

8 **Campus Reviews****All for one is a solid zero**

JULIE RASMUSSEN  
Contributing Writer

Based on Alexander Dumas' *Three Musketeers*, *The Musketeer* which debuted on Friday concentrates on the adventures of D'artagnan (Justin Chambers).

D'artagnan, a young man anxious to join his heroes--the musketeers--is not only fighting for France and the king against Cardinal Richelieu (Stephen Rea), but he is seeking revenge upon the Cardinal's henchman Fevre (Tim Roth) for the murder of his parents.

Upon his arrival in Paris, he finds that the musketeers are in danger of extinction.

As he fights to help the musketeers regain their position of respect, he does find time to

fall in love with Constance Bonacieux, played by actress Mena Suvari (*American Pie*, *American Beauty*).

Constance who is a friend to the Queen of France beseeches D'artagnan to aid in the fight for France and helps to further expose him to the political manipulations of Cardinal Richelieu.

But as glorious as the name like the "Three Musketeers" may be, nothing can save this movie which can best be described as weak.

The acting was neither convincing nor engaging.

Even the romance between D'artagnan and Constance lacked the chemistry necessary to give this aspect of the film any credibility.

And the musical score, which sometimes can help a

poor movie seek redemption, made things even worse. It lacked the regality of a musical score that should be heard in a movie depicting a heroic escapade.

However, the most interesting aspect of this film was the fight scenes which were choreographed by the same choreographer who designed the movement for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*.

At least these scenes gave some evidence of imagination.

To put things bluntly--if you love the romance of the musketeers or historical films, do yourself a favor and rent Disney's version of *The Three Musketeers*.

It will be much more worth your time and money.

**MTV can't get it right**

□ Jackson sings with N'Sync, Britney dances with a snake. What's going on with the VMAs?

LYNDA-MARIE TAURASI  
Music Columnist

Even after 17 years of putting on their annual Video Music Awards (VMAs), MTV still cannot get it right.

When they launched the first one in 1984, they originally meant it as a spoof to all award shows. But today, the Video Music Awards has



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become a legitimate award show that allows artists and video directors to receive worthy praise and recognition for their work.

However, like all spoofs that become sequels (i.e., *The Scream Trilogy*) with each year, the VMAs get worse. Long gone are the days when I remember looking forward to the live performances and surprises that MTV always managed to conjure up for viewers.

With the turn of the century, MTV has officially abandoned their underground, anti-corporate attitude and fully embraced the loathsome self-promoting, unoriginal, and commercial image that reminds me of a sleazy, second-rate used car salesman.

It is no surprise that some talented and respected artists are doing the same.

It was not a surprise to find that the "King of Pop" (albeit self-proclaimed) Michael Jackson not only sold-out and joined N'Sync in their performance but also joined in on one of their songs.

I did find it slightly amusing to see Mick Jagger (still alive and kicking) to sit next to Britney Spears during a pre-show interview talking about her

remake of "Satisfaction".

To see old-time rockers kicking it with the newcomers is merely a reflection on the commercialization of rock and roll.

However, let us not allow my pessimistic and depressing views of today's music industry get in the way of some of the highlights. Yes, there was some highlights worthy enough to get mentioned.

I felt mixed emotion to see Alicia Keys win *Best New Artist*. The reason being, the category is cursed.

Most artists who win this category turn out to be one-hit-wonders. To quote Chris Rock, "Some of y'all won't be here next year." Hopefully the very talented--like Keys--will be.

After much technical difficulty, for which Bono openly faulted MTV, U2's performance was--as always--legendary. It was so much so, that they received the MTV's *Michael Jackson Video Vanguard*.

Afterwards they humbly and sheepishly admitted that most of their videos were crap.

Of course, a highlight would be the tributes to the late Aaliyah and Joey Ramone of the Ramones.

So there was some good to come out of the VMAs, but the reality is, they just were not up to par.

In fact, they haven't been for years.

The only enjoyment I got was watching Britney Spears make a fool out of herself while dancing with a massive snake slung across her shoulders. Even the jailbait performer couldn't top her shocking strip-tease performance from last year.

This year's show can best be summed up by Macy Gray's outfit, the singer who wore a dress that advertised her album and beckoned people to buy it: The VMAs were all about tacky style and lowly self-promotion.

Better luck next year.

**New Diana book honors her legacy**

JONI SMITH  
Managing Editor

She was hated by most in her family but loved by all the world. Princess Diana is one of the most dynamic, intriguing and loved women of modern times.

She stood up against the British monarchy by not giving into their materialistic lifestyles and ventured around the world helping the sick and the poor. She also brought bulimia, an eating disorder that affects thousands of women each year, into the public's view, taking away some of the stigma that had previously surrounded eating disorders.

Her death in 1997 shocked and overwhelmed people across the world, many of which never even met her. Yet her spirit and good nature lives on through a book written by Andrew Morton, a renowned author of literature published on the royalty of England, entitled *Diana: Her True Story*.

In Morton's book, Princess Diana tells her struggles with school, her young adult life in London, her courtship with the Prince of Wales, her battle with bulimia, her sons and the unraveling of her celebrated marriage.

Morton began working on this book in 1991. He wrote questions to Diana and had them delivered in clever ways to her at Buckingham Palace in an attempt to keep the project a secret from the international press and most importantly, the royal family who resented her presence from the beginning of her relationship with Prince Charles.

The book begins with Diana's answers to Morton's questions in an informal style and later transitions into more of a biography. The book also includes pictures ranging from her childhood to the famous pictures of her during the wedding ceremony in one of the most famous wedding dresses ever made. Included within the

pages of the book are stories about Diana contributed from those people that were closest to her throughout her short but impressive life.

Princess Diana Spencer is a woman full of grace, intelligence, compassion, and style. *Diana: Her True Story* exemplifies these qualities to the fullest extent by giving private details of her life, quotes from family and friends, her own remarks, and personal pictures never before seen by the public.

This book is one that should be read by anyone who has an interest in learning about a remarkable woman who even after her death serves as a role model for people around the world. The mark Diana left on those who were fortunate enough to know and experience her determination and strength will not be soon forgotten.