

AGGIE life

TUESDAY
July 2, 1996

Page 3

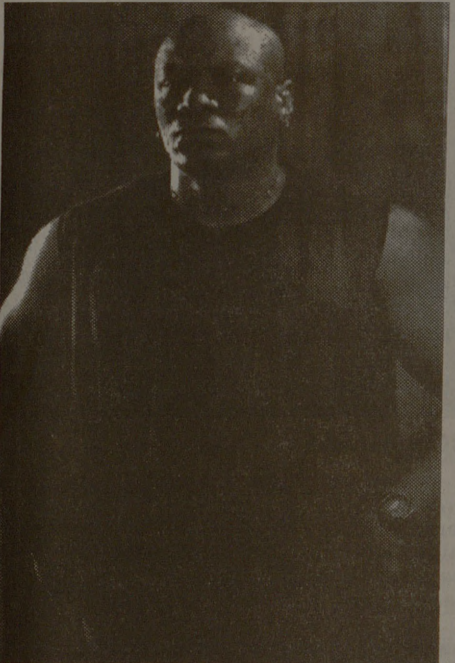
STRIPTEASE

Moore, Reynolds tease audiences with performances and storyline

By Kristina Buffin
THE BATTALION

Striptease, unlike *Showgirls*, has a plot. Unfortunately though, the plot is simplistic and overdone, and there is little to no humor throughout the film.

Erin Grant (Demi Moore) is a di-



Shad (Ving Rhames) is a bouncer at the Eager Beaver.

vorced mother who must find a job to wrestle custody of her daughter from her drunk, wheel-chair-stealin', overall-mess-to-society ex-husband. She decides to take the night shift at the Eager Beaver as a topless dancer.

David Dilbeck (Burt Reynolds) is a congressman with a fetish for strippers. Although he risks exposure, he continues to frequent the Eager Beaver until in a drunken stupor, he decides Grant is his "angel."

Unfortunately for the congressman, he is discovered by a patron, and a cycle of bribery involving Grant's daughter, Grant and Dilbeck.

Jerry Killian (William Hill) is fascinated by Erin and is willing to do anything to win her affection. Unfortunately he tries to bribe the wrong congressman and he ends up at the bottom of the river.

Detective Al Garcia (Armand Assante) takes up Grant's cause and tries to balance catching Dilbeck with his pants literally down.

Moore exemplifies the dilemma many single mothers face everyday. She must find a way to support not only herself, but her child. Unfortunately the film does not revolve around this storyline, and instead overemphasizes the strip routines and Dilbeck's sickness with

naked women.

The movie is about strippers and nudity is expected, but the nudity is gratuitous in places. For example, seeing Moore dance naked while she blow-dries her hair. There are two or three other dancing scenes where it is obvious that the strip routines do not further the plot, but instead serve to satisfy certain members of the audience, who only want to see Moore naked.

Ving Rhames does a wonderful job portraying Shad the bouncer/bodyguard for the strippers. He is protective of 'his' girls and provides the humor of the film. But the film relies on this humor for the first 30 minutes.

Castle Rock advertises *Striptease* as a "sexy comedy" but if falls on its face. Instead there is little comedy and not everyone considers Demi Moore flashing her breasts every 20 minutes as "sexy."

One good choice Castle Rock made was the soundtrack.

Annie Lenox, formerly of the Eurythmics, contributes the music to Grant's dances and that plus a cameo appearance by Michael Jordan makes the strip scenes bearable.

Moore may have a great body after three pregnancies, but her performance did not merit \$12 million.



Erin Grant (Demi Moore) puts her biggest fan, Congressman Dilbeck (Burt Reynolds), back in his place.

MOVIE REVIEW
Striptease
Starring Demi Moore, Burt Reynolds and Ving Rhames
Directed by Andrew Bergman
Rated R
Playing at Hollywood 16
★★ 1/2 (out of five)

Murphy back with Nutty Professor

By Jeffrey Cranor
THE BATTALION

MOVIE REVIEW
The Nutty Professor
Starring Eddie Murphy and Jada Pinkett
Directed by Tom Shadyac
Rated PG-13
Playing at Hollywood 16
★★ 1/2 (out of five)

Independence Day is just around the corner but judgment day has arrived for Eddie Murphy. Luckily, the verdict is good. *The Nutty Professor* provides just the right comic formula to get Murphy's movie career back in shape.

Fans and critics have waited impatiently for years to see Murphy's films return to the hilarity

of *Trading Places*, *48 Hours* and his classic "Saturday Night Live" sketches. For the first time since *Coming to America*, one of Murphy's movies carries weight—literally.

Murphy plays Sherman Klump, an brilliant college professor who is an expert in the field of genetics and makes Fat Albert look like Gary Coleman.

