

NUCLEAR COWBOYZ

MOTOCROSS FREESTYLISTS
MAKE HEADS SPIN AT
GEORGIA DOME

Photos by Kelvin Kuo/Student Publications



GEORGIA DOME
Nuclear Cowboyz
WHAT: Freestyle Motocross
WHEN: Feb. 13, 2010
RIDERS: Adam Jones, Mike Mason, Nate Adams, Todd Potter and many others
OUR TAKE: ★★★★★

By Robert Solomon
Contributing Writer

The beauty about America lies not only in a company's ability to meet the needs of a public, but to also create entertainment that serves a need that many of us did not know we had. How else can we explain Disney on Ice or this, the Nuclear Cowboyz.

I am certain that if any of you are familiar with motocross or supercross, you are thinking of one thing above all: riders on dirt bikes performing really sweet jumps. These are the kind of jumps where the rider goes airborne beyond all bounds of sanity. They are also jumps where the rider often leaves the seat to perform some maneuver in which the slightest mistake would result in a massive payout on an insurance settlement. Just look at those pictures!

Somewhere, somehow, the creators of Nuclear Cowboyz decided that World Wrestling Entertainment had the right idea, that competition was best discarded in favor of hackneyed storylines topped off with female dancers and absurd amounts of pyrotechnics. Nuclear Cowboyz is an adolescent male's greatest dream, if that adolescent spent the vast majority of his spare time riding an All Terrain Vehicle (ATV).

There was no better illustration of this than halfway through the show, where a lone rider of an ATV was featured.

After performing ridiculous jumps, including a full front flip, two of the scantily clad female dancers got on the ATV with the rider. As the rider drove back towards the starting gate, he pumped his fist in the air as massive amounts of fire shot in the air behind him. It was a dream comes true on the scale of rock concerts, only on four wheels.

Up until this point, there was a fairly predictable pattern that emerged. A rider would come out and do some tricks, surrounded by fire. The "Nuclear Cowgirlz" would come out and do a dance number, surrounded by more fire. Then, more riders would come out, doing even more ridiculous jumps. The dancers come out with stripper poles and all the while, fire everywhere.

This served it well for the first half of the show, cleansing the audience's palate so that neither activity got old. By the second half, the show had run out of ways to escalate the excitement, leading one to feel slightly detached from the proceedings. Yes, even with sweet jumps, there can be too much of a good thing.

This was the only detriment to the show though. The riders themselves were all technically flawless, soaring into the air in streams and performing tricks in sync with one another. There was a particular goal that this show wanted to accomplish, and accomplish it

See *Cowboyz*, page 20



Scorsese's *Shutter Island* redefines thriller genre

FILM
Shutter Island
GENRE: Drama, Thriller
STARRING: Leonardo DiCaprio
DIRECTOR: Martin Scorsese
RATING: R
RELEASED: Feb. 19, 2010
OUR TAKE: ★★★★★

By Chris Ernst
Staff Writer

Shutter Island, based on the eponymous 2003 novel by Dennis Lehane, is one of the best real thrillers to come around in a while. The film stars Leonardo DiCaprio, a seeming favorite of director Martin Scorsese. The film follows DiCaprio's character, Teddy Daniels, as he investigates

a disappearance in a prison/mental health hospital.

Saying *Shutter Island* is of the thriller genre, it is not to be confused with horror/thriller or action/thriller, which are very popular these days. Unlike most movies in the box office lately, *Shutter Island* contains hardly any violence or even action. That is not to say it is a tame movie, but instead it finds ways to excite

the audience without resorting to those tried and tired methods. This is really just a plain old thriller.

Shutter Island does not seem wholly original at first. Until about half way through the movie, it comes across as a rehash of several others. However, as the movie progresses and "the truth" comes out, it becomes more and more entertaining and original.

Some might claim that they knew how the movie would end. But on the contrary, it makes the audience question so much and so many things, that all possibilities are seriously considered at one point or another.

