BRIGHTER SHADE RIGHT OFF THE BAT

There are as many different ways to run a band as there are bands. Some groups are permanently wedged under the thumb of a manager who thinks he’s Napoleon. Others just let everything float and take whatever gongs happen to float their way. Still others just don’t know how to change their socks. Some bands, like Brighter Shade, give themselves room to stretch out—but not so much that everybody runs off. Balancing individual and group commitments is no easy task, but these five find a way to keep audiences happy regardless of who’s at the microphone.

Gainesville, Ga., native John Hopkins (lead vocals, guitar) and Andy Birdall (lead guitar, crossed paths in 1994 while both were attending Florida State University in Tallahassee. Early in the next year, after Hopkins’ band Distant Relatives had broken up, the two began playing in the area as an acoustic duo. They relocated to Atlanta that summer and had the first incarnation of Brighter Shade up and running by the middle of 1996.

Drummer Marcus Petrushka and bassist Sean McIntyre were on hand for their self-titled debut album that year. Since then, a new crew has rotated in to back up the core pairing: Wilder Emby, Eric Sanders, and keyboard man Damian Carrier.

“I’ve known Wilder since— I don’t know, fifth grade,” Hopkins recalled. “His house was three or four blocks from mine in Gainesville. In high school, he had a band that I used to come out and help with, running their PA. I had a band too, but my guys graduated a year above me, so I was kind of Without a band. We get to be fast friends during that period.”

Embry took McIntyre’s place in 1998, and Sanders became the band’s main drummer that same year. Petrushka has sat in occasionally, as have Hopkins’ brother Michael and a few other players. The appearance of Cartier and his jazz/funk influences would have a lasting effect on the overall sound, starting with the first two songs on Brighter Shade as a guest performer.

Petrushka found himself with some spare time at the end of 1994 and took a trip up to New York, R.I., to visit a group of friends in a band there. “They needed a bass player, so I went up and played bass on their album. In that time I met Damani, because he lived there in Newport... Every time we went back to visit, we would see him and get together to hang out.”

Cartier moved down south in 1998 and began playing with Brighter Shade right off the bat. “He’s an all-around genius, really, in his own right. That was kind of cool, to get him to be a part of it.” The Brighter Shade tracks that feature him take on a slightly tripped-out jazz vibe—think Widespread Panic, but not so far out in left field. Their upcoming album, Divine Ignorance, finds him adding new subtleties under Hopkins’ gritty vocals (Shane MacGowan, is that you?) and the other members’ harmonies.

Musically, the bulk of the album pitches a loose Sunshine State vibe against a darker, more jangly, Soundgarden-style mood. However, there are a few surprises lying in wait, particularly the audience favorite “Breakdown.” Hopkins stated that the song, written during the third-

Jennifer Love Hewitt and Sigourney Weaver are a mother-daughter con team in Heartbreakers, a film, a film, a film, a film, a film
By Kit FitzSimons

"All new, all different"

ACROSS
1. Just a bit
4. X-Files’ Scully’s first name
8. _____-Mo
11. Famous Arkin
13. “Oh my!”
14. Row
15. 9 DIFFERENT LETTERS
17. Famous Thurman
18. MCI rival
19. Just a bit
21. Upbeat
24. Type of dressing

DOWN
1. _____ Mahal
2. _____ carte
3. Bert’s roommate
4. IOU, for one
5. In the past
6. A Bobbsey Twin
7. Put on the list (2 wds)
8. 9 DIFFERENT LETTERS
9. Dalai _____
10. _____-Gel
12. Tide type
16. Type
20. Pac. And Atl., for two
21. Critter protection agency (abbr)
22. “Goodbye, _____”
23. 9 DIFFERENT LETTERS
24. Reachable area
25. Opera staple
28. Ages
30. High prefix
31. Askance
34. Susan Lucci’s character
37. Honest Prez
41. Capsize
43. Nick at ______
44. Scripted improv, sort of
45. Having frosting
46. Boat name abbr.
48. Famous Doris
49. Western Native American
50. “_____ Bin Ein…”
51. Resistance unit
52. Naysayers

Help fill large sections with awesome stories. Write! Email entertainment@technique.gatech.edu.

