

THE GLOBE



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TRAX TRAGEDY

SLCC student Mirian Contreras killed in light rail accident

Julie Hirschi
Staff Reporter

Salt Lake Community College student Mirian Contreras was struck and killed by a Trax train as she was leaving the Meadowbrook Campus on Monday, May 14. The police ruled it a “case of distraction” as it was shown on the on-board train camera that she had her head down as she stepped in front of the oncoming train.

Contreras was enrolled in the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) program at SLCC. Many describe her as smart, hardworking and ambitious. Contreras was a single mother who left behind two young children. Her daughters were living in Mexico at the time of her death. She had been sending money to them in order for them to receive the best care and attend quality schools in Mexico.

Part of UTA’s safety education program, a “Listen up Heads up” banner is on display near the Meadowbrook campus Trax station, alerting students to be aware around the tracks.

“Imagine if this was your sister, your aunt, your loved one,” said Laura Cano, SLCC student and friend of Contreras who was upset about comments that said Contreras was careless. “Just to throw rocks like that is thoughtless.”

There have been a number of Trax train incidents recently in part due to distractions of victims. According to Gerry Carpenter, Spokesman for UTA, there were conflicting accounts from eyewitnesses on the scene. Some say that she was reading a book; others say she was on the

phone. The quality of the video from the on-board camera wasn’t clear enough for investigators to identify the scenario.

UTA does not post accidents on their website but according to Carpenter there have been a total of 17 Trax related incidents since January of this year. Twelve of those incidents involved motorist and five involved pedestrians.

Carpenter said they are very concerned with the rise in the number of Trax accidents. They are in the process of implementing

Trax/ continued on page A3

Laughter at South City

Kachina Choate
Staff Reporter

Comedians of all experience levels attended the Salt Lake Comedy Festival held on June 1 and 2 at Salt Lake Community College South City Campus’ Grand Theater.

The Salt Lake Comedy Festival was a full three days of comedy competitions and improvisation-skills workshops.

“We thought it was a great way to just kind of bring everybody together, there’s a lot of improv talent in Utah,” said SLCC alumni Amy Allred.

Improv, or improvisational theater, is a form of acting where the actors spontaneously preform a scene without foreknowledge of the subject. They don’t know what situations they will be acting out until it is given to them, often through suggestions from the audience.

Improv comedy comes in two types: shortform and longform. The Salt Lake Comedy Festival featured both styles.

The shortform improv included Improv Survivor and Battle of the Bands, and longform improv was showcased through improvised

Laughter/ continued on page A5

The Full Monty: SLCC Study Abroad programs are the real thing

Michael Hawker
Staff Reporter

Unlike watching it on “the telly” [the television] or reading of it in books, international study through Salt Lake Community College’s Study Abroad program is what the British may say is “the full monty” — the real thing. The program offers three weeks of direct experiential immersion into another country’s culture, geography, people and language.

This year’s groups recently returned to Salt Lake City from their respective travels to England, Japan and China. The trips were held between May 5 and 27.

“There are just so many things that the books don’t teach you about until you actually experience it. There are actually a lot of hidden cultures you don’t know about, and so that became a theme for the program,” said SLCC geoscience department coordinator Adam Dastrup, who led this year’s Japan Study Abroad group.

Each destination offers a unique learning experience for both the student participants and the

instructors who lead the groups.

“London is my favorite city,” said David Hubert, a political science professor at SLCC since 1994.

Hubert returned from leading his fourth Study Abroad program to London, England, where the group visited sites such as Westminster Abbey, Stonehenge and Parliament.

For the participants, however, the program is more than frivolous fun. The program is set up as a full-credit course. Faculty instructors administered assignments and held meetings in the spring term in preparation for the May trip.

According to Sandra Kikuchi, director of the Study Abroad program, the faculty group leaders also must apply to the program and are selected by application. Faculty applicants submit a letter of intent which outlines what that individual may bring to the program, what they would teach the students and why they wish to go to that particular country. The

Abroad/ continued on page A3



Photo courtesy of David Hubert


SLCC England Study Abroad program students at House of Parliament, London, in May, 2012.



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IN THEATERS JUNE 15

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Salt Lake Community College  Step Ahead.

