

REEL CRITIQUE

Swordfish
Starring John Travolta,
Halle Berry and
Hugh Jackman
Director Dominic Sena

With its all-star cast, nearly flawless special effects and sassy, funky-techno soundtrack, *Swordfish* is a summer catch moviegoers should not forget to reel in.

In his best role since *Pulp Fiction*, Travolta plays a very convincing bad guy. Gabriel (Travolta) is a modern-day, somewhat mentally skewed, Robin Hood. He steals from the government to give back to the American people in an attempt to protect their way of life. Mentally skewed is meant to convey that he is willing to make any kind of sacrifice necessary to do his job, even take his own life. Travolta has a new attitude, more money than he knows that to do with and a slick new look. He is ready to take on the world.

Travolta's counterpart, Stanley, played by Aussie newcomer Jackman, is dragged into the plot by the scantily-clad Berry, who sets up a meeting between Gabriel and Stanley for the purpose of stealing billions of dollars from the government.

The bad thing about *Swordfish* is that the plot can get confusing, especially with the computer jargon. If viewers do not know what a secure cluster, worm, cipher, encryption or hydra are, it might be easy to get lost.

The great thing about the movie however, is the fantastic, eye-catching special effects. Boyd Shermis does a

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incent van Gogh never farmed an acre and Bill Shakespeare could not have engineered his way out of a cardboard box, so what do two of history's most noted artists have in common with students at Texas A&M? In our midst walk the next generation of those masters of self-expression. Our own painters and poets color the world as they see it in styles all their own.

"I paint because it is a time of peace for me. I tend not to worry about anything," said Kevin Will, a senior recreation, parks, and tourism sciences major. "It is a way for me to escape from life's frustrations and stresses."

As a tool for relieving pressures, the benefits of painting can be two-fold: personal therapy and communication.

"In a way it can be self-expressive," Will said. "I can draw or paint something that may have had a negative impact on me, but nobody would know unless they could understand the artwork."

"Not all of my works are based on personal feelings or moods, but rather on combining different aspects of other's works."

Will's paintings draw from several different styles like abstract art, in which an artist combines different forms and colors into unconventional images, and impressionism, in which an artist gives his interpretation of something seen in reality.

"The type of art I find most interesting is abstract work, like Pablo Picasso's," Will said. "But I have done a few still life drawings with pencil, ink or charcoal!"

Regardless of the material or techniques used, the essence of Will's creative outputs lives within the moment.

"Sometimes I just pick up a brush and paint whatever comes to mind. A lot of times, I find myself staring at the canvas because I cannot seem to get the image I want on paper."

The power of the written word still serves some students.

"I love writing poetry," said Calissa Kneip, a senior community health major. "Once I started doing it, they just started coming; my mind just works like that."

In the cultivation of her free verse, Kneip said she will focus on her goal or her purpose in writing, always maintaining a steady course.

"Some of them, after I write them, I might change some words, but usually they're pretty close to what I'd written," Kneip said. "I usually know exactly what I want to get out."

Kneip made the point that whether one is writing or painting, the process should be comfortable and unrestrained.

"It took me a while, but once it started, it was real natural."

As for subject matter, Kneip writes mostly about personal, emotional experiences.

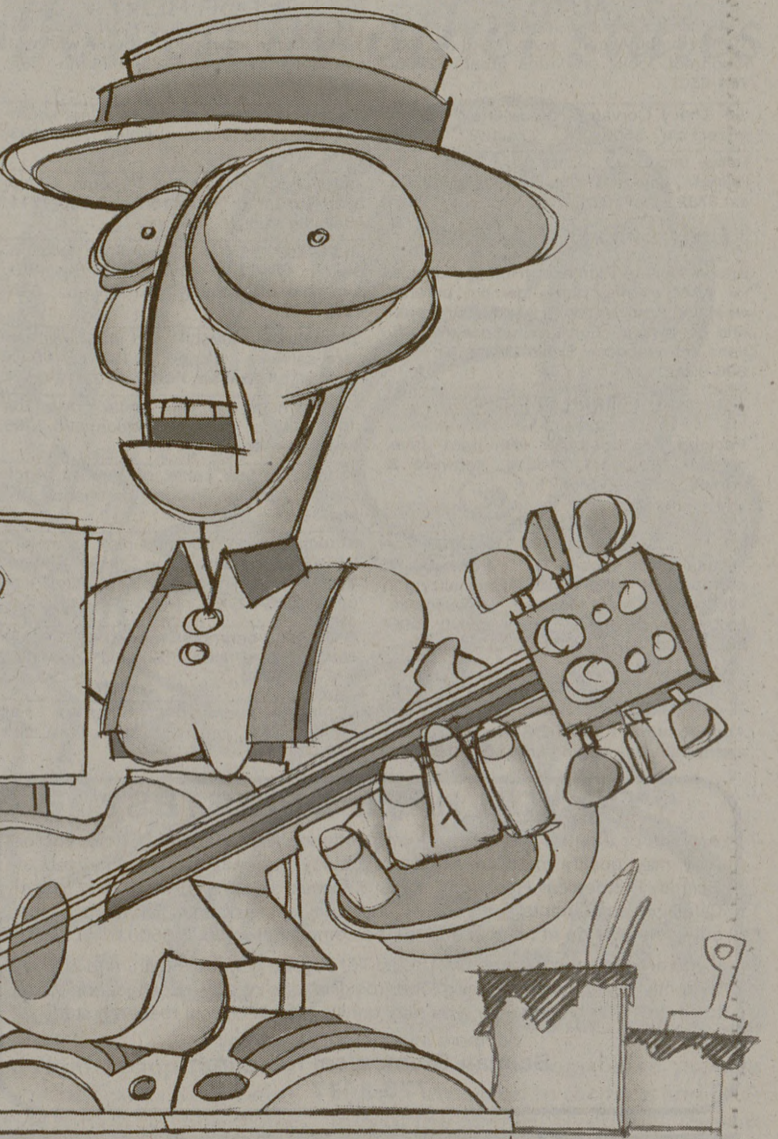
"Some of them are real descriptive. Whenever people read them, they're like, 'It just made me feel so much.' The rest are from things that happen to me or things that happen inside."

