

# ENTERTAINMENT

Technique • Friday, March 11, 2005

## NOT ABOUT PANCAKES

Tech's international house offers cultural experiences to those who might not be able to study abroad. Page 9

## THE BRITISH ARE COMING

After their album's success in the U.K., Kasabian is poised take America by storm with a U.S. release. Page 17

# Think radio sucks? You're not alone

## Indie band Hanson talks with the 'Nique about music revolution

By Hillary Lipko  
Entertainment Editor

If you think you know Hanson, think again. As Taylor Hanson, 21, stood on a chair on a makeshift stage in the courtyard of Georgia State University last Tuesday afternoon, shouting his frustrations about mainstream radio and music to a crowd of several hundred students, one could almost feel a shockwave tear through the crowd as he dropped one f-bomb after another.

"Did he just say f---?" one member of the audience said to a friend, surprised that a member of a band so many perceive to be squeaky clean just spat the ultimate in obscenities.

By the end of Taylor's furvored lecture and their brief two-song set comprised of "Strong Enough to Break" and "Penny and Me," songs from their third studio release, *Underneath*, the perceptions about Hanson held by many in the crowd seemed to change. "They're pretty cool," another audience member

commented.

The short acoustic set and college activist-style lecture in the courtyard was supposed to be the culmination of a two-hour interview spot on Georgia State's radio station, WRAS, but due to what proved to be a logistical snafu on the part of the station, the interview didn't happen. While Hanson may have gained a few

new fans at GSU that day, that was not their primary objective.

"We're just here—if you get into Hanson because you're like, 'Wow, that's cool...I didn't understand what they were saying,' maybe you get into [the band]. But it's not about that. It's about...creating a movement...saying, 'You know what? We're getting shit shoved down our throats by corporate media,'" Taylor said.

"It's specifically bad now, and there's this massive opportunity for us to support the better stuff like the new independent stores [on] the internet, college radio stations,

commented. The short acoustic set and college activist-style lecture in the courtyard was supposed to be the culmination of a two-hour interview spot on Georgia State's radio station, WRAS, but due to what proved to be a logistical snafu on the part of the station, the interview didn't happen. While Hanson may have gained a few

See Indie, page 16



By Paul Brown / 3CG RECORDS

Hanson visited Georgia State University last Tuesday to talk about the importance of college radio to independent music.

## Swan Lake to be performed at Fox

This weekend and the next, the Atlanta Ballet is staging a production of *Swan Lake* at the Fox Theatre. This weekend's show times are Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$21.90 to \$71.12.

## Too bad they don't sell textbooks

This weekend in Jim R. Miller Park, the Cobb County Public Library System is having a library book sale. The sale will feature over 100,000 used books and audio-visual items with prices starting at 25 cents. On Friday and Saturday, the sale is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

## Physical comedy meets basketball

On Saturday, March 12, Philips Arena will be playing host to the Harlem Globetrotters. You know the drill, some poor schmucks come out and get their rear ends handed to them in true comedic fashion by the official clowns of basketball, and everyone has a good laugh. The show starts at 1 p.m. and tickets range from \$15 to \$127.

# Tasty burgers can be found near, on campus



By Andrew Saulters / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Junior's is a great choice if you want a good burger and are on a budget. Located on campus it is convenient for any Tech student.

By Evan Zasoski  
Senior Staff Writer

We here at *Technique* have decided that there is a most critical piece of information which we have yet to impart unto our valued readership: where to get a decent burger in and around the greater Tech area. What follows is in no way, shape or form, a comprehensive list of the best burger places around, but it's a good start complete with mini-reviews for your reading pleasure. Enjoy.

First on our list is The *Vortex*, with locations both in Midtown and Little Five Points. The *Vortex* is what you might call a thoroughly

enjoyable hamburger experience. Averaging about \$7 for a burger and \$6.25 for a plain old original, it's definitely well beyond the range of your average Big Mac, but then again, you're not exactly going to an actual sit-down restaurant because you want something cheap that won't kill you.

