

ENTERTAINMENT

Technique • Friday, June 16, 2006

TECH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Students have many volunteering opportunities to choose from this summer such as Meals on Wheels. **Page 7**

GOLF WRAPS UP SEASON

Tech freshman Cameron Tringale finishes in individual top 10 as men's golf finishes the season. **Page 15**

We Are Scientists discuss tour, pop culture



Photo by Cici Chen/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS.

We Are Scientists frontman Keith Murray performs at the Tabernacle. Whereas original punk icon Sid Vicious cut himself and attacked the audience, Murray pushes other musicians down stairs for fun.

By Cici Chen
Contributing Writer

We Are Scientists are bent on tackling the world's ant epidemic. "Screw the oil prices, you can't even get into your car with all these ants everywhere," We Are Scientists said. When not busy battling ruthless insects, the trio spends their spare time playing catchy pop-rock.

Comprised of Keith Murray on lead guitar and vocals, bespectacled Chris Cains on bass guitar and backing vocals and Michael Tapper

on drums and backing vocals, We Are Scientists opened for Britain's beloved Arctic Monkeys at a sold-out show at the Tabernacle on Saturday, June 10.

Like a lot of American semi-indie bands (e.g. the Strokes, the Killers), We Are Scientists made it big in the U.K. before attempting the States: "Despite their Brooklyn heritage (and rather alarming facial hair), We Are Scientists could easily be mistaken for one of the exuberant British post-punk bands currently peppering the charts with infinitely

catchy suburban tales of booze and birds," says the BBC.

We Are Scientists have topped Britain's weekly alternative music magazine, the *NME*, with their single "Nobody Move Nobody Gets Hurt." They are set to play the UK's V Festival with the likes of Radiohead, Morrissey and Beck. So what kind of dirt can We Are Scientists offer about the stars of the UK music scene?

"I met Pete Doherty [ex-Libertines and Babyshambles frontman] at an awards show and pushed him

down the stairs. He didn't notice," Murray said of the Brit-rock idol who is currently more famous for his heroin addiction, no-shows, ex-girlfriend Kate Moss, scuffles with reporters, trips to the courthouse and shocking public antics than for his music.

"I also met Johnny Borrell and pushed him down the stairs. He got pissed," Murray said. Borrell fronts for *NME*'s gem band, Razorlight, who like We Are Scientists, also played at the Tabernacle last year.

Unlike We Are Scientists, Razorlight played to an impatient and taunting crowd.

Murray confirmed that it was the Arctic Monkeys who threw British digestive biscuits at a confused Borrell recently at the *NME* awards.

While heroin-addled rock stars weighing little more than 90 pounds might be a little too foreign, like blood pudding, to catch on as a trend in the US, We Are Scientists have not forgotten their North American roots.

Their blend of SoCal punk and British post-punk offers the crucial danceability of Canada's Hot Hot Heat with less abrasive vocals.

Hitting even closer to home, Murray reminisces about Tech parties, "giant slingshots and vodka-filled

watermelons" during his two years at Georgia State University before he transferred over to Pomona University in California.

Chris Cains attended Auburn for two years, perhaps to pursue his childhood ambition to "design and build the ultimate cube" before joining Keith in Claremont.

The band mates have identified Ludacris and Lil' Jon as their favorite rappers from Atlanta ("definitely crunk"). As far as their favorite songs to set the mood, We Are Scientists

recommend the following: "Let's Get It On" by Marvin Gaye, the theme from *Shaft*, "Let's Stay Together" by Al Green, the *Thundercats* theme song, and anything from the *Lord of the Rings* soundtrack.

"I met Pete Doherty at an awards show once and pushed him down the stairs. He didn't notice."

Keith Murray
We Are Scientists

Furthermore, WAS are experts at fun videos, collaborating with Akiva Shaffer, an *SNL* writer behind the "Lazy Sunday" skits. Always willing to give a fun response, WAS listed army recruitment videos and sex ed videos among their choices for most un-fun videos.

WAS delivered a strong first album and their good-times-all-the-time attitude helps make the band even more likeable.

For more from We Are Scientists see Q & A on page 11

Alert: Coup d'état at the EARL

Oakland-based duo Pam the Funkstress and Boots Riley comprise the politically-charged and fervently revolutionary rap group the Coup. They gained notoriety in 2001 for their album cover for *Party Music*, which depicted Pam and Boots blowing up the World Trade Center.

Controversy ensued and they replaced the image. But the Coup continue to stick by their socially conscious M.O. and refuse to be easily stereotyped or categorized. They will appear at the Earl on June 16. Doors open at 10 p.m. and tickets are \$10.