Some of her poems come out of difficult times in her life, but that does not keep her from finding the positive influences writing can have.

"One night I had a bad night, and I just sat down and wrote this thing," Kneip said. "When it was done I gave it to my mom to read. She said it was sad, but it was so beautiful."

Julie Gelé, a sophomore computer science major began her efforts as an artist at an early age when she wrote short stories, read them to her friends and spent time as a reporter for her high school's student newspaper.

"I write about nearly anything and everything," Gelé said. "The first story I wrote was in fourth grade, but after that, most of the stories I write are



almost 60 stories.

"I don't even really think about it," Gelé said. "It's basic—

almost 60 stories.

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313 S. COLLEGE
846-3343

Thursday

Ladies, Lids & Longnecks

75¢ Mixed Drinks } 9-11
75¢ Longnecks }

\$2.50 Chuggers
ALL NIGHT

Ladies 18 & up FREE 'til 11
Ladies 21 & up FREE 'til midnight
Guys with Cowboy Hats FREE 'til 10

Friday

LIVE IN CONCERT

Deryl Dodd

Tickets ONLY \$5

\$1.50 Drinks } UNTIL
\$1.50 Longnecks } 10!
\$2.50 Chuggers all night

News from **The City of College Station.**
Embracing the Past, Exploring the Future.

Attention College Station Residents!

TXU Gas Customer Service Public Hearing
July 12 City Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers at 1101 Texas Avenue

For those unable to attend, mail-in comments will be accepted through July 12. Email comments will be accepted through July 11. All comments received by these dates will be read at the public hearing.

Mail comments to: City of College Station, Utility Customer Service, Attn: Linda Piwonka, P.O. Box 9960, College Station, TX 77842; or email comments to: LPIWONKA@ci.college-station.tx.us

Looking For A Job?
Check with
College Station Human Resources!
Online -
www.lockon.com/jobline/cstx.htm
On Television - Cable Channel 19
On the Job Line - 764-3704
Or Call - 764-3517

We'd Like Your Input:

The Unified Development Code (UDC) Project is a review and rewriting of all the City's zoning, subdivision and related land development codes. The project's timeline is:

- July 11: Committee Workshops
- September: UDC available to public
- Sept-Oct: 50-day review period
- Nov - Jan: City Council and Planning & Zoning (P&Z) Hearings

Citizens can provide feedback to the City at Council or P&Z hearings or by sending in written comments. For more information, call Sabine Kuenzel at 764-3570.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Reports (Year 2000) for the City of College Station are still available!

If you haven't received yours in the mail, call 764-6223.

Come to a City Council Meeting!
Council Meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month in the College Station City Council Chambers. (1101 Texas Avenue)
Hear Visitors: 5:45 p.m. Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Call 764-3541 for more information.

Utility Customer Service
310 Krenck Tap Road

For information on connects and disconnects, billing information and account history, contact us at:
www2.ci.college-station.tx.us/Utilities/
or on the phone at
764-3535 or (800) 849-6623.

"Bee" A Good Neighbor So You Don't Get Stung!

If you can't see your knees, mow your grass please! Grass must be kept under 12 inches.

Tip #1 For more information on how to "bee" a good neighbor, give the College Station Community Enhancement Center a "buzz" at 764-6363!

Help Celebrate the Parks & Recreation Department's
30th Anniversary
July 21, 2001 at Wolf Pen Creek Amphitheater

- FREE Rockafellas and Rodney Hayden concert
- A Volleyball Tournament
- Little Rig Rodeo, family games and more!

For more information call the Parks & Recreation Department at 764-3486 or email: jtalley@ci.college-station.tx.us.

National Night Out
America's Night Out Against Crime - August 7, 2001

- Promote police-community partnerships and help give crime a going away party!
- Turn on porch lights and go outside to visit with your neighbors.
- Plan a block party and let the Police Department know so officers can join you.

For more information contact Officer Janice Kemp of the College Station Police Department Crime Prevention Division at 764-3579.

Home Compost Bin Sale
Saturday, July 28th
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Public Works Department, 2613 Texas Ave (behind Police Station on King Cole Dr.)
Call 764-3690 for more information.

News from The City of College Station is brought to you monthly by the College Station Public Communications & Marketing Department. For more information call 764-3445, tune in to Cable Channel 19 or visit the City's web site at www.ci.college-station.tx.us.