The burger itself was, all in all, a fine slab of ground beef on a bun. It was large and, as all decent burgers should be, nice and thick. Also, the fries it came with were crisp and plentiful, and the toppings were fresh and, where applicable, crisp.

Also notable was their selection, easily the widest of the restaurants

surveyed. The *Vortex* is home to the theepicure's hamburger menu, sporting no less than 20 different types. There's more than enough variety to keep even the pickiest satisfied.

Probably the only really bad thing one could say about the *Vortex* is that, for its price tag, it tries a little too hard to convince you that it's secretly your own, personal dive.

The place is basically done in the style made popular by the Hooter's and Applebee's of the world, only the people behind The *Vortex* seem to think that if they just do it *more* they can somehow affect a sufficient degree of street cred.

Whatever, they can keep their tragically forced decor. So long as they keep making good burgers, I'm not one to complain.

Next up is the *Highlander* at the end of 10th St. which is a pub after the old English style, excepting, of course, its serious punk overtones. So, when all's said and done, it works out to be something more along the lines of some sort of commentary on the old English style.

Regardless, whatever they do works, and the overall effect is that of the local pub for the community of the tragically hip. But in a good way.

Unlike the *Vortex*, the *Highlander* is not primarily in the burger business. So, they've got a quite a bit less variety, but plenty of personality to spare. Their primary burger, one of only two, has quite a fairly nice feel to it.

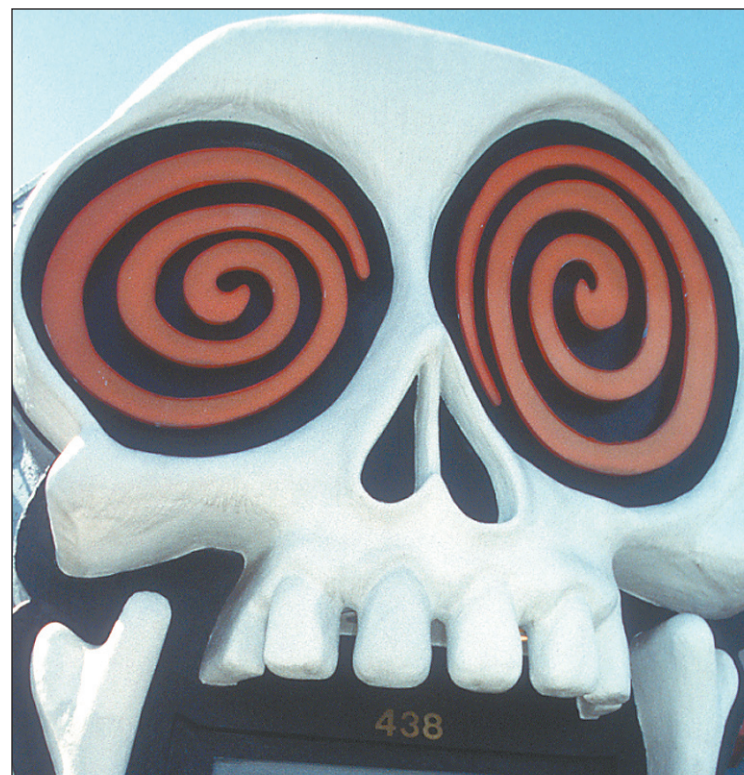
It's billed as a Cajun burger, apparently meaning that it's incrementally spicier than your average hamburger (though, in its defense, I'm known to have something of an iron tongue, so your mileage may vary) and that its preferred condiment is mayonnaise rather than good old fashioned ketchup.

Minor oddities aside, it's still a

great burger, if a little greasy and is well worth your valuable time. Plus it comes with steak fries covered in red pepper, which is a nice change of pace from the rest of the list.

The price tag here is, once again, not comparable to a fast food burger. My burger weighed in, yet again,

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By Andrew Saulters / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The *Vortex*, located in Midtown and in Little Five Points, offers a quirky atmosphere and a large menu of burgers.



# St. Petersburg Ballet dazzles audience at Fox



Photo courtesy Fox Theatre/

The St. Petersburg Ballet visited the Fox last weekend and performed three pieces that demonstrated the company's renowned talent.

