

## Blue Man Group brings color to fox



Image courtesy of Theater of the Stars

### SHOWS

#### Blue Man Group

**PERFORMER:** Blue Man Group

**LOCATION:** The Fox Theater

**DATE:** Jan. 18 - 23

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★

**By Chris Ernst**  
Senior Staff Writer

The loud and mute Blue Man Group plays a new show Jan. 18-23 at the Fox Theater as part of their U.S. National Tour. For those who have seen them perform before, the chance to see the Blue Man Group live in your city is too good to pass up.

The amazing, one-of-a-kind show blends sights and sounds with a heavy dose of humor to make one of the most entertaining shows around.

The expert performers/musicians play fantastic music while making subtle statements about society and the human condition.

The performers are epitomized

by the make-up and costumes which forces performers and audience to focus on the material being presented and not on the personality or branding of the individual people on stage.

This is the complete opposite of common practice nowadays. In today's world of branding and fluff, the Blue Man Group refreshingly emphasizes the content.

The whole show does not have an overt message of anything particularly specific, but on closer examination, there are actually some deeper themes going on under the music and the jokes.

The trio does a skit in which the audience is forced to try and read three screens of separate information at once on "GiPads."

The information oversaturation holds a mirror up to society while the information on the screens is actually quite funny by itself.

Probably the biggest theme of the show is communication and how people communicate with each other over many mediums but never really have a conversation.

Two stick figures communicate over text message using text abbreviations and realize they need to break out of themselves.

This point is further driven home by muteness of the blue men themselves who never say a word or make a sound with their mouths. They make a whole ar-

tistic statement while never saying anything and just using natural body movements and postures.

The show the Blue Man Group puts on is very modern with a litany of warnings before the show starts for those with weak lungs, hearts and constitutions to be wary of the physical stresses of sitting on your George Foreman Grill and watching such a multimedia show. The show has huge screens and UV lights for everyone to become pleasantly disoriented.

The blue men go through a series of sketches, each imaginative and unique. They interact with videos playing on flying screens and make artwork to give out to the audience while playing drums.

The show takes left turns like a lead-footed lost race car driver, each turn delightfully unexpected. Music, light, acting and stag-

ing blend and mash together to make a neon-colored splatter of energy and entertainment.

The most surprising aspect of the show was the consistent hilarity. While some sketches were more serious and strictly musical, many of them have hysterical videos/commentary/acting.

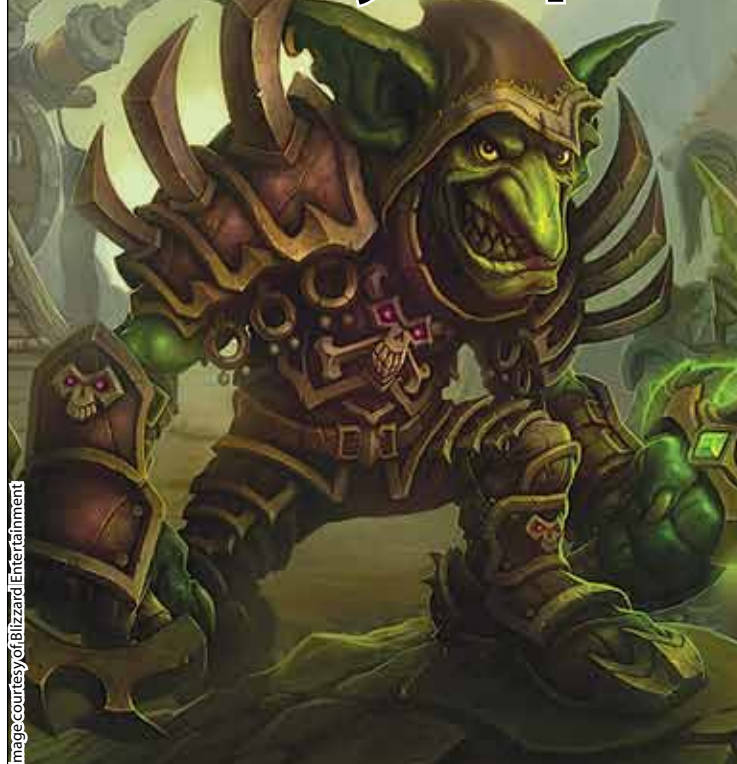
It is not just a laugh here or there, but a full out exhausting guffaw followed by a belly laugh Santa would be jealous of.

