

'In Good Company' deserves a raise

Jeff Sorensen
The Clackamas Print

In spite of the creative drought that is Hollywood, a tiny hint of its own golden age of entertainment sometimes peeks through, and most recently in the form of the film, "In Good Company."

The film, written, directed, and produced by Paul Weitz ("American Pie," "About A Boy") is a brutally, albeit ironically honest look at the life of two very different men, and how being forced unwillingly into each other's lives becomes one of the best things to ever happen to either of them.

One lead male role, played by seasoned actor Dennis Quaid (who upon seeing this movie I finally forgave for "Day After Tomorrow"), is a 51-year-old ad salesman for a major sports magazine that has 30-plus years of experience under his belt. In probably his best acting performance to date, Quaid alone managed to somehow make parting with \$8 much less painful.

Opposite Quaid is relative new-comer Topher Grace ("That 70s Show"), who plays a surprisingly well-portrayed failing cell phone salesman who, thanks to a company merger, becomes Quaid's new, divorced 26-year-old boss.

Heading up the supporting cast is 20-year-old Scarlett Johansson, who, as talented as she is beautiful and with a mile long credit

list ("The Horse Whisperer," "Lost In Translation"), plays Quaid's daughter and Grace's love interest. Many young female actors of Hollywood could have played a similar role, but the endearing sincerity that Johansson brought to her character showed a talent she possessed that can't be matched by any of the "teenie boppers" that have defaced modern Hollywood.

The story itself, while very well written, is difficult to explain because so much of it is circumstantial, but it's also brilliantly woven with clean, honest, and witty humor that rarely makes it outside of a CEO's boardroom for lack of sexual content. None of this, however, seems to affect how timely and topical this movie is, as it touches on so many of the realities of a family man who spends day-in and day-out at the office.

Beside all the fundamental "great film" attributes present, what really put the movie over the



Quaid meets Grace, his new boss and his daughter's new boyfriend, in "In Good Company," movie about two men who are unwillingly drawn together in their personal and business lives.

top were the incredibly inventive camera shots and the subtle use of CGI to create arguably some of the best filming ever produced. Without divulging too much, it's as though shooting video photography had been briefly revived as the art that it once was. Like the

old days, every shot made sense, and every shot was brilliant.

A big "well done" to Weitz for this movie, as it is so reminiscent of when real talent like James Cagney, Elizabeth Taylor, Humphrey Bogart, and Frank Sinatra commanded the silver

screen. The 40s and 50s saw the film industry's best acts, and anyone who missed true experience of a night movie will finally enjoy that shows an otherwise pathetic Hollywood what "A-List" is really all about.

Keep on rocking in the free world

If you'll excuse me, I have 40 more hours of in-your-face to listen to...

Joel Gaynor
Über Nerd

There are certain things in life that are accepted universally as true: politicians will lie; everyone—with the exception of Keith Richards—will someday die; Keanu Reeves cannot act; and nothing is free.

Au contraire!

Fellow poor, music-loving college students, I bring you free iPods.

Go ahead and scoff. You'll probably want to get that out of your system good and early. As soon as you're finished, grab a pen and paper, and take down some notes.

The next time you're at a computer, open up your favorite browser and navigate to FreeiPods.com. Once there, you will be asked to choose between a 20GB iPod, a 4GB iPod Mini (any of five different colors), or a \$250 gift certificate to the iTunes online music store.



Once you've made your choice, you simply enter your email address, create a password and get down to the task at hand.

The process is very simple. Enter FreeiPods.com there is a list of several other websites offering services for free or at discounted trial rates. Offers range from a free 90-day trial of AOL to a month of Blockbuster.com rental service for \$9.95. Complete one of the available offers and the easy part is done.

Next is the more difficult task of convincing other people to join as well. FreeiPods.com is, in effect, a classic pyramid scheme. You've completed your end of the bargain, but to get a freebie, you have to refer five other people to sign up and also complete offers. Once that's done, you get a

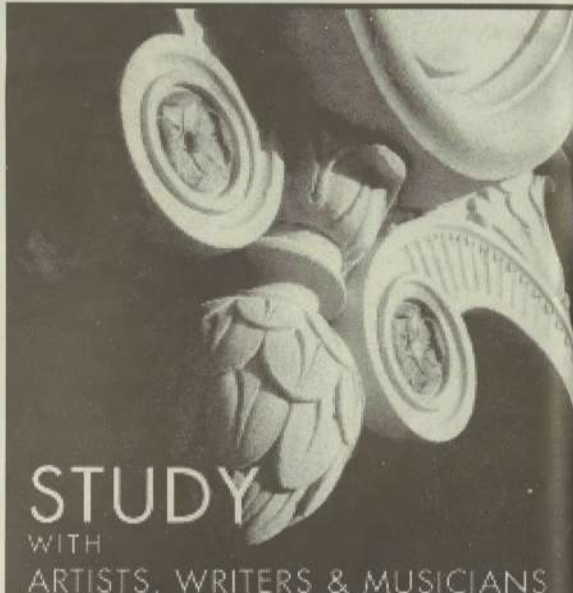
free iPod.

Yes. It's really that easy.

The economics behind the promotion are solid. Gratis Network, the company that runs FreeiPods.com, receives an average of between \$50 and \$70 for every trial offer completed by its clients. It takes six completed offers, or roughly \$300 to \$420, to earn a \$300 iPod, and the number of people who get only two or three referrals far exceed that of those who recruit five. Make no mistake, Gratis is definitely making money.

Then what's the catch? There really isn't. Sure, you'll need a credit card to sign up for, nearly any of the available offers, and make no mistake; companies will magically acquire your contact information. Then again, if you're truly worried about your privacy, you aren't using the internet anyway. I also wouldn't suggest using your primary e-mail address, as your daily spam count will rise significantly.

So you sift through a bit more junk when you check your inbox. So you answer an extra unwanted call or two. If it starts to get to you, just turn up your iPod; it doesn't seem so bad after all.



- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ARTISTS | CREATIVE CAREERS |
| ART | CULTURAL & HISTORICAL STUDIES |
| INTERIOR DESIGN | INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES |
| PHOTOGRAPHY | MEDIA & FILM |
| SCULPTURE | MUSICIANS |
| | MUSIC COMPOSITION |
| WRITERS | MUSIC PERFORMANCE |
| ENGLISH LITERATURE & WRITING | MUSIC THERAPY |
| | SACRED MUSIC |

To work with an advisor, e-mail studentinfo@marylhurst.edu or call 503.699.6268.

- YEAR-ROUND ADMISSION**
- SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ALL AGES
 - SMALL CLASSES
 - CUSTOM DEGREE PLAN OPTION
 - NATIONAL REPUTATION
 - STUDENT-FOCUSED, FRIENDLY STAFF
- ★ US News & World Report **BEST COLLEGES 2005**
"Number one in the Northwest for small classes"

MARYLHURST UNIVERSITY
JUST 10 MINUTES SOUTH OF PORTLAND
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities accredited
17600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY (HWY. 43) MARYLHURST, OREGON
Serving students since 1893. www.marylhurst.edu 503.634.8100

Try Something New!

CCC will be offering a ring-casting class. Check the Winter schedule for Art 008-03 or call ext. 2386 for information about the date, location and time.

LUNCH AND MOVIE SERIES
@ AC108, NOON-1:30

FEBRUARY 2
"Eyes on the Horizon," Alberto Giacometti

FEBRUARY 16
"Secret Knowledge," David Hockney

Lose the winter doldrums. Bring your lunch and enjoy a movie. For more information, call the Art Department, ext. 2386.