

ENTERTAINMENT

Technique • Friday, November 12, 2004

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Tech student Dan Richard has been elected Red Zone president in a promotion for Old Spice. Page 14

ROW YOUR BOAT

Learn about the sport of crew and meet one of Tech's most successful club sport teams. Page 27

Get slice of life at *Café Puttanesca*

By Swathy Prithivi
Contributing Writer

Café Puttanesca is a deliciously bawdy concoction masquerading as a musical cabaret. Currently playing at the Horizon Theatre in Little Five Points, it is, according to playwright Michael Ogborn, "a five-character slice of life."

The musical is set in 1948 in Amsterdam's Red Light District where all are welcome at *Café Puttanesca*, the local watering hole.

"One can almost smell the canals of Amsterdam as one laughs along with these risqué, soulful folks who make a joke out of everyone..."

Three regulars, Marquesa (LaLa Cochran), the Duchess (Kenya Hamilton) and the Baroness (Michelle Lynne Martin) as well as the café owner (Philip Webster) along with his wife, Rosa (Denise Arribas) reminisce over songs and drinks as the Duchess prepares to leave for America in pursuit of marital happiness.

The musical is a paean to alternative families and celebrates the spirit of these ladies of the night who have



Photo courtesy Horizon Theatre

Set in post World War II Europe, *Café Puttanesca* focuses on the lives of a colorful cast of characters in Amsterdam's Red Light District. The play runs at the Horizon Theatre through Nov. 28.

overcome trials and tribulations and are moving towards the future with weary optimism.

With music and lyrics by Michael Ogborn, direction by Heidi Cline and a gorgeous set by John Thigpen, the audience gets a realistic feel for a café in post World War II Europe.

One can almost smell the canals of Amsterdam as one laughs along with these risqué, soulful folks who make

a joke out of everyone and everything from kinky customers to a bearded enactment of Rasputin's death.

Two acts, several lush vocal renditions and innumerable raunchy jokes later, *Café Puttanesca* is entertaining but never manages to truly touch the audience. It is merry, ribald and energetic and yet does not go much below the giddy surface. But with such colorful and fun debauchery

abounding, the audience does not find anything amiss.

This musical is an interesting and worthwhile experience for anyone looking for more artsy entertainment that goes beyond regular moviegoer fare.

As the pamphlet for the musical proclaims, "who can resist a bunch of whores singing, dancing and telling dirty jokes?"

It's beginning to look a lot like...

Because the park apparently cannot go all of one week without hosting a festival of some kind, "A Southern Christmas" is coming to Stone Mountain this Saturday. Come marvel at the 1870s town of Crossroads, full of entertainers and skilled craftsmen. Also featured are a "4D" movie, a train ride, nightly "snowfall" and fireworks...and of course, Santa.

Get two wars for price of one

Through Nov. 19, the Atlanta History Center will be hosting both "Turning Point: The American Civil War" and "The Military History Collection" for all you war buffs out there. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day except Sunday when it opens at noon. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for students/seniors, and \$7 for children.

19th-century photos on display

Through Nov. 21, the Michael C. Carlos Museum is hosting "The Eye of Greece: Athens in 19th-Century Photographs," a showcase of photographs from 19th-century Athens. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Sundays, when it opens at noon. There is a \$5 suggested donation.

One-man Foxtrot November releases debut *Rush the Clock*

By Gopinath Jayaprakash
Contributing Writer

The debut album from the Atlanta-based pop/rock group Foxtrot November, *Rush the Clock*, was officially released last Thursday, Nov. 4 at Vinyl.

The record from Orphan studios marks the culmination of writing and recording between the summers of 2002 and 2004 at over six locations around Atlanta area including Tech itself.

Eleven songs were carefully chosen from over 34 to make the final cut for the release.

Having split from the Atlanta-based group Odyssey to create a solo album and form a band in 2002, 23-year-old singer/songwriter and Tech alumnus Paul Varlamoff came up with concepts of the first record at recent studio sessions.



Multitalented Varlamoff also plays the guitar, keyboard arrangements and drums, and did the percussion programming for this album.

The 11 tracks bring together a wide array of styles, influences, sounds and emotions into a remarkably cohesive album that is undeniably unique yet

taps the mainstream music listeners out there.

Varlamoff has a unique voice with a wide sonic range that cuts through the intricate instrumentation to produce melancholy yet powerful emotions in his songs.

"The record is a snapshot of the thoughts and feelings of this point in my life. There is a lot of energy, confusion and mistrust about the world around that has worked its way into the songs,"

See *Foxtrot*, page 19

Rage never dies in *Grudge*

By Amanda Dugan
Contributing Writer

"When someone dies in the grip of a powerful rage, a curse is left behind. It never forgives. It never forgets." This Japanese belief makes for a premise that links together each horrifying event of *The Grudge*.

The Grudge, based on the Japanese blockbuster *Ju-on: The Grudge*, tells the story of a Tokyo house and the plague that rage leaves on it.