The movie is about seemingly crazy people, which Scorsese portrays very well. He uses some cin-

See *Shutter*, page 21

Hi-Rez Studios hosts *Global* launch party

Cowboyz from page 19

VIDEO GAMES
Global Agenda
DEVELOPER: Hi-Rez Studios
CONSOLES: PC
GENRE: MMO Shooter
RELEASED: Feb. 1, 2010
OUR TAKE: ★★★★★☆

By Yameen Huq
Staff Writer

This past Feb. 1 saw the release of *Global Agenda*, the greatly hyped release by Hi-Rez Studios. A project five years in the making, it pushes innovation through its oxymoronic blend of shooter style and massively multi-player online role playing game (MMORPG)

elements. The MMORPG aspect of this game, allowing for thousands of players all over the world to assume customizable avatars, works seamlessly with fast-paced combat. Accessible through Valve's Steam application, this is quick fun that any casual gamer can pick up.

The game's production history is also worth noting. The company, Hi-Rez Studios, is homegrown in Ga. and comes from humble upbringings. Ga. itself has lately become a hub for digital entertainment with the Georgia Game Developer's Association (GGDA) pushing for legislation that allows local industry growth.

"We've worked with legislators to create tax credits for the video game industry. We meet with international executives to get them

to relocate here and have a trade show called SIEGE that's grown to over 900 people this year," said Clinton Lowe, President of the GGDA.

"[Hi-Rez Studios] was founded by entrepreneur Erez Goren. He had this idea of going back into the games industry and making the games he always used to play," said Todd Harris, the Executive Producer of *Global Agenda*.

This five-year project was done in conjunction with the development of its own studio and team.

"The inspiration was that MMO's allowed you to be in a persistent world, but we liked that combat and energy of shooters. We wanted a game that was really fast-paced like an online shooter, but the matches would be persistent and really matter," Harris

said.

Using the popular role-playing game *World of Warcraft*, *Global Agenda* frames classic RPG elements, such as creating and developing the character's unique identity, and puts it in an action-oriented context. The shooter component of the game is similar to the series *Tribes* in that it features a jetpack for flight as well as third person action.

Stylistically, the game's colorful design and graphics are reminiscent of the Disney movie *Tron*, and, while not stunning, are certainly easy on the eyes.

The controls and mechanics of gameplay are all simple enough to learn with of a curve of a half an hour at most. With relatively accurate and easy to use guns and swords, the game is well suited for beginners and veterans alike with not too much of a skill gap.

A game like this has actually been attempted in the past. The game *Planetside* also featured similar elements, but unlike this one, failed from too many glitches and technical problems. Fortunately, *Agenda* avoids such issues with its constant patches and upkeep.

"We're starting a genre which has challenges of its own. Like foreign food it's unfamiliar at first, but you get used to it. *Planetside* was definitely a key milestone. However, our encounter size is a lot smaller and we avoid having tons of people," Harris said.

Global Agenda is unfortunately not available on Mac. On the PC, for a monthly fee, players can gain access to features like weapons creation and player versus player combat.

A fun, easy-to-pick-up game makes this one a winner. Whether one seeks a long-term commitment or quick action, *Global Agenda* can offer both.



Photo by Kelvin Kuo/Student Publications



Image courtesy of Hi-Rez Studios

did. It cannot be said that the audience left unsatisfied if they came to see what the show had to offer.

But let us not be too critical. When one comes to a gigantic show in the Dome, one expects a visceral experience and not an intellectual one. With the loud music reminding you of songs that you had forgotten existed (Prodigy's "Breathe," for instance) and the action working in close connection with it, the resulting experience transcends all attempts to categorize it.

It is very difficult indeed to describe just what makes the Nuclear Cowboyz so appealing to those who are not already primed for its joys. It is like going to a heavy metal show or a professional wrestling match. You can't think about it too terribly much, nor should you. Instead, you should simply let the almighty roar of the engines and the audacity of the post-apocalyptic storyline wash over you.

After it was all over, I could say only one thing: God bless America and the inventor of pyrotechnics.

