

ENTERTAINMENT

Technique • Friday, April 6, 2001

'Cats' in deep trouble

Want to know if you'll enjoy *Tomcats*? Only if you like raunchy humor and monotonous dialog... Page 20

Music, art, trees...

Atlanta's 65th annual Dogwood Festival is today through Sunday in nearby Piedmont Park. Page 25

DramaTech's 'Forum' paves the way with lots of laughs

By Ganesh Kumaraswamy
Special to the 'Nique

In its original performance in 1962, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* took Broadway by storm, capturing six Tony awards. Vaudeville never really died; it just kept being re-created, notably in musical plays such as this one, which is accompanied by Stephen Sondheim's first score.

A burlesque comedy set in ancient Rome, *Forum* is the tale of a slave named Pseudolus (Jonathan Popp) who helps Hero (Jay Zimmerman), the young son of his owner, to win the heart of a beautiful courtesan named Philia (Heidi Khalil). What ensues is a hilarious romp through ancient Rome. The DramaTech production is very

worthy of the original, with the entire cast blending together well and making for a memorable and hilariously funny evening.

When Hero spies Philia in the brides-for-sales shop next door, he feels he'll do anything to get her, and turns to his devoted servant Pseudolus. Well, Pseudolus isn't that devoted—in fact, he'd give almost anything for his freedom. A plan is set in motion: Hero promises Pseudolus his freedom if he can get the woman for him.

Working behind the back of his more conscientious fellow slave Hysterium (Michael Sullivan), Pseudolus lies and connives Philia from the owner of the harem, Marcus Lycus (Michael Gettys). This is a problem when the girl's rightful owner, greasy warrior Miles Gloriosus

(Olufemi Sowemimo), shows up.

Things get downright complicated from there, with Hero's parents, lecherous Senex (Michael Lott) and icy Domina (Dipika Jain), getting involved and the whole thing falling into a funny, farcical mess. There are mistaken identities, well-timed entrances and exits, and that old staple—men dressed as women. There are also subplots involving an old man named Erronius (Kit FitzSimons) and his search for his long-lost children, and Hysterium's, well, hysteria.

Popp is a wonderful Pseudolus, endearing yet very manipulative. The character always has the right words for any situation, and Popp convinces the audience of this so subtly that

See *Forum*, page 27



By Kristi Odom / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Jonathan Popp's slave Pseudolus is obviously enjoying being surrounded by beautiful ancient Roman courtesans in DramaTech's *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. The show begins its run tonight in the DramaTech Theatre.

U2 brings new kind of concert



By Kristi Odom / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Bono captivated the crowd during U2's performance last Friday at Philips Arena, running across the stage and later perching atop a huge video screen.

By Derek Haynes
Sports guy turned U2 fan

U2's concert Friday night at Philips Arena was simple, elegant, and clean—and no one complained. Gone was the glitz and glamour of the band's earlier concert tours; in was the straight ahead rock that U2 arguably does better than any band in the world.

U2, which had a dizzying array of special effects and props in their 1997 Popmart and their 1992 ZooTV US tour, broke the special effects out for "With or Without You," but relied heavily on lead singer Bono's crowd-pleasing charisma for the majority of this fifth stop on the Elevation Tour. They set the stage for their simple style from the start by entering with house lights on, giving the sold-out crowd of over 18,000 a clear view of the most prolific rock band of the 80s.

The lights stayed up on "Elevation," one of six songs U2 played on their latest album, *All That You Can't Leave Behind*. Bono's magnetism was evident three songs into the concert when he walked across the heart-shaped stage and knelt down to kiss a young

woman. Bono would pace the heart-shaped stage throughout the concert, tempting the crowd with his outstretched hand.

The most energetic moment of the night came during "Where The Streets Have No Name" as Bono circled the stage several times at full speed, the crowd cheering him as if he was Atlanta Olympic hero Michael Johnson. Bono would then lie down on top of a vertically moving jumbo video screen behind the stage, which then rose 8 feet into the air at the start of "Mysterious Ways."

