

Megamind Review

Megamind provides a “super” good time to moviegoers

At first glance, November release Megamind would seem to stand out for only two reasons: the considerable star power of its talented cast and the fluorescent blue of the lead character’s head. Luckily there is much more to the film than that, as it is a highly entertaining, funny and fun spin on the classic superhero story. Borrowing some lore from Superman mythology, this story begins with Megamind, voiced to perfection by Will Ferrell, being sent away from his planet under attack by his parents towards Earth in an escape pod. Unfortunately for him, another family on a nearby planet was experiencing similar troubles, resulting in Megamind’s first encounter with his future arch-nemesis, Metro Man (Brad Pitt). Metro Man ends up landing in an upper class neighborhood where he is brought up by a loving family; Megamind, on the other hand, ends up in a prison where he is brought up by several inmates who teach him a skewed version of “right” and “wrong”. He soon accepts the darker, evil side of himself and fully embraces his rivalry with the “goody-two-shoes” superhero Metro Man. “No matter what happened, I was always the last chosen, the odd one out, the black sheep. The bad boy. Was this my destiny? Wait. Maybe it was! Being bad is the one thing I’m good at! Then it hit me: if I was the bad boy, then I was going to be the baddest boy of them ALL!” After years of unsuccessful attempts, with a simple kidnapping plot Megamind is seemingly able to destroy his enemy, surprising even himself. Without someone to battle against, however, he quickly becomes depressed and decides to create a new hero to restore meaning to his life. Things soon go awry, and zaniness ensues. This film, directed by Tom McGrath (Madagascar), is like most Dreamworks features in that it is beautifully made. The amount of detail and character in the animation is truly stunning, and it is also a standout in 3D. The main cast, including the aforementioned Ferrell and Pitt, as well as Tina Fey, Jonah Hill, and David Cross, does a bang-up job here, proving once more the reason they are so immensely popular right now. There are numerous visual gags throughout and the script is surprisingly witty and fast for a “children’s movie”. And perhaps that is the stigma that would hold many people, especially college students, back from seeing this film: “It is just a kid’s film, so it is not a ‘real’ movie. Not worth my time.” This is thankfully not the case with this film. Though it is often times pretty silly, seems a little too similar to films such as the recent Despicable Me and does drag a bit towards the middle, there is no denying that a good movie is a good movie, period. No matter what age you are, you are sure to have a super movie-going experience with Megamind. Verdict: A-