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I want you. I want you so ba-a-a-a-ad. I want yo-o-o-o-o-o-ou. I want you so ba-a-a-ad; it's driving me mad. It's driving me mad. V is very, very extraordinary.
Love Potion #9
Awaiting the sensation of a short, sharp shock from a cheap and chippy chopper on a big, black block!
next time we go to the crc we are brining a camera. so many interesting people to behold.
Calling all architecture students: there is still time to join AIAS!
Discovery is Joy, Understanding is Dominance
Don't be hating just cause you can't get to jump off the 10m whenever you want!
Lifeguards should be tan...
Ante Up!!
Here let me Reboot your Transformer with Liger-0's upgrade modeled after Lion-O, snarf. By the power of Greyskull !!!
Challenge morals and don't substitute them for your ethics every beauty needs to go out with an idiot
Sleep is inversely proportional to focus :D
just say "hello" because i really would like to get to know ya :)
the friend zone's not so bad, right?
new school song: "im a ramblin wreck and SOCIALLY INEPT, and a hell of an engineer..." rolfcopier
V-day was boring
WebAssign DIE!!!!!!
hey hot chick at the crc every weekend, thanks for motivating me to stay in shape
I feel like everyone I live with is shacking tonight...
It's "law," not "lawl"
Fernando, i was the one that threw paintballs at your door
i want a perfect body.
Who knew being a rebound could be so much fun?
Guy from Chem 2380- I still have your pencil... Thanks for saving me mid-test!
why are there no air fresheners in the student center bathroom??
Is playing the lava game in my apartment a housing violation?

Romeo & Juliet shine at Shakespeare Tavern

PERFORMANCE

Shakespeare Tavern's Romeo & Juliet

STARRING: Mary Russell
and Lee Osorio

DIRECTOR: Laura Cole

DATES: through Feb. 28

OUR TAKE: ★★★★★☆

By Patricia Uceda
Contributing Writer

The New American Shakespeare Tavern's rendition of *Romeo and Juliet* has been a staple on its repertory for 11 straight seasons, filling the Feb. time slot for the past nine years.

This timeless tale of forbidden love is perfect for the month of Feb., especially around Valentine's Day. It has become as essential to the holiday as roses and chocolate. This year's performance, directed by Laura Cole, is no exception. A talented cast and crew breathe new life into Shakespeare's classic play.

The theatre itself consists of cabaret-style seating, with tables all the way up to the stage. There were a few tables that were impossibly small and it was pretty crowded. However, that is to be expected in a sold out show. The theatre is a non-profit venue, and relies on donations and word of mouth to keep it running. The food was excellent, with an "authentic British pub" menu full of delicious plates such as Shepherd's Pie and Cornish Pasties.

Many people probably remember reading *Romeo and Juliet* in high school. If you were like myself, you found it very boring and incomprehensible. Don't worry,

you're not alone. However, it is often said that Shakespeare's works were not meant to be read, but were meant to be seen. You don't read movie scripts in English class, do you? On stage, the words take on a whole new meaning when they are paired with actions. Conversations that were supposed to be comical or sad may not appear that way on paper, but when acted out, the intended emotion is conveyed.

Almost everyone is familiar with the story of *Romeo and Juliet*. Capulets versus Montagues, boy meets girl, they fall in love, boy gets banished, plan to reunite goes wrong, and both kill themselves. It's a classic tale of teenage angst.

What saves this play from being totally depressing is the lesson learned by the young couple's parents, as they realize that they drove their children to this with their pointless feuding. It ends with them promising to end the fighting once and for all.

Artistic director Jeff Watkins has said that he was greatly inspired by Franco Zeffirelli's take on *Romeo and Juliet*. This is evident in the way he incorporates music into the play, using real period instruments in the dance scene.

The actors even perform a period dance on stage, which is pretty impressive. Another commendable aspect was the way lighting was used to convey morning, night and daytime. The audience knew instantly what time of day it was by how bright or orange the lights were. It was extremely useful.

Lee Osorio plays Romeo and Mary Russell is Juliet. They both did a marvelous job, and were very believable in their roles. Osorio did a good job of conveying the fickle, boyish nature of Romeo.

After all, the young lovers were only 14-years-old. Osorio as Romeo goes from being hopelessly in love with a girl named Rosaline, to falling head over heels for Juliet in only one night. While this could make Romeo appear annoying, Osorio manages to keep him likeable with his sweet, sincere and vulnerable acting style. His long-winded speeches did get a little tedious sometimes, but they were few and far between.

Russell and Osorio were very good together, and they brought a lot of chemistry and tenderness to their scenes. Juliet is just as naïve, and Russell conveys her youthful and dramatic nature perfectly, jumping from a sad to joyful disposition in the blink of an eye. Her acting style, like Osorio's, was also very sincere, making the character of Juliet very relatable to the audience members.

