

Bean's TV humor becomes a film

Rowan Atkinson's ability to be absurd brings success to the TV take-off

By David McGlinchey
Contributing Reviewer

Do you find jokes involving boogers funny? Are you the type of person who enjoys watching people fall down? If so then *Bean* is the movie for you.



Before I went to see *Bean* last weekend, people who had already seen it warned me that it had too little material to be stretched into a full length movie.

They said that maybe this would have been good in a half-hour time slot, but it dragged on when made into an hour-and-a-half film.

These people are morons. The director could have added another hour onto this movie, and I would still have stayed there, riveted, for the entire time. Admittedly, I may have left the theater a bit more stupid than when I

walked in, but it was well worth it.

I do have to admit that this movie is certainly not for everyone. If you thought that *Dumb and Dumber* was just plain dumb, than stay far away from *Bean*. But if you find that Jim Carrey can reach all of your emotions with one contorted facial expression, then this flick might be for you.

You won't find any profound moments in this movie, and there are no deep and meaningful parts. To enjoy this movie you have to be the type of person who thinks bathroom humor is fresh and hilariously clever.

Director Mel Smith put together a chance for British star Rowan Atkinson to show off his considerable talent for being absurd. The movie is derived from the long-running British television show, *Mr. Bean*, in which Rowan Atkinson walks around making a fool of himself. The only difference between the show and the movie is that the movie version of Mr. Bean speaks and the budget is clearly higher.

In this movie, Mr. Bean is, for lack of a

better term, an idiot. He is a hopelessly clumsy and clueless museum employee whose colleagues are desperate to get rid of him. When the museum gets a request for a guest speaker at the unveiling of "Whistler's Mother" in Los Angeles, they pass him off as an acclaimed art critic. He is sent to an American museum, which must then deal with him. It is a nice, simple plot that is easy to follow and doesn't require too much thought.

Peter Macnicol is great as the American host of Mr. Bean who must find a way to cope with the disasters that his British guest leaves in his wake.

As if this isn't enough to convince you to see the movie, toward the end of the movie, the audience is treated to the acting skills of none other than Burt Reynolds. *The Burt Reynolds*. No movie with Burt Reynolds in it could possibly be bad.

So if you are in the middle of a grueling week of studying for finals and you find that you are taking yourself too seriously, I'd definitely recommend going to see this movie.



Courtesy of Bohemia Beat Records

Lucky Charms

Abra Moore, playing acoustic guitar, performed with Big Head Todd at Ziggy's Nov. 30. Her latest album, *Strangest Places*, features the single hit "Four Leaf Clover."



Dave Frisvold/Old Gold & Black

Jazzin' it up

The Jazz Ensemble, conducted by C. Kevin Bowen, the director of bands, featured student musicians during its Nov. 20 performance in Brendle Recital Hall in the Scales Fine Arts Center. The ensemble, made of saxophone, trumpet, trombone and rhythm sections, featured a tribute to legendary musician Duke Ellington as well as a holiday piece. The music department is also sponsoring a holiday choral concert at 8 p.m. today, also in Brendle.

Calendar

To have your event listed, send e-mail to arts@ogb.wfu.edu, fax to 910-758-4561 or write to P.O. Box 7569.

ON CAMPUS

Music

Holiday Choral Concert. Brian Gorelick will direct this annual collection of seasonal favorites, from "For Unto Us a Child is Born" to the "Messiah."
When: 8 p.m. Dec. 4
Where: Brendle Recital Hall
Cost: Free

Movies

Strictly Ballroom. The best picture at the 1994 Golden Globe awards, strictly about dancing.
When: 8 p.m. Dec. 4
Where: Pugh Auditorium
Cost: Free

Air Force One. Harrison Ford stars as the president when his private plane is hijacked by terrorists in this summer's blockbuster hit action movie.
When: 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. Dec. 5, 6, 7
Where: Pugh Auditorium
Cost: \$2

Holiday events

Lovefeast. The annual holiday celebration and a favorite student tradition under the direction of Chaplain Ed Christman.
When: 8 p.m. Dec. 7
Where: Wait Chapel
Cost: Free

ELSEWHERE

Concerts

Ziggy's. Dec. 5: Gibb Droll with Ekoostik Hooka. Dec. 10: Michael Parrish Band and Buckdancer's Choice. Dec. 11: Underfoot and Sqweezebox.
Where: 433 Baity St.
Info: 748-1064

Cat's Cradle. Dec. 4: Gibb Droll with Ekoostik Hooka. Dec. 5: Rolly Gray & Sunfire with Ram Band. Dec. 6: Stereolab with High Llamas.
Where: 300 E. Main St., Carrboro
Info: (919) 967-9053

Lizard and Snake Cafe. Dec. 4: Bunny

Brains with Earthy EMF. Dec. 7: Underbrush. Dec. 9: Block.
Where: 110 N. Columbia St., Chapel Hill
Info: (919) 929-2828

