

## The years in review, Hollywood style

by Jermaine Hardy  
Deanna Symoski,  
and Katie Galley

staff writer, features page editor and  
editorial page editor

The first rule of the millennium, don't talk about the millennium...oh, wait, that's *Fight Club*. Actually, the first rule of the millennium seems to be making millennium lists. And not to be outdone, we have comprised a couple of our own, just so no one forgets the best thousand years of movies.

### Best Imitation of a Pimple

**Jim Belushi in *Animal House*:**

What frat boy worth his salt hasn't seen this classic John Landis flick? From togas to erotic vegetables, *Animal House* offered us collegians something to be proud of.

### Worst Prequel

***Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace*:**

Was this a Pixar film? I wish! At least then there would have been those cute *Toy Story* characters to entertain me. Not only was the hype for this pathetic, our response to it was even worse.



### Jermaine's Top Ten of 1999

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. The Matrix          | 6. American Pie    |
| 2. Toy Story 2         | 7. Fight Club      |
| 3. American Beauty     | 8. Three Kings     |
| 4. Sixth Sense         | 9. Summer of Sam   |
| 5. Star Wars Episode I | 10. Eyes Wide Shut |

The year 1999 was full of ups and downs for the film industry as some movies with the highest box office ratings turned out to be the least entertaining. And vice versa. Studios were saving many films for the new millennium, which helped make '99 a rather dry year. This should mean that award decisions will be tough to make, and the race for Oscar could be a close one.

The year has zoomed by, so let's take a pause before we leap into a new millennium, and look back at some of the stops we made in our '99 rush to 2000.

### Worst Exploitation of a Tragic Historical Event

***Titanic*:**

Unsinkable my ass! If I have to hear that song one more time, my heart will leap forth from my chest and burst into flames. If that fat ass Kate Winslet had just moved over, DiCraprio could have hopped up on the door with her instead of freezing to death. Even if she hogged it to herself, you mean to tell me an ocean liner the size of Luxembourg only dispersed one piece of wreckage upon plummeting into the icy depths of the Atlantic? Yeah Right! Better luck next time.

### Best Use of Chipper Shredder

***Fargo*:**

The Coen brothers changed the way we all looked at heavy machinery. Who knew that the chipper shredder was capable of crushing the human femur—the body's biggest and thickest bone.

### Worst Portrayal of High School Ambiance

I don't know about any of you, but I never went to a high school like any of those portrayed in this year's teenexploitation catastrophes. Maybe they should quit taking notes from 90210!

### Best use of T&A

***I Still Know What You Screamed About Five Summers Ago*:**

No, this isn't actually the name of a movie, but it might as well be. Excluding the original *Scream*, which is still one of the most creative horror films in years, the rest were just cheap imitations. But hey, when your target demographic is prepubescent males, anything with Jennifer Love Puke-it will do.

### Best use of Coconuts

***Monty Python and the Holy Grail*:**

Not only does this film make use of coconuts, but farm animals, limbless knights and big sharp pointed toothed rabbits. And all the actors have British accents. What more could you want!

### Best Blatant Disregard for the MPAA (Motion Picture Association of America)

***South Park: Bigger, Longer and Uncut*:**

Disney never made animation so much fun. You can't help but wonder what Donald Duck would sound like with a script like this.

### Best Shakespearean Transvestite

***Shakespeare in Love*:**



### Worst Movies of the '90s

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Batman Forever             | 7. Home Alone 2,3...  |
| 2. Analyze This               | 8. Any more <i>Scream</i> movies                                    |
| 3. Picture Perfect            | 9. Godzilla   |
| 4. Waterworld/<br>The Postman | 10. Quit freeing Willy,<br>he's already loose<br>in the White House |
| 5. The Cable Guy              |   |
| 6. 3 Ninjas/Sidekick          |   |



### Weirdest Promotional Stunt

***Fight Club*:**

Last rule of fight, hide the dresses from Brad during photoshoots for *Rolling Stone*.

## Holiday shopping made easy Biggie is Born Again

by Erin Henninger  
staff writer

As December 25 fast approaches, people everywhere are joining in the frenzy that most of us refer to as shopping. The pressure is on. Stress from impending finals can be enough to send any sane-minded college student over the edge, but paired with the task of purchasing the perfect gift for every family member and roommate, it can be overwhelming. Knowing that as students, there is not a lot of free time to waste combing the malls, here are some ways to make your holiday shopping pain-free.

**Demand Lists:** Email or call your family and demand that they tell you what they would like to receive for a gift. If countered with the phrase, "I don't know," or "I don't want you to get me anything," explain to them how much easier your life will be if they just give you some ideas. Or perhaps you could sweetly mention that you will accept them when you get home from break if they don't tell you what they want (this method works if used on younger siblings). Simplify

your shopping by asking your mom or dad what to get the other members of the family.

**Just Get Everyone the Same Thing:** There are some things that everyone, all ages and genders, would like to have. Take advantage of this and get the same thing for everyone. For example, purchase a hat or scarf and gloves for everyone on your list. Personalize them by getting your sister a leopard print mitten and hat set; surprise your mom with a chiffon scarf and matching pair of gloves. Is Dad a hunter? A new pair of fingerless gloves/mittens could make his day, or maybe leather driving gloves are more his style.

**They'll appreciate your thoughtfulness if you get a little sappy with the gift tag.** For instance, try something like "May the warmth of the holiday season last all year through."

**Don't be afraid to incorporate other substitutes into the same gift,** like a nice scarf and pretty earrings or festive cuff links. Other ideas include: socks and underwear, journals and pens, a framed picture of you (or you and the recipient together), games,

pajamas and books.

