

Lovefest 2000

College Station's party kids clean up and get down on Bolivar Island

DEWEY BADEAUX
The Battalion

Ravers are responsible young people, dedicated to helping the environment and benefiting society.

Perhaps ravers and the term responsibility are not commonly associated, but the reputation of these techno music enthusiasts may soon improve.

The 10th annual Summer Lovefest, a free electronic music festival/beach cleanup is scheduled for Saturday on Bolivar Island in Galveston.

Lovefest combines the sounds of the beach with drums, keyboards and other instruments to create a hypnotic and fun experience.

Dustin Lyday, the College Station coordinator of the music festival, said the ultimate goal of Lovefest is to polish the reputation of ravers.

"It's no wonder news headlines and television talk shows report on the drug usage. The actions of some younger people attending raves have given these parties a dangerous reputation," Lyday said.

"Changing this attitude and doing something positive for the community is the purpose of the beach cleanup at Lovefest.

Musicians and other people attending this

year's musical event will participate in the beach cleanup after the festivities. Lyday said all participants are encouraged to take part.

"Everyone is responsible for cleaning the beach," Lyday said. "Cooperation is crucial to future beach celebrations."

"We are showing ravers are capable of having a large party that actually benefits the public and environment," he said. "The beach will look better than it did before the party."

Lyday said Lovefest coordinators are also holding a food drive to improve the reputation of rave parties. Everyone attending is encouraged to bring non-perishable foods to the event.

"Lovefest is about unity and getting everyone together to enjoy music. It is not about using drugs; it is about music, relaxation and fun" Lyday said.

"Most of the music at the event is popular in clubs and with the rave scene, but all people will like the entertainment," he said. "College students and older individuals have attended the event during the past nine years."

"Techno music combines many forms of music and can be enjoyed by anyone," Lyday



said. "Some of the music is fast-paced

and intense, but some of the music is soothing and spiritual."

Lyday says the CS Crew — a group of local DJs and electronic musicians — will represent College Station's musical interests at Lovefest.

"Everyone from the different communities pull together to make the event a success," he

said. "Lovefest unites artists and creates a unique concert."

Lyday said the music extravaganza costs approximately \$30,000 to arrange and coordinate. Donations and support from music fans fuel the entire event.

The Scooby-Doo Crew, a production company in Houston, is the primary organizer of the event. It informs Lovefest coordinators, such as Lyday, of activities scheduled for the festival. These coordinators then send this information to the public and to musicians throughout Texas.

Those attending the event will be treated to a free show, but they will sacrifice some comforts during the concert. There will be no vending machines or concession stands at the event.

Disc Go Round, in College Station is taking donations for Lyday's CS Crew this week. The money raised will help fund the music festivities and the after-party beach cleanup.

Lyday said the beach cleanup and food drive will help change the reputation of ravers from poor to honorable.

REEL CRITIQUE

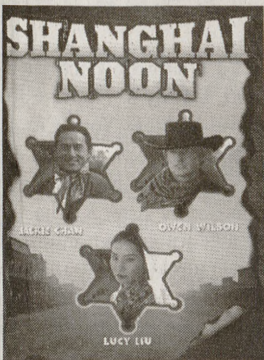
MOVIE REVIEWS

Shanghai Noon

Starring Jackie Chan
Directed by Tom Dey

Now playing at Hollywood 16

Rated PG



Director Tom Dey made his directorial debut with a historical fish-out-of-water story — a recipe for disaster if there ever was one.

However, Dey manages to create an action-packed and extremely funny film out of a suspect plot line with the benefit of two actors perfect for their roles ... Chan as the Kung Fu-fighting imperial guard and Owen Wilson as his oddly humorous sidekick.

Imperial guard Chon Wang (Chan) — pronounced John Wayne — travels to America from the Forbidden City in China to rescue the beautiful princess (Lucy Liu) who was kidnapped by the evil traitor to the Chinese throne (Roger Yuan). Along the

way, he teams up with wannabe outlaw Roy O'Bannon (Wilson) and accidentally marries an Indian princess (Brandon Merrill) who pops in and out of the film in a manner similar to that of the half-naked Apache from *Wayne's World II*.