When her father is forcing her to marry Paris, you feel her pain. When Juliet is debating whether or not to drink the poison, you feel her confusion. She also did a marvelous job in the comedic scenes with her nurse, played by Jane Bass.

Other notable performances in *Romeo and Juliet* were the two characters of Mercutio and Benvolio, played by Daniel Parvis and Nicholas Faircloth. These two were meant by Shakespeare to create comic relief, a fact that is often missed when reading the script. Parvis and Faircloth did a great job of carrying out their characters' intended purposes.

This comedic duo was hilarious, especially Parvis, who has a real talent for comedy. They did not hesitate to engage the audience with their jokes, egging them on and hamming it up. They had the whole theatre laughing. The audience became connected to the



Press Image courtesy of the Shakespeare Tavern

Mary Russell and Lee Osorio both shine in *Romeo and Juliet*.

characters, and you could feel the sadness when Parvis's character Mercutio is killed in the middle of the play.

Those same plays you hated so much in high school just may take a new form on stage, especially during the month dedicated to love.

If you don't get the chance to attend this play, more Shakespearean masterpieces are soon to come. From the depiction of *King Lear* in March to April's presentation of *Taming of the Shrew*, the Tavern will keep theatre buffs happy all year long.

Seeing a play at the Shakespeare Tavern is a thoroughly enjoyable experience, and I highly recommend it to everyone. The Tavern is only blocks away from campus and is a great idea for anyone who enjoys good entertainment.

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ematic tricks to keep the audience just a little off-kilter. At times, the image is very warm and inviting, but switches between shots and becomes very cool. Over the course of a conversation, what is in the room and facial features become shrouded in shadow and then are illuminated again, much like the experience of DiCaprio's character throughout the film.

The film always keeps the audience confused. What is really reality is always in flux and there is never much more evidence than hearsay to back up any claim. Believing who or what for certain is impossible without just picking a side and refuting all else.

This is why this is such a good movie. The progress of the story is revealed several times and it is always something completely different. The film builds a reality and then gives all the necessary evidence to convince otherwise, yet it just seems too implausible. The finale, however, leaves little to question.

Shutter Island is well written, which has more than a little to do with being a successful novel previously. By the end, it is possible to think back and see the clues and hints. The ending is fairly definite, purposefully and heavily providing evidence to support one claim, which goes against other claims that audience wants to believe.

The film does not hide behind old tricks to entertain. It presents a story and develops it. Furthermore, that story keeps the audience intrigued by involving the audience itself. Between the Red Scare in the movie and the threat of terrorism now, the fantastic becomes plausible both in the movie and to the audience.

Shutter Island gives an unsteady closure that would seem very tied-together and neatly done in another time. The film is simple and well done, a rare combination.

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THEME CROSSWORD: PARADE REST

By Robert Zimmerman
United Features Syndicate

ACROSS

- 1. Loony
- 5. Gloves
- 10. Signed on the dotted line
- 15. Famous baker?
- 19. Small purse
- 20. Very, in music
- 21. Minister's house
- 22. Pulls along
- 23. March, to a mapmaker
- 25. His march was long, historically
- 27. Kind of political group
- 28. Put in public office
- 30. Man of the cloth
- 31. Use the red pencil
- 32. Long, steep slope
- 33. Handel oratorio
- 34. Uncle's child
- 37. -- Unis
- 38. On a grand scale, in literature
- 42. -- and outs
- 43. His "March of the Toys"