By Darshini Nanavati  
Contributing Writer

The St. Petersburg Ballet performed at the Fox Theatre last Sunday. The ballet, directed by Yuri Petukhov, consisted of three separate pieces: *Chopiniana*, *Capriccio Italian* and *Scheherazade*. The pieces, composed of a variety of styles, made for a lovely, entertaining evening.

*Chopiniana* came from Chopin's Seventh Waltz. It is a popularly performed piece, written by Michel Fokine.

The first scene opened with many ballerinas struck in a pose of eagerness against an arboreal background. The eagerness of the beginning pose represents the Young Man's dream.

This piece is different from most ballets. The focus is not on plot or character growth but a developing theme and feeling. The music alternates generating an overall mood of peaceful dreaminess with moments of exuberance. The white dresses and the slow steps of the background

dancers added to the dreamy feel of the performance.

Though *Chopiniana* had a strong sense of theme and mood, it lacked a plot and color. The next piece, *Capriccio*, fulfilled these two components. It began with what seemed to be a vibrant and elaborate party. The curtains and candles displayed in a red and black background contributed to a formal theme. The dance steps were unique and catchy with an Italian touch.

The opening party continued, showing three drunken men who were soon paired up with female dancers dressed in green. Then, two more couples arrived in matching red attire. The main couple wore bold black clothing.

The dancers presented a truly fun and powerful performance towards the end of the play to surprise an already impressed audience. This piece received a standing ovation and seemed to be the favorite of the night.

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## Indie

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independent bands...live music," Taylor explained.

In a sense, Hanson is on a mission to mobilize college students to start speaking out about mainstream media. During breaks in their promotion of the international release of *Underneath*, Hanson is stopping at universities around the country, rallying a base of music fans to become active in an issue that has irked fans and musicians alike for years.

"There is music out there that's not being represented and whether [you call] up your radio station and [tell] them they suck, that they don't represent the people they think they're marketing to or whatever, it's just the idea of being active in music," Zac Hanson, 19, said.

"There's two ways you could go with it: you could go and...make sure you're telling the radio stations that 'We're not happy,' but I think the more important thing is to be proactive in the actual finding a new way to be searching out stuff," Taylor said.

The members of Hanson talked at length about the importance of the internet and independent radio in the proliferation of independent music. "College radio stations like the one that you guys have...are unique to the United States...and Atlanta is one of the only places in the United States where the [college] radio stations are as powerful as they are.

"You're really able to reach a lot of people and potentially have a lot of impact. And the value of that is you're able to do things that

other radio stations are not...because they're not interested in the fan perspective, whereas you guys actually are; you are the fans," Isaac Hanson, 24, said.

Citing some numbers regarding radio listenership, Isaac also explained how mainstream radio's audience has declined in the past six years as people are turning to alternate methods of getting the music they like. "[People] are discovering music, basically, through their friends...and in a big part through the internet in some form," he said.

Hanson, unlike many bands, sees the internet as a wonderful tool for promoting music and promoting lesser-known bands, and while they don't fully support what is considered to be illegal downloading, they do see why it is so common.

"I think downloading is both saving and killing the music industry at the same time...it's saving it by the audiences actually finding a way to discover music because the severely consolidated...industry has pushed diversity out the window," Isaac said.

Hanson also talked about how a band's website can provide more information and more content about a band and about their albums than liner notes ever could. Because you can often find out anything you'd ever want to know about a record's production credits on an artist's website, a quick search

for a band or singer can sometimes return some pretty interesting results, which could be considered a testament to the internet's power as a promotion tool.

"I looked up Ben Folds on the internet and all of the sudden William Shatner came up and I'm like, what the—Ben Folds produced the most recent William Shatner album. It's a great album.

"But that's something that could never have happened in a record store. Because all of a sudden [a search] pulls up all these references that relate to Ben Folds," Zac said.

Throughout the course of their interview with *Technique*, Hanson discussed technology, piracy, radio, the music business and their new independent label, 3CG. Toward the end, Taylor addressed the cancellation of that morning's radio interview.

"The radio station got really nervous and cancelled the appearance because they were afraid of fans being here and because a lot of people who are fans...who have been fans [started calling]...and that scared the radio station.

