

ENTERTAINMENT

Technique • Friday, September 16, 2005

NEED PROOF?

Anthony Hopkins plays a man of incredible genius slowly being eaten away by his flagging mind. **Page 18**

CLOUGH TALKS TULANE

President Clough addresses the Faculty Senate about Tulane students enrolling in Tech. **Page 5**

Bang tackles all of history in single night

By Siddhartha Parmar
Contributing Writer

What does a conversation between The Virgin Mary and Mrs. Gandhi have in common with Cleopatra or even the Antebellum South? *The Big Bang*. No, not the

“How did history’s greatest stars really feel about their lives? Did The Virgin Mary have the same maternal problems as Mrs. Gandhi? Would Cleopatra spend most of her time governing Egypt or gossiping with her fellow divas?”

Big Bang that created the universe but *The Big Bang* that is playing at the Horizon Theater in Little Five Points.

It has been called “Mel Brooks’ *History of the World Part 1* meets *The Producers*,” which is a very fitting description.

The setting involves two producers who are trying to get financial backing for their musical comedy, the *Big Bang*. As “the most expensive Broadway musical ever written” it calls for \$83.5 million with a cast of hundreds of people.

In order to get the necessary financial backing, the two producers



PHOTO COURTESY HORIZON THEATRE COMPANY

Two wannabe producers give an impromptu reenactment of the story of Adam and Eve in an attempt to secure funding for their show.

must present the entire play in a Park Avenue apartment to the financiers, played by the audience.

After wrapping your head around the premise of the play, everything else falls into place. It starts out with original sin and ends prematurely at the beginning of the 20th century.

Normally, a play about the history of the world would not be a big deal, but *The Big Bang* is unique in its

comedic portrayal of history.

How did history’s greatest stars really feel about their lives? Did The Virgin Mary have the same maternal problems as Mrs. Gandhi? Would Cleopatra spend most of her time governing Egypt or gossiping with her fellow divas?

The entire play is a fast-paced musical with hilarious lyrics and great music. Because the producers

are rather poor at the time of their show, they are forced to use their imagination and make use of household objects on their set. Anyone can use a bed sheet to make a toga, but how about using two umbrellas to make a Scarlett O’Hara-style dress? Or getting the Colonel Sanders look by using white shaving cream? Or, best of all, using a lamp shade to make a crown?

The Big Bang is definitely worth checking out. Tickets are reasonable at around \$20 and the play runs till Nov. 19.

The theater’s atmosphere fits perfectly with this play. Everyone gets a great seat, and it allows the audience to fully participate.

As is usual for Little Five Points, the staff was well-informed and friendly. During intermission, they even serve cookies and wine and ask for feedback about how their show

“Anyone can use a bed sheet to make a toga, but how about using two umbrellas to make a Scarlett O’Hara-style dress? Or getting the Colonel Sanders look by using white shaving cream....”

is going.

If that isn’t enough to entice one to head down to the Horizon Theatre, a portion of the proceeds are going to aid the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Journey into past, future

Pander to that deep dark part of you that loves ‘80s hair bands. You know that it calls to you. Failing that, just take your mom to relive her high school days, terrifying and horrible though the sight of it may be. Chastain Park Amphitheatre is hosting “An Evening with Journey: Back...and Into the Future” tonight at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets cost \$34-59. Your acid wash jeans are just itching to get worn.

Heal the Hood Relief Concert

Join Nelly, David Banner, 8 Ball, MJG and others tomorrow night at Philips Arena for the Heal the Hood Hurricane Relief Concert. The music starts at 7 p.m. and the whole event is hosted by Lil’ John.

Ticket prices are \$25, \$40 and \$100 with proceeds going to the relief effort in southern Mississippi, southern Alabama and New Orleans as well as to the thousands of evacuees in Atlanta, Arkansas, St. Louis and Texas.

Shake your groove thing, yeah yeah

Get your soul music fix tomorrow night at Chastain Park Amphitheatre with the ‘70s Soul Fest. This retro festival will feature the Manhattans, Dells, Chi-Lites, Dramatics and Stylistics. The music starts at 7 p.m. and tickets cost from \$33.75 to \$53.75.

