

**Movie Review:**  
**Man of the Year, not what you'd expect**

by Zack Harding  
 Arts & Life Editor

Man of the Year  
 Directed by Barry Levinson  
 Universal Pictures/2006

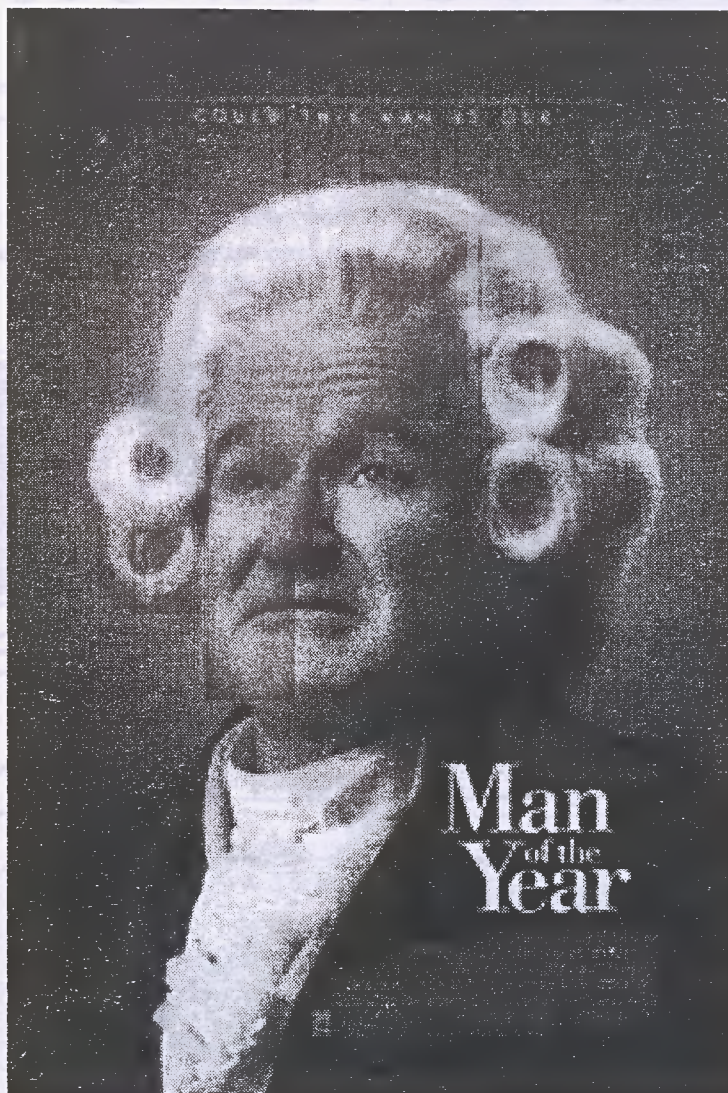


I went to see the new Robin Williams flick, *Man of the Year*, expecting an over the top political comedy similar to the humor you find on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*, but I was wrong. The commercials and trailers for this film are very misleading and do not give an accurate portrayal of what the movie is about.

The basic plot is that comedian Tom Dobbs, played by Robin Williams, runs for presidency on a whim and fairs much better than he could have ever imagined. Unfortunately, after becoming the president elect, he finds himself tangled up in a terrible computer voting glitch.

The majority of the film focuses on the voting error and the intense situations that the error creates, rather than the comedic aspect of the film. There is definitely some great comedy, but it is overshadowed by the tense, darker side of the film.

The best scenes in the movie were completely unexpected. There was a particularly well done scare scene, and a brilliant drug effect scene. Both involved the lead female, Eleanor Green, played by Laura Linney. Linney plays the drug scene very well, shaking and trembling while rambling nonsense, completely pulling the viewer in. Linney creates some of the best moments in



the film as well as some of the oddest moments, as her character is extremely fidgety and weird, almost to a point of distraction.

Other great scenes include a dramatic monologue by Jeff Goldblum that showcases his ability to perform frighteningly intense characters. There are also a couple of well-done monologues by Williams that are the only real comedic parts of the film.

Christopher Walken doesn't really bring anything special to the film. With his voice and speech patterns, I may never be able to see him as anything

other than a mobster.

This movie is not a comedy, as it was billed to be. It is essentially a thriller with some comedic elements and the occasional smart political commentary. *Man of the Year* also tries to develop a little bit of a love story, but never commits much to it. It doesn't succeed particularly well in any of the areas it tries to explore and suffers from a little bit from being too long. It's probably worth a rent if you like political comedy, but don't expect this to be Jon Stewart on the big screen. I give it 3 out of 5 stars.

## HOROSCOPE

**Aries:** People want to be near you today. Probably because you bathed! Good job, now keep it up. Lucky color: Red Mascara.

**Taurus:** This weekend will be fabulous. Planes, NYC, men, women, and most of all: Not one familiar face. Lucky color: Empty Riesling Bottle Blue 15.

**Gemini:** You're in love! Good for you, now let the rest of us simmer in our black stew of loneliness. Lucky color: Agoraphobic apple.

**Cancer:** You're feeling down eh? Go pick on that idiot who called you out at that party this past weekend! Show them up! Lucky color: Peanut butter.

**Leo:** Take a chance, kitties. Well, not that you wouldn't anyways—you're freak'n crazy! By the way, that chance is with your heart. Good luck. Lucky color: Emo brown.

**Virgo:** Feel those vibes from your best friend? Well they're not good. Better shape up or you'll lose your ENTIRE inner circle. Lucky color: Jowl.

**Libra:** How's that prolonged horrifying lifestyle coming? You still have to do time! If you don't understand you haven't been reading! How dare you, you need to boost that vocab! GRE!!! Lucky color: Wide butt black.

**Scorpio:** Stingers, get ready for a head rocking good time. Just watch where you're banging, you might hit that cute person behind you. Lucky color: Sleepy time navy.

**Sagittarius:** You horse-bottomed scatter brains are always going somewhere. Lucky for you travel is in the air. Get lost. Lucky color: Dandruff.

**Capricorn:** Stay cool, no one is pointing their fingers at you today because for once, you haven't done a thing. Chill. Lucky color: Pill popper pink.

**Aquarius:** We (the oracle) say, "Girl/Boy, you got it goin' on—you is gorgeous." So don't let your yucky thoughts, ill-placed mirrors, or stupid friends tell you otherwise, baby. Lucky color: Copy Cat Copper.

**Pisces:** Well, the Oracle couldn't think of something pretty to say about you last week. Consider yourself famous this week, in lieu of the mightier Taurus who will be on leave this weekend. Lucky color: Terra Fupa.