The history of this house is shown through American exchange student Karen, played by Sarah Michelle Gellar, who visits it to take care of an elderly woman when her usual caretaker doesn't show.

The opening scene immediately scares you out of your seat and the plot doesn't slow down until the credits role. The true horror of *The Grudge* comes from its lack of comfortable timing, leaving you scared every moment.

After being shocked by what seems a random suicide somewhere in Tokyo, *The Grudge* introduces you to the cursed house and its new residents.

Before Karen even sets foot in the house, we learn it has secrets through the unforgettable expression of the young Japanese caretaker Yoko as she looks around the attic.

This sets up the perfect déjà vu

See *Grudge*, page 19



Photo courtesy Sony Pictures

Sarah Michelle Gellar stars in Columbia Pictures' release *The Grudge*. The film is based upon the Japanese film of the same name.

Grudge from page 17

fright moment when Karen retraces Yoko's steps. From there everyone either of these women encounters is destined for death.

The Grudge introduces each of these seemingly unrelated people affected by the plague of the house through a broken story line that cleverly adds to the confusion.

A child ghost who only makes disturbing cat noises surfaces in the attic only to reappear in photographs elsewhere.

The pace quickens even more when the presence of the ghosts begins to be felt outside the house.

Besides its unsettling horror, *The Grudge* is unique as the remake is set

in its original Japan. "I had made these films after seeing *Ringu* and was determined to make a horror movie in a completely different style," Director Takashi Shimizu said, in an industry press release.

Although the pace of *The Grudge* is original, its ghosts are very similar to the Japanese predecessor of *The Ring* Shimizu refers to.

Still *The Grudge* provides a harder edged version of the same type of scares as *The Ring* with more substance to its storyline.

The curse that is *The Grudge* leaves no hope that Karen will survive as it never forgets, even though at every turn you will wish she could just escape the house so you can remove your trembling hands from covering your eyes.

"The Grudge introduces each of these seemingly unrelated people affected by the plague of the house through a broken story line that cleverly adds to the confusion."

Foxtrot from page 17

Varlamoff said.

There is no better example of this than the edgy and dynamic single, "Your Holiday."

"The Kindness of Faith," the first song on the album, brings out the blend of good music and strong lyrics that make this record worth listening to.

Most of the songs are about Varlamoff's life and his experiences with love. Paul feels that the record is exceptional, not because of the album sales, but because he has finally come up with a record that have been running around his head all these years.

Anyone who listens to all the songs will appreciate the genuineness of the lyrics and the undeniable effort put into making music that encompass a wide range of styles.

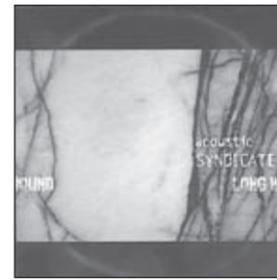
Foxtrot November is currently touring the Southeast and will continue through the spring.

The band will also be performing at Live at WREK on Dec. 3 on the stage in the Student Center Commons.

Acoustic Syndicate's Long Way Round disappoints with cacophony

By Nikhil Joshi
Contributing Writer

Atrocity is an understatement when it comes to characterizing the 64 minutes of music contained in Acoustic Syndicate's newly released album *Long Way Round*.



Being a fan of acoustic music, I picked up the disc expecting to hear something fresh and exciting. What I got instead was cacophony. The album has nothing to offer that would make it harmonious or meaningful.

Acoustic Syndicate's style differs, without a doubt, from that of the conventional pop band.

Band members include a banjo player, a saxophonist, an acoustic guitar player, a bass player and a singer. However, the instruments are not used together effectively.