With Napster facing restrictions, could Aimster fill its old niche?

By Helaine Tabacoff

Badger Herald

(U-WIRE) U. of Wisconsin—As Napster slowly fades into the background, a new music-sharing service called Aimster may become the new form of music swapping over the Internet.

Aimster, an America Online service, allows users to swap music with people on their AOL Instant Messenger buddy lists and others using online services such as Gnutella and Microsoft Networking.

Aimster allows users to target files from trusted friends on AIM and avoid viruses, bad files and spam. Unlike Napster, the AOL program is encrypted, which means users do not have to fear they will be spied on while downloading music. As part of Aimster’s terms, users agree to only share files belonging to them.

University of Wisconsin-Madison freshman Jeff Hertz said Aimster could be an alternative to Napster’s diminished capabilities. “I would use it, because it sounds reliable, regardless of the number of songs you get,” he said.

However, Brian Rust, DoIT senior administrative program specialist, said UW regards the new file-sharing service as unlawful. “Our stance is that Aimster is a program that allows accessing and sharing of copyrighted material, which is illegal,” Rust said.

Although UW regards Aimster as an illegitimate service, students may feel differently. “There is nothing wrong with trading music with your friends, and if they are your friends they probably have the songs and music you want,” Hertz said.

Nevertheless, Rust said file sharing clogs UW bandwidth. “Aimster will curb the use of the campus network for educational purposes,” he said. “It will keep other students from getting their work done, due to network traffic. We get complaints from other students when the network is tied up due to Napster, and we can expect more complaints as soon as the students begin to use Aimster on a regular basis.”

Although many people have not heard of this new alternative to Napster, it has already attracted over 3 million users, according to a recent article from CNN.com.

Aimster is similar to Napster in many ways, and may be the new choice for downloading music from the Internet. As Napster begins the process of shutting down, or at least limiting the amount of songs being downloaded, Aimster may step out of Napster’s shadow and make a name for itself.

“We haven’t noticed a great deal of Aimster use on the network,” said Rust. “But that doesn’t mean that students won’t begin to use it as Napster becomes less and less available.”
Want an action movie with good acting and a plot? Look no further than *Exit Wounds*, starring Steven Seagal, DMX, and Tom Arnold. At first glance, the three actors seem to comprise a motley crew, but at second glance and thereafter, they work together brilliantly.

Steven Seagal returns to the big screen with his signature stoicism and praiseworthy martial arts moves as jaded police officer Orin Boyd. After saving the Vice President from an attack by the Michigan Militia, his boss sees his behavior as unprofessional.

Officer Boyd is thus quickly transferred from his high-profile job as a detective in the glamorous 21st Precinct to a dull series of lowly jobs in the decidedly unglamorous 15th Precinct.

Upon his arrival, he is assigned an aggression-management therapy group and then given the job of directing traffic. Obviously, Boyd is unhappy with this assignment and suspects the precinct itself of corruption.

DMI makes leap from music with a bang in ‘Wounds’

**By Vivian Vakili**

Entertainment Staff

MPAA Rating: R; Starring: Steven Seagal, DMX, and Robert Sean Leonard; Director: Andrzej Bartkowiak; Running Time: 131 minutes; Rating: ★★★★☆

DMX and Steven Seagal star as a thug with a mission and a jaded cop, respectively, in Warner Brothers Pictures’s new film, *Exit Wounds*. For this great performance, success in acting may follow for rap star DMX. In his acting debut in *Exit Wounds*, DMX (who plays character Latrell Walker) proves that he is able to portray both villain and hero.

He convinces the audience that he is a terrible thief and ghetto cop, the very image of a bad cop. But his talent shines through when he is able to portray the complex character of Orin Boyd, a police officer who is often courted by the underworld.

The film is a solid action movie, with a good plot and well-acted performances. DMX and Seagal both bring their A-game to the table, and they are supported by a talented cast that includes Steven Seagal, DMX, and Tom Arnold. The result is a quality picture with a bit of tension and a lot of action.

