


**Texas Aggie Volleyball**  
&  
**Iowa State**  
7 pm Friday



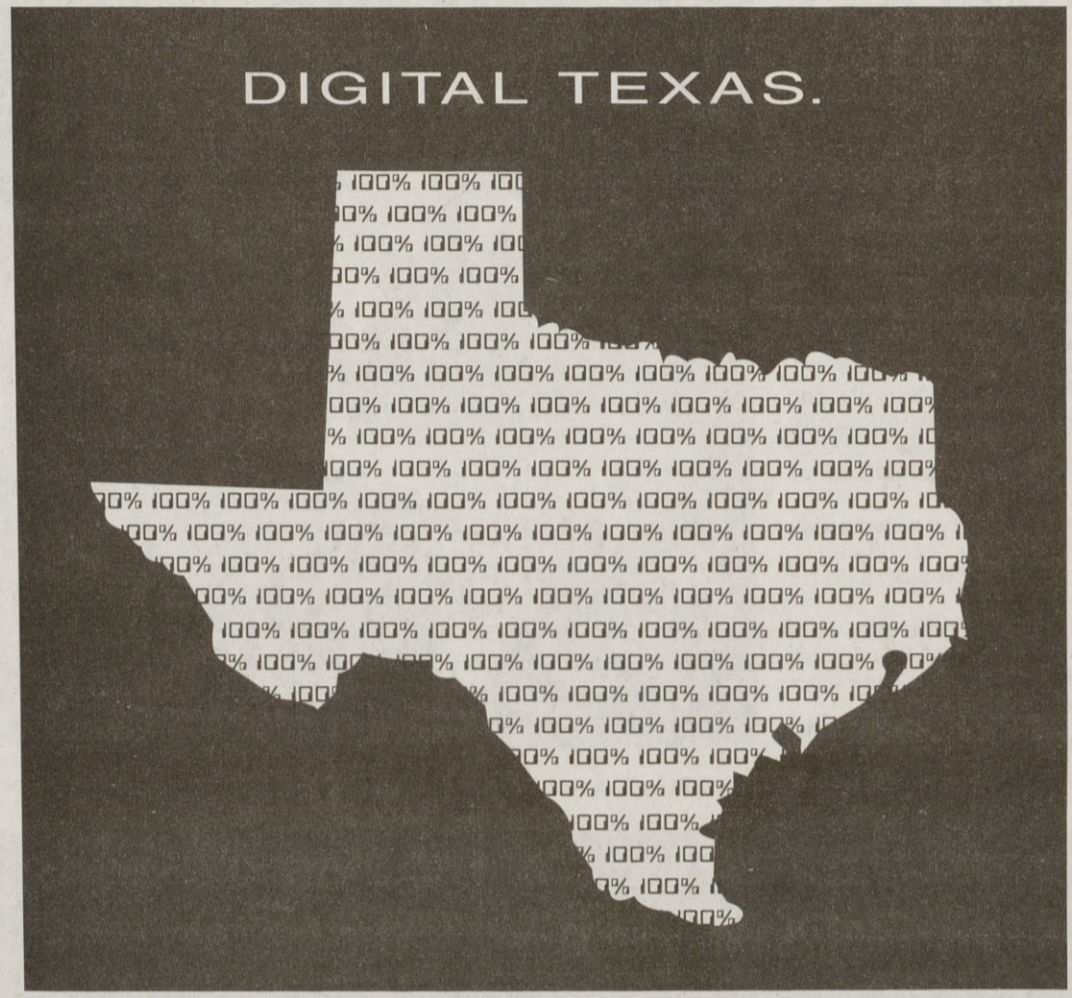
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Uma Thurman stars as Irene and Ethan Hawke stars as Vincent in the new futuristic drama Gattaca.

**Intricate plot strands run through the genetic makeup of Gattaca**

**Movie Review**

*Gattaca*  
Starring **Ethan Hawke** and **Uma Thurman**  
Directed by **Andrew Niccol**  
Rated PG-13  
Playing at Hollywood 16  
★★★ (out of five)

**G**attaca is a futuristic thriller, a love story and a murder mystery rolled into one big ball of genetics, passion, whodunit adventure.

It's too bad the movie's characters are underdeveloped, flat and two-dimensional.

