

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

"Fever Pitch": a home run of a movie

Ronda Carpenter
Pilot staff

If you're looking for a fun and light-hearted romantic comedy, then "Fever Pitch" is the movie to see.

I recently went with a friend to see "Fever Pitch" and thought it was an all-around, great movie. It delivered a perfect combination of sports and romance, which kept both me and my date happy. I didn't get bored from too much sports drama, and he didn't nap during the romance parts.

Jimmy Fallon stars as "Ben-the-math-teacher," who has been a fanatical Boston Red Sox fan since he was 7. The Red Sox dominate every aspect of his life, including his apartment's decor, his jersey-stocked wardrobe and his summer fun at the Sox's training camp.

Ben starts dating Lindsey Meeks, played by Drew Barrymore, who is an obsessive workaholic. She admires his passionate commitment and devotion to the Sox, but isn't very knowledgeable about the game of baseball and doesn't quite understand just "how" dedicated Ben is to his infatuation.

MOVIE FACTS

- Starring: Jimmy Fallon and Drew Barrymore
- Directed by: Peter and Bobby Farrelly
- Rated: PG-13
- Times: 1:15, 4:45, 7:30 and 9:55 p.m. at Carmike Cinema in Shelby.

Things are going charmingly for the cute couple until spring training begins for the Sox, and Ben is swept away by his love for the game.

"Fever Pitch" is less of a baseball flick and more of a hat's-off to sport's fans and couples who adore the game. The Farrelly directors tell the story in the stands,

not on the field. Ben's clique of fellow Fenway fans are more prominent than the actual players themselves. The devoted gang of guys cheer, reminisce and commiserate over the Sox and have traditionally gone with Ben to the games.

However, on opening day, Ben invited Lindsey to go, and she begins attending many of the games with him. The guys become suspicious of Lindsey when she starts bringing her laptop to games and question her dedication to Ben and the Sox.

Ben and Lindsey go through a few hard times because their two completely different obsessions get in the way of their relationship. However, the ending ties it all together and delivers a "home-run" for the audience.

The film's most irresistible scene is when the song "Sweet Caroline" comes on the loudspeaker during a game, and Fallon

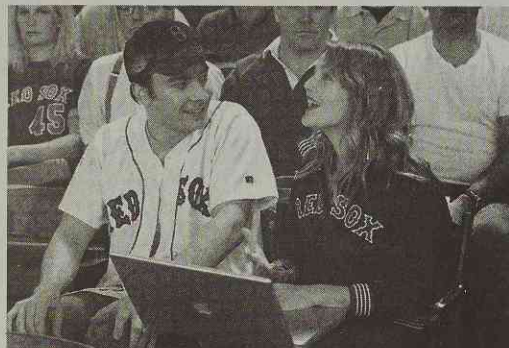


photo courtesy of movies.com

"Fever Pitch" stars Jimmy Fallon who plays Ben, a die-hard Red Sox fan, and Drew Barrymore as Lindsey, a workaholic.

and Barrymore are in the stands singing along and rooting for the Sox.

This movie would be great for all audiences, but particularly

if you have a special someone in mind to watch it with. I would definitely recommend watching this movie next time you're in the theater!

Afroman performs in town

Eric Proctor
Pilot staff

"I play shows where nobody come," Afroman sang from the stage at Ripple Effects on Saturday. This was obviously one of those shows. He was performing for a "crowd" of a little more than sixty.

Before Afroman took a stroll through the crowd and climbed on stage, Stress Related, a local heavy metal band, played the opening set. They blended infectious funky grooves with ear-wrenching distortion that eliminated any hope of hearing the singer. From what I could make out, he sounded like a cross between Disturbed's David Draiman and former Rage Against the Machine front man Zach de la Rocha.

But, no one was there to see Stress Related. Okay, actually pretty much everyone was there to see Stress Related. The majority of the crowd was made up of their family members and loyal fans, many of whom left while the final power chord was still lingering in the air.

Those who did not stick around missed what I can honestly say was the most amazing sound check I have ever heard. Funky D, who accompanied Afroman, tested the equipment by playing a spectacular cover of Nirvana's "All Apologies" on an instrument called a Chapman Stick. He then proceeded to play three original numbers, written by himself and drummer Jody Loco, who collectively form the 2Zig Zags.