The Blue Man Group is one of the best shows around. It has some social commentary but much more humor throughout the whole show. The energetic, exciting and colorful stage and visual style make a visual feast.

All of these elements are great on their own and come together in unexpected ways that always entertain.

The Blue Man Group is a creative experience everyone should see, especially now while it is at the Fabulous Fox.

## Cataclysm provides needed enhancements



### GAMES

#### World of Warcraft: Cataclysm

**CONSOLE:** Mac OS X, Windows

**GENRE:** Fantasy

**DEVELOPER:** Blizzard Entertainment

**RATING:** T

**RELEASED:** Dec. 7, 2010

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★

**By Kristin Hanson**  
Contributing Writer

For the last several months, strange things have happened in Azeroth, the mythical realm of the *World of Warcraft* MMO

(massive multiplayer online) which was first released in 2004 by Blizzard Entertainment. Elementals, physical manifestations of the elements and earthquakes suddenly started breaking the continents apart. On Tuesday, Dec. 7, the third expansion, *Cataclysm*, was released and the *World of Warcraft* was changed forever. The expansion follows the return of the Dragon Aspect Deathwing the Destroyer, whose arrival from the elemental plane to the mortal realm caused The Shattering, which ripped Azeroth apart.

Not only did every area of the original game get visually changed, but there are hundreds of new quests, new character races and new playing styles that

veterans will have to get used to.

Along with the updated areas, all character classes gained and lost some abilities. For those who have been playing for a while and have their fighting styles down to an almost rote strategy, this was very frustrating at first. It takes time to acclimate to the new game mechanics and reworking fighting styles, but if you can look past this, then you can see that it breaks up the monotony of doing the same old thing. Blizzard also revamped the talent trees for each character class. Again, each talent tree gained and lost some talents, but for the most part they are more streamlined and provide more variation to character specializations early

See *Cataclysm*, page 14



# Eating Atlanta

Cuisines around Atlanta

## RESTAURANTS

### Panahar

**LOCATION:** 3375 Buford Highway

**CUISINE:** Bangladeshi Food

**COST:** \$9 - \$13

**HOURS:** 11:30 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

**PHONE:** (404) 633-6655

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★☆

By Michael Valente & Andrew Nelson

Contributing Writers

Buford Highway continues to host Atlanta's finest with Panahar Bangladeshi and Indian Cuisine, which is one of the best of its kind. Panahar keeps a low profile as an unassuming, unique experience into the rarely ventured cuisine and culture of Bangladesh.

The differences between Bangladeshi and Indian cuisine are not easy to distinguish. The spices were toned down a bit compared to most Indian restaurants' food, and there were fewer sauce-heavy dishes. Flavors here are earthier than the often sweet or fruity Indian dishes.

For lunch, which this is based on, the serving style was buffet; however, the quality of Bangladeshi and Indian restaurant buffets are better than American buffets and are a common sight for lunch instead of conventional table service.

Panahar presents a consortium of foods from a culture that most average Americans may not be too

familiar.

This buffet option offered at Panahar is a welcome relief to the new customer as the decisions are made for them and if one has a question, the staff is happy to help explain each item in the line-up in thorough detail.

The choices were split between the house soup, eight main dishes and a dessert/condiment cart with several chutneys. The house soup was a rich, thick and earthy soup that ends with considerable spice. It was offset, however, by the lighter main dishes which included tandoori chicken, egg curry, shaag paneer, goat meat and potatoes in a brown sauce and the staples, naan and rice.

The two desserts were laal-mohon (whey balls in honey syrup) and firni (spiced rice pudding). Out of all of these choices, the shaag paneer, a creamy spinach and cheese dish, easily outshined its neighbors in the selection with its great texture and taste. The plentiful, moist naan worked well to soak up the juices and bits left behind from the main dishes.

Panahar was appealing in that each dish brings a different style and the avid customer can get a variety of flavors to taste all on the same plate, but Panahar excels in the quality it brings to the entire buffet.

Panahar operates Tuesday through Sunday, with their lunch buffet from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and dinner table service from 5:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Takeout is also available. Reservations are highly recommended for dinner, considering the low capacity and frequent large parties.