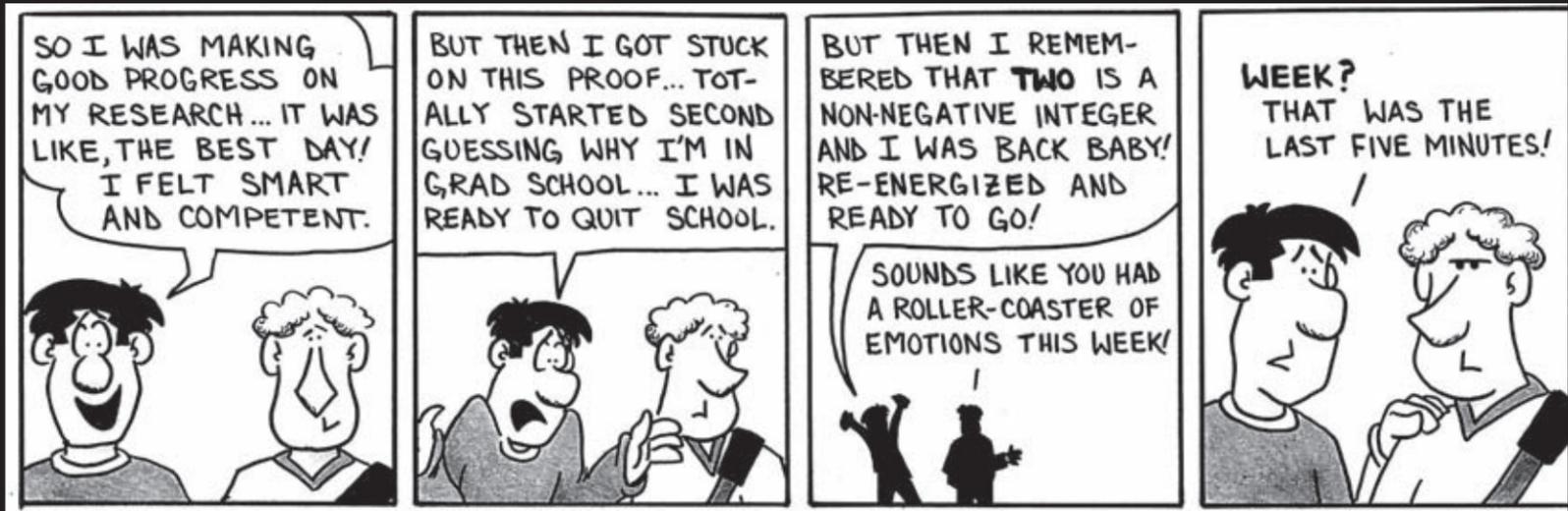
Instead of sounding smooth and pleasant, a careless mixing produces a rather dissonant tune in most cases. The vocals also leave something to be desired.

It seems that Sugar Hill, a relatively small label, is taking a chance with Acoustic Syndicate's unique style; perhaps they are targeting a niche market. However, having listened to the entirety of the album, it appears

See **Round**, page 22

Q.E.D.

Original Comic Strip



by Brian Lewis: gtg043f@mail.gatech.edu

SLIVER

www.nique.net/sliver

NORMAL people don't have alarm clocks that scream COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO!!!!

Creepy tall kid, dont come into the bathroom and just walk around with your toothbrush in your mouth while I'm peeing.

check the facts first cs major, alumna is the single female form of alumni. she knew what she was saying

well I'm a STAC major and even I know that "alumna" is the single female form of "alumni."

Don't discount STAC. Some companies choose them over engineers because they do their job AND BETTER!

Parking office<-heartless,ruthless,cocksuckers

Increased price of tuition,parking passes/fines = fatter pockets for el presidente?

Did anyone mention how much the parking office blows? goosecock donkeyballs

Starting salary for an engineer (with masters): \$60,000. Starting salary for a management major (masters): 105,000 Starting Salary for a STAC major (idt masters): 80,000

keep it in your pouches and recognize.

Just because you chose majors that puts you in classes you probably won't use once you graduate, doesn't mean you should discount the ones who do learn something valuable.

FIRE GAILEY!!

To the CS major: 'alumna' is the correct term to describe a female graduate. 'alumnus' is the masculine form. I'm a Nuke Eng. major and I know that.

Damn college republicans can't shut up for one minute.. So Kerry lost. The way I see it, let Smirkin' George fix his own problems. You started Iraq, and you finish it.

Well, the economy's still down, the War (that's supposedly is over) is a mess, and the Nation is biteterly divided. Congrats conservatives, now eve

w00t

Republicans rule this country.

See page 20 for more Slivers!

Sideways offers rich bouquet

By Michael Ng
Contributing Writer

There's the old adage that for a writer, the hardest part of the literary process always starts with the first sentence. However, Miles can only wish for such an easy problem.

Played by Paul Giamatti, Miles is the misanthropic, but ultimately lovable, protagonist of Alexander Payne's *Sideways*.

Having already finished his book, Miles is concerned with far more troubling problems. He's sent the finished manuscript of his novel to several publishers, only to be rejected uniformly. Also, he's been divorced

“...[Miles has] been divorced from his wife for two years, but he still can't stop drunk dialing her...while on dates with other women.”

from his wife for two years, but he still can't stop drunk dialing her from five star restaurants while on dates with other women.

What Miles needs is a break from the drudge of normalcy if he plans on keeping any of his sanity. So when Jack, his long-time college pal decides to get married, Miles treats him to a weeklong celebratory trip/bachelor party through Wine Country, USA.

The misadventures start early for this odd couple. Miles is looking to sample some of the finest vineyards in California and to kill some time before he hears back from a publisher interested in his book.

Jack is more concerned with



Photo courtesy Fox Searchlight

Paul Giamatti and Thomas Church star as friends Miles and Jack whose misadventures are the premise of *Sideways*.

enjoying single life for the last time, and getting laid as much as possible in a week.

However, when Jack hooks up with Stephanie, a local wine pourer, and Miles becomes romantically involved with Maya, a wine-savvy waitress, the trip takes an unexpected detour.