I was pleasantly surprised by the musicianship the whole night. I had guessed that it would just be Afroman, flowing over a beat machine, but thankfully I was wrong. Funky D wowed the audience by simultaneously playing his Chapman Stick and keyboard, while singing backup vocals.

And, of course operating the beat machine.

Afroman showed off his own musical talent by picking up a double-neck guitar and adding bluesy solos and reggae upstrokes to his songs. His live numbers were much more guitar-based than their studio counterparts.

He played old favorites from 2001's "The Good Times," as well as new tracks from last year's "Afroholi... The Even Better Times."

Afroman gave a stellar performance, as if he was unaware that the place was practically empty. And I'm not sure he actually was aware. He kept his eyes closed the entire time.

This could have been due to alco-



photo by Eric Proctor

Afroman and Funky D, back, perform at Ripple Effects on April 23. Funky D plays the Chapman stick as Afroman sings.

hol/marijuana consumption before the show, but I'm not jumping to any conclusions.

The already low number of fans began to dwindle as the two-hour show wound down. There was almost no one left when Afroman ended with

his hit "Because I Got High."

Maybe they were bored, offended by the crude subject matter, or just too drunk to stay. But, those who dipped out early - as well as those who didn't bother showing up at all - missed a phenomenal show.

Get ready for one hot summer

Christie Barlow
Pilot staff

With summer fast approaching, it's time to jump on what is coming in and what is on its way out. So what should you be wearing, listening to and watching this summer?

Fashion

The one wardrobe must-have of the summer is knee length skirts this year. According to one of women's leading fashion magazines, "Cosmo," skirts are definitely in for the spring. They're anticipating skirts that are knee-length or a bit longer to be one of the hot items this summer.

"I definitely think that skirts are going to be in this summer," said Andrea Lewis, a sophomore Elementary education major from Sissonville, Va. "They're great to wear in the summer."

"Cosmo" recommends pairing a pair of flat shoes with your skirt and a little ballerina top or fitted blazer all of which are perfect accessories to your summer wardrobe.

The definite color this summer is turquoise. Whether you're wearing it as an accessory or from head to toe make sure you have something this color in your closet.

"Turquoise is in, but I think that you're going to be seeing some pastels," said Allison Murphy, a senior athletic training major, from Valrico, Fla. "Pinks and peaches, even some light green."

Look for metallics to make a fashion statement this season. Silver or gold handbags are definitely in for the season, according to "Cosmo" editors.

Music

Many hot concerts are taking place this summer, whatever your musical taste may be.

"Kelly Clarkson is touring this summer," said Lewis. "I would love to see her. Her album is so good."

For those listeners not into pop music, check out Ozzfest this summer.

"Ozzfest should be good," said Holland Mills, a junior sports management major from Greenville. "That's the biggest tour that I would like to see this summer."

Ozzfest will feature the winners of MTV's show Battle for Ozzfest, A dozen Furies, C.Y.N. and Mannitis.

If that still doesn't feed your musical needs head to the Destiny's Child concert this summer.

"Destiny's Child will be cool," said Murphy. "I'm going to try and get to that this summer."

Look for some albums to drop this summer and musical acts to take off. According to MTV, Kanye West's album hits shelves on July 12. Many think that Mariah Carey, who recently released a new single "It's like that," will be big this summer.

"I think Kanye West's new album is going to be really big," said Lewis. "Mariah Carey should be pretty big too. I like her new song."

Movies

The start of every summer inevitably brings blockbuster films to the theatre and this summer definitely delivers. Many huge names come to the screen this summer, Tom Cruise stars in Orson Wells' "A War of the Worlds", and Orlando Bloom stars in "Kingdom of Heaven."

"Kingdom of Heaven" is going to be pretty big this summer," said Mills. "I'll go see that."

George Lucas brings the "Star Wars" movies to a close with the third of six movies hitting theaters mid-May, and the Caped Crusader returns to the big screen in June.

"I think 'Batman Begins' is going to be really good," said Danielle Christmas, a freshmen elementary education major from Ocala, Fla. "I can't wait to see that."

For the romantic comedy lover check out "Monster in Law," starring Jennifer Lopez and Jane Fonda.

The biggest thing to remember this summer is to keep things simple. Relax in a cute skirt, listen to some good music and check out a few movies while you enjoy your summer.

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