

EVENTS

Filmmakers Club Auditions
3-5 p.m. Feb. 21
Baldwin Hall 228

Truman's Filmmakers Club will host auditions for its semester project. Anyone is welcome regardless of acting experience. For more information, contact Katey Stoetzel at krs8255@truman.edu.

Sweet 26 Birthday Bash
7 p.m. Feb. 19
University Art Gallery

Join the Women's Resource Center to celebrate its 26th year at Truman. This free event is open to students and faculty. Those attending should wear cocktail attire.

Taste of Truman

with Laura Seaman

Blue Velvet Cookies with Cream Cheese Filling

Directions:

- Preheat your oven to 350 degrees
- Pour the cake mix in a large bowl, then add two large eggs, 2 tablespoons of flour, one-half cup of either canola or vegetable oil, and 1 teaspoon of vanilla
- Stir until completely mixed. The mix will be extremely thick, so if you're using a mixer be sure to clean out the beaters.
- In another bowl, mix half a package of cream cheese, 1 cup of granulated sugar, and one-half teaspoon of vanilla. This mixture will also be extremely thick.
- Take scoops of the cookie dough, roll them into balls, then flatten them.
- Place a small lump of cream cheese filling in the middle, then roll the dough over it and roll it back into a ball before placing it on a cookie tray.
- Bake for 13 minutes, then let cool for 10 minutes
- While the cookies are cooling, place a small bowl of white chocolate chips in the microwave and heat for 30 seconds, then stir until fully melted.
- Drizzle the melted white chocolate on the tops of the cookies



Cookie Dough Ingredients:

- 1 box of blue velvet cake mix. Red velvet is more common, but it's just a preference.
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tablespoons flour
- One-half cup oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Cream Cheese Filling Ingredients:

- One-half package of cream cheese (4 oz.)
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- One-half teaspoon vanilla extract
- Optional: 1 bag of white chocolate chips



TOP 5 Serialized Television Shows



"Breaking Bad" details the fall of Walter White as he goes from friendly neighborhood chemistry teacher to drug kingpin Heisenberg. To fully understand White's transformation, viewers could not miss a single episode during its five-season run.



1

"24" is the ultimate serialized television show. The show's format calls for it, because each episode details an hour of the life of federal agent Jack Bauer, complete with a running clock to keep track of the time. Each episode ends at the top of the hour, but always in the middle of some major action.



4

"The Wire" chronicles stories of the relationship between law enforcement and various institutions in and around Baltimore. Each season focuses on a different institution, like the illegal drug trade, but plotlines and characters continue through each season, making tuning in every week a must.



2

While a lot of "Lost" episodes are 45-minute contained stories, the mysteries that surrounded the show are what make it serialized. Those mysteries are what kept the audience tuning in each week, because with each answer, even more questions followed.



5

Netflix shows rely on serialization to get people to continue watching. "Marvel's Jessica Jones" was the most successful of these with a well-paced 13-episode story of the Marvel Cinematic Universe's first female superhero.

REEL.talk

"DEADPOOL" DELIVERS AFTER BRILLIANT MARKETING STRATEGY

BY KATEY STOETZEL
Features Editor
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The months leading up to the release of "Deadpool" perfectly encapsulated what the film eventually would end up as. "Deadpool" had one of the best marketing strategies I've seen — the test footage leaking at Comic-Con a couple of years ago, the "Deadpool" movie Twitter following the official Hello Kitty Twitter account, the first picture of star Ryan Reynolds in full Deadpool costume laying on a bear rug in front of a fire, the April Fools' joke that said the film would be rated PG-13, and the decision to release during Valentine's Day weekend. All of it weird, all of it in character with Deadpool, and all of it an extremely meta build-up to an even more meta "Deadpool" film that didn't disappoint. You wanted "Deadpool" Gush Fest 2016? This is "Deadpool" Gush Fesh 2016.

I love the way this film isn't afraid to take risks. It's unapologetic with its fourth-wall breaks and commentary on other current pop culture properties — most notably the "X-Men" franchise — and it has a right to be as unapologetic as it wants. The film fought an uphill battle to get greenlit by the studio, but it eventu-

ally was brought to fruition because the people behind "Deadpool" loved and cared about the film and pushed to get the project done.

Of course, the film wouldn't have been a success without the help of Reynolds. His enthusiasm for "Deadpool" was electric and contagious, which transferred to his onscreen performance. There's never a dull moment in the entire film. It's fun. It's risky. It's dark humor like I've never seen. Reynolds is Deadpool. There's no one better.

I love how small-scale the events of the film are. Most superhero movies involve some world domination plot the good guys have to stop. But not "Deadpool." The narrative structure of "Deadpool" barely deals with a forward-moving plot. Much of the film is Deadpool's backstory — we see Wade Wilson the mercenary, the first meeting of Wade and Vanessa, Wade's diagnosis, Wade's decision to undergo torture to cure him of cancer, his transformation into Deadpool and finally, his mission to track down Francis, the man who turned him into Deadpool. The present day events start in a taxi cab as Deadpool is on his way to confront Francis. A bloody fight ensues on a highway overpass, a couple of X-Men show up to stop Deadpool, Francis gets away and we learn Deadpool has regenerative powers.

A rescue mission and an X-Men team-up between Deadpool, Negasonic Teenage Warhead and Colossus follow, and that's pretty much it. But that's okay, because I'm not sure much else needed to happen during the first "Deadpool" film. It does a great job of letting us know who this Deadpool guy is. Deadpool spends a lot of the film telling the audience he isn't a hero, and in the traditional sense, he's not. But he is a guy who fights for the little guy, and that's okay in my book.

Other standouts in this film are T.J. Miller as Wade's friend Weasel. Miller counterbalances Deadpool's crazy with a little less crazy quite nicely. Brianna Hildebrand as Negasonic Teenage Warhead is great to watch as well, even with her limited screen time. Morena Baccarin as Wade's girlfriend Vanessa is always fantastic — though she was mostly the damsel-in-distress — but Baccarin and Reynolds' onscreen chemistry is strong.

"Deadpool" is able to get away with its constant fourth-wall breaking and meta nature because of the care it takes while doing so. There are so many one-liners, it'll take multiple viewings to catch them all.

Be sure to stick around for the after-credit scene, too. I'll see you at the next available "Deadpool" screening. **Grade — A**