

STUDENT LIFE

Last Top Fives of the year



Ryan Gallagher (left), Chris LaFuria (center) and Andy McLachlan (right): The Three Top 5 Kings.

“Top 5 Songs I Love But Know I Shouldn’t”

By Chris “tougher” LaFuria

5. Sweet - “Ballroom Blitz”
4. Toto - “Africa”
3. The Bloodhound Gang - “Bad Touch”
2. The Cardigans - “Lovefool”
1. Air Supply - “All Out of Love”

Honorable Mention: Lisa Loeb - “Stay”

“Top 5 Lead Singers of the 90s”

By Andrew “Mac-Daddy” Lachlan

5. Anthony Keidis - Red Hot Chili Peppers
4. Brodley Nowels - Sublime
3. Eddie Vedder - Pearl Jam
2. Chris Robinson - The Black Crowes
1. Jeff Buckley - Jeff Buckley

“Top 5 Bands with Body Parts”

By Ryan “No I Don’t Smash Watermelons” Gallagher

5. Radiohead
4. The Shins
3. Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers
2. Flaming Lips
1. Bright Eyes

Write for the Beacon next year!

Email csl5005@psu.edu

Pride of the Lion

Class of 2007



Standing from left: Ben Raymond - B.A. Communications, Ken Middlemiss - B.S. Management, Karla Murray - B.S. Marketing, Katelyn Clark - B.S. International Business/Marketing
Seated from left: Dee Sieberkrob - B.S. Accounting, Kiera Hinterlang - B.S. Mechanical Engineering

Former OC star hits the big screen

By Scott Muska
student life editor

Kasdan and it was his first effort in both categories, though the dialogue and the overall production of the movie did not betray this fact as both were extremely well done. Part of the credit for the dialogue may be attributed to the star of the movie, Adam Brody, who is known for his witty personality and willingness to improvise his dialogues.

The independent movie has become a favorite in America as of late, especially among teenagers and college students. Movies such as *Garden State*, *Thank You for Smoking*, and *Trainspotting* have garnered extreme critical and viewer acclaim and have been shot along with their stars and directors into the public spotlight. They have become a phenomenon that shows the strength and importance of free thinking in today’s society, as independent films are usually made without much aid from a large studio production system, which gives a great deal of freedom to the director and writers as well as the actors.

The latest of these films to hit the mainstream movie market is *In the Land of Women*, a movie about a screenwriter named Carter Webb who is living in Los Angeles has his heart broken by his girlfriend; his life as he knows it turned upside-down. This causes him to run from Los Angeles to Detroit, to care for his elderly grandmother who is sick and slowly dying. He becomes incredibly attached to the three women who live across the street from his grandmother, one of them is a little child, the next is an angsty teenage girl, and the eldest is their mother, who is played by Meg Ryan. Carter in some way bonds with all of them and each one of them teaches him a valuable lesson about life and helps him recover from his recent shock.

This movie was written and directed by Jon



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Adam Brody gets his groove on with Meg Ryan in a new film about teenagers and college students.

Brody is slightly known for his cameo appearances in the movies *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* and *Thank You for Smoking*, but he has gathered most of his fame as Seth Cohen in the now defunct television drama *The OC*. It was because of his success on this show that this independent movie was pushed ahead to the mainstream theaters so quickly after its production. The presence of a well-known star often aids such films in escalating to the mainstream, like Zach Braff in the surprisingly successful film, *Garden State*. *In the Land of Women* bears resemblances to this movie in that they are both movies that don’t contain much action, but have a plot that centers around a male protagonist’s need to discover himself as a person. Both movies have also gained vast critical acclaim for their soundtracks.

Though *In the Land of Women* opened its first weekend at eighth place in the movie box office behind higher budget movies like *Fracture* and *Disturbia*, it can still appeal to a wide audience and could possibly gain popularity as it ages. With its adequate cast of moderate movie stars, the movie is kept modest and close to the plot while displaying a touching coming of age story with subplots that can easily make a comedic person laugh and a sensitive person cry.