



SONY PICTURES

Hollywood is nearly out of ideas. Be it on the big screen or TV, dozens of remakes and reboots now grace the same screens that once projected new and creative motion pictures and television programs.

Simply put, the best compliment a recently-released movie can receive is that while it is entertaining, it is, at the same time, original. *Rush* fulfills both these desires.

Based on true events and set in the mid-70s, the action-racing drama revolves around the rivalry of two of Formula 1's then most talented drivers, James Hunt (Chris Hemsworth) and Niki Lauda (Daniel Bruhl). The two each stand as separate protagonists, the antagonists to their counterpart.

*Rush* fades in from black set in 1976 at a stormy Nurburgring, Germany, a seven plus mile course twisting dangerously through German woods and countryside. The cars sit drenched on the rain-soaked starting line, awaiting the starting flag. The flag waves, tires spin, puddles turn to mist and so begins the treacherous race.

Changing pace, the story skips back six years to an F3 event (F3 is to F1 as the minor leagues are to the Major League Baseball) in which Hunt and Lauda are racing one another for the first time. On the final lap, Hunt makes a daring move to the inside of Lauda as they enter a tight corner, forcing Lauda to slam on his brakes and spin into the adjacent patch of grass. Hunt places first, Lauda fails to finish, and the two confront each other post-race in victory lane. The rivalry begins.

On occasion, the film's timeline veers off the racetrack and into the personal lives of the two drivers. Each gets married, one gets divorced and all the while tension builds continually between James Hunt and Niki Lauda.

As predicted, this increased tension culminates in a poor decision resulting in devastating injury, heartbreak and regret amongst the two competitors.

From there, the movie moves slowly towards an appropriate yet predictable resolution.

As someone who has watched auto racing their whole life, I can attest to the accurate actions and circumstances that are depicted throughout the film.

While outcomes of various races and events are aggressively foreshadowed and, at times, can be easily foreseen, *Rush* is fast-paced, heart pounding, entertaining and on top of that, refreshingly original.

Rated: R

By: Zack Zolmer  
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rush: B+



REGENCY ENTERPRISES

*Runner runner* disappoints. The technicalities of the film, the details, the logistics of gambling, the acting was all fantastic. But unfortunately, the pieces of the puzzle didn't come together nicely as one.

Upon seeing the film, I was very excited. It appeared to have a deep, perplexing pot, the cast was top notch and the trailer simply came off as exciting.

The film is about Richi Furst (Justin Timberlake), a poor, yet gambling genius, Princeton student who is faced with an obstacle: his tuition fee. Prices are high, and he has to find a way to pay. So, he uses his gift to his potential.

But alas, his perfect plan (to gamble for his tuition on online poker) is destroyed when he gets cheated. So, he sets out to meet the person who cheated him of his money. And the plot unfolds from there.

Now, it was a decent film, don't get me wrong. It just didn't have any depth. If the film is meant to be 'satisfactory' then it succeeded.

The problem wasn't the actors', it was the filmmakers. The film just lacked a *je ne sais quo* in places and didn't flow smoothly. The pieces just didn't come together.

However, I must give credit to Justin Timberlake. Slowly making his way into the film industry, he's been successful. I've seen him in a few roles and he's a good actor. Each of the characters he has played were distinctly different. I don't see variations of the same person, in contrast to other actors.

Ben Affleck was also amazing. Admittedly, I was surprised to hear that he was in this film, after he's been bulldozing his way through Hollywood. Yet, he convincingly played his villainous character, and the on screen chemistry between him and Timberlake was solid.

If the filmmakers had cut more scenes, that would have helped the pace of the film. But other than that, I had no major complaints. The cinematography was nice, the acting was solid, there was enough mystery to keep me involved in the film and there was also the occasional comic relief.

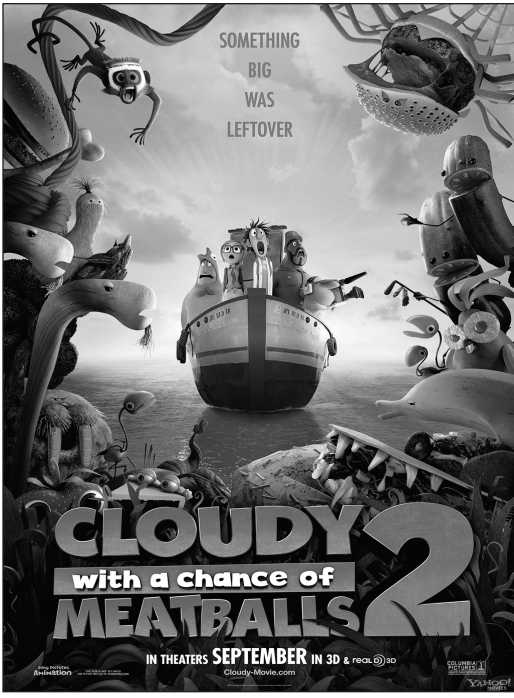
But nothing special.

I would recommend this film as a second choice. If there's something else to see, go see that.

Rated: R

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runner runner: C+



ENTERTAINMENT

*Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2* premiered in movie theaters on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

The animated sequel starts where its predecessor, *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*, left off. The "FLDSMDFR," which is a machine that turns water into giant food and makes a giant food storm, still exists.

Flint, the main character, along with his sidekick Steve the monkey, idols Chester V, the owner of Live Corporation.

Chester V evacuates the island, Swallow Falls, to clean up the giant food, and also offers Flint a position at Live Corporation in San Jose.

Flint takes the job at Live Corporation, which offers him his dream job and the experience of being a low level inventor. The job opens his eyes to the invention world and he aspires to get the orange jacket to be a real "inventor."

He receives an assignment from Chester to return to Swallow Falls to destroy the "FLDSMDFR," which is now producing wild food-animal hybrids called "foodimals."

Some other characters come to the mix from the last movie like, the small camera man, Manny, the policeman, Earl, the city mascot, Brent, and Flint's dad, Tim. They all, along with Sam, who is Flint's girlfriend, join Flint on the mission to destroy the "FLDSMDFR."

I loved the first movie because it was so humorous and didn't have a typical enemy.

In the sequel they had to add a stereotypical enemy and the whole movie revolves around Chester.

Over all, the movie is extremely humorous and innovative. The many inventions created by Flint are really enjoyable.

Although Chester was a predictable villain, I really enjoyed the relationship between Flint and Chester. It turns out that they actually have a lot in common.

The movie also has extremely hilarious situations for the characters. The animation exhibited throughout the film is also very beautiful.

Not much more should be said, but if you liked the first movie, you will most definitely find yourself cracking up to this one as well. There are some things that I would change, but in the end this is a fantastic movie.

Rated: G

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cloudy with a chance of meatballs 2: C