

Murder at Tech?

Author B.B. Rose depicts a fictional murder with Tech as the setting. Is it worth a read? **Page 23**

Out like a fat kid

The 'Nique was there for the first ever round of intramural dodgeball. Check out the results. **Page 27**

Guzzle some bubbles at Volcano

By **Erich Hansen**
Contributing Writer

It may be small, but you wouldn't want to pass up Volcano on Tech Square. The café-like locale offers a unique blend of teas and smoothies that will warm (or cool) you up.

Most of the items on the menu are smoothies and teas. Teas come hot or cold, green or black. The Bubble Tea is a popular selection with balls of tapioca in the bottom. They serve as a tasty treat after a tasty beverage. The weather may be too cold now, but during the spring and summer, smoothies from Volcano will be a great way to stay cool in the summer heat. For those looking to warm up, a wide variety of hot chocolate completes the menu.

Volcano also has a great atmosphere. The small space features a variety of seating options: tables along the bar; the couch in the back and cushioned chairs in the front. A really nice, symmetrical pink cabinet lies in the back, filling up an entire wall. Board games and magazines

See *Tea Time*, page 21



Volcano Smoothie and Tea Room is perhaps the most unique offering at Tech Square. The wide variety of specialty teas and delicious exotic fruit smoothies combined with personable staff make it a must-stop location.

By Peter Jensen / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Wilson lands in theaters with hilarious *Bounce*

By **Justin Miller**
Contributing Writer

I cannot offer an objective reflection of any Owen Wilson affair. A scribbled home movie of his spaghetti dinner would receive my enthralled attention. His presence in any film renders it enjoyable. Nearly a decade ago, *Bottle Rocket* redefined comedic film, reminding us how humorous silence and subtlety can be (paving the way for *The Royal Tennenbaums* and *Lost in Translation*). Wilson has since appeared as a variation of overambitious cow-

boy Dignan in nearly every role, a method Jimmy Stewart proved perfectly acceptable.

In *The Big Bounce*, Jack Ryan (Wilson) resembles a slightly matured and more successful Dignan who carries a cast of established actors (Morgan Freeman, Gary Sinise, Charlie Sheen) through a clumsy script as a flippant islander smitten by the rapacious but shapely Nancy Hayes (Sara Foster),

who reminds us just how much fun A-class prostitution can be.

By mature, I mean sexually charged. Never have there been so many unclothed silhouettes in a movie rated appropriate for my 13-year-old brother. But silhouettes and euphemism do not allow the sensual-

ity that both the character and audience desire. We settle for character

motivation as sex without desire, promiscuity without remorse.

There is a similar emptiness of image that would seem so natural to the setting. For a film photographed entirely on the North Shore it seems poorly focused and out of frame, but there are enough women and hollow waves to make any mainlander in late January miss the sun. Wilson's crooked smile and awkward nose offer more formal composition than natural forms of land and water. Ryan, a hand-to-mouth

See *Bounce*, page 19



Fab'rik impresses with low-cost high-fashion boutique



By Andrew Saulters / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

With designer brands like Buffalo and French Connection and low prices Fab'rik is bound to have appealing merchandise for any fashionable students.

By **Vivian Vakili**
Senior Staff Writer

Coco Chanel once said, "Fashion is not something that exists in dresses only. Fashion is in the sky, in the street, fashion has to do with ideas, the way we live, what is happening." Very few people seem to actually grasp this all-encompassing view, but then again, very few people attain the understanding of fashion maven Coco Chanel.

Indeed, "fashion" is as legitimate a form of expression as a song or a painting or even a poem. Chanel also emphasized the importance of uniqueness, and this element seems to be the most obviously one lacking in today's fashion community. Every once in a while, however, one stumbles across a store or boutique which caters not to the typical but to the

distinctive.

Fab'rik is one such place. Entering the store for the first time, I was immediately impressed by the spaciousness and simple elegance. Scanning the selection, I noted a wide array of both men's and women's jeans, extremely well-fitting skirts,

"People are 'looking for something to wear that no one else will have on.'"

Dana Williams
Owner

dresses, shirts and pants—all in very complementary color schemes that were both classic and modern.

I immediately reached the conclusion that each item had been selected very carefully; every piece possessing a beauty which most stores completely lacked. In other words, everything was of very high quality...but that did not keep it from being unattainably expensive or impractical.

