Second Momococon proves successful

By Nathan Garcia

Contributing Writer

While most of Tech’s student population was leaving campus for Spring Break, another group of people were congregating for the second annual anime and game convention known as Momococon. Run by the anime O-tekku student organization, Momococon played host for a number of events and saw over 1,750 participants during the weekend of March 18, more than twice the number of attendees as last year. I am a moderate anime enthusiast, but the main draw of this convention for me were the video game events. The dealers’ room, which had to be moved from last year’s location due to its popularity, offered all sorts of anime paraphernalia and costume accessories and was immensely popular. Several panels were held on subjects ranging from webcomics to video games to gender stereotypes in pop culture. The Music Listening Room was used as the J-pop Lounge where attendees could relax in an environment enjoyed by many Tech students but tailored for this event by playing popular Japanese music.

The game rooms allowed con-goers to engage in some friendly competition whether of the board, card, electronic or musical variety, and there were tournaments held for some of the more popular games like Halo 2, Super Smash Bros., Metroid and Soul Calibur 5, all with cash prizes. One event in particular, the Decathlon, was hyped more than usual. Entrants would play 10 games spanning more than 20 years and five consoles, and rank would be determined based on how well each participant performed in each game.

Anime-showing rooms played the newest series from Japan and even older stuff that still hasn’t lost its appeal. The curiously named “Chaotic Bad Raptor” room showed fan-made AMVs... featuring a few how-to sessions on how to edit video as well as the latest and greatest releases. I generally find most of them to be somewhat boring, but they can be fun. Highlights included a cross between the game NBA Jam and an anime-entitled Slam Dunk, complete with announcer sound bites and an hour-long compilation of short, comedic videos with audio sources ranging from Rick James to Dave Chapelle—skit about Rick James, Jack Black, Tiny Tim, Starship and even Triumph the Insult Comic Dog. Seeing Fant Of The North Star synched up with Queen’s “Another One Bites The Dust” was more amusing than it should’ve been.

On the more artistic side, there were both formal and informal ‘cosplay’ (an amalgam of “costume” and “play”) gatherings. One that stood out was a group of kids from a nearby elementary school who dressed as popular anime characters, playing a game of tag with the con-goers.

Smash Bros. is a perfect model to use in order to support this assertion, which is exactly what Thank You for Smoking does.

Chock full of famous faces, including Maria Bello, Robert Duval, Rob Lowe, William H. Macy, Sam Elliott and Katie Holmes. Thank You for Smoking is helmed by Aaron Eckhart as Nick Naylor, the most famous and infamous Big Tobacco lobbyist. His quick wit and slicing use of language allow him to constantly argue into the right, which reaps great rewards for his boss and Big Tobacco employers.

Yet the film is not about smoking no matter how much the plot revolves around Naylor’s difficulty in promoting his product and even protecting his life from crazy anti-smoking radicals who at one point kidnap Naylor and poison him by overloading his body with nicotine patches. The film is about spin. And with television and other mediums relying so heavily on the use of spin, a comedic film that delves into the very nature of the practice provides a justifying and welcome exposition.

Naylor joins his two buddies from the Alcohol and Firearm businesses, making up the MOD (Ministers of Death) Squad that meets weekly discussing their comical troubles in promoting their products as well as bragging about their product’s corresponding death rates. Naylor’s son, Joey, acts as a foil for Naylor’s character as he juggles the needs of his job with the delving questions of his son.

Thank You provides biting satire, slapstick comedy.

By Daniel Griffin

Contributing Writer

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Devil went down to Georgia

By Detta

Contributing Writer

The Devil Music Ensemble is a musical trio that explores the realms of rock, electronica, folk, improv and experimental music. Their only date in Atlanta is tonight at White Hall, located at Emory University. Tonight they will perform alongside Fritz Lang’s classic horror film Nosferatu. The show starts at 8 p.m., and admission is free.

Spring Break rides again at Stone Mt.

By Detta

Contributing Writer

Spring Break may be over according to the official Georgia Tech academic calendar, but you have a second chance to take it easy at Stone Mountain’s “Fun” Break, from April 1 to April 9.

