Dad’s Garage brings new play

By Erich Hansen
Contributing Writer

The late Chapman, formerly of Monty Python fame, wrote Out of the Trees, which premiered Friday, Sept. 19 and runs until Oct. 25. Dad’s Garage Theater Company has a bit of history with Chapman; his Oh Happy Day premiered at Dad’s Garage roughly three years ago.

Dad’s Garage was founded in 1995. It includes a 140-seat main stage and a 40-seat black box theater (known as the Top Shelf). In addition to this new play, the venue is known for having great improv.

Out of the Trees doesn’t stop for the intermission. In the concession area, an overly ambitious employee satirizes a bank robbery. A professional wrestler in drag lights a folding chair and laundry basket. Then the show starts again.

“As with the opening of O Hap-

The sketches touch on everything from the crucial issue of icebergs...gay professional wrestlers, and, of course, plenty of satire. Geng-Haisn Kahn raps throughout the show, as does an anonymous historical announcer.”

Like Monty Python, Out of the Trees pushes humor to the bounds of political correctness. However, the play satirizes touchy subjects such as gay professional wrestlers, and, of course, plenty of satire. Geng-Haisn Kahn raps throughout the show, as does an anonymous historical announcer.”

Gigantic car show invades Atlanta Speedway

By Vivian Vahili
Senior Staff Writer

Fast cars, slow women and, well, Isn’t it time for the next chapter of the catchphrase “Best of Show Exotic, Best of Show Luxury and Best Celebrity-Driver Vehicle”?

The excitement of the drag racing competition was perhaps one of the most interesting. For those unfamiliar with drag racing, this is a sport in which vehicles, fueled by speed, altitude and fuel efficiency, race each other to determine the winner.

The drag racing competition was reminiscent of the Top Shelf. In addition to this new play, the venue is known for having great improv.

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For those who have never seen the Rocky Horror Picture Show, it is time. For veterans, why not see it again, this time the way it was meant to be seen: at midnight in costume. Rocky Horror is one musical everyone should see. It is a trip. Screening starts Monday at midnight at Lefont Plaza Theater.

Medu Records releases first album

The record company started by a group of Georgia Tech graduates has finally released their first album. Medu Movement, The First Occasion, a hip-hop and soul compilation featuring all their artists, drops today. It can be purchased at www.cdbaby.com and Tower Records on Peachtree. Look for in-depth coverage next week.

Great Storytellers converge at Phipps

This weekend wraps up the second annual Atlanta Literary Festival. The festival aims to provide an amalgamation of authors and literary fans in the south. The main event will be held this weekend at Phipps Plaza Mall Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Look for in-depth coverage next week.

Saturday jazz show at Ferst Center

Jazz sensation Peter Cincotti, 19, performs this Saturday at the Ferst Center. His talent has been compared to that of Harry Connick, Jr. and Frank Sinatra. Check out our review next week. The show starts at 8 p.m with tickets ranging in price from $20 to $30.

Heavy, loud and dangerous clogs

This Broadway production showcases Irish dance, song and culture in a virtual spectacle. When seen for the first time at the fifth, the production is big on entertainment value. Tickets range from $15 to $50 at the Fox Theatre. Shows run at 8 p.m. on weekdays and twice on the weekend.
Scream! It will make you feel better

Don’t bother going to Netherworld if you’re just going to play the tough guy who refuses to get scared. You won’t have a very good time, and on top of that, you will fail. So unless you’re willing to suspend a little disbelief and let yourself get scared, and I mean pee in your pants scared, you’ll be wasting your time.

Located on Dawson Blvd. off of I-85, the Netherworld is Atlanta’s premier haunted house destination. It was founded by Billy Messina and Ben Armstrong as a way to get all the fun rewards of working in the horror film industry without having to be away from home most of the time.

Prepared the whole year round by a dedicated core of enthusiasts, the Netherworld offers much more than you’re likely to find at your local fair or Halloween carnival. Nothing from “Bob’s Joke Shack” will come out drenched in sweat, you won’t have a very good time, and on top of that, you will fail.

The overall result is that The Runaways hits and misses in several areas. The Rock’s role emphasizes his physical presence and fighting skills instead of highlighting his comedic abilities, as were evidenced in his Saturday Night Live performances of the past few years, and Scott is typecast once again in a Stifler-esque role.

The outcome is little chemistry among the leading men; what may look like dry acting is honestly a lacking script. Walden is brilliant, delivering his trademark style, and Dawson surprisingly shines them all with a very gritty, real performance.

The downfall of this picture is that the comedic relief in the form of midgets, horny monkeys and an incoherent jeep driver/guide just doesn’t flow dispersed between solidy dramatic scenes.

The theme is not “action-comedy” but “drama-comedy” which simply doesn’t make sense. Had the movie been primarily dramatic or primarily comedic, then the overall package would have been more coherent and more entertaining.