Screen on the Green goes classic

Not much has been said about the movie *Breakfast at Tiffany's* that hasn't been said before. Based off a novel by Truman Capote, it is a true classic of American cinema that inspired the song of the same title by '90s alt-rock one-hit-wonders Deep Blue Something. And who can lay their eyes upon Holly Golightly, played by Audrey Hepburn, and not get weak in the knees? *Breakfast at Tiffany's* will be playing at Screen on the Green in Piedmont Park on June 22. As always, admission is free and the movie starts at dusk.

Somersault explores regret, forgiveness

Cate Shortland offers an artistic look at a young girl's life

By Sharon Shin
Contributing Writer

Somersault, a movie by Australian writer and director Cate Shortland, stands out as a film because it forgets the recipe most screenplay writers use to produce a movie. The originality paid off as the movie won 13 Australian Film Institute Awards.

Shortland cuts straight to the chase in this story about sexual awakening, with one climactic sequence within the first 10 minutes of the movie.

The story begins with 16 year old Heidi (Abbie Cornish), kissing her mom's boyfriend, only to have her mom walk in on them a few moments later. She tries to explain her regretful mistake, but is shoved aside by her grief-stricken mom.

Heidi quickly runs away with nowhere to go, and thus begins a cycle of constant flirtation and one night stands with anyone who will give her attention. One man that leaves an impression is Joe (Sam Worthington), whom she meets at a lodge.

In the beginning, Heidi and Joe's relationship starts off as a casual fling. As the movie progresses, they begin to develop feelings for each other. However, Sam's detached personal-



Photo courtesy of Magnolia Pictures

Abbie Cornish stars as Heidi in the Australian coming-of-age film *Somersault*. The movie has won 13 Australian Film Institute Awards for its depiction of Heidi's life after she runs away from home.

ity eventually gets the best of him as soon as he gets too close.

In the end, Irene (Lynette Curran), a middle-aged woman who comes across Heidi, eventually convinces Heidi to contact her mom.

Irene's love for her son, who was locked away for murder, provides Heidi with the example that she can still find forgiveness from her mom, despite anything that has happened in the past. At the end of the journey, Heidi not only finds forgiveness, but herself as well.

The movie was mostly filmed in

monochromatic tones of blue, green and red. It gives an artistic feel to the

"The entire movie can be compared to a painting: very artistic, highly erotic and symbolic."

entire film. Each scene was shot with hand-held cameras, which allows the

actors to move freely, without forcing them to walk a specific path or move in a particular manner.

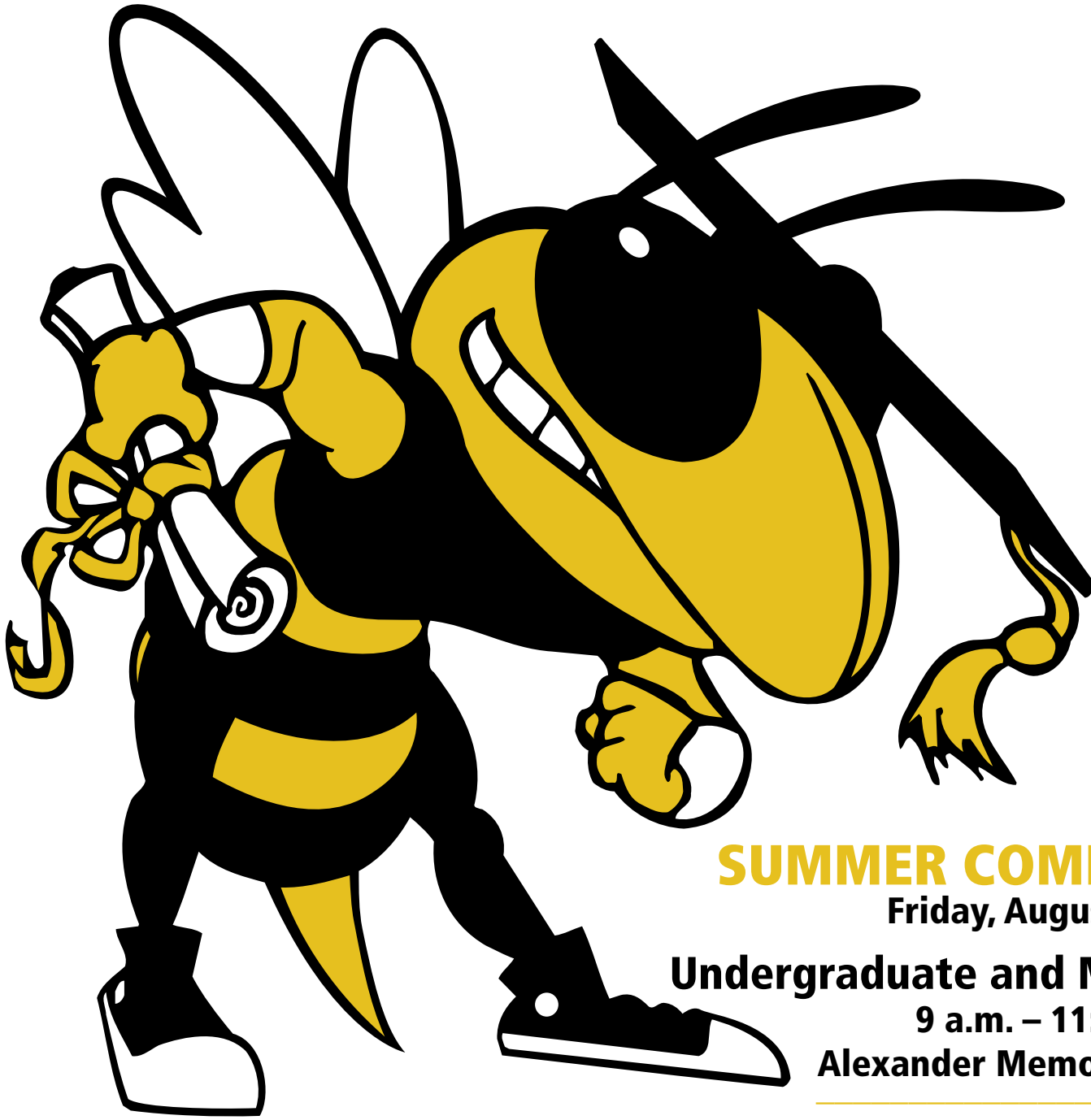
Shortland also includes shots that are seemingly insignificant but striking: water spouting from a drinking fountain, different shades of blue and red within a nightclub and leaves swirling through the air.