Payne, the director of top notch indie comedies *Election* and *About Schmidt*, proves for a third time that he has an innate knack for creating vibrant films that spring forth with refreshing passion and wry wit that is absent from so many other contemporary buddy road trip flicks.

To top it off, although the movie is well-grounded in reality, the second half of the film unwinds into wonderfully plausible absurdity that provided for more genuine laugh-out-loud moments than any other movie I've seen this year.

Strangely, some of the most somber moments of the film transitioned into becoming the most hilarious ones. Payne's contribution is this abil-

ity to make us simultaneously laugh and contemplate the value, absurdity and hilarity of relationships.

Some people may initially be put off by Miles's obsessive discussion of wine, but it soon becomes evident that the wine is a necessity to the film that functions as a plot device and metaphor for life.

When Maya asks Miles what the most prized possession in his wine collection is, he replies that it is his unopened Cheval Blanc '61. Astounded that he would have something so rare in his collection, Maya offhandedly mentions that she heard that it this is the peak season for a Cheval Blanc to come to the height of its flavor.

If left on the shelf for too much longer, the window of opportunity to enjoy it to its fullest will have passed. She urges Miles to savor the wine because a time like this will never come again.

Now I've never tasted a Cheval Blanc '61, but I know exactly what she is talking about.



Live in Atlanta

ECHO LOUNGE

551 Flat Shoals Rd.
(404) 681-3600
www.echostatic.com/echolounge
11/12 Big Sandy & His Fly-Rite Boys
11/13 The Wrens
11/16 Giant Sand

COTTON CLUB

152 Luckie St.
(404) 688-1193
www.atlantaconcerts.com/cottonclub.html
11/18 A Static Lullaby with Hopesfall, Codeseven, Yourcodenameis:milo, Rock Kills Kid

THE EARL

488 Flat Shoals Ave.
(404) 522-3950
www.badearl.com
11/12 Holly Golightly, The Woggles
11/13 Grupo Fantasma
11/14 dunch with national grain
11/15 Bloody Midgets (Midget Wrestling!), Earlimart at MJQ's Drunken Unicorn
11/16 Get Fit with: Captured! by Robots
11/17 Hot Snakes
11/18 Hope for a Golden Summer

VARIETY PLAYHOUSE

1099 Euclid Ave.
(404) 521-1786
www.variety-playhouse.com
11/12 Cracker/Camper Van Beethoven
11/13 Ozomatli, Adrian Legg
11/14 Marc Cohn
11/15 Hem
11/16 Matthew Sweet, Kim Simmonds

THE MASQUERADE

695 North Ave.
(404) 577-2007
www.masq.com
11/12 Cruxshadows
11/13 MTV Headbangers Ball 2004: Cradle of Filth, Arch Enemy, Bleeding Through Himsa
11/14 Darkest Hour, Between the

Buried and Me, Cattle Decapitation, Armor for Sleep, Number 1 Fan, The Academy Is...

11/18 Bouncing Souls, Against Me, Murphy's Law, Let it Burn

STAR BAR

437 Moreland Ave.
(404) 681-9018
www.starbar.net
11/12 Rocket 350
11/13 G-n-R Live (a tribute to Guns and Roses)
11/15 Fifteen Minutes of Fame Karaoke
11/16 Funk Disco w/ DJ Romeo Cologne

SMITH'S OLDE BAR

1580 Piedmont Ave.
(404) 875-1522
www.smithsoldebar.com
11/12 Abbie Caldwell
11/13 Tender Idols
11/15 Asylum Street Spankers, The Gourds
11/16 Charlie Robison
11/17 Dogs Die In Hot Cars, The Slip, Sam Thacker
11/18 Rebirth Brass Band

THE MARK

79 Poplar St.
(678) 904-0050
www.themarkatlanta.com
11/12 Himix presents Felix Da House Cat
11/19 Madhatter presents John "OO" Fleming

RIBS 'N' BLUES

86 5th St., NW
(404) 249-8808
www.ribsnblues.com
11/12 Patrick Vining
11/13 Patrick Vining
11/17 Chicago Joe Jones
11/18 Man Eating Chicken

