

THE GLOBE



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Photo by Shad Engkilterra

MLK Humanitarian award winners live as members of Dr. King's "beloved community."

Shad Engkilterra
Staff Reporter

On Jan. 29, the presentation of the 2013 Martin Luther King Humanitarian Embracing the Dream Awards and associated panel discussion capped off Salt Lake Community College's weeklong celebration of King's legacy.

Award winners Jack Hesleph, Rt. Rev. Bishop Scott Hayashi and Ruby Chacon participated in a panel discussion with keynote speaker Michele Goodwin on Dr. King's "beloved community" and racism in America.

"The beloved community is rooted in the belief of something bigger than self," said Hesleph,

Salt Lake Community College director of student employment and cooperative education services. "It is based on people not things."

Hesleph said that King's beloved community combined the struggle against isms, like racism and other discriminatory practices, with the struggle against poverty, militarism and materialism.

"The operative word for me when I think about the beloved community is the word 'community,'" said Hayashi.

According to Hayashi, in the United States, there has become a reverence for Ayn Rand and the idea of self-fulfillment as the ultimate goal.

"When that (self-fulfillment)

Left to right - Provost Chris Picard, MLK humanitarian award winners Ruby Chacon and Rt. Rev. Bishop Scott Hayashi, keynote speaker Michele Goodwin, and MLK humanitarian award winner Jack Hesleph.

becomes the ultimate, it becomes about keeping what I have," said Hayashi. "For many of us, the ideal is to receive the education, better ourselves and leave the community to go to a nicer community."

When Hayashi visited one of Mexico's poor neighborhoods, he noticed something different.

"When one person increases," said Hayashi, "that person must remain in that community because that person is not fulfilled until the entire community is fulfilled."

For Chacon, the beloved community is a process. It starts with a sense of self and learning one's talents.

"How do I use my art? That's

my skill," said Chacon. "I needed to use that for something other than what was being defined for me in the arts."

Goodwin thinks about her grandparents and those who came before "people who were bounded by chains around necks, ankles "when she thinks about the beloved community.

"We are a more just nation because of so many who sacrifices to make this nation live up to (its doctrine)," said Goodwin.

Dr. John McCormick, who moderated the panel discussion, asked the panel what they would say to someone who sincerely did

MLK/ continued on page A3

'The Voice of the Prairie' creates pure magic

>> Performances shine in the Grand Theatre's newest production

Shad Engkilterra
Staff Reporter

Going to the theater should be a magical experience, and with *The Voice of the Prairie*, the Grand Theatre at South City Campus really outdoes itself.

The Voice of the Prairie tells the story of Frankie and Davey who are united at a time when both of them experience significant losses. They take to the road and explore life in all of its facets. Frankie may be blind, but she can see better than most people can when it comes to making life worthwhile.

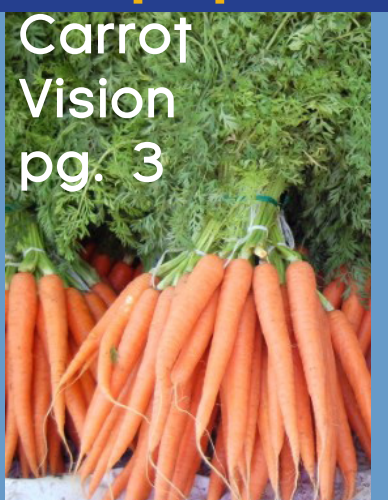
The story is told from the point

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Nutrition

Carrot Vision
pg. 3



The Arts

What's so great about Sundance?
pg. 4

Summit a place to learn about environmental solutions

>> Workshops will delve into recycling, sustainability, energy usage and other issues

Shad Engkilterra
Staff Reporter

The Fourth Annual Intermountain Sustainability Summit will be held at Weber State University on Feb. 28 and March 1. Student registration for the summit is \$10, or free with one hour of volunteer time.

The Intermountain Sustainability Summit will provide students with the opportunity to meet leaders in the sustainability field and participate in sessions dealing with one of four tracks: student, recycling, sustainability and energy.

"For the students, it's an amazing opportunity to network

with professionals in their fields," says Weber State University sustainability specialist Jennifer Bodine.

The student track is new this year and was created in response to student demand for more interaction with each other. Bodine said that those who attend the track will be able to "focus on issues that students care about" and "learn about what campuses are doing." Information on 350.org's divestment campaign will also be presented during this track.

350.org is mobilizing students and others to take the money currently invested in the stocks of fossil fuel companies out of those investments and move them to

companies that do not use fossil fuels to generate profits.

