teaching the latest techniques so students will be able to compete in the job environment. The school will be notifying companies that deal with visual arts so employees will be able to have their skills upgraded.

Thomas Risk can be found at the South City Campus in the portable unit north of the building in room 105. His number is 801-957-3127, or thomas.risk@slcc.edu.



Photo by Toni Tippetts
Thomas Risk is the director of the CBJT Grant at Salt Lake Community College.

Computer

Continued from page A1

serves a larger population of students from low-income families. The school was in need of school supplies, like pencils and erasers, scissors, markers, and colored pencils for their students.”

In explaining what the

club hopes to provide these young children through the donations, Black reiterated the unique opportunity that each person who is at the clinic will have to help somebody.

“At the very core of the TECH Club is a responsibility to help our community through synergy, or more simply put, through combined efforts that we

could not achieve alone,” she said. “With our free Computer Repair Clinic, our club members hope to provide the SLCC community with our technical knowledge and services. In turn, we hope to inspire other people to give and donate to our fundraiser in order to help us provide these young students with the tools they need to learn and grow.”

THE GLOBE

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Contact The Globe at
globe@slcc.edu
or stop by our office at TB 325-G

COMMUNITY

community.globe@slcc.edu

Eco-friendly alternative to paper or plastic

Cameron Alvey
Contributing Writer

The next time the clerk at the local grocery store asks for a paper or plastic preference, an appropriate answer could be “neither.” The environmentally friendly alternative to paper and plastic bags is a reusable grocery bag.

A reusable grocery bag doesn’t harm the environment in production and doesn’t need to be discarded after each use, making it a sensible choice among consumers today. Often times plastic grocery bags will end up as litter. Plastic grocery bags are the fifth most common item of debris found on beaches in the United States according to the Ocean Conservancy. Even when properly disposed of, the bags will end up in a landfill, taking up to 1,000 years to dispose of. The South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in an effort to demonstrate the value of reusable bags to consumers and the environment have listed these facts about plastic grocery bags:

*The production of plastic bags requires petroleum and often natural gas, both non-renewable resources that increase our dependency on foreign suppliers. Additionally, prospecting and drilling for these resources contributes to the destruction of fragile habitats and ecosystems around the world.

*Hundreds of thousands of sea turtles, whales and other marine mammals die every year from eating discarded plastic bags of mistaken food.

*The toxic chemical

ingredients needed to make plastic produces pollution during the manufacturing process.

*In a landfill, or in the environment, plastic bags take up to 1,000 years to degrade. As litter, they eventually break apart into tiny bits, contaminating our soil and water.

Several grocery stores have joined the movement to cut plastic waste including Whole Foods Market, who does not offer the option of plastic bags to customers. Wal-Mart is also in support of reusable bags, offering them to customers for a cost of only .50 cents at the time of check out.

According to the Wal-Mart website, the company hopes that their reusable bags will cut plastic waste by one 1/3 by the year 2013.

Many countries have banned plastic bags from their supermarkets completely. Italy, Australia and Ireland are among several nations that now

use only reusable bags or paper bags.

Cities here in the United States have also followed suit by placing regulations on plastic bags in local grocery stores. As of January 2011, shoppers in Brownsville, Texas must either bring reusable bags or be charged a fee of \$1 for

plastic ones.

Buying a reusable grocery bag is a small move that can make a huge difference for the environment. For information on how to purchase reusable bags and to get involved, visit onebagatatime.com.

Children of Sego Lily foster sustainability

Shad Engkilterra
Contributing Writer

Gorilla Design is building the first net-zero school in Utah. The new Sego Lily School located at 427 West 4800 South in Murray, will incorporate energy efficiency including solar and wind power. When it is completed, it will produce more than enough energy to meet its own needs.

Sego Lily School is a private, non-profit school based on the Sudbury School model, a model in which the children run the school. When the school was deciding to expand, they brought the questions to the students.

“This is how the kids told us they want to go to school,” Roi Maufas

of Gorilla Design said, standing in front of 100 solar panels generating 24 kilowatts of power that will provide a covered parking area and power to the new school.

“Adults were having the discussion about the viability [of alternative energy],” Maufas said, “And the kids were like, ‘Yeah, we already know about the sun and wind. We’re not sure about coal and gasification.’” The school will also have a wind turbine.