# The Cape fails as melodrama

## TELEVISION

### The Cape

**NETWORK:** NBC

**WHEN:** Monday 9 p.m.

**STARRING:** Martin Klebba, Izabella Miko & Summer Glau

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★☆

By Hank Whitson  
Staff Writer

Looking for a superhero fix to tide you over until the Thor and Captain America movies? If you can forgive some terrible logic and occasionally cringe-inducing dialogue, NBC's *The Cape* might just scratch your itch.

The show has a healthy sense of humor in the spirit of golden age comics, and the titular superhero is a winning mix of Batman and Michael Chabon's *Escapist* from the novel *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*.

The show tells the story of Vince

Faraday, played by David Lyons, a doting family man and all-around good cop who is framed for the murder of the Palm City Police Chief by the masked super-villain, Chess, played by James Frain. While fleeing authorities, Vince is apparently killed in a televised explosion, only to be taken in by a merry band of bank robbing circus performers led by Max Malini, played by Keith David.

Amongst the carnies, Vince discovers a cape with special properties and decides to adopt the identity of *The Cape*, his son's favorite comic book superhero, to fight crime and right wrongs.

On his first outing, Vince runs into the enigmatic computer hacker Orwell, portrayed by Summer Glau, and the two team-up to take on corruption and villainy in Palm City.

It is a fun set-up with a lot of promise, but the show has its fair share of Kryptonite to overcome if it is going to go the distance. NBC is clearly courting *Heroes*' fan-base



Image courtesy of NBC

here, though *The Cape* is not nearly as sharp, polished or mature as the first season of that much-loved but ill-fated superhero show.

It seems like the writers can't decide whether they want to go for tongue-in-cheek campiness or preachy melodrama, and they awkwardly split the difference between the two.

See *Cape*, page 16

## Cataclysm from page 13

on.

Previously, the level cap was 80, but this expansion raises the cap to 85. Once a player reaches level 80, they are now given the choice of heading to Mount Hyjal, an important lore location throughout the series, to aid the druids in the fight against fire elementals, or heading to the island of Vashj'ir, home to the Naga, a race of serpentine underwater dwellers. Participating in these quest lines gives insight into more lore and follows Deathwing's rampage across Azeroth. There are also nine new heroic dungeons that offer new challenges for experienced players. For enough gold, players can fly on their flying mount in

all areas of the world which drastically cuts travel time.

For players who have not reached level 80 or might choose to start a new character, the *Cataclysm* expansion introduces two new races. On the side of the Alliance there are the Worgen; humans who become cursed when bitten by a werewolf. The new Worgen starting area is very neo-gothic, filled with dilapidated buildings and city squares where the sun rarely shines. Although the new race is a breath of fresh air, the starting quests are a little disappointing and attention to the storyline's details is lacking. On the side of the Horde, the new race are the Goblins. Quirky engineers with a Mafia-style attitude offer a comic relief with

their fun and crazy starting area. Some quests include stealing and tampering with evidence that are so ridiculous it's impossible not to crack a smile.

All in all, Blizzard's latest expansion included some much needed updates to the game experience. While there have been previous expansions that added new gameplay, the original areas stayed the same. Now, even veterans of the game can enjoy exploring the new areas and learning more about Azeroth through the detailed quest lines. They can even start a Worgen or Goblin and create a new playing experience. Except for a few, minor qualms, Blizzard has really enhanced the *Warcraft* series with its newest addition.



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why is angry birds more fun than physics?

just scared off some potential robbers across from NAS.

i'm done being a peach. back to the bean

Dear GT student who shot an armed robber today: Props to you, sir.

Finals always make me wish I'd tried ahrder on AP tests

Y did Darth Maul have 2 die?

it's funny that in the winter time, they put up signs to keep the doors close. But in the summertime, they don't, even though it's the same (but reverse) temperature difference

my roommate waited too long to do laundry so he had to wear dirty underwear over again

genghis kahn would have made a great starcraft 2 player

At this rate Tech football will be in first place in one thing, the longest bowl losing streak

Daniel McKayhan, I think you need to practice catching punts more often

fact: i'm not flirting with you--i just make eye contact with everyone i see

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# Blue Valentine offers realistic portrayal of love

**FILM**
**Blue Valentine**
**GENRE:** Romance Drama

**STARRING:** Ryan Gosling & Michelle Williams

**DIRECTOR:** Derek Cianfrance

**RATING:** R

**RELEASE DATE:** Dec. 29, 2010

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★☆

By Robert Solomon  
Contributing Writer

The poster for *Blue Valentine* is misleading. It shows Ryan Gosling's character Dean and Michelle Williams' Cindy in a passionate embrace, full of the hope that their burgeoning romance promises. Six years and one child later, this passion has evaporated, replaced by a quiet tolerance for less than ideal circumstances. The quiet does not last for long.

