

Bachelor steals viewers’ hearts

Students, staff members obsess over television series

BY KYLEA GARDNER
Assistant Editor

As the adage goes, opinions vary. The reality television show, *The Bachelor*, is certainly no exception. Ranging from “shallow and tacky” to “just near genius,” arguments of the show differ, but many agree that it is hard to keep their eyes off the screen. “I have been watching *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette* for years, and there has never been a season that I didn’t absolutely love,” junior Alexis Munden said. “I enjoy watching how the star of the show interacts with everyone, and I also really like getting to see all the interesting dates that the couples go on.” English teacher Jennifer Everitt’s opinion differs regarding the series.

“I don’t watch the show, and I don’t plan on watching it either,” Everitt said. “I believe that love is a private matter that should not be aired publically.” Unlike Everitt, coach Jimmy Fuentes enjoys watching the series. “I watch the show now, but I actually started watching it by accident while channel surfing,” Fuentes said. “I can’t stand drama in my own life, but I think it’s hilarious to watch it be broadcasted in someone else’s.” Senior Caleb Masters takes part in watching alongside his girlfriend. “My girlfriend watches the show weekly, and I’ve watched the last two episodes with her,” Masters said. Junior high teacher Melanie Anderson is also a weekly



Juniors Michaela Reames (left to right), Jordan Pleasant, Sydney Key, and Alexis Munden gather around the television to watch the latest episode of *The Bachelor* on Monday night. The show has received mixed reviews from students and staff members. PHOTO BY KYLEA GARDNER

viewer. “I watch the show every Monday night,” Anderson said. “I love watching because it is so entertaining. I think that everyone loves a little romance.” Everitt also acknowledged that people love getting to watch drama on the screen. Masters agreed that drama was one of the main reasons that people get hooked on watching the show. “I think the main reasons that girls watch it is because they love the drama and the hot guys,” Masters said. Though some struggled to pick just one, fans usually had a particular season or character that stands out over the rest. “Season 17 was my all-time favorite because it was the season starring Sean Lowe,” Munden said. “I thought it was

very interesting and he ended up proposing to my favorite contestant, Catherine Giudici, and they are now married and expecting a baby.” Fuentes doesn’t have a favorite season, but said that he usually has a favorite character in each season. “Every season I find one or two girls that I really like and I root for them,” he said. “I always hope that my favorites are the ones who end up winning.” Anderson finds it hard to pick a favorite as well. “I’ve watched *The Bachelor* since it first aired,” Anderson said. “It would be hard to think of one single season that was my favorite.” One of the main speculations concerning the show is whether it is scripted or if the love found between the final couple is ac-

tually genuine. “It is absolutely not real,” Fuentes said. “I personally think that the network just hand picks just the right people to cause chaos. There is no way that you could be around someone in that short amount of time and be in love.” Everitt agrees. “I think that the show is manipulated,” Everitt said. “It would be very hard for a love that began in that kind of atmosphere to continue to grow in the real world.” Due to the show’s number of failed relationships, Munden isn’t convinced that the love is authentic either. “As much as I want to believe that when the characters say they have fallen in love they mean it, I don’t think it’s true,” Munden said. “The success rate

for the couples is little to none, and there have only been three or four successful relationships out of about 19 seasons.” Anderson, however, was optimistic about love found on the series. “I think that at the time, the love is actually genuine,” Anderson said. “I’m not sure that it always stays that way, but at the time I think that it is.” Though some choose to watch the show, it was a different story when they were asked if they would ever agree to be the bachelor or bachelorette. “I think that I might go on the show,” Munden said. “But I would wait until I was in my late twenties and actually give love in the real world a chance before I resort to a television show.” Fuentes would never consent. “I would never go on the show,” Fuentes said. “I don’t think I quite meet the look, height, and bank account requirements to be on the show.” Similarly, Everitt also said she would never be a part of the series. Masters was very opposed to the idea of participating in the show. “I would never be a part of the show,” Masters said. “All of it is really weird and fake.” As for Anderson, she would not take part, but she wouldn’t mind seeing others she knows do it. “I would never go on the show myself, but I wouldn’t mind my kids being on it,” Anderson said. “I’m trying to get my niece to get on the show.” Everyone had his or her own opinion about whether or not the show is real or just entertainment, and whether it’s quality television or just simply a waste of time. The question still remains, after the lights go out and the filming comes to an end: is there really love after the final rose?

ROARING REVIEWS

The 5th Wave
January 22, 2016 PG-13 112 min
Fantasy | Science Fiction
The human race stands on the brink of extinction as a series of alien attacks decimate the planet. Separated from her family, Cassie forms an alliance with Evan Walker (Alex Roe), a young man who may be her last hope. Forced to trust each other, Cassie and Evan fight for survival as the invaders prepare a fifth assault.
Director: Jonathan Blakeson
Writers: Susannah Blakeson, Akiva Goldsman
Stars: Chloë Grace Morteaux, Nick Robinson
Staff Review:

The Boy
January 22, 2016 PG-13 97 min
Horror | Thriller
A young American takes a job as a nanny for a young boy. Greta soon learns that the child of her employers is a life-size doll. They care for the doll as if it was human, to cope with the death of their own son. When Greta violates a list of strict rules, a series of disturbing events occur, leading her to believe that the doll is alive.
Director: William Brent Bell
Writers: Stacey Menear
Stars: Lauren Cohan, Rupert Evans
Staff Review:

The Revenant
December 25, 2015 R 156 min
Drama | Thriller
While exploring the wilderness in 1823, frontiersman Hugh Glass (Leonardo DiCaprio) sustains injuries from a brutal bear attack. When his hunting team leaves him to die, Glass treks through the wintry terrain to track down John Fitzgerald (Tom Hardy), the former confidant who betrayed and abandoned him.
Director: Alejandro González Iñárritu
Writers: John Swetnam
Stars: Nathan Kress, Richard Armitage
Staff Review:

13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi
January 15, 2016 R 144 min
Drama | Thriller
Six members of the Annex Security Team defend the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi from an attack by Islamic militants, after an American Ambassador is killed during an attack at a U.S. compound in Libya.
Director: Michael Bay
Writers: Chuck Hogan
Stars: John Krasinski, James Badge Dale
Staff Review:

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

BY HENRY KELLY

The Young Elites
by Marie Lu
more light-hearted parts when you expect something will probably go wrong.
You can't help but become attached to Adelina. It's not that she has a great personality; you just end up liking her, and through all the twists and turns of the book, you are silently rooting her on.
This book has a great storyline that keeps you reading with all of its mysteries. I would definitely recommend this book to anyone looking for a new read.

Ride Along 2
Although it may not live up to the original, *Ride Along 2* did fulfill my expectations.
Its light-hearted comedy had me laughing and its storyline actually had me interested.
The story revolves around a novice policeman Ben Barber (Kevin Hart) and his future brother-in-law, detective James Payton (Ice Cube), as they set off to Miami from Atlanta to cover a case. Thanks to a big lead, Ben and James come upon a computer hacker (Ken Jeong) who helps them track down their culprit in this inside job mystery. Kevin Hart and Ice Cube make for an adventure that is entertaining and interesting.