Tsotsi paints grim picture of poverty in Africa

By Siddhartha Parmar

Contributing Writer

Let’s face it, Hollywood hasn’t made decent original movies in the last few years. Almost every movie coming out is a sequel, based on a comic book, or a remake. Worse, the trend is very strong and isn’t stopping in the near future. This does not mean there aren’t great movies out there. There are, if you know where to look. Moviegoers are increasingly going to foreign films to fill the void left by Hollywood. Currently, an amazing movie named Tsotsi is playing at the United Artists Tara Theater.

Tsotsi is a critically acclaimed South African film that has won countless awards and has been nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Film. Tsotsi is the simple story of a 16-year-old Johannesburg gangster named Tsotsi....

The titular Tsotsi, played by Presley Chweneyagae, struggles through a life of poverty and crime in South Africa.

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V For Vendetta tells cautionary tale about freedom

By Siddhartha Parmar

Imagine a world where Muslims are persecuted, gays have no rights and the truth is a state secret. A world where the people believe everything the government tells them and the government in turn betrays this trust with grim regularity. Am I speaking of some third-world, draconian dystopia or perhaps Hitler’s Third Reich? No, this world is created in V for Vendetta on the silver screen.

V for Vendetta is the first must-see movie of the year. It is much more than the action-packed, explosion driven movie that commercials imply. At its core, Vendetta is a political statement about the world we in which we live. Vendetta is the screen adaptation of a popular classic graphic novel written by Alan Moore (The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen, From Hell, V for Vendetta) and David Lloyd. Vendetta is written and produced by the Wachowski brood, the minds behind the Matrix trilogy.

At its core, Vendetta is a political statement about the world in which we live.

and directed by first time director James McTeigue, who was an assistant director on the same.

Vendetta stars the talented Hugo Weaving, better known as Agent Smith from the Matrix trilogy and Elrond from the Lord of the Rings, as V, an anarchist/freedom fighter using any and all means at his disposal to topple the government including terrorism and torture.

Natalie Portman plays Evey, a young woman who, with V’s help, finds out the truth about her government. Over the course of the movie, she moves from being a hapless victim being pushed around by an overbearing bully-state to V’s protégé and a fellow fighter in the cause of freedom.

Vendetta is set in the near future world where America’s wars and the resultant acts of terrorism they spawned have left the world ruined and chaotic. Only Britain is able to survive and then only by morphing into a fascist, Orwellian government.

See V, page 21

Rub Rabbits rubs player right way

By Nathan Garcia

Springtime. A time for warmer weather. A time for new life. A time for love. And of course, a time for bizarre mini-games. This is the gist for Sonic Team’s latest offering for Nintendo DS, The Rub Rabbits, the successor to the launch title Feel The Magic. While walking through town, a guy sees a beautiful young lady and instant falls in love.

Unfortunately for him, about 12 others also fall in love with her simultaneously. After a mad dash up a down escalator to get her attention, you start off by guiding the male character around the other 12 names to gain the attention of the female.

After finally defeating them in an epic Roshambo tournament, you and the girl are officially a couple. However, not all is as it should be, since a jealous rival, a genius girl whom the male character knew from school, stops at nothing to steal him away. This includes, but is not limited to, tossing love potions at him, infecting his girlfriend’s computer with a virus and re-leasing a horde of pink and purple robots. No one ever said love was easy. This game, however, is very enjoyable.

Every game uses the unique capabilities of the DS, using the stylus, the microphone or both for a very diverse experience. Every game uses the stylus, the microphone or both for a very diverse experience.

Every game uses the unique capabilities of the DS, using the stylus, the microphone or both for a very diverse experience. Some of them also require different positions in which to hold the DS, and the game overall makes good use of the two screens.

The games are very amusing as well. Everything from snowball fights to making art can be made using the stylus, and the game helps you create a fast-paced, unpredictable feel that leaves you wondering what crazy task you’ll be required to pull off next.