The students had several ideas for what should be included in their school. Alyssa Kay of Gorilla Design and adjunct faculty at SLCC said there were the usual suggestions adults would come to expect from children, like a playground. However, a commercial

kitchen, art room and science room were also “high on the list.”

While looking at the plans for the new school, one of the children asked about the foam room – a room where the children can work out their energy in a safe environment. When he was told that there wasn’t a foam room being planned, he said he couldn’t go to a school that didn’t have a foam room. The designers added it to the plans.

The children did not neglect the animals in their plans. Their concern for their pets became incorporated into the architectural design.

“You know you’re really considering architecture when you talk about the bunny,” Maufas said.

The school will exceed current safety standards

and have a greenhouse and a garden. Maufas and Kay lived through the destruction of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, so it was important for them to “create an island that can withstand a natural disaster that people can come to where power, food and water will still be available.”

The land where the new school is being built has a high groundwater table that could make the property susceptible to flooding and Gorilla Design incorporated the water into their plans by using a system that takes the water out of the ground on one side of the property, pumps it through the school to provide heating and cooling, and dumps it back into the groundwater table on the other side. This makes the ground more

stable and the school more energy efficient.

“I’m really hoping that we can provide a solution with both the Sudbury model and the net-zero school,” Maufas said, “to fix our educational system and deal with our energy problems.”

The new Sego Lily School building will increase the school’s capacity from 49 to 150 students and is expected to open for the 2012-2013 school year. The school founders and grants have supplied about half of the funds needed for the school construction.

Those wishing to support the first net-zero school in Utah, can visit segolilyschool.org to make a donation.



Radio SLCC

Your Student Source

Tiger still in the woods

Jason Davies
Contributing Writer

Tiger Woods is famous for his swing, his swagger and his giant trophy case. But with Woods still trying to recover from his blown cover of sex scandals and current injuries, will he ever be the same?

Deemed as one of the best golfers to ever play the game, Woods creates conversation. It has been over two years now that Woods has not lifted up a trophy. The Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill in March of 2009 was the last time Woods

won a professional golf tournament. Is it due to the lack of confidence that was stripped of him when his sex scandal went public later in 2009? Or is it because of the time spent away from the sport of golf that has his swing missing its swag?

“His swagger is gone. I mean if I had a huge secret like he did and overnight it became the only thing people would talk about, I wouldn’t want to show my face ever again,” SLCC student Zane Rigby said.

In an informal poll, 20 students were asked why Tiger was not winning anymore. Is it because Woods has simply lost his

confidence? Or is it because he took time off to fix his personal life and needs a little golf coaching again? 13 students said it is due to lack of confidence and seven said it is because he needs help with golf again. Then, when asked if their view of Woods in general has changed over the past two years; 16 students said their view of Woods has changed - while only four said it has not changed.

This year, Woods has only played in six total golf tournaments, but only five were fully completed. In his most recent tournament, Woods had to withdraw from playing on the first day

due to a reoccurring knee and leg injury.

“Tiger Woods was one of the main reasons I watched golf when I was younger and even now,” Rigby said. “But since he hasn’t been playing much, I really don’t look forward to golf on television anymore.”

Woods is currently ranked 17th in the world, which is the lowest ranking he has had since the late 90s. As told to ESPN, Woods is not saying when he will return to play in his next round of golf due to a healing knee injury. However, he has said he’ll definitely be back playing golf sometime this year.

Caliente

Courting

Movies a no-no on the first date

Veronica Aguilera
Guest Columnist

I was recently asked by a guy name David if going to the movies for a first date was a good or bad idea. Well David (and everybody else out there), to be honest, going to the movies for a first date is a very bad idea.

First off, there is not going to be a lot of communication going on, and you are not going to get to know your date very well. The first date is when you are trying to get to know the other person, learn couple of her likes and dislikes. The first date is also the perfect opportunity to see if a relationship can develop. Besides, girls love to talk, and that won’t happen during the movie. At the end of the movie, what are you going to talk about? Chances are that the conversation is going to be about the movie, favorite scene, favorite actor, and what was the thing that you both liked most about the movie. That is a very shallow conversation to begin with.

