

= Napoleon Dynamite (TV series) =

Napoleon Dynamite is a 2012 American animated sitcom television comedy series based on the 2004 indie film of the same name . Set in the small town of Preston , Idaho , it follows the adventures of the titular 16 @-@ year @-@ old boy , who thinks he is skilled at everything . The series was created by the film 's co @-@ writers and directors Jared and Jerusha Hess , who developed it with Mike Scully and proposed it to Fox .

The series received mixed reviews ; critics were divided on how well the source material translated to animation . The premiere episode had a Nielsen rating of 9 @.@ 5 million viewers , but the ratings later dropped and the last four episodes averaged only 4 million viewers . The series ranked sixth in viewership among teenagers . In the United States , Napoleon Dynamite originally ran on Fox 's Animation Domination lineup from January 15 to March 4 , 2012 for six episodes , before being cancelled . The show is now airing reruns in Canada on Adult Swim .

= = History = =

Married couple Jared and Jerusha Hess were co @-@ writers and directors of the 2004 film Napoleon Dynamite , and had wanted to do an animated version since the film 's release . They thought animation was the best way to continue the world of Napoleon Dynamite as the original actors had grown too old to play teenage characters . Following the film 's success , Fox Searchlight Pictures wanted a sequel , but the Hesses delayed due to commitments to other projects and fear that audiences would tire of the Napoleon Dynamite characters .

Development of the series began in 2009 when Jared Hess met with writer @-@ producer Mike Scully to propose an animated version of the film to him . Scully stated that " Napoleon Dynamite as an animated series made " perfect sense " to him , and the two presented a nine @-@ minute pilot episode to Fox in 2010 . That May , Fox officially confirmed that an animated series with the original cast was in development with close involvement from the Hesses . Fox placed an order for six episodes as a trial run , and in July 2011 ordered seven additional scripts to be put into production if the series was renewed for a second season . The show was overseen by the Hesses and Scully .

The series premiered on January 15 , 2012 , as a mid @-@ season replacement for the animated series Allen Gregory . During its six @-@ episode run , Napoleon Dynamite had no consistent schedule ; it was constantly shifted on the Fox schedule in favor of football and award shows . On May 15 , 2012 , Fox announced a schedule for its 2012 ? 13 season that dropped Napoleon Dynamite from the listings . The complete series was released on a single DVD in November 2014 by Olive Films .

= = Premise = =

The Hesses set the series towards the end of the Napoleon Dynamite film ; Scully said they transferred the characters and premise , but not the events of the film . In the film , set in the small town of Preston , Idaho , Napoleon (Jon Heder) is an awkward 16 @-@ year @-@ old who loves practicing ninja moves , soul dancing and drawing pictures of the liger , an animal he says is bred for its skills in magic . He makes up stories about himself about hunting wolverines in Alaska and a gang wanting him to join because of his skill with a bo staff . His brother Kip (Aaron Ruell) is an unemployed 32 @-@ year @-@ old ; flimsy and gawky , he is the target of Napoleon 's outlashes , although he often brags of his wrestling abilities and overall coolness ; he spends his days in an internet chat room talking to a woman named Lafawnduh . The two live with their grandmother , Carlinda (Sandy Martin) , who enjoys riding all @-@ terrain vehicles . Deborah " Deb " Bradshaw (Tina Majorino) is shy outcast who is infatuated with Napoleon . Napoleon 's uncle Rico (Jon Gries) is a middle @-@ aged man who lives in a camper van and is obsessed with his failed football career and with attempts at get rich quick schemes . Rex Kwon Do (Diedrich Bader) is a self @-@ declared martial @-@ arts master who runs a dojo .

Napoleon becomes friends with a new student , a Mexican immigrant named Pedro Sánchez (

Efren Ramirez) who rarely conveys emotion or speaks . Pedro runs for class president after seeing a poster at the school dance . On the election day , he gives a mediocre speech in front of the student body . Napoleon does a dance routine as Pedro 's skit for the election and receives a standing ovation , saving the campaign and winning Pedro the election . Following the campaign , Kip and Lafawnduh meet each other in real life and are wed . Jared Hess has stated that the series takes place before the marriage , but after Pedro 's election , and several new characters are introduced .

Main cast of Napoleon Dynamite

== Series overview ==

== Episodes ==

== Reception ==

Reviews for the show 's premiere episode were mixed . Linda Stasi of the New York Post praised its humor as almost as funny as the film , and Nancy Smith of The Wall Street Journal called it " a dream come true " for fans of the film . Ed Bark of UncleBarky.com enjoyed the show and said it was " far funnier " than the Fox animated comedies Bob 's Burgers and Allen Gregory . Simon Moore of Flickering Myth compared the show 's " left @-@ field laughs " favorably to the humor in The Simpsons and Futurama .

David Wiegand of the San Francisco Chronicle found the writing not funny , writing that he could not see " Jon Heder 's expressionless face " as he talked in the animation . The Staten Island Advance said the change to animation freed Napoleon from real @-@ world limitations , but thought it " lessen [ed] the overall appeal of the character and setting " . Lori Rackl of the Chicago Sun @-@ Times did not like the movie and liked the animated series even less ; she thought the emotions and physical humor were lost in the change to animation .

Brian Lowry of Variety gave the show a neutral review : " To say the show represents an improvement over Allen Gregory is not much of an endorsement , but there is something amusing about Heder 's monotonic voice and Napoleon 's utter lack of self @-@ awareness , along with fast @-@ paced gags like a miniature golf course where hitting the ball into Hitler 's mouth wins a free round . " Robert Bianco of USA Today called the first episode a " vulgarized premiere " that detracted from the film 's qualities , but called the second one a " sweeter , funnier improvement " . Mary McNamara of the Los Angeles Times wrote of the pacing that the " satirical silence or non @-@ sequitur scenes slowly compiled to establish tone " in the film , but were sacrificed for the faster pace of a network TV show.Mirna Valerio

Simon Moore of Flickering Myth disagreed the faster pace was to the show 's detriment , calling the film 's " snail @-@ like pace ... its biggest flaw " .

Despite canceling the show , Fox touted in a press release that it had an averaged 2 @. @ 8 / 7 Nielsen share and 5 @. @ 8 million viewers for the six episodes , and that it ranked sixth in teenage viewership against other television networks . The show ranked # 56 in the adults 18 @-@ 49 ratings and # 103 in the total viewership rankings for the 2011 @-@ 12 television season .

== Syndication ==

On August 20 , 2015 , Adult Swim Canada announced they would begin airing reruns of the series in September 2015 .

== International broadcasting ==