One of the strangest points of the concert came during the introduction of "Where the Streets Have No Name" as Bono began rapping into the microphone. Bono never acknowledged what he was saying, and even the U2 web site had no idea what came out of Bono's mouth. It isn't the first time Bono has done this; he has done it on almost all of the earlier stops in the US Elevation tour.

In addition to the heart shape and the moving video screen, the stage also had four large black and white

See *U2*, page 24

Don't 'Blow' chance to see Depp

By Jayson Wehrend
Ran the story after all!

MPAA Rating: R

Starring: Johnny Depp,
Penélope Cruz, Ray Liotta

Director: Ted Demme

Studio: New Line Cinema

Running Time: 124 minutes

Rating: ★★★★★

By now there is little doubt that Johnny Depp is a talented actor. He's played such a wide variety of roles that it's difficult to recall all of them. One thing is very certain though—he takes a role and makes it his own. You can't help believing that he is whatever character he is portraying, not just an actor playing one in a movie.

In his newest movie, *Blow*, Depp plays George Jung—perhaps the man most influential

in the importation of cocaine to American in the 1970s and 80s. From this description, you might recall the film *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, another movie about American drug culture that Depp

Ray Liotta makes the interactions between father and son so real.

starred in. While both movies happen around the same time period, they are totally different takes on the drug lifestyle.

The movie starts out with a flashback to George's early days at home. His father (Ray Liotta) is a plumber struggling to make a living with his own business.

His mother constantly badgers his father about money problems and frequently leaves the family only to return later.

George loves his father intensely, and it pains him to see his father so in love with his mother only to suffer for it. From this background, we see the driving force behind George's desire to have money. He never wants to be his parents; this is what drives him to such ends as the movie goes on to show.

The film moves from George's childhood to his college years, where he is introduced to pot on the beaches of California. He's soon distributing the drug, and building his contacts in the area.

It is here that the viewer begins to see his surging ambition as he actually goes to Mexico to buy direct from the source. For the first time, his life was perfect, and for the first time, it crashes down again. This cycle—boom and bust—seems to be the theme to George's life.

Every time he's finally happy, something goes terribly wrong and he has to start again. This is not a happy movie; it doesn't glorify the drug world or Jung's life. By the conclusion, he only wants the things he wouldn't need money for anyway.

Depp does an excellent job, as I would expect. His performance really makes Jung a sympathetic character. I was astounded by Ray Liotta's performance; he makes the interactions between father and son so real it's kind of painful. I was impressed with his work and look forward to seeing him in some other films.

Combined with these acting talents are lavish set and costume designs that bring the 1970s to life. Of course the classic 70s soundtrack helps a bit too.

I happily recommend *Blow* to everyone, but I must caution that it is not a light-hearted film. You should expect it to have some sort of effect on you. Good movies do.



By L. Sebastian / NEW LINE CINEMA

Johnny Depp portrays the life of drug smuggler George Jung from childhood to downfall in *Blow*. The film opens in theaters today.

'Tomcats': Avoid this messy kit and kaboodle

By Chuks Ibeji
Entertainment Staff

MPAA Rating: R
Starring: Jerry O'Connell,
Shannon Elizabeth, Jake Busey
Director: Gregory Poirer
Studio: Columbia Pictures
Running Time: 92 min
Rating: ★★

I remember the good ol' days, back when men were men and comedies were funny. It used to be that a person could leave the theatre laughing—and I'm not talking about the "I can't believe I laughed at that" laugh. I'm talking about the laughter of contentment caused when a filmmaker shows just a little bit of ingenuity.

Tomcats is the latest in the parade of raunch-fests that Hollywood has been churning out lately. It is also one of the silliest. The movie follows the sexploits of Michael Delaney (Jerry O'Connell) and his buddies. These "Tomcats," as they call themselves, each take a vow against marriage. As added incentive, every man contributes to buy a jointly owned piece of stock. This ownership is valid provided bachelorhood is maintained.