Going on a first date, whether you’ve done it before or not, is nerve-racking. All the “what if” questions usually run through your mind. “What if she does not like me?” “What if the date goes wrong?” “What if she expected something different for the date?” Since you’re nervous, doing things like putting on your best clothes and cologne is a good idea, but going to the movies is not. On the first date girls get all dolled up by doing their hair, make-up, and putting on their best clothes to impress the guy. By being taken to the movies, all the time and effort spent to look so cute for you are not going to be appreciated.

There are many ideas that you can come up with to impress a girl on your first date, and it ought to be at least a little bit fancy. A picnic and a walk in the park can be cute, romantic and fun for the first date. It is also guaranteed that you are going to make your date happy, plus you will get to know her more and the conversation will flow easily. The first date is one of the things that girls tend to remember the most in a relationship, and that is one way a girl will judge you when it comes down to whether or not she wants to keep on dating you. You don’t have to go for the typical date, just make it fun, and enjoy the experience while you get to know your date.

Have any dating questions or concerns? E-mail me at vaguiler@mymail.slcc.edu

Catch the HEALTH DISEASE

Don’t stress about stress

Amelia Corey
Staff Columnist

Towards the end of last semester, I began a new full time job. I was taking five classes, was on the newspaper staff, and was running a school club. I remember staying up into the wee hours of the morning trying to finish

homework that was due in six hours, and then going to work for eight hours straight. I was tired every day, and would try everything in my power to stay awake and alert so I could succeed at my new job and accomplish all my school work. Once I reached the point where the 5 Hour Energy shots would do nothing for me,

I realized that something had to change.

I dropped the club, I didn’t write anything for the last couple issues of the paper, and didn’t work as much. But even with these cutbacks, I still failed a crucial class I needed to graduate. I could feel the stress taking its toll on my body and mind. I spent one entire

weekend in my bed, too tired and too scared to do anything. I eventually got out of my stress daze and rolled my sluggish, un-showered body, covered in Cheetos, to my computer to find some options for stopping this crazy cycle of terror mixed with hysteria.

I eventually found a website called “ULifeline,” which, as its name suggests, is run by the University of Utah. The beginning of the site talked about what stress is and where it comes from. How silly of me. I already knew where the stress was coming from so I skimmed ahead to the sub-heading, “Warning Signs.” After reading a few of those and diagnosing myself with my already known problems, I continued on to “Proactive Stress Management.”

Having seen “Shutter Island,” I knew that the mind and body are connected. This first tip was to create some kind of exercise program that would require some sort of workout at least every other day. So I added a half hour of jogging to my life at least three times a week, and would try to work up to every other day.

The next tip was to literally write down the goals that I wanted to accomplish in school or my personal life, then to try and figure out a schedule that would work with those goals. With this schedule, there needs to be manageable time increments for different projects that you need to accomplish. If you plan something that is unrealistic and hope that it will push you harder, then you are more likely to get frustrated and give up.

Planning some “alone time” to just relax and not stress about what you need to get done for at least 20 minutes a day was a crucial part of setting up the schedule. Having a positive attitude and someone that can communicate and listen to the stress of life is helpful as well.

After reading this website, I could feel the hope of being able to make a change and not be so stressed out about everything. I ended up failing one of my classes, but passing all of the others. I try to not beat myself up so much about that one class since I can retake it and now I will know how to handle myself better next semester.

If you are still having a hard time with being stressed out, go to the Health and Wellness Center in the basement of the Student Center at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus. To see the website that changed my academic life, go to ulifeline.org/main/factsheets.



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Answers can be found on the website at www.sudoku.com

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

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PUZZLE ON PAGE 2

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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More “Baysplosions” than ever before

Stephen Romney
Arts Reporter

People tend to be pretty divided when it comes to the Michael Bay *Transformers* films. The division can be broken down into three parts. The first being fans of the original 80’s animated series, the second being those who are familiar with Michael Bay’s work, with the third comprising of the average movie-goer. Due to my lack of familiarity with the main *Transformers* universe, I’m somewhere between the second and third groups.

The basic story of the film takes place a few years or so after the events of *Revenge of the Fallen*. Sam Witwicky (Shia LeBeouf) has just graduated from an Ivy League university, paid for by the military,

and is living with his new girlfriend, Carly (Rosie Huntington-Whiteley). Meanwhile, the US Government and the Autobots discover the remnants of a Cybertronian cargo ship on the surface of the moon, piloted by Optimus’s predecessor, Sentinel Prime (Leonard Nimoy).