For college students desiring the See *Fab'rik*, page 21

Dark side of Fox theater with Floyd

Are Fridays lacking in excitement? Travel to the dark side of the moon and beyond this Friday at the Fox Theater. At 8 p.m., experience the music of Pink Floyd set to dancing lasers and lights. Who needs Stone Mountain Park when the Fox plays Pink Floyd? The show is for mature audiences, 21 and up, so expect some entertainment. Tickets run from \$23-27.

Apache showcases lyrical engineering

This Saturday, head over to East Campus and slip through the 3rd Street pedestrian tunnel and step into Apache Café. The Midtown venue is hosting a second stage battle pitting hip-hop MCs against burgeoning poets. The evening should offer a lively and energetic atmosphere with some lyrical rhymes surpassing any in *8 Mile*. The show is 21 and up, and begins at 9 p.m. Admission is \$10 for all members of the audience.

Smooch with class this Valentine's Day

Are you searching for a Valentine's gift that will receive more thanks than last year's ill-conceived Tickle-Me-Elmo Furby? Plan an early celebration at the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. This weekend's 8 p.m. show features Schubert, Sibelius and Grieg. Tickets start at \$38.

Next weekend, Thursday through Saturday, experience Beethoven and Bruckner, with tickets beginning at \$43. Looking for something more familiar? Purchase tickets to a special Howard Shore-led symphony showcasing music from *Lord of the Rings*. The concert is set for June 4 and 5, with tickets starting around \$22.

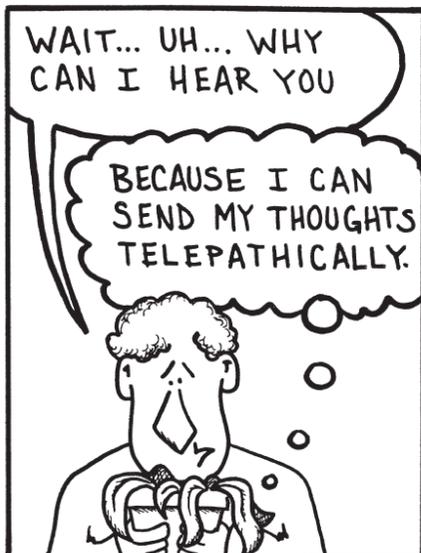
Statue of David gets down with 99x

Spend an evening listening to live acoustic music at the High Museum of Art while browsing through the galleries. The event is part of 99X's Organic X series. The concert is from 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday night. Entrance price is only \$15. While at the High, explore the restored statue of David, see an exhibit on Whistler, a famous American painter and observe Architect Richard Meier as a designer and artist

Why eat dessert when there is desert?

Travel to the Kalahari—well at least in spirit. The Fernbank Museum of Natural History is showcasing a special exhibition of June and Tim Liversedge's photographs detailing the exotic desert. The exhibition runs through the end of April. Student admission is just \$11. Head to www.fernbank.edu for more information.

Q.E.D. Original Comic Strip



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

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Bounce

from page 17



Photo Courtesy Warner Bros. Publicity

Owen Wilson and Sara Foster face off in their latest film *The Big Bounce*. Wilson utilizes the same 'cowboy' type character from his other movies.

small-time crook with an underlying appreciation for legitimate income, stumbles into a sexual and criminal triangle with more vertices than it should bear.

Finance provokes the most flimsy of character sketches. But where *Bottle Rocket's* helpless hero and adolescent plot were stitched together by unquestioning, childlike friendship, *The Big Bounce* seems mostly devoid of human dedication. Ryan explains his idea of friendship in something close to a monologue when a 'friend' asks for a favor, never allowing expectation that he would ever 'be there' for anyone. He has no real friend or enemy, and we feel neither mirth nor sympathy for any of their consequence.

Despite mediocre Hollywood scriptwriting and direction, I did not cease smiling until the dim lights rose. It is not sight, sound (a soundtrack composed by George

Clinton) or structure, but Wilson's ability to produce laughter at the turning of a showerhead that appeals to our senses. And *they* know this as well.

The only preview to precede the screening starred Owen Wilson and Ben Stiller (in their same old roles) as *Starsky and Hutch*, directed by Todd Phillips (*Old School*, *Road Trip*). Seeing Wilson clock Vinnie Jones (tall and tough guy of *Lock, Stock and Snatch*) with an aluminum baseball bat within five minutes of the opening shot set the audience in an unquestioningly pleasant and appropriate mood. To the only other near-monologue reflection (from inherently omniscient Morgan Freeman), Ryan replies: "What the hell does that mean?" Syllable without syntax. It is this inability to take itself too seriously that makes *The Big Bounce* worth seeing.

