

**Reel
CRITIQUE**



**BRANDI
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staff writer

"The times they are a changin'." Who knew how true this statement would be? Think back to the year 1985. Too long ago to jog your memory? Adam Sandler can help refresh a few memories. Some of which may be better off forgotten.

Sandler's latest movie, *The Wedding Singer*, proves not only to be a romantic comedy, but a retrospective of life 15 years ago. From imitation Michael Jackson gloves to Madonna's stack of plastic bracelets, this movie definitely shows the world as it was before Van Halen broke up and Burt and Lonnie called it quits. A time when the world seemed so much simpler and we were all in puberty.

Aside from being a blast from the past, this movie includes a little love and romance. Sandler and romance? He does it and pulls it off without a hitch.

He plays the part of Robbie Hart, a small town boy who wanted to make it big as a rock star, but settled for being the town's wedding singer. Quite pleased with his life and his girlfriend of six years, he is in total shock when he is left behind at the alter like a bad pair of parachute pants.

In comes Julia (Drew Barrymore), a waitress for the local catering business who is

The Wedding Singer
Starring Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore
Directed by Frank Coraci
Rated PG 13
* sneak preview review *
Critique: A

soon to be married to what Sandler finds to be a total jerk. He can not help but fall in love with her as he helps plan her wedding.

He spends his spare time singing at bar mitzvahs and becoming the town lunatic.

As fate would have it, the love of his life runs off to Las Vegas with her fiancé to get a quickie wedding.

Sandler boards a plane to chase after his one true soul mate. What he does not know is that they are on the same plane and he swoons her back into his arm, with his amazing singing ability.

Just like a time machine, *The Wedding Singer* brings back all of the 80's favorites — the hit show *Dallas*, the Dunkin' Donuts twin commercials and Don Johnson wannabes.

They all take the audience back to a time where tight rolled blue jeans were cool, Billy Idol was popular and people were doing that loop thing with their belts. It is enough to make one stand back and wonder, "What were we thinking?"

Sandler keeps everyone rolling by making fun of old fashions and his hysterical jokes of the times.

Not only is this a great movie to see, the sound track is even better. What is a movie without the music? If anything, the '80s was a time of some serious rock bands and heavy metal music.

Sandler and Barrymore put on award-winning performances and keep you laughing the entire movie.

PEARL
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"Wishlist" is a goofy and whimsical power-ballad of a love song that includes some of the most warm-hearted revelations displayed by Pearl Jam like: "I wish I was a sentimental ornament you hang on / I wish I was the evidence I wish I was the grounds for 15 million hands opened up towards the sky / I wish I was the full moon shining off a Camaro's hood."

Vedder finally displays a different side of his personality and gives his fans insight into previously undisclosed corners of his soul.

However, keeping with Pearl Jam tradition, *Yield* can't help but remind listeners that the band isn't afraid to turn up the volume and the tempo.

With hard-hitting songs such as "MFC" and "Brain of J," the oh-so-familiar and friendly Pearl Jam guitar mixes harmoniously with the hard-pounding drums of Jack Irons.

In "Brain of J," Vedder declares, "Who's got the brain of JFK? / What does it mean to us now? / The whole world will be

different / Soon the whole world will be relieved."

In addition to revisiting its roots, the band is beginning to slow down a bit with mature sounding ballads.

Pearl Jam once again shows its diversity with the funk/punk nuance "Doing the Evolution," which ridicules the exaggerated sophistication of human hypocrisy.

Vedder rings out, "I am ahead / I am advanced / I am the first mammal to wear pants." He also uses crafty lyrics such as, "I am a thief / I am a liar / There's my church / I sing in the choir," as well as predicting our fiery demise in 2010.

Yield is a true value for listeners in several categories, but the album's greatest asset is the setting of a constant mood and treating listeners to an unedited peek at the softer, sentimental side of Pearl Jam.

If you were anticipating the release of *Yield* with a longing for the glory days of grunge with songs reminiscent of "Jeremy," "Alive" or even "Blood," you'll probably be disappointed. However, if you were looking forward to a more earnest

and warm sound as opposed to the vessel bursting squelching of most of today's rock, *Yield* may be exactly what your looking for.

The progression of sound exhibited by Pearl Jam over the past seven years just adds legitimacy to the notion that the band is comprised of truly talented and thoughtful musicians.

That is exactly what the title of their last album *No Code* means — not sticking to a pre-ordained recipe for success. Pearl Jam wants something new and so do their fans.

If you are not already a Pearl Jam fan, *Yield* is an excellent place to start.

It will help to develop your interest and if you have been a fan for some time, *Yield* is an excellent addition to an already superb collection of albums form our generation's most intelligent and talented band.

The band sets itself apart from their peers. This time around, it has a new, more innovative, totally Pearl Jam sound.

It is easy to say the band is well on its way to becoming one of the most prolific bands in rock history.

