

ENTERTAINMENT

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WHISTLE A HAPPY TUNE

A redesigned whistle has made its debut on campus. The new sound is receiving mixed reviews. Page 7

SOFTBALL SEASON ENDS

The Tech softball team successfully made it to the ACC Regional semi-finals, but lost 1-9 to UGA. Page 15

Despite rain, Music Midtown not a washout

By C. Jason Mabry
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A few elements seem to be synonymous with Music Midtown. This year, along with past years, appears to have not strayed far from that path. Not only did it rain throughout the weekend, but the rain was torrential.

Luckily for festival goers, the rain was worse during last year's opening sets, and this year the festival was not delayed.

Unfortunately, the rain did put a damper on the performances of Big Boi and the Doors of the 21st Century; they lost their crowds in droves around midnight.

Also, there is apparently a tacit dress code for festival attendees. The tank top, or several at once, was undoubtedly requisite attire for the women. For those females who attend next year, do keep in mind the strong likelihood of rain when selecting a white tank top.

Nakedness of the male variety also reared its nasty head during the festival. Those of us who do not sport openly visible tattoos or protruding bellies feel somewhat left out of this display of skin.

"Jessica Simpson also contributed to the less-than-stellar performance lineup—starting late, ending early, and breaking in the middle, all with no explanation."

Additionally, those attending the event for the first time may have been surprised by the age of many of those in attendance. High school kids looked to be in the majority, but those in middle school also made a surprisingly strong showing.

This year's big news was the sky-high proposal Saturday afternoon. A guy paid a pilot to drag a banner asking his girlfriend to marry him.

The 2004 Music Midtown festival had a slew of big names, from Ludacris and Big Boi to the Strokes, the Foo Fighters, the Offspring and yes, Jessica Simpson. Fledgling acts made an appearance with the likes of Damien Rice and Joss Stone, while classic groups such as Kansas, REO Speedwagon and Journey were also prominent.

While the 2003 festival commanded a bigger celebrity lineup, 2004 was still a memorable Music Midtown and people of all ages thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

A noticeable departure from previous concerts is the musical switch that is slowly occurring and gaining emphasis. Hip Hop has always made its presence felt in Atlanta and the

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By Stephen Marek / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The always fashionable Jessica Simpson took the stage late Sunday night. Even her good looks could not make up for her mediocre set.

On the Bricks kicks off today

For the fourth straight summer, On the Bricks will rock downtown Atlanta starting today. Held at Centennial Olympic Park, the first show is tonight and features the musical performances of Train, Gavin DeGraw, Liz Phair and Graham Colton Band. Tickets are available for \$5 and may be purchased at the gates, which open at 5:30 p.m. The summer series continues every Friday through August 20, and the shows run from 6-11 p.m. For more info and a performance lineup, check out www.onthebricks.com.

Monster Bash offers classic horror flicks

Horror film fans should check out the first annual Rock 'N Roll Monster Bash at the Starlight Drive-In movie theatre. Sunday, June 6, gates will open at 2:30 p.m. for a thrill filled celebration of rock 'n roll and horror flicks. Live music, burlesque acts, wandering monsters, an art exhibit and a hearse show will be featured throughout the day. Two horror classics, *Evil Dead* and *Phantasm*, will be projected on the outdoor drive-in screens once dusk arrives. The cost of this horrific event is a mere \$10. Visit www.hauntedatlanta.com for more details.

Fox Theatre film festival begins June 7

The 2004 Coca-Cola Summer Film Festival at the Fox Theatre has announced its line-up. An independent feature titled *Big Ain't Bad* will make its Atlanta debut on Monday, June 7, at 8:00 p.m.; it will also become the first movie of the festival. *Master and Commander*, the Oscar-nominated action flick starring Russell Crowe, will be shown on Thursday, June 10 at 8:00 p.m. Movies being screened in June also include all three films from the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, *Cold Mountain*, *Gone With the Wind* and *Ben Hur*. Newer and current releases such as *Shrek 2*, *Bobby Jones: Stroke of Genius*, *Van Helsing* and both volumes of *Kill Bill* will be shown in August. For price and ticket info refer to www.foxtheatre.org.

