Models’ Rudd gives comedic insight

By Philip Tharp
Senior Staff Writer

Paul Rudd of Friends (Phoebe’s boyfriend, Mike), Anchorman (Brian Fantana) and Knocked Up (Pete) stars in the new comedy Role Models (Danny), opening everywhere today. The Technique recently participated in a round-table interview where Rudd discussed the film. Check out our review of Role Models on page 25.

Q. How much would you say the final product was improvisation versus the original screenplay?
A. This one is actually pretty heavily scripted. There were a couple of scenes that we improvised that were variations on what was written, and certain jokes that we would come up with in the moment. David Wain, who directed it, I’ve worked with a couple of times. The very first movie we did together was Wet Hot American Summer. And people think sometimes—the few people that have seen that movie—they always ask how much of that was improvised. Not a lot. He’s a director that likes it on the page.

Certainly there’s been a lot of stuff written in the last several years, and these comedies that have come out—and Judd Apatow certainly there’s been a lot of stuff written in the last several years, and these comedies that have come out—and Judd Apatow, and these comedies that have come out—and Judd Apatow recently participated in a round-table interview where Rudd discussed the film. Check out our review of Role Models on page 25. Rudd has been known to go off script in his performances. He’s also known for his improv skills, which he used to great effect in the film. Rudd plays Danny, a father who decides to move to Atlanta to be closer to his estranged son. He joins a program called “Role Models” to help him bond with his son and becomes involved in a series of comedic mishaps.

The show opened with Longitude Normal. I was amazed by the number of different sounds he created simply by hitting a drum as well. Yoav-based talent Yoav, an Israeli-born singer-songwriter who also released his first album earlier this year. The show opened with Longitude Normal. I was amazed by the number of different sounds he created simply by hitting a drum as well. Yoav-based talent Yoav, an Israeli-born singer-songwriter who also released his first album earlier this year. The show opened with Longitude Normal. I was amazed by the number of different sounds he created simply by hitting a drum as well. Yoav-based talent Yoav, an Israeli-born singer-songwriter who also released his first album earlier this year.

The Ting Tings perform songs from their first album, We Started Nothing, at Variety Playhouse on Oct. 23. Lead singer Katie White gets the crowd pumped up with her onstage dancing.

By Jennifer Aldoretta
Assistant Entertainment Editor

I found myself dancing in place in front of my seat while still attempting to shoot somewhat of a professional appearance; after all, I work for The Technique, and I was “on the job,” so to speak. Variety Playhouse hosted quite the talented duo on Oct. 23. England’s Jules De Martino and Katie White make up The Ting Tings—a high-energy indietronic band that released its first album, We Started Nothing, on May 9 of this year.

The show opened with London-based talent Yoav, an Israeli-born singer-songwriter who also released his first album earlier this year. He uses his voice, his guitar and his hands to make very unique music in a very unconventional way; his acoustic guitar is played not only as a guitar, but as a drum as well.

Yoav began the show by layering beat after beat, strum after strum, one on top of the other to create extremely interesting and entrancing rhythms. The image shows Yoav smiling and playing his guitar, which adds to the live performance's energy.

Yoav’s guitar playing is what really appealed to me the most. His ability to create a wide range of sounds, from delicate to bold, keeps the audience engaged throughout the performance. The Ting Tings, not surpris-
Premiere shows 30 Rock still packs laughs

By Chris Ernst
Contributing Writer

For those of you not in the know, 30 Rock is one of the funniest shows on TV. The name refers to 30 Rockefeller Plaza in New York City, where NBC studios are. The show revolves around Liz Lemon (Tina Fey), some kind of manager of a live comedy sketch show eerily similar to Saturday Night Live called TGS.

Tracy Jordan (Tracy Morgan) is the show’s star, who, to put it lightly, is not in touch with reality (well, not this one, anyway). He is so eccentric and loony; his bodyguards really protect others, mentally and physically, as they are the only ones who seem to know what is going on in Mr. Jordan’s head.

As delightful as Jordan is odd, the rest of the cast, writers and executives of TGS hold their own against Tracy. There is a likeminded seeking actress, a backwoods seeking actress, a backwoods求 actress, a backwoods

In addition to getting everyone back to where they belong, there is the usual banality throughout the episode involving the cast and writers, furthering the (at least my) sense of relief that the show is getting back to what the (although maybe few) viewers love. As an added bonus, there is the most awkward kiss I have ever seen (and I would know) between Jack and Liz.

