

Role Models brings laughs to theaters

NEIL PICKERING

Sports Editor

Movie Review

Role Models is a story about two losers, Danny and Wheeler (Paul Rudd and Seann William Scott), who work for an energy drink company. They go school to school to sell their product by telling kids not to take drugs and drink their beverage instead. Danny, played by Rudd, has an off day and ends up drinking too much of the energy drink and crashes the company truck onto school property and gets busted by the police. Upon their arrest they are given two options: spend 30 days in jail or work 150 service hours in a mentorship program. It only takes one day of mentoring these kids for Danny and Wheeler to realize that maybe going to jail is not half-bad.

When the two arrive at the Sturdy Wings mentorship program they are dealt some interesting children. Wheeler is assigned to a snotty mouth kid who has never been able to keep a mentor for more than a couple days and Danny receives an odd ball child Augie (Christopher Mintz-Plasse) whom devotes every afternoon to participate in organized medieval role-play. Mintz-Plasse, known for his Mclovin' character in *Superbad*, plays

an outrageous performance in *Role Models*. He makes the audience wonder if we should laugh at him, pity him, or give him a pep talk. Bobb'e J. Thompson plays Ronnie, Wheeler's mentor assignment, like a child Eddy Murphy. He and William Scott make a hysterical pair.

What makes this comedy a success is that the heroes Danny and Scott cannot even believe the kind of predicament they are in. William Scott gives his best performance since his role as Stiffler in the *American Pie* series. Rudd acts as the depressed mid-life crisis downer which allows Wheeler to act as the youthful friend whom gives encouragement to Danny. Even though Rudd and William Scott come from two different comedic backgrounds, they never let their two styles clash with one another and the result is profitable.

Rudd writes and costars in *Role Models* and by this point in his career it is puzzling to see why he is not as popular as he should be. While this movie certainly earns its "R" rating for its exceptionally cruel and perverted sense of humor, it manages to be charming which ends up making the movie more enjoyable.

Grade: B

Students moodle to success

DEREK NOVACECK

General Assignment

Over the course of the semester students have noticed how helpful the website, Moodle, is for not only students, but for teachers and parents as well. Moodle is a website in which a teacher has their own website for each class where they can put course work of any kind for students and parents to access. So far it has been a big hit with many students.

"The best thing about Moodle is that it makes the same information available to all students and parents," said mathematics teacher Ms. Kathryn Gillespie, a big "Moodler".

Gillespie said she first started to use Moodle to make class work available to everyone, and now she has students upload their work to it as well.

Another fan of Moodle is science teacher Ms. Diane Goerlitz

"I like Moodle because it provides a means for teachers to put content on the web students can use. It doesn't require a lot of expertise to use," said Ms. Goerlitz. "[Also] I can use copyrighted material from the textbooks without giving the whole world having access to it."

Not only are the teachers seeing the benefits of Moodle, but the students are as well.

"It's very convenient," said senior Megan Fullmer. "You can upload your work to it instead of sending it to your teacher's E-mail. It's easier because you can get the work and give it back to your teacher all on one site."

Senior Melissa Carr also agreed Moodle has helped her.

"It's good for when you're absent. It's much easier than going to all of your teachers and collecting all of the work you missed," said Carr.

Moodle was implemented not that long ago for District 87.

"Last summer we installed it for production inside the school district," said Josh Halls, a system administrator for District 87. "At the beginning only a few teachers were able to use it. We were just testing it out. Now that we know it works all the teachers have access to it."

As with all new technology there have been a few glitches.

"It doesn't seem to work well with all the types of browsers," said Ms. Goerlitz. "And of course one of the main problems is that some students don't have computer access at home."

"The biggest disadvantage is user problems. It just takes a while to get used to," said Ms. Gillespie.

National Honors Society members volunteer in the community

MERIDITH HAGERTY

General Assignment Writer

Started in 1921, National Honor Society is an organization whose intent is to honor students who show achievement in scholarship, leadership, service and character. To be inducted into the society students must obtain a 4.6 grade point average, and earn 20 hours of group volunteer hours and 10 individual volunteer hours. Gaining these hours, for some students, can be the most rewarding part of becoming a member of the National Honors Society.

"I worked for the benefit Hot August Nights [to earn volunteer hours]" said junior Natalee Olson. "It was really rewarding because I got to meet and talk with a lot of interesting people and it was great to be able to give back to the community."

There are many opportunities around town for students to earn their hours, so it is easy for students to fit in earning hours to their hectic schedules.

Students even can work events that interest them. For instance, a student who is interested in football, can earn their volunteer hours by working concessions at the schools football game. Volunteer hours vary from working at a haunted house, to working at a church food drive.

"[To earn my hours] I worked with younger children in swim programs, and at several events at my church," said senior Monica Drake. "Gaining the volunteer hours was the most rewarding part of becoming a member of the National Honors Society, it was great to help those around me and it was great to feel like a role model to the children I helped teach swimming to."

Signing up to earn your volunteer hours is a quick and simple process.

"You can just visit Mrs. Smithson and grab an hours sheet off of her window", said senior and Bloomington High School National Honors Society president Amy Dillman. "Then you can start finding hours."

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