The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0501

ACROSS

1 Child prodigy of “Heroes”

6 Painters’ degs.

10 “Pygmalion” playwright

14 “Falstaff” or “Fidelio”

15 “Play it, Sam” speaker

16 Bridgestone product

17 Package full of syringes?

19 Ancient Andean

20 Great Giant

21 Kardashian matriarch

22 Less likely to be carded, say

23 Thesis topic for sex ed?

26 Picture puzzles

29 Acorn or pecan

30 Berry for the health-conscious

31 Loudly berate

36 Cameras taking pictures of permanent markers?

40 Like some summer dresses, by design

41 “___ Enchanted” (2004 film)

42 Stimp’y TV pal

43 God, with “the”

46 Pompom on a skullcap?

51 Building blocks

52 It changes hands at an altar

53 Give a name

DOWN

1 It’s stolen in an Austin Powers movie

2 “___ a Spell on You”

3 Penny

4 Noah’s vessel

5 17-syllable poems

6 Makes like

7 Item “spirited” past security?

8 “Do ___ do”

9 “My gal” of song

10 One of a pair for a clown

11 Bangalore believer, maybe

12 See 46-Down

13 Tired

18 ___ Lackawanna Railroad

22 Bone: Prefix

23 Peculiarity

24 Go slowly (along)

25 Multinational currency

26 Speak with a scratchy voice

56 Cookie celebrating its centennial in 2012

57 Police investigation of a betting house?

60 Pig’s sound

61 Jiffy ___

62 Students take them in class

63 Dogs, cats and gerbils

64 “South Park” writer Parker

65 Put out, as energy

27 It comes back to you

28 False deity

31 Fast jet, for short

32 Troubled terribly

33 Tuna ___

34 Singer Guthrie

35 Romanov ruler

37 “Midnight in ___” (2011 Woody Allen film)

38 Notion: Fr.

39 Ages and ages

43 “Holy smokes!”

44 Rice-A-___

45 Oregon city

46 Short baseball hit that’s 12-Down

47 Spooky

48 Go-between

49 Cozy spots

50 Look into

53 Information on a check

54 Consumer

55 Outdo

57 Sandwich usually served with mayo

58 “___ Mutual Friend” (Dickens’s last finished novel)

59 Actress Courteney

CAMPUS

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Trax

continued from A1

policies whereby their police will ticket anyone in a distracted state near a Trax train station. Whether it's talking or texting on a cellphone or wearing a hoodie, the person will be fined up to \$50 for the first offense, \$100 thereafter. They are hoping to educate the public about how important safety is in this matter.

Carpenter said that there are two parts to safety, the first one is engineering to make sure all the gated crossings, alarms and alerts are all working properly. The second he said is educating the public to promote safe behavior around the trains. UTA works with a non-profit organization called Operation Lifesaver that goes out to schools and classrooms to inform and instruct the public about preventing injuries and fatalities around trains. Carpenter said that UTA would be willing to work with SLCC in providing this type of education for its students.

"I did know that the school put this sign out here and I think it's a waste of paper and money because we already know that you don't walk out there and stand in front of a train, that's common knowledge,"

said George Lange, HVAC instructor at SLCC. "In her case what might have saved her is something that would have drawn her attention."

Students and faculty from the HVAC department are all concerned about safety around Trax and are also saddened by what happened to Contreras and worry that it could happen again. Lange expressed his concern over the matter, stating that she must have been focused on something for her not to have noticed the alarms, that she was a bright person and that this could happen to anyone.

"If there is a safety system for cars, why is there not something similar for people," asked Victor Morales, a friend and co-student of Contreras' who has been trying to raise awareness for the family. "If there is a physical barrier for cars to stop, why is it there is nothing for people, to physically stop you from walking in?"

One of Morales' goals is to bring awareness to the safety matter around Trax trains. He discussed safety measures put into place in many major cities to prevent pedestrian accidents like this from happening. His hope is that UTA looks into some of these measures and adopts them before another accident like this happens again.

"We want to improve the safety of Trax for

everybody's benefit," said Morales. "We want to help the two little girls with the basics and we want people to be aware that Mirian would be here if the safety would have been improved a long time ago."