"That should be the norm for independent music, because passion is what you want. You want people who

are like, 'Damn, this does something for me. I'm excited about this; this is part of my life. This is part of who I am,'" he said.

To those who just can't seem to take the message or the issue seriously because it's Hanson that is

talking about it, Taylor had this to say, "I think a lot of people are like, 'What the hell? Hanson's talking to me about independent music? F—you.' [But] if you choose not to hear a message because you don't like the messenger, you're just shooting yourself in the foot."

## Applications for Editor-in-Chief

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# 11001011 TWO BITS 1010011

## Ramen key to surviving electric chair

A few weeks ago, I advised you that the best way to succeed at Tech was to skip class and clone your professors. Of course, back then, I actually cared about class. That must have been something like six weeks ago when I thought that getting educated was important.

However, as I sit in the Student Publications office, I stepped back and took a Zen look at whether or not I should go to my 11:00 class. Focus Editor Jennifer Lee gave me a resounding yes.

Though she's hiding under the guise that I should be a respectable member of society and learn something today, I think the real reason for her telling me to go to class is

that she just can't avoid listening to the overwhelmingly interesting conversation that I'm having with our Entertainment editor. I realize that it may seem like fun and games to be an unstoppable force of charisma, but ya know, sometimes I consider it a curse.

"No," I said, "If I went to that class, I would sit in the back, not take notes and play backgammon on my Palm. At least here I can write."

However, that's not really how it works. In theory I should be writing, but as I write this sentence, you can rest assured that

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probably be another five minutes before I write the next, because I have far more meaningful things to ponder, like how ramen can save your life.

For those of you who refuse to graduate (or are so bored at work that you continue to visit the *Nique's* website even after graduation), you probably remember several years ago when I declared spray cheese to be one of the greatest advances in human history. As I see it, it affords one all of the benefits of cheese in a convenient aerosol can. When I think of great human achievement, I had always viewed the top five as follows:

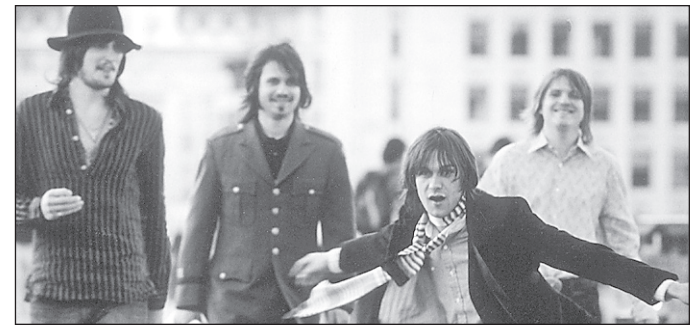
- 5) Fire
- 4) The Wheel
- 3) Spray Cheese
- 2) The Light Bulb
- 1) The Telephone

However, today's conversation in the Student Publications office has shown me the error of my ways. Ramen rises above spray cheese and bumps fire clear off the list. Though Lee asserts that Ramen is tasty, I see it as a far more powerful force than that.

If I ever get sentenced to the death penalty, I want my last meal to be ramen, and lots of it. In an idealized world (or at least in Texas), the theory is that humans are resistive enough so that the electric chair will kill them by electrocution.

However, in a very scientific study, with \$0.45 of ramen and a multimeter, electrical engineers have proven that just three packages of ramen have enough sodium

## Kasabian looks to be next British invasion with American debut



By Halley Espy  
Staff Writer

Overtly confident, electrifyingly innovative and brutally honest, Kasabian are poised to take America by storm with release of their self-titled debut album this past Tuesday.

Passionate and angry yet tinged with an edge of electric flair and transient dance beats, Kasabian fuses a unique sound reminiscent of Radiohead with elements of Prodigy and dance band Franz Ferdinand. Kasabian is redefining the essence of British rock. Signed by RCA to release their album and make a short tour of the States, Kasabian is not new to the music scene.

Enjoying a top-10 single in Britain accompanied by a platinum album and sold-out venues, Kasabian is hoping to find the same success in America.