DiFranco delivers *Educated* sound

By Hillary Lipko
Staff Writer

These days, the "do-it-yourself" record seems to be the latest of artistic trends in recorded music. Many bands and artists have taken to producing and sometimes marketing their albums themselves. Some, either unwilling or unable to put up with the corporate bureaucracy that is common in many of the major record companies, have even started their own fledgling record labels. Ani DiFranco, on the other hand, did "do-it-yourself" before it was cool to do-it-yourself.

Educated Guess is Ani's twenty-first release on her Righteous Babe label. Since 1990 she has defined and redefined what it really means to "go solo," and with this album she has done it again.

Educated Guess was recorded chiefly in a shotgun shack in the Bywater neighborhood of New Orleans using a minimal setup and a few techniques that would make many sound engineers cringe. Not only did she restrict herself to eight tracks on vintage equipment, but she also played all of the instruments and provided all of the backing vocals heard on the album.

Possibly the most unusual of all was that she readily incorporated background such as rain and passing trains as a sort of accompaniment.

The result of these unorthodox methods is an album that gets about as close to a live performance as an album can get without actually being a live recording.

Educated Guess is an emotionally and politically charged record that combines Ani's signature folk-rock sound with spoken word tracks such as "Platforms" and "Grand Canyon."

Listening to the album straight through almost feels like listening

to an especially good open mic session at a particularly cozy coffee shop. Of course, many of Ani DiFranco's songs spent a previous life as poetry, so the expressive and powerful force of her lyrics is neither unusual nor surprising.

The driving acoustic guitar combined with versatile vocals and a mood that swings from mellow on one track to downright pissed off two songs later makes for an album that is unmistakably Ani. However,

this cannot be taken to mean that *Educated Guess* or any of her previous albums are anything but unique entities in her extensive repertoire.

Part of what keeps Ani's loyal fan base coming back for more is the fact that her style never stagnates and that she is always experimenting with and evolving her sound. That, combined with her vivacity, confidence and wit is enough to make just about anyone listen and take notice.



Photo Courtesy Righteous Babe Records

Ani DiFranco just dropped her twenty-first self-produced album *Educated Guess*. As with all her albums the unique poetic lyrics define the CD.

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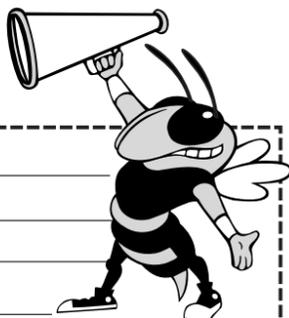
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Theme Crossword: Cityscapes

