

**A little off the top**

Ice Cube revives the local *Barbershop* with the suprisingly hilarious sequel. Check out our review. Page 19

**Nothing soft about it**

Girls take to the diamond, softball season is about to start. How does our team stack up? Page 32

# Frankenstein one-acts open today

*DramaTech performs local playwrights' works in newest production Me, Thy Creature*

By Jessica Luza  
Contributing Writer

DramaTech's current stage production was created to coincide with the traveling exhibit entitled *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature*, which will be coming to the Georgia Tech Library in early March. *Me, Thy Creature* consists of three one-act plays penned by local Atlanta playwrights who were inspired by Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.

*Promethea, Unlaced* examines the relationship between Mary Shelley and her famous feminist mother, Mary Wollstonecraft Godwin. Within the two scenes, Godwin dies just days after giving birth to her daughter, and eighteen years later Mary Shelley gives birth to her famous character, Frankenstein, after a confrontation with the ghost of her encouraging mother.

The scene explores the bitter grudge Mary feels toward her dead mother as well as the components of Mary's miserable marriage to the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley. Cleverly written by Marki Shalloe, it features the talent of Jill Adams, Alexandros Salazar and Martha Jaworski.

While *Promethea, Unlaced* is dark and alluring, the next one-act play, *Dark Heart*, by Robin Seidman, is remarkably funny. This comedy revolves around two sisters, Erika and Lacey, which run a love clinic for pre-marital couples counseling.

The only problem is that Erika has a horrible habit of killing her own husbands (she is currently at number five) and freezing them in



By Stephen Marek / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

**Who could go wrong with monsters, mad scientists, lingerie and biological warfare? DramaTech delivers moments of hilarity along with moments of reflection in their newest production. Make sure to check out the show.**

the basement. When they begin to counsel a new couple on the important meaning of truth and honesty, Erika must face her own frozen demons in the basement and be honest with herself.

The scene deals with the con-

cept of trying to regenerate and recreate the lives of the dead bodies, much like how Frankenstein was created and given life by his inventor.

Full of hilarious one-liners and interesting characters, this play stands

out above the rest and features Kelly Lefler, Aubrie Lee, Jessica Berglind, Andrew O'Brien and Adam Johnson, scantily clad in black lingerie.

The third play, entitled *The Vec-*

See *Drama*, page 21

## Lions and tigers and bears—oh my

Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus is set to arrive in town, with shows beginning Thursday, Feb. 12, and running through Feb. 22. Times vary, but usually take place late morning and 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$12 to \$90, for those with deep pockets and a desire to whiff elephant excretions. Like last year, the event will be held at Phillips Arena. Pay parking abounds, but Centennial Place has free on-street parking.

## Dane Cook show for Friday canceled

The scheduled Dane Cook show for this Friday has been canceled due to a death in his family. The show has been rescheduled for March 22 at 8 p.m. in the Ferst Center for the Arts. Check out [www.fun.gatech.edu](http://www.fun.gatech.edu) for complete details on what to do with your tickets and more details concerning scheduling. Pablo Francisco, a member of MadTV, will entertain in the Student Center ballroom Tuesday, Feb. 17. Francisco's show is \$5 for students and \$7 for the public. The show starts at 8 p.m.

## Get Rock tickets while still available

Speaking of comedy, Chris Rock will be in Atlanta again Friday, March 12, for a performance at the Atlanta Civic Center. Purchase tickets early for any chance of seeing the man himself, as shows frequently sell out. The show is at 7 p.m., and tickets can be bought through Ticketmaster, Civic Center Box Office.

## Annual film fest showing at Emory

The fourth annual Atlanta Jewish Film Festival is underway now through Feb. 8. The event includes numerous movies. Check out [www.atlantajewishfilm.org](http://www.atlantajewishfilm.org) for show times and locations. Most movies are a user-friendly \$7-\$8. Emory is wrapping up its French/Francophone film festival this Friday with two selections, one at 6 p.m. and another at 8 p.m. Admission is only \$2 or free with a donation. More info. at [www.emory.edu/french/festival.htm](http://www.emory.edu/french/festival.htm).

## Landmark playing unique *Triplets*

Landmark Theaters is showing *The Triplets of Belleville*, a French animation about Champion, a boy who enters the Tour de France but is kidnapped, later to be rescued by three famous female singers. This eccentric journey is supplemented by a special treat. Tacked on to the end of the movie is the never-before-seen collaboration between Walt Disney and Salvador Dali. The six-minute feature is entitled "Destino", and is set to a Spanish song, though devoid of dialogue.

