

## News

## Movie review: 'HSM3' a G film that rates an A

By Lauren Taylor  
Pilot editor in chief

Twirling, can-canning and singing its way into hearts, "High School Musical 3: Senior Year" made a huge splash at the big screen. Breaking the box office record set by "Mamma Mia," "HSM3" made \$42 million its opening weekend and shows no sign of slowing.

The number is wild considering that the movie is not only a sequel, but that the first two films were TV debuts on the Disney Channel.

The premise of this film is that Troy Bolton (Zac Efron) and Gabriella Montez (Vanessa Hudgens), two crazy kids in love, are trying to figure out how they're going to keep the relationship going into college.

All the while, the spoiled Sharpay Evans (Ashley Tisdale) is trying to claw the lead in the school musical away from Montez.

A pure popcorn flick, the only thing underneath the surface of the pulsating teenage angst is just more, well, teen angst. All viewers care about is Hudgen's

white teeth and long, curly tendrils and Efron's nice, sharp jaw line.

The songs are not half bad. Despite some dubbing issues and Hudgen's nasal singing, the music is peppy and surprisingly bearable.

The sets are well put together, and everything from the junkyard to the cafeteria is delightfully unrealistic.

However, if you're looking for serious conflict, or any conflict at all for that matter, this is not the flick for you.

It's clear that little-known director Kenny Ortega wanted it to be easy to watch, especially with the target audience being kids to tweens.

"HSM3" is definitely a success for what they were working with. The only weak point was that they could have spent a little more money on Hudgen's voice lessons, and gotten real sound tech—some of the numbers sounded as if recorded in a garage.

Overall, I'd give it an A-. Take your kids, younger siblings or girlfriend to see it, and you'll be in for some good clean, G-rated fun.

### Correction

In the Oct. 23 edition, the story about Chelsea Usher's book "Cherokee's Puppy Tales" had two factual errors.

Dr. Roy Ferguson is a licensed optician, not a veterinarian.

The book is not about the life of a search and rescue dog, but about the puppy-raising process of a leader dog.

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## Mauritania who? Model Arab League members know

By Michelle Alwerdt  
Pilot staff writer

In March, Gardner-Webb will send a team to participate in the Model Arab League, a premier Student Leadership Development Program of the National Council on U.S.-Arab Relations.

The Arab League is similar to the United Nations and the European Union: It consists of 22 Middle Eastern nations that meet to promote their mutual interests.

The Model Arab League is a mock version of this organization. Students from 22 different colleges and universities will compete at Converse College in South Carolina March 13-15.

Gardner-Webb will compete in the Southeastern Region, which is thought to be one of the most difficult competitions in the country, said Dr. Michael Kuchinsky, the political science professor in charge of the team.

Each team will represent a dif-

ferent country and will be judged on how well it understands the role of the country, and how well it negotiates and brings other countries together.

A typical team consists of eight students; Gardner-Webb will have nine, in case an alternate is needed.

Each student is given specific issue they will focus on and at the competition they will attend the commission discussing their issue.

Topics include economics, politics, environment, and others.

Gardner-Webb will be representing the West African country of Mauritania.

"It is really interesting to have Mauritania because recently there was a military coup that the team must now take into account," Kuchinsky said.

The overthrow ushered in a military council government and prematurely ended the term of the first fairly elected president.

The team has begun preparing already, meeting every other Sun-

day at 7:30 p.m.

Next semester they will meet every Sunday.

Before the competition, they will hold a mock trial.

It will give the students the opportunity to practice negotiating and how to engage others.

Because of the time students put into the competition, participants have the opportunity to receive one hour of political science credit for independent study.

"It is a great opportunity for students to network and it looks great on a resume," Kuchinsky said.

He said that participating in this competition gives each student experience in communication, research and leadership.

Although there are already nine students on the team, anyone interested in joining should talk to Kuchinsky, whose office is in Frank Nanney Hall.

"We hope to see more students get interested and get more involved," Kuchinsky said.

## Dirty Poets tell it like it is Wednesdays at BRCC

By Diana Palka  
Pilot Staff Writer

"Did she just say the F-word?" a patron asked as Gardner-Webb sophomore Collyn Warner, a member of the Dirty Conservative Poetry (with a sarcastic tone) Band, read her poem Oct. 29 at Broad River Coffee Company's Open Mic Night.

The poetry band consists of Warner and seven other Gardner-Webb students: Lauren Quesenberry, Hailey Spearman, Joanna Wallace, Randi Gill-Sadler, Katie Garahan, Lauren Taylor and Sarajane Burroughs.

The group originated in the campus Writing Center where Burroughs, Garahan and Warner were working when someone suggested that "people" should recite poetry to music at Broad River's Open Mic Night.

It wasn't long before

the Dirty Poets were born. Taylor wasn't sure she wanted to be a member.

After becoming aware of the other perspective members, Taylor was sold.

"The Dirty Poets are a group of kindred spirits. We're all very different, yet we complete little needs in each other," she said.

The group members say the formation of the Dirty Poets has greatly contributed to their development as writers.

The group believes that it's beneficial to learn how to read poetry out loud in order to give it more depth by using the spoken word.

The poets bounce ideas off one another and give suggestions about poems.

A theme is picked within the band for every week's Open Mic Night, and each member writes an original piece related to the theme.

The band's mantra, recited before every performance, "Let's f\*\*k s\*\*t up," can mislead listeners about what the band seeks to achieve. It doesn't advocate destruction or hatred, but tries to help people understand that the world is different than commonly perceived, and that people need to connect with the inner screwed-up being.

"Each of us is in some way vulgar," Taylor said.

"And obscene and profane," added Warner.

On Oct. 29, the group conquered politics through poems of both serious and satirical natures.

Burroughs' poem posed the question, "Why should God bless America?"

Gill-Sadler's poem was inspired by "her near and dear experiences" with the war in Iraq, where her brother has been serving on and off for three years.

At times, it is obvious

that certain subjects struck nerves with some audience members, making them uncomfortable and causing them to dig their nails into the cardboard insulators of their paper coffee cups.

The group said it doesn't believe the greater Gardner-Webb community has really embraced or caught on to their vibe yet, adding that some of their professors would be surprised that they're all "rough around the edges."

However, no one has directly approached the group with complaints about the contents of the poems.

The dynamic group of eight refuses to let negativity, spoken or unspoken, stand in its way. Working with their public relations coordinator, Christen McWhirter, the Dirty Poets are planning on booking tours to Greenville, S.C., and Charlotte.

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