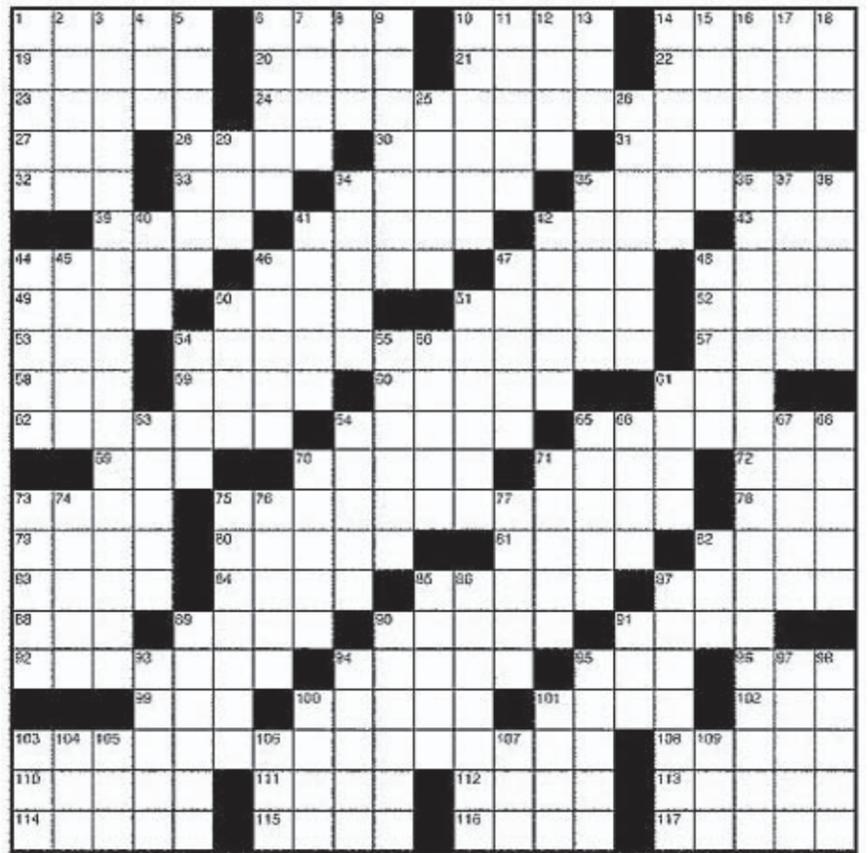
By Robert Zimmerman
United Features

Across

1. Enough
6. Places, for Caesar
10. - von Bismarck
14. Gets ready
19. Oxeye
20. Along the same lines
21. A state since 1846
22. Small bits
23. Speak at length
24. Urban crossroads
27. Miss Taylor, informally
28. Three-generation skating family
30. "Star Wars" director
31. Summer mo.
32. City in Morocco
33. Across, poetically
34. New Testament wise man
35. Chirped
39. Lobbyist for elders
41. Leave the bed
42. "- next?"
43. Asian people
44. Matthews of Milwaukee
46. Bury
47. Den
48. Nonchalance
49. Roulette bet at Monte Carlo
50. Ivan or Peter
51. Approximately, as a date
52. Cools down
53. Officeholders
54. Urban crossroads
57. Money
58. Gotcha!
59. Heavy obligation
60. Makes money
61. Prof's degree

62. Call, as a meeting
64. Swallows greedily
65. Castle on the Loire
69. Place for the orchestra
70. Calcutta costumes
71. Fellow
72. Drink like Fido
73. Gulf bigwig
75. Urban crossroads
78. "You - My Sunshine"
79. Bump into, so to speak
80. Bay window
81. High nest
82. MBA subj.
83. Question for Brutus
84. Jabbers
85. Brilliance
87. Fair-haired
88. Neither kin
89. Tapers off
90. Alternative
91. Oast
92. Scratch-pad images
94. Daydreamed
95. Feel queasy
96. Omaha time
99. Polluter's nemesis: abbr.
100. Idaho's pride
101. Between nations (abbr.)
102. Singleton
103. Urban crossroads
108. Boo-boo
110. - Island
111. Wind indicator
112. Ancient deity
113. Henry VIII, for one
114. Hertz rival
115. Town map
116. All there
117. Down at the heels
- DOWN
1. Composer-Henselt
2. 1937 Tommy Dorsey hit

3. Urban crossroad
4. D-Day lander
5. Auto graveyard, perhaps
6. Response to the impatient
7. Gumbo
8. Intelligence org.
9. Blow up
10. Lubrication device
11. Senate wear, of old
12. Opening of Moore classic
13. Scull propeller
14. Card game for two
15. River - , Mich.
16. Greek letter
17. Golfer's goal
18. Dallas-to-Houston dir.
25. Foretell
26. Of the N. African desert
29. In
34. Politan lead-in
35. A Marx
36. Urban crossroads
37. Prop for Monet
38. Biblical verb
40. "- for the G String"
41. Midges
42. Prepares baby's bottle
44. Early computer
45. Hawaiian entertainer
46. Children, legally
47. Delineates
48. "Dinner at -"
50. Honky- -
51. It's usually seen on "Law & Order"
54. Brit's trunk
55. Of the nerves
56. Ariz. neighbor
61. Family man
63. Taste for fine art
64. Billionaire Bill -
65. Mariner's guide



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66. Unclear
67. One of the Nevilles
68. Turn over
70. Shears
71. Plain as day
73. Make corrections
74. Copy-cat's refrain
75. Tofu source
76. Saudis
77. Grew wan
82. Add-on
85. Footnote term
86. Small angels
87. Troop quarters
89. Juarez neighbor
90. Inception
91. Frontiersman - Carson
93. Coarse cloth
94. It fell with the dew: Num. 11:9
95. Anoint
97. Hair holder
98. "- and the Pirates"
100. Greenish blue
101. Afghanistan neighbor
103. Miss - Leoni
104. Under the weather
105. In the style of
106. Sports distinction: abbr.
107. Top bond rating
109. Ms.- McClanahan

See Solutions, page 29

Tea Time from page 17

lie on a shelf for entertainment options. They even have playing cards.

The staff is really friendly and outgoing, and they make you feel like a part of the gang. They are very amiable with magnetic personalities. Don't be surprised if they ask about and seem genuinely interested in how your day is going.

