

DRIVE-IN, CONTINUED

before Thanksgiving break, but it wasn't completely done until probably the very last week of classes - just in time for finals," March said. According to March, Perkins took care of the distribution for 2021 Spring through this fall semester. Once the team realized they were finalists for the National Student Production Awards competition, March reached back out the drive-ins, let them know just how far their story went and asked about potential premieres. Despite the success of the documentary, it did face some challenges, many of which were complications caused by

the COVID-19 pandemic. "Although I made the process seem so nice and easy, it was not without its hurdles," March said. "With COVID-19 having made its official debut in the Spring of 2020, it completely changed the way we would typically do our production. Communication with the drive-ins, with each of us on the team and with Mr. Perkins was virtual. I'd say COVID-19 made it a much more difficult process for sure." In addition, March said the team worried if the University would even allow them to visit film sites due to the widespreadness of the pandemic. Once they were

able to make trips to the sites, they had many precautions to take such as obeying social distancing guidelines at all times, wearing masks the entire production and formulating a specific cleaning policy for the equipment after each shoot. As for the team, March said it took multiple people to make the project come to life. "Our direct team consisted of mostly students," March said. "Connor Boon, Alex Roberts, Autumn Scott, Ethan DuVall, Taylor Settlemoir, Zach Ruple and I all took part. Even though we each had a specific role, we all in some way floated around into differing roles

during production. There's also Perkins and a couple of other Media department faculty members, and, of course, we had the four drive-ins who allowed us to interview them." As for other projects coming up for the CMP program, March said there are a variety of different ones going on, many of which are student-led. "This semester, we've got local sports and concerts," March said. "A crew from ASU-TV went to Westside this semester to film their football games and to Paragould to film a few bluegrass concerts, and in the past, we've done rugby games, spelling bees, auctions

and other studio productions, so there's no telling what we've got up our sleeve in the semesters to come. This semester, ASU-TV also has a few studio producers working on shows." March emphasized that although the program has many plans, they are not limited to just those and have an abundance of creative liberty. "The thing with the CMP program is that there is an emphasis on the word creative," March said. "I don't think students realize just how much freedom they have to build something and run with it. Our documentary started off as an idea, but it quickly grew into

something more. Every student has the freedom to start their own project and produce their own 'Revenge of the Drive-In.'" The documentary premiered at the Stone theater in Mountain View Nov. 5 and 6 at 6:45 p.m., and will appear at the Malco theatre in Memphis and the Kenda theatre in Marshall on Nov. 11 at 7 p.m. As for a showing on A-State's campus, that is still a work in progress, but March said that they hope that A-State's community will be able to see their hard work.

Jonesboro comic book store hosts grand opening over the weekend

COURTNEY EDWARDS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A comic book store in Jonesboro hosted the grand opening event for a new location on Saturday. B&B Collections was started around four years ago after Hastings announced they were going out of business in 2016. In 2017, Beau Honeycutt and Brandon Jones began selling comics from a flea market. Since then, the business has started selling more than just comics including funkypops, action figures, fan art and graded comics. Honeycutt said the closing of Hastings struck them both as a "void." Although they never imagined they would open a business, they saw an opportunity to fill in a gap in the local market of comics and "all things nerdy." "B&B" in B&B Collections either stands for Beau and Brandon or Brandon and Beau, depending on who is asked. The business gained a lot of growth from selling merchandise off

of eBay. The business still sells comics to customers all over the world using eBay. Eventually, they launched their own website, where they sell comics and merchandise online. Honeycutt and Jones were both keeping inventory for B&B Collections in their homes. That's one of the reasons they decided to relocate to a new building. "We just outgrew it," Honeycutt said. "We were actually doing a disservice for our customers because we couldn't get all the stuff out that we have." The grand opening event featured activities for customers. There was a give-away, which offered prizes including gift cards and free comics. Jones' brother also played live music outside on Saturday with his girlfriend, who call themselves Seven Hollows. "We've never really been a traditional store," Jones said. "What kind of comic book store has live music?" One of B&B Collections' regular online customers traveled from Campbell,

MO for the grand opening event. Jeremy Wills said he thinks physical comic book stores will stick around for a long time even though many people prefer reading online. "There's a lot of collectors out there," Wills said. "They like having a physical (comic book) instead of digital." Honeycutt and Jones put most of the money they make from B&B Collections back into the business. Honeycutt said that was how they were able to move to the new building. Both Honeycutt and Jones have other jobs which allow them to provide for their families. Honeycutt works in sales at Ashley's Furniture and Jones is the head of access and delivery services at A-State. They both said they would love to make B&B Collections their only source of income eventually. "We're not there yet," Honeycutt said. "We're looking at providing for two sets of families. We're very realistic with it. We know that it's a little bit different than if it was someone by

themselves running a business." Honeycutt and Jones have around five employees who help them run their business while they work at their other jobs. Jones said he will run the store on Saturdays when he doesn't have to work at A-State. Jones said the business was likely to outgrow the current space within six months. He said they have various plans for accommodations for growth depending on how much more room they need. "There's a wall we'd like to move out," Jones said. "If not, we'll probably have to find a new spot. It's not a bad problem." B&B Collections is an authorized Comic Book Certification Service (CBCS) dealer. This means they can have comic books professionally graded. CBCS offers impartial grading and certification for comic books. Once the comic book receives a grade ranging from 0.5 (lowest) to 10 (highest), it is put in a protective plastic case. Graded comics can be worth more depending on the issue.



Photo by Courtney Edwards | Editor-in-Chief
Beau Honeycutt (left) and Brandon Jones checking out a customer during B&B Collections' grand opening event.

Customers can bring in comics for store credit at B&B Collections or monetary compensation. Honeycutt said the business encourages customers to bring in items. He said they would at least look at items and point customers in the right direction if B&B Collections can't help. Honeycutt and Jones have known each other for around 20 years. They both worked for an insurance company, where they met. "We've just been friends

ever since," Jones said. Honeycutt said he loved comic books as a child, but he outgrew them as he got older. He said comics were something he and Jones had in common. "We're a lot alike with certain things and we're very different with certain things," Honeycutt said. "That was something we had in common was just that nostalgia." B&B Collections is open Tuesday-Friday 12-6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Thanksgiving Search

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