**ENTERTAINMENT**

**‘Nurse Betty’ film in desperate need of resuscitation**

By Sarah Graybeal

Dismal? Eek!

MPAA Rating: R

Starring: Renée Zellweger, Greg Kinnear, Morgan Freeman, Chris Rock.

Director: Neil LaBute

Studio: USA Films

Running Time: 110 minutes

Rating: ★★

The cast sounded promising, to say the least. Morgan Freeman, Greg Kinnear, Renée Zellweger, and Chris Rock—a quartet certainly has enough star power to take in the viewers, not to mention dollars. Unfortunately, *Nurse Betty* is little more than mildly entertaining fluff.

The plot is underdeveloped and jumpy, and the otherwise auspicious cast fizzles in mediocre roles. To tell the truth, I can’t quite understand how this film managed to win Best Screenplay at the Cannes Film Festival this year. Though I must admit that I’ve never seen a movie with quite as many odd twists and turns, they just don’t flow together in the way I’ve come to expect from a good movie. Zellweger plays the title character, Betty Szemore, a woman stuck in a dead-end job with a deadbeat husband. The bright point in her dull life is the soap opera “A Reason to Love” and its star, Dr. David Ravell, who is actually the actor George McCor (Greg Kinnear). Confused yet? If not, you will be soon.

“If Dr. Ravell were any hand-somer, ’twould be a crime,” Betty’s friend sighs as she hands her a tape of the day’s episode. Ho-hum. It’s plain old everyday life in Nowhautesville, Kansas, for the unfortunate Mrs. Szemore, until the night of her birthday.

When dear, sweet Betty witnesses her husband’s unnecessarily gruesome demise at the hands of two drug dealers (Freeman and Rock), she simply blows a fuse. She snaps. Her screen comes loose. Call it whatever she goes crazy. She grabs a cat from her late husband’s deal-ership and heads west, bound for Los Angeles—and her ex-fiance, Dr. David Ravell.

Now do you see the problem? Dr. David Ravell doesn’t exist—he’s a TV character! And oh yeah, the cat “returns” when she flipped her lid and... See Betty, page 32

**‘Braveheart’ DVD worth wait**

By Jayson Wehrend

Never write his own tagline

Movie: Braveheart is the only epic movie I’ve ever had the pleasure of seeing in a movie theater.

Sadly, epic films seem to be a genre that is slowly dying off. Not many studios will risk enormous budgets to such risky endeavors. Luckily for us, this movie did get made and the result is more than worth the effort that was put into it. *Braveheart* is based on the true story of William Wallace (played by Mel Gibson), a Scottish patriot of legendary proportions. As a boy, Wallace was orphaned by the treachery of the cruel English king. Raised by his uncle, William eventually returns home to raise a family and live in peace. Unfortunately, England strikes again and his wife is killed. From this point on, Wallace makes it his personal quest to free his people from the tyranny of English rule.

Challenging anyone to find another movie with such convincingly choreographed battles. It’s not these battles that make this movie truly epic, however. The story moves through so many fascinating characters and events that only the end can truly appreciate the scope of the narrative. The story is enthralling and the actors’ performances are nothing less than masterful. I have been waiting for this DVD since I got my player so I was nothing less than ecstatic when I finally got my hands on it.

As one of the most eagerly awaited DVDs in history, a great deal of attention should be paid to the film transfer. Par-amount succeeds in some parts and fails in others. First I’ll start with the bad news. As much as I hate to say it there are quite a few black specks in this print.

Now, they don’t seem to be extremely bad, but some scenes suffer more than others. My only guess is that they weren’t able to find any entirely clean print. That was the only problem as far as the video was concerned.

As for the rest of the image, I have nothing but praise. Despite the frequent specks, the image itself was quite sharp. The im- age was stunning, without a hint of blurring or softness. The qual- ity of the colors only enhanced this effect. Most of this movie is filmed outdoors in the picturesque wilderness of Scotland. As a result, many of the colors are those of nature; dirt browns, lush greens, and light blues dominate the film’s palette. The hues are extraordinarily true to life.

Dirt browns, lush greens, and light blues dominate the film’s palette. The hues are extraordinarily true to life.

**Imperial Fez offers you a distinctly un-Atlantan dining experience**

By Casey Fisler

Thinks outside the entertainment bus!

Restaurant: Imperial Fez

Price Range: $$$

Address: 2285 Peachtree Road NE

Hours: 6:00-11:30 p.m.