Set in two distinct time periods, *Blue Valentine* shows both the beginning and the ending of

their relationship. For a long time we only see the strained conversations, camera lingering on Cindy's worn uniform and Dean's paint-stained hands. It is not that the actors have aged visibly in appearance, apart from Dean's receding hairline. It is in the slowness of their actions, as they seem to move carrying an invisible burden.

This sounds intolerable and at times this strain is uncomfortable to watch, but it is executed in a manner that is forthright and authentic. Much of this credit goes to the performances by Gosling and Williams, who manage to not only portray the strain of a relationship at its breaking point, but also to show the relationship at its most exuberant.

It turns out that the poster might hold some truth after all. Sometime within the film, the scenes abruptly jump to six years in the past with Dean carrying roguish charm and Cindy holding eyes full of promise for her future. As Dean serenades Cindy with his ukulele, surprising Cindy with his talent, a mutual awe develops, bursting into the sort of love that

defies reason with its seemingly limitless happiness.

In these moments we forget the turmoil of Dean and Cindy's relationship, making the inevitable return all the more heartbreaking. More tragic still is finding the seeds for their eventual discontent within these happy moments. It becomes clear that Cindy fell in love with Dean for the man he could have become, while Dean remained content to be the man he already was.

It would be easier in a film like this if one character was deemed good and the other bad, but *Blue Valentine* makes no such allowances. Emotional manipulations occur on both sides. Yet, everyone around Dean and Cindy takes sides, pulling their conflict into a feeling of inevitability. As Dean and Cindy fight against their separation, one gets the feeling that it is as futile as fighting gravity.

In an attempt to patch their relationship, Dean and Cindy take an evening off from their child to go to a love motel. It is here that they drink and attempt to remember the spark that brought them



Image courtesy of NBC

together in the first place. The memories of their early romance come flooding in, but they do not comfort. Instead, they remind each other of how much they have both lost.

It is this feeling of loss that gives *Blue Valentine* its power. It may not seem positive, but it is never less than honest. One gets

the sense that this entire film was a labor of love by the filmmakers and the actors, and if their attempts to find truth sometimes strain it is never anything less than completely enthralling. For those who seek great cinema, it is mandatory viewing. For those who seek escapism, one might better look elsewhere.

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# Veterans Train steal show at Center Stage

## CONCERT

### Not So Silent Night

**PERFORMER:** Train, Plain White T's & Christina Perri

**LOCATION:** Center Stage

**DATE:** Dec. 14, 2010

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★

By Wayne Bishop  
Contributing Writer

On Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2010 people crowded into Center Stage in Midtown Atlanta for the *Not So Silent Night* concert. Performing on the evening were Christina Perri, Plain White T's and Train, in that order. The experience of the groups ranged from up-and-coming to established, giving the crowd a great diversity.

Headlining the show was Train, a rock band who returned from a three-year hiatus in 2009. Any concert attendant would not be able to tell this, however, as lead singer Pat Monahan played the stage and crowd like a well seasoned veteran.

There were several on and off stage antics made by Monahan. During the song "She's on Fire" he invited six girls from the crowd on stage to assist him. Later in the show during their performance of their latest single "Marry Me" Monahan hopped off stage and made a lap around the venue's pit while singing to many wide-eyed

crowd members.

Earlier in the night, Christina Perri opened the evening up with an intimate performance on the piano. She was accompanied on several songs by John Anderson who played guitar. She played four songs, ending with her first single "Jar of Hearts." She was able to bring out fine dynamics through simple instrumentation which engaged the audience quite well.

Following Perri was the Plain White T's, a rock pop group consisting of two guitars, bass, drums and lead vocals. Just coming off the release of their latest album *The Wonders of the Younger*, the group came on stage dressed in what appeared to be late nineteenth century war apparel.