Attention all Resident Evil fans

After the tremendous success of the poster contest for the \$100 million grossing hit, *Resident Evil*, Screen Gems studio and Play Magazine are inviting fans to create a poster for the sequel, *Resident Evil: Apocalypse*. Contestants are able to build their original posters online at www.RE2.com.

The grand prize winner will be awarded a cash prize of \$2,500, free movie passes and nationwide exposure of their winning poster in theatres. The winner will be announced August 2 online.

In summer sequel that rivals original, Shrek 2 delivers ogre-sized laughs

By Echezona Ukah
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The memorable trio, Shrek, Princess Fiona and Donkey, are back in this second animated Shrek feature, and they have brought along some new entertaining characters.

Puss-in-Boots, Fiona's parents King Harold and Queen Lillian, Prince Charming, The Fairy Godmother and a host of other vivid characters help add flair to the film. The movie picks up where the first one left off, and the makers of the movie delivered big.

Newlyweds Shrek and Fiona return from their honeymoon to find an invitation to meet Fiona's parents. After much persuasion by Fiona, Shrek agrees to meet them, but *only* because he loves her.

Shrek's agreement results in a dramatic adventure to the "Kingdom Far Far Away" where her parents, King Harold and Queen Lillian, reside. Seeing

the previews, I was tempted to think that the movie would be very predictable. Luckily, I was wrong.

King Harold and Shrek get off on the wrong foot, and arguments ensue. Due to various reasons, King Harold is forced to hire a hit-man, actually a hitcat, to murder Shrek.

The hitcat, Puss-in-Boots, is a spoof of *The Mask of Zorro*, and is voiced by the recent Zorro himself, Antonio Banderas. Charming puss, charming puss, I say. I just wish the fight scene between Puss-in-Boots and Shrek was a

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little longer; I felt Puss-in-Boots gave up too easily considering a cat of his status.

I am desperately trying not to give away any more of the movie's plot. However, I will disclose the simple fact that Puss-in-Boots, the Donkey, and Shrek go through more exciting adventures, one of

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Day After Tomorrow exciting, not factual

By Alexandros Salazar
Contributing Writer

In the mind of a Hollywood producer, the only thing more exciting than a cataclysmic change of climate due to greenhouse gases is... a cataclysmic change of climate due to greenhouse gases that happens in a week!

The Day After Tomorrow is set around the premise that global warming is a precursor to a global frigid climate change; a theory that has, on occasion, actually floated around the scientific community.

The movie takes a firm grasp of this concept and makes a solid disaster flick out of it.

By solid disaster flick, please don't misunderstand my label as "scientifically probable," "realistic," or any other word that might lend credence to the plot of the film.

I simply mean that the movie is a satisfying experience, with big disasters happening, little guys toughing it out, and heroes saving the day—well, saving it as much

as it can be saved, when an entire hemisphere is plunged into a new Ice Age.

Dennis Quaid plays Jack Hall, a scientist who has some evidence that the previous ice age was caused by a spurt of greenhouse emissions that disturbed ocean currents and caused the Northern Hemisphere to freeze. He uses his research to send

a general warning about greenhouse gas emissions that is cordially ignored by a very Cheney-like Vice President.

Of course, as things would happen in a movie, his predictions come true, and a huge catastrophic storm system forms and is set to change the face of the earth.

I won't give out any further plot points, although the plot itself is rather formulaic, for the sake of those who like to go into a movie pretending they have never seen a movie before.

I will, however, comment on the spectacular special effects. While

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“dirrrty” south; now it is eking out its niche in Music Midtown, and if things keep moving in this direction, the niche may soon include a large portion of the festival indeed.

The Atlanta music scene is beginning to mesh not in terms of a musical preference, but in terms of the people who listen to its diversified sound. Demographics are spanning musical genres and the festival this year clearly reflected that observation.