Convinced that such a hero, even an exaggerated one, will restore hope to the troops, Vasili becomes the poster boy for Russian pride. The articles and photos have the desired effect, and not only does Vasili garner the attention of buxom beauty and fellow trooper-ette, Tania (Rachel Weisz, *The Mummy*), but the Nazi troops as well. They send their own sharpshooter, Konig (Ed Harris, *Pulp Fiction*), to take out Vasili and help advance the Nazi troops.

**Enemy at the Gates** features pretty faces, so much more

**By Anna Roberts**

Badger Herald

MPAA Rating: R; Starring: Jude Law, Ed Harris, Joseph Fiennes, Rachel Weisz; Director: Jean-Jacques Annaud; Running Time: 131 minutes; Rating: ★★★★☆

(U-WIRE) U. of Wisconsin—The drama and bravery of World War II make great fodder for films. Good and evil are easily definable and the emotion behind such stories comes with the package. That’s not to say that every World War II film is a ready-made hit—the entire production team has to work at it.

Thankfully, *Enemy at the Gates* has one of the hardest-working cast and crews in the business, as testament to their earlier works. The result is a quality picture with a strong story that only suffers from a willingness to do too much.

He begins to look into the high-profile cases and at the precinct’s cocky officers. This is where DMX comes in.

After seeing *Exit Wounds*, one can confidently say that the newest and most talented crossover artist from music to the big screen is definitely rap superstar DMX.

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The opening battle sequence, with its dive-bombing planes, massive shootouts, and increasing body count, makes the viewer think twice about rewatching that second handful of popcorn. As powerful as it is, it is reminiscent of *Saving Private Ryan*’s battle scenes but falls short in the awe department.

The film sets up scene after scene of cat-and-mouse scenarios. And although the key element in the sniper field is to be still, these scenes have the exciting and suspenseful elements of a chase. Both Harris’s and Law’s careful demeanor and seriousness in their roles contribute to the believability of the film.

*Enemy at the Gates* could have been a flop and a weak attempt at a courageous story. The director could have easily thrown in a few talentless pretty boys and filmed them running around in the mud. Thankfully, the day we see Freddie Prinze Jr. in a military uniform has yet to arrive.

**Enemy at the Gates** may leave the heart a little unsatisfied, but the mind and eyes will love it.
Semisonic concocts album with 'Chemistry'

By Whitney Pierce
The Reveille

Semisonic, the band that hit it big a few years ago with "Closing Time," has just released their new album, All About Chemistry. The band produced the album themselves, ensuring that each track is just the way they wanted.

"I'm more boys to men-ish. I can be the white guy in the back with the jacket." -Matt Bryan

Semisonic, band that hit it big a few years ago with "Closing Time," has just released their new album, All About Chemistry. The band produced the album themselves, ensuring that each track is just the way they wanted.
It’s a little known fact that Arnold Schwarzenegger survived for two years on Ruffles. However, he never ate the fattening dip.

Well folks, it’s that time of the semester when we’re all feeling a little burned-out...okay, that’s an understatement if I’ve ever made one. The fact is that we’re all feeling a lot burned-out. This week, I thought I’d share with you something that I’ve been contemplating a lot lately: the top ten signs that Tech is wearing on your mind.

10) You’ve gone to a fast food joint and thought to yourself, “Gee, that job looks pretty rewarding.” I think we’ve all been through this one. As much as we’d like to think that we’re effete, intellectual snobs, the fact is that we’ve all been to a McDonald’s that was hiring, and at least looked at the application to see if they have a 401K.

You know what I’m talking about...You’ve picked up that application, and thought, “Wow, it has dental coverage!” If you’re like me, you’ve not only thought about it, but you’ve pondered the opportunities for advancement. “Say, it says here that managers make $45,000 per year. I bet I could do that.” Then, right as you’re looking to see about the health insurance, it dawns on you that you’ve already been at Tech for three years, and you are just a tad overqualified.