This choice of clothing left many people in wonder until the chorus of their first song entitled "Irrational Anthem," giving some reason to the attire.

The band even began to break out of their pop rock mold with an extended guitar solo in their third song, "Big Bad World." More interesting guitar arrangements were found in their closing song, "Hey There Delilah." During this song, the two electric guitar players used electronic handheld devices in combination with their guitars in order to create a violin bow sound and were even able to harmonize the parts.

Plain White T's also performed songs that featured the vocals of their lead guitar player Tim Lo-



Photos by Basheer Tome / Student Publications

pez instead of their normal lead singer Tom Higgenson. Though a change from the average, it was a refreshing change for the crowd as he proved himself to be a capable singer himself.

After Plain White T's ended their set with their No. 1 hit "Hey There Delilah," the crowd patiently waited for the main draw of the show, Train, to come on stage.

Train came out with another five-piece set up including a guitar, drums, bass, keyboard and vocals. All the musicians showed proficiency and a good show, but musical talent and showmanship truly came out in Monahan.

During the end of the second song of the night, "Get To Me," Monahan hit a high note that would be difficult for even the

most experienced soprano singer to hit.

The group also played a good mix of former hits such as "Meet Virginia" in the beginning of the set and "Calling All Angels" midway through it. They played their early 2010 hit "Hey Soul Sister" closer to the end of the evening.

Upon ending and the band leaving the stage, the crowd waited patiently for an encore. Several minutes later, as if on cue, the band returned to the stage to play their first big hit, "Drops of Jupiter."

The crowd left the packed Center Stage with smiles on their faces. Though the night was filled with up-and-comers and veterans, the concert went without a hitch or flaw.

## Cape

from page 14

In fact, *The Cape* is at its strongest when it pokes fun at itself and subverts the familiar clichés associated with masked crime fighting.

There is a scene in the pilot where a wounded character gives a moving deathbed speech, only to realize in disappointment that he is not dying.

At the other end of the spectrum, there are moments of horrible logic that heavily tax viewers' suspension of disbelief, even when judged by the lax standards of superhero comic books.

These moments that are supposed to come off as heart-warming are not only pithy but contrived.

The acting will certainly not win any Emmys, but David Lyons makes a solid, if bland, leading man. Chess is the most generic villain television has seen in years, and James Frain's by-the-numbers performance does little to redeem him.

Keith David makes an engaging and likeable mentor, though he is hampered by some truly awful lines like "Either you wear the cape of the cape wears you!" Summer Glau's quirky charm is in full force, but her balletic and martial arts talents are wasted as *The Cape's* homebody computer hacker side-kick.

Superhero fans should give *The Cape* a watch at least once, but everyone else can afford to give it a pass at present. Hopefully the show will work itself out as the season develops.

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# THEME CROSSWORD: CLEANUP TIME