As time goes by, due to the wonders of interest and the economy, the pot reaches nearly a half million dollars. And, as a few ball and chains are added to the group, the number of eligible free men dwindles to two. This is where the buffoonery starts.

During an ill-fated trip to Las Vegas, Michael draws the ire of a casino boss (played by *Politically Incorrect's* Bill Maher). Following a hefty losing streak, he's given thirty days to repay his debt. Lucky for Michael, he's one of the guys who hasn't said "I do."

In order to save his carcass, he concocts a plan to marry off the competition, Kyle (Jake Busey). Michael figures the would-be bride should be a woman out of Kyle's past, and therefore chooses Natalie (Shannon Elizabeth). She agrees to go along with the plan, but only with the understanding that she gets half of the prize money.

What follows is a film reel of disorganized crudeness. The story unfolds as if it were being told via a first grader. Every now and then something happens to incite a little amusement, but like clockwork, *Tomcats* follows it up with a gag that makes you gag.

Director Gregory Poirer (his debut) forces you to sit through numerous scenes that only serve to set up jokes. The inevitable punch lines to these jokes are either weak or suffering from rigor mortis, and sitting through miss after miss after miss gets tiring.

Watching Michael eventually fall for Natalie is just as bad. Their chemistry is absolutely nonexistent. It gets painful watching them awkwardly recite their lines to each other, and the result is a romance with about the amount of dramatic force



By Joseph Viles / COLUMBIA PICTURES

Whoa—Michael Delaney (Jerry O'Connell) finds himself in quite a bind as one of two surviving bachelors in *Tomcats*, which opened last week.

you'd expect to find on an episode of *WWF Smackdown*.

Yet, even as the movie shifts to being a love story (of sorts), it's heart and soul is still its collection of incomplete stunts and visual calamities. The movie hits bottom in an apparent homage to Tom Green

when Kyle develops cancer—and there is no somberness that arises from the situation.

Instead, it's all a setup for a "recon mission" where...well, just never mind. Why should you even bother? Stay home and pray for the good ol' days of comedy.

This week on GTCN

By Rebekah Bardwell
GTCN Correspondant

This week on *The Latest Dish*, watch Matt tear through West Side Market pulling ingredients for an economical, vegetarian, Italian three-course meal. Also, check out an unusual love story in *Slow-Dancing Down the Aisles of the QuickCheck*. *The Latest Dish* airs on GTCN's Channel 21 Sundays at 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Phat Videos chills with Billiards Trickshot expert Scott Lee. If you've ever wanted to know how to woo all your friends at the pool hall, you'll definitely want to watch the show. *Phat Videos* airs Sundays at 7:00 p.m. and Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

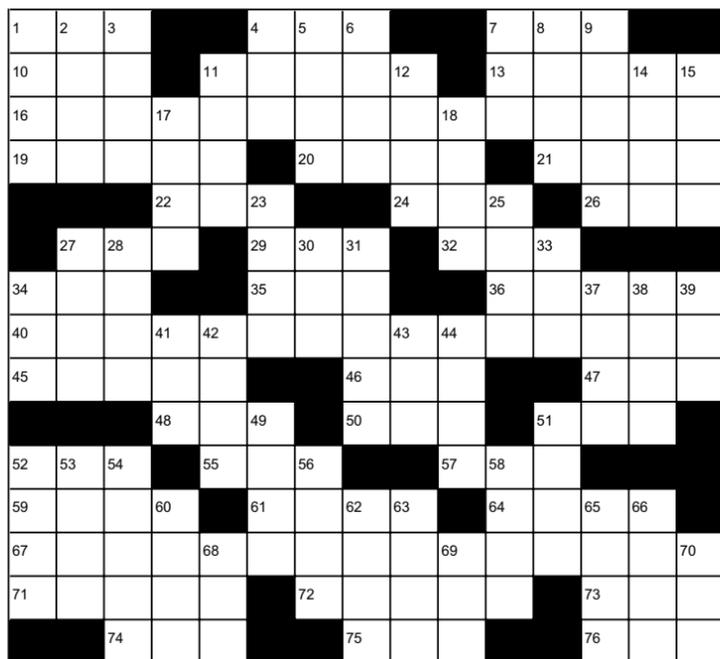
It's time for grading this week on *Flava 101*. Four Tech students get together and critique some of the best and worst videos from hip-hop and R&B today. Watch to see what you think of their grading skills. *Flava 101* airs on Sundays and Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Women's Awareness Month events will show on GTCN throughout the entire month of April. The Campus Climate Panel from March 27 will air on Saturdays and Sundays in April on Channel 20 at 12:00 p.m. Judy Chicago's presentation will air on Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