Morales is also concerned about Contreras' two daughters and has been trying to set up a continuous fund that would go to help them. Both of the daughters were born in Utah but are now living with family in Mexico. He is trying to set up a donation through the school and organize a fundraiser to go to support them and their monetary needs since Contreras was the sole provider for her daughters.

"She was nearing completion of her program so we were able to make arrangements that the college will be issuing a posthumous certificate of completion," said Kevin Miller, Director of Student Affairs at SLCC. "She has two young children so this will be part of the legacy that will be available for them."

"She was just a top notch student, cut way too short," Miller said.

Contact Victor Morales at 801-367-7139 for more information on upcoming fundraisers for the family and how you can help with his efforts.

Abroad

continued from A1

letters are then committee reviewed for selection.

"I initially applied to lead the program for the first time because...the thought of using [London] as an educational site really intrigued me. It has so much to offer in terms of history, culture and politics," Hubert said.

Dastrup's focus was on the geography of the Japan, so he centered his teaching on climate, landscape and hazards such as earthquakes. He also taught about Japanese culture.

SLCC students that attended the Japan Study Abroad program, as with the other programs, were required to do research. They partnered with Shitennoji University students to investigate various aspects of Japanese geography, culture and history and then compile the research into a website.

This year, students visited the large wooden Todai-ji Buddhist temple in Nara, participated in a traditional Tea Ceremony and attended one of the university's weekly "meditations," which Dastrup describes as festive and closely resembling "going to church."

Though it is not a requirement to fluently

speak the native language to attend the Study Abroad program (only half of the 13 Japan attending students spoke Japanese), it is an opportunity for those studying a language to improve and put their skill to use. Students from the host country's partner university have the equal opportunity to improve their English speaking skills as tour guides and as hosts.

"There is an experiential side to learning that we sometimes miss in academia," Dastrup said. "Once you actually go there to Japan, since it was my first time, it actually solidifies what you may have read or heard, such as how densely compact are the cities, or how full are the subway trains, or their immense regard for nature."

It is the experiential side of the Study Abroad program at SLCC that makes it unique. "[it's] unusual for two-year state colleges to have a study abroad program," Kikuchi said. "Most often, we think of these programs at larger universities."

Another priceless element to the program may have an impact that is "shougai niwataru", or 'lifelong' in Japanese.

"When you live there for three weeks, you begin to actually become part of the society. You become less of a tourist. You start to see the day-to-day life versus the tourist attractions," said

Dastrup. "We were amazed how emotional many of our Japanese student friends were on our last day during the farewell party. They didn't want us to go," said Dastrup. "We had no idea over three weeks the kind of friendships that would develop with people from another country."

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Students receive hands-on experience at the solar training lab

Julie Hirschi
Staff Reporter

Salt Lake Community College students gathered at the Meadowbrook campus on Saturday, June 2 for a hands-on training lab to learn the about the newest green energy technology and gain practical experience by installing solar panels and grid systems on the mock system.

SLCC has seen a boost in a number of students earning degrees and obtaining certifications in the green energy fields. The rise in the number of students gravitating towards these fields is partly due to a grant funded by government called the State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) grant.

“The grant is pushing people through that had no electrical background at all,” said Brok Thayn, SLCC Instructor of Solar Photovoltaics and Electrical Theory courses. “The grant helps these students know the theory but they’re getting practical information as well.”

The U.S. Department of Labor has funded the SESP grant to help students by providing free training to promote and create jobs in the green energy industry. The grant runs through to the end of the year and offers courses in many of the different aspects of the green energy. The grant pays for courses, books, bus passes and industry certifications.

Three instructors in the Photovoltaic course help guide students through the various degrees of training.

Each of these instructors has a diverse background in education and specialties. Some examples of the training students receive in these courses are installation, safety, and wiring.

“The goals of our class are safety first of all, that’s our number one priority,” said Thayn. “When people come out here we want to make sure they are working safe. The next goal is every student that comes through here can get a job when they’re done. That’s the goals of the program.”

Before the grant, class sizes averaged around 10 to 15 students according to Thayn. Because of the grant and more demand for alternative energy, class sizes have risen to 35 to 40 with an incoming enrollment of 70 students next semester.

