

Word on the Hill

Are you going to vote? Why or why not?

By Cameron Siefkes



"Yes. I think it is my civic duty."

Carmon Bliss
elementary
education
junior



"Yes. I want the sticker that says 'I voted today.'"

Macklin Nusz
undecided
sophomore



"No. My registration card isn't good anymore."

Jessica Dibble
marketing
junior



"Yes. Why not?"

Grant Stackhouse
English
senior



"Yes. I don't want to be a lazy citizen. It's important."

Rene Schwan
athletic
training
sophomore



"Yes. I want John McCain to win."

Andrew McGee
physical
education
senior



"Yes. I'm interested in the debates that have been going on."

Alex Hutchins
business
administration
sophomore



"No. I don't think my word counts as much as people think it does."

Stuart Mann
digital arts
sophomore



"Yes. If you don't vote you do n't have the right to criticize the government."

Genaye Domenico
marine
biology
freshman



"Yes. Civic responsibility is important."

Laura Welter
English
sophomore

Disturbing movie misses point Kansans may impact election

By Peggy Williams
Staff reporter

If you enjoy sitting in a movie theatre and watching someone tape a going away party for approximately 10 minutes in a manner that makes normal reality television seem incredible, then the newly released movie "Cloverfield" is perfect for you.

"Cloverfield" opens with shots of an unidentified male and female lying in a bed throwing strawberries at each other. It then cuts out and exhibits a pointless, and quite boring, going away party for the main character Rob (Michael Stahl-David), who is moving to Japan for a new job.

At this point, we are introduced to the other characters we are supposed to remember, Rob's lover Beth (Odette Yustman), his brother Jason (Mike Vogel), Jason's girlfriend Lily (Jessica Lucas), Lily's acquaintance Marlena (Lizzy Caplan), and Rob's best friend, and apparently aspiring filmmaker, Hut (T.J. Miller).

Essentially the whole movie

is a pathetic combination of an excessive love story, poor comedy, and barely-there attempt at horror. The love portion will make any normal person roll their eyes excessively. Rob's unwavering desire to save the love of his life (Beth) is the driving force behind the whole movie. And in order to save her, he takes a group of his closest friends back into the burning city that is having havoc wreaked upon by a giant monster. And in the process he recklessly endangers one individual, and gets two others killed.

But anything is permissible in the name of love, right? You could see every scary part coming, they were blatant enough to make all of the individuals in the theatre sigh as a collective whole. And the comedy, well we won't even talk about that.

Now to the part that everyone is curious about, the monster. Imagine a huge Bambi, scaly green, with a super long tail, and an oddly disfigured head with a supposed to be scary carnivorous,

gaping mouth. And you have an image that will inspire anything but nightmares. It also had little minionish creatures that fell off of it, and ran about attempting to eat people. But it was anything but frightening.

The most disturbing part wasn't even when the monster ran around eating people. Instead it was when Lady Liberty's head is smashed into the middle of the street, with a gaping hole in the middle of her forehead.

But the best aspect of the movie is that even though the character Hut is dodging bullets, climbing through gaping holes in buildings, and being chased through the streets by manic monsters, he still manages to film the events, and in a way that doesn't inspire motion sickness. Which of course is all very unrealistic.

Everything in this movie has been done before, and in a much better manner than what you'll see in "Cloverfield." There does not seem to be any obvious point, or even any underlying subtle point. The writer,

Drew Goddard, is attempting to encompass too much into the movie. A scary monster movie can only have so much love and comedy. And "Cloverfield" has way too much of both. The ending result is exactly what one would expect it to be, confusion. The movie runs at 84 minutes which includes the ending credits, which are excruciatingly long by the way. If boring, needless scenes were cut out, it could probably have a running time of 40 minutes.

"Cloverfield" is a film that could have been good if some more thought was put into actually creating a believable plot, and could have been even better had they not used pointless reality TV reject sections of film.

When the film was over we heard people in the theatre calling friends to tell them how badly "Cloverfield" had sucked. So a few words of advice, this isn't a movie to spend \$8 on. You may want to rent instead.

Peggy Williams is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at peggy.williams@sckans.edu.

Movie Review

Editorial

By Jessica Bernhardt
Copy editor

What a week for Kansas.

Monday evening we watched as George Bush, president of the United States of America, gave his final State of the Union address. Greensburg city administrator Steve Hewitt was seated near the First Lady. This was of some significance to Kansans.