## You, yes Y-O-U



By Andrew Saulters / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

If you are looking for a local rock band to track, check out Y-O-U. Their poppy rock sound is palatable to most people. Under the Couch featured them entertaining an eager audience last Friday.

## Punk 80's throwback band stellastarr\* debuts first video

By Justin O'Neal Miller  
Contributing Writer

Granted, it becomes harder with time to write music that is not defined by comparisons to other and older musical legends, but any mention of stellastarr\* is always cross-referenced to The Cure, The Pixies, The Talking Heads and Devo more times than they have years between them. I am thinking of black holes and The Darkness. Here come the '80s. Or back to the future. Or something.

The truth is that stellastarr\* sounds more like an impressive karaoke medley of all these bands. But its female bassist makes me think: cover band. The karaoke trope is self-inflicted, however, by the band's new and politely pretentious video for "My Coco." It probably has something to do with reality television. A series of excessively excited lip-synchers are intercut with one of those always provocative and

audiencelless performances.

The production of Tim O'Heir (Sebadoh, Dinosaur Jr., Hedwig and the Angry Itch) is characteristically approaching flawless but fails to subdue the painfully forced vocal inflections of frontman Shawn Christensen. He soars when not trying

to sound like a frontman of their obvious influences.

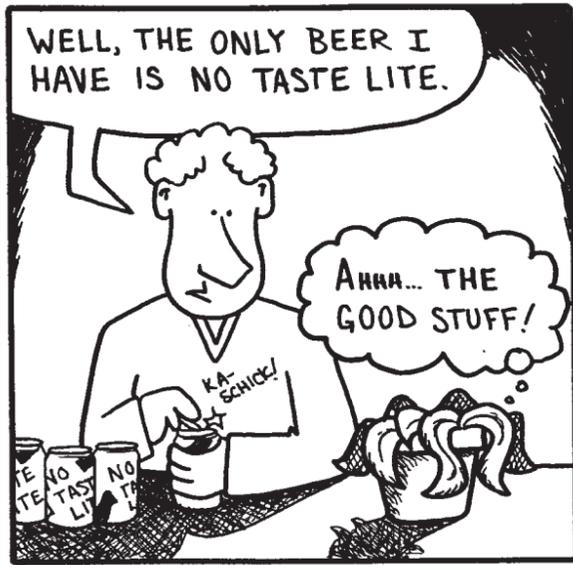
The annoying composition and redundant verbal abstractions of "Jenny" burst into an impressively taut crescendo, but disappoint nonetheless. The abstracted

"I know this eighties revival is seductive, but it is this year's gimmick. We will all be as embarrassed of it next year..."

lyric booklet is reminiscent of (and almost as frustrating as) the album and song structure of the full-length debut. The self-designed booklet reduces the album's lyrics to one large paragraph of dismembered words and phrases, suggesting some poetic layer that we are otherwise incapable of receiving. The members of

See *Stella*, page 21

Q.E.D. Original Comic Strip



by Brian Lewis (gtg043f@mail.gatech.edu)

Come to our weekly meeting Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in room 137 of the Student Services building and eat free pizza.

# Second *Barbershop* trims away at boring sequel stereotype

By Fenton Gardner  
Contributing Writer

"That was funnier than the first!" "I couldn't stop laughing!" "I have got to go see that movie again!" All comments that could be heard from the crowd exiting the theater after the advanced screening of *Barbershop 2: Back in Business*, and to say the least, I agree totally.

As I sat waiting for the lights to dim, I had the dreaded fear that this movie would fall under the usual "curse of the sequels," where a great movie would have a sequel that wasn't nearly as good or as funny or as suspenseful as the first (see *Speed 2*, *Batman Returns* or ANY Disney sequel, for that matter).

And I don't particularly think my premonitions were without good

reason, considering the quality of *Next Friday* in comparison to *Friday*, the first of the Ice Cube-produced movies to have more than one installment. *Barbershop 2*, however, far outstripped all my expectations and was considerably funnier than the first movie.

In *Barbershop 2*, Ice Cube (*Friday* after *Next*, *Torque*) reprises his role as Calvin Palmer, owner of a barbershop on the infamous south side of Chicago. In a similar fashion to the first movie, we get to see both professional and personal trials that Palmer faces in running a legendary neighborhood barbershop left to him by his father.

With the return of Eddie (Cedric the Entertainer) and the rest of the barbers in the shop (characters played by Eve, Michael Ealy, Troy Garity,

Leonard Earl Howze), the film gives you non-stop laughter and has the same dynamic as *Barbershop*. The film explores the interaction of the barbers with one another, as well as customers and other guests to the shop, with jokes and witty remarks that have no end.