A vast majority of the games are different from the first one, so there are few recycled ideas, but the ones that do return are fun. Aside from the story mode, which is a little on the short side, there are also multiplayer modes of some of the story games, “Maniac” mode where you can design the girl of your dreams from the outfit pieces you collect throughout the game, a unique DS relay game and a baby-making mode. Seriously.

You and a significant other give the game some information like birthday and blood type, then the two of you work together to cut a virtual wedding cake, allowing the game to test how well you cooperate with each other and giving you a baby and a compatibility rate.

Despite all the content in the game, you might find it short, but if you enjoy pick-up-and-play titles, give this a try.

Tsotsi from page 17

of mistakes. Mistakes are typical for any teen, but because of his unique position, mistakes mean life and death.

Tsotsi will shake you to your core. Seeing its poverty will make you feel shock and outrage, outraged that an entire continent has been neglected and used by the world for hundreds of years.

What is worse is the contrast in wealth. Johannesburg’s poor number one million, and their make-shift homes are shadowed by the city’s skyscrapers.

Tsotsi should be experienced on the big screen to feel it, really feel it. The cinematography is brilliant; especially the use of light and darkness as symbols. The music is amazing and different from what Americans are used to.

I absolutely loved this movie and believe everyone should see it.

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his job with the delving questions of his son. Various characters pose “moral” questions to Naylor in an attempt to discover the man behind this pillar of infamy; Naylor responds with slick aversions and clever reversals.

Mixed with this world enveloped by spin, a bright and energetic slapstick comedy emerges from these pitiful and overdrawn characters. The excellent group of actors become characters in the film, playing out a series of events around Naylor that poke fun at the slant and use of the news, big movie executives and, of course, large corporations, repeatedly pointing out that global conglomerates need their protection too, just like a “cancer boy” on a daytime talk show.

Naylor takes no prisoners in his conquest to prove others in the wrong, as the film mirrors his tendency to say everything that most people think but never say. The director, Jason Reitman, son of Ivan Reitman, heavily stylizes the film with close camera work, especially on Eckhart, giving the characters strong and intense interaction with the camera, playing out like a news interview. He adds in multiple pop ups on the screen, interpreting the language that is spoken often as a politically correct smoke-screen in spin. The narration of Eckhart couples with these adjuncts nicely, forming a film unafraid to expose the spin on everyday language.

And while the film takes a serious look at the depth of deception in America, it also remains seriously funny throughout. The slapstick humor works well in discussing the often humorous spins that are used not only by Naylor, but by his opposition, Macy’s Vermont Senator, in achieving their specific goals. Thank You for Smoking stands as a hilarious and thoughtful look into the world of spin and trickery.

### Theme Crossword: It’s Lonely at the Top

**ACROSS**
1. Wall Street animal
2. Social standards
3. Mountains in Siberia
4. Firth helmet
5. Unemployed
6. Like a baldam
7. Stumble
8. Yamuna river city
9. Fete
10. Onetime capital of Alaska
25. Proportion
26. Unbending
27. Start of a quip by Woody Allen
28. Wild plum
29. Cover up
33. Camel-hair fabric
34. Show, in a way
37. Prostrate
39. Lagged’s specialty
43. Air sign
45. Say without thinking
46. Evade adroitly
47. Louise larva
48. River to the North Sea
49. Dnipropetrovsk
50. Like some candies
51. Ready to serve
52. Spud’s bad
53. Before all else
54. Beau — (high society)
55. Boozo
56. Silvery fabric
57. Rameanite fare
58. Risk
59. Part 2 of quip: 5 wds.
60. Even —
65. Dreams and wishes
66. Decrease
67. All in
68. Scrappenny
69. Something sometimes
70. In —
71. Join
72. Bad driver’s problem
75. Begets
76. Refrigerator part

**DOWN**
1. Significant
2. Cheese variety
3. Confederate
4. Ready to serve
5. Team’s symbol
6. In reserve: 2 wds.
7. Ceremony
8. Fraternal group
9. Resort location
10. Chat
11. Certain contract
12. “Cheerio!”
13. Seed appendage
14. Unquestioning devotion
15. Formosa, at present
16. Tied
17. Mobster
18. Horse-drawn carriage
19. Commercia
20. Cow’s
21. Male
22. Standard part
23. Suggestion
24. Be compliant
25. Take flight
26. One of the