The recycling track focuses on subjects like reducing waste, zero waste and recycling more profitably. The sustainability track will feature sessions on water issues, and it will combine with the energy track during some sessions like the one led by keynote speaker L. Hunter Lovins that will address "Employee and Stakeholder Engagement."

Time magazine named Lovins 2000 Hero of the Planet. She has coauthored nine books and is the founder and president of Natural Capital Solutions. Lovins believes that sustainable business is good for business and the environment.

Participants in the summit can mix and match tracks, so they do not have to commit to one subject the entire conference.

March 1 features two workshops. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Associate Course runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and gives participants a certificate that will allow them to take the exam to become LEED certified. The cost is \$40.

The Portfolio Manager Workshop will teach participants how to use the Environmental Protection Agency's Portfolio Manager Program to track energy

Summit/ continued on page A3

STUDENT EVENTS

WED/30

9:30am-10:30am

Hot Chocolate and Breakfast
@ SLCC Highland Center

12:00pm-1:30pm

The Student Voice Project
@ TR Campus, SEC

7pm-9pm

'SLCC' on Ice
@ Kearns Olympic Oval

7:30pm-9:30pm

The Voice of the Prairie
@ SC Campus, The Grand Theatre

THURS/31

4:30pm-5:30pm

Club Meeting - Irish Heritage and Culture
@ TR Campus, Senate Chambers

5:30pm-7:30pm

Women's Basketball vs. Colorado Northwestern CC
@ TR Campus, LAC

7:30pm-9:30pm

Men's Basketball vs. Colorado Northwestern CC
@ TR Campus, LAC

FRI/1

SLCC Libraries Exhibit

12pm-1pm

SLL Winter Leadership Conference
@ Jordan Campus, Student Pavillion

2:30pm-5:00pm

Coloring Outside the Lines Club Meeting
@ TR Campus, SEC, Presidents Room

7:30pm-9:30pm

The Voice of the Prairie
@ SC Campus, The Grand Theatre

SAT/2

****Groundhog Day****

3pm-5pm

Women's Basketball vs USU-eastern
@ TR Campus, LAC

5pm-7pm

Men's Basketball vs USU Eastern
@ TR Campus, LAC

7:30pm-9:30pm

The Voice of the Prairie
@ SC Campus, The Grand Theatre

MON/3

SLCC Libraries Exhibit

11am-12pm

BSU Panel Discussion: Stereotypes
@ TR Campus, SEC, Oak Room

2:30pm-5:00pm

Club Meeting - Chess Club
@ TR Campus, Markosian Library,

TUE/4

SLCC Libraries Exhibit

4:30pm-5:30pm

Club Meeting - Irish Heritage and Culture
@ TR Campus, Senate Chambers

Submit student events to calendar.globe@slcc.edu

Visit www.globeslcc.com/calendar for more student events

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 February 4th
Entrants may only win once per semester. Mass Communication staff and SLCC 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.

Salt Lake Community College

Step Ahead.

The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1226

ACROSS

1 Some cartoons

5 "___ de Lune"

10 Bills, e.g.

14 Boomers' babies

15 Out of the way

16 Folkie who chronicled Alice

17 ___ de boeuf

18 Best Director of 1997

20 Speech opener, often

22 Michael Jackson wore one

23 Touts' hangouts

24 E.R. administration

26 "Thumbs up!"

27 Sudden pain

29 Dark area on the moon

30 Windsor's prov.

31 Ecological communities

32 Not so stuffy

34 Hospital fluids

35 Egocentric person's mantra

36 Like some seas and teas

40 Apply pressure to

42 Loy of "The Thin Man"

43 Winner's take, sometimes

46 Tip sheet figures

47 Round-tripper

48 Marker letters

49 His, to Henri

50 Cola wars "combatant"

51 Soap star Susan

53 Chose

56 Statistic from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

59 Untalented writer

60 Clears after taxes

61 Have significance

62 School attended by 007

63 Difficult journey

64 Awards at which 51-Across was finally a winner in 1999

65 Choosing-up-sides word

DOWN

1 Pearl Mosque city

2 Word in the names of some bright colors

3 Cabinet department

4 Chile relleño, e.g.

5 Sweet-talk

6 Hurdles for future D.A.'s

7 Actress Anouk

8 Bouncers' requests

9 ___ center

10 Caravan transport

11 Often-dry stream

12 Neatnik's opposite

13 "No lie!"