DOWN

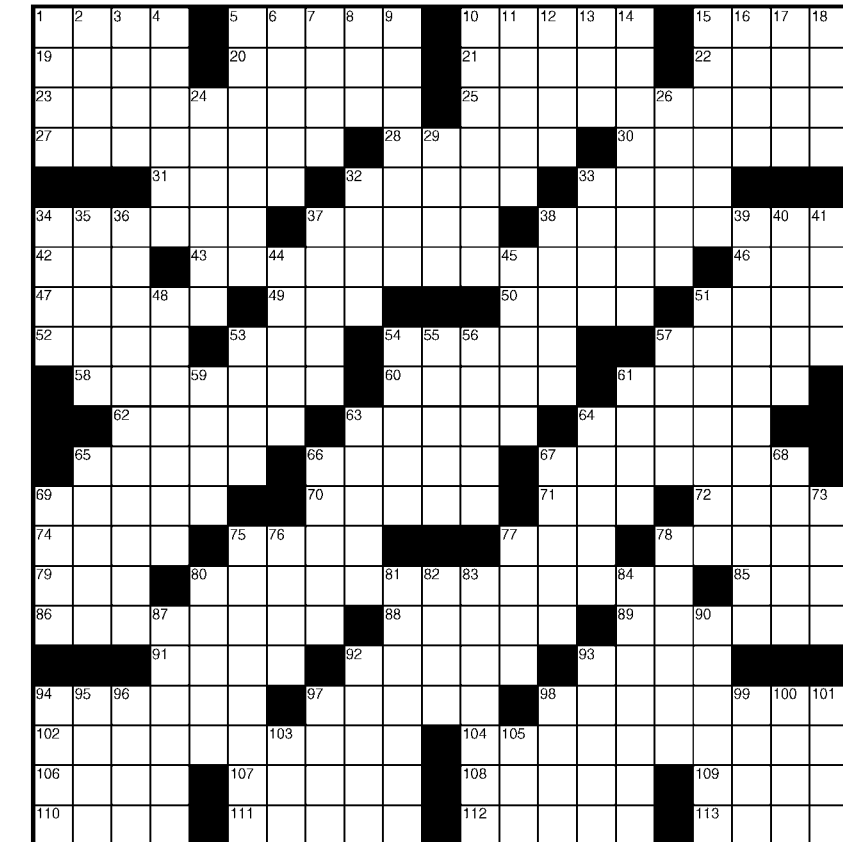
- 1. Cotillion VIPs
- 2. At the summit
- 3. Roll up
- 4. Puts in order: with "up"
- 5. Vermouth creation
- 6. Atoll
- 7. Despot
- 8. Yellowish brown
- 9. Motorcycle add-on
- 10. Put underwater
- 11. Civil-rights org.
- 12. Bowline
- 13. Superlative conclusion
- 14. Loses heart

- debut in 1903
- 46. Trio for Nero
- 47. Native dwelling
- 49. Gotcha!
- 50. Kid stuff
- 51. Internet designation
- 52. Pull down, so to speak
- 53. Green agcy.
- 54. Coffeehouse order
- 57. Caterpillars, later
- 58. Prisoner's restraint
- 60. Felt some pain
- 61. Glass bead for sewing
- 62. Squeals, in a way
- 63. Wit's asset
- 64. Wouk's minesweeper
- 65. "Cielito --"
- 66. Moms in Montmartre
- 67. One-wheeled carts
- 69. Drive in Beverly Hills
- 70. Remove
- 71. Chem. suffix
- 72. Intoxicating drink of ancient legend
- 74. War god
- 75. Suffix in politics

- 77. --, amas, amat
- 78. Heavy haulers
- 79. Buddhist doctrine
- 80. Composer of "Marche Militaire"
- 85. Suffix for ordinal numbers
- 86. The works
- 88. Old hi-fi input
- 89. Island chain off Scotland
- 91. PBS TV series
- 92. Started a hand
- 93. Frankfurt's river
- 94. Actress Milano
- 97. Pepys kept one
- 98. Bookkeeping issues
- 102. He warned Caesar about the Ides of March
- 104. He created Augie March
- 106. This is one
- 107. Long battle
- 108. High achiever in scouting
- 109. Actress Anderson
- 110. Angel's armful
- 111. Boo-boo
- 112. Tapered off
- 113. Wineglass feature

- 15. King of the Huns
- 16. Grimace
- 17. Holds title
- 18. He wears stripes
- 24. Salad herb
- 26. Spew out
- 29. Builder's strip
- 32. Greek colonnade
- 33. Builder's strategy
- 34. Quote
- 35. Shaq or Tatum
- 36. 1964 film role for Fredric March
- 37. Wharton's "-- Frome"
- 38. Receded