**Munsters**
35. Rubber people
36. French clergy
37. Bedazzled
38. Plant disease
39. Horse-drawn carriage
40. Commodities
41. Adequate
42. Seeing that
43. Direct
44. Kind of bean
45. Simple -
49. Simple -
50. Great Florentine poet
51. Great Florentine poet
52. Doomed
54. Fabricator
55. Person of great virtue
56. Reception
57. Instrument for Pan
58. Overhead
59. Big-business event
60. — — days hath ...
61. Wines
62. Textile weave
63. Scattered
64. Jeweled headpiece
65. Rain a little
66. Pretend
67. Hired hands
68. Caution
69. Advantage
70. Fooled animal
71. An Olympian
72. The Enterprise is one
73. Premise
74. Report
75. Reversals
76. Reputation
77. Go - out
78. Like a beldam
79. Be mad about
80. Queens stadium
81. Wife of Jupiter
82. Pledge of a kind
83. Plunderer
84. An Olympian
85. Crystal gazer
86. Reply: abbr.
87. Take a hike!
88. In the manner of
89. Feverish condition
90. An Olympian
91. Paradise
92. Kimono
93. Healthy upstairs
94. Bone, prefix
95. Sword
96. Reputation
97. Take a hike!
98. Be mad about
99. Feverish condition
100. Part 2 of quip: 5 wds.
101. A pronoun

---

**Clue List**

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- 3. Confederate
- 4. Ready to serve
- 5. Team’s symbol
- 6. In reserve: 2 wds.
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- 23. Suggestion
- 24. Be compliant
- 25. Take flight
- 26. One of the

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The Artists’ Alley featured many talented artists from the area selling original artwork, fan art and commissioned works.

"Afterwards, Frame, also the president of Anime O-tekkku, was very satisfied with the results. "We had a lot less trouble than expected."

The most common problem was with the costumes. "I'm grateful for the help from the Student Center, specifically the M.R."

We understand the Student Center has a contract so there wasn't much they could do about the stairs," Frame said. However, she was thankful for the help other campus services offered. "I'm grateful for the help from the Student Center, specifically the M.R."

Frame seems very optimistic about the future of Momocon, but she says that the biggest concern will be space. The first year the convention was able to fit in the Student Center, but this year they had to expand into the Instructional Center.

She also wants to get more of Tech’s student body involved, and organizations like the Electronic Software Producers and Pride Alliance have accepted in the past. "We’re looking to work with other student organizations in the future," Frame said.

Con

from page 17

and “play”) contests. Cosplay is so popular that several people wear specially designed outfits of their favorite characters for conventions like this even if they don’t compete in a contest. While some characters are more common than others and the quality of the costumes range widely, a well-represented character can even elicit responses from people who aren’t familiar with said character. The Artists’ Alley featured many talented artists from the area selling original artwork, fan art and commissioned works.

While most of these events can be found at similar conventions, the head of the convention, Jessica Frame, prided Momocon’s having a rich history. "The start of technology went very well," Frame said. This is a traditional Japanese movie viewing ceremony held at the vernal equinox. It was done Saturday night since it was the most convenient time closest to the equinox.

The construction on the Student Center stairs, which started over that same weekend, likely caused the most inconvenience at the convention. "We understand the Student Center has a contract so there wasn’t much they could do about the stairs," Frame said. However, she was thankful for the help other campus services offered. "I’m grateful for the help from the Student Center, specifically the M.R."

