

STUDENT LIFE

Anywhere is possible with *Jumper* Upcoming primaries big for Clinton



Real life couple Hayden Christensen and Rachel Bilson debut together with *Jumper*.

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This weekend I got the pleasure to go and see the much hyped up movie *Jumper*. If anyone watches TV you would see about two commercials a show about this movie.

Me being the comic book fantasy movie buff, this one particularly caught my eye and I was very pleased in how the movie ended up going. Hayden Christensen takes another step in the fantasy role. We remember him as young Skywalker in the previously made Star Wars. He does not disappoint in this movie. It starts off with him sitting on top of the Sphinx in Egypt, where he tells his story of how he became a "jumper".

The movie all begins when shy teen David Rice (Christensen) has a crush on pretty girl named Millie, who dreams of traveling the world. When he surprises her with a small gift, a snow globe of the Eiffel Tower, teasing bully Mark grabs it and throws it out onto the icy surface of the river. Determined, David ventures out on the ice and retrieves it, waving ... then falls through the ice and is swept away from the opening by the swift current. He is certain to die in the freezing water, but then suddenly finds himself lying flat in the library between the bookcases, in a huge gush of gallons of water, gasping and alive.

David then goes back home and realizes he has a gift to go anywhere, and leaves his father to head

off to New York City, where his powers mature. Once they are controllable, he then robs a bank because he can, and thinks he will never get caught.

Years have gone by, and David has an expensive city apartment, papered with pictures of every place in the world he travels to, and a small vault room full of money. He enjoys the pleasures of life wherever they are: surfing in Fiji, lunching atop the Sphinx in Egypt, picking up a girl in a British pub.

David then runs into two people that make his next few hours very interesting. Roland played by Samuel L. Jackson, wants to eliminate every "jumper" possible and does so with an electronic unit that can see the port holes where the "jumpers" jump to. Sounds nifty right? Well we find out there are more like Roland that want to kill the "jumpers" off, which makes for many cool fight scenes.

We also find out there isn't just one "jumper." David meets a fellow "jumper" named Griffin (Jamie Bell) who ends up helping David find Roland to end the war on all "jumpers".

From high action and really cool places to see, *Jumper* does not make you feel that you wasted money. If you are a Rachel Bilson fan, go and see it, she dolls her self up and becomes David's running mate as Millie, the long lost love David has been waiting for.

About an hour and a half, no boring information right to the point action. I'd say *Jumper* would fit into a lot of people's schedules and I suggest that many of you go out and see it.

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The Democratic nomination for President of the United States could be decided on March 4, when the open primaries and caucuses to be held in the states of Ohio, Texas, Vermont and Rhode Island dish out their delegates.

The head-to-head race between Senators Hillary Clinton of New York and Barack Obama of Illinois could be determined by the mixed demographic of the Lone Star State along with the middle class dominated Ohio, either of which Clinton needs in order to continue.

Texas' size makes the state both a treasure and a challenge as its incredible amount of varying demographics yields many delegates but appealing to them all is quite difficult. Ohio, however, with its majority of white, blue-collar workers, is more predictable, even though it is considered a swing state in the national election.

Clinton, who is currently trailing with 1,269 delegates compared to Obama's 1,360 delegates, needs to take either Ohio, Texas, or both. If Clinton wins only one of the big two states, she will need either Vermont or Rhode Island as a supplement, which will be difficult as those states are predicted to skew towards Obama.

"She has very little chance at this point to end up ahead of Obama in pledge delegates by the end of primary season," said Dr. Robert Speel, the program chair for the Political Science major here at Behrend. "If she wins Ohio by about 10 percent of the vote and, in Texas, if they split the delegates about evenly, [Obama] is going to remain ahead in delegates."

Only 10 more primaries are left after March 4. The only one of high value thereafter will be Pennsylvania, which holds its primary on April 22. Clinton has a reasonable chance of

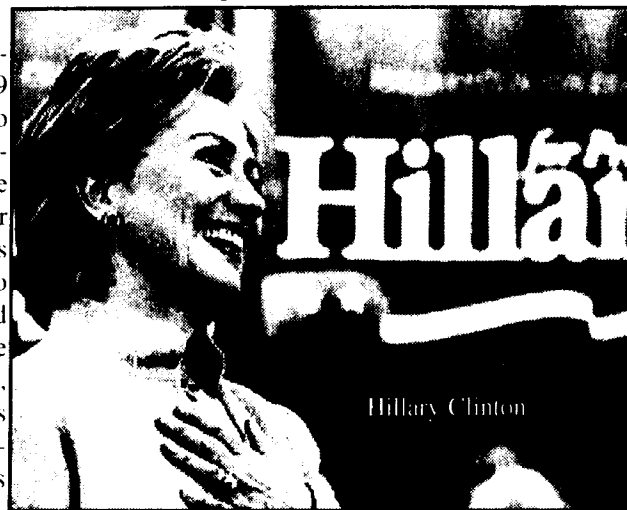
doing well in the Keystone State, assuming she can stay in the race until then.

"At this point it is going to be very difficult for her to end up ahead even among pledge delegates even if she wins in Ohio and Texas," continued Dr. Speel. "she is going to be dependent on those superdelegates, those party leaders, to have enough to win the nomination."

On the Republican side, Senator John McCain of Arizona continues to win state after state and is likely to win all of the delegates up for grabs on March 4. His main competitor, former Governor of Arkansas, Mike Huckabee, is still on the campaign trail.

The Democratic system in Texas is structured in a unique way, much to the ire of those looking for a simple equation to decide the close race there.

First, two-thirds of the states delegates are appropriated with a primary while the remaining third are decided with a caucus, both occurring on March 4. The only other state to have such a system is the



Republican primary/caucus in Washington state.

Second, prior voting history for areas of the state is factored into the calculation of how many delegates each candidate receives (many states do this but the magnitude in the Texas system is considerably larger). For example, the city of Austin,

which contains the University of Texas and a large African-American population, both demographics which lean heavily towards Obama, could give delegates to both candidates even if the entire state were to go to Clinton.

The fundamental difference between a primary and a caucus is the time frame required to vote within it. A primary is much like an election - people go to a designated location within a time frame, vote, and then leave. A caucus is different in that the voting is done at one specific time, preceded with a period of speeches and presentations.



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