**Go to the Dollar Store:** Not only can you buy great cheap wrapping paper and gift bags, but there are also assortments of other decorations that can be attached to the packages to make your gift-wrapping look superb. Also, items can be affordably purchased to help you design gift baskets. Save on a basket for the bath by purchasing a loofah, scented candles and a basket from the dollar store, and then splurge on scented body wash from Bath & Body Works. Similarly, please your outdoorsman with a variety of fishing lures, hand warmers, a compass and a pocket knife or flashlight. These can be placed in a basket lined with a bandana.

**For kids, make an art basket filled with crayons, paints, paper and brushes.** Also, don't forget about stores like TJ Maxx and Value City; they carry many brand name products at a lower price.

**Make a List Before You Go:** Before heading out to the mall, compose your own list. Check it twice. Time and money will be saved if you make decisions about what to purchase be-

fore you leave. Also, no need to worry about forgetting someone if you have everything on the list. If you simply can't get to the mall, the Internet may be the place for you to shop, although this will require a credit card and lots of time browsing.

**I Paid for Tuition, I Can't Afford Holiday Shopping:** If you fit into this category, do not feel so bad. Someday you will have a real job. As for now, it is understandable that we can't afford gifts. Try to utilize your talents and make gifts yourself. Show how you care by making cookies for your loved ones. Learn a skill like sewing from the people in your dorm. Someone is bound to know how to do something you could do. Set time aside in the evening to get working on some projects. You have approximately two weeks to get some crafty stuff together. Build birdhouses, compose a song, write a poem, or make a very personalized card for your friends and family. Gifts from the heart can be the very best kind.

by Douglas Smith  
staff writer

Notorious B.I.G. lives on despite the tragic end to his life. The battle between east coast and west coast rappers raged on throughout the 90s and resulted in the deaths of Christopher Wallace (B.I.G.) and Tupac Shakur. Still, these two soon-to-be legendary artists live on in the arms of American culture today.

Bad Boys records has released another album by Notorious B.I.G. with the help of multimillionaire Puff Daddy. The album is entitled *Born Again* and contains 18 full length tracks, one of which is devoted to Biggie Smallz' mother. The current hit off the album is "Dead Wrong," which features Busta Rhymes on the album, but is usually played without the exciting rapper on the radio and MTV.

The video for "Dead Wrong" is pieced together by old shows of Biggie. It is momentarily interrupted halfway through as Puff Daddy is filming Notorious B.I.G. in Chicago "Shy-Town," Illinois, apparently before a performance. It is said to cap-

ture Biggie in his natural state of happiness. He goes on in the miniature interview about his "Rolle" and all his Versace clothing that pops up so much in his lyrics. The video at times can confuse the watcher by showing mouth movements that look like Biggie is actually singing the lyrics to "Dead Wrong." It is very amusing and allows for fans to experience a bit of nostalgia, taking a pictorial trip through Biggie's career.

Like the death of Tupac Shakur, Notorious B.I.G.'s death is still surrounded by mystery. At one time, Death Row Records founder Marion "Suge" Knight was suspected in the murder of the rapper. The rapper was shot on March 9, 1997, in a drive-by shooting. Knight was not considered a suspect by the LAPD.

The new release is also in association with Arista Records. There is no word on anything more to come from this great rapper. B.I.G. However, it can almost be taken for granted that his previous hits will appear over and over again on Bad Boy's greatest hits selections and his own greatest hits album will probably pop-up eventually.

## Pull in to Quaker Steak and Lube

by Michael Nies  
contributing writer

Quaker Steak and Lube has arrived in Erie and brought its chicken wings and automotive nostalgia along for the ride. The Lube, which is located just north of I-90 on upper Peach Street, opened its doors for business on October 12.

The Lube is open Sunday thru Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to midnight, and

on Fridays and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Quaker Steak and Lube, which is best known for its wide variety of chicken wings and unique dining atmosphere, offers all of their original wing recipes along with many other original menu selections. The Lube also has a working bar that serves wine, spirits and beer, according to Lance Lehr, Director of Operations, Scott Enterprises.

Lehr also says that the Erie location is modeled after the original, which is located in Sharon PA, and is intended to resemble a converted gas station, complete with double bay overhead doors, automotive remnants and memorabilia throughout the dining room and bar. Greeting customers of the Lube as they walk in the door are televisions in the floor, a fully functional dragster suspended upside down from the ceiling and a maitre'd stand-

ing behind the front of a '57 Chevy.

In fact, Erie's Lube hosts an array of old racers. In the Thunder Alley Bar, situated on the right side of the restaurant, an Indy 500 race car besides. It was "Driven by Davy Jones in the Indianapolis 500 in the '95 and '96 seasons and took second place in 1995," Lehr said.

On the left side of the restaurant is the Handle Bar, with a '68 Harley Davidson Sportster, hanging above

the bar. Continuing to the back of the lube is the Vette Room, with, what else, but a '67 T-top Corvette hanging from the ceiling. Also decorating the restaurant are 32 televisions, various racing pictures, murals, antique style gas pumps and several other cars and motorcycles strewn about the ceiling.

The Lube will offer a patio for hosting bands and dining alfresco (weather permitting). The Lube may

also play host to the Corvette Club, summer cruise-ins and bike night, according to Lehr.

One of the Lube's many unique attributes "is its broad perspective in terms of the clients," exclaimed Lehr. "You can bring your family in, or you can ride your Harley in here." There's just something about the Lube that appeals to everybody. Finally, Lehr says, "we just expect it to be a fun place to go."