By Robert Zimmerman  
United Features Syndicate

## ACROSS

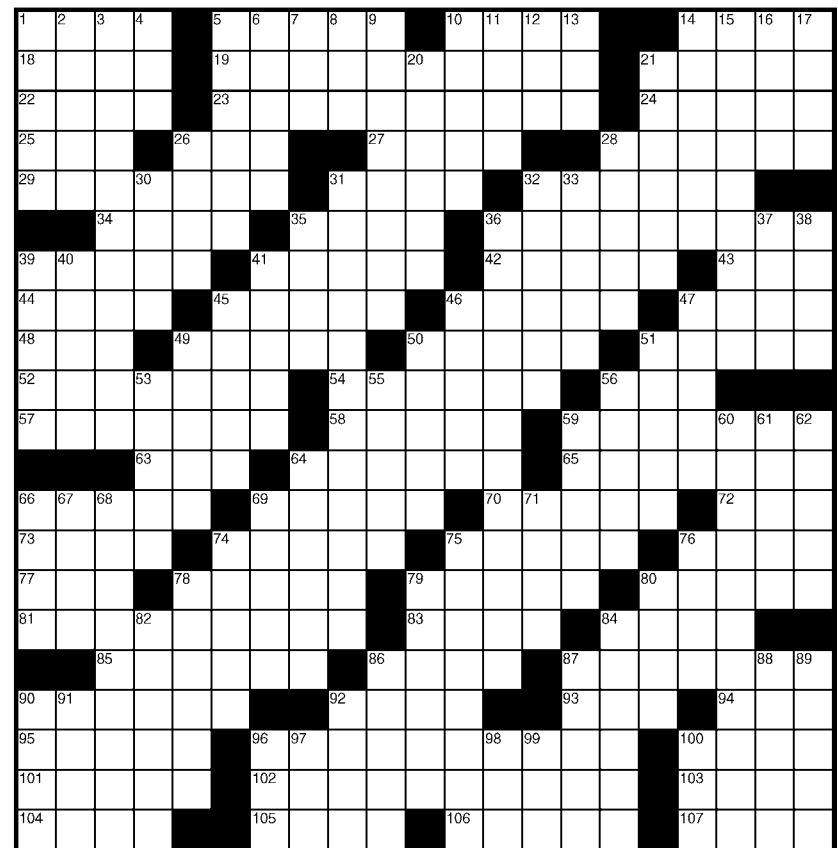
1. Pay
5. Of the cheekbone
10. Dozes
14. Govt. agcy.
18. Bruised
19. Entertainment mogul
21. Like some candles
22. Whim
23. Hardcover's cover: 2 wds.
24. Fur garment
25. Spy org.
26. Pediatricians: abbr.
27. "Yours, Mine and --"
28. Onion color
29. Belligerent
31. Quiet ones, idiomatically
32. Agitate: 2 wds.
34. Yesteryear
35. Red color
36. Dice-throw result: 2 wds.
39. Rashness
41. Like some siblings
42. Intemperate one
43. Mandible

## DOWN

1. Every -- way
2. Broadcast portion
3. Hash house: 2 wds.
4. Timetable abbr.
5. Mean
6. Regale
7. Successors to 78s
8. Op or pop
9. Jubilates
10. Mother-of-pearl
11. Boats
12. Noisy bird, for short
13. Dipsomaniac

44. Savoy or Lepontine
45. Makes, in a way
46. -- seal
47. Sub --
48. Vegas casino
49. "M\*A\*S\*H" role
50. Wipes
51. Devoutness
52. Hard variety of rubber
54. Trip of a kind
56. Money owed: abbr.
57. Trim on ceremonial garments
58. Pickle
59. Clerics
63. Conducted
64. Put on
65. Requiring endurance: 2 wds.
66. Publicists' cousins
69. Lulls
70. AstroTurf alternative
72. Lennon's widow
73. So-so marks
74. CSA president
75. Consecrate
76. British gun

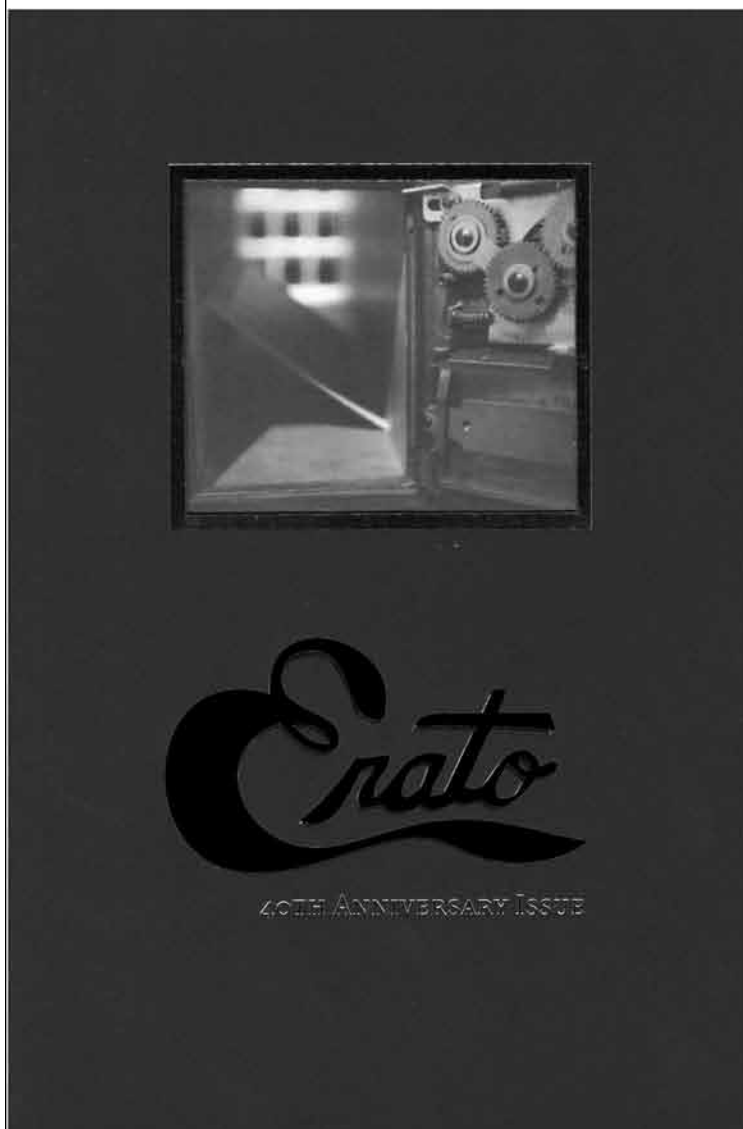
77. Word in place names
78. Superhero's sidekick
79. Sultan's decree
80. Ribald
81. Giving generously
83. Headland
84. Soft cheese
85. Energy-sector industry
86. Oh, woe!
87. With ruffles
90. Sets off
92. Stunt
93. "-- -- a Camera"
94. Stain
95. Peony part
96. Clint Eastwood movie: 2 wds.
100. Faction
101. Ridge among mountains
102. Magical command: 2 wds.
103. Oklahoma city
104. Trick
105. Part of NB
106. Asparagus piece
107. Senesces



