

Carell Leaves "The Office"

Steve Carell resigns as televisions favorite regional manager

By Ryan O'Callaghan
Staff Writer

After seven seasons of "The Office," Steve Carell is retiring from the role that made him a star.

With only three more episodes left, Carell will say goodbye to Dunder Mifflin's Regional Manager, Michael Scott, in order to focus on his movie career.

For most of his career, Carell was only a minor blip on the Hollywood radar. In 1988, he started working with the Chicago based acting troupe, The Second City. With them, Carell built his acting and improv skills with fellow comedian and future colleague Steve Colbert.

In 1996, Carell was a cast member of the sketch comedy show "The Dana Carvey Show" alongside Colbert. The show only lasted for six episodes, but it was a stepping stone for Carell's casting in "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," which he appeared in from 1999 to 2005.

In between his time on "The Dana Carvey Show" and "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" Carell made a guest appearance on the sitcom "Just Shoot Me." He also worked on some short lived sitcoms, "Over the Top" with Tim Curry and "Watching Ellie" with Julia Louis-Dreyfus. "Over the Top" only aired three episodes and "Watching Ellie" didn't make it past sixteen.

For the first time, Carell was highly noticed in the public eye as Evan Baxter in the 2003 Jim Carrey film "Bruce Almighty." Carell acted as the antagonist to Carrey, receiving the anchor position at a Buffalo news station that Carrey's character vied for.

Carell's next big comedy role would have him working alongside Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate and Paul Rudd. In the 2004 comedy, "Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy," Carell played Brick Tamland the weatherman with an IQ of 48.

In 2005, Carell's career skyrocketed. He nabbed the role of Michael Scott in the American revamp of the British sitcom "The Office."

Though "The Office" was slated to make Carell a television star, he also took a shot at film in 2005. He co-wrote "The 40-Year-Old Virgin" with Judd Apatow and starred as Andy Stitzer, the 40-year-old on a mission to lose his virginity.

Since 2005, Steve Carell has landed a ton of film roles. Carell has had major roles in "Little Miss Sunshine," "Evan Almighty," "Horton Hears a Who!," "Get Smart," "Date Night," "Despicable Me," and "Dinner for Schmucks."

As of now, Steve Carell only has three episodes of "The Office" left. In the next episode "Training Day," airing April 14th, Michael will begin training the new regional manager Deangelo Vickers (Will Ferrell). Ferrell's contract only has him on for a four episode story-arch, which leaves fans speculating who will replace Carell indefinitely.

Due to hit theaters July 29th, Carell stars in "Crazy, Stupid, Love" as Cal Weaver, a man trying to get back into the dating world when he finds out that his wife, Julianne Moore, wants a divorce. Carell plays wingman to Ryan Gosling and Brendan Fraser.

Although Steve Carell is stepping away from the role that made him a star, it seems that his star is not yet ready to fade.