Come by and get a tree or two

You might not be too worried about it now, but in a few months Tech is going to turn brown and dreary. To combat the winter blues, it always helps to have a plant or two around and the Fernbank Science Center has just the thing. Tomorrow from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., they’re holding their Fall Garden and Plant Sale. It doesn’t cost a thing to go take a look and they’re offering native plants, trees, shrubs and perennials to good homes. All they need is a little water and some love.

Walk like an Egyptian

The Michael C. Carlos Museum at Emory University is hosting “Excavating Egypt: Great Discoveries From the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, University College London,” until Nov. 27.

The exhibit features antiquities from the collection that was established by Egyptologist William Matthew Flinders Petrie. The exhibits hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. Admission is \$7.

Serene Republic turns out great album

Kenneth Baskett
Contributing Writer

There are few times when a band debuts with an album which renews my faith in new artists. New bands all too often fall into the trap of not innovating.

They pick the popular sound of the time and forget that music should be exciting and different. And you can forget about them actually being good musicians.

That is why I couldn’t believe my ears when I heard The Most Serene Republic’s (TMSR) debut album *Underwater Cinematographer*.

T M S R, whose members are Adrian Jewett, Ryan Lenssen, Nick Greaves, Andrew McArthur, Adam Nimmo and Emma Ditchburn, are at once skilled musicians,

talented lyricists and experimental arrangers. Not what one would expect from a group of recent high school drop outs.

However, listening to this CD is akin to having a child run up and kick you in the butt, and then smiling innocently as if he’s done nothing.

“Perhaps the best song on the album is ‘Proposition 61.’ Rather than dwelling on the themes of love and happiness present on the rest of the album, this song recounts a painful experience at a party.”

Seemingly, that is the attitude they took making this record. The playfulness of each track allows it to fly in under the radar. And then it hits you, did I just hear what I think I heard? Thankfully, the answer is yes every time.

Many words can describe TMSR’s sound, but the one that serves best is “full”. Almost

every song is brimming with guitars, drums, electronic effects, piano, and Adrian Jewett’s unnaturally high lyrics.

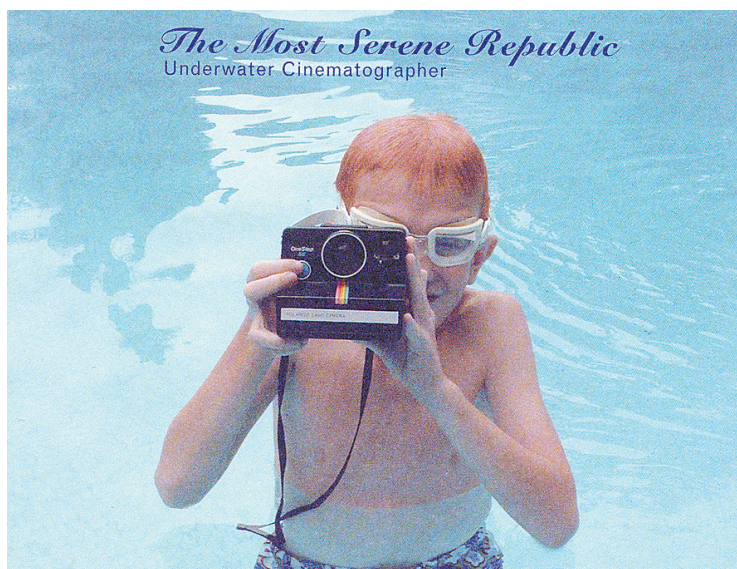


PHOTO COURTESY ARTS & CRAFTS PRODUCTIONS

The Most Serene Republic’s debut album, *Underwater Cinematographer* makes for a surprisingly good musical experience.

Herein lies one of the album’s problems. All of the songs are so rich musically that they sometimes cover up other important parts, like the lyrics.

Perhaps the best song on the album is “Proposition 61”. Rather than dwelling on the themes of love and happiness present on the rest of the album, this song recounts a

painful experience at a party.

For this track, Jewett trades in his normally soft choral sound for a spoken word approach.