Phone: (404) 351-0870

Rating: ★★★★★

Though most Tech students probably see the bottom of their wallet more often than not, every once in a while a special occasion will warrant splurging on a dining experience other than the Chick-Fil-A in the Student Center.

When you finally get that co-op job and want to celebrate all that money you’ll be making, keep this place in mind. The Imperial Fez. After living on campus for a few years, is your idea of ethnic food take-out Chinese and dining hall fajitas? If so, it is definitely time for a change.

The Imperial Fez is located on Peachtree Road (along with every other restaurant one could possibly conceive of), in a shopping center that you’ll probably miss on your first couple of passes. This establishment may not look like much on the outside, but—like most things—it’s what’s on the inside that counts. And what’s inside is a Moroccon dining experience so unique that you’ll be talking about it for days.

When you first arrive, you will be asked to take off your shoes before being seated, don’t worry—you’ll get them back at the end of the evening. Instead of the tables and chairs you may be used to, you’ll find yourself seated on large, plush pillows that adorn the dimly lit restaurant—they even cover the ceiling!

Traditional Mediterranean music fills the air as your server explains the dining experience.
**Imperial Fez**

The Imperial Fez is a Moroccan dining experience so unique that you’ll be talking about it for days.

This restaurant is perfect for in-depth, somewhat intimate conversations with President Clough. Kara takes you inside the president’s office, and she finds out what the future Holds for Tech. GTCN’s Premiere Week is set off with Flava 101’s second annual freestyle contest. Watch Atlanta’s finest young rappers battle for the title “Master of the Mic.” Celebrity guest judges and performers highlight the show. This week on *Fat Videos*, don’t miss an exclusive interview with President Clough. Kara takes you inside the president’s office for a look at his day-to-day activities and she finds out what the future holds for Tech.

GTGCN’s Premiere week is set off with Flava 101’s second annual freestyle contest. Watch Atlanta’s finest young rappers battle for the title “Master of the Mic.” Celebrity guest judges and performers highlight the show. This week on *Fat Videos*, don’t miss an exclusive interview with President Clough. Kara takes you inside the president’s office for a look at his day-to-day activities and she finds out what the future holds for Tech.

This week on the GT Cable Network

GTGCN’s Premiere week is set off with Flava 101’s second annual freestyle contest. Watch Atlanta’s finest young rappers battle for the title “Master of the Mic.” Celebrity guest judges and performers highlight the show. This week on *Fat Videos*, don’t miss an exclusive interview with President Clough. Kara takes you inside the president’s office for a look at his day-to-day activities and she finds out what the future holds for Tech.

**Crossword**

The Consequences of Electing...

ACROSS

1. Gangster’s ‘girl’
2. Boring
3. ‘Girl’...Don Johnson?
4. ...the CEO of Bayer?
5. Month with two Eves (abbr)
6. Month with two Johns (abbr)
7. Famous hunchback
8. Heracles and Orpheus, for two
9. Not too bright
10. Pro-gun group
11. Vowel (can’t be the first)
12. God, with St. Paul
13. HIV, for one
14. Get out of jail, but not for free
15. Tilt
16. ‘The Money’ (2 wds)
17. Campbell of Scream
18. A humpy ride?
19. Cow’s gum?
20. The one thing a clarinet and oboe have in common?
21. “Buh-bye!”
22. Geologic time suffix
23. Prefix for morphine or thermic
24. “Buh-bye!”
25. Coral buildup
26. Scary sound
27. Ottawa-Quebec dir.
28. Concerning, in Legalese (2 wds)
29. A big troll
30. Minnesota school (abbr)
31. Famous Starr
32. Skedaddle
33. ...a photographer?
34. Word after for or love
35. Mad magazine’s slap sound
36. Teacher’s textbook aid (abbr)
37. A looooooooong time
38. Scarf down
40. Pin-gun group
41. New York Times columnist Nick
42. Featherly wrap
43. Gun in the ghetto
44. Arbuckle’s exclamation
45. Gun in the ghetto
46. ‘...a sausage maker?’
47. Habitat (Father)
48. Holiday and Ramada
49. Heading _____ (leaving) (2 wds)
50. Make even with
51. Family room
52. Famous Starr
53. Homer’s neighbor
54. This land was made for you and me
55. Seattle riot topic
56. Snake sound
57. This land was made for you and me
58. Game-Match connector
59. Stain remover
60. Turns ‘BAM’ to ‘BLAM’ (2 wds)
61. ...-friendly
62. God, in Guadalajara
63. “Buh-bye!”

