

Features

Fighting Barbie's anatomy Film

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Ashley Penland

Columnist

Barbie looks a lot more realistic if you remove her arms, legs and head. In fact, I think filing her boobs down a size or two would really do some good.

Big toy-making companies are beyond biased. They jump past equality between the sexes and look at empowering boys while making women slaves of self-image.

As sad as it sounds, when I was young, I wanted to be just like Barbie. She never had a bad hair day, and she got to wear skimpy outfits. Barbie was free to party with her friends, and Ken was always there for a good time.

One of the first Barbies I had was Dream Glow Barbie, yet another falsely proportioned blonde that makes young girls feel inadequate in their own beauty.

Dream Glow Barbie was

dressed all in pink. Advertisers have stereotyped girls as pink-loving freaks. Have you ever seen He-Man running wild in a pink loincloth? Steven Tyler likes pink, and he's a boy.

With the amount of fabric used in Barbie's outfits, she could have loaned He-man her dress. It would have been the perfect amount of fabric for his loincloth.

The theme of Dream Glow Barbie is that she "lights up the night." What exactly is that suppose to mean? If we put on a red light for Roxanne, then what color do we use for Barbie? Hot pink?

Have you ever looked at Barbie's collection of material items? She has a Malibu house, a pink Corvette, and a wardrobe large enough to clothe all the children in Third World countries.

How is Barbie able to afford all these items when she has no job? I have only one scenario that seems logical. Picture yourself driving downtown at three in the morning, and you stop at a red light. You look out your window and see Barbie working the street corner. But the blame can't be placed on Barbie alone. Ken the pimp is always working behind the scenes.

Speaking of Ken, who's that young man holding Barbie back from achievement and independence?

Why must Barbie always have Ken to take her out? What ever happened to dating a variety of boys while enjoying life? Have you ever seen lesbian Barbie or gay Ken?

Barbie sends a sick message to girls. It makes them feel that they need to be unrealistically beautiful, tied down to a man, obsessed with pink, and very superficial.

So far, the only real woman icon I've seen is Rosie the Riveter, the World War II pin-up. If girls unite, maybe one day toys will represent independent women. Come on girls, we can do it!

The problem is that no girl doll was ever a hero. Now, G.I. Joe — there's a hero. I suppose Barbie could knock out any villain with her megabust, but somehow it's just not the same. That's a great thing for girls to try to live up to. My chest saves the day again.

I would have much rather played with a G.I. Jane, but she wasn't as popular. It would have been a crime to make a girl think she had the ability to achieve in a man's world. G.I. Joe also had a job, and it wasn't servicing women. He was employed by the military and considered intelligent. Young boys were being taught that they could hold jobs and get an education.

Do you see anything wrong with this picture? Girl's toys represented above-average looking sex slaves, and boy's toys represented independent, intelligent heroes.

It would be healthy if, every once in a while, a boy played with a Barbie and a girl played with G.I. Joe. Guys need to get in touch with their feminine side, and girls need to get in touch with their self-confidence.

In a perfect world, we would have a hero who knew his way around the kitchen and would fight crime in a pink outfit. We would have a pretty, fit woman who could beat the socks off Stone Cold Steve Austin while folding laundry. Won't that be the day.

temporary issues of race, according to Trautmann.

"Abre los Ojos," ("Open Your Eyes"), will be shown on Oct. 2. This surreal thriller was done by Alejandro Abenamar in 1998. Abenamar displays a cutting edge style that mixes the Hollywood model of film with Spanish extremism. His work has recently been embraced by Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. They will be producing his next film and one of them will probably star in it, according to Trautmann.

The last film of the Hispanic Film Festival will be "Mujer Transparente," (Transparent Woman). The film is a compilation from various directors that was released in Cuba in 1990. It is a series of short vignettes about Cuban women.

"Mujer Transparente" will be screened in the Highsmith

Center rather than the Whitman room because they expect a larger crowd. The film will be presented by Jose Alvarez, who will be a guest speaker during the festival. He is from the University of Georgia and specializes in Latin American film.