For tax preparation tips, watch the H&R Block tax prep help session on Saturdays and Sundays (until April 16) at 3:30 p.m. on Channel 20. It will also air Sunday through Thursday nights at midnight.

Onward and Crossword

Ask a Silly Question...



By Kit FitzSimons
This time, for sure...

ACROSS

1. Tsp. or Tbs.
4. Amer. Agcy.
7. Half a monsoon pest
10. Military action
11. Locale
13. Diana of "Mystery"
16. April 1 joke response (4 wds)
19. Barking animal
20. Chip in, in a way
21. Dirty pond (obs.)
22. Communist
24. Every
26. Will Ferrel's show (abbr)
27. A&E hook-up?
29. Curve type
32. James Bond writer
34. Bad, to Bebe
35. Tiny battery type

36. Spaced-out explosions
40. Response to 16 ACROSS (4 wds)
45. Commercial writer
46. Use a sofa
47. Spanish year
48. Peach seed
50. "_____ to Joy"
51. _____ carte (2 wds)
52. "Yay!"
55. Lean
57. DLXXVII + CDLXXIV
59. Purposes
61. Extinct animal
64. March part
67. Response to 40 ACROSS (4 wds)
71. At no time
72. Famous missing person
73. Aussie ostrich
74. Anti-litter org.
75. Jet

Answers on page 28. Really.

Desperate plea: write for me. You too can rhyme.
entertainment@technique.gatech.edu

76. Pen end

DOWN

1. Anime festival (abbr)
2. Earth's neighbor
3. Oak or elm
4. Grippe
5. "Californian" peninsula
6. Logo
7. Three prefix
8. Avarice and envy
9. Waffles you'll envy
11. Staff
12. "Como _____ usted?"
14. Fed (hyph)
15. Get dough for
17. Lawn site
18. Prefix for pad or port
23. College official
25. Finish a flight
27. Lady of the night
28. Oyster kin
30. Famous Mineo
31. Allowance (hyph)
33. Look sleepy, perhaps
34. Soccer star Hamm
37. Test tube, for one
38. "_____ and the King"
39. Freud's concern
41. Blackjack
42. "I'll get right _____." (2 wds)
43. Little goat
44. Thing
49. Neat
51. Helper
52. Mess up
53. Former tennis champ Athur
54. Pull hard
56. Milne's creation
58. Milan's currency
60. 12-_____ program
62. Pairs
63. Kills, in gang slang
65. Tied
66. 18-wheeler
68. Long time
69. A lot
70. Emulate Aladdin

Enough music to choke a horse!

CJ'S LANDING (270 Buckhead Ave.)

(404) 237-7657
<http://www.cjslanding.com>
4/6—Drifting Through
4/7—Acres, Tilden's Faith

COTTON CLUB (152 Luckie St.)

(404) 688-1193
<http://www.atlantaconcerts.com/cottonclub.asp>
4/6—Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise, Bare Jr.
4/8—Boy Hits Car, Simon Says, Un Loco
4/10—Mark Selby
4/11—MU330
4/12—Ginuwine
4/13—Gran Torino

DARK HORSE TAVERN (816 N. Highland Ave.)