The story of the film plays out like a combination of a war film and a political thriller, as most of the plot centers around a global conspiracy surrounding the race to the moon from the 60s. One thing I noticed is that the story tended to focus more on the human characters than it did the Transformers themselves. In fact, Optimus Prime (Peter Cullen) and Megatron (Hugo Weaving) don’t have a lot of screen time.

However, this isn’t a bad thing with this film, as the human characters play a more important role. They even fight against the Decepticons about as much as, if not more than, the Autobots in the third act.

This film does have its fair share of flaws. The notable one being how the third act feels almost too long as it attempts to build up to a climax. This film also has two moments where the editing gets really choppy, as if there were certain scenes that they forgot to shoot, when they are making a transition from one point in time to another.

A lot of people were even more wary when it was announced that Megan Fox had quit/was fired from the franchise. However, I think this was actually something the film needed, as

Huntington-Whiteley’s performance, most of the time, is actually stronger than the performance Megan Fox most likely would have given. Although she has range, she always seems to default to this ‘pouty,’ emotionless, “too-much-Botox-in-my-lips” expression....she is able to emote with her voice, but struggles to emote with her face in certain scenes.

This film is a bit of a mixed bag, but if you’re into action-packed war movies, then it’s worth your time. If you’re a die-hard fan of the *Transformers* universe, then you may find this film more enjoyable than the previous two films, even if it didn’t include Unicron, like the Super Bowl trailer indicated. Overall, I give this film a 3.5/5. A far-from-perfect, but enjoyable film.



Courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Larry Crowne

takes the gold

Joseph Meyere
Arts Reporter



Courtesy of Universal Studios

It’s nice to know that among all the new actors making their (skid) marks in the movie world, some of the older actors and actresses are still getting chances to show off what they’ve earned. *Larry Crowne* does not have the same Tom Hanks from *Big* or *Turner and Hooch*, nor does it have the same Julia Roberts from *Pretty Woman* or *Steel Magnolias*. Fantastic performers in those films from a bygone era, these artists have honed their skills and show it off in this great new comedy.

Hanks plays the title character Larry Crowne, a manager at a Wal-Martesque store until he is fired for choosing to spend 20 years as a navy chef instead of going to college in his younger years. He decides that he never wants his lack of college education to hold him back again, so he enrolls in community college. There he meets fellow scooter enthusiast Talia (Gugu Mbatha-Raw, *Dr. Who*), as well as Roberts, who plays Mercedes Tainot, a hot communications teacher. Both women aid Hanks in turning from loser to winner.

A lot of comedies like to poke fun at anyone over the age of 40 who tries to figure out how to use the technology that those under 40 love, such as texting. Lately it’s started to come across as a bit overdone since nearly every comedy has at least one joke about the generational gap, but *Larry Crowne* pulls off the joke in such a way that it actually brings new life to it. Hanks and Roberts aren’t incompetent in their respective worlds, they just aren’t that gaga for Google. Roberts has a husband in the film who keeps trying to over-talk his blogging job which Roberts completely calls him out on, as well as his porn addiction.