Instead of using elaborate percussion and huge layered arrangements of guitars and synthesizers, they use one synthesizer and an

See Republic, page 19

Proof paints bittersweet portrait of math genius

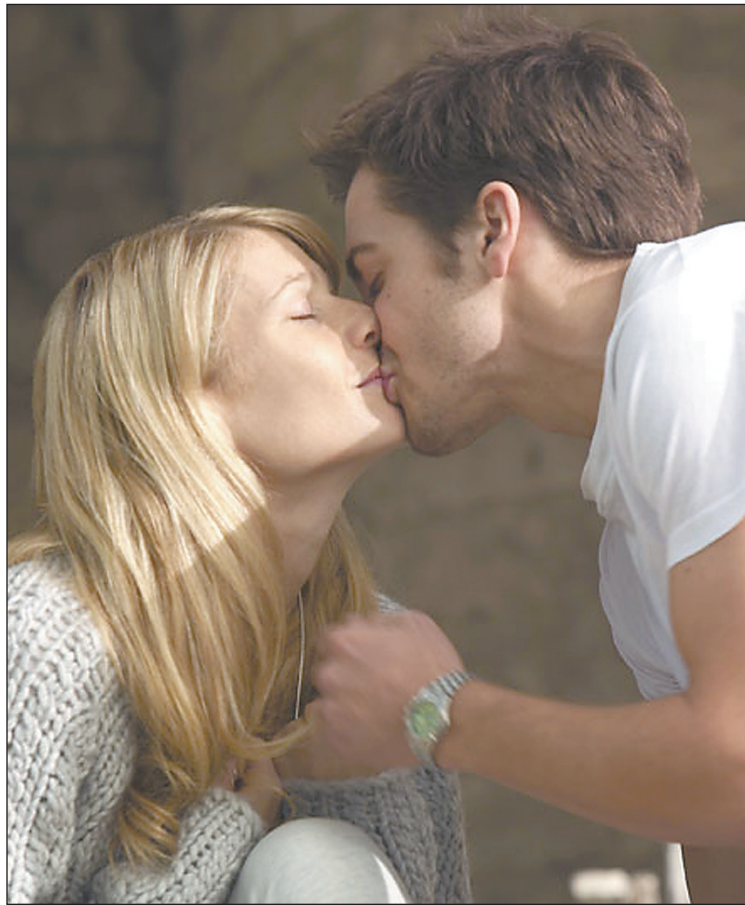


PHOTO COURTESY MIRAMAX FILMS

Gwyneth Paltrow and Jake Gyllenhaal find love in the wake of the death of Paltrow's character's father, a mentally disturbed genius.

By Priscilla Revis
Contributing Writer

As intellectuals perpetually burning the "midnight oil" here at Tech, many of us fantasize, as a puddle of nap time drool forms on several pages

of calculations that have taken several hours to complete, that we will have that one earth-shattering moment in which our tireless endeavors will generate the epiphany of a lifetime: a contribution so huge and utterly remarkable that we will revolutionize

a way of thinking that is hundreds of years old.

Such are the sentiments conjured up in one's mind after seeing *Proof*. Set in the a chilly autumn in the Windy City, it stars Gwyneth Paltrow as the angst-ridden mathematical genius Catherine so much like her brilliant but mentally disturbed father (Anthony Hopkins) and Jake Gyllenhaal, sporting an unshaven look unseen in his *Donnie Darko* days, playing Howard, an eager and kind grad student who labors over his mathematics looking for his big "break" into the published world.

Hope Davis plays Paltrow's estranged, perky, "to do list" obsessed sister whose interference is not only a day late and a dollar short, but ill-founded and a major source of contention.

After her father's death, Catherine must endure the frequent visits of Hal, as he prepares to go through all of her father's notebooks in hopes that during the last years of his mental demise Catherine's father perhaps continued to develop elegant proofs of pure mathematical genius, as he once had produced in his earlier days.

Catherine's sister arrives home to Chicago to attend to the funeral and her sister.