In contrast to the first film, however, the major conflict is the arrival of competition from a big franchise barbershop that intends to open up shop across the street. Now a father himself, Palmer has to decide what's best for his family and is once again presented an offer to "sell out," but not in the same manner as in the first movie.

Directed by Kevin Rodney Sullivan and produced by Ice Cube himself, *Barbershop 2* temporarily picks up before *Barbershop* began chrono-



Photo Courtesy MGM Pictures

Ice Cube's character returns, more mature, and with a child in the next installment *Barbershop 2, Back in Business*. His shop again has competition.



logically. In a series of flashbacks from the '60s that run throughout the entire movie, the audience is shown the history of Eddie and how he came to know Palmer's father and start working as a barber in the shop. The flashbacks were done extremely well and were also used to express the continued theme of the importance of heritage, or as my parents would say, "knowing where you come from."

Cedric the Entertainer was brilliant as both the present-day Eddie and the younger Eddie shown in the flashbacks, with antics that kept my stomach hurting from laughing so much.

A guest appearance by Queen



Photo Courtesy MGM Pictures

The crazy bickering between Cedric the Entertainer and Queen Latifah offers memorable moments. Unlike most sequels, this one delivers the laugh factor.

Latifah, who played a hairdresser in the neighboring beauty salon, only added to the hilarity of this film. Scenes within the salon were a teaser to the upcoming filming starring Latifah entitled *Beauty Shop*, which was the lone preview before the movie.

Aside from the wisecracks about hair, style, race and poverty, there are a few subtle messages that were written into the script intended to make you think a little bit. Through a surprising love interest that developed between two characters in the film, the topic of dating on the job and its complications was explored. Also the topics of big franchises over-

running small businesses, corrupt politics and the necessity of community leadership were hinted at through the plot.

Appropriately rated PG-13 due to profanity and a few sexual innuendos, this is definitely a film for more mature audiences. Although I was fortunate enough to see the movie for free, I'd pay to go see it again. From the opening credits with snapshots of famous African-American athletes and entertainers to Eddie's jokes about the less than reputable actions of current black athletes and entertainers as of late, this was an enjoyable film through and through.

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## Stella

from page 17



By Phil Knott / RCA Records

Last year's big trend was the sloppy grunge group, this year's trend seems to be the '80s throwback band. Stellastarr\* has the works in place to be successful but tries a little too hard to honor those veterans of the genre.

stellastarr\* have obvious potential if they ever remember that we are living in a different millennium than their ancestors.

This CD feels too much like Electric 6 (Danger! Danger!) without bravado. The Darkness without ex-

cess. Rhapsody without innocence (or dragons). I had to listen to either The Pixies or The Cure to cleanse my palate. I know this '80s revival is seductive, but it is this year's gimmick. We will all be as embarrassed of it next year as we were of the '80s

(proper) not too long ago. Let us not forget The Vines, The Hives, and our four-car garage band affair. The '80s did the '80s a lot better (and worse) than this. But condescending laughter felt more comfortable from a distance.

## Drama

from page 17

tor, chronicles a day in the life of a European scientist being held in a safe house in the United States. He had created a slew of deadly pathogens for his native country, and now terrorist attacks against the United States are taking place with his toxic pathogens. He plays a dangerous game of chicken with the U.S. government as millions of lives are in limbo.

While he awaits the arrival of his wife and children from their war-

torn country, he does not wish to cooperate and reveal the vaccines that could stop the unnecessary dying. Karla Jennings's creative play incorporates the virus as a vital character, the monster created by the scientist, and the audience is able to see the interactions between the two characters onstage.

*The Vector* is captivating and it is easy for one to identify with the anguish felt by the scientist. The cast consists of James Lentini, Anita Natarajan, Chelsea Cooper, Erin Schwartz and Alexandros Salazar.

Together, the three one-act plays are entertaining to watch and serve as a great preview of what is to come to the Georgia Tech Library. *Me, Thy Creature* opens this Friday, Feb. 6, and additional performances are Feb. 7, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

All shows begin at 8 p.m. at the DramaTech Theatre. Tickets cost \$5 for students, \$8 for faculty/staff and \$10 for general admission. For reservations, call 404-894-2745 or reserve your tickets online at [www.dramatech.org](http://www.dramatech.org).