(404) 873-3607
4/6—Elephant, Persona, Antigone Rising
4/7—Chain Poets, Young Antiques, Lodestar
4/11—Vito, Six, Burning Clocks
4/13—Tilden's Faith

ECHO LOUNGE (551 Flat Shoals Ave.)

(404) 681-3600
<http://www.echostatic.com/echolounge>
4/6—Five Eight, Johnny Hyde
4/7—Kings Pills, Moto-Litas, Adom, Centipede, Mark English 800
4/9—Rocket from the Crypt, International Noise Conspiracy, The Explosion
4/13—Changelings, Janah, Fancy

EDDIE'S ATTIC (515-B N. McDonough St.)

(404) 377-4976
<http://www.eddiesattic.com>
4/6—Michael Tolcher, Ray Bonneville, Jo Serrapere, Jim Page, Mimi Holland
4/7—Matthew Kahler, Kyle Shiver
4/8—Clandestine
4/11—Molly & Simone, Rachel Bissex
4/12—Christopher Williams, Daniel Lee
4/13—Cigar Store Indians, Mike Kinnebrew Band

MASQUERADE (695 North Ave.)

(404) 577-2007
<http://www.masq.com>
4/6—2 Skinnee J's, Al's Not Well, Gruvinhi
4/7—Gargantua, Gonzalez
4/8—Stool Sample, Crime Scene 10, Too Far Gone, The Rumors
4/12—The Vibrators, Lust, The Helgas

4/13—Vertigo, Ten Ball, Chipmunk

RED LIGHT CAFE (553 Amsterdam Ave.)

(404) 874-7828
<http://www.redlightcafe.com>
4/6—Dance of the Gypsies
4/7—Matthew Smith
4/12—Low Country Boil
4/13—Big Daddy Bluegrass Band

ROXY (3110 Roswell Rd.)

(404) 233-7699
<http://www.atlantaconcerts.com/roxy.asp>
4/13—Eve 6

SMITH'S OLDE BAR (1574 Piedmont Ave.)

(404) 875-1522
<http://smithsoldebar.citysearch.com>
4/6—Soulhat, Blue Mountain
4/7—Left Front Tire, Hanging Francis, Mindseye
4/8—Benefit for Bryan Cole
4/10—Chad
4/11—Juice, Ethan & the Ewox
4/12—Jack Ingram, Tift Merritt
4/13—Dash Rip Rock, Marathon

STAR BAR (437 Moreland Ave.)

(404) 681-9018
<http://www.doun.com/starbar.html>
4/6—Truckadelic, Billy Joe Winghead
4/7—Blacktop Rockets
4/11—Kickstand, Flash to Bang Time, Moto-Litas
4/12—Adam Leland & the A-Sides, The Amazing Tom Machine
4/13—Star Room Boys, The Blue Jays

TABERNACLE (152 Luckie St.)

(404) 659-9022
<http://www.tabernaclemusic.com>
4/7—Funk Jazz Kafe
4/10—Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Double Trouble, Lizzie West

VARIETY PLAYHOUSE (1099 Euclid Ave.)

(404) 521-1786
<http://www.variety-playhouse.com>
4/6—Taj Mahal & the Phantom Blues Band, Sammy Blue Band
4/12—Brian Evian
4/13—Will Hoge, Travisty Theory, Cool for August

Check out the *Tourdates* Web site (www.tourdates.com) to see where your favorite bands will be appearing next.

Tiptoe through the big ol' trees...

By Alan Back
Types with a ball peen hammer

Spring at Georgia Tech is a no-win situation, what with inhuman homework assignments in the classroom and astronomical pollen counts outside. If you survived both until this weekend, tear yourself loose and head to the 65th annual Atlanta Dogwood Festival.

Piedmont Park will play host to roughly a quarter of a million people looking for good clean fun at this free event. Hours are: today, noon-8 p.m.; tomorrow, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and April 8, noon to 7 p.m.

Where to begin? The Artist Market is a good bet, with over 200 craft workers displaying their wares for sale all weekend—paintings, photographs, woodworking, ceramics, and anything else that pops into your head. You can also go on the Midtown Tour of Homes tomorrow or Sunday to check out Southern architectural trends and styles in the district.