As tension mounts between the characters, it soon becomes evident that maybe the father was not the only mathematical genius in the family: Catherine had developed an exquisite proof while caring for her father in his disturbed later years.

However; the cutting irony of the whole matter is that there isn't any proof that she wrote this ingenious mathematical piece of material.

to the mental illness of their father, and that Hal wants "proof" that it is her work—a total breach of trust and faith.

"Proof is a fast-paced emotional roller coaster that makes the audience genuinely feel for the problems and frustrations of its characters."

Catherine must deal with the inner turmoil of knowing she did her best work when her father was slowly fading away, that her sister is convinced that she is succumbing

Proof is a fast-paced emotional roller coaster that makes the audience genuinely feel for the problems and

See **Proof**, page 23



PHOTO COURTESY MIRAMAX FILMS

Anthony Hopkins, who could probably turn taking an afternoon nap into a filmworthy endeavor, plays an aging mathematical genius.

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acoustic guitar, along with plenty of hand clapping and even a human beatbox.

"King of No One" is a sparsely arranged song, which essentially puts the listener into a huge group of people, like a park or a mall food court, through the excellent use of background effects.

The last song before the epilogue

"'King of No one' is a sparsely arranged song, which essentially puts the listener into a huge, like a park or a mall food court, through the excellent use of background effects."

on the record, "You're A Loose Cannon McArthur... But You Get The Job Done" sounds completely different from the rest of the album.

After hearing a man call to a woman, "Wait, there's this one more thing," the song explodes into a musical tour de force, bringing the listener to a state of sadness when it ends three minutes and 41 seconds later.

Overall, this is a commendable debut album. It is by no means perfect. The skill displayed by the band, however, definitely makes them one to watch.

Is this album worth buying? For most no, it is not. If you're not into Indie rock or you're left shaking your head at some of the excerpts, TMSR is probably not for you. However, if you know what I'm talking about or you just like new music, buy this album. You won't be disappointed.

Two Bits

Two Bits Man marvels at the spectacle of women trying to decide what the hell to wear

Last week, my girlfriend had a bit of a vacation—owing to the fact that her school was more or less blown away by the hurricane*—and she decided to spend her time off with none other than yours truly. This occurrence allowed me the hardly unique opportunity to observe a curious female ritual, one full of great woe and of me repeatedly saying things like, "No, you don't look fat in that dress."

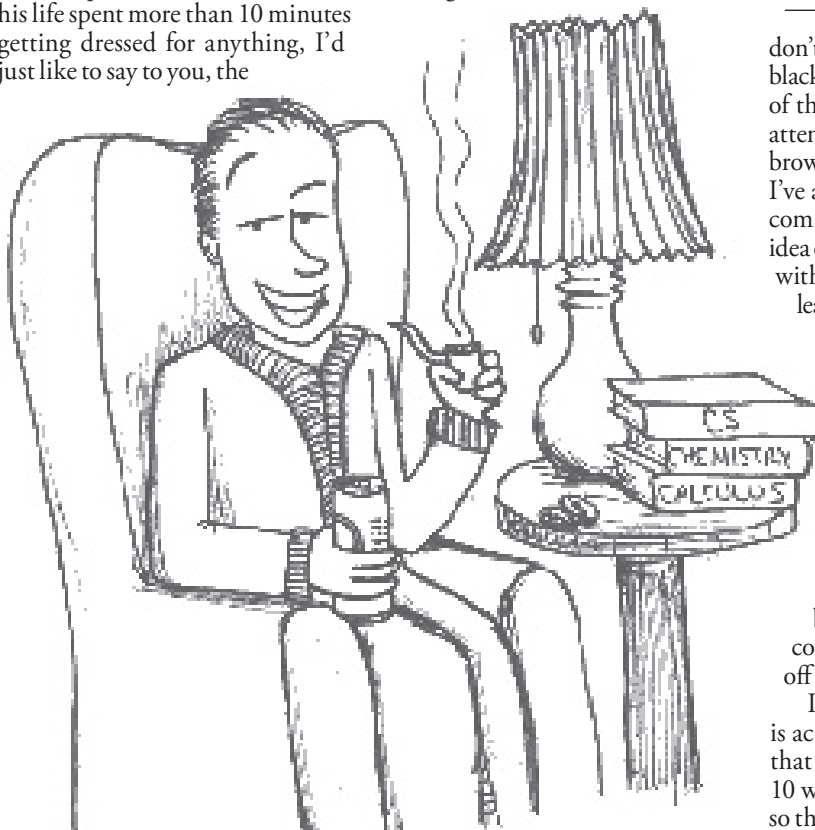
I speak, of course, of watching (I would have said "helping," but let's face it, she may have said she was asking for my opinion, but really she just wanted to make sure that I hadn't escaped) my girlfriend pick out an outfit for a wedding that we had to attend.