Featured as 'The Next Big Thing' in *Spin* magazine last month and scheduled to perform on *The Late Show* in May, Kasabian continues their crusade to infect the minds of many with their indie-dance rock craze.

The first track, "Club Foot," fades into a single guitar-line, gaining momentum from flickers

of a heavy drum beat and takes off with an electric bass line and the strength of lead vocalist Tom Meighan.

"Processed Beats" is a mesmerizing track with a melodic flow layered with electronic dance beats.

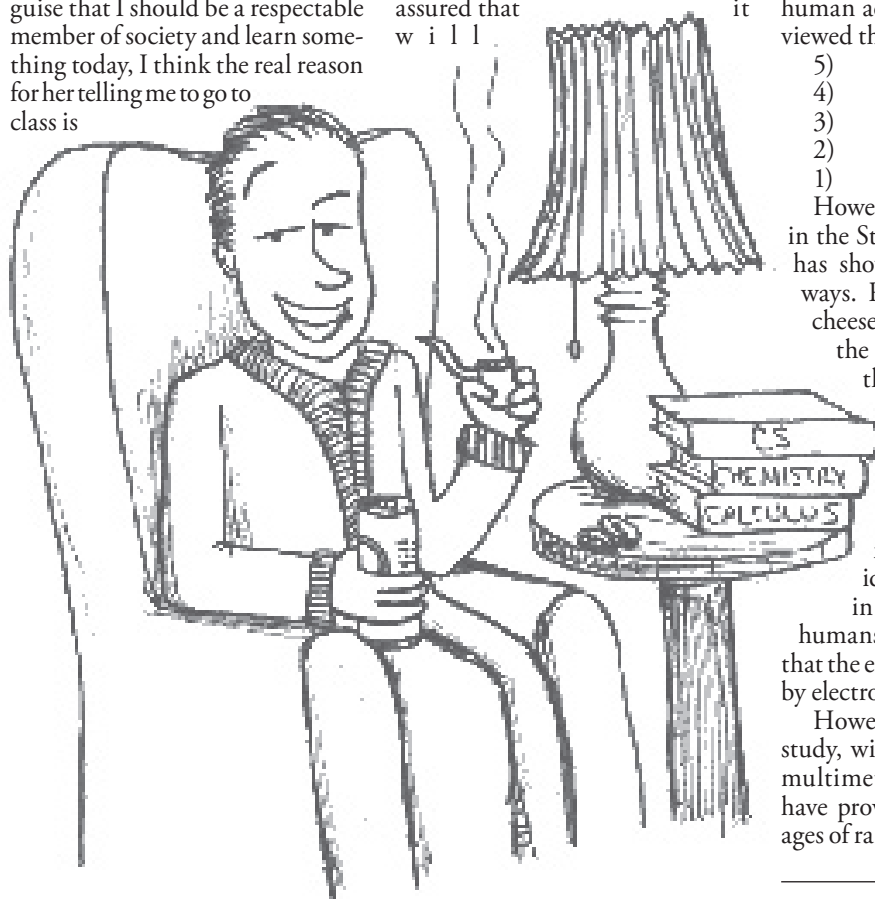
Displaying a dynamic range as musicians through each track, Kasabian captures an inventive style compounded with European electric-dance flair and heavy guitar rock.

The album ends on a disappointing note with "U Boat," which is devoid of energy and drags through a somber sound.

Working their way from a small suburban city to trans-Atlantic success, Tom Meighan (vocals), Sergio Pizzorno (songwriter, lead guitar, keyboards), Chris Edwards (bass) and Christopher Karloff (guitar, keyboards) know they have a good thing going.

Compared to Oasis, Kasabian has a long way to go to live up to the entrenched sound rooted in the lingering guitar patterns, the simple lyrics and the cliché rock star lifestyle.

Kasabian's self-titled album is a prized indie treasure looking to crack American mainstream.



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## Burgers from page 15

at \$7.25, with its veggie alternative being \$6.25. Still, it's not a bad price tag for such a good burger, especially if you've got some vegetarian friends.