DOWN

1. Not too bright
2. Birthday topic
3. Like a 70’s TV Squad
4. Susan Lucci’s soap character
5. Month with two Eves (abbr)
6. Poison Ivy portrait
7. Word after Ad or Mad
8. Group from U Victoria that improves local governments
9. Salami site
10. Story starter
11. God, to the Pope
12. HIV, for one
15. Arrived
16. “...the Money” (2 wds)
17. Campbell of Scream
18. Geologic time suffix
19. Prefix for morphin or thermic
20. Plum of Clue, for short
21. Pervanian one-time native
22. Sampler of traditional Moroccan salads, an appetizer of Cornish hen stuffed pastry, your main entrée (the choices include lamb, couscous, Cornish hen, and seafood, among others), and a desert of fruits, pastries, and hot mint tea.
23. A looooonnooong time
24. Word after for or love
25. Mad magazine’s slap sound
26. Teacher’s textbook aid (abbr)
27. A looooonnooong time
28. Scarf down
29. It goes to waist
30. Minnesota school (abbr)
31. Famous Starr
32. Skedaddle
33. Word after for or love
34. Mad magazine’s slap sound
35. Teacher’s textbook aid (abbr)
36. A looooonnooong time
37. Scarf down
38. Word after for or love
39. Mad magazine’s slap sound
40. Pin-gun group
41. New York Times columnist Nick
42. Featherly wrap
43. Gun in the ghetto
44. Arbuckle’s exclamation
45. Gun in the ghetto
46. ‘...a sausage maker?’
47. Habitat (Father)
48. Holiday and Ramada
49. Heading _____ (leaving) (2 wds)
50. Make even with
51. Family room
52. Famous Starr
53. Homer’s neighbor
54. This land was made for you and me
55. Seattle riot topic
56. Snake sound
57. This land was made for you and me
58. Game-Match connector
59. Stain remover
60. Turns ‘BAM’ to ‘BLAM’ (2 wds)
61. ...-friendly
62. God, in Guadalajara
63. “Buh-bye!”

For answers, turn to page 39.

By Kit FitzSimons

Puzzler extraordinaire

**This week on the GT Cable Network**

GTGCN’s Premiere week is set off with Flava 101’s second annual freestyle contest. Watch Atlanta’s finest young rappers battle for the title “Master of the Mic.” Celebrity guest judges and performers highlight the show. This week on *Fat Videos*, don’t miss an exclusive interview with President Clough. Kara takes you inside the president’s office for a look at his day-to-day activities and she finds out what the future holds for Tech.

GTGCN’s Premiere week is set off with Flava 101’s second annual freestyle contest. Watch Atlanta’s finest young rappers battle for the title “Master of the Mic.” Celebrity guest judges and performers highlight the show. This week on *Fat Videos*, don’t miss an exclusive interview with President Clough. Kara takes you inside the president’s office for a look at his day-to-day activities and she finds out what the future holds for Tech.

GTGCN’s Premiere week is set off with Flava 101’s second annual freestyle contest. Watch Atlanta’s finest young rappers battle for the title “Master of the Mic.” Celebrity guest judges and performers highlight the show. This week on *Fat Videos*, don’t miss an exclusive interview with President Clough. Kara takes you inside the president’s office for a look at his day-to-day activities and she finds out what the future holds for Tech.

GTGCN’s Premiere week is set off with Flava 101’s second annual freestyle contest. Watch Atlanta’s finest young rappers battle for the title “Master of the Mic.” Celebrity guest judges and performers highlight the show. This week on *Fat Videos*, don’t miss an exclusive interview with President Clough. Kara takes you inside the president’s office for a look at his day-to-day activities and she finds out what the future holds for Tech.
Best thing happening since ‘88 Olympics

By Jon Kaye
Le la le

Artist: Tegan and Sara
Album: This Business of Art
Genre: Folk rock
Label: Vapor Records
Tracks: 11
Length: 35:39
Rating: ★★★★★

When people think about sibling bands entering the music industry, they usually conjure images of baby-faced, middle-American pop acts like Hanson. However, one only need listen to a minute of Tegan and Sara’s debut album This Business of Art to destroy that myth.

The Calgary-based Quin sisters sing with an unparalleled confidence that one can detect from the moment the CD is cued. Their style is the fusion of Ani DiFranco and Luscious Jackson—like DiFranco’s music, Tegan and Sara’s is loaded to capacity with sharp wit and social consciousness, and like Luscious Jackson, they incorporate beautiful harmonies and engaging drum programming.