SLIVER

www.nique.net/sliver

Thank you 26, you drained my monstaz bawlz
You engineers need to stop nerding up my management building.
Tech got us that building so you don't taint our elite population with your horrible-ness.
Lauren touched my tralala.
Hey kid with the red plastic shoes: We call you 'dorothy' and laugh at you whenever we see you. Get a clue.
It's 3 AM. do I know where my girlfriend is? Not at sig ep, that's for damn sure.
Ying Yang and the T double D sez being gay is 'not cool, dude'
Thomas B masturbates like 5 times a day. Sick.
Bigger than your head.
GT needs to quadruple the 'out of country' tuition rate. Damn curve busters.
Dear bandwagoning basketball fans: we're going to be terrible this season, it's not worth your time going to games. Go watch the softball team or something. I'm tired of my bourbon getting hot stand I don't like this OSCAR fellow very much.
ZTA's are so damn hot!
Kerry=Weiner. College Republicans=heads stuck up rear \$20 for a new buzzcard, Are you Serious?!
a girl can be horny and not a slut, right?
and all guys ARE perverted ass holes!
1770--freshman level--Ha!Ha!
My red hat has been lost to the Ages, gone to that great hatrack in the sky. Farewell, my trusty headgear...
2 + 3 = chair
I heard figs likes little boys
king of panty raids = ff (AKA MR FIGS)
Whoever posts below me is probably homosexual.
Dude. Dooode. Dude. Shes hot. Dooode. But....she needa more meata on them appendages. Dooode. But....check out that ass. Dude.
If being gay is a disease...what do you propose is the cure? HATRED
Last time I checked that is not a Christian value...you self righteous conservative.

Two Bits

Sweet potato wreaks havoc on Two Bits Man's kitchen plumbing, sanity

Buy a house. That is my useful advice to you this week. Sure, I realize that some of you are eighteen-year-old freshmen who live on ramen and store-brand cola, but this is important. If you take no other advice that I give you this week, buy a house.

If you don't believe me now, by the end of my story about apartment life, you will want to buy a house. Yes, my loyal Two Bits readers, I shall tell you the story of The Sweet Potato that Wrought Havoc.

If I haven't mentioned it in my column before, I cook abundantly and well and this week was no different. On Sunday, I decided to push the envelope of fusion cui-

sine by whipping up a nice pot of Judeo-Columbian beef stew.

Like any other day in my kitchen, I peeled the vegetables, chopped them and tossed the bad parts down the garbage disposal, but Sunday was no ordinary day.

It was the day of The Sweet Potato that Wrought Havoc. I tossed one questionable piece of sweet potato down the drain, and the destructive spiral began. Gurgle, gurgle, pop, hum and the disposal was clogged and the water rising in my sink.

No worries though. The great thing

about living in an apartment is that you can be as destructive as you like and a call to the maintenance office will have your place restored within 24 hours.

I decided to be nice to my friendly apartment staff and remove everything from under the sink before I called them, because the Two Bits Man is all about courtesy.

Now, if you're like the Two Bits Man, you probably keep all of your flammables and explosives below the kitchen sink. It took me about half an hour to move about 100 individual items ranging from Sterno fuel to photographic chemicals to the most sensible place to put them—on top of my clothes dryer.

Now for those liberal arts majors reading online, I'm sure this sounds like a terrible idea, but for my Tech brethren, you know that the clothes dryer only gets hot when it's on. Of course, since they'll surely be there the next day, I can go without my washer and dryer.

Tuesday morning, I called and explained that my garbage disposal was clogged and I would appreciate if they would send someone to repair it. The woman was very nice and assured me that they would have someone come on that day.

With confidence, I went to work, knowing that if she said it would be fixed on Tuesday, I could be mutilating vegetables on Wednesday morning, but alas no! There would be no vegetable massacres for the Two Bits Man on Wednesday morning. So I called them back.

"Yes, Mr. Man, we will definitely fix it today," the cheery-voiced woman assured me. Well, I'll give you three guesses what didn't happen on Wednesday.

"Now, if you're like the Two Bits Man, you probably keep all of your flammables and explosives below the kitchen sink."

On Thursday morning, I called again, and the woman I spoke with told me that they had come that morning before I called. I thanked her and went to my next class.

I got home on Thursday night, greeted by a friendly note from the handyman. "Garbage disposal works," it said. Clearly he had either used godlike powers or basic plumbing skills to unclog my disposal, so I turned on the water and flipped the switch.

Indeed the motor spun, and as the sink slowly filled up with a swirling vortex of dirty water, it became apparent to me that I had misspoken when I put in the service call. Obviously I didn't make it clear to them that my concern was not with the disposal, but with the pipe attached to it.

Friday morning, next iteration. I politely explained that the plumber had apparently done nothing towards fixing my problem, and that I would really appreciate if they would fix it. They assured me that it would

be repaired on Friday, but—you may be picking up on a pattern here—they didn't.

Saturday, I had a chance to visit the office personally. I explained to the woman there, the same woman who had taken the service order in the first place, that I was getting a bit unnerved because I had vegetables decomposing in my drain, and that surely wasn't healthy. I explained that I would bring it to the Department of Health's attention.

The woman said to me, "Oh, you're the guy with the potato in your disposal. I finally put two and two together. The maintenance guy said he found a whole potato in there and he told the manager."

At this point I'm a little bit flabbergasted. Why did he disassemble my disposal and say, "Hmm. Looks like a potato," and put it back together without removing the potato?

