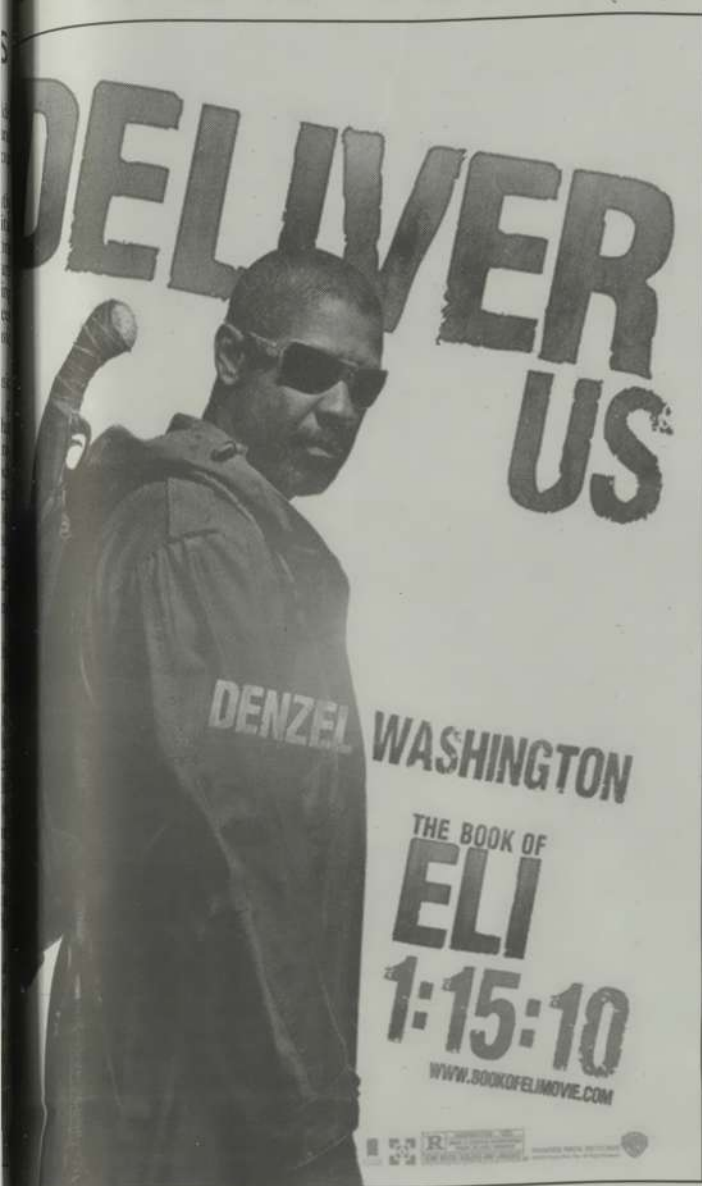


Thou shall not kill? But Eli will



A new post-apocalyptic film starring Denzel Washington as Eli stirs controversy for its Christian revival elements

By Annemarie Schulte
Arts & Culture Editor

And we thought times were rough now. Thirty years after the apocalypse, Eli, played by Denzel Washington, is still alive and traveling through the ruins of America, for one purpose: to deliver the Bible to the place in which the "voice" is telling him to take it — west.

His heightened sense of sight and sound make him unmatched, and the "hijackers" he meets on the road that try to kill him for his goods are often taken out by him in one strike. This is how he meets Mila Kunis's character, Solara, who travels the rest of the way with him, and they take turns saving each other.

One night, Solara finds Eli's book, and he teaches her how to pray. (Anyone born after the apocalypse cannot read.) She then prays in front of the man who wants to acquire the Bible for evil, and he figures out that Eli has it. He pursues Eli and many times tries to kill him in order to acquire the book.

The funniest part of the movie was when Carnegie (evil) told one of his boys to fetch the book from behind the TV, to which he replies, "The what?" because he has no idea what it is. It's a reverse of how the world is today in which the older people know of technology, and the young ones have never even heard music.

The movie is gritty and sometimes hard to watch. Eli slays everyone he comes into contact with who tries to hurt him. Some parts are beautiful in emotion however, and the movie does a great way of weaving the

two together smoothly.

The film at times looks black and white because the sky and most everything else has lost its color. The people have dread and chapped lips and many have resorted to cannibalism (which makes them shake because of too much human meat).