19 Correspond

21 Archaeological sites

24 Bizet opera

25 7 or 11, e.g.

27 "Cougar Town" network

28 Golf's Michelle

29 Predecessors of photocopies

32 Changes constitutionally

33 ABAB, for one

35 Fort ___, Md.

37 Rub the wrong way

38 Bearded antelope

39 Qin dynasty follower

41 Rose-red dye

42 Act the gloomy Gus

43 Flu, e.g.

44 "Speak up!"

45 Acrylic sheet material

47 Batters' toppers

50 Indiana's state flower

52 Cooper's handiwork

53 Lowlife

54 Business school subj.

55 Designer label letters

57 Clinch, as a deal

58 Pierre ou Jacques

PUZZLE BY DAN SCHOENHOLZ

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COMMUNITY

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Carrots won't grant night vision, but they're still a super-food

Nadhirrah
Staff Reporter

John “Cat’s Eyes” Cunningham was a legendary World War II British fighter pilot. His reputation for nighttime super-vision was largely attributed to a diet high in carrots, though the story was actually created to mask the Royal Air Force’s use of radar to find nighttime targets.

People believed the carrot story because even then carrots were widely known to support healthy eyes, and thus vision. This is partially true, and although beta-carotene and vitamin A in carrots helps eye health

(a lack of vitamin A is even the foremost cause of blindness), they don’t necessarily improve vision. In ancient times, carrots were first grown for medicinal purposes, and not for food. Hippocrates taught that to prevent pregnancy women should eat carrots. Modern research has shown that carrot seeds can block progesterone and prevent the egg implantation.

Carrots nourish the entire body and help maintain the body’s pH balance. They have also been used in tooth care and treating burns. It is said that eating a carrot right after eating a meal helps to remove food particles from

the teeth.

Australian researchers fed rats a high-fat, carbohydrate western diet for 16 weeks. The rats became fat, glucose intolerant and developed high blood pressure. Purple carrot juice was then added to the rats’ diet for eight weeks, and to the surprise of the researchers, the rats returned to normal. The results were printed in the British Journal of Nutrition. The carrot is related to celery, parsley and poisonous hemlock. While most people think of carrots as being orange, that is not the original color. Carrots are naturally purple, yellow, white and red.

Evidence of purple carrots date back to 5,000

years ago in Afghanistan, and this is thought to be the original carrot color.

It is said that to honor the Dutch Royal Family, the House of Orange, Dutch farmers crossed the red and yellow carrots to create the orange color that we are familiar with now. Dutch travelers took the new orange carrots throughout Queen Elizabeth I’s England. They even became a fashion accessory, as women used carrot tops as hat decorations. Maybe this is where the term carrot top began.

No matter why carrots are eaten, two things can be learned. One: carrots are good for health and two: carrots are sweet. They are the second sweetest vegetable after the beet.

There are many different ways to eat carrots. My favorite is raw, but they can also be baked, juiced or roasted. I love to use carrots in salads, sweets and main dishes. When rainbow carrots or other colored carrots can be found I like to use them instead.

For more tips about living a balanced life, visit Summer Bear at www.summerbear.org



Carrots are a classic source of beta-carotene and vitamin A.

Carrot Raisin Salad

- Ingredients:*
- 1 cup raisins
 - 2 apples, shredded
 - 3 large carrot, shredded
 - 1/2 cup nut mayo or vegan mayonnaise
 - Himalayan crystal salt or natural sea salt to taste

Directions:

In a medium bowl, combine shredded carrots, apples and raisins. Gently mix in the nut mayonnaise and salt. Chill a few hours before serving.

- Nut Mayo Ingredients:*
- 2 cups cashews
 - 3 Tbs. onion powder
 - 1/2 cup cold pressed olive oil
 - 3/4 cup water
 - 1-2 Tbs. Himalayan crystal salt
 - 1/2 lemon, juiced

Directions:

Place the cashews into a blender. Add the olive oil, onion powder, salt and lemon juice. Blend until creamy slowly adding enough water until a creamy consistency is achieved.

MLK

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not see racism in today’s America.

Goodwin said that wealth, health and education gaps should be indication enough of racism and that institutional racism still exists.

“The overarching policies that are put in place favor certain groups,” said Hayashi. “The people will oppress themselves. They give up trying because ‘that’s the way it is.’”

Hayashi said that to overcome racism, each person needs to work on what they can. People may want to change something larger, but that to do so, people should slice off what they can get done, and it will change “bit by bit by bit.”

“It’s too big to tackle all at once,” said Chacon.