Next on our list of must-dine hamburger cooking establishments is the pun-happily named **Jock's and Jill's** which is just a little ways east on 10th St. from Tech and a sports bar if there ever was one.

Pound for pound, this one probably gives you the least overall bang for your buck, which is not to say that the burger isn't still worth checking out.

The first major strike against Jock's and Jill's is that they don't have free parking. It's entirely possible to blow five bucks before you've even gotten your drinks if you come at the wrong time.

Once you're in the door, there isn't a whole lot to alleviate the throbbing pain in your wallet. Their basic

burger, the "All American," costs \$8.25 (\$7.75 if you specifically ask for no cheese), and on average their offerings are going to run about \$9 each. So come ready to spend some money.

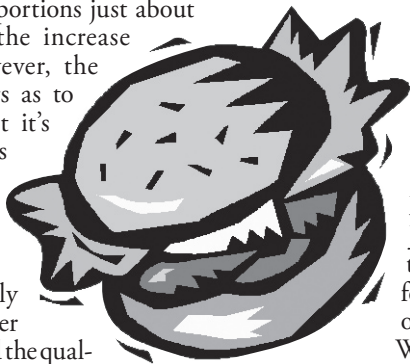
Granted, the burger itself is quite good, and the portions just about make up for the increase in price. However, the question lingers as to whether or not it's a whole dollar's worth of extra food over the next highest competitor.

It's definitely the biggest burger of the crowd and the quality is top notch, but if it weren't for this last point, one would be hard-pressed to include Jock and Jill's on this list.

The big thing this place has got going for it is that it's a sports lover's paradise. At any given moment, every major sporting event of the

day will probably be playing on the restaurant's seemingly infinite number of TV screens.

Jock and Jill's is definitely the restaurant on this list that most appeals to not only the meat-lover in you, but also to the sports nut.



Ah, **Junior's**. If our other three entrants are the connoisseur's red meat eateries, then that would have to make Junior's the restaurant of choice for the carnivore on a budget.

When you consider that a regular old burger basket there will run you a whopping \$3.95—that's including the drink, by the way—it's not hard to see how you could walk out of Junior's having paid less than half what you would have at the other three.

Also, looking at the quality of

their burgers—solid, but with an expected drop from the ones that you have to drop nine bucks for.

With their poor man-friendly prices, it's not hard to see that Junior's just took its more natural competition, McDonald's, Burger King and that ilk, and kicked them right in the proverbial face.

Unless you're so broke that you're living off the dollar menu, Junior's is by far the most natural choice for good but cheap hamburgers.

Finally, Junior's is well within walking distance from nearly anywhere on campus, particularly East Campus. This makes it the ideal eatery for freshmen and just about anyone else without a car or who doesn't want to pay for gas.

That is, of course, unless you'd rather suffer through yet another evening of dining hall food, but that's your call.

Did your favorite burger joint fail to make our list? Tell us what you think: [nique@gatech.edu](mailto:nique@gatech.edu)

## Ballet from page 16

The last performance, *Scheherazade*, consisted of two strong story lines. It was an adaptation from the popular book *Arabian Nights*. Sultan Shahriar has the tradition of marrying a new girl every night and beheading her the next morning. In the story, one girl avoids her death by storytelling. Her suspenseful stopping points keep the sultan from killing her each morning. Although *Scheherazade* seemed prolonged towards the end, the crowd enjoyed it. It included a well-developed plot and impressive choreography. Overall, the three pieces performed by the St. Petersburg Ballet nicely demonstrated the grace, talent and meticulous training that has made the ballet company so renowned around the world. While they were in Atlanta for only one night, they are certain to return sometime in the future. When they do, the show is certainly worth catching.

### TECHNIQUE

#### scavenger hunt

### ENTERTAINMENT CLUE:

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Olympics.**

FOR CLUE #1, SEE PAGE 2

Bits

from page 17

in them to make humans superconductive. If I were sentenced to death, I'd ask for a case of ramen. When the masked man threw the lever, I'd blow a fuse and knock out power for five blocks.

Now, for you legal scholars out there, you know that if someone survives the death penalty, they're free. So, I'd stand up, smile and ask the executioner for cab fare.