*Gattaca* takes place in the not-too-distant future, a future in which people are able to choose the genetic makeup of their children.

The world is striving for perfection, and the only prejudice that exists is "genoism," discrimination based on a person's gene structure.

The movie stars Ethan Hawke as Vincent Freeman, a young man who was conceived in love rather than a test tube.

His eyesight is poor, and his height is inferior — sure signs of a birth left to nature.

He grows up with the stigma of being an "In-Valid," the label attached to those who are lacking a little in the gene department. But Vincent has dreams.

He wants to be a navigator at the futuristic Gattaca Corporation. Unfortunately, with his gene structure, the best he can hope for is a job cleaning the company's windows.

But as the trailers say, there is no gene for the human spirit.

With strength, ambition and a little help from a DNA broker, Vincent is able to outsmart Gattaca's authorities and sneak his way into the corporation.

*Gattaca* is the simple retelling of the age-old tale of the small-town boy yearning to see the bright

lights of the big city.

The main difference is that Vincent's birthplace is Titan, Saturn's fourteenth moon, and the town from which he wants to flee is Earth.

Another difference is that *Gattaca* is not a sci-fi movie, and here lies the movie's problem.

The screenwriter tries to integrate too many issues into one plot. This is effective in that each issue is treated equally, but the characters are the ones who are neglected.

Traditionally, science fiction relies on plot and makes characterization secondary, but *Gattaca* is more than a science fiction story.

Vincent's love affair with Irene, a co-worker played by Uma Thurman, is emotionless.

There is no chemistry between the characters, much less the actors. Although *Gattaca* is supposed to be calm, cool and perfected, you should remember that they still are human beings.

Vincent was not created in a laboratory but as a fellow worker. His fate was left to chance, but his feelings and emotions are inherent in his personality, but those traits are not evident in Vincent, least not in Hawke's portrayal of him.

For a man who could possibly be discovered as an imposter and convicted of murder, Vincent is probably void of worry, fear or any other human emotion.

There is also a relationship Vincent has with a younger brother that the movie barely touches. After Vincent was born, his parents' real problems that could plague a child born naturally. So, they opt for the laboratory method when they decide to have their second child.

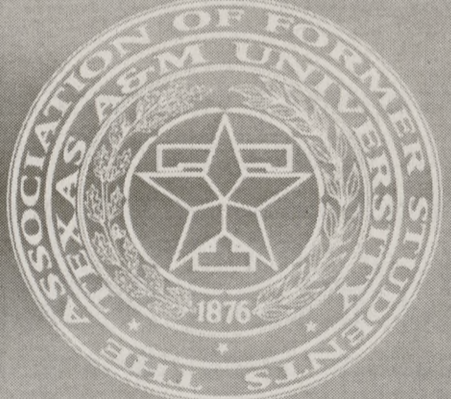
There is immediate conflict between the two brothers, but the conflict is underdeveloped in the movie. The movie producers spend too much time trying to make sense of all the genres the film touches, and too little time delving into the complexities of the human relationships.

*Gattaca* confronts some strong topics like genetic tampering and the identity of the human race, but reduced to a urine sample and a drop of blood in the quarters is not enough for one movie without including a mystery and a love story.

Audiences need more time to connect with the characters. Since there is no gene for the human spirit, there must not be a gene for good character development either.

— By Rhonda

**The Association of Former Students Induction Banquet**



Tuesday and Wednesday, November 4th and 5th, 1997

**COLLEGE STATION HILTON GRAND BALLROOM - 6:15 P.M.**

All December '97 graduating seniors and graduate students\* are invited. Complimentary tickets may be picked up in the MSC hallway, October 28, 29 & 30 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

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Student I.D. Required to Pick Up Tickets

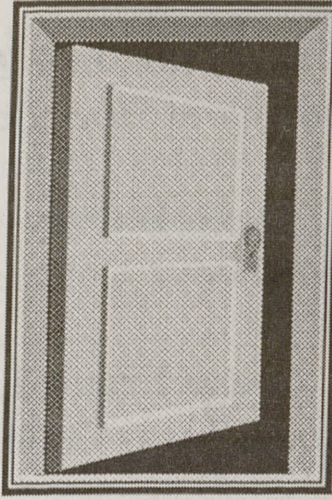
Compliments of The Association of Former Students

\*Graduate students who are not already a member may attend either night.

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