9) You’ve tried to rationalize not doing work in a class. I know you know what I’m talking about here. It’s 3:00 a.m. on Monday morning, and you have to get up to start that homework which is due in your 8:00 class. At this point, you have two choices: you can either spend five hours doing that homework or you can get the only five hours of sleep that you’ll get in the next week.

At this point, it’s time to check the trusty syllabus and see how much you ask yourself why it’s thirty-two minutes after you set your clock. Of course, I’m assuming that means that you’ve hit the snooze bar four times. I suppose that magic means that you’ve hit the snooze bar four times. I suppose that magic means that you’ve hit the snooze bar four times. I suppose that magic means that you’ve hit the snooze bar four times. I suppose that magic means that you’ve hit the snooze bar four times. I suppose that magic means that.

8) You’re afraid that rabid monkeys are not coming after you. They’re not indigeneous to Atlanta.

7) You’ve ever uttered the phrase, “I know that I can pull my grade up on the final.” This is a really popular one to utter. At this point, many of you have at least one class that you are either failing or have a D. Fear not, that phrase is right. You can pull it up on the final. This has been true for every class in which I’ve ever uttered that phrase (in other words, every class I’ve taken in the past four years.)

6) You’ve succumbed to a diet of potato chips. At this point, you’re probably so overwhelmed with studies that you’ve had to give up your normal healthy diet of ramen noodles. After all, boiling water takes precious time that you could otherwise be using to read three pages of a textbook.

Don’t worry too much about this one. It’s a little known fact that Arnold Schwarzenegger survived for two years on Ruffles. However, he has always been known for his health consciousness, he never ate the fattening dip.

5) You considered not reading the Technique. Good God man, snap out of it! No matter how crazy things get for you, you can’t possibly do anything as crazy as not reading the Technique. If you need to, skip class or give up showering to free some time to read da’ News. Fortunately, if you’ve made it this far in the paper, there is still hope for you. Just keep on reading.

4) You’re afraid that you’re not going to get that cult. Have you ever thought about how exciting life would be if you could just kick back in Northern California and spend your day drinking Koolaid? Sure, you would have to give up all your material possessions, but it’s a small price to pay when there’s free punch up for grabs. If you do take the cult route, I can assure you that you’ll meet at least one other Tech student. “Remem- ber thermos! Have some Koolaid. It’ll help with that problem.”

And the number one sign that you’re burned-out? You’ve ever been the Two Bits Man. That’s right folks. Two Bits is a right of passage. Each time a Two Bits Man graduates or gets taken away in snag-fitting white coat, he passes the responsibility on to another student who is sufficiently indigent with school to carry the torch.

When my mighty mentor escaped with a degree in Computer Science, he looked at me with a frightened glimmer in his eye, and said, “You, yes you, shall write Two Bits.” Just think about it folks...I was a year and a half less-burned-out when I started this job. Now, thanks to the magic of Ma Tech, I’m as sane as letter-carrier.

“What do you mean you fell on the baseball team? Like, oh, you just tripped and there was a baseball team?” -Christina (the actual quote was funnier, but I can’t remember it)
Brighter Shade

wave ska revival of the late 1990s, would probably have been left off if not for the way it went over at shows. He commented, “When I was up in Newport for that extended period of time, [ska] was very popular up there. We were going to see The Skatalites at a bar in Providence, so I think that might have something to do with the intensity of that kind of sound coming through on a song that’s basically about fight- ing to keep control.”

The curveballs keep coming from the stage as well. Embry and his bassist are going to be starting a band called Weathervane. Hopkins and Birdsall, meanwhile, still do the occasional bit. They’ve also put in some work with a group called Brighter Shade. They’ve done a few and occasionally do a cover of the band’s song. “It’s not even really a band at this point,” Hopkins said. “It’s a group of us who are getting together every so often to play the occasional gig, do some writing in this group, and we just want to get out there and get tight together. We’re looking forward to getting Andy in front of the stage as well.”

