Shore and Baldwin in "Dome"

by John Hafner Collegian Staff

In this age of increased environmental awareness and conservation, wouldn't it be nice to have a superhero to preserve our delicate ecosystem, someone to keep our water pure and our skies blue?

A real-life version of "Captain Planet" does sound reassuring. Or maybe even an unlikely candidate, say Pauly Shore, for example.

That's right, Pauly Shore. The spaced-out star of "Son-in-law" and "In the Army Now" is back, and this time he has teamed up with funnyman Steven Baldwin in a hilarious new hit, "Biodome"

They play the roles of Bud (Shore) and Doyle (Baldwin), two guys who know as much about the environment as Bill Clinton does about government.

Nevertheless, it's Earth Day and Bud and Doyle are not known to walk away from a party. While on their way to a big bash honoring Earth Day, Doyle "delicately" informs Bud that he has to go to the bathroom.

Pulling into what they think is a mall, Bud and Doyle create a diversion and sneak past the guards to get inside.

Much to their surprise, however, the "mall" is actually a multi-million dollar ecological experiment known as the "Biodome." A totally selfcontained, artificial environment,

the Biodome will house a team of five scientists for one full year.

The scientists' job is to maintain homeostasis-to grow their own food and conduct research that could potentially solve real-world problems.

Before Bud and Doyle can get out, the main door shuts and its time-controlled lock activates.

Realizing that letting the boys stay will interfere with vital research, the scientists are also aware that letting them go would mean re-opening the main door and comprising the experiment's accuracy. After much debate, they reluctantly decide to make room for two more.

Although they can hardly contribute anything of scientific value and they single-handedly

ruin dozens of experiments, Bud and Doyle grab the attention of the local media. The Biodome's investors realize the money they could make by marketing the clueless couple's name and image.

Before long, "Bud and Doyle" T-shirts and action figures flood the local economy. Their increasing popularity unfortunately turns the public's attention away from the environmental goals of the Biodome.

Caught up in all the hype, Bud and Doyle decide to throw a party. They find the key to a man-door in the back of the Biodome and invite a "few" friends over. Before long, the Dome's pure, uncontaminated

landscape becomes cluttered with cans, clothing, and other party leftovers.

Bud and Doyle and the team of scientists are now faced with a new situation: an environment much like the one outside the Biodome's walls. With homeostasis at less than one percent, they have but a few days until all oxygen in the Dome will be depleted.

What looks like a tragedy and a hefty financial loss turns out to be a blessing. Two unlikely heroes, Bud and Doyle lead the clean-up effort and return homeostasis to 100 percent before the door opens on the last day.

"12 Monkeys" not for every crowd

by Sarah Melchiorre
Collegian Staff

I don't think people like movies that make you think. I have heard mixed reviews about the film "12 Monkeys," which opened nationwide on January 5.

The film focuses on James Cole (Bruce Willis). Cole is an inmate in the year 2025 who is "volunteered" by "the committee" to investigate the surface. The human race has not lived above ground for many years due to a retro-virus that was introduced to humans in 1996.

Cole is volunteered to travel back in time to investigate the Army of the 12 Monkeys, the radical group in 1996 thought to be responsible for the virus. The leader of the army is Jeffery Goines, Brad Pitt.

Through many mix-ups, Cole meets Jeffery in an aslyum. He also meets Dr. Katherine Railly (Madeline Stowe) who later joins him in his quest for knowledge about the army.

When I saw previews for this film I thought it was going to be an action thriller with chaos throughout. There is chaos, but not through action. This film is more of a brain teaser, but not what I expected at all. The film

lags a little; the pace in places is slow but overall the viewer must pay attention and think about what is going on within the plot.

I suspect that most people who truly disliked this movie prefer to sit and vegetate while they watch movies. I suggest they try thinking more and "vegging" less.

"12 Monkeys" has an eeric look and feel. It is dark and gloomy. Pitt looks a crazed environmental nut case and Willis fits the part of bad guy, who isn't really bad, who tries to do good, - did you get that?

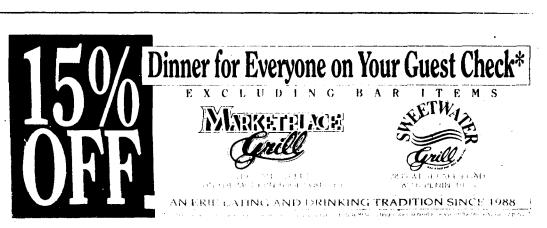
If your in the mood for something much different than you're use to getting at the theater, see "12 Monkeys," if you don't like to think go see "Dusk Til Dawn."



Monkey see, monkey do: Brad Pitt (right) is Jeffrey Goines, the son of a renowned scientist whose involvement with the Army of the Twelve Monkeys may provide Cole (Bruce Willis, left) with clues that could reverse mankind's future.



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