

AGGIELIFE

THE BATTALION

Page 3 • Thursday, June 10, 2004

REEL

CRITIQUE

"Shrek 2"

Voices of Mike Meyers, Eddie Murphy,
Cameron Diaz
Dreamworks Pictures

As people grow older, they tend to mellow out. They trade the convertible for the minivan, interesting views on politics for one party-dominated views and slaying dragons for meeting the in-laws. Shrek has grown up.

The adventurous tale that fueled the plot of the first "Shrek" with epic adventures of saving the Princess Fiona is traded for problems with the wife's parents.

"Shrek 2" is similar to "Meet the Parents" without all the pot jokes (although Puss In Boots does get busted for possessing catnip, which he denies). The plot is much more emotionally entrenched and at times drags the story down, but Shrek once again manages to get into trouble and make some laughs. Littered with pop culture references and stuffing every fairy tale thinkable into the story, the film leaves one wondering if it could have been a little more creative and relied less on referencing other movies and shows. Many of the new characters are spoofs of classics such as Zorro and Bob Barker, and even the StayPuft Marshmallow Man gets a semi-revival. What is nice is that the story still teaches us to love ourselves for what is inside, even if we have green skin and eat dirt. Success hasn't changed Shrek as it has to others, like Beyonce and Britney.



IMAGE COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS

He's still keeping it real.

The graphics have been taken up a few notches, as the hair and fur of the characters look more realistic and the lighting in the rooms more lifelike. These advances are noticeable, but nothing that will be terribly shocking compared to the first. Compared to "Bambi," though, today's cartoons are truly amazing spectacles.

The all-star cast that makes up "Shrek 2" makes the story come

to life, but also leaves many of the characters no room to live up to their potential. Antonio Banderas soars as Puss In Boots, Eddie Murphy is hilarious again as Donkey, but they may as well have hired one of the graphics nerds to play Prince Charming because Rupert Everett's talent was almost wasted on this role. This also goes for Julie Andrews as the queen. Maybe if George W. could have been cast for these parts they would have been funnier.

Sequels are always very difficult to judge. If there had never been an original "Shrek," this movie would have been phenomenal, but the impossibility for "Shrek 2" to stack up to the near perfection of its predecessor in boundary-pushing graphics and stark originality is understandable. It is nice to see the characters again and many of the new additions add a nice touch to the "Shrek" series, but unless you're baby-sitting kids all summer, you may want to pass this one up for something a little more thought-provoking and exciting.

- Daniel Chapman

Even a hot date and Junior Mints can't save it

Wait to see it on video

Catch the matinee

Buy tickets online

Just cut your tent and camp out two nights in advance

Worship Directory

Catholic

St. Mary's Catholic Center
603 Church Avenue in Northgate
(979) 846-5717
www.aggiecatholic.org

Student Summer Fellowship
Every Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Daily Masses
Mon.-Fri.: 5:30 p.m. in the Church

Weekend Masses
Sat: 2:00 p.m. (Korean),
5:30 p.m. (English), 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)
Sun.: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Confessions
Wed. 8:30-9:30 p.m., Sat. 4:00-5:15 p.m.
or by appointment..

Episcopal

St. Thomas Episcopal
906 George Bush Dr. • College Station, TX
696-1726

Summer services - 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
Next door to Canterbury House,
the Episcopal Student Center

Non-Denominational

Calvary Aggieldand

Feeling a little overwhelmed?
God can help!

We are a small church that teaches
God's Word verse by verse, and
places a high value on worship.

CASUAL ATMOSPHERE
Come join us!

Currently meeting at:
Putt-Putt Golf & Games
1705 Valley View Dr., C.S.
Just across Texas Ave. from
the C.S. Police Station

Services at 10:30 a.m. Sunday
Pastor Jeff Hughes '95
(979) 324-3972 www.aggieldand.cc

Christian

First Christian Church
900 South Ennis, Bryan
823-5451

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Robert D. Chandler, Minister

Church of Christ

A&M Church of Christ
2475 Earl Rudder Freeway S.
(979) 693-0400

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.,
College Bible Class 10:30 a.m.
Mid-Week 7:00 p.m.

Aggies for Christ
Call for on-campus pick-up info 693-0401
www.aggiesforchrist.org

Presbyterian

Covenant Presbyterian Church
220 Rock Prairie Road
(979) 694-7700

Students Welcome

Sunday Service:
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School:
10:30 a.m.

www.covenantpresbyterian.org

www.3rdFloorCantina.com

LIVE MUSIC EVERY NIGHT

FRIDAY:
WADE BOWEN & WEST 84
w/ One Light Town

SATURDAY:
DJANGO WALKER
w/ Brad Freeman Band

Located in Downtown Bryan
above Mr G's Pizza and next to
LaSalle Hotel - (979) 779-1548

UNIVERSITY
SUMMER
PERFORMANCE

for more info go to: <http://academyarts.tamu.edu>

"Explosive Beginnings" SERIES
7:30 pm, Friday, June 11, 2004, Rudder Auditorium

Franz Anton Krager, conductor
Andrzej Grabiec, violin soloist Karen Ritscher,
viola soloist Shostakovich: Festive Overture
Mozart: Sinfonia Concertante for Violin, Viola, and
Orchestra Stravinsky: Rite of Spring.

Texas Music Festival June 2004

sponsored by
The Academy for the Visual and Performing Arts | Dept. of Performance Studies
The Memorial Student Center | The University Honors Program
Office of the President, Texas A&M University | Arts Council of Brazos Valley

MSC OPAS 2004-2005 MAIN STAGE SEASON

THE FOREIGNER
HUBBARD STREET DANCE
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
YO-YO MA & EMMANUEL AX
sponsored by Wells Fargo

GISELLE
THE FULL MONTY
PRAGUE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MISS SAIGON
sponsored by Scott & White Health Plan
42ND STREET
AIDA

It's Not Too Late to SUBSCRIBE
and get the best seats to the best shows!

Register for OPAS tickets
when registering for classes.
Logon to www.MSCOPAS.org
for more information!

MSC OPAS
enlighten | entertain | inspire

SUBSCRIBE NOW! VISIT THE MSC BOX OFFICE!
call 845-1234 or logon to www.MSCOPAS.org