

Afroman plays Mezzanine

By Chris Zook
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

All anyone could see was a tight afro bobbing through the crowd, but it was all the audience needed to know: Afroman had entered the building.

Afroman performed to a small crowd of students Friday night at Mezzanine, 420 E. College Ave. Reggae act Atlas' Soundtrack and rapper Young Brizz opened for the concert.

Though the crowd for the opener started out somewhat small, it grew as the audience took up more than half the venue's dance floor and spilled onto the upper, lower and VIP levels of Mezzanine.

The legendary hip-hop artist opened his set with some free-styling before connecting his iPod to the venue's speaker systems, which served as his musical backup for the duration of the performance.

With a white double-neck guitar, a microphone stand and an iPod, the stage was fairly sparse. But those weren't the only things Afroman brought for his show. He also carried a Colt 45 malt beverage in one hand and a smoldering brown cigarette in the other.

But he had a message for the crowd. "I just want everyone to know this is a fake blunt," Afroman said as he took the stage.

"It's part of my act. It even smells like weed and everything."

The crowd cheered with approval. Afroman began his set with "Pimpin' Pennsylvania," in which Afroman rattles off a list of small towns in Pennsylvania where he claims to have had sex with one or more women and continued for more than an hour.

Philadelphia rapper Young Brizz said he was excited to open for Afroman. Mezzanine contacted Brizz to open the show, he said. Though he was missing a member of his group — the CEO of the record label to which he is signed — Brizz was optimistic about performing before Afroman.

"The grind don't stop," he said. "I'm gonna show you how a kid from Philly can do it."



Daniel Bott/Collegian

Afroman performs at Mezzanine Friday.

Samir Mirakhur (senior-math, finance and accounting) originally heard about the concert through Facebook.

Mirakhur made sure to get to the show early, he added, because he expected the venue to be full right away, as opposed to its thin early turnout.

Mirakhur said he best knew Afroman's two big hits "Because I Got High" and "Colt 45."

"Of course I'm looking forward to those two songs," he said before Afroman took the stage.

Mirakhur got what he wanted when Afroman capped off his set with those two hits.

Chris Ballinger (senior-electrical engineering) said he also heard about the show through Facebook. He started listening to Afroman a few years ago, he added, and "thought it'd be cool" to come down and see the show.

But Ballinger was looking forward to more than just music, he said.

"I want it to get out of control," he said. "I wanna get a little anarchy going."

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Students rush to complete films in 48 hours for contest

By Hannah Rishel
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

The thought of writing, filming and editing a movie can be intimidating — and doing it in 48 hours seems an even more daunting task.

But some Penn State student filmmakers accepted this challenge, spending their weekend creating short films for the Penn State Student Film Organization's 48-hour film festival.

The groups, which ranged anywhere from one to six people, were allowed to begin from scratch at 7 p.m. Thursday, when they were given a prop they needed to include in their film. The props handed out ranged from a beer stein to a ceramic doll.

The films needed to be completed and submitted by 7 p.m. Saturday, and the entries were shown in 113 Carnegie Building on Sunday afternoon.

Four films were submitted, but one was disqualified because it was two hours late. The films included: "Sea Lions of the Depression," featuring two married anthropomorphic sea lions living in the time of the Great Depression; "Hang Ups," which explored the Verizon and AT&T rivalry; and "For the Glory," which was disqualified, about a group of ragtag runners training for a race in a garden center.

The winning film, titled "Isabella," featured a vanishing ceramic doll, a folk musician, a narcoleptic magician and a hotdog vender.

Bello Galadanchi (senior-bioengineering and film and video), Chris Busch (freshman-film and video), Manohjah Blackmanhe (freshman-sociology), Anthony Alicea (junior-business management) and Bryan Keith (freshman-film and video) were "total strangers" before they wrote, filmed, acted in and edited "Isabella" together over the weekend.

Galadanchi said they came up with the idea in "like three minutes."

"As soon as they gave out the assignment we were in a room together talking," Keith said.

The editing process was the most time-consuming part of the project for the group.

"We spent about five hours just editing five minutes of film," Blackman said.

The group received five \$6 gift cards to the State Theatre, but SFO president Sam Broscoe (senior-film and video) said the "real prize is the awesome films" that were made.

In the past, SFO has held the film festival once a year, but it's planning on doing the competition once a semester now, SFO treasurer Andrew Karasik (senior-film and video) said.

For the spring semester, the group is tentatively planning a four-day competition instead of a 48-hour one, he added.

"It changes the dynamic, with how much time they have to complete the project," Karasik said.

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Designers show off in NYC

By Joshua Glossner
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

NEW YORK — The Big Apple was the place to be this past weekend for Fashion Week festivities.

Friday night was dubbed "Fashion's Night Out," where stores — mostly in Times Square — had sales and celebrity appearances.

Meanwhile, the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel held its own version of Fashion Week inside its Grand Ballroom with the Couture Fashion Week runway shows. The shows were held Friday, Saturday and Sunday, and featured designers from around the world, including Romania, China and the Philippines.

After his runway show on Saturday, Andres Aquino, the founder and producer of Couture Fashion Week, said the event keeps getting bigger and bigger each year.

Genevieve O'Neill, of Melbourne, Australia, said she came to New York specifically for Fashion Week.

"I have a friend who lives here in New York, so it was convenient to come here," O'Neill said. "[Couture Fashion Week] is really cool — not to mention a bit bizarre."

O'Neill said she works with a fashion designer in Australia, so Fashion Week was the perfect event for her.

She said she really likes the unique designs of Ezra Santos, of Dubai, because of the way he styled shoulder pads and draped dresses. Models showing off the designs were equally excited to be a part of Fashion Week. Samantha Rae, of Los Angeles, said this was her first time in New York, and it was thrilling for her.

"I have been modeling since I was 13," Rae, 17, said. "After high school, I'd love to move to New York City so I can model



Kelsey Morris/Collegian

A model wears a peacock-inspired design at New York's Couture Fashion Week.

here, too."

Rae modeled for the Romanian designer Catalin Botezatu, who made peacock-inspired fashions. To prepare for the runway show, it took up to five hours to have her hair and make-up done, she said.

"Sometimes, we don't have time to even practice with the music," Rae said. "When modeling, you just have to go with the flow of things."

One of the biggest fears for models is tripping while walking down the runway, she said.

"Before going out onto the runway, I'm just so anxious to get out there and show off the dress," Rae said.

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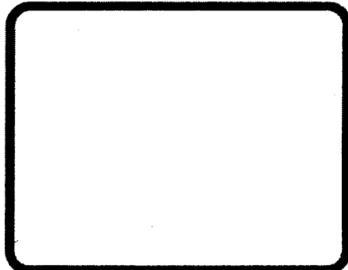
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