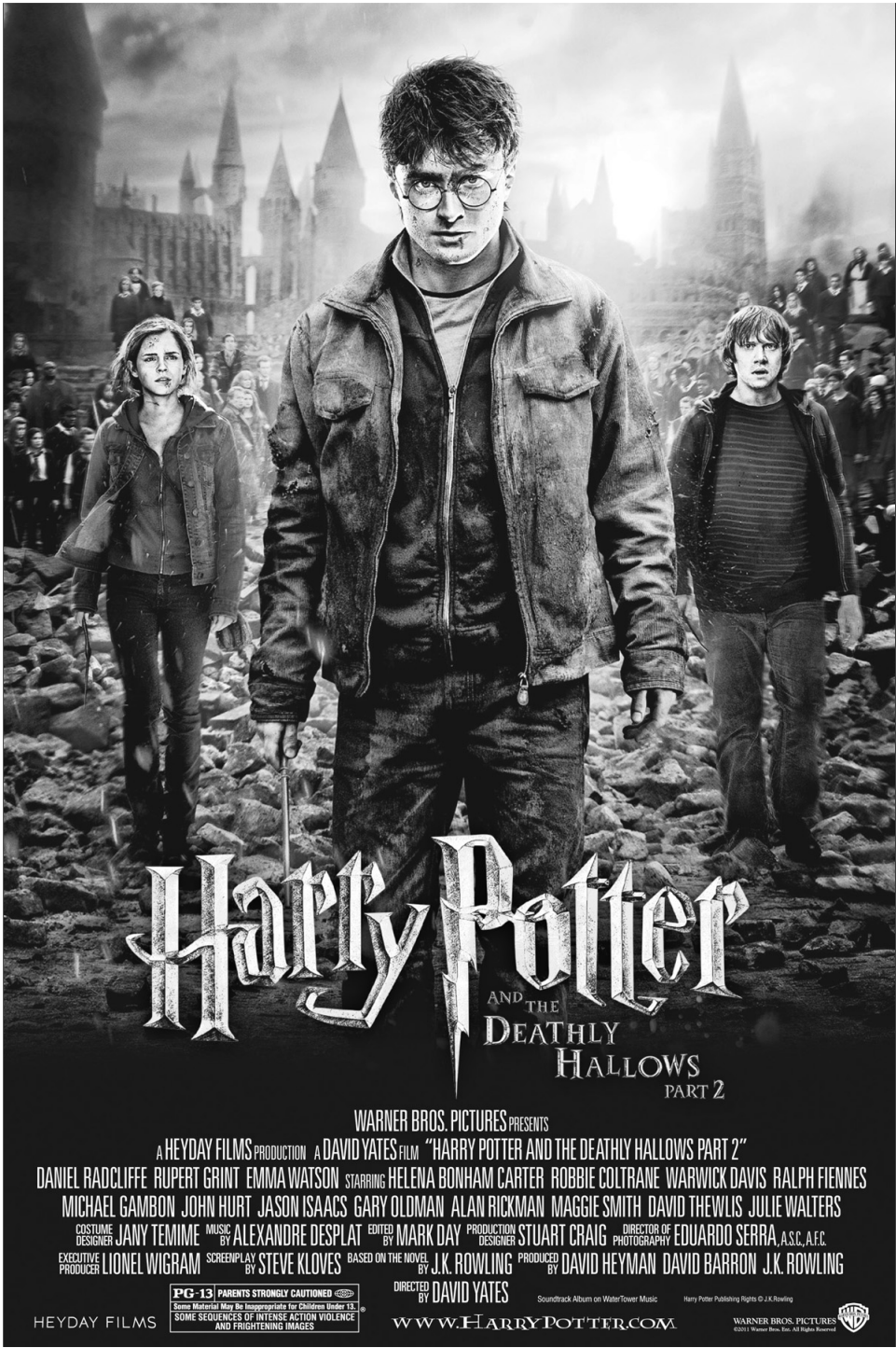
The best part of this film is just seeing Roberts and Hanks do what they do best: own the screen. These are two people who can take two subtle, interesting characters and make them dazzle masterfully. When both characters are on screen together, their chemistry could light a volcano. The dopey middle-aged student and the exhausted middle-aged teacher make such a unique combo that *Larry Crowne* may create a new genre. This is a film that sadly might not get a lot of box office revenue but will definitely win Oscars.

Don’t be mistaken about this film. It’s a comedy with a romance in it but it isn’t a romantic comedy. Romantic comedies usually have one idiot trying to get in bed with another idiot while a third idiot tries to break up the entire process. This film has things that romantic comedies have never even heard of, like character development and jokes that don’t have to do with sex.

Larry Crowne is rated PG-13 for the porn reference and the fact that its storyline would go over the heads of most kids.

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Superheroes in Cinema

Part 2: Past, present, and future trends

Stephen Romney
Arts Reporter

It's obvious that the superhero genre has a rich history behind it dating all the way back to the times of early man. Now, we are going to take a look at the trends this genre has taken that lead us to where we are now and what the future might hold.