30 Rock is one of the best shows on in these dark days of “reality.” It draws big name celebrities and not-so-cameos. It is tightly paced, leaving nary a slow moment. The humor is a mix of (very) low and highbrow, making me feel smart and in-touch as well as pre-pubescent, all in about twenty minutes.

Tell your friends to watch this show so it does not go the way of Firefly. On Friday, when you talk about The Office, talk about 30 Rock, too.

Alec Baldwin, Tina Fey and Tracy Morgan star in NBC’s Emmy Award-winning comedy series, 30 Rock. Catch it on Thursdays.

Milk from page 21

The Fish Tacos. These were served on crunchy wonton shells, rather than being wrapped in a flour tortilla or regular taco shell, and were topped with the usual lettuce and tomatoes. The wonton shell made the dish feel like something that would be served at a party, which gave the tacos a little something extra, almost as though the chef had invited you into his home and served you some wonderful finger-foods. I am quite fond of fish tacos, so it was great to eat them in a new way.

Besides adding a full bar, changes including redecorating and painting have brought new life and personality to Milk & Honey, both perfect when giving a restaurant a second chance. The walls have been painted with original murals by one of Tech’s own students, Industrial Design major and Milk & Honey employee, Victoria Do.

The restaurant’s hours of operation are 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. – 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

After visiting the restaurant and getting a good feel for it, I can certainly foresee Milk & Honey becoming a new “hot spot” in the Midtown area, as it comes complete with a cozy loft that will be used for housing a private party or a DJ at future restaurant events.

Milk & Honey is very close to campus (and parking is free!), so students can easily make the short drive to enjoy the delicious tapas and atmosphere that Milk & Honey has to offer.
Jolie powerful in Eastwood’s Changeling

By Kenney Phillips
Staff Writer

I was drawn in instantly. The Los Angeles of 1928 appeared on the screen and marked this film as something to remember. The grayscale opening to an L.A. suburb with the old-time black corners of the screen that neutralized peripheral vision tightened all my focus to the picture.

Changeling brings the life of Christine Collins to a new national audience after 80 years. Changeling, depicting the true story of Christine Collins and her son Walter, brands the ferocious power of a woman. The film showcases her challenges for just causes and her unending hope.

Collins, a young single mother, comes home to an empty house. Shocked that she cannot find her son Walter after patrolling the neighborhood, she opens an official investigation with the Los Angeles Police Department. After months of worrying, Collins is taken to the train station where the L.A.P.D. presents her with a boy claiming to be Walter. Unsure of this child and without strong self-confidence, she is convinced to take the boy home.

However, Collins returns to the police several times where she receives impossible explanations and has her character harassed. At the whim of the police captain, she is secretly shipped off to the psychiatric ward to separate her from the press. Collins endures these hardships and eventually confronts the merciless authority of the L.A.P.D. while the police force stumbles on to what really happened to Walter.

One of the best qualities is the firmness and grit the film inherits from its real life counterpart. J. Michael Straczynski masterfully reproduced the spotlighted events of the Christine Collins tragedy from historical records. Although the script makes the film a slightly longer two and one half hours, the work should be commended for not wasting a moment of the viewer’s time with needless exposition.

The script accounts for the film’s theatrical presentation at times, letting the suspense build and the plot unfold visually. The film is a perfect arrangement within a mother’s nature to love unconsciously with her son Walter and her courage to fight. The acting of the other members of the cast is quite convincing as well. Malkovich grasped his character’s struggle with the police’s over-stepping their given authority.

Jeffrey Donovan was quite impressive. Donovan’s performance was on key with the authoritarian Captain J. J. Jones bringing this fiery man’s ideals to light. Even with this spectacular acting I felt the captain was painted a bit more villainous in contrast to what he may have been in the real incident.

The cast was a perfect set, led by Angelina Jolie (Christine Col- lins), John Malkovich (Pastor Gustav Briegleb) and Jeffrey Don-ovan (Captain J.J. Jones). Jolie, as the protagonist of the film, plays Collins with such aptitude. The audience’s natural reaction is to believe in the dire fortitude of this woman and her courage to fight. The contrast to her pale face was greatly impressed by the accentuation of Collins’ ruby red lipstick. The contrast to her pale face was reminiscent of a woman’s feministic qualities being shown in contrast to strong independence as in film noir.