Now for a quick festival summary: opening night Ludacris started the festival with a bang, pumping up the crowd by playing all his radio hits. Hoobastank and Tantric were also huge Friday favorites.

Saturday held perhaps the best lineup, with a five-hour run including the Strokes, Big Boi, Wyclef Jean, the Offspring, the Foo Fighters and the Doors of the 21st Century.

Big Boi provided quite the spectacle with hordes of performers and

dancers on stage with him during his set. The Strokes also had a successful performance and contributed a very energetic and crowd-pleasing set. Damien Rice, Fountains of Wayne and Story of the Year also had dedicated supporters.

Sunday brought the musical talents of Cee-Lo, Ween, Jason Mraz, Fuel, Jessica Simpson, Courtney Love and Twista. Anyone who saw the Courtney Love show can attest to the sad performance. Love played her usual antics, contributing to the naked female scene and performing mediocre renditions of her songs. MTV reality star and

singer Jessica Simpson also contributed to the less-than-stellar performance lineup—starting late, ending early, and breaking in the middle, all with no explanation.

With the exception of rain, some heat and too many drunk concertgoers, the 2004 Music Midtown festival was plenty of fun. Perhaps next year all the wrong people will stay clothed, and the right ones will get naked. One can only hope.

“Ludacris started the festival with a bang, pumping up the crowd by playing all his radio hits.”

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I'm not sold on the scientific accuracy of them, they are visually stunning and very satisfying to watch; there is nothing like a huge tidal wave to tell you that the big moment in the film has officially arrived.

The effects blend in well with the live action, well enough that my relatively untrained eyes could not distinguish where reality ended and CGI started by eyesight alone. Even

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which includes turning the Donkey into a noble steed. It is evident that Eddie Murphy, the voice of Donkey, definitely had a great time with the character.

Oh, and you must remember the Gingerbread Man and his most memorable quote from the first film: “No, no! Not the buttons!” You do remember him, right?

He is back and tougher than ever in *Shrek 2* with his new, flour-generated legs. Oddly enough, I suddenly feel the desire for some gingerbread.

Overall, the movie boasts smart

the tornadoes, which were certainly CGI, looked realistic.

And since every weather disaster imaginable is included for our viewing pleasure, lots of eye candy permeates this movie.

With the characters being stereotypes, the actors could not do too much with their given roles, but they acquitted themselves nobly of the job, despite some rather trite lines.

Dennis Quaid had an appropriately mournful face, Jake Gyllenhaal looked the part of his estranged

son, and Emmy Rossum was an apt love-interest to the latter.

So all in all, get some popcorn, and go see the movie. It'll be fun, you'll have something to trash from a science standpoint, and you'll get some great visuals. If you are an EAS major, this is definitely not for you (trust me on that one—you will cry).

But if you just want to spend a fun couple of hours in a theatre, then go. You'll have a blast. Oh, and watch out for the Prez's appearance.

overlapping of dialogue (especially when Shrek and Fiona arrive at the palace), as well as twists and quirks about classic characters that make them even more interesting.

For example, The Fairy Godmother happens to be a manipulative b#\$%h. I didn't know that, so I bet you didn't know that.

I also bet that you don't know the relationship between the Frog in fairytales and Fiona. Am I right? Well, go see the movie for yourself and, I assure you, you won't be disappointed.

It is a good thing the Oscars now have an animation category, because this movie could definitely

be nominated. Yes, it will definitely be nominated.

Seriously though, it is a beautiful piece of animation that is also an accurate snapshot of current and classic pop culture.

I would recommend this movie to kids and adults of any age, and I am definitely looking forward to *Shrek 3*. I wonder what that story would chronicle...

Maybe the Kingdom Far Far Away goes from a monarchy to a democracy, and Shrek has to run against Prince Charming and the Bush twins, who happen to be Democrats. Well, I am just brainstorming!

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