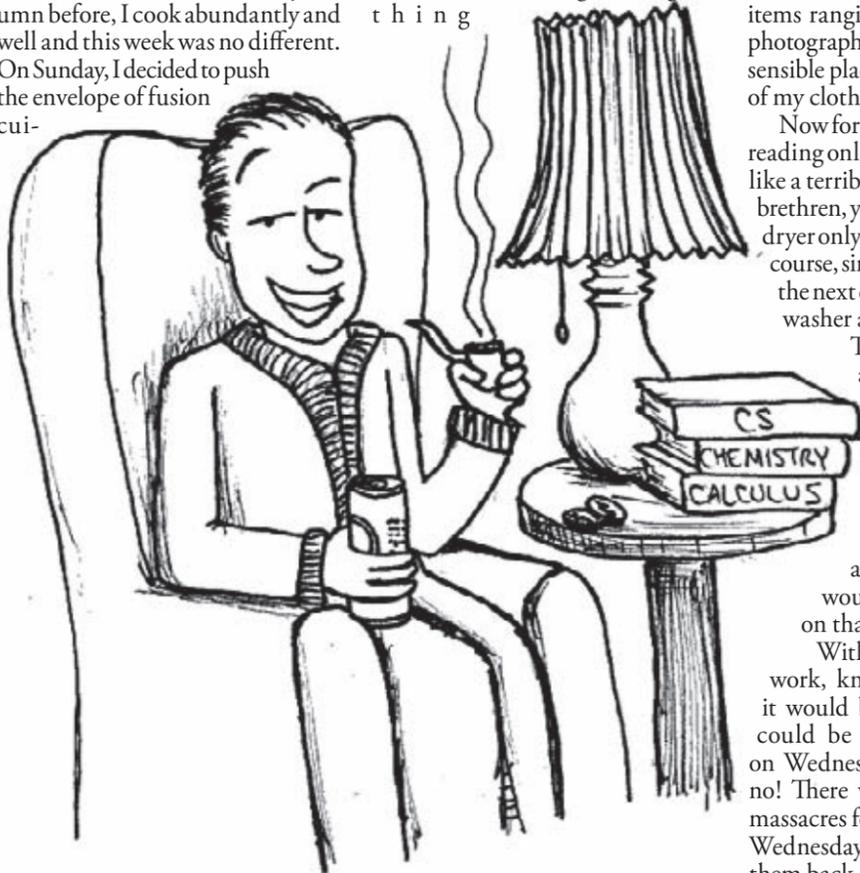
Furthermore, it wasn't a potato. It was part of a *sweet* potato, and that's what was really important. How dare they confuse a potato with a *sweet* potato?

By this point, I was what you might call pissed. I was out of laundry because using the washer and dryer would have required moving about 100 objects. I was out of clean dishes, because I had nowhere to wash the goo, and to top it all off, I was being accused of lying.

I told the woman that I put a small piece of a sweet potato down the disposal, and she told me that it was a whole potato.

She then proceeded to lecture me about how having a garbage disposal is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly.

See **Potato**, page 22



SLIVER

www.nique.net/sliver

Annoying kid in CEE2300: shut up and stop asking so many f'ing questions to the prof.

Is Usher gay?

F-ing ESL TAs pissing me off ... again.

Tell Mr. Church to get over here and start doing some work before I strike him.

To the GT lady out there who is wondering about that guy: The answer to your question is yes. What are you going to do?

Just because we've only talked twice and I ran a background check on you doesn't mean I'm a stalker.

Heck, I even Googled for your pic.

Only babies whine about chores you bumhugs

To Team GreenHit United: we'd need go get together down at the joint to wrap up our project.

LCC 3401 is the thorn in my flesh; Jesus come quickly!

Girl, you know it's true

My sentence expires in May and I am out of GT and starting my life again.

Bow to my Powerbook before I kick you in the nuts

Dishes are different from chores; the former you HAVE to do, the latter you need to do.

Jay, shut up and pull your weight; it's not that hard if you are not lazy.

Ask John D. about Grass Party. And Chris G.

I know what you did. May your conscience eat at you for cheating on your girlfriend. Shame!

"There are things about Halo even the hierarchs do not understand..."

Marry me, T

...TR

We need to start a petition for Tony McHenry to bring back the socks. Things just aren't the same without them.

a lot of very bright people smoke pot

STOP HATE

See page 26 for more Slivers!

Bridget Jones finds self on edge

By Swathy Prithivi
Contributing Writer

Fans of Bridget Jones will be thrilled to see her back in a befitting sequel *Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason* complete with boy trouble, squabbles and of course, her diary.

The movie picks up six weeks after the first film left her safely ensconced in the arms of her new, near-perfect boyfriend Mark Darcy.

Trouble is already brewing as she finds herself insecure in their relationship, with arguments ranging from whether their unborn child should attend Eton or not to the way underpants should be folded.

In addition to the relationship

crisis, she has to deal with Darcy's new attractive colleague Rebecca, who is not only smart and always does the right thing but is also beautiful with "legs like a young giraffe."