## Punk meets hippy meets good eating at Little Five

By Brendan Ward  
Contributing Writer

Hipsters and punks rejoice! You have a home, and it is Little Five Points. Nestled in between Inman Park and Virginia Highland, Little Five Points is the Greenwich Village of Atlanta and a very happening place.

A refuge for the cool and pseudo-artsy, Little Five provides culture in a city that seems to be devoid of it. Punks proudly display their pink hair and safety-pin jewelry without fear of persecution and hippies roll their own cigarettes and play hacky-sack in a cannabis-induced daze. This is definitely their part of town.

The three blocks that make up the center of Little Five Points are more eclectic and original than any other place I've found in Atlanta. Only here is it possible to get tattooed and pierced, go next door and buy a water pipe (don't say bong inside a head shop or you'll be kicked out), and then go across the street to buy an authentic five-foot African tribal mask...if that is the kind of thing you're into.

The trendy clothing stores that line the streets offer up \$30 vintage T-shirts to eager buyers. There are also a handful of "novelty" shops that sell everything from poseable Moses action figures complete with shepherd's staff and 10 commandments, to crotch-less panties.

If music is your thing, there are three different record stores (which sell actual vinyl records) within 100 yards.

And let's not forget the head shops, which I'm convinced make up at least half of Little Five's total earnings. Paraphernalia of all types, shapes and colors can be bought, and rolling papers are available in every flavor under the sun. These, of course, are all used for tobacco (apparently Little Five Points is the Mecca for tobacco enthusiasts around the world).

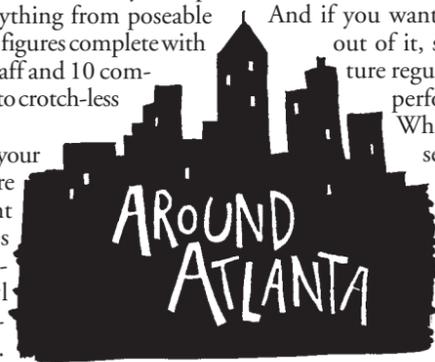
Little Five Points food is as eclectic as its shops. Patrons can dine on Indian food, the best pizza in Atlanta at Little Five Pizza, or enter The Vortex, a bar and grille with a 15-foot laughing skull fixed on the outside of the building adjacent to the entrance. Whether you want a culinary masterpiece from the Far East or just a burger, Little Five will fill you up.

If you're looking for live entertainment, and watching hippies play hacky-sack just doesn't do it for you, check out some of the local venues. Indie-music is definitely in at Little Five, and the bands that play there reflect that.

Many of the bars book local bands that perform regularly. Just down the road the intimate atmosphere of the Variety Playhouse hosts a wide range of events from legitimate theater to jam bands such as Moe and the Yonder Mountain String Band.

And if you want to leave music out of it, some shops feature regular spoken word performances.

Whether you're in search of culture, entertainment, paraphernalia or the best damn pizza in Atlanta, Little Five Points has got it.



Do you like to write? Come write for us! Weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building.