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a fairy came to me today with wings of silver fine;
She smiled with glittering, too-sharp teeth
and whispered of dreams divine.
hers tiny fingers took my hand.
With cruellest grin she crooked a spell
and whisked me to her dark land.
As a child I dream of the fairy place
with castles of grass and dew.
But her land smelt of quiet decay
with black sky and grass tinged blue.
She looked at me and cackled,
hers eyes glowed passionate red.
This magic alluring fairy was a sprite of death instead.
The above was written with-out thought during the most
boring CS lecture ever.
Good Luck Amanda!
“That was too close. You were
almost a Josh sandwich.”
Spring Break is almost here!!
Woo-hoo!
Sara, will you marry me?
No!
I think I just threw up a little inside my mouth
Who wants to have some fun? Silver box got tiny...
Georgia Tech forgot the Alamo.
I bet you all could come up with random tech facts--PUT THEM IN THE SLIVERS!
freeSlGA is pretty much the most amazing organization ever
seriously, everyone, YAY FRESHGA!!!!
freeSlGA is the BEST GA!!
Yay! We love Silver Girl and her tattery pants!
Congratulations on Kristina M got in to dentist school!
The Aristocrats is such an awful, funny joke...
My Dixie Wrecked
i love my Fox
NO SLIVERS THIS WEEK!! Why Technique, WHY!!

See page 27 for more Slivers!
I love it whenever 'Tech receives good high-profile press of some sort. Like discovering on Wikipedia that one half of the group Floetry, which I love so much, was supposed to come to Tech on a basketball scholarship. Okay, maybe that's not very high profile, but it got me... giddy! How ever, discovering that Karry Mullis, the winner of the 1993 Nobel Prize in chemistry did his undergraduate studies at Georgia Tech got me even, well, giddier. Very inspiring.

For seriously though, the media can be a beautiful thing when it is not Nielsen rating presidential debates amidst repeated phrases like "...the vice president's daughter, whom we all know is gay..." Like gay-gay! Really? Well, how about them prac tical economic policies, huh? That's what I'm on about.

Sometimes followed by a "Headline: Subhead (Deck). "

But every now and then, what comes from the media can be price less. Like this Two Bits column: I still don't know why I haven't won a Pulitzer Prize for all the brilliantly observant oratory about all the small things. Maybe the Pulitzer people just can't wrap their minds around this whole stream of consciousness thing I've picked up recently. Phili stines. Anyway, this would be a nice place to segue into my acceptance speech.

"Oh! I wasn't expecting this. Not this way. I was hoping I would have married a Greek goddess and mar ried Angelina Jolie with out a place in history.

This thing on my mind trans scends all things funny. This thing, dammit, if you didn't know any better, with all the preceding hype, you would think today's Two Bits column is being written by Don King. But no, this is not Don King speaking. Somehow, halfway through writing today's column, I ran out of ma terial. So in a moment of weakness, I started by my next point before I had any scheduled ideas.

Okay, here’s the deal. I had re ally set my mind on writing about something I heard on the radio. But in my journalistic purity, I decided to research the topic, only to find out it wasn't really factual news but only a mere face value occurrence. I, the comedian that the radio DJ jumped on. This saddened me deeply because I was really going to have a field day with that one.

The topic has to do with a non existent group called the National Association of Gold diggers and Gigos. According to the comedian, this association had gone to Washington to support Anna Nicole Smith in her fight to win some of her late husband’s billions. Given that this material isn't true, you can see how difficult it is to come up with com mentary that would top that. Death by loss of source of cynicism is what just happened here, people.

So here I am, trying to apply a fact that I slept with both— all before winning this award. Really, you shouldn't have, but I'll like to thank my edito rs for editing me, I will also like to thank all the people that considered me for the Pulitzer. I mean it's cool dude; Frey the memoirist—one cool dude; Quentin Tarantino of In the Heat of the Night, is supposed to write a script for the crime show Elementary. So in a moment of weakness, I decided to research the topic, only to find out it wasn't really factual news but only a mere face value occurrence.

Go back and re-read the previous sentence, there’s a double entendre there.

But this is not about my Pulitzer Prize acceptance speech—assuming that one actually gives a Pulitzer Prize acceptance speech. How the hell would I know! This is about something bigger and larger than life.

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For example, this seductive sentence could be used to attract your attention if it is put in the caption box.

"Oh! I wasn't expecting this. Not this way. I was hoping I would have married a Greek goddess and married Angelina Jolie without a place in history."

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