Holiday events

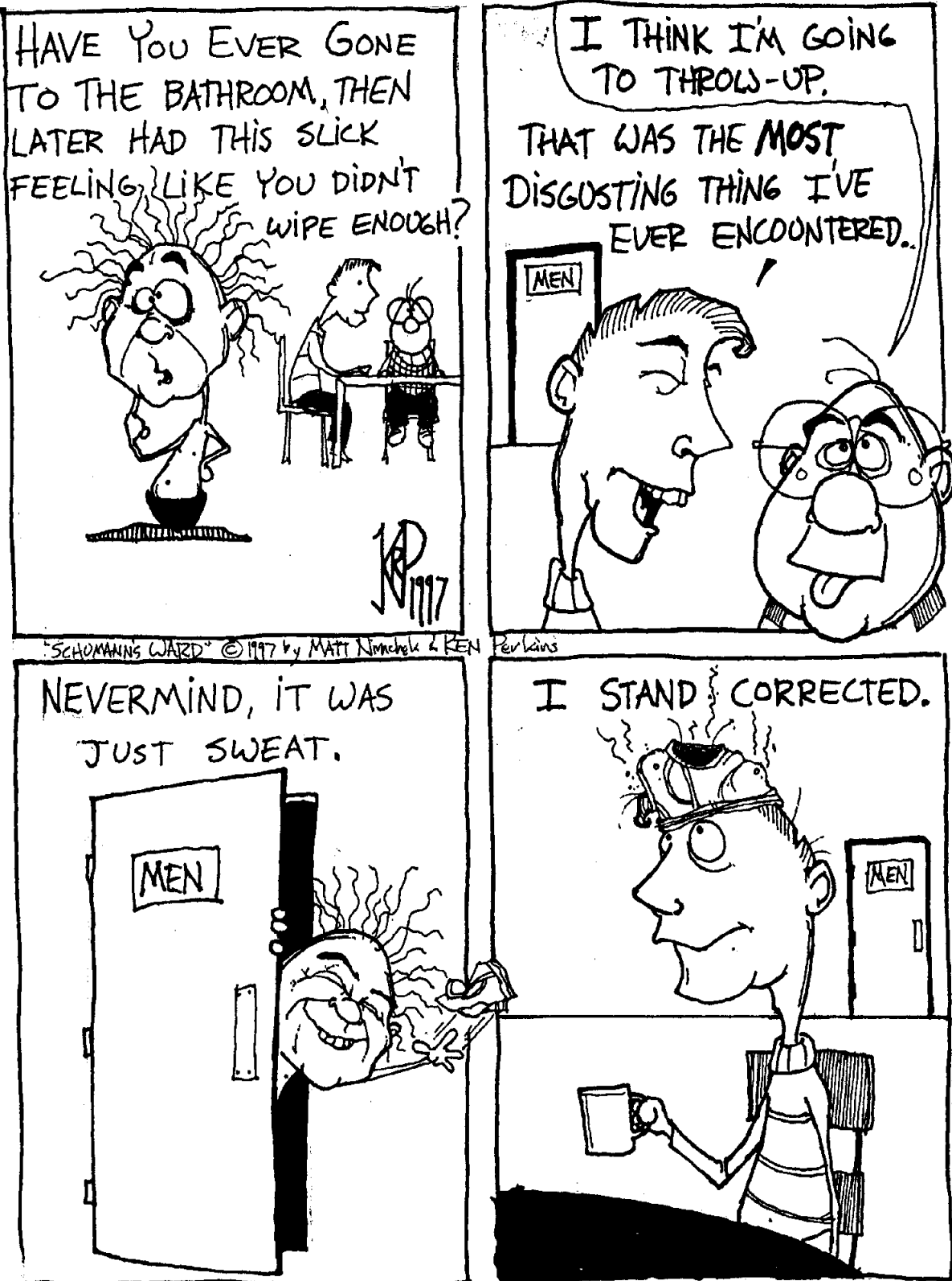
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. The delightful family holiday classic by Barbara Robinson.
When: 8 p.m. Dec. 5, 6, 2 p.m. Dec. 7
Where: The Arts Council Theatre, 610 Coliseum Drive
Cost and info: \$7, 725-4001

A Wreath of Carols. The Bel Canto chorus will sing traditional holiday favorites from around the world.
When: 8 p.m. Dec. 5; 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Dec. 6; 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9.
Where: Christ United Methodist Church, 410 N. Holden Road, Greensboro
Cost and info: \$12 students and \$15 adults. (910) 854-3622

Nutcracker Ballet.
When: 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 6 & 7; 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 8.
Where: Stevens Center for the Performing Arts, 405 West Fourth Street
Info: 723-7919

Schumann's Ward

By Ken Perkins and Matt Nemchek



Non Sequitur

By Wiley