This Business of Art aptly begins with “The First.” With this phenomenal track, Tegan and Sara set the mood for a truly profound album while establishing themselves as a refreshing change from the anodyne female soloists so prevalent in Canadian music of the 1990s. In this cut, the twins remind the listener to master his or her own fate as they note, “celebrate life; celebrate death; I choose to celebrate the first.” In addition to the inspired lyrics, this track also illustrates Tegan and Sara’s wonderful skill as a duo. Their voices, while dramatically different, unite in a rich style, simultaneously aggressive and soothing.

What distinguishes this album from other acoustically-centered performances is a strong emphasis on timing. Borrowing strongly from Luscious Jackson in their third cut, “Frozen,” Tegan and Sara develop an assertive piece with a rhythm so bold that it will inspire movement, even in the often somber fans of traditional unplugged music.

Even though This Business of Art is a freshman album, it shows a level of musical maturity that many bands can never hope to accomplish. Tegan and Sara shine both as singers and songwriters.

By coupling insightful lyrics that capture the whole spectrum of human emotion with two voices so powerful that they could rival those of any popular diva, the twins are sure to earn themselves a place in any music collection. This album, both sassy and inventive, belongs in any popular diva’s arsenal.

Canadian twins Tegan and Sara shine on their debut album This Business of Art. The duo demonstrate a level of musical maturity other acts can only hope to attain in their pairing of intriguing lyrics with powerful voices.

Who needs Midnight Madness?

COTTON CLUB (132 Luckie St.)
[404] 874-1993
9/8-Bend, Mimis, Sheep
9/10-Mexicans Helping Hands Benefit
9/13-Another Funky Groove Organization, The Wood, Blanket Blank
9/15-Blacklight Posters, Chain Fists, 13 Stories

ECOLOUNGE (551 Flat Shoals Ave.)
[404] 681-2400
9/8-Pete’s Brazil, Shiner
9/9-Lotuswater, Audioride, Darling Machine
9/14-Amanda Jones
9/15-Royal Tangent, Hanging France, Wonderlust

EDO’S ATIC (154 N. McDonough St.)
[404] 377-6976
9/8-Vagilantes of Love, Claire Holley
9/9-Michelle Malarkey, Ben Weisser
9/10-Dappled Grey, Blackwell, Dazzig & Wodley
9/13-Paul Sturz, Denver Marie, Sean Kagels
9/14-Walkeram & Wilker, Eva James
9/15-Darrell Hovle, Michael Winger, The Kennedys

NASQABEDE (695 North Ave.)
[404] 577-2007
9/6-Mr. Natural
9/9-Miller’s Tale, Group X, Fair Veronica, Gonzales
9/14-Minis, Fold, Snappy Meat Eaters

RED LIGHT CAFE (153 Amsterdam Ave.)
[404] 874-7928
9/8-Swan Werner
9/9-Squat
9/10-Andrew Lasance, Bob and Mike, Chickens and Pigs, The Bogues
9/11-Horizon
9/15-Most Kate, Weaklight

SAMY’S OLDIE BAR (1383 Piedmont Ave.)
[404] 877-1522
9/8-Park Bench Blues Band, Drifting Through
9/9-Urban Shakedown, Slambanger
9/10-Coldwater Reunion
9/11-Koolphill
9/12-Old American Townies, Catfish
9/13-Agent Cooper, Jonah
9/14-Viperhouse, Inna May Tango
9/15-Mandorico, Modern Hone, C Idle to Aibby

Should Chris go out on a hot date? “Signs point to yes.” The 8 Ball speaks the truth!

ENTERTAINMENT
Technique • Friday, September 8, 2000 • 31
forms show up vibrantly against the earthtone background and the blood looks dark enough to be convincing. Much to the delight of many DVD enthusiasts, Paramount actually took the time to make a full anamorphic transfer for this film. Couple that with the wonderful 2:35:1 widescreen transfer and you have awesome sight to behold.

Audio: Any movie that focuses a large part on the powerful intensity of war must have a good audio mix. Braveheart accomplishes this task but I was surprised to find that it was in the other scenes where the mix really shone. Near the very beginning when William’s father discovers all of the nobles hung, the rear surround speakers kick in with a very disturbing, creaking noise. The sound tracks very well with the picture, and the eerie stillness the effect produces is rather unnerving.

Many of the scenes take place outside, and the sound mix takes full advantage of this by filling in from the rear speakers with birds chirping, rain pattering, or with a gust of wind blowing. Another unexpected addition came from the surprising amount of bass kept in the musical score. The LFE track was put to good use when a scene was quick-cut from one shot to another. As the picture jumped to the new shot, a deep boom would jump from the subwoofer. I noticed that all of the scenes with fire contained a goodly amount of bass as well.