As a person who has never in his life spent more than 10 minutes getting dressed for anything, I'd just like to say to you, the

women of the world: what the hell is wrong with you? How do you even get out of the house in the morning?

Have you ever heard of those people who have had a specific sort of brain damage where their left and right hemispheres don't connect anymore? Yeah, the ones who will deliberate endlessly on the most trivially inane crap because they no longer have the capacity to discern what matters are actually important enough to worry about for hours on end.

That's what you look like to guys when you spend hour after horrific hour trying out every possible permutation on three skirts, two tops, a necklace, a jacket and two sets of earrings.



Not that guys are that much better. I personally consider it to be a supreme accomplishment if I get to any sort of formal function and

"As a person who has never in his life spent more than 10 minutes getting dressed for anything, I'd just like to say to you, the women of the world: what the hell is wrong with you?"

don't discover that I'm wearing one black sock and one blue sock. On top of that, it has recently come to my attention that the colors black and brown ought not be worn together. I've also been told that this is such common knowledge that the very idea of somebody not being familiar with it should be hilarious. Still, at least I'm not hurting anybody with my fashion faux pas, unless, of course, you count being seen with me.

The same cannot be said for my girlfriend's endless parade of slight variations of a clothing theme to which I am chained like a coyote caught in a bear trap. This simile is particularly apropos because, like the coyote, I have considered chewing my own limbs off in order to escape.

I mean, it's not like my presence is actually needed, but God forbid that I should presume to walk the 10 whole feet over to the television so that I could at least multitask my

dreadful fate with a little *Best Week Ever* or a rousing game of *Halo 2*. Such an act would surely leave my judgment impaired, despite the fact that it will have no effect whatsoever on anything.

Apparently, even though my opinion is wholly ignored, it is highly valued. It's like being the significant other to the automated message that companies play periodically whenever they put you on hold.

"Your call is very important to us, now just sit there and nod politely while we try on our thirtieth outfit of the evening."

As I close this piece, I'd just like to say—and this is not at all motivated by anything I might have said which could interrupt my getting any lovin'—that my girlfriend is totally awesome and pretty and smart (much smarter, in fact, than some goon writing meaningless editorial pieces in his stupid, old, school newspaper)... Don't leave me baby! I love you!

"I personally consider it to be a supreme accomplishment if I get to any sort of formal function and don't discover that I'm wearing one black sock and one blue sock."

**Don't worry, the article isn't going to devolve into me plying you to give money to the Red Cross or anything... primarily because you should have already done so, you greedy bastards.*

Come to our weekly staff meeting-
7:00 on Tuesdays in the Student Services Building.
No experience necessary.
Free pizza and cokes!

Bridgetown delights with great Jamaican fare

By Darshini Nanavati
Contributing Writer

Located less than a mile away from Barnes and Nobles, at the corner of West Peachtree St. and 3rd St., Bridgetown Tropical Grill

“Ambient lighting and wooden decorations provide a casual environment with a tropical touch.”

and Bar offers a delicious Jamaican cuisine for those that are tired of the usual burritos and Asian bowls offered at Tech Square.

In the just before noon, the restaurant is not too busy. Ambient



By Darshini Nanavati / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Bridgetown Tropical Grill and Bar serves up excellent Jamaican food, and on top of that, they make mean veggie burrito.

lighting and wooden decorations provide a casual environment with a tropical touch. More people seem to prefer eating outside on the patio,

which offers a great view of the city streets for fans of people watching.

