



H I L L C R E S T H A L L - M A K E I T S O

## Star Wars Episode I: A Big Steaming Pile Of Sith.

And now, it's time to present the top six Star Wars movies of all time, in order from best to worst.

Coming in at the top of our list is Empire Strikes Back. Easily the best out of the series, it has some of the most classic lines. It also had the best ending. Luke gets his hand cut off, finds out Vader is his father, Han gets frozen and taken away by Boba Fett. It ends on such a down note. I mean, that's what life is, a series of down endings. All "Jedi" had was a bunch of Muppets. Speaking of Jedi...

Number two on our list is A New Hope. Groundbreaking, exhilarating, and the best plot out of the entire series. You get introduced to such classic lines as "use the force," "may the force be with you," and "help me Obi-Wan Kenobi." Also, Mark Hamill still looked he might have had a decent acting career. Speaking of bad acting...

The third movie on our list is Return of the Jedi. Perhaps the best part about this movie would be seeing Leia in that outfit (yeah, you know which one I'm talking about). The Emperor gets a great role in this, you get to see Vader without the helmet, and once and for all evil is vanquished from the world, yadda yadda. The ending of this movie brilliantly sums up one of the best trilogies of all time. On the subject of great trilogies...

Revenge of the Sith would have to be the fourth movie on this list. It segued very nicely into the old ones, with the only exception that Vader is awesome in 4-6 and Hayden Christensen has the acting range of a 2x4. There were some kick-ass graphics though, and no one can deny that Ewan McGregor is simply amazing. While talking about simply amazing...

Easily the fifth movie on this list would have to be, fittingly, Episode 5: The Empire Strikes Back. Apart from some of the most famous lines in cinema of all time, i.e. "I am your father," it also had Billy Dee in it. The movie has a very dark tone to it, which contrasts sharply with the other two movies in the trilogy, and Han Solo gets a chance to fly through an asteroid field. Super. Freaking. Awesome. Speaking of awesome...

The sixth and final movie on this countdown would have to be Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King. It was a bold decision on Lucas's part to move the story from outer space to Middle Earth, bring in an entirely new cast of characters, and change his name to Peter Jackson, but I think we can all agree it still remains the best decision Lucas has made in the past 20 years (apart from not making Episodes 7-9).

Well, that sums up this list. Obviously, in a battle for the stars, Star Wars has the upper hand. It came first, it's the most recognizable, and I drew the short straw and had to write about it. Until next time, um, don't watch Episodes 1 and 2.

*Jeremy Henry is going to name his first car the Millenium Falcon, his first son Han Solo, and his first daughter Jabba the Hutt.*

## STARGÅTE'd = STAR-GAH-ANGSTROM-TED

MacGyver was a real person. His eponymous autobiographical television show was so popular that men and women alike were beating down his door, pleading for an opportunity to make sweet, sweet sandwiches with him. Even his best effort to dissuade them—revealing his first name to be Angus—did nothing to stop the hordes of duct tape-wielding MacGyvermaniacs. He had no choice but to change his name and go into hiding.

However, I have determined through exhaustive research and the use of many prestigious private investigators (including Thomas Magnum and David Choquette) that MacGyver is living under the identity of one Richard Dean Anderson. He just couldn't stay away from the adventures, and in his newest nonfiction show, *Star-gate SG-1*, tackles pretty much the same issues... but they're in space.

It is only natural that during his years of hiding, MacGyver (or "Jack O'Neill," as he is known on his new, awesome show) has changed a bit. His hair is now graying, but just enough that he seems wise and toughened to the cold realities of life. That, and the bleak blackness of space. However, his trademark wit remains intact. His ability to perform miracles also remains: he can apparently shape-shift into a remarkably convincing clone of Kurt Russell in times where he needs to be especially depressing.

Given the sheer awesomeness of the show's leader and the completely coincidental diversity of his team of intergalactic explorers, *Gate* obviously has the best characters around. Plus, it is easily the most believable: I'll take a wormhole and machine guns any day over "proton torpedoes," "FTL drives," "teleporters," and "phasers." For these and other reasons, all those other Star Imposters can take their mythological allusions and shove it... er, them. And if you don't like what I have to say, you can just go and kree. Yeah, you heard me, kree.