"He is a skilled speaker, and is able to get people talking," said Trautmann. Alvarez presented "Bitter Sugar" at last year's festival, and was very well received.

Trautmann chose films from a variety of different styles. It is difficult to describe Hispanic films as a group because film styles differ greatly between countries. Hispanic films do tend to be more irreverent and slightly less formulaic than the films that we see in this country.

Hispanic nations are seeing a strong influence from the Hollywood style of film pro-

duction.

"You cannot deny that Hollywood has had a huge impact on these films for both aesthetic and social and economic reasons," said Trautmann.

Trautmann hopes that the increasing popularity of the festival will lead to a better screening room for next year's festival. The Whitman room is too small to hold large crowds, and it is set up like a classroom. She will try to schedule the festival in the Highsmith Center, or in the screening room in Karpen Hall.

UNCA will also host a Foreign Film Festival on Oct. 7. Another Cuban film, "Guantanamo," will be shown. It is directed by Tomas Gutierrez, an auteur film maker. This festival will also feature films from France and Germany and will be held in the screening room in Karpen Hall.

and it lacked the closure I was seeking.

Despite the length of the performance, it was obvious from the clapping and screaming that DiFranco delivered a pleasing performance.

DiFranco

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with personal undertones, touching on topics ranging from American imperialism to feminist issues.

I left the concert with a desire to implement change. Her poetry prompted me to step outside of my personal

day to day problems and sympathize with the plight of others.

I have only one significant complaint about the concert: It was entirely too short with a weak encore.

She only played one song,

and it lacked the closure I was seeking.

Despite the length of the performance, it was obvious from the clapping and screaming that DiFranco delivered a pleasing performance.

FYI

For Your Information

Sept 21
thru
Sept 28

UNCA

Get the rest of your education

FYI is a service of the Student Activities and Student Affairs offices.

FYI is published each Thursday. Deadline to submit information is Friday at 2 pm, for the following week's publication. Send basic information to K. Keane at HC 27 or kkeane@unca.edu. See FYI on Banner online at www.unca.edu/~fyi/

Academic Notices

- Students notified by letter for Fall Research Grants • 9/22
- Last day to withdraw from semester course •9/27
- Great Smokies Writing Program: nature writing/poetry/fiction, 2 credit hrs, (x6558)

Athletics

- Volleyball vs. Campbell, 4pm, JG •9/22
- Volleyball vs. Loyola, 8pm, JG •9/22
- Volleyball vs. Univ. of Pittsburgh, 2pm, JG •9/23
- Volleyball vs. NC A&T, 6pm, JG •9/23
- Women's v. Radford, 4pm, GF •9/27

Career Center/Jobs

- E-jobs: Part time jobs listserve-contact mwhitson@unca.edu
- JobTrak.com: Graduating Seniors register for full time jobs - www.unca.edu/career
- Work Study on campus, \$6.25/hr, 8 hours weekly, must have unmet need, a apply LH 221
- Homecoming Celebration Coordinators (September thru March), stipend available, apply HC 27 •due 9/22

Concerts/Live Entertainment

- The Ruesters, instrumental duet, 8pm, HC Coffeehouse, Free •9/22
- Evans/Coppola Concert, jazz piano and vocal duet, 4pm, LH Aud. •9/24
- Poetry Alive!, 9:30pm, HC Coffeehouse •9/27
- "Macbeth" by Theater UNCA, CBT •9/28-10/8
- "That Ain't No Way to Treat a Lady!," by Nancy Hulise, 7pm, HCL •9/26

Etc.

