



Quest For Fire tells the story of early man and his search for life-sustaining flame. A Texas A&M anthropology professor says the movie isn't totally accurate, but is what audiences want to see.

'Quest' needs to go on accuracy search

by June DuVall
Battalion Reporter

One of the newest movies to grace local movie screens, *Quest for Fire*, may leave viewers with an inaccurate view of the life of early man, but a Texas A&M anthropology professor says that's Hollywood.

Quest for Fire, an adventure movie about the survival of early man which weaves together the search for fire and the discovery of love, would probably be less appealing if all details were totally accurate, Dr. Vaughn M. Bryant, professor of anthropology, said.

But *Quest for Fire* sparks public interest in an era 80,000 years ago, regardless of some of the inaccurate details, he said.

Although all aspects are not authentic throughout the movie, Bryant said, "Hollywood gives the audience what they seem to perceive about anthropology."

One fallacy depicted in the movie, Bryant said, is early man's inability to build fire. That

knowledge was gained about 750,000 years ago, he said.

The story unfolds when the life-sustaining fire of a tribe of warriors is stolen by a band of Neanderthals. Because they don't know how to rekindle it, the warriors begin searching for a new source of fire.

In the movie, stealing fire from other tribes and taking advantage of natural catastrophes were believed to be the only ways to obtain the valuable flames. In their search, the warriors encounter various groups, including cannibals, from which they try to steal the important flames.

During this search, one tribe displays their art carvings and newly invented weapons that are supposed to have replaced the spear. Bryant said these details also are uncharacteristic of man's knowledge at this time.

The movie takes place during a summer on the continent of Europe; this also is inaccurate, Bryant said. The movie was filmed in Canada, Scotland and Africa, he said, and the vast con-

trasts in terrain and climate are too unrealistic to believe.

Bryant said the use of saber-toothed tigers and giant mammoths depicts the true environment of the era, as does the degree of compassion shown by the Neanderthals. Willingness to care for the sick, injured and elderly members of the tribe was not typical until that time.

Other features of the movie that the audience may want to believe include the characters' absence of conventional speech, as well as a good old-fashioned love story.

The actors communicate through non-verbal expression, accompanied by a vocabulary of gestures designed to show primitive patterns of communication, as well as relate an intelligible story to audience.

In one of the more dramatic parts of the film, primitive man and woman experience the first stirrings of tenderness and compassion. In this scene, the awakening of human emotions appears more innocent and honest than does the modern portrayals of sexual activity.

Top Ten

On page 16 of this issue, we find out the definition of a real man. A real man doesn't eat quiche, doesn't want Bo Derek and doesn't have his hair styled.

But what about a real woman? Who is she?

We're quite sure she wouldn't get along with that brutish hulk, The Real Man.

The Real Woman is a not the simpering wimpette the Real Man wants. She has outside interests and a life of her own, something He would never tolerate.

The *Focus* staff has prepared a guide to how to be a Real Woman. Read it, and people will say:

"What a Woman!"

- 1 — A real women can work hard 16 hours a day, come home and cook a seven-course meal and still look good afterwards.
- 2 — Real women don't eat triple-decker combination sandwiches oozing with onions and horseradish — but love quiche, which they prepare regularly to antagonize Real Men.
- 3 — They have a separate manicurist, hairdresser and eyelash dyer to make them beautiful, even though they don't really need it.
- 4 — Real women really are lousy drivers.
- 5 — They aren't women's libbers — they know they've got rights and aren't afraid to show it, especially to flaunt it in the face of the real men.
- 6 — Real women look good in anything they wear, therefore, they can wear anything. Real Men want strictly slink.
- 7 — You'll see no cellulite on a real woman. The moment a bulge appears, they fly to a Golden Spa in California and work out with Jane Fonda.
- 8 — Real women love kids and want ten of them but want someone else to take care of them when they mess in their diapers.
- 9 — Real women are secure enough to join a chocolate pudding wrestling contest — and win.
- 10 — Real women go to see male dancers and join them on stage.

Russell to shake Saturday

The Shake Russell Band will appear Saturday night at the Campus Theater.

Local fans may be surprised to see the band performing without long-time member Dana Cooper. Cooper and Russell recently split up to pursue separate musical directions. All the band members are still with Russell, and one member has been added.

The band will preview songs from a new album which is in the works, as well as older songs fans are used to.

This is the first time live music has been presented in the Campus theater. Solid Pops! productions is sponsoring the show.

Beer and wine will be available at the show, as well as the regular menu of the concession stand.

John Vandiver, a guitar player and singer, will open the show.

Tickets are available at Music Express and the Campus Theater. Reserved seats are \$7.50, general admission are \$6.50 and love nests in the balcony, which seat two, are \$10.

The show starts at 8 p.m.



The comfortable classic gold bands
14 kt. to 24 kt. Many styles and
sizes.

from \$80

DIAMOND ROOM

3731 E. 29th
846-4708
Bryan

707 Shopping Village
693-7444
College Station