The V.1 audio track really shines during the war scenes, when the entire sound stage lights up to put you right in the middle of the battle. The sound of horses charging runs from one end of the front sound stage to the other. Arrows whist by the rear surrounds and the ring of sword against sword fills in from the entire speaker set. All in all, the DVD provides a very convincing and enjoyable sound experience.

Extras: Paramount has provided us with a fairly good amount of supplemental material this time around. First off, we have the standard theatrical trailers. There are two, and they come in 2.0 format. I was pleased to see them in widescreen with a really clean transfer. Most trailers have a somewhat muddled sound though, and sadly these two are no different.

Next is “A Filmmaker’s Passion: The Making of Braveheart.” This 30-minute documentary covers everything from actors, location, special effects, and even a little bit of the history of the real William Wallace. interspersed throughout most of the show are bits of the film itself. For some reason, these shots seemed a bit washed out and a bit lighter than the movie itself. Otherwise the picture was really clear, presented in full frame, with 2.0 sound.

In addition, what Braveheart DVD would be complete without a full length commentary by non-other than director/star Mel Gibson? I’ll admit it is a bit difficult to sit through a nearly three-hour commentary for any movie. However, Gibson’s relaxed and humorous tone makes the experience an enjoyable one. The only complaint I have is that he doesn’t talk very often—there are many instances where there were long periods of silence.

One additional thing I would have liked is the inclusion of storyboards. In the documentary, they even show a few of them. Surely putting them on the disc isn’t too much to ask. Since this film is essentially a period piece, a bit of the terminology of the time is a bit over my head. I wish reference material had been included so I could understand why the Scots start yelling certain phrases before and after their battles. Other than that, a very nice effort after a long wait.

The audio track shines when the entire sound stage lights up to put you right in the middle of the battle.

Headed off into the sunset? It’s where those two dealers hid their stash, and so now they’re on her tail too.

With such a silly plot, I suppose I shouldn’t have been so surprised that the actors turned in less-than-brilliant performances as well. Zellweger is sweet and soft-spoken, which is acceptable for the first ten minutes. After that, her prim smile begins to look a little too tight, her cluelessness seemed just a bit too real, and her eyes were just too squinty. Cute quickly became practically unbearable.

If Morgan Freeman can act (and we all know he can—they don’t have to rave about The Shawshank Redemption for nothing), he certainly doesn’t show it here. His character is unconvincing and moody, and seems to be just as loony as Betty.

Chris Rock is his usual self—obviously loud and annoyingly whiny—and this time it’s not even funny. Kinnear turns out to be best cast at the dirty soap opera star with an ego just a bit too big for his head, but even he can’t pull off the miracle that Nurse Betty needs.

This is one film to put off until you’ve got absolutely nothing else to do. It might provide you with decent amusement, but you won’t be laughing with the movie...you’ll be laughing at it.

One additional thing I would have liked is the inclusion of storyboards. In the documentary, they even show a few of them. Surely putting them on the disc isn’t too much to ask. Since this film is essentially a period piece, a bit of the terminology of the time is a bit over my head. I wish reference material had been included so I could understand why the Scots start yelling certain phrases before and after their battles. Other than that, a very nice effort after a long wait.

The audio track shines when the entire sound stage lights up to put you right in the middle of the battle.

Headed off into the sunset? It’s where those two dealers hid their stash, and so now they’re on her tail too.

With such a silly plot, I suppose I shouldn’t have been so surprised that the actors turned in less-than-brilliant performances as well. Zellweger is sweet and soft-spoken, which is acceptable for the first ten minutes. After that, her prim smile begins to look a little too tight, her cluelessness seemed just a bit too real, and her eyes were just too squinty. Cute quickly became practically unbearable.

If Morgan Freeman can act (and we all know he can—they don’t have to rave about The Shawshank Redemption for nothing), he certainly doesn’t show it here. His character is unconvincing and moody, and seems to be just as loony as Betty.

Chris Rock is his usual self—obviously loud and annoyingly whiny—and this time it’s not even funny. Kinnear turns out to be best cast at the dirty soap opera star with an ego just a bit too big for his head, but even he can’t pull off the miracle that Nurse Betty needs.

This is one film to put off until you’ve got absolutely nothing else to do. It might provide you with decent amusement, but you won’t be laughing with the movie...you’ll be laughing at it.