The servers at Bridgetown Grill are very friendly and knowledgeable

about the menu. The wait time is decent although one would expect faster service at slower times in the day.

Prices are not too expensive. A plentiful meal for two including tip, but with no appetizers can come out to around \$20 if chosen wisely. However, failing to order appetizers may keep one waiting a while for the food to come out. The meals come with two side dishes of choice and there is enough food in a dish to satisfy the largest of appetites.

Plenty of meals for vegetarians are available as well here, such as the Vegetarian Burrito. That a Jamaican

restaurant produces a burrito of such quality is surprising. It costs a lot less than the burritos available at Mexican restaurants and tastes much better.

Searching the menu may reveal good deals like the Jamaican Burrito. At lunchtime it costs \$8 for the first burrito and you can get a second one for \$2 to \$3 more.

Bridgeport also does catering and has a second floor with a huge room and full bar for parties.

Overall, Bridgetown Tropical Grill and Bar has good food that is not too expensive at great a location and is definitely worth one visit if not many more.

“A plentiful meal for two including tip but with no appetizers can come out to around \$20 if chosen wisely.”

sliver

www.nique.net/sliver

I was responsible for at least 50% of the published slivers.

seriously guys, if you know the urinal doesn't work, and it's full to the brim, stop peeing in it!

“Throw a little woo at her and see what sticks” -Boom-hower

Hey smokers... The world isn't your f'n ashtray... If you junkies can't give up your filthy habit, at least stop the littering...

What's up with the colon cleansing infomercial constantly running on PAX? Gross....

And a big F-U goes out to the Stinger driver that made eye-contact with me as she drove on by the stop where me and 2 other people were standing

Rugby is for girls.

ahh, sheer the shire wind blows ere not

congratulations to the new Fall 2005 pledge class of Omega Phi Alpha! :) New school year and STAC major is still a joke.

Seriously, get your flag football practice off my rugby field.

Who practices flag football anyways? Can't you find a more constructive competitive outlet?

Play club sports, screw intramurals. Oh, and people who practice whiffleball are worse than Flag Football practicers

my LCC teacher is hot in a librarian sort of way.

I wonder if she puts out?

who cares about dave barry?

I sure hope this week's technique has lots of articles about stuff nobody cares about.

We should start an exchange student program. Where we exchange our exchange students to UGA for girls.

Can we bus our bums to New Orleans with the rest of the 'fugees once the clean up is done?

See page 30 for more Slivers.

THEME CROSSWORD: TINY TILLERS

By Robert Zimmerman
United Features Syndicate

ACROSS

1. Gunnysack
4. Tragedian
9. At — —
for words
14. NFL players
19. Slip up
20. — diem
21. Dense cake
22. With full force
23. Before now
24. Start of a quip
by Steven
Wright: 6 wds.
27. Presently
29. Source
of down
30. Functioned
31. Internet
address: abbr.
32. Auction
33. Summer
garments
35. Metric area
36. Some
apartments,
for short
39. Amati relative
40. Outer: abbr.
41. Before life
on Earth
42. Hooves
43. Coarse file
45. Turf
48. Part 2 of
quip: 3 wds.
53. Farrago