The hope was that 1,100 new jobs would be created in the green energy field in 2012, as projected by Utah’s Green Jobs Survey. Some of the green energy jobs that were expected to be added this year were in production, construction, installation, and transportation. An example of a job would include a solar panel technician that would install, repair and even market this type of alternative energy.

The grant has allowed people to gain practical experience and has helped people get their foot in the door of alternative energy who maybe had no prior experience in the energy fields before.

“It definitely got me engaged with other people that are pursuing the same career path and also

employers, provided me education and prepared me to take the NABCEP exam,” said Angel Jackson, a former student who took advantage of the grant at SLCC. “It’s awesome that they are promoting alternative energy this way. It’s not something that’s big in Utah.”

The North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) exam determines candidates’ qualifications including knowledge of the basics, applications and fundamentals of PV energy systems and installations. Jackson feels that the program has a few kinks to work out but overall he was happy with the instruction and interaction he received during the training. He feels that Utah has a lot of competition in the energy fields.

With coal prices keeping utility prices low, Jacksonhe doesn’t see enough emphasis on developing alternative energy. With the demand higher in other states, he sees providing and developing new alternative energy sources in Utah as a must. This can in turn increase demand in Utah, creating new jobs as newer technology grows, and improving the economy as a whole.

According to Thaniel Bishop, Director of the Photovoltaics Department at SLCC, the pass rate of the NABCEP Photovoltaics basic entry exam for participants of these courses at SLCC is about 85%. He said that this exam has about a 30-40% pass rate among those outside of this



Photo by Julie Hirschi

SLCC students learn in a hands-on demonstration of Solar panel installation

program. Many employers are looking for people trained in these new forms of technology. Hunt Electric sent 30 of their employees through this program, training them on the latest technology in energy systems. A variety of students enroll in this classes, including developers, architects, electrical engineers, home and business owners, plumbers and roofers. They are taking these courses for purposes such as design, installation, selling or personal use.

“You go through this program and you’re either selling it, putting it in, installing it, [getting] a job, whatever your goal is we try to work with that” said Thayn. “A lot of the people who come in here are

unemployed and our push is to get them employed.”

The school is offering training with two certificates: Basic Energy Technician and Advanced Energy Technician. During the summer, week-long intensive trainings will be provided. There are many evening and online classes to provide flexibility to schedules.

“Job [growth in the photovoltaic industry is] exponentially exploding,” says Thayn. “Since 2008 the PV industry has doubled every year. [Hunt Electric] has doubled its size in the PV section. Last year we grew tenfold. If contracts go through we’re looking at another tenfold this year. That just speaks for one company but I see it consistently.”

Companies all over the United States are experiencing these types of growth, especially where the climate is warm and sunny. Houston-based business Green Street Energy has been and hopes to open up shop in Utah by the end of the summer. They are recruiting salespeople and PV installers, especially those with certified training.

“When efficiency meets prices of solar the hottest job market will be in solar energy,” said Carl Svedin, president of operations at Green Street Energy.

For more information about the program contact Jeremy (801)957-5345 or Rob (801)957-5264 from DWS to set up an appointment or visit jobs.utah.gov for details.

Bruins softball places 2nd in national tournament for second consecutive year

Bobby DeVore
Staff Reporter

The Salt Lake Community College Bruins softball team ended its 2012 season with a 59-9 record, the Region 18 title and a second place finish in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I tournament.

This year marked the second consecutive season that the team placed second in the NJCAA tournament. They were defeated 4-1 by No. 1 seed Chattanooga State Community College in the championship game. The Bruins advanced to the national tournament after a 10-4 victory over Southern Idaho on May 12. This year

marked the Bruins’ fourth appearance in the national tournament.

“This season was the best season yet. Each year we have continued to get better,” said Bruin head coach Mary Kay Amicone. “Ultimately the goal is to get the national championship.”

Chattanooga took charge of the title game early on with two runs scored in the second inning and one more each in the third and sixth. The Bruins went hitless until the sixth inning when L Miller singled but was unable to score.

It wasn’t until the seventh inning that Hannah Williams scored off a RBI double hit by Lyndsey

Healey. The Bruins were unable to keep up the steam, though. With one out already on the board, Tanisha Anderson struck out looking and Starlee Hutchings flied out to end the seventh, thus giving Chattanooga the win.