As superheroes were being brought to the big screen for the first time as Saturday Serials, everything was fair game given that these characters were fairly new. For example, Republic's Captain America serial wasn't set in Germany during World War II like the comics but set in an American city. In addition to that, Cap himself wasn't

a US Army Private named Steve Rogers, but a district attorney turned vigilante named Grant Gardner. Now if such liberties were taken in the upcoming *Captain America: The First Avenger*, there would be a huge public outcry.

As time passed and long running continuities were established, it became a bit more difficult to produce high grossing films based on these characters. This is what resulted in many of these characters moving from the big screen to the small screen, first with *Adventures of Superman*, then *Batman* and then followed by several attempts by Marvel with only one success, *The Incredible Hulk*.

It should be noted that liberties were still taken

with the superhero shows on primetime - for example Bruce Banner's name being changed to David Banner in the *Hulk* television series, whereas the Saturday morning programs stayed as faithful as possible, which is why the 90's *X-Men* series is so beloved by fans.

With films that are derivative of any work of fiction, there are two or three demographics that companies look at when going through pre-production. The first demographic is the group that is familiar with the source material. The second is the demographic that both the film and source material tried to appeal to during its early inception. The third, depending on the size of the second is, essentially, everyone else.

Since most companies tend to cater towards the third demographic, what results might be heralded as one of the many disappointments of cinema, such as Joel Schumacher's take on the dark knight in *Batman and Robin* and George Lucas's *Howard the Duck*.

Now we all know about the classic superhero films from the 80s such as Tim Burton's *Batman*, but we also know about the oft-reviled adaptations of the *Fantastic Four*. Not only do we fans know this, so do the comic book companies.

Now I know many of us panicked when we first heard the news of Disney buying Marvel, but so far that relationship has been nothing short of fruitful in both the comic book industry and in the film industry. It is because of this buy out that Marvel was then able to do what it had wanted to for years - to bring the many stories of their universe to the big screen - by their own hand. This resulted in the modern incarnation of Marvel Studios.

The first film produced under Marvel Studios was *Iron Man*, and it was the first stepping stone in creating what we now know as the Marvel Cinematic Universe. This plan became more concrete with the introduction of the Strategic Homeland Intervention, Enforcement and Logistics Division, better known as S.H.I.E.L.D., in *Iron Man 2*. The organization has made subsequent appearances in the Marvel films to follow, such as *The Incredible Hulk*, *Thor* and the upcoming *Captain America: The First Avenger*.

Hot on Marvel's heels, DC decided to begin establishing their own cinematic universe, an easier endeavor for them



Photo courtesy of Marvel Comics
A poster for the first installment of the *Captain America* serial.

given that they are owned by Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc. However, as you may have seen in our recent *Green Lantern* review, this has produced mixed results.

Prior to DC's announcement of a *Justice League* film, they had kept many of their franchises separate. While *Superman Returns* wasn't well received by critics and fans alike, Christopher Nolan's *Batman* films has helped to set a new standard for comic book movies, with *The Dark Knight* still reigning as the highest grossing superhero film of all time.

With a history so rich and turbulent, it begs the question of to whom the duty of bringing these characters and stories lie. Is it the production and publishing companies behind these films and characters, or is it the readers and movie-goers that pay for these stories. Marvel has proven that making theatrically successful films in-house is possible, while other superhero films produced separately, such as the *Batman* film trilogy, have been equally successful.

