

# AGGIE *life*

THE BATTALION

## Sugar-plum screams

Vampires, dragons, tigers and Beatles ... oh my, this holiday season promises an avalanche

moonlit rooftops. Choreographed by Yuen Wo-Ping of *Matrix* fame and starring Chow Yun-Fat (*The Replacement Killers*) and Michelle Yeoh (*Tomorrow Never Dies*), this film promises midair battles with little between. The film is in Chinese and will be subtitled for American audiences.

Co-writer and executive producer James Schamus told Entertainment Weekly that subtitles should not hurt the film.

"The most comforting thing I have heard from people is, 'After 10 minutes I forgot it was subtitled,'" Schamus said. "To me, that was a grain of hope."

Despite the film's action-heavy premise, it is a love story — a mix director Ang Lee (*The Ice Storm*) described as "Sense and Sensibility with martial arts." *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* makes its U.S. debut Dec. 8.

On the same day, fantasy freaks will get their fill of medieval-style fighting with the opening of *Dungeons and Dragons*.

### Dungeons and Dragons

Matrix alumni abound in this year's holiday films, and the *Dungeons and Dragons* project has acquired one of that film's most impressive names — executive producer Joel Silver.

Jeremy Irons (*Die Hard with a Vengeance*) plays the villain in this film based on the popular role-playing game, and Marlon Wayans (*Scary Movie*) makes an appearance as one of the bumbling thieves who must help save the kingdom from Irons' evil clutches. New Line Cinema is touting the film's 11-minute dragon battle scene, but it remains to be seen whether this movie will become another *Spawn*-esque charade or a future cult classic.

### Vertical Limit

Ads for the adventure film *Vertical Limit* have been tearing up the small screen, and Columbia Pictures is hoping they will bring in viewers when the film debuts Dec. 8. Starring Chris O'Donnell (*The Bachelor*) and directed by Martin Campbell (*Golden Eye*), this film promises high-flying special effects and chilling scenery. O'Donnell plays a mountain climber who must save his sister after she is lost on the treacherous mountain K2.

### Dracula 2000

This film is the ultimate in production rushes. Dimension Films, which produced the picture, report-

ed that the leading man was not cast until June, and filming did not end until the beginning of this month. Still, the company is determined that this film will be in theaters before the title year is over.

This film is based around the resurrection of Bram Stoker's tour-de-force character in New Orleans by a group of thieves. Acclaimed horror writer Wes Crave said the idea for the film had to be beefed up before it could be produced.

"Originally, *Dracula* was stolen ... and

abandoned in a YMCA ..." Craven said, according to the movie's official Website.

"But Bob (Weinstein, co-CEO of Dimension Films) said 'No, it's too small. Let's go to New York, let's go to New Orleans.'"

Despite the humorous beginnings of the film, it could be downright horrible. Leading man Gerard Butler was signed to the film only two days before it began shooting. Weinstein took him away from a television mini-series he was shooting in Lithuania to make the film. Butler may be used to the film's Gothic settings after his Lithuanian vacation, but it is doubtful this film will hold up at the box office.

Craven advised studio executives: "Cross your legs and wear a cup."



JASON BENNYHOFF

### A Hard Day's Night

The re-release of the season will be Miramax Films' *A Hard Day's Night*, opening Friday. This was the first Beatles film and will no doubt draw fans of the Fab Five, but it promises nothing new.

### Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon

A foreign film stands to make big money at the box office this Christmas season as its characters kick their way across the screen. *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* is a kung fu movie in true Bruce Lee tradition. It is packed with Chinese fighters careering over



PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRADLEY ATCHISON/THE BATTALION

## THE BATTALION

### SPRING '01 STAFF APPLICATION

If you can write, edit, design pages, draw, use a camera... Texas A&M's award-winning student newspaper is looking for you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Major: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Classification: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of hours you will take in the spring: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expected graduation (semester): \_\_\_\_\_  
 How many hours per week will you be available for work at *The Battalion*? \_\_\_\_\_

#### Managing & Section Editor Applicants\*

- 1) What are your goals for managing your staff?
- 2) What do you believe is the role of *The Battalion*?
- 3) What changes would you make to improve *The Battalion*? Pay particular attention to the position for which you're applying.

#### Staff Applicants\*

- 1) Why do you want to work at *The Battalion*, and what do you hope to accomplish?
- 2) What experience do you have that relates to the position for which you are applying? (include classes, seminars, etc.)
- 3) What changes do you feel would improve the quality of *The Battalion*? (Give special attention to the section for which you're applying.)

#### OPENINGS INCLUDE:

Please check the position(s) for which you are interested. If you are interested in more than one position, number them in order of preference with 1 being your top choice.

- Managing Editor
- Section Editors**
- City
- Lifestyles and Entertainment
- Opinion
- Science & Technology
- Sports
- Night News
- Copy Chief
- Graphics
- Photo
- Radio Producer
- Webmaster

- Staff**
- News Reporter
- Science & Technology Reporter
- Feature Writer
- Entertainment Writer
- Sports Writer
- Columnist
- Web Designer
- Radio Reporter
- Photographer
- Graphic Artist
- Cartoonist
- Page Designer
- Copy Editor

\*Please type your responses on a separate piece of paper, and attach a résumé and samples of your work (stories you have written for publications or classes, pages you have designed, photos taken, drawings made or other creative samples — just show us what you can do.

\*Deadlines: 4:30 p.m. **Wednesday, Nov. 28**, for editor positions, and 4:30 p.m. **Monday, Dec. 4**, for staff positions. Turn applications in at 014 (basement) Reed McDonald Building. Interviews will begin immediately after application deadlines.

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**NO**, I've got real goals. I'm dyeing my goatee blonde and thumbing it to Hollywood where I'll breakdance for nickels on Venice Beach 'til I get that breakthrough role on *COPS*®.

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