- Bulldog Express, free bus service around Asheville- Downtown, Wal-Mart, Mall, Beaucatcher Cinema (7:30pm-12:30am Friday and Saturday) from UNCA and return
- Night Sky Viewing on the Quad, 9 pm •Monday and Tuesday Evenings
- Super Saturday for grades 3-8, 9am, RH •Saturdays
- Peace Corps Day, exhibit and discussion, 3pm-9pm, LF

Exhibits

- "Exposure to Black and White," by Cheryl Lore, University Gallery •thru 9/26
- Terry Godfrey Installation, Blowers Gallery •thru 9/30

Films

- "Spaceballs" and "American Psycho," Movies on the Quad, 8pm, UNCA Quad •9/29
- "Visages de Femmes," Women's Cinema Tuesdays, 8pm, Mills 232 •Tuesdays
- "Night Waltz-The Music of Paul Bowles," discussion with filmmaker to follow •9/27

Hispanic Heritage Month

- Son de Cuba, Cuban Music/Salsa Dancing, 7pm, HCL •9/21
- Fiesta Latina 2000, 1-9pm, Pack Place •9/23
- Film "Las Cartas de Alou, (Letters From Alou)," 7pm, Whitman Room •9/25
- Carlos Fernandez, Latin Percussionist, 7pm, OCC •9/26
- Hispanic Fashion Show, 7pm, HCL •9/27

Leadership Opportunities

- Homecoming Celebration Coordinators (applications at HC 27), stipend available •due 9/22
- Orientation Leader 2001 applications available, HC 31 •due 10/25

Lectures/Workshops/Seminars

- "Harambee: Africans in America, Americans in Africa," 5pm, PDR •9/21
- "History of Hinduism: And Introductory Course," by Dr. Patrick Olivelle, 9am, OCC •9/23
- Introduction to Mediation Seminar, 10am, (x5120) •9/23
- "Writers at Home," w/ authors Jan Harrow and Susan Weinberg, 3pm, LF •9/24
- "Why Educators Can't Ignore Sport Mascots," by Dr. Cornel Pewewardy, 7:30pm, HCL •9/25
- "Finding All the Resources," First Year Seminar, 11am, LF •9/28
- "Encountering Drama," First Year Seminar, 7pm, RL •9/28
- "Other Doctorates and Degrees of the Health Professions," 12 noon, HC 37 •9/28

Outdoor Activities (sign up in HC)

- Sky Diving, \$50 includes transportation/fees •9/23
- Mountain Biking, \$15 includes transportation/food •9/24
- Intro to Climbing, \$20 includes transportation/rentals/food •10/14-10/18
- Horseback Riding, \$10 includes transportation/instruction •10/21

Recreation/Intramurals

- Karate Club, 7pm, Dance Studio •Mondays/Wednesdays
- Martial Arts Club, 7pm, Dance Studio •Tuesdays/Thursdays
- Kayaking, 7-9:30pm, pool •Wednesdays
- Ultimate Frisbee/Club Team, 8pm, Lower Field •Mondays/Thursdays
- UNCA Swing Club, 9pm, Dance Studio •Wednesdays

Tickets in HC 27

- Asheville Art Museum -\$2
- Carowinds-\$22
- Biltmore House-\$24
- Chimney Rock -\$6 with voucher
- United Artist Movie Theater-\$4
- Robert Pinsky, Poet-\$5 •10/5

Upcoming Events

- Robert Pinsky, Poet Laureate of the US, 8pm, LH Aud. •10/5
- Radio Free Bubbas, writers/radio hosts tell stories, 8am/KH 232, 11am/KH 033 •10/6
- Chancellor James H. Mullen Installation, 2pm, Quad •10/6
- Family Weekend •10/6-10/8
- Fall Fling 2000, Festivities on the Quad, 1-5pm, Quad •10/7
- "This is the Place Where I Live," program of NC Poetry, 7:30pm, LH Aud. •10/7

Volunteer Opportunities

- For service-learning opportunities Key Center for Service-Learning, 251-4600 or lweinberg@unca.edu
- Help needed at Kituwah Festival (10/12-10/15), receive t-shirt/admission/meal tickets, apply RH 116 •deadline 10/3