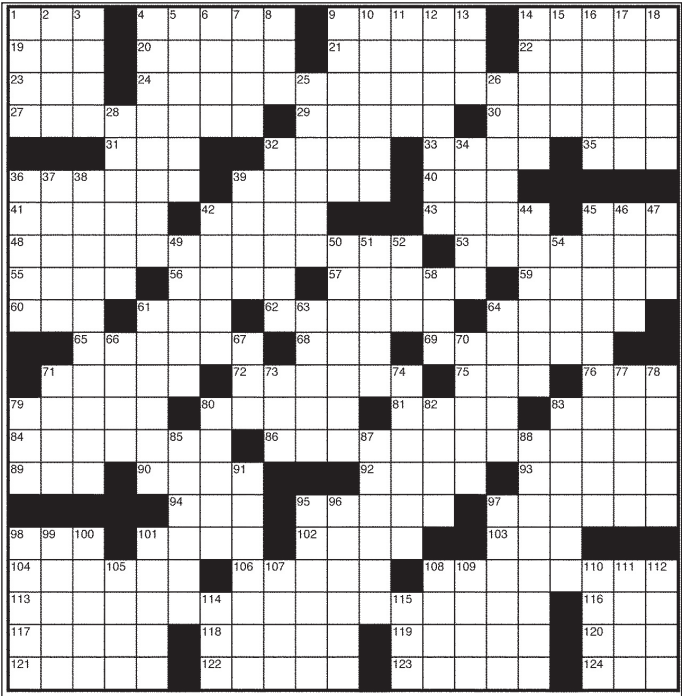
55. “Dukes of
Hazzard” Deputy
56. English
composer
57. Imparts
59. Tocsin
60. A cardinal
number
61. Turbinate fruit
62. Large numbers
64. Ambit
65. Stiff straw hat
68. Western
Indian
69. Felt for
71. Cuts down,
as a tree
72. “The — of
the Shrew”
75. Disencumber
76. Knock
79. Jeans fabric
80. Eastern
Europeans
81. Sign
83. A Teasdale
84. Severely simple
86. Part 3 of
quip: 5 wds.
89. JFK’s
predecessor
90. Part of
USDA: abbr.
92. Eye
93. Public
disturbances
94. Tell tales
95. Improbable
account
97. Stretcher
on wheels

98. Horned viper
101. Rawboned
102. Competent
103. Unspecified
person
104. Guiding light
106. Raison —
108. World of s
scholarship
113. End of the
quip: 4 wds.
116. Append
117. Uproar
118. Gave a t
icket to
119. Unearthly
120. Vast expanse
121. Acts as emcee
122. Bell-bottoms
feature
123. Abolished
124. Highlander’s
hat

DOWN

1. Hit on the noggin
2. Jason’s ship
3. Expand
4. Pop music
variety: 2 wds.
5. Plots
6. Old city in
Asia Minor
7. Work
8. Rule: abbr.
9. Noted barbarian
10. Three sheets
to the wind
11. French department

12. Race official
13. Upperclassman:
abbr.
14. Eateries
15. Gen. — Bradley
16. Insect stage
17. Stopwatch
18. Contemptuous
25. Cozy spot at home
26. African insect
28. Inspections
32. Cooked in water
34. Tests
36. Student at Annapolis
37. Form of oxygen
38. Businesslike: hyph.
39. Stitched
42. Do without
44. Even - tempered
45. Garden flower
46. Scary guy
47. Certain party mem.
49. Fastens
50. Swellhead’s problem
51. Torn apart
52. Holiday time
54. Plant of the tropics
58. Clairvoyance: abbr.
61. Recorded a
certain way
63. Ballroom dance
64. Smart
66. Settled after flight
67. Abbr. on a map
70. Peace goddess
71. Prolonged quarrel
73. Name in “Exodus”
74. Popular search
engine
77. Ridge
78. Chump



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79. “Mr. Mom”
80. Shade of brown
82. Distance jogged
83. Elegant party
85. Slacken
87. Chalice
88. Moved heavily
on wheels
91. Plant part
95. Sire
96. Wear down
97. Player on ice
98. Disconcert
99. Tussle: hyph.

100. Latin Quarter city
101. Tresses
105. Monotonous speech
107. Lab device
108. So be it!
109. Funny fellow
110. Vertical spar
111. Brainstorm
112. Name in a
palindrome
114. Lopsided
115. Cathedral town

See Solutions, page 24

Rome sets about its bloody business

By Kristen Noell
Copy Editor

When in Rome, do as the Romans do; when on HBO, have an excess of sex and violence to attract viewers.

On any other channel, HBO's new series *Rome* (Sundays, 9:00 p.m.) would be somewhat interesting, maybe a bit more educational

"Rome brings ancient history to a more personal level with these two men. The history beomes tangible enough for average viewers to understand and even enjoy."

and much less epic. As it is, this show is one big festival of nudity and blood. Not that I'm knocking it; quite the opposite—all that sex and violence just adds to the overall realism.