- 39. Fictional chronicle of the March family
- 40. Supple
- 41. Cries from the kennel
- 44. Underworld VIPs
- 45. Appraiser
- 48. Switchyard sights
- 51. Reptile with upturned snout
- 53. Therefore
- 54. Former first lady
- 55. High points
- 56. Not these
- 57. Early national-park advocate



- 59. Prefix for some Asians
- 61. Naked
- 63. Unit of frequency
- 64. Pirogue
- 65. Actress Sophia
- 66. Bad person
- 67. High IQ is not her strong suit
- 68. Hit with force
- 69. Tear down
- 73. Gray
- 75. Peril for mountaineers

- 76. Pro --
- 77. Dad's sister
- 78. Walk with long steps
- 80. Newbie on campus
- 81. Fisherman, at times
- 82. Blacken
- 83. Bishop of Rome's domain
- 84. Support for rails
- 87. Arch
- 90. Ominous tollings
- 92. Muralist Rivera
- 93. "Atlantic City" director

- (1980)
- 94. Author in Yiddish, d. 1957
- 95. Dancer Falana
- 96. -- Majesty
- 97. Hairdresser, at times
- 98. Annoys
- 99. Soak up a spill
- 100. Muscle quality
- 101. Do the crawl
- 103. Bach's "-- on the G String"
- 105. Motorists' org.

AS A PART OF WOMEN'S AWARENESS MONTH

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A CHOREOPOEM BY NTOZAKE SHANGE