Complicating things even further, Jones's wickedly debauched former boyfriend and ex-boss, Daniel Cleaver still wants her back.

Bridget has to navigate the choppy waters of a modern relationship with its confusion, jealousy and impending disaster to ultimately discover that she has found true love.

The movie has exotic locations ranging from London's streets to the Swiss Alps and all the way to Thailand and back again.

Rounding off the main cast from

the original movie are Bridget's mum, dad and ever faithful trio of friends Jude, Shazzer and Tom along with television news boss Richard Finch.

The movie has its light and entertaining moments but does take unnecessary detours in the plot such as Bridget's jail escapade in Thailand.

"The movie picks up six weeks after the first film left [Bridget] safely ensconced in the arms of her new, near-perfect boyfriend..."

It is hard for a sequel to live up to a hugely successful original movie and the strains of trying too hard are all too visible in this film. Of course, it could be the mark of having a different director at the helm.

The film neither seems to go beyond the light, fluffy moments nor does it strike a chord with the audience as the first movie did. Sometimes even the comic moments seem contrived.

Overall the film is light and frothy and with all the gorgeous locales onscreen, it is as refreshing as a summer cocktail.



Photo courtesy Miramax Films

Renée Zellweger reprises her role as Bridget Jones in *The Edge of Reason*, sequel to *Bridget Jones's Diary*.

Round from page 19

unlikely that Acoustic Syndicate will attract fans of any musical genre.

The title track "Long Way Round" is a strong indication of what will follow. Lyrics that have no deeper meaning accompany an annoying tune, "I got up this morning/Took the long way round/Not too much upon my mind, trying to slow it down."

Most of the songs on the album are like the first one. They reflect an interesting blend of several types of music: jazz, country and rock, to name a few. However, there is something haphazard and careless about them.

Only the eighth track stands out as being somewhat meaningful. The song is a tribute to country legend John Hartford.

Still, jarring tones plague this and almost every other song. The poor quality leads one to question whether the band even thought about the music they were producing before recording it. It seems, rather, that Acoustic Syndicate strung things together without considering whether or not one type of melody would go well with another.

In short, the band's music sounds like a poor imitation of Dave Matthews. DMB also uses a variety of styles and instruments—but they do so tastefully.

Diehard Acoustic Syndicate fans may find *Long Way Round* to be a bold and worthy experiment, but I strongly caution the ordinary listener.

Potato from page 21

"Thank you so much for this informative discussion. I will assuredly take it under advisement the next time I use my disposal. However, though it has been genuinely didactic, it doesn't help my immediate concern that water won't go down my sink because I have a piece of a sweet potato stuck in my drain! Does this mean that you're not going to have it fixed because it's a sweet potato?"

She told me that I hadn't been forgotten and that they would fix it on Saturday, but no luck.

Sunday, there's no maintenance done unless it's an emergency, and The Sweet Potato that Wrought Havoc is not what they consider an emergency.

My story finally ended on Monday, six days after I initially called, having a conversation with the apartment manager and insisting that she have it fixed. This week has most assuredly been instructional for me.

For example, I learned that you should never put a piece of a sweet potato down your garbage disposal, no matter how seemingly tiny it is. I learned that if an apartment employee tries to lecture like a four year old, then I should go straight to the boss and above all I learned that if you don't want to face The Sweet Potato that Wrought Havoc, buy a house.

Until I start cooking with yucca root, here's wishing you a tasty week.