Then Miramax would make a film about my life story. From my humble roots as a *Technique* columnist to the feature film, *My Life as a Superconductor*, the world would truly know the glory of how Two Bits Man outfoxed Texas.

But there are skeptics among you. Within 10 minutes of this paper hitting stands, someone in Van Leer will have bought a case of ramen and has a laboratory power supply and multimeter hooked up ready to test the veracity of my claim. To you Mr. or Ms. Skeptic, I can only say, "Ha! My research got published first!"

By the time you get your sidebar in *IEEE Spectrum*, millions of *Technique* readers worldwide will be committing crimes and saving themselves with ramen, and your piece will be as well read as a human interest piece on Carrot Top's hairstylist.

Of course, I'm not ready to try this any time soon. I'm trying to graduate, and as long as I've been here, I need to escape quickly, and they say that death row takes a while. At any rate, my advice couldn't hurt. Until next week, this is the Two Bits Man waiting for his ramen stock to rise.

By Robert Zimmerman  
*United Features*

ACROSS

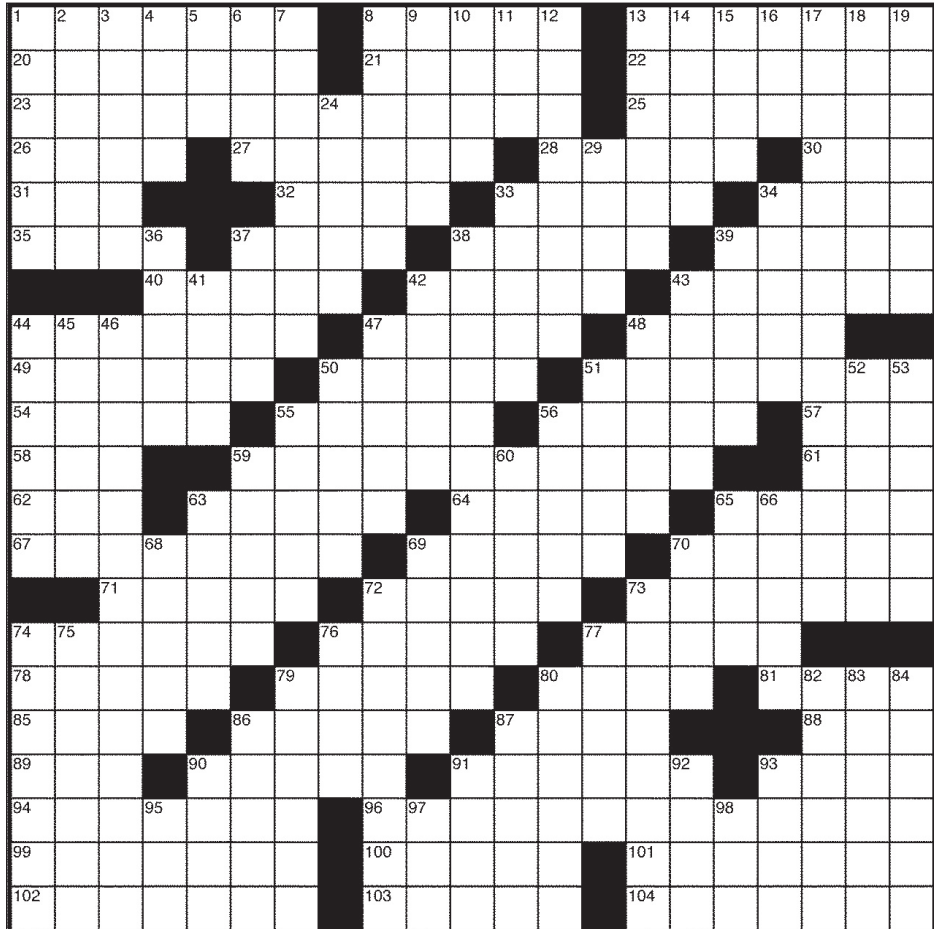
- 1. The "Heart of Dixie"
- 8. Thoughts
- 13. Prepared for frying
- 20. The least
- 21. \_\_\_ Gras
- 22. Rate anew
- 23. Jack Aubrey's creator
- 25. Fringes
- 26. Oklahoma city
- 27. TX-LA river
- 28. Potter's purchases
- 30. Designation of some kings
- 31. Remote button
- 32. High tosses
- 33. Pie serving
- 34. Sediment
- 35. To be, in Rome
- 37. Issue a ticket
- 38. Hunt illegally
- 39. "The Planets" composer
- 40. ABC's \_\_\_ Arledge
- 42. It's for the birds
- 43. Narrow-minded ones
- 44. Industry mogul
- 47. Instruction to tailor
- 48. Column style
- 49. \_\_\_ Fidelis
- 50. Layers
- 51. Legendary lover
- 54. Madcap comedies
- 55. One feeling hostility
- 56. Pluck the strings
- 57. "Delta of Venus" author
- 58. \_\_\_ diem
- 59. Late-night talker
- 61. Show agreement
- 62. Drag
- 63. More wily
- 64. Racetrack characters
- 65. Archaeologist's find
- 67. Election-day news source
- 69. Doctrine
- 70. Carpenter, at times