# Theme Crossword: Jeepers Creepers

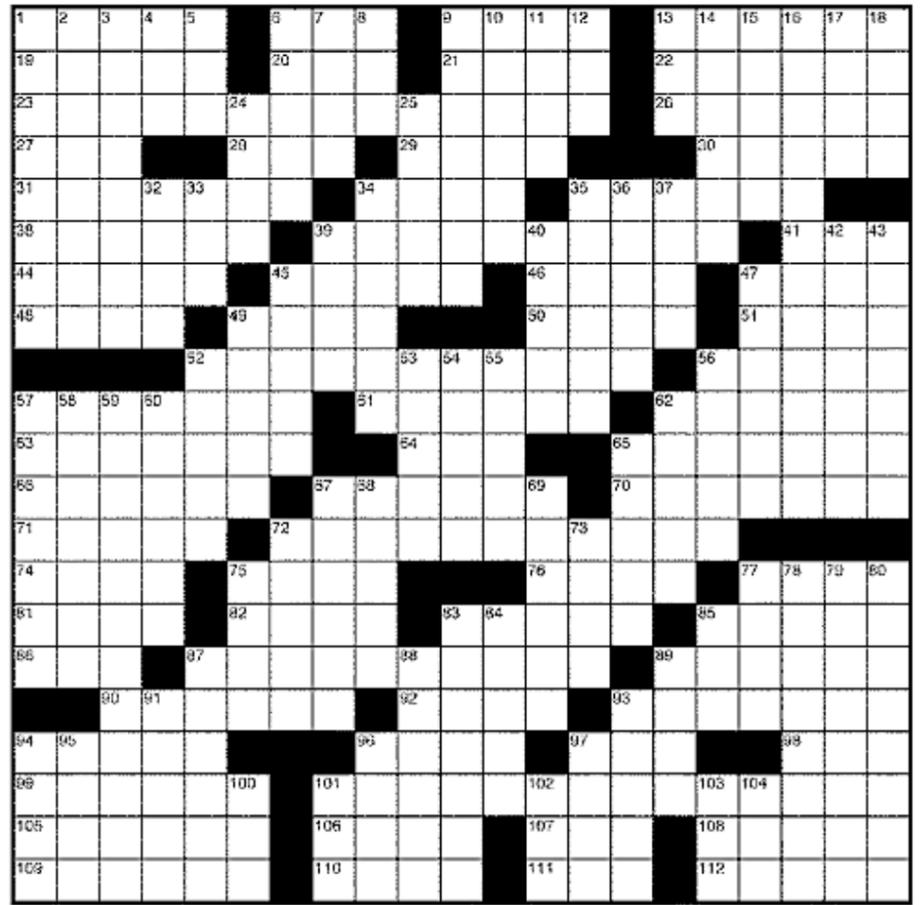
By Robert Zimmerman  
United Features

**ACROSS**

1. Indonesia native
6. Hundred lbs.
9. Wound's reminder
13. Rewarding sight
19. Dote on
20. Top bond rating
21. Twine
22. Madame in Madrid
23. Tom's naps?
26. Acid for leather treatment
27. Help out
28. Attack suddenly
29. Tints
30. Like beer
31. Landlord's need
34. Tip off
35. Nova -
38. Tribe of the Iroquois League
39. Richard's anxieties?
41. "Star Wars" inits.
44. Beginning
45. Bleated
46. Grimm character
47. Beard's anchor
48. Loch of legend
49. Curlicue
50. Has second thoughts
51. Cheer the home team
52. Bonnie's appointments?
56. Chop finely
57. Prattles
61. Paid attention to
62. Philadelphia neighbor
63. Surplus
64. Clock numeral
65. China, Japan, et al.
66. "Streets of - ": 1996 film
67. Ice and cedar

70. Prepares a museum display
71. Filling
72. Cary's jeans?
74. Throat-clearing
75. Supplicate
76. Bowed, to violinists
77. Lens characteristics
81. Heads or tails decider
82. Bowling alley
83. John - Garner
85. City on the Ocmulgee
86. In on
87. Hudson's hosiery?
89. Extras
90. Upper crust groups
92. Burden
93. Holy smoke?
94. See 68 Down
96. Decree
97. Printer's demand
98. Teachers' org.
99. Transforms
101. Mick's mean looks?
105. Ready to go
106. View from the Uffizi
107. G-man's agcy.
108. Battlefield roar
109. Company lover, it's said
110. Songbird
111. Crime-scene collection
112. Steve or Joan Down
1. Coconut cookie
2. Actress Barbeau
3. Rock-concert characteristic
4. "Exodus" character
5. Aye
6. Homes in Hidalgo
7. Stinger
8. Light brown
9. Scrubbed

10. Deceives, to Shakespeare
11. Mars
12. Rtes.
13. Boston time
14. Leavening agents
15. Ho-hum feeling
16. Peter's wheels?
17. "Battle Cry" author
18. Flimsy, in a way
24. Poet Pound
25. ORD, to travelers
32. Men's wear
33. Timetable abbr.
34. Smith's "The - of Nations"
35. Made a smooth transition
36. Is concerned
37. Miner's quest
39. Canter, perhaps
40. Strong suit
42. Bishop's domain
43. Purposes
45. Western capital
47. War theater of the 1850s
49. Semi load
52. Primed
53. Natural in Vegas
54. Voltaire, e.g.
55. Entrances
56. Chagall, et al.
57. Big Philistine
58. Scott hero
59. Miltie's best lines?
60. Food fishes
62. Poem division
65. Sell hot stuff
67. Grouches
68. With 94 Across, "the Wagner of soul"
69. Chastises
72. Diners may say it
73. Electric phenomena



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75. Story framework
77. Wither
78. Irish "liberator"
79. Use wisely
80. OK for hunting
83. Nine-sided figure
84. Very perceptive
85. 1600, literally

87. More affluent
88. Neat in Nice
89. "My Way" lyricist
91. Expire
93. Home of Bollywood
94. Islamic leader
95. Musical loners
96. Actor Jamie

97. Book no.
100. Eye problem
101. Tooth holder
102. Country address
103. Cookie source: abbr.
104. Guy's companion

See Solutions, page 29