Opening Acts

★ Thursday ★

- Fire Ants @ Fitzwilly's
- Floor @ the Cow Hop
- Bobby Hall's Ice Cold Blues @ the Crooked Path Ale House
- Tone Loc and C+C Music Factory @ Rudder Auditorium
- Cory Morrow Band (country/western band) @ Shadow Canyon

★ Friday ★

- Kid Fantastic (rock/punk band) @ the Cow Hop

★ Saturday ★

- Blue Earth (rock band) @ the Crooked Path Ale House
- Blue Valentine's (blues band) @ Edge's Bar and Grill
- Freudian Slip @ Dixie Theatre
- Gary Delz Power Trio (blues/rock band) @ 3rd Floor Cantina
- Lisa Richards (folk singer) @ Sweet Eugene's

★ Saturday ★

- Mardi Gras Bash (street festival) — downtown Bryan
- Brent Thomas and Dennis Fowler (comedians) @ Cafe Capri
- Freudian Slip @ Dixie Theatre
- Ruthie Foster and Baby Jason & the Spankers (blues bands) @ 3rd Floor Cantina
- Breedlove and Valejo (country/western bands) @ Shadow Canyon
- Martha's Trouble (acoustic rock band) @ Sweet Eugene's

"QUOTE OF THE DAY"

This Week's Theme: If you had to change something about Texas A&M, what would it be and why?

"I wish they would fix the roads. You can't travel with the potholes they have in them."

— Dima Mousselli
Senior biology major

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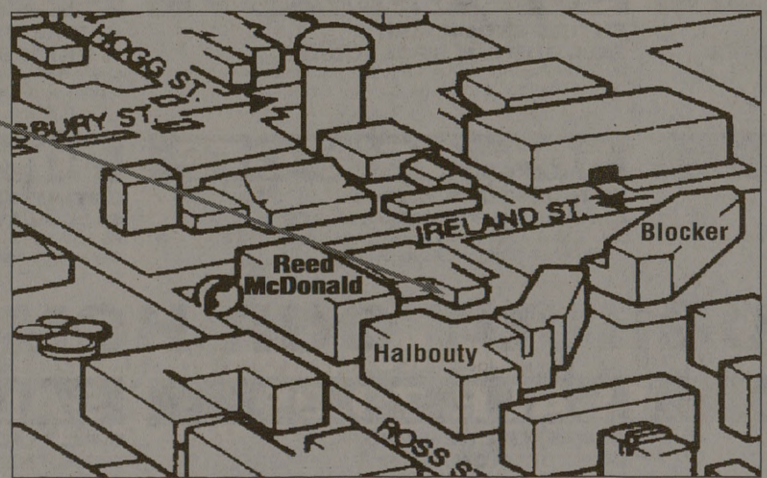
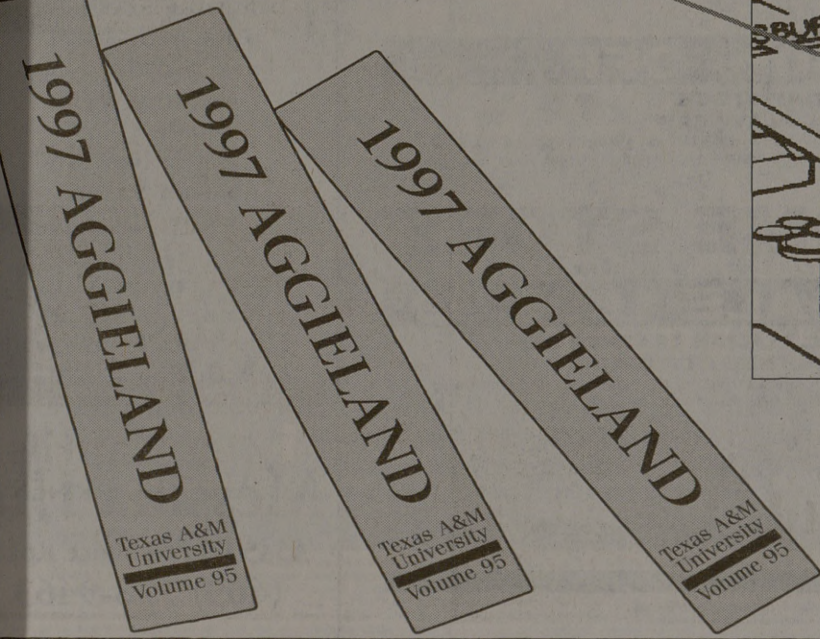
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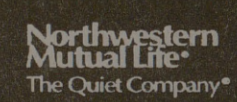
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On-Campus Interviews February 26, 1998 at the Career Center

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FIRST ANNUAL TAMU STUDENT RESEARCH WEEK
CALL FOR STUDENT RESEARCH ABSTRACTS

All undergraduate and graduate students who are involved in research at Texas A&M are invited to participate in Student Research Week, March 23-28, 1998. The goal of Student Research Week is to enhance awareness of student involvement in research at Texas A&M. It will give students the opportunity to showcase their research efforts by participating in oral or poster presentations. Participants may also choose to work with their faculty advisors to prepare a presentation. Student Research Week will highlight undergraduate and graduate student research endeavors at Texas A&M while giving students the opportunity to attend special events relating to the importance of student research. Some of the speakers of the week include Marye Anne Fox, Vice President for Research at the University of Texas who will talk about the importance of undergraduate research, Mike Doyle of the Research Corporation of Phoenix will talk about the importance of student research as viewed by a funding agency and Jean Marie DeChant of Notre Dame College will present a talk titled "Creating and Developing Student Based Research Programs."

Abstracts **must** be received by the Office of Student Life, 112 Koldus **no later** than February 16, 1998. For detailed guidelines please contact Amy Montgomery or Nancy Sawtelle in the Office of the Vice President of Research, 312 Administration, 845-8585, or visit the TAMU Student Research Week website at <http://www.tamu.edu/researchandgradstudies/Research/RESWEEK/resweek.html>