Even with the defeat to Chattanooga, Coach Amicone was impressed with her team’s effort.

“We have remarkable players and I’m really proud of what our team has been able to accomplish,” Amicone said.

The team only hopes that next season they can bring the national championship home to Salt Lake Community College .

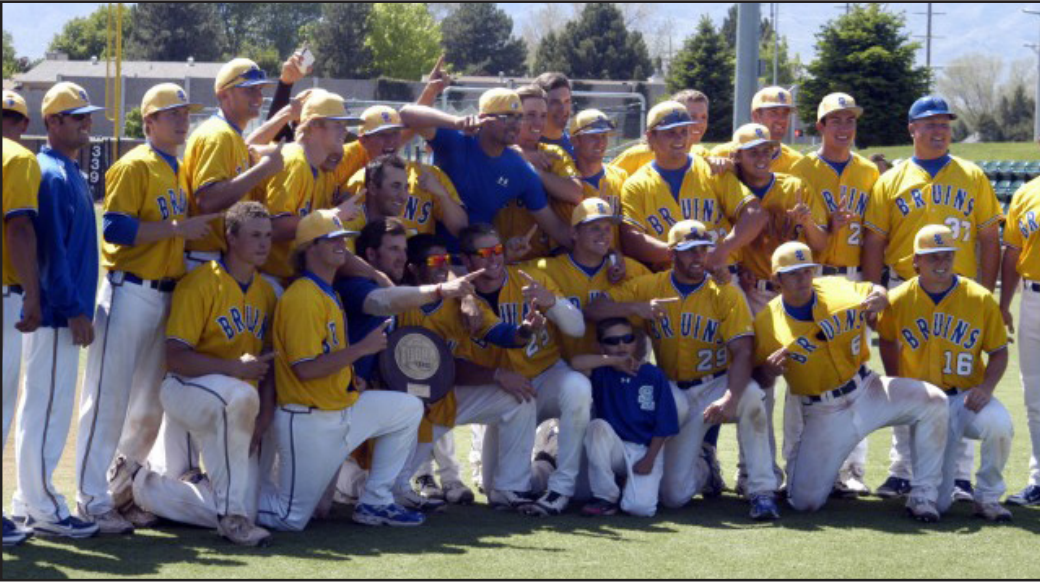


Photo courtesy of SLCC athletics

The Bruins baseball team captured the Region 18 title by defeating the Western Nevada Wildcats. The Wildcats topped SLCC a few days later in the NJCAA District I Western Playoffs.

Bruins baseball ends season in heartbreaker

Bobby DeVore
Contributing Writer

The SLCC Bruins baseball team ended its 2012 season with a 45-10 record and the District 18 title, but their year ended with an unexpected disappointment.

The Bruins were knocked out of the NJCAA playoffs in a heartbreaking loss to the Western Nevada Wildcats. Despite the loss in the playoffs, head coach David Nelson is proud of his team.

“This was the best team all around at competing for every pitch, every inning and not getting too caught up on the final results,”

Nelson said.

After defeating the Wildcats in a 6-5 comeback to claim the district 18 title, Western Nevada turned around to defeat the Bruins in the final round of the NJCAA playoffs with a two-run score in the ninth inning off a lucky ground ball.

In and edge-of-the-seat nail-biter game, the Bruins were up 8-7 with two outs and runners on first and second for Western Nevada. Wildcats sophomore outfielder Bobby Pappin hit a grounder, which allowed the two runners to score and win the game.

“No matter how good you

are, a ball will a find a hole and beat you,” Nelson said. Even after the agonizing defeat in the playoffs, Nelson is looking forward to next year.

“I’m really proud of all my guys. They really laid it on the field,” Nelson said.

Though they exited the playoffs early, the Bruins were able to win the Region 18 championship for the second year in the row, which is no easy task. With 18 freshmen on the roster returning for next year, Bruin fans can look forward to next season’s run at the NJCAA national championship.



Photo courtesy of SLCC athletics

Despite coming up just short in NJCAA national tournament, the Bruins softball team had a successful season, highlighted by winning Region 18 Tournament.