And to top off the night, Gov. Kathleen Sebelius (D-Kan.) gave the Democratic response to the address. She also announced that she will be endorsing Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) in the presidential race.

Yesterday Obama made his way to Kansas for a campaign visit. He was in El Dorado, hometown of his grandfather on his mother's side, for a rally. This is the first time since 1960 that a Democratic presidential candidate has visited Kansas on his campaign rally.

The chances of Kansans voting Republican are very high. Despite the small representation for the primaries, this year Kansas could influence the outcome of the presidential election because of all the publicity we've

been getting. For once, we could have an impact on the election.

We all know there are people who think Kansas is boring and flat with inconsistent weather patterns. And it doesn't help that we have been in the news for reasons we're not so proud to admit.

We're known for Fred Phelps and his group of funeral protesters. We've been in the news for the resignation of the attorney general because of an extramarital affair. We were known

for nearly a decade because of a debate about creation and evolution by the state board of education. And who could forget the devastating tornado that destroyed a whole town?

But here we are. We're getting positive national recognition. It opens our eyes to the opportunity for the Democrats to win Kansas for the first time since 1964. And the opportunity to make people realize Kansas isn't all about flat land and unpredictable weather.

Jessica Bernhardt is a sophomore majoring in journalism. You may e-mail her at jessica.bernhardt@sckans.edu.

It's easy to tell what a man wants



Anthony Cook
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"But are men lying to us? Or are we lying to ourselves?"

Those words stuck in my head after reading this very newspaper last week. They are from a very well written piece by two female members of the newspaper staff.

I have trouble understanding the differences between genders. Everything I think I know about a woman comes from past experiences with them.

What if I only know about a certain kind of woman? I shy away from the question "What's your type?" I hate to think about such a concept. But the person asking the question might be on to something. Maybe I've only dated psychos. Maybe the kind of woman I go for is light-years from the norm. It's fair to assume that if I have to ask myself these questions I don't know much about women.

On the other side of the coin there is the gender I'm more

familiar with. I've been a male for quite awhile now, or at least I've been equipped with the male parts, who knows for sure when you graduate from a kid into a guy. One thing that stands out about men is how true we remain to those said parts.

My mom used to scold me for it when I was in high school. She told me I did my thinking with what was between my legs and not with my brain. Her own mother might have had to tell her brothers that a time or two when she was growing up. In fact, I bet quite a few other males have felt that same scorn.

My fellow female staff members were correct in saying the days of the elementary school playground were different. Innocent little boys

treated innocent little girls with the utmost respect. We passed cute little notes while being scared to death that a sharp-eyed teacher might catch the note and cause embarrassment. We didn't know the name of the feeling at the time. We didn't question it because that was as close a feeling to love as we had felt.

That attempt at romance has changed for several of us. Late night text messages and anxious tip-toeing around roommates

have replaced our once respected means.

That's why the words from last week's article stuck in my head. I was under the impression this was all common knowledge.

Ladies, take a step back and think about that guy who might have pulled the chair out from underneath you. Surely not every man is a lesson on the wonders of persuasion. He couldn't have been hiding his intentions as efficiently as you have told yourself. I'm fairly convinced that it's pretty easy to tell just what a man wants from you. Maybe it's my familiarity with the gender.

Before you throw out the vulnerable card let's think about just how silly that sounds.

Why use such a term? One can't be so absorbed to think they are the only ones who are lonely. If everyone were together we wouldn't have anyone left alone. It's a great thought, but no such utopia exists in the realm of relationships. We all have our weak moments, men and women alike. True to how we do most everything, men and women have different ways of carrying out dealing with these instances.

It tends to be frowned upon

when we have to resort to the late night texts and camouflaging our way to another's room for a bit of stress relief. That's just what it is, a way to alleviate the stress of life. In all fairness, you shouldn't cast someone to hell just because their way is a bit different. I find it quite mature when a man and a woman can carry on this kind of relationship and separate it from their everyday lives.

If you disagree with that way of thinking I'm all for it, but please don't doom my gender for my thoughts. Remember, the late night doings are only for some of us. The romantic type remains out there. If you're not finding one, a good hint is to maybe keep your eyes open when you're searching for him. We don't do as good a job hiding our intentions as one might lead themselves to think.

Corrections

Mike Kirkland's title was incorrectly stated in the Jan. 23 issue of The Collegian. Kirkland is the women's track and field coach.

The Collegian ran the wrong story in the Jan. 23 issue. The men's basketball story should have ran where the women's basketball story was on page 6.

The Collegian apologizes for these errors.

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