“We’re out there hitting it, and we just keep plugging away. And we’ll see how many people actually jump on the bandwagon.” John Hopkins

Brighter Shade

well I haven’t rambled in a long time, so I guess it’s appropriate to have another box, or not. We’ll fill this paper with so many random things, it makes me laugh. So let’s see. Last weekend I went to michigan, next weekend I’m going to boston, and sometime after that, I’m going to palo alto. I still have no idea what I’m going to do next year, anyway. michigan was darin cold. We’re planning things like three inches. everyone kept saying they wish they could have better weather for my visit, but I found the snow fascinating. It was falling! It was stickin’ you could make snowballs and snowmen and snow angels! norther people don’t realize how amazing this is to a person who has never lived north of charlotte, and who spends her summers in the desert sometimes. last weekend, now I worry that I am rupturing my ear drums with the volume level of my headphones. I can’t hear anything else even talking, they must’ve said something funny though.

Lots of music, no green beer

from page 19

TAD DANA SLO ALANEGADAR EARLEARSWAP ATIOA PEPPYP RANCH EARLEANARTE ABUSE INDIA STEPICI UKEEducation SILNATECHO SEDYEDHMS

SMITH’S OLDE BAR (1574 Piedmont Ave.)
http://smithsoldebar.citysearch.com
3/26—Sloppy Meat Eaters, Aphrodite, Darren Emerson, DJ Klever
3/27 and 3/28—Dogen, Tropics 22
3/30—Avocado (Electric Jazz) do last matches

Check out the Tornadose Web site (www.tornadose.com) to see where your favorite bands will be appearing next.
I failed in my goal for this week. I was supposed to be done before consensus. Didn’t happen. But midnight is a good 2nd goal, right?

technique:

come write for us. or take pictures for us. or take pictures of us. either way, we’ll put all the unflattering ones in the paper. and the scary thing is, you’ll learn to love it.
**Have fun with ‘Bad Fur Day’ for Nintendo 64**

**By Jamie Schulz**

**The great mighty who?**

**Game:** Conker’s Bad Fur Day

**Category:** Platform

**ESRB rating:** Mature

**Rating:** ★★★★★

From Rare, famous for “Goldeneye” and “Perfect Dark,” comes a game that breaks Nintendo’s long-held tradition for having cute and non-offensive go hand-in-hand. Think about it: “Mario 64,” “Banjo-Kazooie,” “Kirby,” all of these featured cutey cartoon jumping and running and being, well, cute. True, “Conker’s Bad Fur Day” has cute characters, but the cuteness ends there.

**Graphics:** They follow Rare’s normal benchmarking ability. The colors are all vibrant, textures are great, and there is little frame-rate slowdown. One of the things that will definitely catch the eye is shadowing. Anyone who has played “Banjo-Tonic” knows that there is a well-defined shadow following the bird-and-bear pair. This is the same in with Conker, but even more so.

As his position or the lighting changes, the shadow moves with the light, more than one light will cast several shadows on the ground. The lights even cast their respective colors in one club scene, green and red disco lights illuminate the surrounding area. Each character is lip-synched to their speech, with his or her own array of facial expressions, and Conker gets the royal treatment. He has an array of expressions, from disgusted to drunk to worried. As one notices in other Rare games, there is often humorous idle action, and Conker has many, from playing with a yo-yo to pawning through a bar, skin mag (the game is rated “M,” after all).

**Gameplay:** Control is pretty standard across the board: “B” to hit, “A” to jump, “C” pad to move camera angles. My big complaint is in the camera control—it usually tracks behind Conker, and is difficult to choose camera depth. Weapon choice is restricted to a frying pan to slobbery enemies, but different situations will allow Conker to arm himself as seen fit.

What also is standard is the world layout, with an over-world connecting the several different levels, each with increasing difficulty (I’m still trying to get through the stupid “war” level).

But what really shines are the cut scenes, and there are many of them. The game doesn’t play out like one huge cut scene; there are often large chunks of game play between cut scenes. Yet the scenes are long and often informative, offering insight to the objective in a certain situation. And, of course, there are many spoofs of famous movies.