Eli eventually ends up at Alcatraz where he has been led all along by this voice. The movie saves nearly everything for the end but does not confuse you. It's touching, rewarding, hypnotic and enlightening.

Many critics have said it's a modern day revival of Christianity because, after all, the Bible is what protects Eli and lets him continue through his journey for 30 years. The Bible is the book that Carnegie wants because he knows he can make everyone believe in him if he has it and then rule the world. The Bible is the hope from which the new world is supposed to start again. And perhaps the most powerful scene is when a man places the Bible on a shelf, next to the Quran.

If I could sum up the movie in one quote it would be, "Religion is good in the hands of good people and bad in the hands of bad people" — James Rocchi in a special to an MSN movies review.

CAST

Denzel Washington - Eli
Gary Oldman - Carnegie
Mila Kunis - Solara
Ray Stevenson - Redridge
Jennifer Beals - Claudia
Evan Jones - Martz
Joe Pingue - Hoyt
Frances de la Tour - Martha
Michael Gambon - George
Tom Waits - Engineer
and others

Club president revitalizes Criminal Justice Club

John Simmons
Clackamas Print

American Criminal Justice Club has had a long history in Clackamas as has our local chapter, Epsilon Tau Alpha. However, over the years students had lost interest, and club membership was dwindling. All this changed when Starla Kilcup walked into the room.

Starla is one of the people who helped reenergize our club. She and Alice Cruikshank, Secretary and Treasurer. "We are the highest active members, and that is largely due to Starla's enthusiasm during our time in office."

Starla is a student here at Clackamas Community College, and she was about 13 years old when she joined the club.

In an interview, she said, "I went through some tough times in my life that encouraged my determination to seek justice for those that are victimized, and I feel that I want to help those that are victimized within me."

Starla is inspired to become a leader in ETA and eventually president by her mentors, Starla and Ida Flippo, who have been supportive throughout her journey within Criminal Justice. She also chose to run for president because she thought she could bring a new perspective to the group and help it

"I have been involved in other leadership programs, and I find that I have the drive to take ETA to another level and continue the success of the group," Kilcup said. "However, the main reason was that I absolutely love the opportunity and purpose of the American Criminal Justice Association."

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I went through some tough times in my life that encouraged my determination to seek justice for those that are victimized.

Starla Kilcup
President of Epsilon Tau Alpha

Kilcup was sworn in as president on Dec. 1, which was the ETA's last meeting before winter break. She has only been in charge for a few weeks, so it's too soon to judge how well she is doing, but so far, signs point to her being a good choice for the group.

The Clackamas chapter was the Overall Award Winner at the regional conference, and the group is looking even stronger going into

the ACJA National Conference, which is being held in Portland from March 14 to 19. The conference will have several workshops for Criminal Justice students to attend, as well as firearms, physical agility and several written competitions to participate in.

"I'm certain that she's going to do a good job because she's so open to suggestions and available to all members, while still being able to make decisions as needed," said Cruikshank. "She has organized several work sessions that have put us ahead of the game in preparing to host our national competition."

In addition to her duties as chapter president, Kilcup will be running the Physical Agility Competition at the Sabin Skills Center for the conference, which, according to Cruikshank, is quite a task in and of itself.

"I feel that [Kilcup] being the president of ETA is the best move that our group has done," said Ryan Hansen, ETA Vice President. "Her ideas, leadership and strength are three things that ETA has been missing for a long time. I mean no disrespect to anyone who has held an office with ETA in the past, but with [Kilcup] leading we are moving in the direction that we need to be moving in."

For the past several months, Kilcup has been experiencing some medical difficulties, but through the help and support of the entire ETA group, the club is maintaining forward momentum.

"I would not be successful as a leader without the other members... everyone works together. I feel as

though ETA is on a good track right now. We are organized and have a good start on planning the national conference which will be held in Portland this year," said Kilcup.

Kilcup's main goals for the group are to maintain order and a high level of organization and improve upon communication within the group and to work towards building strong bonds. The group is currently preparing for nationals with the goal of making it through with minimal difficulty, which Kilcup believes they will be able to do,

expressing her confidence in the group's abilities.

Overall, Kilcup seems to have made quite the impression on her fellow ETA members, who listed several good qualities she possesses and the ways she is right for her position.

"I feel extremely blessed for this opportunity and to be involved with such a fine group of people," Kilcup said. "I just want to thank everyone for their support and I hope everyday that I can make them all proud."

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