Goodwin said that multiple approaches were needed to solve the problem, including using financial reasons.

“Racism is bad business,” said Goodwin.

It lowers morale and productivity among

workers. When employers learn this, they will hire a more diverse workforce.

Other college related events over the week included a “Conversation on Social Issues: the New Racism,” a reading of The Meeting, and Goodwin’s keynote address on “Assistive Reproductive Technologies, Social Justice, Race and Civil Rights.”

McCormick said that there will be further opportunities to continue the conversation during February’s Conversations on Social Issues. The date has yet to be announced.



Photo by Shad Engkilterra

Ruby Chacon, Rt. Rev. Bishop Scott Hayashi, keynote speaker Michele Goodwin, and Jack Hesleph participate in a post-ceremony panel discussion.

JOB POSTING

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Summit

continued from A1

and water usage. The cost is \$35, and the workshop will run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. There are only 32 spots available for this workshop.

The nonprofit Utah Recycling Alliance cosponsors the summit,

and will host a fundraising dinner and networking opportunity on Feb. 28 after the conference at Roosters Brewing Company and Restaurant in Ogden.

Vendors will be available at

the summit for participants to network with. About 40 vendors participated last year and included a wide variety of companies like nonprofits, architect firms and lighting companies.

To register, visit intermountainsustainabilitysummit.com or call Jennifer Bodine at (801)626-6421 for information on volunteering.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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What’s so great about Sundance?

>>>A first-timer’s experience at the renowned film festival

Derrick Gainsforth
Staff Reporter

Over my entire 27 years as a Utah native, I’ve heard about the legend that is Sundance.

A film festival for the new Gods, the first to showcase the films that would shape Hollywood’s future heroes and heroines.

The place where the stars go to relight and where dreamers go to wish upon these very stars.

As I drove up that winding winter canyon,

down a peaceful Parleys summit and onto a quiet two-lane highway, I asked myself: “What’s so big about Sundance?”

There is an obvious allure that Sundance has on a global level; something I could not yet grasp from the small town feel it had. I made my first stop at the grounds of Park City High School, close to a film screening at the adjacent Eccles Center. I joined the ticketholders line in an attempt to gain some Sundance cultural insight.

I stood there for about 15 minutes, simply soaking in every accent from the internationally diverse chattering line.

I was there to see Lovelace, a biopic about ‘70s adult film star Linda Lovelace. This was especially amusing to me personally as I sat in a theater attached to a Utah public school, waiting to see a film largely influenced by the skin flick Deep Throat – a film that the state once banned. I was seated next to a

couple who had traveled from their home state of Ohio to the Sundance film festival for the past seven years. Lynn Ervin and her husband said they simply fell in love with the culture, citing the unpredictable nature of events and the always present possibility of running into celebrities. Ervin had 21 films on her queue for the 10 day long festival.

After watching my very first Sundance film, I can understand why people flock to this snowy mountain town every year.

Pure and simple, it is truly all about the films. These really are the kind films that must be appreciated at their purest level, as works of art.

“This is the biggest film festival in the country,” said Sundance assistant merchandising manager Steve Smith. “You can go anywhere, and you don’t ever here people say, ‘that’s a Toronto movie’ or ‘that’s a Cannes movie’ but you hear ‘that’s a Sundance movie.’”

Smith credits this international branding success to fact the Sundance has produced some of

Hollywood’s biggest hits. Donnie Darko and Quentin Tarantino’s Reservoir Dogs are only a couple on a long list of Sundance hit films.

My time spent at Sundance was only a few short hours. However, as I boarded the bus off Park City’s Main Street, I couldn’t help but feel changed by the magic. Robert Redford’s little film festival that could has chugged its way over those snowy Utah mountains and frozen its place as the biggest little film festival the world has ever seen.

Music: Indie on the spot

Derrick Gainsforth
Staff Reporter

A Hero Falls
Promises To Keep; Miles From Sleep

A Hero Falls (AHF) has recently released its highly anticipated debut album, Promises To Keep; Miles From Sleep. The female-fronted quintet has been performing its post pop-punk act among Michigan’s underground music scene for the last few years. The band has a reputation for passionate song writing, classic punk-esque drum beats and catchy, hard driving guitar riffs.

This collection begins with the upbeat, coming of age song Am I ready? The song presents the listener with the topic of dealing with new horizons. AHF has always had a way of

putting into words the simplicity of significant life events. Good universal song writing should be able to give the listener the tools to paint their own interpretation of what a song means to them.