ARTS&ENTERTAINMENT

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Dark fantasy done right

Summer movie forecast

Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter

“Snow White and the Huntsman” is the second and more anticipated “Snow White” film of the season. The previous entry, Tarsem Singh’s “Mirror Mirror” was a light-hearted and stylized fairy tale. “Huntsman” gives the fairy tale a darker makeover, becoming more in the style of “Game of Thrones” and the “Lord of the Rings” trilogy. Even looking at the trailers, it’s pretty clear that this is what most people had in mind when a “darker” Snow White was announced.

The film stars Kristen Stewart as Snow White and Charlize Theron as The Evil Queen. The other notable player is Chris Hemsworth as the Huntsman. The cast also includes actors like Bob Hoskins and Ian McShane.

In the case of acting, the cast does a really good job. I don’t know if that’s more a credit to director Rupert Sanders or not, but overall the cast gave a good performance, with one minor detraction.

That detraction comes from our leading lady, Kristen Stewart. She does a good job overall, but, like many other young actors, she has a single emotion that she seems to default to when she’s not doing anything. The emotion in question is what the people from “Mystery Science Theater 3000” call “dull surprise.” Let me reiterate, she does a good job in this film, but I think all those years playing Bella Swan in the “Twilight” films are starting to take their toll.

In the case of the story, let’s just say that whoever’s been making the trailers for all these recently released films needs to be fired. The story in this film is about as dense as a politically charged fantasy novels. It’s not just a fairy tale nor is it solely a cloak-and-dagger ascension story. There are several characters that play major parts in the film that you don’t see in the trailer at all.

There’s also a good layer of back-story that most other filmmakers tend to leave out. Even the Evil Queen is given both an interesting and somewhat sympathetic past that gives her a very clear motive.

The characters of the huntsman and the dwarves, who surprisingly remain nameless, also have a great degree of depth fits neatly into the overarching narrative. Each character has his or her own motivations that lead to a common goal.



Image courtesy of Universal Pictures

Chris Hemsworth steals the show as the huntsman.

However, one detraction when it comes to characters is the fact that Snow White doesn’t have much of a presence throughout the film. She does get a good degree of development in both the prologue and the third act, but in the interim, more of the focus is on the Huntsman and the Evil Queen than on our supposed protagonist.

From a technical standpoint, the film also does a very good job, but it’s a little shaky at the beginning, which is where they try to rush through the

opening prologue of the story. Although we don’t get any shaky-cam, there are some shots where they could have made some better choices.

Overall, I found this film to be enjoyable, but there were a few things that could have been cleaned up. The film drags in a few places and the focus, while staying where it needed to be for most of the film, need to be refined, at least to focus more on the protagonists. On my personal scale, I give “Snow White and the Huntsman” a 4/5.



Image courtesy of Universal Pictures

Charlize Theron stars as the evil queen, Ravenna.

Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter

Summer is well underway. Like many of the usual summer traditions, you can always expect the annual blockbuster battles at the box office.

This season started out strong with the release of Marvel’s “The Avengers,” which set a new standard for superhero films to follow. At the time of this article, it is the highest grossing film of 2012 and the 3rd highest grossing film of all time behind James Cameron’s “Titanic” and “Avatar.”

Marvel’s success has in-turn stirred up fear in both fans of DC and the legion of “Nolanites.” In the case of DC, their plans for a cinematic universe have been hindered if not completely crushed by the under-performance of “Green Lantern.” On top of that, the on set photos of the upcoming “Man of Steel” don’t look very promising. With this, you’d think fans would be able to take comfort in the success of the Batman franchise, right?

Wrong. Nolan has stated numerous times that the upcoming film, “The Dark Knight Rises,” will be his last Batman film, as well as bring a concrete end to his planned trilogy.

Will the success of “The Avengers” hinder the success of “The Dark Knight Rises?” Not likely, as their release dates are literally months apart. So the Marvel vs. DC battle will have to wait until they adapt the comic series of the same name.

If you’re looking for some superhero action to tide you over until July 20th, then you’re in luck. On July 3rd, we’ll finally see the “untold story” of “The Amazing Spider-Man” in theaters.



By “untold story,” the studio actually means a story we’ve heard several times before. However, this version of our beloved web-slinger has won some points for appearing to be more faithful to the comics than the three Sam Raimi films.