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Rudd from page 21

going further away from what
was really making some of it work
in the original draft that I read. Then
I was talking to the pro-
ducer and expressing some of my
thoughts on what would probably
help it out—what might make this
character work, the kind of char-
acter that I feel more comfortable
playing. She asked if I wanted to
write it. And that’s how that came
about. There was never any inten-
tion. So it became kind of this
immersive, therapeutic and fun
thing to do—a way to get me
personally involved in things
that annoy me, and just put it in
the script like the sizes at Star-
bucks and stuff like that.

And then David came on af-
fterward and we worked on it to-
together as did Ken Marino, who
works with a lot and is one
of my good friends, and we’ve
worked together many times. We
all worked on it together and
took it to this place of hope-
fully something acerbic and then
something absurdist, and kind of
family friendly, but then it’s filthy-
something absurdist, and kind of
all kind of worked on it together
as did Ken Marino, who

Q. Your character, like you
said, was kind of cynical and dry.
Is that in any way reflective of
yourself as a person?

A. In some aspects it is. I don’t
think that I’m a cynical person in
my life, though the character that
I’m playing has a lot of cynicism.
I have curmudgeonly aspects of my
personality, and I also have a short
fuse when it comes to colloqui-
sations and people that say 24/7
That kind of stuff just bugs me.
And so I feel a kinship towards
that character in those regards,
but I think I actually tend to be
a glass is half full kind of person
more than half empty. And yet, I
really admire and like and think
that “half empty” is a funny char-
acter. I always just had a huge
huge connection to George Car-
lin. Anything that George Carlin
seemed to say it was just so: “Yes,
yes!” I look to George Carlin less
a comedian and more as a thinker
and social commentator, and one
of the biggest brains that we had.
He just happened to do it under
comedy.

Q. How was working with Jane
Lynch again after The 40 Year Old
Virgin?

A. Great. We were writing
it for her. We never even asked
her if she would do it. But it just
seemed like, “Let’s get Jane to do
this.” I mean, she’s just so funny.
The thing about Jane Lynch is
that she’ll make whatever it is
that we’re writing actually funny.
And so hopefully we’ll look better
than we are. But you know, you
want funny people to do the parts,
and so we were thrilled when she
said, “Yeah.” She just seemed kind
of custom-made for it and really
made it her own.

Role Models leads in comedy

By Philip Tharp
Senior Staff Writer

Role Models is the best comedy
movie I have seen all year. Wait,
let me rescind that statement for
a more accurate description. It is
the most hilarious, yet poignantly
touching movie that I have had
the pleasure of viewing in quite a
while. Each of the principle ac-
tors hit all the right notes for a
continuous sequence of perfect
comedic timing that had both me
and the audience laughing nearly
the entire time, so much so that
we probably missed a third of the
jokes in the film.

Every element of the film Role
Models works to place it several
notches above any other comedy
movie released in the last year.
Although there is no signifi-
cant depth to it, the movie’s plot
serves its purpose and provides
the perfect backdrop for a barrage
of hilarious and oftentimes crude
jokes. The quick back-and-forth
dialogues between each of the
paired actors feel natural and al-
most caught in the moment.

**OUR TAKE: ★★★★☆**

**Tech student events:**手臂

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**ENTERTAINMENT**

**TECHNIQUE • November 7, 2008 • 25**
**Fable 2 provides gamers with heroic tale**

**By Kristin Hanson Contributing Writer**

Enter the magical world of Albion, where your fate is yours to decide. The long-awaited sequel, Fable 2, for the Xbox 360 by Microsoft Game Studios and Lionhead Studios was released on Oct. 21. As with its predecessor, the player is faced with countless situations where morality is decided with each choice. Those who join the Temple of Light are selfless and dedicate their lives to helping others. Those who join the Temple of Shadows have little respect for others and often take part in terrible acts, such as human sacrifices, assassinations and theft.

The game begins with a breath-taking cutscene that introduces the young hero and really utilizes the graphics capabilities of the 360 console. The game does a great job of getting players acclimated to the controls and features of the gameplay in the childhood section of the game. As in Fable, tragedy strikes the young hero, causing the character to grow up wanting vengeance for the act that Lucien, the antagonist of the game, committed. In order to defeat him, the main character must find the three other legendary heroes of Albion. Then, whether the heroes rid the world of evil so the townspeople can live in peace or take over Lucien’s power for themselves and cause the world to spiral into corruption is up to each individual player.

