

Rodeo comes to town

Ashley Williams '07
News Assistant

A rodeo is a public competition in which professional bull riders show off their talents.

Their score is judged by how long they can stay on the bull without falling off; the riders have eight seconds until a finish buzzer sounds.

On January 20 and 21, a group known as the Professional Bull Riders came to the Civic Center in Columbus, Georgia. The riders live in various parts of the United States as well as travel all over the country to display their skills.

Leaving home may not always be that easy since bull riding has a high risk of injury and possibly even death.

For some, though, the dan-

ger makes it that much more attractive.

"It was a great experience to watch all the riders get thrown off and stomped on by the bulls. It was a thrill," said Chris Griggs '08.

Riding has started to gain popularity, however; so much so, it has landed its own spot on tv.

TLC, the station that has sponsored hit television shows such as Trading Spaces, What Not To Wear and Miami Ink, has introduced a new series, Beyond the Bull.

The show is a ten part series that follows bull riders Hart, Clark and Moraes on the job and at home.

Beyond the Bull airs on Tuesday nights at nine p.m. eastern time.



WWE presents SmackDown!

Ursula Hickey '07
Photo Asst.

On Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2006, wrestling fans from the tricity area attended a taping of SmackDown! at the Columbus Civic Center. Several wrestlers traveled to Columbus for this huge event.

Some of the stars who were in town included Scotty 2 Hotty, the tag team of The Dicks and the current champion, Kurt Angle.

Many CHS students attended this exciting event.

"One of the highlights of the evening was getting to take our picture with the championship belt," said Everett Duke '06.

Many fans brought signs to

display with hopes that they would be shown on television.

Prior to this event, it had been over a year since wrestling fans in this area were able to enjoy wrestling at the Civic Center.

"The event was an overwhelming success. It was the first one at the Civic Center in over a year and I think it was the best yet," said Duke.

Wrestling fans of all ages should be thrilled with the success of this event. Perhaps given the success of the event, over a year will not pass until WWE brings SmackDown! back to its fans in this area.

Graphic novel becomes major motion picture

John Smith '07
Design Editor

The Wachowski Brothers and Joel Silver, the creators and producer of the revolutionary \$1.6 billion-grossing *Matrix* trilogy, will unleash the action thriller *V For Vendetta*, starring Natalie Portman (*Star Wars: Episodes I-III*) and Hugo Weaving (*The Matrix Trilogy*).

The screenplay by Andy and Larry Wachowski is based on the acclaimed graphic novel *V For Vendetta* by British author Alan Moore and illustrator David Lloyd.

The film has been praised for its vision, strength and expressiveness.

Moore is widely considered to be one of the finest comic writers of all time.

Produced by Joel Silver

on the *Matrix* trilogy.

In a story where Germany won a future World War and Great Britain is now a fascist state, a masked avenger known only as "V" (Weaving) conducts re-

man) from a life and death situation, she joins his struggle against the forces of oppression.

V for Vendetta is set in the futuristic landscape of totalitarian Britain.

before they worked on *The Matrix*, which shares several similar themes with *V for Vendetta*.

Fans of the novel will be satisfied with this film. The novel was originally published in 1989; *V for Vendetta* has been reissued as a hardcover book with never-seen-before sketches.

Portman told interviewers at www.imdb.com that she looked forward to shaving her head totally bald for the role of Evey Hammond during the torture scenes.

James Purefoy (*Resident Evil*) was originally cast as V, but left the project. Weaving was then brought in to take his place.

V for Vendetta will be released nationwide March 17. Be sure to see this action-packed flick. For more information go to www.vforvendetta.com, www.warnerbros.com and www.imdb.com.



The new signature mask for the film worn by Hugo Weaving

Contributed Photo

and the Wachowski Brothers, *V For Vendetta* will be directed by first-timer James McTeigue, who served as the First Assistant Director

revolutionary warfare against the government. When he rescues a normal young woman named Evey (Port-

man) Being huge fans of the original comic series, the Wachowski brothers wrote a draft of the script in the '90s