One additional thing I would have liked is the inclusion of storyboards. In the documentary, they even show a few of them. Surely putting them on the disc isn’t too much to ask. Since this film is essentially a period piece, a bit of the terminology of the time is a bit over my head. I wish reference material had been included so I could understand why the Scots start yelling certain phrases before and after their battles. Other than that, a very nice effort after a long wait.

Headed off into the sunset? It’s where those two dealers hid their stash, and so now they’re on her tail too.

With such a silly plot, I suppose I shouldn’t have been so surprised that the actors turned in less-than-brilliant performances as well. Zellweger is sweet and soft-spoken, which is acceptable for the first ten minutes. After that, her prim smile begins to look a little too tight, her cluelessness seemed just a bit too real, and her eyes were just too squinty. Cute quickly became practically unbearable.

If Morgan Freeman can act (and we all know he can—they don’t have to rave about The Shawshank Redemption for nothing), he certainly doesn’t show it here. His character is unconvincing and moody, and seems to be just as loony as Betty.

Chris Rock is his usual self—obviously loud and annoyingly whiny—and this time it’s not even funny. Kinnear turns out to be best cast at the dirty soap opera star with an ego just a bit too big for his head, but even he can’t pull off the miracle that Nurse Betty needs.

This is one film to put off until you’ve got absolutely nothing else to do. It might provide you with decent amusement, but you won’t be laughing with the movie...you’ll be laughing at it.

One additional thing I would have liked is the inclusion of storyboards. In the documentary, they even show a few of them. Surely putting them on the disc isn’t too much to ask. Since this film is essentially a period piece, a bit of the terminology of the time is a bit over my head. I wish reference material had been included so I could understand why the Scots start yelling certain phrases before and after their battles. Other than that, a very nice effort after a long wait.
‘Magnolia’ DVD provides a movie and much, much more

By Jonathan Pursis
“Is the ‘7even DVD is this good”

New Line Cinema has produced some amazing DVDs. They understand that the viewer does not want a disc with just the theatrical trailers, if even that, and their Platinum Series of DVDs includes such titles as the Austin Powers movies, Blade, Friday, Pleasantville, and Boogie Nights. While maybe not the best movies, each DVD is packed with extras and almost always has an excellent transfer. Magnolia surely does not let down in either of these categories, and is an amazing movie on top of that.

Magnolia was hailed by many as the best movie last year. The plot revolves around more characters than the best movie last year. The complaint most often voiced is that the viewer becomes very intimate with each character, yet I was completely immersed. Each hour seemed like five minutes, from the beginning all the way to the surprise ending.

Even standing alone, the film would make a great DVD, but New Line allowed P.T. Anderson to create the DVD to his standards. Perhaps the only extra missing is a commentary track, but Anderson vowed not to create one. Three hours of talking would probably be too much for anyone. The rest of the double disc makes up for it though.

The list includes an extended version of character Mackey’s (Tom Cruise) seminar, an infomercial for Mackey, two trailers, Aimee Mann’s music video for “Save Me.” The highlight—“Magnolia Diary,” a documentary about the making of Magnolia by Mark Rance.

The Frank T.J. Mackey scenes are perhaps the funniest and most memorable parts of the movie. The extended version has Cruise telling a story on “How to Form a Tragedy.” The scene brings his tale of a dying cat (all used to manipulate the woman) to life. The extended version is the extent of the “deleted scenes” for the movie. Anderson had complete control over the final version of the film, so I suppose he left in almost everything he shot.

The trailer is an infomercial version of Mackey’s product.

“Magnolia Diary” lasts over an hour and follows the film from pre-production to awards night.

The funny thing about this is that prior to even finishing the movie, Anderson aired it on late night television. He had a phone number to order that was connected to a simple answering machine. People began to dial the number to ask what Tom Cruise was doing in the infomercial, and a few people actually tried to order! The trailers and the music video are all well done—the kinds of things that a true fan would want. The final extra is “Magnolia Diary.” It lasts over an hour and follows the film all the way from pre-production to awards night. It is very informative and provides a deep knowledge of the film and the process it took to create. It left me with an even stronger love for the film.

Magnolia has a superior transfer, personally overseen by Paul Thomas Anderson. There is very little pixelation, if any, and almost everything is anamorphic—even the deleted scenes, music video, and trailers. The sound is excellent as well, supporting Dolby Digital 5.1.

New Line has produced another amazing DVD. One of the most exciting things about Magnolia was a brochure advertising the other New Line DVDs. Within it was a picture of the long-fabled double disc version of ‘7even. I hope that it lives up to the quality and entertainment of the extras on the Magnolia DVD.