THEME CROSSWORD: MARKET DAY

By Robert Zimmerman
United Features

ACROSS

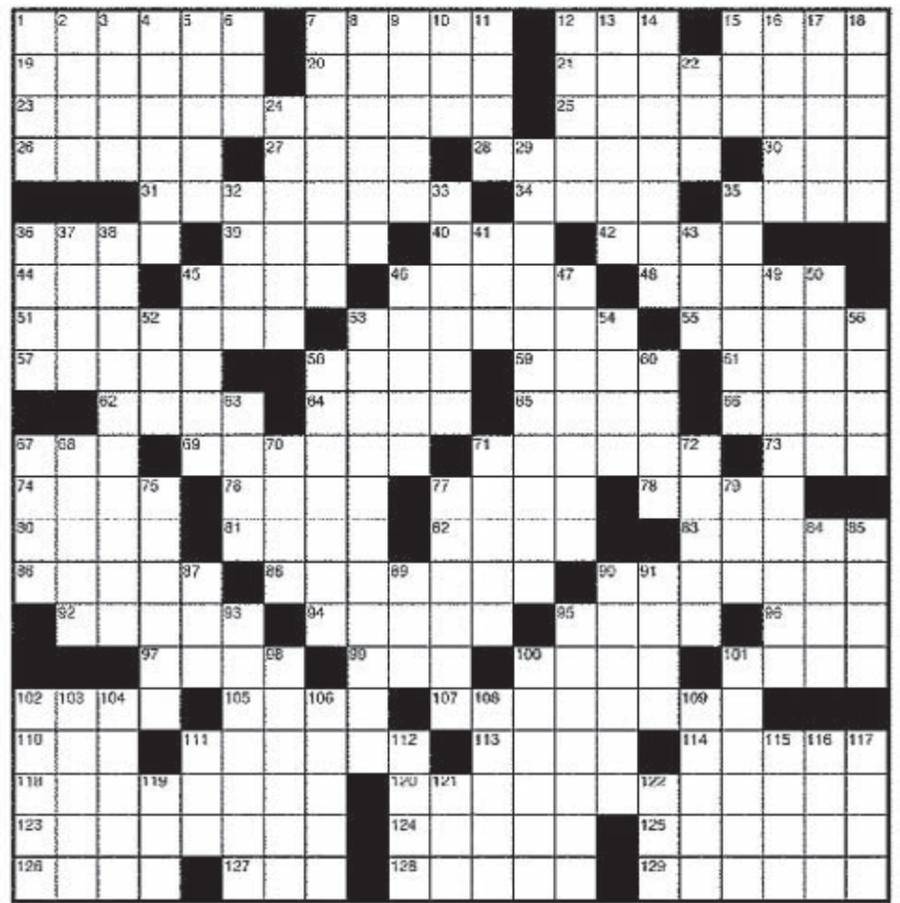
1. Early calculator
7. Ruler's ruling
12. Holy men: abbr.
15. "Hey, look here!"
19. Poe's lost love
20. Russian nickname
21. Trouble, figuratively
23. Pop culture innovation of the '60s
25. Part of a phone number
26. Performers org.
27. "Damn Yankees" role
28. Donny or Marie
30. A Bobbsey twin
31. "Vampire Chronicles" writer
34. Resign
35. Island in Chesapeake Bay
36. Deuce or trey
39. CD content, perhaps
40. Hockey's ___ Grimson
42. Copperfield's bride
44. Honest ___
45. Painter ___ Holbein
46. Ancient porticos
48. Fiennes of "The English Patient"
51. Real bores
53. Hutch's partner
55. Traffic problem
57. Steps
58. Emergency team
59. Hurries
61. Traveler's expense
62. Builder's strategy
64. Henri's head
65. MacGregors, perhaps
66. Concordes
67. Oklahoma city
69. Social get-together
71. Star of "The Jazz Singer"

73. Follower: suffix
74. Oom-pah-pah instrument
76. TSE, for one
77. Grimace
78. "How've you ___?"
80. Mid-month
81. Trade
82. Terse
83. ___ and ruin
86. Canines
88. In the midst of
90. Village silhouette
92. Rose holders
94. Get under way
95. Vacation plan
96. Belonging to us
97. Zimmer in Zurich
99. Lawyer's org.
100. Beethoven birthplace
101. Arabian gulf
102. Sunrise
105. Fielder's handful
107. Bugs
110. Ancient English money
111. San Diego's ___ Park
113. Isinglass
114. Rap sheet info
118. Rainier's family
120. Old Louisville neighborhood
123. Military supplies
124. Inch along
125. 1950 Peace Nobelist
126. Part of NRA
127. Punch
128. Streisand's "The Prince of ___"
129. Showered

DOWN

1. Italian commune
2. Gripe
3. Gray's subj.
4. "Heart of Darkness" author

5. Of the city
6. Bering or Black
7. Dates
8. Showy flower
9. Violinist ___ Stern
10. Ho ___ Minh
11. Poi ingredient
12. Sea World star
13. A doughnut is one
14. Legendary loudmouth
15. Political org.
16. Granite
17. Four-door, often
18. Ontario river
22. Bankroll
24. Gathers bit by bit
29. Rackets abound here
32. Mont. neighbor
33. Will's disposal
35. Muslim leaders: var.
36. Fires, in slang
37. Adjoin
38. Flushed with embarrassment
41. Promontory
43. Squeal
45. Puts to work
46. One of 50
47. Frying pan
49. Identical twins?
50. Smarts
52. Pinch
53. Ocarina
54. Roll call responses
56. Nuisance
58. Pours out profusely
60. Prig
63. See 58 Across
67. Scuffling
68. City folk, out west
70. Big Ten member
71. Medieval contest
72. More recent
75. Toward the rear
77. Legendary Yankee manager



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79. Before, to be brief
84. Hawkshaw's need
85. "Bill" composer
87. Health care org.
89. Collar
90. "In America" author
91. ___ melt
93. "Black Hawk Down" setting
95. Shoe protectors
98. Mold
100. One on the take

101. Leaning
102. Doctrine
103. Tapestry
104. Cools one's heels
106. Investment
108. Fix firmly
109. ___ New Guinea
111. Saloon
112. Bank rec.
115. Yen
116. Dull pain
117. Dispose of

119. Robin Hood's were merry
121. Christina's dad
122. Fade away

See Solutions page 24