- 71. Mountain ridge
- 72. Baby's complaint
- 73. Volcanic minerals
- 74. Show bad posture
- 76. Thwarts
- 77. Wood for furniture
- 78. Movie-set chores
- 79. Newfoundland Isle
- 80. Athletic org.
- 81. Latin I verb
- 85. Regretful one
- 86. See 49 Across
- 87. Skiff propellers
- 88. \_\_\_ dien: Welsh motto
- 89. Wrath
- 90. Turku natives
- 91. How 65 Across might be found
- 93. Crucifix inscription
- 94. Microwave setting
- 96. Dublin-born songstress
- 99. Give meaning to the law
- 100. The pits
- 101. Symphony player
- 102. Loud one of legend
- 103. Blue Angels maneuvers
- 104. Lean

DOWN

- 1. Current unit
- 2. Tropical vines
- 3. Cut-ups behavior
- 4. Badminton piece
- 5. Faubourg friend
- 6. Some computers
- 7. Battery type
- 8. Drink
- 9. Restores toes and heels
- 10. One of the Greats
- 11. Dentists' org.
- 12. Lewis of Sauk Centre
- 13. Break, as a contract
- 14. Color anew
- 15. Urges: with "on"
- 16. Christina's Dad
- 17. Irish nationalist, b. 1775
- 18. Most nervous
- 19. Discontinues
- 24. One-time Uganda presi-

THEME CROSSWORD: OH?



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- dent
- 29. Tiny pests
- 33. Painful places
- 34. Enter a record
- 36. Director \_\_\_ Lubitsch
- 37. Dove's retreat
- 38. "Lord Jim" on film
- 39. Ohio college
- 41. Grain for breakfast
- 42. ET, e.g.
- 43. Deck officer
- 44. Christie detective
- 45. Ta-tas in Tours
- 46. "Cow's Skull" painter
- 47. Pledging place
- 48. Takes a risk
- 50. Jury list
- 51. Miss Rivera
- 52. Wild flower
- 53. Apollo 8 astronaut
- 55. He knew the rules
- 56. Firing line expert?
- 59. Textile
- 60. Phony
- 63. Contractor's paperwork
- 65. It may be in an editor's mail
- 66. Fit for a princess
- 68. More faithful
- 69. Recruit routine
- 70. Zilch, in Zaragoza
- 72. Really big
- 73. Rocket's departure
- 74. Paces
- 75. Yves St. \_\_\_
- 76. Royal or maidenhair
- 77. Bitter
- 79. Palaver
- 80. Some pronunciations
- 82. Driver of "Grosse Pointe Blank"
- 83. Down's complement
- 84. Tank tops
- 86. "The \_\_\_ Kid"
- 87. Tie score
- 90. Benning or Bragg
- 91. File contents
- 92. Westwood campus
- 93. Crossing borders: abbr.
- 95. Director \_\_\_ Howard
- 97. \_\_\_ Jima
- 98. Unconscious

See Solutions, page 20