New Line sets a strong example for other studios on how their DVDs should be produced.

___

Get your TECHNIQUE headlines on WREK (radio)
(listen to TECH TALK Thursdays at 6:00 • FM 91.1

Yeah, I’m working on a date for him. Someone in the office needs to date, but I really need a date also. In fact, all of us really need a date. So if you are sitting out there thinking about asking one of us out, just suck it up and ask us out. We will say yes. We don’t bite, unless you want us to of course. ;-)
Is there anything more enjoyable than an election year? It’s like you get a free year of slapstick comedy starring two strange, middle-aged men. If the candidates would only poke each other’s eyes out more often, we’d have Washington’s response to The Three Stooges. In fact, I think that would be a great turn for the better. As it stands, presidential races, while amusing to watch, do tend to rehash the same material—the Democrat will tell the nation why the Republican is greedy and cold, and the Republican will regale the American people how the Democrat will rashly misappropriate federal funds.

The way I see it, the arguments are getting just a tad old. I think I speak for the population at large when I say that presidential debates would be much more interesting if we gave the candidates the opportunity to get in touch with their primal instincts and go all Stooges-style on each other. Besides, if Al Gore were to slap George W. Bush, it would give Bush a reason to wear that dire face that he wears. Right now, he just brandishes a needs-more-fiber face to show how serious he is about improving the sad state of our nation. Yes folks, the presidential face-off would certainly field a major improvement if you heard one of the candidates scream, “Why I oughtta...”

Now that I think about it, I should be a candidate for president. If it weren’t for that whole age-discrimination thing where they require you to be 35, you would see Two Bits in Y2K. If I ran, I would write all my own campaign propaganda. I would start by appealing to the Democrats by telling them how I think sex and corruption are cool. After I won them over, I’d appeal to the Republicans by telling them how sex and corruption are cool. Sure, there’s skepticism out there, but everybody likes corruption—even Jim and Tammy Faye Baker were corrupt, and everybody knows what well-meaning folk they were.

This campaign should explore new political dilemmas. Instead of dwelling on such trite issues as economic policy and foreign affairs, the candidates should focus on the important things plaguing American minds. For example, should the new Volkswagen Beetles carry an obscenely high tax, or should they be outlawed altogether? Should they stop teaching elementary schoolers to square dance? It is the belief of the Two Bits Man that all school violence comes from the fact that they make you square dance in PE from fourth to seventh grade. All that hostility builds because you want to dance with the cute girl in the other square, but the teacher picks the squares for you. But I digress. The fact is that people don’t find interest in politics because it often rehashes stale arguments.

This campaign has such potential to be fun. On the one hand, you have the mighty W-Man. He’s charismatic, he’s bold, he’s outspoken, but his running mate is a jerk. On the other hand, Gore is a world class dork, and Lieberman sounds just like the actor who plays Garfield on the holiday specials. That’s a tough call right there. When it comes down to charisma or Garfieldishness, the voting becomes a real challenge. Of course, the Two Bits Man knows who he’s voting for. Since he’s too young to run for the presidency and Mickey Mouse never gets enough votes to carry a state despite his strong write-in presence, the choice is clear. I’m voting for...oh wait. I can’t give that information away. The Technique is a non-biased publication, so until next week, I am the Two Bits Man, and these are my thoughts.

Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in Top: Benicio Del Toro stars in The Gun, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men, the story of two men in search of a pay-off. Bottom: DMX is one of the stars featured in Backstage, which features behind-the-scenes hip hop footage.
Exciting adventures in RAT-dom

Do not call me Ishmael. Don’t call me Two Bits Man either, even though I might sound like him. For the sake of anonymity (or just in case you don’t think I’m funny), I shall not reveal my true identity here. That’s not the important part. Actually, what’s in a name anyway?

One of the world’s greatest dilemmas is what to call each other. It certainly is the biggest problem at Tech the first couple weeks of school. Forget about getting the wrong classes—that’s what the Drop/Add period was for. Forget about the food at Brittain. Forget about getting lost—I have enough campus maps in my dorm room for all first-year freshmen. Forget about all of those. The real horror is... Meeting. New freshmen. Forget about all of those. That’s not the important part.

What, you may ask, is the solution to all these horrible obstacles in the way of enjoying our college years? Well, printing neatly on all mail packages I’m sent. You can imagine what fun it is showing the woman at the pick-up counter my Buzzcard every time with a completely random name on it. At least she knows me now—apparently she’s better with faces than I am.