Media spokesperson Heather Duffey said, "This is the first year the two events are at the same time. Piedmont Park is in the heart of Midtown, and this is a good way to bring attention to both causes." Tour proceeds will be used to put up plaques at homes with historical significance, she added.

The vertically inclined can tackle a 24-foot rock climbing wall and check out the daily hot-air balloon shows. Green-minded souls can pick

up a few new ideas in the Eco-Village tomorrow and Sunday. Turn the little critters loose in the Kids' Village, or sit back and watch the pooches bite down on flying plastic in the Disc Dog U.S. Southern National competition.

Anyone who's gone to past Festivals knows how much live music they offer, and next weekend will be no exception. As usual, three stages will be cooking all day long tomorrow and Sunday, with everything from African drumming to full-tilt rock and roll. Featured acts include Stereo Popsicle, Col. Bruce Hampton, and Kevn Kinney.

Two new stages have been added this year: one for children's shows, the other (at the Park Tavern) for after-hours fun tonight and tomorrow evening. The Georgia Satellites and the Cooper Tisdale Band headline the latter stage, which will also serve as a backup venue in case of rain. Roaming and spoken-word artists will be on hand during the weekend as well, and an Epiphone guitar will be raffled off on Sunday afternoon.

"The more, the merrier," said Entertainment Coordinator Caroline Aiken, explaining the motive for expanding the lineup. "There are too many good acts and not enough slots, even with five stages. We are blessed with an amazing amount of great music in this city."

In recent years, the Festival has donated the bulk of its proceeds to the Magic Garden, a program that

supports environmental education in Atlanta's public schools. However, according to Aiken, this year marks a scaling back. "We've chosen schools that have been consistent in sending reports and keeping us updated on what they're doing with the money. Maybe we can do more with fewer schools."

Camp Sunshine will be the other main beneficiary; this organization provides support and recreational opportunities for children with cancer and their families. Aiken commented on the start of the new partnership: "We were looking for a charity that was widely known, and this seemed to be more of an immediate help...more of a tangible charity that creates goodwill. It's raising money for kids who may be in their last summer, with a last chance to go to camp."

Ready to go? Save yourself the hassle of driving and keep the city's air from getting any nastier. Take MARTA (a shuttle will run between the Arts Center station and the Festival tomorrow and Sunday) or walk or bike there (10th Street to Piedmont Avenue, then take a left). There's grass waiting for you—yes, it *does* still exist, and next week you can play in it.

For more details on the Atlanta Dogwood Festival, visit <http://www.dogwood.org>. To purchase tickets for the Midtown Tour of Homes, call (404) 875-0342 or visit <http://www.midtownhometour.com>.

Judd is searching for 'Someone'

By Sarah Graybeal
Pickin' up the slack

MPAA Rating: PG-13
Starring: Ashley Judd, Greg Kinnear, Hugh Jackman
Director: Tony Goldwyn
Studio: Fox 2000 Pictures
Running Time: 93 minutes
Rating: ★★★

I walked into the theater for the screening of *Someone Like You* not really having any idea what it would be about. I merely assumed (rightly so, as it turned out) that having Ashley Judd and Greg Kinnear as the two big stars meant this was

some sort of chick-flick...and I seem to have somehow earned a monopoly on reviewing films of that nature. However, when the opening credits began to roll over a shot of some Holstein cows quietly grazing in a pasture, I began to wonder.

It turns out this is a film based on the 1998 book *Animal Husbandry* by Laura Zigman. Hearing the original title explains the cows, but still leaves you wondering what the story really is.

Ashley Judd plays Jane Goodale (Goodale, Goodall, gorillas...ah ha!), a talent booker for a popular New

See *Like You*, page 27



By Miles Aronowitz / 20TH CENTURY FOX

Greg Kinnear waltzes into town and sweeps Ashley Judd clean off her feet—then brings her world crashing down when he initiates their breakup.