Beverages are very reasonably priced considering how good they are. The sizes available are also fairly large. Prices range from two to four

dollars, though most drinks are closer to two dollars with only a few higher priced beverages.

No matter what you order, the drinks of Volcano are certain to please. The teas are excellent and served piping hot. It also brings a spoonful of culture with every cup. All in all, Volcano is a great, cultural location to hang out with friends and enjoy hot or cold tea.

This eclectic café is located in Tech Square near Ribs and Blues. Volcano certainly makes a great addition to the Tech community.

Fab'rik from page 17

perfect mix of glamour, comfort and affordability, a trip to Fab'rik would be one well spent. In fact, owner Dana Williams boasts that Fab'rik looks like a high end boutique, but doesn't act like one.

By this she may perhaps be referring to the gorgeous \$30 pointed heels or the very chic \$42 black boots. As Williams herself says, "The experience is what really makes us different."

But the experience of Fab'rik goes beyond a fantastic collection of clothing and shoes which includes such brands as "Free People," "French Connection," "Hot Sauce," "Ben Sherman," "Buffalo," "Paper Denim Cloth," "Blue Cult," "Red Engine," "Steve Madden," "Pazzo" and many others. Fab'rik also carries an assortment of unique accessories and clever cards with some by local designers.

When asked about her clientele,

"The experience is what really makes us different."

Dana Williams
Owner

Dana responded that they are people "looking for something to wear that no one else will have on."

Oh, and by the way, when was the last time you went to a boutique for yoga lessons, to attend an art, birthday or CD release party, to wait for a friend while sipping vitamin water or to attend a seminar entitled "The Good Girl's Guide to a Bad Girl's Valentine's Day?"

That, interestingly enough, brings us full circle to Coco Chanel's quote regarding the all-inclusive nature of fashion. Fab'rik certainly seems to have this philosophy down to an art.

And luckily, it's all very accessible; Fab'rik is conveniently located on West Peachtree Street, within five minutes of campus. Upcoming events include a huge New York sample sale Jan. 31 and "The Good Girl's Guide to a Bad Girl's Valentine's Day" seminar Feb. 5. You may also check out Fab'rik at www.fabrikatlanta.com.

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What would Atlanta be without World of Coke...better off?



By Bill Allen / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Everyone knows the World of Coke is at Underground. But who has actually taken the time to go? Read what the 'Nique thinks about it.

By *Brendan Ward*
Contributing Writer

Soda, pop or soda pop, no matter what you called it growing up, in Atlanta it is most definitely a Coke (even if you actually really want a Pepsi). Atlanta is the birthplace of Coca-Cola, the soft drink of the world, and with the Coke building looming over the heads of Tech students, it is a part of our daily lives.

The World of Coke, which is situated across from Underground Atlanta, serves as a way to get to know this Atlanta-based company. As soon as visitors enter (and pay), they are bombarded with Coke memorabilia including old bottles, countless Coca-Cola advertisement pieces and a large mock bottling machine which busily moves bottles of the brown fizzy liquid to unknown destinations.

There are short promotional videos to watch along the way that show impoverished children enjoying the only thing they have left; you guessed it, an ice-cold Coke (my mom actually cried during one

of these overly-dramatic commercials).

There also is an authentic soda jerk who spews the same spiel about old-fashioned soda fountains every 15 minutes to camera-heavy tourists who eagerly soak it up.

"It is a grand commercial with a \$7 cover charge. The World of Coke was entertaining but I left with a bad taste in my mouth..."

After another floor of Coke advertisements, you finally reach the high point of the tour: the "Tastes of the World" exhibit. There is constant action in this room as soft drinks are spat out in thin streams into waiting vats lined with esoteric

lights.

Here it is possible to sample Coca-Cola beverages from around the world, Italy to Indonesia, and tourists swill it down as fast as possible, climbing over each other to get to the sample cups, the fountains, the trashcans and finally, the bathroom.

Finally, in order to exit, one must pass through the gift shop. You can buy bears, T-shirts, glasses, board games and about anything else imaginable, all stamped with the Coca-Cola stamp and marked up in price accordingly. The Coca-Cola Company says it "exists to benefit and refresh everyone it touches." After visiting the World of Coke it is blatantly obvious that the main goal of the "museum" is to sell more Coke.

It is a grand commercial with a \$7 cover charge. The World of Coke was entertaining, but I left with a bad taste in my mouth. Then again, it could have been the soda from Singapore.

Look for more stories detailing attractions that make Atlanta unique in future of the Technique.

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making friday lectures more interesting

