



The Hatchet

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Mom finds treatment for junior's

Veronica Bonfiglio, junior Brent Bonfiglio's mother, has possibly found a treatment for her son's disease, neurodegeneration with brain iron accumulation (NBIA). There supposedly is no known cure for this disease, and most drugs cannot improve the condition because they cannot cross the blood brain barrier and remove the excess iron from the brain. Any other drugs would deprive the body of necessary iron and cause patients to become anemic. The drug Veronica found, Deferiprone, can cross the blood brain barrier.

According to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NBIA is a "rare, inherited, neurological movement disorder characterized by progressive degeneration of the nervous system." Some of the symptoms include involuntary muscle

Repo Man, terribly executed

The year is not defined. The country isn't really the United States, just a paradox version. And apparently, the entire health-care of this nation is run by a greedy, evil conglomerate called The Union.

The Union will sell you artificial organs for every part of the body with a reasonable payment plan that suits your income. Or, at least, that's what they tell you. Then, when you slow up on payments, The Union reclaims their property, from your body, without proper surgery. This, essentially, is the film Repo Men.

Starring the always likable British Jude Law, and his American counter-part, Forest Whitaker, Repo Men is a good idea with terrible execution. It can be considered original, except for the fact that a rock opera film called Repo: The Genetic Opera! milked this plot back in 2008. However, no lawsuits are forthcoming so it's clear.

The shortcomings of this film are, sadly, the very things that the production company is marketing it for: Action. This is not an action film. There is quite a bit of blood, a lot of blood in fact. An excess of blood, as the camera does not shy away from showing, say, a repossession of an artificial kidney.

During frantic fight scenes, deep red blood seems to gush and spurt out of people unnaturally. This film is not for the squeamish. There is an attempt at a romantic sub-plot, but the chemistry between Jude Law and Alice Braga is extremely weak. Their cheesy intimate scenes are very poorly scripted and acted.

The ending, depending on how one is feeling about the film up to this point, can either ruin the entire experience, or complete it with a nice bow. The ending, to me, felt like a direct lift off the ending to Terry Gilliam's Brazil, and if you've seen Brazil you know what I'm talking about.

In short, do not take a date to see this film. In fact, wait for the DVD if you feel you have to see this film. It isn't worth the outrageous box-office ticket price. Trust me, I'm from The Union. Verdict: C-.



Photo by STAFF MEMBER

SENIOR BEN RICH DIVES INTO HIS BURRITO AT CHIPOTLE ALONG WITH THE REST OF HIS FRIENDS.

Seniors earn bucks for burritos

"Students come in with their flyers; we count them off, take our share, and give the rest to Washington," Chipotle manager Jose Corgorno said.

Chipotle donated fifty percent of the proceeds to the class of 2010.

"Every one [one word "everyone"] loves Chipotle and the senior class needs some money," Rich said. "We're very grateful to Chipotle for helping us out."

"If we can reach out to Washington High School, it's a pleasure for us," Corgorno said.



ASB decorates school campus

ASB members redistributed large planters filled with an assortment of wildflowers around campus over the past few weeks.

The students put in a brick pathway outside of the Eggers building, and they also trimmed plants around school, with student activities director Helen Paris wielding an electric edger.

These efforts are appreciated, but some students feel the money should go to school improvements, such as new books and bathroom locks. However, ASB isn't authorized to use student funds on such items.



Talent show 'one of the best' feature photo

Last 3 stories in A&E

* 'Catcher' belongs on the page

* Artist Spotlight: Lerch shines on the stage

* Bandapalooza's back!

Other stories that might interest you...

* Talent show returns with variety

* Students place first at Ohlone Theater festival

* Long awaited play starts production

* Students audition for spring talent show

* Bandapalooza's back!

Written by Noelle Fujii

The 18 different talent show acts brought an array of different performances in the cafeteria, Feb. 25 and 26. Both nights sold approximately 100 tickets.

Drama teacher Matthew Ballin was pleased with this year's show.

"It was great," Ballin said. "One of our best."

Talents ranged from music to poetry to dancing. Each performance ended with loud applause from the audience.

Junior Kimberly Valdovinos dropped her fan as she danced to Lady Gaga's "Paparazzi," but she didn't let it affect her performance. The audience stood and applauded for her as she ended her dance.

Junior Mario Rappa was the emcee. He introduced each person and his or her talent and added some comedy in between. He rehearsed some of his jokes, but he improvised most of them. Friday's show had a few technical difficulties, so Rappa had to take the stage until they were fixed.

"It was scary [during the technical difficulties] at first," Rappa said. "But in the end it was fun."

The performers enjoyed being on stage.

"I think [the talent show] was good. Everyone performed well," senior Lorenzo Dominquez said.