If you’re looking for a passive movie-going experience, with matrix-like kung fu fighting, beautiful scenery, a killer soundtrack and a few amused laughs, then this movie is for you. Otherwise, spend your money on something more engaging and wait until this one airs on TBS some lazy summer afternoon.

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Netherworld, quite possibly the most horrifying haunted house in the nation, located off Dawson Blvd. in Gwinnett County is open every weekend. The founders are professional props designers for movies.

By Evan Zasoski
Contributing Writer

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Amazon

Amazon, with the legendary artifact. The plot thickens as Mariana, played by Rosario Dawson, bartender by day and rebel leader by night, accompanies the duo as their guide through the jungle maze.

The Rock must travel to the Amazon to bring back his best son, played by Seann William Scott. The movie tries to mesh many genres into one decipherable move but fails at the attempt, mainly due to the script.
Pot, teachers, bikers and tattoos...is it love?

By Erin Gaston
Contributing Writer

If you like romantic comedies, but they’re all beginning to look a bit the same to you, here’s an independent film you may want to check out—Richard Bean’s Tattoo, a love story. I’ll warn you now, if you’re looking for Hugh Grant, fancy ball gowns and clear-cut endings like weddings or Bubbles is riding a merry-go-round with Michael Jackson, this film is not for you. Rather, this is the Two Bits Man reminding you that some jobs for which monkeys are employed don’t exist only on film. Standards in these fields are not set in stone. In fact, they just may have been set by monkeys themselves.

Why is it that when something is seemingly easy, someone has to say, “It’s so easy a monkey could do it?” I pondered this one for a very long time, and I finally realized that it doesn’t really say anything about the relative ease of the task, but it speaks volumes about the overwelaming absurdity of monkeys. Apparently, they’re the most adaptable creatures on earth.

If you think about it, humans specialize in a chosen field. I, for example, work as a system administrator, and I think setting up enterprise spam filtering is so easy a monkey could do it.

On the other hand, I don’t think just any random neuroophthalmologist could handle the same system administration task. Monkeys are clearly better suited for the workforce due to their versatility.

How often has a math professor here told you that a fifth-degree rational gradient is so easy to find that a monkey could do it? Ask a mechanic...flushing a radiator is so easy a monkey could do it. According to one of my CS4400 classmates, a monkey could do that. Besides, on the other hand, The Two Bits Man certainly wouldn’t hire any shade tree mechanic as an Oracle DBA, and I don’t know about you, but I don’t want a neuroophthalmologist changing the antifreeze on my truck, but in all cases, experts in these fields have postulated that monkeys are imminently qualified.

So, I’m stumped. Why is it that for all the jobs that monkeys can do, we just waste their time by putting them in zoos and circuses?

The eccentricities such as this give Tattoo in flavor as an independent film—the cinematography does not stand out as all that original or edgy, the subject is not particularly different or startling.

After all, we are talking about a romantic comedy, independently produced or not. What makes Tattoo unique, and what makes it a truly good movie, are elements so rarely found in mainstream film, such as non-idiyc characters in non-idyllic relationships.

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Incoherent Scribblings

Yummy in my tummy, plus some class

By Art Seavey
Entertainment Editor

Each year the Macy’s parking lot at Lenox is overtaken by a horde of the most exquisite restaurants Atlanta has to offer. This year’s Taste of Atlanta’s opening party proved to be a stomach-filling event carried out in style. The charity event carried a hefty price tag, but was well worth it. Since when is a chocolate fountain followed by a gigantic ice sculpture of an Absolut Vodka bottle not heaven on earth?

The nouveau riche of the city took the chance to display what they thought was fashion forward for the time, with the classic tuxedo making an appearance every now and then. The atmosphere was communal, however, especially once the free alcohol and music started to flow.

To top that, the Iron Chef himself, Masaharu Morimoto, performed special demonstrations throughout the night. He has opened his own restaurant in Manhattan after canceling his hit television show. The reason? According to the chef, he had no time to eat.

Over fifty restaurants were represented Friday night for the opening. A decent simplistic penne pasta with marinara sauce was supplied by Roswell Road’s Food 101. The Imperial Fez off of Peachtree, provided tiny delectable chocolate and berry-filled phyllo pastries along with juicy lamb.

Emeril’s Atlanta proved to be the lone exception of the night. Their undecipherable attempt at a gumbo-type stew was simply salty and bland. Emeril needs to return to Atlanta to put the “Bam!” back in his restaurant.

Roy’s had truly the tastiest fare. Their shrimp and sausage skewer with pineapple salsa was amazing. Now to the desserts. Carvel had a huge bar of ice cream and toppings to mix and match that ended in a sugar overload. Of course, there was still room left for creamy oreo cheesecake from Atlanta Bread Company.

When next year rolls around, take the time to volunteer or attend this tasty slice of Atlanta.