Final verdict? The entire movie can be compared to a painting: very artistic, highly erotic and symbolic. For those uninterested in well-made, artistically shot films, keep looking. This one's not for you.

GET READY FOR THE POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE YOU'VE EARNED!

Visit the official Georgia Tech Commencement Web page for important graduation information at:

www.gatech.edu/commencement



SUMMER COMMENCEMENT

Friday, August 4, 2006

Undergraduate and Master's ceremony

9 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Alexander Memorial Coliseum

PhD ceremony

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Ferst Center for the Arts

Don't forget to register to attend the ceremony by August 2. Registration must be completed at <https://oscar.gatech.edu> on the Degree Candidate Information page.



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Two Bits

Two Bits Man shares his diplomatic trade secrets

The other day I called my local pizzeria, and the first thing I said to the guy on the other end was, "I am having a problem with my pizza."

I used the present participle, "having," because I was staring at the pizza while I made the call, which at the time of the call made the situation an ongoing brouhaha.

I know what you may be thinking: "His pizza ate him." Or perhaps you are thinking, "Not again! He just had a fight with his pizza and they are no longer on speaking terms."

However, you would be wrong to think any of those things because I <3 my pizza.

While the pizza guy troubleshot the problem I was having with my food, I shifted my attention from the moderately good-looking pizza to the synopsis of the movie *Tristan & Isolde*, which I was trying to watch online.

The main point of the movie is that there were warring kingdoms back in the day, and in order to keep the peace, one of the warring parties gave away his daughter's hand in marriage as some kind of understood treaty in the form of a few pounds of flesh.

There is a love story some-

where, and maybe that's the main point of the movie. But I am mostly interested in the flesh-based treaty.

This kind of treaty was very popular at different times in the old days as a way of maintaining diplomatic relations between strong kingdoms. Sometimes, the treaties were between crazy kingdoms, which is a good thing because we don't need crazy wars. Let us all learn to keep our wars sane.

Fast forward to modern times. One of the disadvantages of democratic systems is that such treaties can't really exist

any more. At best, such a treaty would last four years, and four years is a short time from a long term point of view.

However, there may be times when even four years may be good enough. For example, if the world were on the verge of world war between two nuclear powers (say, the US and North Korea), I would absolutely recommend a marriage-based treaty. Now, read closely.

First of all, it will be helpful to paint a specific scenario. I will call the scenario the "Crazy Crisis". Again, I am using the US and North Korea as the countries on the verge. Second of all, after many diagnoses, it has been determined by generic experts that Zolof can not possibly help to calm the anxiety in the situation.

Therefore, I have been brought into the U.N. to administer my own brand of international policy.