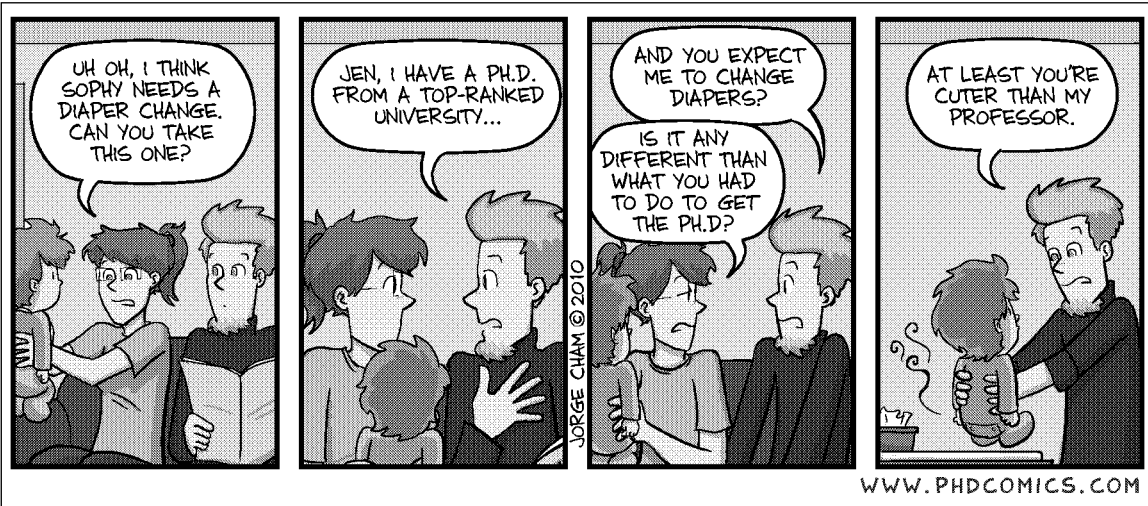
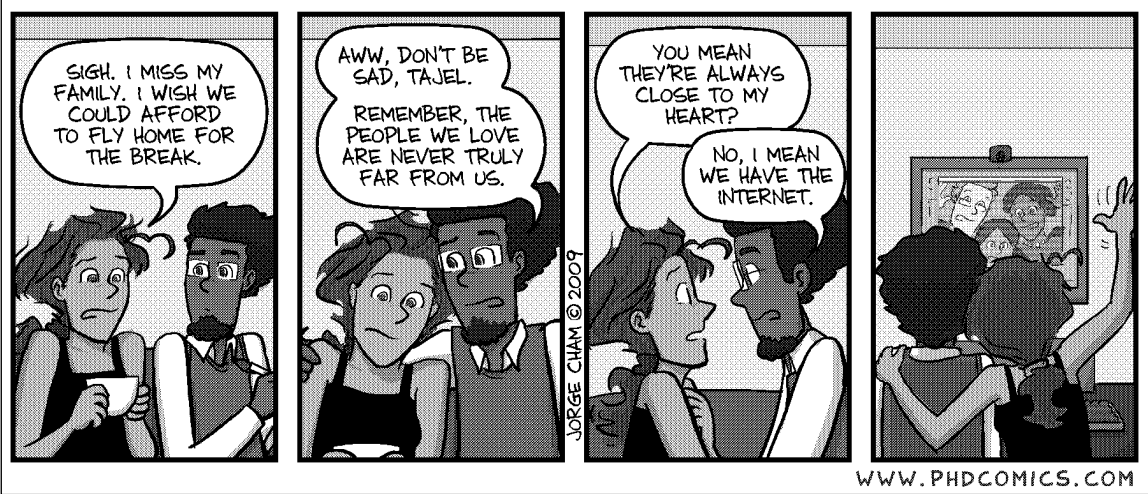
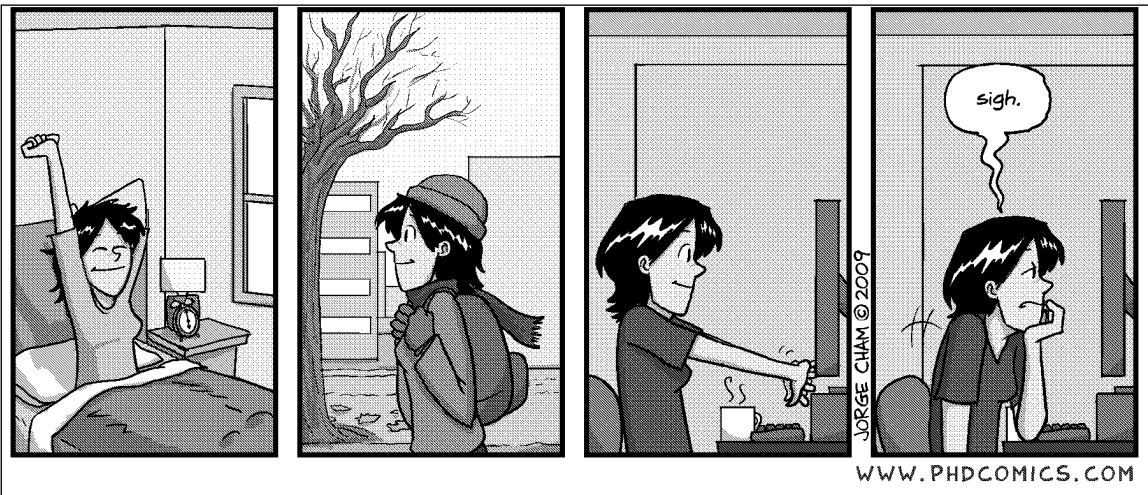
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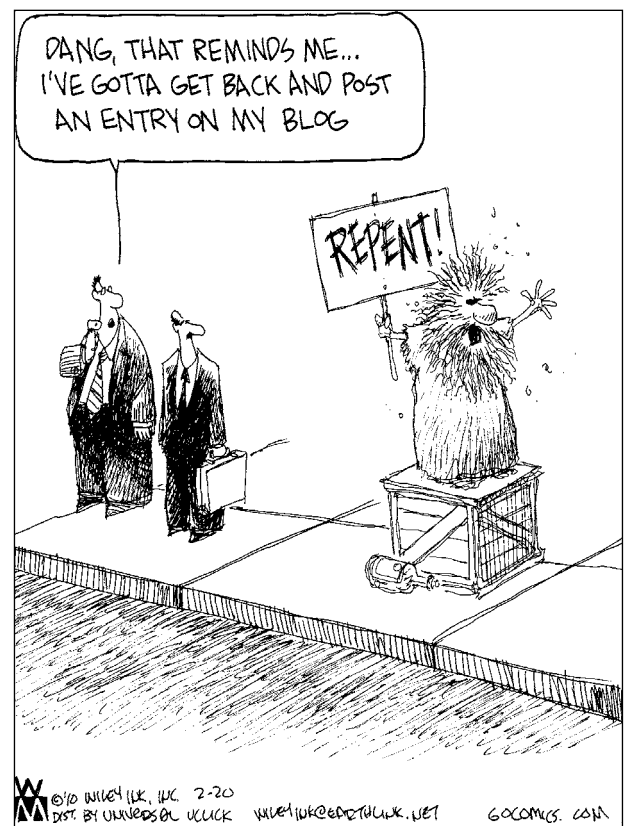
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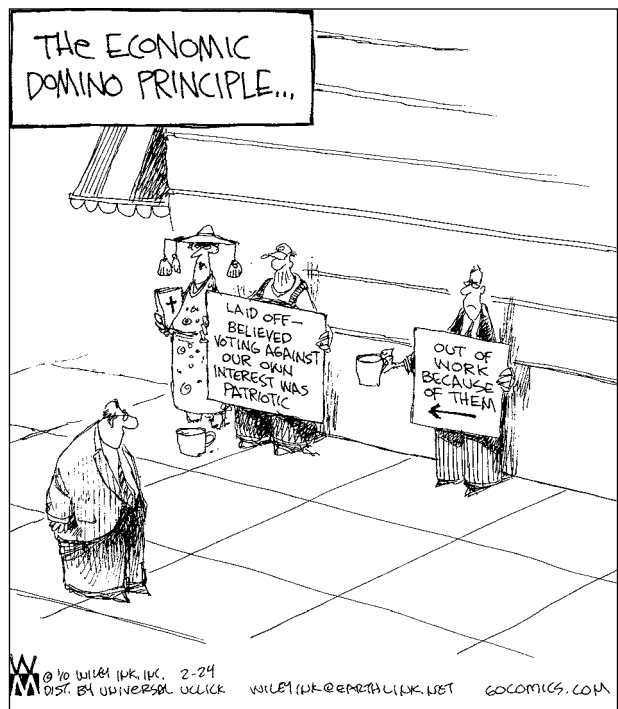
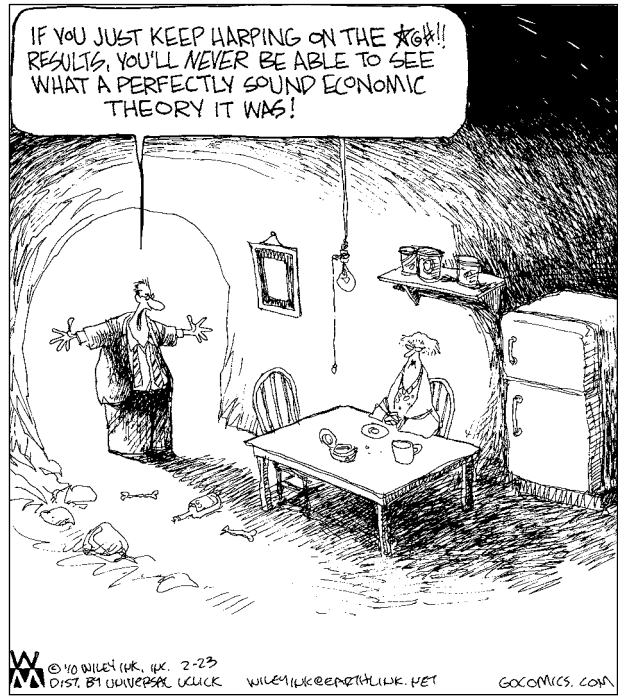
CROSSWORD SOLUTION FROM PAGE 23

DAFT	MITTS	INKED	AMOS
ETUI	ASSAI	MANSE	TOWS
BORDERLAND	MAOTSETUNG		
SPLINTER	ELECT	PRIEST	
	EDIT	SCARP	SAUL
COUSIN	ETATS	EPICALLY	
INS	VICTOR	HERBERT	III
TEPEE	AHA	ABCS	HTTP
EARN	EPA	LATTE	MOTHS
	LEGIRON	ACHED	BUGLE
	SINGS	HUMOR	CAINE
LINDO	MERES	BARROWS	
RODEO	ERASE	INE	SOMA
ARES	CRAT	AMO	SEMIS
ZEN	FRANZ	SCHUBERT	ETH
ENTIRETY	PHONO	ORKNEY	
	NOVA	DEALT	MAIN
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SOOTHSAYER	SAUL	BELLOW	
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