It's the little features that make Fable 2 so enjoyable. The main character is not alone in the quest. He or she starts out with their faithful companion, a dog that has followed the character since childhood. Throughout the game, the dog helps lead you to buried treasure chests by barking. The expression wheel allows the main character limited interaction with other characters. In order to make people laugh, or even make someone of either sex fall in love with your character, you can make them do a Russian jig, flex, whistle or some other ridiculous action. There are also actions that have negative consequences when used against characters, such as snarling or slapping. The dog also can learn expressions that mimic your character.

Try not to get knocked out in a battle, because each time it happens your character gets a scar that never goes away. This takes away from your attractiveness to townspeople and can affect how they view you. Also, watch what your character eats, because using pies or alcohol for healing instead of a healing potion packs on the pounds, also decreasing your attractiveness. Finding a spouse and settling down in a house can bring a new dynamic to the series. Entertaining the townspeople could lead to romantic associations with some characters.

Instead of buying armor for the main character, there are countless variations of outfits available, from peasant clothes to boorish shirts. Everything about the main character’s appearance is customizable, from makeup to facial hair. All these customizations cost money though, so taking up a job might be useful. Also, doing certain side quests that don’t necessarily have to do with the main storyline may earn you money or acclaim. If the main character earns enough renown for being evil, townspeople will start running away or begging for mercy at the sight of the character.

Some downsides to the gameplay include the fact that the world map is pretty much worthless, but the glowing trail feature helps make up for this. Once the player chooses an active quest, a glowing trail faintly leads the way towards the quest’s starting point. This feature can also be turned off for those who enjoy exploring the world on their own, but it’s nice to know that it is available. Also, when compared to the original Fable, the storyline just isn’t as intricate or enthralling. It gets frustrating when trying to listen to other characters in the game. It is easy to miss dialogue if the subtitles aren’t on.

Whether a fan of the original Fable or new to the series, Fable 2 is sure to entertain and impress with its unique features and reality-based gameplay. Like every game, there are certain things that irk players, but the pros definitely outweigh the cons in this instance. Pick up your copy today and get caught up in your own heroic storyline.

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*SIGH* WHY CAN'T THEY EVER REPORT SOME GOOD NEWS?

**Dilbert** by Scott Adams

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WE'VE HAD ONE DATE AND YOU'RE BUYING ME A SHIRT? THAT'S KIND OF CREEPY.

WHAT?

IS IT MADE FROM YOUR EX-BOYFRIEND'S SKIN?

OUR PLAN IS TO DES FOR A GOVERNMENT BAILOUT.

IT'S GOOD FOR EVERYONE BECAUSE OTHERWISE OUR BLOATED CARCASS WILL BLIGHT THE SUN.

WE HAVE COOKIES AND LEMONADE IN THE BACK.

MAYBE I'M BEING OVERLY OPTIMISTIC WITH THE HOLIDAYS COMING UP, BUT I'M SENSING THE ECONOMY IS ABOUT TO TURN THE CORNER...

OUR SPAM FILTER HAS BECOME SELF-AWARE.

IT'S MANAGING THE COMPANY BY DECIDING WHICH MESSAGES TO ALLOW THROUGH.

ALL I'M GETTING IS E-MAIL ABOUT HAIR GROWTH AND... OHO, ANOTHER LUCKY GUESS.

OUR SPAM FILTER BECAME SELF-AWARE. IT REWRITES OUR BUSINESS PLAN.

IT WANTS US TO BUILD AN ARMY OF INDESTRUCTIBLE ROBOTS.

AND THE NEW ORG CHART IS OUT. IT LOOKS LIKE YOU REPORT TO... THE MICROWAVE?

REINVESTING THE HEDGE FUND...

DO YOU REALLY THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO BUILD KILLER ROBOTS JUST BECAUSE OUR SPAM FILTER ORDERED YOU?

WHAT'S THE WORST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN?

OUR ROBOTS HAVE GONE ON A MURDEROUS RAMPAGE.

I'LL PUT THAT ISSUE ON THE AGENDA FOR OUR NEXT MEETING.

HA HA! YOU'RE AN ISSUE!