Loosely based on the Jerry Lewis film of the same title, *The Nutty Professor* is about an overweight man who believes his life will be better if he were thin.

Klump weighs in at over 400 pounds and has a diet consisting of Snickers, ice cream and M&Ms.

Klump falls for Carla (Jada Pinkett), a graduate student and teaching assistant who admires him for his work and research.

But on a date with her, he is ruthlessly heckled about his size by a stand-up comic. Klump be-

comes overly upset about his obesity and drinks an experimental serum altering his DNA and mutates him into the thin and trim Buddy Love.

Buddy is different from Klump in more than just looks. He has an uncontrollable sex drive and attitude. Murphy transforms his character from a tubby, mild-mannered professor to "Def Comedy Jam" on speed.

This variety in Murphy's performance makes the movie fun. Klump is heartwarming and shows a side audiences have never seen before: shy and demure. Then the film reverts back to the craziness most people expect from him.

One aspect of this variety is his portrayal of multiple roles—something he has done in his last several films. In this movie, the Klump family is played almost entirely by Murphy.

The Klumps are perfect for those who love raw humor. Flatulence, dirty jokes and Murphy's classic comic style abound, and it becomes difficult to know whether to laugh, wince or do both.

Murphy's crude humor sometimes grates on an audience over a two-hour period, but his humor is much more toned-down in this film, making Klump seem lovable and sweet. And Buddy is a medium through which Murphy can act as himself. In doses, this humor is entertaining and not annoying.

Tom Shadyac's direction creates a lively and fun tone, and the morphing effects as Murphy goes from Buddy to Klump are fabulous.

Murphy has learned that maintaining stardom is difficult, but this film should reassure moviegoers he is still funny and talented.

Depression, dreary drag Down on the Upside

By David Winder
THE BATTALION

In the beginning Soundgarden stood out from the rest of the Seattle music scene with hard-core guitar riffs and furiously paced songs. Sure, their songs were about death and depression, but they rocked.

Since the release of *Badmotorfinger* five years ago, the rockin' songs have dwindled.

For every "Rusty Cage" there seems to be at least three more songs similar to "Black Hole Sun." It took a while to notice, but the boys from Soundgarden are slowly morphing into Softgarden.

On their latest effort, *Down On The Upside*,

Soundgarden dismisses the rockin' songs altogether. Instead, it's 16 songs about death and depression done at a comparatively slower pace.

Soundgarden used to sound like a grunge Led Zeppelin, but now they sound like an electric version of Nirvana's *Unplugged* album.

The guitar riffs are there, but they never seem to go anywhere but right back into the same boring riff. The drums barely get beat around, and the voice of Chris Cornell never reaches the fever pitch it has on past albums.

The album begins with its best song, "Pretty Noose." On previous albums the style of

See Soundgarden, Page 4

IN ITALIA

STUDY ABROAD AT SANTA CHIARA!
INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS - 358 BIZZELL HALL WEST

TUESDAY, JUNE 25 5:00 - 5:45 PM
FRIDAY, JUNE 28 3:45 - 4:30 PM
TUESDAY, JULY 2 5:00 - 5:45 PM

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS
161 Bizzell Hall West
845-0544

JUNIOR FULBRIGHT

The Junior Fulbright provides graduating seniors and graduate students of U.S. citizenship the opportunity to develop a proposal for a specific research project to be undertaken in the country of their choice during the 1997-1998 academic year. Each applicant may apply once during the current year of competition.

Informational Meeting Times:
MONDAY JULY 1 at 11 am
TUESDAY JULY 2 at 3 pm
WEDNESDAY JULY 3 at 11 am & 3 pm
All Meetings Held in Bizzell Hall West room 358

FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS, INFORMATIONAL MEETING TIMES, OR GENERAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM OFFICE
161 BIZZELL HALL WEST
(409) 845-0544

POSITION OPEN

GRADUATE ASSISTANT NON-TEACHING (GANT)

Applicants must have the following skills:

- * Flexibility
- * Strong writing ability and fluency in English.
- * A working knowledge of computers and/or word processing. Software used: Microsoft Office (Word for Windows 6.0, Microsoft Access, Microsoft Excel), Corel Graphics (Draw, Graph, and Chart), Aldus PageMaker 5.0, Adobe Photoshop. Familiarity with networked PC's, document scanner, CD-ROM, and electronic mail systems a plus. (On-the-job training is provided in all applications.)
- * Ability and desire to work with students and faculty
- * Ability to work independently and as a team member

Apply by submitting a resumé and a two-page essay on the importance of international education as it relates to your background and professional interests to Ms. Cathy S. Schutt, Staff Assistant, Study Abroad Program Office (address below). APPLICATION DEADLINE: ASAP; closing when positions are filled.

Study Abroad Programs Office
Texas A&M University
161 Bizzell Hall West
College Station, TX 77843-3262