I should also add that the Pentagon in this case is actually a Hexagon and the U.N.'s office is on the sixth side of said Hexagon.

The US president at the time of the "Crazy Crisis" is George W. Bush. North Korea's head of state at the time of the "Crazy Crisis" is, and this is a wild guess, Kim Jong-il. George Bush still has two beautiful daughters, which is great. Kim Jong-il has a son, Kim Jung-chul, who is about the same age as Bush's daughters. How perfect is that?

Anyway, so I am in the U.N. in the Hexagon, smoking my pipe and looking at my peace plan or what seems like a peace plan.

Here's my recommendation to the U.N. and consequently, the White House (note the strong

"Anyway, so I am in the UN in the Hexagon, smoking my pipe and looking at my peace plan."

words):

To Whom It May Concern:

In order to avoid impending doom and selfless acts of world annihilation, I recommend that Barbara/Jenna Bush be married to Kim Jong-chul. Then the couple should move to Switzerland while visiting North Korea and the U.S. every other month. Both parties will agree to be married for at least four years with the option of bilaterally renewing their marriage vows at the end of the fourth year. Good luck, Barbara/Jenna Bush. You are for lack of a better word, a patriot. Sincerely, Two Bits Man.

I have to say that that's a modern and elegant solution to a full-blown war. If any war will be fought, it will be between in-laws. I feel the need to say, "Damn, I'm good." And so was the pizza guy on the other end of the line; he offered me free pizza. Now that's what I call diplomacy.

A day in the life of indie rock stars We Are Scientists

'Nique had the opportunity to interview We Are Scientists (WAS) before their show at the Tabernacle on June 10.

'Nique: First off, what do you want me to write?

Keith Murray: We're the best footballers to ever kick a football. We make the Iron Monkeys look like chumps.

'Nique: You run a popular advice column on your website. What rock-star expertise can you offer to dateless Tech guys to land their dream date?

KM: Build yourself a wonderful woman.

Chris Cains: Yeah, but don't use parts of corpses. Check out *Weird Science* for processes that bear fruit. Or go gay.

KM: Maybe it's better just to fight it out.

CC: Girls are lesbians anyways. They're a miracle. (Jazz hands)

'Nique: Have you had any Crunk Juice?

CC: I've had too much Crunk Juice and there's a sexual assault lawsuit pending.

'Nique: How have you changed since college?

CC: We've only become monsters, totally corrupted monsters. We give lip service to ideals when it allows us to mislead young gir—more naïve people into traps.

'Nique: Treats of the profession? U.K. girls or American girls?

KM, CC: Too little experience to know.

'Nique: What are you looking forward to on this tour?

CC: When we can honestly say to

ourselves, "I am no longer a virgin." Isn't that right Keith?

KM: (Silence)

'Nique: What can you offer to entice people to come to your shows?

CC: We'll give you \$1,000 if you come. And have a cache of electric women that Tech guys can understand.

'Nique: What do you want fans to get from your music?

CC: Some sense of direction in their life.

KM: Yes, any sense of direction.

'Nique: What about non-fans?

CC: Pain, physical pain, literally a thorn in their side.

'Nique: The deaf?

CC: A sense of longing.

'Nique: What should people illegally download from you? The early stuff?

CC: Oh god, no.

KM: "The Great Escape," and there's other songs on our MySpace.

'Nique: When was the last time you were sad?

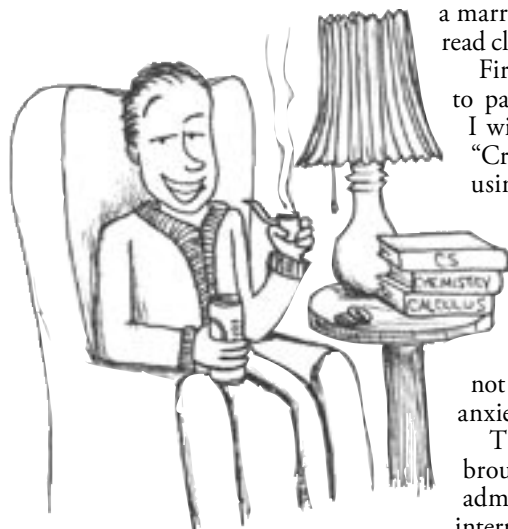
KM: Listening to "Everybody Hurts" by R.E.M.

CC: Listening to Nelly Furtado's "Promiscuous." It makes me sad that she's wheedling and cajoling so many other guys in the sack.

'Nique: Will the Scientists ever get serious?

CC: Only about having fun.

We Are Scientists' debut album is *With Love and Squalor*. Their latest single "It's a Hit" has just been re-released in the US.



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