Mid-way through the album, the band attempts to stretch its sound musically by introducing a horn section in the track Impressionable Youth. This track might not work for some as it strays from the traditional sound AHF fans have been accustomed to.

Though I do believe the horns are well intentioned, if they are not for you, note that the band returns directly to their root sound with, As Good As It Gets. This song is the stand out track of the album. With beautifully timed riff progression and breakdowns, the lyrics are

timeless and seem to reflect a life of happiness without regret.

A Hero Falls seems determined to leave its mark, all the while embracing its independent status; an idea which resonates in the track Grassroots.

With lyrics like “Where has the music scene gone to? Looks like everyone’s content with following the crowd and manufactured sound,” the band critiques aspects of popular music without apology.

The album (available on aherofalls.com) has 14 tracks including the brand new ballad, Stay With Me, as well as acoustic versions of Am I Ready? and Moving On.

THE BOTTOM LINE COMPARISON: If you are a fan of Paramore, check out A Hero Falls.

Prairie

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of the older Davey, now called David Quinn. As he remembers his Poppy who told him stories, he finds himself telling his own story of the adventures he had with Frankie the blind girl. This plays out in broadcasts to thousands of listeners through the magic of radio.

Three actors play all of the parts in John Olive’s exploration of the power of technology set at the turn of the century. Each of the actors ensures that every character he or she plays is different from all of the other characters. There is no chance for confusion, and sometimes the audience forgets that there are only three people in the play.

Stephanie Purcell plays Frankie, a blind girl and Frances Reed, who is Frankie after 18 years of growing up, but it was her turn as Susie that really gave me pause. I didn’t realize it was the same actor even though I knew she was the only woman in the play.

Purcell’s Frankie is free-spirited, wild and carefree.

She is ready to explore the world, while evading those who were looking for her, for as long as Davey was by her side. The older Frances was hurt by the events that transpired after Frankie and Davey were separated, but still carried a torch for those days with him. In one scene in particular, Purcell’s performance packs a wallop, just like being hit in the gut. Jonathan McBride is a pearl as Davey. He provides comedy with his facial expressions, and it’s hard to not see him as someone who is about 12 years old. It isn’t just the comedy that makes McBride’s portrayal of Davey special. It is the full range of emotion that McBride is able to show – from fear and sadness, to cheer and enthusiasm.

McBride’s turn as Leon Schwab was also well acted. Schwab is a suave New Yorker who sells radios in the Midwest. He overreacts to every bit of bad news and wears his metropolitan heart on his sleeve. Schwab may want to be the quintessential shyster salesman, but he comes up a bit short because of his feelings for David Quinn.

David Hanson sets the scene not only with his

portrayal of Poppy, but also with his portrayal of David Quinn who is “the voice of the prairie.” As each scene in his life with Frankie becomes real on the stage, Quinn becomes quiet and a little morose.

This play depends on timing and quick change of wardrobe in order to enable the audience to suspend disbelief. The actors are on point and do not miss a cue. They can even make the audience see things that aren’t there such as a wall that separates Frankie and Davey or a shot glass from which Poppy quenches his thirst.

The set reinforces the theme of three with its numerous triangles and angles suggestive of triangles. Even the old time advertisements seem to have been chosen for their angles. Olive’s well written script explores the nature of technology and its effect on people. Through the relationship of Frankie and Davey and later Frances and David, radio and the stories that are told over the airwaves are shown to be things that bring people together. What else should media be for?

Adult fairy tales – wave 2 of a popular and evolving genre

Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter

Well, here we are again – more adult-oriented fairytale creeping into theaters for mass consumption.

I’ve noticed some differences between this second batch of fantasy faire and the forerunners. To see what’s different this time around, let’s take a look at the major changes to the media landscape that have occurred since the early dark fairytales were released.

From a financial standpoint, the boom in popularity of adult fairytale films can be directly attributed to the financial success of Tim Burton’s Alice in Wonderland. Despite some complaints from moviegoers and critics, the film grossed over \$1 billion worldwide during its theatrical run.

This caught the attention of several studios, as they spotted yet another source of precious box office revenue. This led to what I like to call the “Snow White war,” as three films purported to be a more “mature” take on the Snow White story were announced. Two of



these films, Mirror Mirror and Snow White and the Huntsman raced to the box office, while Disney’s The Order of the Seven (originally titled Snow and the Seven) has lagged, and is still in development.