Overall, the film carries just a little less of the kick-butt action expected by devout Chan fans, but that is only to make way for something unexpected — humor not involving Chan racking himself.

Although the only two good parts in this film went to Chan and Wilson (the next best went to Chan's horse), Dey could have done worse in his directorial debut. He managed to take a movie that could easily have blended in with every other one of Chan's films and make it into something people are going to talk about for quite a while.

The atmosphere carried in the cinematography stays true to classic spaghetti westerns of the '70s and manages to flow well with the lighthearted plot. Depth of character, symbolism and emotion are left out, but rightly so.

They have no place in this movie, which would best be titled *Kung Fu on Speed*. (Grade: B)

— Stuart Hutson

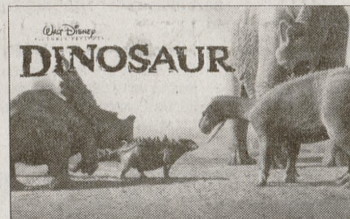
Dinosaur

Starring the voices of D.B. Sweeney, Julianna Margulies, and Samuel E. Wright

Directed by Ralph Zondag and Eric Leighton

Now playing at Hollywood 16

Rated PG



Disney films, while lacking in creativity, still offer bittersweet stories audiences love. *Dinosaur*, the computer-animated film based on the near extinction of dinosaurs, is no exception.

The classic coming-of-age tale, common to theaters today, is twisted into a prehistoric timeline. The egg of an iguanodon is removed from its nest and ends up in a land inhabited by monkeys. The dinosaur, later named Aladar (Sweeney), is raised by his new family, which he is forced to protect after an asteroid strikes earth. Naturally, the dinosaur's journey for self-discovery ensues, complete with epic battles, sappy romance and tear-jerking death.

Unfortunately, this film has no comic-relief character to break the tension. This character has been employed memorably in previous Disney films, like *Aladdin* with its side-splitting funny monkey sidekick Abu and the *Lion King* which had a warthog. However, Disney redeems itself in the tyrannosaurus rex scenes that graphically depict the dinosaur food chain. These scenes earned the movie a PG, and not a G, rating.

Dinosaur should be praised mostly for its beautiful scenery and lifelike depiction of the dinosaurs. Through movement and expression, the animals appear less animated and more alive. Audiences witness

the flexing of muscles as dinosaurs walk and detailed eyes agonizing after battle. This realism also appeared in the scenery — actual landscapes were used as backdrops and that — not the story — is the best part of the movie. *Dinosaur* is worth watching primarily for the animation quality. (Grade: B+)

— Amy Rosellini

Mission Impossible 2

Starring Tom Cruise
Directed by John Woo

Now playing at Hollywood 16

Rated PG-13



Mi-2 is lacking all the plot depth of the "original," but somehow melds non-stop Woo action with very little dialogue in a mildly entertaining package.

Cruise reprises his role as Ethan Hunt in the loosely-adapted sequel of the film based on the television series and breaks all laws of physics with death-defying stunts. Apparently, Cruise took fighting lessons from the characters of Street Fighter to satisfy Woo's appetite for acrobatic Kung Fu.

The plot is formulaic and, in essence, a simple take on the break-into-the-security-heavy-building scene from the first installment.

Enter the villain. Dougray Scott (*Ever After*) is an IMF agent gone bad and bargaining for the millennium ransom of stock options. The plot "twist" comes when a new, extremely lethal, fast-acting and rather biologically impossible virus is created to make the biotech firm that created it large sums of money.

Cruise does well in action movies, especially when the film is riddled with 10-minute segments of over-the-top direction and no speech whatsoever. Basically, when his name is on the marquee, people flock in droves.

Thandie Newton, the sex symbol/love interest, looks strikingly different from her bizarre role in Oprah's *Beloved*. She is sexy, confident and great opposite Cruise. She must be the best one-night stand of the century because Cruise predictably falls in love with her after a romp of heated passion (unfortunately not on film).

To review this film and not mention Woo's efforts would be a sin. This movie is the epitome of this eastern director's work. Slow motion, strong facial shots and explosion after explosion make *Mi-2* decent action fare. *Mi-2* is a movie for the eye, definitely not the brain. (Grade: B-)

— Jeff Kempf



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