Putting faces than with names. I suppose that doesn’t really speak badly of me since my newly-made old acquaintances seemed just as confused.

I suppose the reason forgetting names is such a problem. If your professor has bolts in his neck, drop his class. If you’re lost, buy a map! But if a good-looking individual comes up and starts talking to you, it’s not a good idea to reply with, “Do I know you?” Not only would it end the conversation faster than mentioning tickets to “Sesame Street: Live,” but I would personally come backhand you.

Luckily for all you RATs, there will soon be a RATs Rogue Gallery at your disposal called “The Record.” This book, which you should have signed up to receive during the summer, will include glamour shots of all participating freshmen as well as identifying characteristics ranging from chosen major to favorite hobbies to birth marks in interesting places.

It sounds wonderful…until you notice the note on the order form that students can’t pick up their copies of the Record until they are a month into the semester. Getting the books delivered in mid-September does no good. By then, you’ll have either already memorized your friends’ names, or else you’ll have set up an intricate nickname system, which randomly assigns names to people, choosing from either “Bob” or “Hey, you!”

Speaking of delivery, it’s not just the students who have difficulties with names; the post office has a worse time just reading the names off box labels. Now, while I admit that spelling my name is rather trying, I would really like to know how I was suddenly picking up packages under the name of Simpson. Without giving away too much, I will just say that not only is my name three letters longer, but it does not start with an S, end with an N, or have a P anywhere in the middle.

Even better is the fact that my name apparently changes with each package I’m sent. You can imagine what fun it is showing the woman at the pick-up counter my Buzzcard every time with a completely random name on it. At least she knows me now—apparently she’s better with faces than I am.

What, you may ask, is the solution to all these horrible obstacles in the way of enjoying our college years? Well, printing neatly on all mail packages I’m sent. You can imagine what fun it is showing the woman at the pick-up counter my Buzzcard every time with a completely random name on it. At least she knows me now—apparently she’s better with faces than I am.
Jam with your happy punk Face

By David Reynolds
Write and write but is never seen

In the midst of the days of Napster-bashing and boy/girl bands topping the pop charts, people have become numb to overplay on radio, and TV stations and have started “caring” about the artists. On the more popular side is Metallica, the most outspoken anti-Napster group.

The heavy metal group tried to bar people from using the massive MP3 trading site and accused them of “stealing” their material—trust me, I learned the hard way—and they still get massive radio play on stations across the world. They represent the majority of mainstream production towards these issues.

On the other side of the issue is Face to Face, a punk band from the bright and sunny California which hides nothing about what they think of big radio companies and free music on the internet. Despite normal band logic, they strive for fans who want to listen to all of their music and not just throwaway overplayed single.

Along with their unique views, they promote Napster because “we download music from it all the time and we think its pretty cool,” said front man Trever Keith. He understands that resources like MP3 sites can be good for the music industry and hopes its just a matter of time until companies wise up.

These southern California punks formed in 1991, and were originally comprised of singer/guitarist Keith, drummer Rob Kurth and bassist Matt Riddle of Victorville, California currently with the band No Use For a Name. Debuting early the following year with Don’t Turn Away, the trio was quickly snapped up by Fat Wreck and added second guitarist Chad Yuro. Face to Face toured the following year with No Use For a Name currently with the band No Use For a Name.

During their show this past Monday at the Masquerade (a concert sponsored by Napster), Trever introduced the long-standing quarter as a trio for the first time since “guitarist (Chad Yuro) passed a few bad checks and seems to now be doing 18-15 in a Southern California jail.”

Face to Face once again proved to be the premiere rising punk band around, playing cuts from all seven of their albums including the new release, Reactionary. Reactionary presents a departure from the band’s trademark basic punk sound. The record is much more expansive and stretches the talents of the band.

The new material brought down the roof as they jammed late into the night and finally closed with “Over It” and trotted off the stage, leaving behind a packed room of fans and plenty of energy because that floor is awful hard and they don’t have seats.

Mart Riddle of Victorville, California currently with the band No Use For a Name. Debuting early the following year with Don’t Turn Away, the trio was quickly snapped up by Fat Wreck and added second guitarist Chad Yuro. Face to Face toured relentlessly in the months to follow, and recorded a series of singles and compilation tracks released in 1994 as Over It.

“Over It” and trotted off the stage, leaving behind a packed room of fans and plenty of energy because that floor is awful hard and they don’t have seats.

For more on Face to Face, visit http://www.facetofacemusic.com.

Matt, We Miss You!