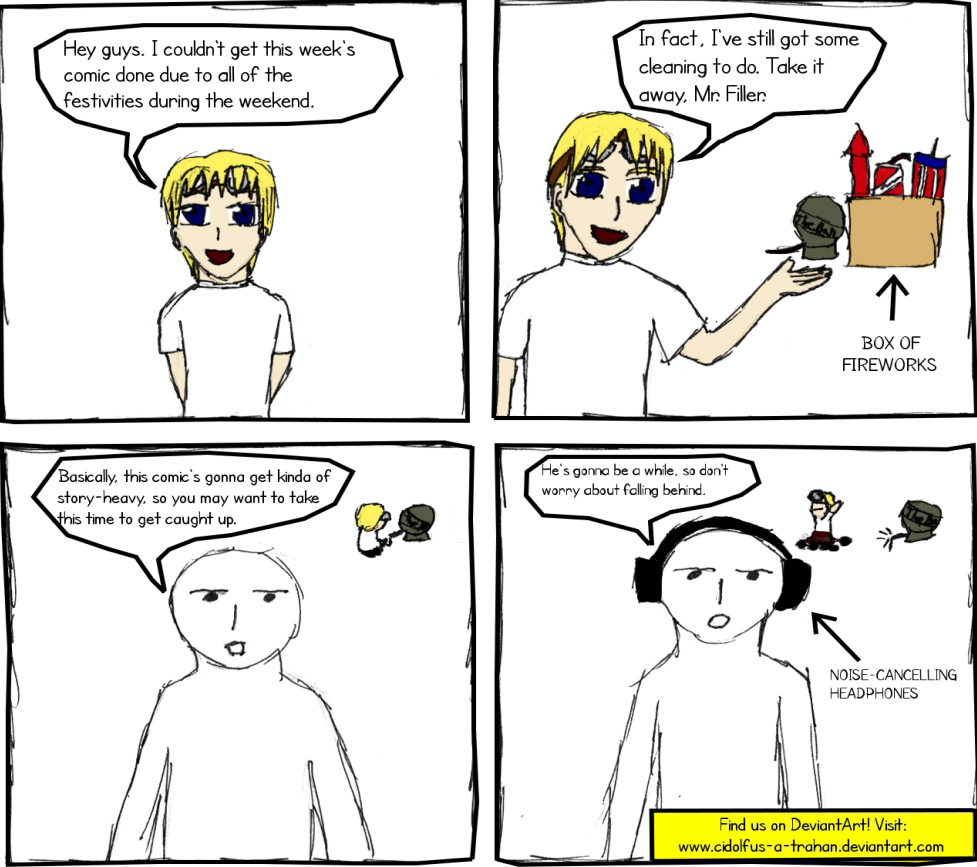
It is in this reporter's opinion that control of these trends lie with us, the audience, both reader and movie-goer alike. The only real reason that Marvel Studios has been successful and the same reason that DC is now struggling to match that success is the fact that we pay for it. As long as there are people who pay for the tickets these films will continue to be made.

In the end, we can't really know what future trends hold, but let's return to the question asked in part 1, whether the responsibility for comic book movies lies with the comic companies or the film producers. In the end, it ultimately depends on the characters. For example, comic book writer Joss Whedon has been confirmed to direct *The Avengers*, while it was rumored that production for *Green Lantern* was hindered by the totalitarian approach of co-producer/writer for the comic, Geoff Johns. However, the production of these franchises becoming internal is proving to be inevitable.



Photo courtesy of Marvel Studios

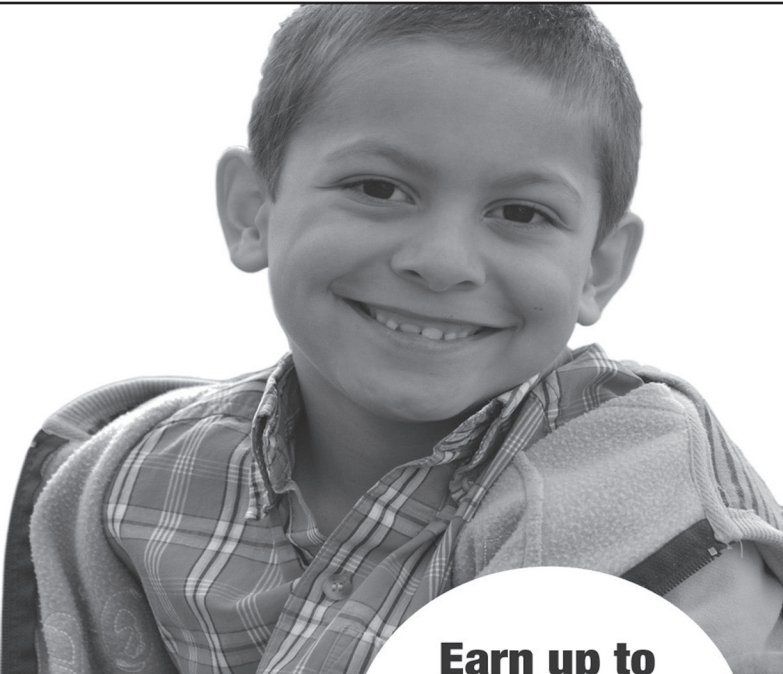
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