

McConaughey was "so charismatic and cool," says costar Parker Posey.

20 YEARS AGO!

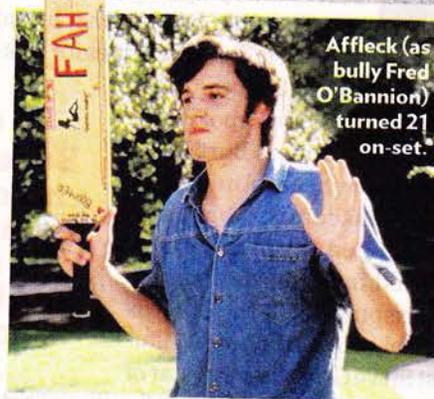


From left: McConaughey, Rory Cochrane, Deena Martin and Joey Lauren Adams.

# DAZED *and* CONFUSED

No slackers here: The 1993 high school cult classic launched a cast of unknowns onto the A-list

Consider: Before Matthew McConaughey appeared in 1993's *Dazed and Confused*, the 23-year-old Texas undergrad planned to attend law school. By the end of filming, "He said, 'I'm thinking of going to L.A.,'" recalls writer-director Richard Linklater. As slacker Wooderson, "he represented the fun and free spirit of the [film]," says Linklater. Set in Texas in 1976, the movie, honored at this year's South by Southwest festival, also kicked off the careers of Parker Posey, Renée Zellweger and Ben Affleck. Even then, says Linklater, "[Ben] was the guy you could stay up with all night and talk politics." And the cast kept the creativity flowing. Recalls Joey Lauren Adams: "We'd go down to the hotel lobby in our pajamas and write scenes!" —ANNE LANG & JESSICA HERNDON



Affleck (as bully Fred O'Bannon) turned 21 on-set.

COMMENTS? WRITE TO ALYNDA: [alyndasreviews@peoplemag.com](mailto:alyndasreviews@peoplemag.com)