



Two rival toys joins forces to reunite with their beloved owner, Andy, in Disney's Toy Story.

## 'Toy Story' perfect family outing this holiday season

*Toy Story* is the surprise smash of this holiday season.

At first, it did not seem to be a movie that I would want to see. It seemed like only children would appreciate a movie about toys which come to life in a young boy's bedroom. I was surprised that this film is equally entertaining for adults and children. It is even more entertaining than the "official" Disney animation feature film *Pocahontas*, released this past summer.

*Toy Story* is the first feature-length computer animated movie. It opens up windows for computer animation to become the animation of the future. The animation may seem



BY BRIAN J. KUCHAR

Toy Story  
Animated

awkward from the beginning of the movie, but it seems more realistic to me than hand-drawn animation by the end of the movie. The movie was produced not just by the Walt Disney studios. Pixar Animation Studios, a computer

graphics company based in Northern California, used their computers to develop the magic that appears on screen.

An amazing one trillion bytes of computer data was needed for the movie's completion. This vast amount of data space needed was necessary to capture the movie's virtual reality feel.

*Toy Story* begins in the bedroom of a little boy named Andy. It is Andy's birthday party on the day we first meet him. It is not even Andy's birthday yet, but his mother is having this birthday party now because the family is

See Toy, pg. 10

## 'Toy Story' soundtrack doesn't measure up

BY BRIAN J. KUCHAR  
STAFF WRITER

The soundtrack to Disney's *Toy Story* is not worth running out and buying.

The movie itself will stick in your mind more than these songs, penned by Randy Newman.

Disney obviously did not feel that a strong soundtrack would be necessary for this computer-animated movie. Previous animated features, like the *Lion King* and *Aladdin*, had swinging soundtracks which were used in the movie to help drive the plot and develop the characters.

In this movie, none of the characters break out into song. We do not have a singing teapot vocalizing "Beauty and the Beast," or the big blue genie breaking out with songs like "Friend Like Me."

When the two main toys; Woody the cowboy and Buzz the Space Ranger confront situations, a song may be heard in the background, but the songs are usually drowned out by the action in the movie.

The first song, "You've Got a Friend In Me," is fea-

tured in the beginning of the movie. It has a nice relaxing beat to it, but it drags on. It does not seem to have the power to have thousands of kids rush out and buy the soundtrack because there is no catchy chorus or cute animal voices singing the lyrics. Basically the sentence "You've Got a Friend in Me" is repeated over and over again.

The other two songs with lyrics are "Strange Days" and "I Will Go Sailing No More". They are uninspired and have little importance.

The rest of the *Toy Story* soundtrack is instrumental. Newman does a better job here than with the other songs, since the instrumentals fit the mood changes in the movie. When there is a scene of despair, a slow melancholic tune is heard. When there is excitement in the air, the songs spring up with action.

*Toy Story* is another great movie with an average soundtrack. I'm sure if Disney knew that this might be as big or even better than *Pocahontas*, they would have put more time into the soundtrack.

## Oak Ridge Boys music a hit in any season

BY JAN WILLIAMS  
A & E EDITOR

If you're searching for a Christmas CD or tape, look no further. Run right on out and get *Country Christmas Eve*, the third yuletide release from the Oak Ridge Boys.

The great thing about this CD is you don't have to be a country western fan to enjoy it. While they include some country music-oriented carols like "Pretty Little Baby Child," "Blue Christmas" and "Thank God for Kids," it is their traditional Christmas songs that make this CD so enjoyable.

Their unmistakable harmony is featured in "Manger Medley." Perfect is their four-part a cappella rendition of "Away in a Manger;" glorious are their deliverances of "The First Noel," "Joy to the World" and "Angels We Have Heard on High."

The rich bass sound of Richard Sturban is featured on "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem." The veteran is still hitting that "A" two octaves below middle-C with ease and clarity.

My favorite was a Joe Bonsall-penned song entitled "Daddy's Christmas Eve." Here, father Joe looks at holidays past and present.

"I wrote this a year ago, on Christmas Eve," Bonsall reminisced. "I was sitting all by myself at home, looking at the tree and counting my blessings. I think a lot of parents do that at that time of year."

Bonsall, who has written four Christmas songs for the group, said he penned it the very next day.

In addition to getting a great Christmas CD, treat yourself to the Oak Ridge Boys in concert at Bally's, here in con-

junction with the National Finals Rodeo. The Charlie Daniels Band took the stage first, with the talented Daniels showing off his fine fiddlin' and guitar picking. He played so hard, it was necessary for his fiddle bow to be replaced several times during the performance.

The band delivered hits like "Sittin on a Bar Stool," "Orange Blossom Special," and their version of "The Christmas Song," a bluesy rendition about those chestnuts roasting on an open fire. The band finished their performance with the 1979 smash, "The Devil Went Down to Georgia." "You can't touch this," he chided M.C. Hammer, who did a spoof of the original Daniels hit.

By the time the curtains went up a second time, the crowd was ready for the Oak Ridge Boys. They were all smiles, laid back and minus Steve Sanders, one of their long-time members.

"We had Duane Allen's son playing for us," Bonsall recalled with a twinkle in his eye. "But he couldn't make it tonight, because he had to go home and take finals." The audience gasped and laughed. "This is definitely a first," Bonsall teased. "No one in the Oak Ridge Boys ever had to go home to take finals."

He then introduced the group's newest member, Paul Martin, former lead singer for the group Exile. He is definitely a welcomed addition, blending wonderfully with the bands already established sound. He sang the lead on several songs, including "American Made" and "Give

See Boys, pg. 10

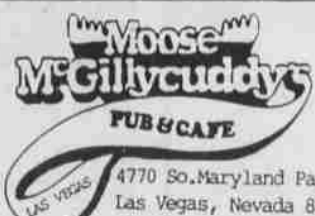
# BURGER MADNESS

IT'S BURGER  
MADNESS AT THE  
MOOSE EVERY  
MONDAY THROUGH  
FRIDAY, 11:30-3:00!



WORLD FAMOUS UNIVERSITY BURGER

GET A 1/2 POUND  
CHEESEBURGER,  
FRIES, AND A SOFT  
DRINK FOR \$4.50



4770 So. Maryland Parkway  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89119