Forum

from page 19

he gains their sympathy through all of his conniving shenanigans. Sullivan is also especially enjoyable as the high-strung Hysterium, maintaining a permanent state of perfect constipation. Their antics make them even funnier as they roll with this lowbrow (but not childish) goofiness—funnier than, say, seeing elementary school kids doing it.

The alluring courtesans of Lycus enchant the audience when they take the stage. One by one, they take turns mesmerizing those that watch with their provocative gyrations. It's an interesting break in the show, yet the switch back to the breakneck pace of the comedy is smooth—Gettys's Lycus ends the display with his overt tomfoolery.

In fact, everyone in the cast seems to revel in the sheer, wild silliness of what they're doing. Sowemimo's Miles Gloriosus is grandiose and full of himself, strutting around and

booming at everyone. But he's also hysterical in the way he poses himself, and when he mingles his loud sobs with sharp orders to his men. A rather intimidating buffoon, here is a guy who doesn't know how stupid he is, being played by a guy who knows exactly how stupid he is.

This is a great looking *Forum*. The set is of grandiose proportions, with three houses spanning the entire stage of the black box theatre. With the band housed right above Lycus' abode onstage, the whole atmosphere is quite intimate, rounding off the great experience that is this musical.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum opens tonight. It plays at 8:00 p.m. April 6, 7, 11-14 in the DramaTech Theatre, and April 19-21 in the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts. Admission for students is \$4 at all shows. For reservations, call (404) 894-9600 for DramaTech performances and (404) 894-3481 for Ferst performances.

Like You

from page 27

York talk show. When new executive producer Ray Brown (Greg Kinnear) appears on the scene, it's tongue-tied, mouth-gaping love at first sight for Jane. Obviously, she doesn't mind one bit when Ray initiates intimacy and begins professing his undying love.

Their whirlwind romance proceeds at breakneck speed, and Jane breaks her lease in order to move with Ray into a gorgeous apartment overlooking Central Park. Yet all of a sudden, the dashing producer seems to get cold feet. He avoids Jane's phone calls and dances around signing the lease for the new place, until he finally asks Jane to dinner and drops the bombshell—he wants to break up. Even worse is that he soon goes back to his old girlfriend.

In shock, Jane begins searching for an explanation for Ray's odd behavior. She finds her comfort one night while moping in bed and

watching an animal special on the Discovery Channel. With a new purpose in life—correlating human male behavior with that of animals—Jane is ready to change the world.

Ray, she decides, is simply a victim of her "Old Cow/New Cow" theory. She is Old Cow; Ray's instincts tell him that he has now been there and done that with Jane, and it's time to move on to New Cow. After sharing these theories with friend Liz (Marisa Tomei), Jane is given the opportunity to publish her ideas anonymously in a men's magazine and quickly becomes the most talked-about woman in the country.

In the meantime, she has been forced to move in with co-worker Eddie (Hugh Jackman, last seen sporting vicious sideburns as Wolverine in *X-Men*), who provides a constant example of the stereotypical womanizing male and only adds fuel to Jane's fire.

As romantic comedies go, *Someone Like You* falls somewhere near

the average mark. It lacks the memorable one-liners and general quirkiness that make a truly great film in this genre, but the plot is satisfying and the characters provide some smiles and laughs.

The principal actors are solid, even as they blind the audience with their million-watt smiles. Ashley Judd plays the slightly neurotic Jane with a nice combination of charm and wit, while Greg Kinnear demonstrates his prowess at playing the handsome, debonair—and flaky—boyfriend.

The real performances, however, are given by the supporting cast. Jackman loses his Australian accent and is fantastic (not to mention nice to look at) as the male chauvanist who turns out to have a heart after all, while Tomei is perfectly cast as Jane's ever-supportive best friend.

In the end, *Someone Like You* wraps together all the loose ends in a pretty (and duly predictable) package, as Jane finds what she's looking for just under her nose.