Mixed reactions for Mirror Mirror and critical praise of its darker counterpart proved that there was still money to be made in the “adult fairytale” genre. As a result, we began to see the emergence of fairytale themed television series, such as NBC’s fairytale themed detective show Grimm, ABC’s watered down knock off of the FABLES comic series Once Upon a Time and the not-so-impressive and directionless CW reboot of the Beauty and the Beast television series.

As we take a look at the new string of fairytale films such as Hansel &

Gretel: Witch Hunters and Jack The Giant Killer, two things can be inferred.

First, we can see a bit more balance of humor and drama, something the Snow White films couldn’t quite accomplish with their very contrasted tones.

Second, while the first wave tried to keep themselves fairly accessible to younger viewers, these later films feel more along the lines of either being wannabe blockbusters, or Tarantino-styled satire. As a result, the films are more comedic while retaining a harsher edge.

As we see more studios scramble for more fairytales, there’s no doubt that we’ll have a mix of well-crafted epics, mainstream popcorn flicks and tonally confused bombs. As they say in many unnecessary sequels to adventure films – here we go again.

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MY THREE PANELS by C.A. Trahan

<h4>SCHEDULE</h4> <table><tr><td>7:30pm</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>9:00am</td><td>$-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$ 2a</td></tr><tr><td>11:00am</td><td>日本語</td></tr><tr><td>2:00pm</td><td>$\angle A \text{ href} = \# " \text{ oncl} \text{ ck} = " \text{ yr. wu}$</td></tr><tr><td>6:00pm</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>7:00pm</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>9:00pm</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Budget your time to account for work, school and relaxation time</td></tr></table>	7:30pm		9:00am	$-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$ 2a	11:00am	日本語	2:00pm	$\angle A \text{ href} = \# " \text{ oncl} \text{ ck} = " \text{ yr. wu}$	6:00pm		7:00pm		9:00pm		Budget your time to account for work, school and relaxation time		<h4>Cleaning</h4> <table><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td>DEATH</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">Do not rest until EVERYTHING is done!</td></tr></table>						DEATH	Do not rest until EVERYTHING is done!		<table><tr><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">LET THE STRESS BUILD UP UNTIL YOU SNAP.....</td></tr></table>		LET THE STRESS BUILD UP UNTIL YOU SNAP.....	
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Guns, guts and gore – what more do you want from a fairy tale?

Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter



Rather than holding back an “adult” fairytale to make it accessible to younger audiences, *Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters* doubles down on violence, gore and over-the-top action. It takes a Brothers Grimm fairytale, which was already plenty dark, and cranks the darkness up to 11.

The film stars Jeremy Renner and Gemma Arterton as the grown-up Hansel and Gretel. After killing the witch in the famous fairy tale, the siblings become fulltime witch hunters who are brought in to investigate a string of kidnappings in a small village.

This film is unapologetically violent and gory, and takes full advantage of the 3D illusion to show splatters, splinters and everything in between. The action scenes are fast-paced and exciting, and have some fairly creative visuals thrown into the mix. It feels like your typical popcorn movie, where you just turn off your brain, enjoy the ride and try to ignore the “schlocky” bits.

To add to the schlock, there are throwaway characters to beef up the kill count and some visually

interesting but fairly pointless monsters. The final battle comes across as a drawn out letdown that tries to throw in a few final dramatic pitches which are thrown out the window within a few seconds.

The story isn’t as bad as it could have been, but it’s not without its fair share of flaws. On the upside, it’s got a nice blend of action, humor and drama that keeps you engaged, with some nice expositional bits that add to the anachronistic nature of the story. On the downside, it falls into common action film clichés with plot points that feel tacked on and a little too “deus ex machina” for my tastes.

The acting doesn’t offer much to write home about. For the most part, we get pretty decent performances, but in the case of Arterton, some scenes have her acting like the tough femme fatale the trailers would have us believe, but other scenes feel as if the writer forgot what kind of character they were trying to create. I understand giving a character some vulnerable moments, but we end up with a mild case of “dummy in distress.” In Renner’s case, it was basically a diabetic* Hawkeye killing witches.

For what it’s worth, *Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters* is still a blast if you’re looking for a film



Photo courtesy of Paramount Pictures

Gemma Arterton and Jeremy Renner have mastered the casual-deadly pose for ‘Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters.’

that doesn’t require a lot of thinking. It has that nice over-the-top, almost Tarantino-esque

atmosphere that triggers your suspension of disbelief from the get-go. There are some iffy elements with the

story, so it’s best viewed at the dollar theaters or simply in 2D, with the kids left safely at home.

*Note for the reader: the diabetes is actually part of the story of the film, so calm down.

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