**Weirdest of all is the Wizard of Oz homage, but there are many others, ranging from Saving Private Ryan (in a glorious beach landing scene, complete with slow-motion camera work) to a quick Exorcist parody. These scenes introduce the wide array of characters, from a rather well-endowed flower to a bipolar cog to a baritone mound of excrement.**

**Sound:** The player has the choice of Dolby Surround, stereo, or mono. Once again, Rare shines with its orchestrations, rivaling that of Konami in the genre music department. In the “Spooky” level, the music centers on strings and keyboard, with the odd selection of children’s lullabies or cries in the background, which mainly adds to the creepiness. The music changes to fit the surrounding togs throughout the game, and always comes through crystal-clear, causing me to stop game play just to listen.

Another aspect of the game is that all speech is actually spoken! This is probably the biggest reason that the game play is so short (about 15-16 hours), but this is just another thing that makes “Conker’s Bad Fur Day” different. Each character has a unique voice, keyed to the appearance of the character (the pitchfork has a country accent, or one close enough).

**Multiplayer:** These modes are about what you’d find in other games—capture the flag, a race, and death mode. Two player mode is fine enough, but adding a third or fourth will severely hurt the frame rate. Fun, but nothing to write home about.

Overall, it seems that this may be the perfect swan song for Nintendo. Sure, another Pokémon Stadium is around the corner, but there doesn’t seem to be that much for the Nintendo 64, since it seems that the Gamecube is soon to bow possibly as early as this fall.

While the game passes much too quickly, it won’t soon tire the player, as he or she will want to go back to catch things that may have been missed the first time played. If the lewd and suggestive language and graphic violence that gives the game its “M” rating are overlooked, what lies beneath is a truly stellar game that stands out as a sample of what the Nintendo designed the 64 to showcase.

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**‘Human’ has no pulse**

**By Jamie Schulz**

**The original invisible man**

**Artist:** Rod Stewart

**Album:** Human

**Label:** EMI

**Genre:** Rock/Pop

**Tracks:** 11

**Time:** 43 minutes

**Rating:** ★★

Unfortunately, he still relies on musical stylings from twenty years ago. Unfortunately, he still relies on musical stylings from twenty years ago. Unfortunately, he still relies on musical stylings from twenty years ago. Unfortunately, he still relies on musical stylings from twenty years ago. Unfortunately, he still relies on musical stylings from twenty years ago.

It should be noted that this is the first album from Stewart since he had throat surgery. Maybe Rod should have done one of two things—

either spend a little longer rehabilitating, or working on the lyrics. You can only work with what you’ve got, and Stewart can’t work too well with this tripe that someone considers lyrics. “I’m your streetcar Romeo.” Be still, my heart.

It seems like Stewart is stuck in a time warp. The songs all have a heavy, 1980s R&B feel to them, complete with cheesy bass and poor keyboard execution. Each song relies too heavily on background vocals, with the singers shrieking the last several words that Stewart tried to croon. Therein lies another problem—while Rod’s raspy voice may be the perfect croon. Therein lies another problem—while Rod’s raspy voice may be the perfect croon. Therein lies another problem—while Rod’s raspy voice may be the perfect croon. Therein lies another problem—while Rod’s raspy voice may be the perfect croon. Therein lies another problem—while Rod’s raspy voice may be the perfect croon. Therein lies another problem—while Rod’s raspy voice may be the perfect croon. Therein lies another problem—while Rod’s raspy voice may be the perfect croon. Therein lies another problem—while Rod’s raspy voice may be the perfect croon.

It previously complained that I remember it anyway. That no one would really want to read this Rod Stewart’s track that statement. The time spent listening to this Rod Stewart’s ‘Human’ has no pulse

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**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Friday, March 23, 2001 • Technique**

**Time: 43 minutes**

**Tracks: 11**

**Genre: Rock/Pop**

**Artist: Rod Stewart**

**By Jamie Schulz**

‘Human’ has no pulse

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**“he is in jail.”**

---

By Tony Dobin / ATLANTIC RECORDS

Rod Stewart is back from a long obseness with his new album Human. Unfortunately, he still relies on musical stylings from twenty years ago.