*Peter Kauffmann, like Teryl Rothery, has never seen anything like this before. He would like to point out that this article is positively hilarious if you've seen the show, so just start laughing hysterically... now.*



April 12, 2007

## “Captain’s Log — To boldly split infinitives...”

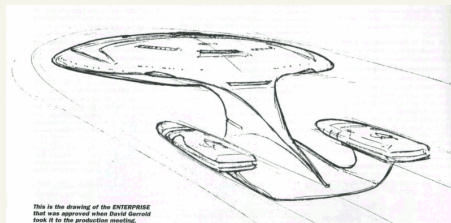
Greatness of a TV show can be measured by many things, and by any standard none has surpassed Star Trek. In cultural impact, sheer breadth, test of time, sales of action figures, and instantaneous magnitude of awesomeness, the Star Trek franchise rocks the vacuum of space so hard that the planets start to wobble on their axes.

Perhaps the comparison is unfair, for in Star Trek there is a universe of televised experience. Counting only the 4 good live action series (i.e., Not *Enterprise*), there are 606 TV hours of Science Fiction’s finest. Throw in the 10 hit movies over the past 30 years, and we have a force the unites generations and brings its vision of peaceful coexistence into our living rooms and into our hearts.

Plus, the battle scenes are awesome!! In that one DS9 episode, you know, where they were retaking the station from the Dominion? Yeah, that battle where the Federation fleet fought the combined Jem’Hadar-Cardassian fleet, and our doods were losing but at the last minute they were rescued by the Klingons!?! That’s still like the coolest 5 minutes of TV ever. Oh man. Wow.

What could triumph over Mr. Spock, James Kirk, Dr. McCoy? When you need more warp power, to whom will you turn? Anakin? Lee Adama? They’ll be too busy all emo curled up in the corner crying. Han will be chasing tail (probably Chewie’s), while the SG-1 crew will just talk themselves to death.

A great show deserves a great ensemble cast. SG-1 is right out, because though I concede that Angus MacGyver is awesome, he’s saddled to a crew that can barely walk around the set without bumping into each other. Star Wars sidesteps this problem nicely. Each movie involves the death or betrayal of a beloved character, then separates from the next movie by so much time that we’re bound to have forgotten the



details of the last movie. In some cases that’s thankful, such as with Jar Jar, while with others we’re left to mourn “why did R2-D2 lose his awesome rocket boosters.”

Battlestar, with its epic qualities and a writing/directing/producing staff that looks strangely identical to the latter Star Trek DS9 and Star Trek Voyager episodes, could one day build its own dynasty. But who wants to wait 30 years? To fill that time span, all Star Wars has offered you are really, really, really lame books written by fans whose only motivation was to write the love scene between Sarlacc and Jabba. Ewww. SG1 had a good run, and I admire their tenacity with the new spinoff, but in order to gain respect a show must first take itself seriously, which Stargate clearly does not.

In conclusion, Star Wars is for chumps. Battlestar Galactica shows promise, but so did the Titanic. Stargate combines the worst of the Sci Fi channel with the worst of MacGyver, chews it up, and substitutes lame costumes and special effects for plot.

*Ryan Luck plans to live long and prosper.*

## NOW, ON BATTLESTAR GALACTICA

So my esteemed colleagues have all tried to persuade you that their “stars” are the best. You should not believe them, but me, and I tell you that BattleStar Galactica is by far the best of the stars. Why should you not believe them? Let’s eliminate their credibility... one by one... U.S. Congress Style.

Ryan Luck, who vainly argues that Star Trek is superior has been secretly having an affair with Jeff (with a G). This HAS GOT to cloud his judgment concerning Star Trek. You know what I mean. Clearly he can’t be trusted. Plus, Commander Adama could whip Captain Picard with his nothing more than a replicated cup of Earl Grey. No questions asked.

Jeremy Henry seems to think that Star Wars would win the epic battle. Let me tell you this- Jeremy is Jewish, and I once saw him eating pork. How are you going to trust a sneaky, deceitful, penny pincher that can’t even keep kosher? Furthermore, while Luke tries his Jedi mind tricks, Cylon Number Six could seduce him and nuke the last rebel base to oblivion. Star Wars is pwned.

Peter Kauffmann argues for Star Door?... or is it Star Fence?... Oh right, it’s Stargate... no worries, I’ve never heard of it either. I did do some research on it however to find some disturbing facts. Stargate SG-1 seduced MacGyver(Richard Dean Anderson), dumbed him down, and gave him a gun. That is just wrong. Plus, nobody watches it anyway...

In conclusion, the only one of the others you can trust is Peter... and no one watches SG-1. Clearly, BSG reigns supreme.

*My name is Brad Shapiro, and I approved this message.*



Only BSG can combine this much awesomeness with this much sexiness. I’ll leave it up to you to figure out which one is which...

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