When it comes to comedies, this year has definitely been a mixed bag. We’ve seen some unexpected successes like “21 Jump Street,” while other films such as Eddie Murphy’s “A Thousand Words” crashed and burned. “The Dictator” has met with decent numbers but with lukewarm reviews.

Some of the adult comedies look dead on arrival, such as Adam Sandler’s “That’s My Boy.” However, there are some with interesting concepts, such as “Ted,” directed by “Family Guy” creator, Seth MacFarlane, and “Seeking a Friend for the End of the World,” which fulfills the dark humor quota for the season.

The major focus for this genre are the family comedies as we get new entries in the “Madagascar,” “Ice Age,” and “Wimpy Kid” franchises, so expect the other contenders to be hit and miss.

Not counting the superhero films, the action-adventure genre is off to a rocky start with films like “BattleShip” and “Men in Black 3,” which are both underperforming domestically. Many

attribute the former’s poor performance to actor Taylor Kitsch, who also starred in the underperforming “John Carter.” While “John Carter” failed due to lack of marketing, “BattleShip” most likely failed because of a dumb concept, a movie based on a board game.

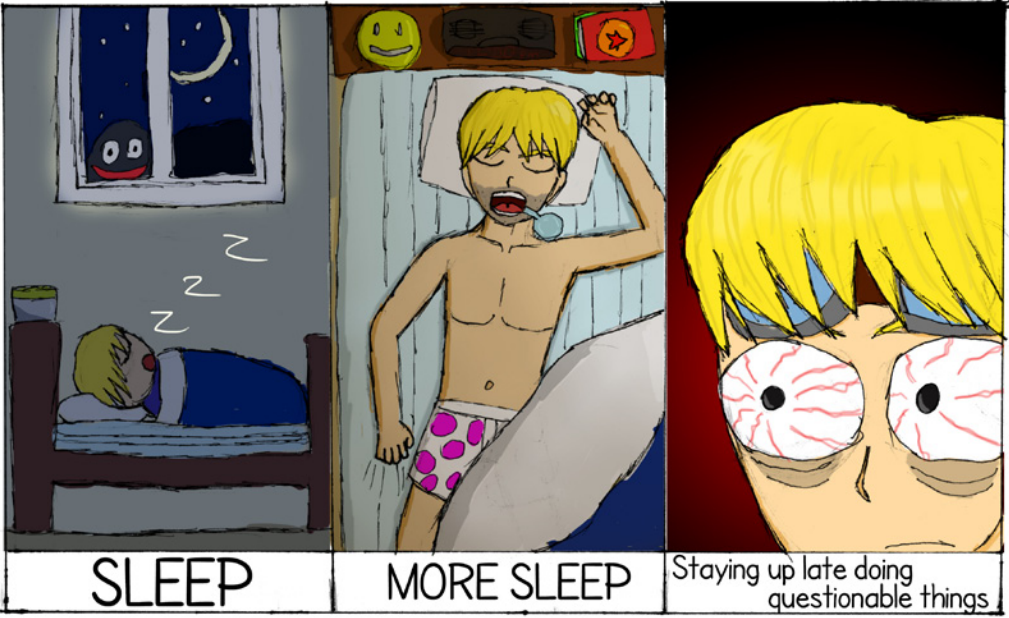
Some films to look forward to here are Ridley Scott’s “Prometheus,” originally teased as an “Alien” prequel, “The Bourne Legacy,” which stars Jeremy Renner, who played Hawkeye in “The Avengers,” and “Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter,” which is based on a book that attained the same popularity once held by Max Brooks’ “The Zombie Survival Guide.”

Once again, there are also the family-friendly adventure films to look forward to, such as Pixar’s “Brave” and “ParaNorman,” which comes from the same studio behind “Coraline.”

This summer has definitely come out strong, with a couple of treats headed our way. However, while it’s started out strong, the overall prediction looks like we’re in for a bit of a slowdown near the end of July. Only time will tell if the highlights are at the beginning of May, or during the peak of the second and third weeks of July.

Next week, we take a look at the evolution of science fiction and science fact in cinema.

MY THREE PANELS BY C.A. TRAHAN



The three things most students do on vacation

LIFE AS A FRESHMAN by C.A. Trahan



NEXT TIME: The Dorm Wars Saga!