

WOKSAPE

Evergreens Everywhere: Christmas Trees Decorated in Hats, Mittens, and Remembrance Ornaments Deck YHS Halls



PHOTOS BY MOLLY HENRICKSON AND LINDSAY LARSON

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Junior Casey Johnson stands next to the Student Council's remembrance tree—all proceeds go to the Gift Givers program. Next, the commons' Christmas tree stands in the atrium near the remembrance tree. Finally, the hat and mitten tree is located near the entrance to Yankton High School. Mrs. Kortan's senior homeroom sponsors this tree. All hats, mittens and scarves are donated to the contact center



Arthur Christmas is a Holiday Treat



BY HUNTER KOCH

Arthur Christmas is a feel good romp if there ever was one. Sure to entrance both young and old, this one is worth seeing with your parents, grandparents, or younger siblings.

Arthur Christmas shifts the paradigm of Santa Claus from a jolly geriatric gift bearer to a hereditary line of succession, much like that of a king or other royal family, where each Santa Claus goes on 70 Christmas missions, then passes the title to his heir.

In the beginnings of this film, the aging Santa performs his last mission with the help of an innumerable amount of elves and advanced technology. Santa's anal-retentive son Steve, who spearheads the delivery operation with utmost efficiency, is expecting, along with all the elves, to be crowned the new Santa Claus. Unbeknownst to Steve, Santa feels the need to continue his job, and doesn't hand down his title.

While the team believes the job has been completed, news arrives that, despite the technology and sophistication of the delivery process, a child did not receive her gifts.

Steve, still full of angst from his recent disappointment, doesn't care about one child, and insists that it is fine. But Arthur, Santa's benign and al-



truistic pariah of a son, is determined to deliver the present, simply for the sake of Christmas spirit.

So, with the help of living reindeer, the grand-Santa Claus, and the old sleigh, Arthur embarks on a fantastic and wondrous crusade to not only deliver the present to the missed child, but also to instill in everyone the true secular meaning of Christmas.

As stated in the prelude, this movie will please any age. Un-

like many children's films, this isn't filled to the brim with non-sequitur toilet humor, nor is it too sentimental for younger viewers. It finds the goldilocks zone, where, despite your age, you will laugh, and the laughs come often.

I would give this movie an A. This movie rises above the other contenders in this holiday season, and I would highly recommend viewing this in the theaters. It is well worth the over-priced ticket.

Editor's Note

During the Christmas season, I like to take the time to help those in need and remember those who have passed away. I take part in the annual hat and mitten tree that sits outside of the front office at the high school. I also help by giving food and everyday items to help the students in the Gift Givers program prepare baskets for families in need.

Since the holiday activities are in full swing here at the YHS auditorium, I encourage all of you to do your good deed for the day by stopping and placing a set of mittens and/or a hat on the tree outside of the theater. You could also place beneath the hat and mitten tree items such as gently worn coats, snow pants, or anything that will help a person stay warm this winter season.

Another thing I like to see many students take part in would be the Gift Givers organization. There are many ways that a student can get involved with this by actually buying a gift for a person who they don't know or by supplying items for a basket to give to a family. This year I have seen many kids bring in a number of both varieties of presents and everyday items such as toothbrushes or toothpaste. This is really what the meaning of Christmas is — giving to help those who are less fortunate.

Finally, I like to remember those who have passed away and how they brought joy and happiness to my life. I remember the people that I loved most by buying a remembrance tree bulb. Throughout recent years, our student council has been selling the bulb around the Christmas season for those who wanted to remember someone that they loved. The YHS student council recently held their ceremony, and it was great. They told us how to cope with remembering a loved one.

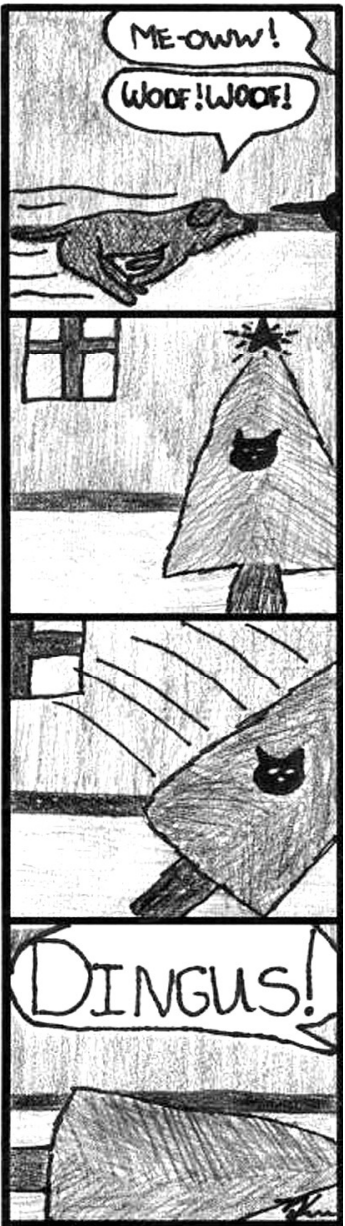
I challenge you this holiday season to help those who need it most by doing your part and giving what you can. Also remember those that you love around Christmas and remember how much joy and happiness they have brought to you.

Nathan Rausch

Dingus



BY TOM KELLEN



Countdown to a Happy *New Year's Eve* Viewing



BY KAYLA SYLVESTER

New Year's Eve is a 2011 romantic comedy directed by Gary Marshall.

Like *Valentine's Day*, Marshall's previous film, it depicts a series of holiday vignettes on the state of several romances. This movie has every situation from rock-star romance to fighting pregnant women, and everyone from Robert De Niro and Michelle Pfeiffer to Zac Efron and Halle Berry. This star studded cast and assortment of heart-warming plot lines are sure to please viewers, even the ones who hate chick-flicks.

New Year's Eve takes place in one of the most magical holiday backdrops, New York City. The ages of characters range from a Vietnam veteran to a fifteen year old, love struck, girl. The stories are just as pleasing as the cast. One story follows a young girl wanting the one thing every young adult wants, a kiss at midnight, but also like every young girl she has a mother. On the other end of life a man dying of cancer has a wish of his own—to see the ball drop live.

One man even travels with a stranger's family in an RV across the state to attend the party, granted he is the main speaker for the evening. While in the RV he reveals another

reason he wants to be in New York at midnight—a woman he met the previous year on New Year's Eve. He isn't the only one involved with the party. You can't forget the catering company and the rock-star, *Jensen*, entertainment, which have an interesting connection to say the least. You also can't forget the guests, or the wannabe guests. One young bachelor even helps a middle-aged woman, who happens to have four tickets to the party, fulfill her long and seemingly impossible resolution list just to attend the party, but finds a friend along

the way. His roommate on the other hand hates the idea of New Year's Eve altogether.

While all of this is going on another couple really could care less about a party, because their baby is due. When they go to the hospital they discover the \$25,000 prize for having the first baby on New Year's Eve; they also discover another, overly competitive, expecting couple. As you can see with all of these stories someone is sure to find one they enjoy.

It is a great movie for a night with friends, date night, or even a night with mom.

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Don't forget to register for the 2012 Academic Scholarship Days on January 30th and February 2nd. www.mtmc.edu/admissions/events/index.aspx

I wasn't sure Mount Marty was for me until I toured campus. Now I love the fact that I'm close to home, playing a sport I love, and getting all the personal attention I need to be successful with a challenging major.
— Kylie Gross, Biology Class of 2012

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