53. Butler in "The Nanny"
55. Bums around
56. Higher-ups
59. Lunar phenomenon
60. Metal-joining process: 2 wds.
61. Adjusted
62. Hard
64. "-- Private Ryan"
66. Rights org.
67. Faculty head
68. Army buddies

69. Room in a luxury liner
71. Ohio players
74. Day or Roberts
75. Respires
76. Mizzen or moonraker
78. Cause irritation
79. Fillings
80. Deerstalker part
82. Buccaneer
84. Roller for inking
86. Insurance giant

87. Terra --
88. Gorme the singer
89. Exploits
90. Box
91. Where Arequipa is
92. Fingerboard ridge
96. "-- Carlo"
97. Investment opportunity: abbr.
98. Serpent
99. -- Dawn Chong
100. Kind of monster



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All members of the Georgia Tech community are welcome. The staff is responsible for reviewing and rating all submissions as well as providing input for the journal design.

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l... l...

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THAT'S STILL 50/50.

MY RESEARCH PROGRESS HAS BEEN LIKE A DECAYING SINUSOID.

Use of mathematical functions to describe everyday phenomena

$y = kx$

Time in school

I'LL TAKE THREE OF THOSE HOMEOMORPHIC TOROIDAL POLYHEDRONS.

YOU MEAN DONUTS?

NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY

HEY, JEFFREY... I NEED HELP SETTING UP MY DAD'S ANTI-SOCIAL NETWORK

LET ME GUESS... YOUR LAPTOP KEEPS SHUTTING DOWN, RIGHT?

UM... YEAH. HOW'D YOU KNOW?

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WAIT... Y-Y-YOU MEAN... GASP...

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EEEK!

LET'S BEGIN WITH A PRAYER OF THANKS TO THE ALMIGHTY...