Fortunately, there's a lot more to *Rome* than that. The year is 52 B.C., and Caesar (Ciáran Hines, *The Phantom of the Opera*) and his army, including Mark Antony (James Purefoy, *Vanity Fair*), are returning to Rome from a war in Gaul.

It is at this point that we meet

Lucius Vorenus (Kevin McKidd, *Kingdom of Heaven*) and Titus Pullo (Ray Stevenson, *King Arthur*) of the famed 13th Legion. The two men must retrieve the Legion's stolen standard, and from this point on, *Rome* becomes the personal story of two very different men: honorable and austere Vorenus and wild lover of life, Pullo.

In Caesar's absence, a great gulf has formed between the ruling class and the lower classes. Pompey Magnus

is serving as Consul with Caesar, from Gaul, serving as his Co-Consul. However, Cato and his faction convince him to renounce Caesar, fearing that Caesar's popularity will challenge their authority and wealth when he returns.

When the army crosses the Rubicon, Pullo stands with Caesar and Vorenus harbors deep fears of committing treason against his beloved homeland.

Rome brings ancient history to a more personal level with these two men. The history becomes tangible enough for average viewers to understand and even enjoy. Plot elements from a fight with a wife or mother to visits to a whorehouse make the past less distant from the present. The people are more than names in a textbook—they are real people with problems to which even

modern viewers can relate.

Rome is a fresh new take on an oft-told tale. Though Caesar, Antony and the rest play a part in this epic drama, the primary focus is on the experiences of Pullo and Vorenus.

"Another selling point for the series is the sheer scale of the production, a joint venture between the BBC and HBO...."

Other characters that are often pushed aside in the history books, such as Caesar's niece Atia, mother of Octavian, his heir, receive more attention.

For those who watched ABC's *Empire* this summer

and found six episodes to be entirely too little to cover something as complex as ancient Roman history, take heart. *Rome* promises to take things much more slowly and with greater attention to detail. Best of all, if you don't understand something or get character relationships confused, you can always refer to www.hbo.com/rome, an excellent resource that includes a glossary of terms and characters.

Another selling point for the series is the sheer scale of the production, a joint venture between the BBC and HBO, who last produced the 2001 miniseries *Band of Brothers* together. The sets and costuming are particularly amazing; in addition to the authenticity, there's just something commanding about white columns and red soldiers' capes. Stunning countryside vistas, filmed

in Italy with the rest of the series, are absolutely breathtaking.

However, the acid test of the production values, a properly epic ancient battle, has yet to appear on the show. The best they have done so far is a brief glimpse of the fighting during the Battle of Alesia where Caesar finally conquered Gaul.

Although the cast is not made up

"Rome is fresh new take on an oft-told tale. Though Caesar, Antony and the rest play a part in this epic drama, the primary focus is on the experiences of Pullo and Vorenus."

of the best-known actors, the acting leaves little to be desired. There are some particularly nice casting surprises, such as young Octavian, who is played impressively by 16-year-old Max Pirkis. One might remember him as the brave kid who loses his arm in *Master and Commander*.

History, intrigue, civil war, sex, violence, romance and all kinds of drama—what more could you want? *Rome* offers something for everyone, assuming the history-lovers can appreciate the graphic content of the series.

Proof

from page 18

frustrations of its characters.

With quick cuts and up-close shots between characters in con-

"Proof deals with the complexities of human relationships, the fact that being misunderstood is a lonely, dark place and that watching a loved one's once brilliant mind deteriorate sometimes must be suffered in silence."

flict, as well as frequent flash-backs which serve as a means of character introspection, the director grasps the audience's attention in order to break their hearts into a thousand pieces.

Proof deals with the complexities of human relationships, the fact that being misunderstood is a lonely, dark place and that watching a loved one's once brilliant mind deteriorate sometimes must be suffered in silence.

Bittersweet, though it may be, *Proof* leaves a sense of hope within us, a sense that despite all of life's difficulties, reaching out and embracing the tragedies and joys of this existence are what life is all about.

The proof of this is all around us, if only we are willing to search for it.