CORPORATE FUNDAMENTALISTS

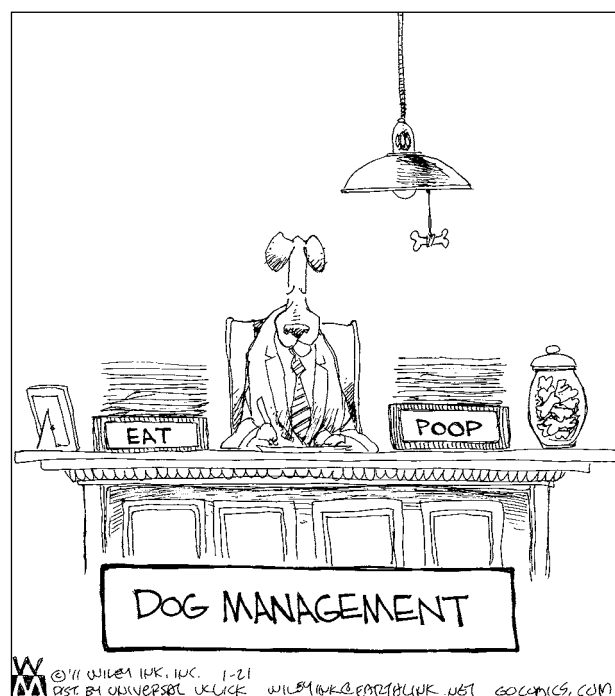
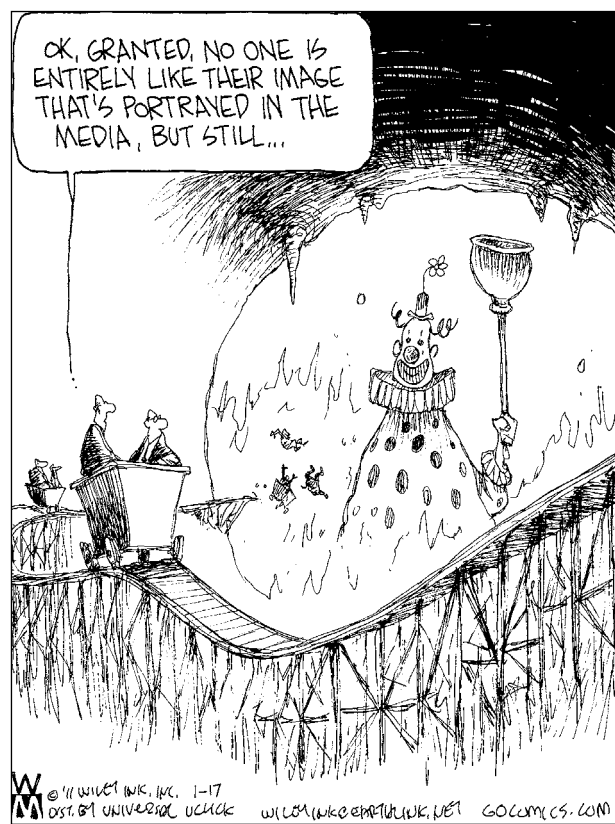
CROSSWORD SOLUTION FROM PAGE 17

W	A	G	E		M	A	L	A	R		N	A	P	S			U	S	D	A		
H	U	R	T		I	M	P	R	E	S	A	R	I	O			U	N	L	I	T	
I	D	E	A		D	U	S	T	J	A	C	K	E	T			S	T	O	L	E	
C	I	A		M	D	S			O	U	R	S					P	U	R	P	L	E
H	O	S	T	I	L	E		M	I	C	E		S	T	I	R	U	P				
		Y	O	R	E		P	U	C	E		S	N	A	K	E	E	Y	E	S		
H	A	S	T	E		O	L	D	E	R		T	O	P	E	R		J	A	W		
A	L	P	S		B	R	E	W	S		E	A	R	E	D		R	O	S	A		
R	I	O		R	A	D	A	R		D	R	I	E	S		P	I	E	T	Y		
E	B	O	N	I	T	E		E	R	R	A	N	D		B	A	L					
M	I	N	I	V	E	R		S	O	U	S	E		P	R	I	E	S	T	S		
			L	E	D		S	T	A	G	E	D		H	A	R	D	P	U	T		
A	D	M	E	N		C	A	L	M	S		G	R	A	S	S		O	N	O		
C	E	E	S		D	A	V	I	S		B	L	E	S	S		S	T	E	N		
L	A	S		R	O	B	I	N		I	R	A	D	E		B	A	W	D	Y		
U	N	S	P	A	R	I	N	G		N	E	S	S		B	R	I	E				
		M	I	N	I	N	G		A	L	A	S			F	R	I	L	L	E	D	
S	P	A	R	K	S			F	E	A	T			I	A	M		D	Y	E		
P	E	T	A	L		D	I	R	T	Y	H	A	R	R	Y		S	I	D	E		
A	R	E	T	E		O	P	E	N	S	E	S	A	M	E		E	N	I	D		
R	U	S	E			N	O	T	A		S	P	E	A	R		A	G	E	S		

OK...BUT IF YOU WANT YOUR MEMOIR TO BE A BEST-SELLER, YOU'LL NEED TO PUNCH IT UP A BIT

JONAH'S EDITOR

## Non Sequitur BY WILEY



## DILBERT® BY SCOTT ADAMS

