

## ENTERTAINMENT

Technique • Friday, November 6, 1998

## Two Bits

Read Two Bits Man as he discusses politics in the U.S. Turn to page 21.

## Pleasantville

Another *Truman Show*? Find out. Turn to page 22.

# Waterboy one up on Happy Gilmore

By Sean Morrison and Will Raiman  
*Random Numbers Department*

Studio: Touchstone  
Running Time: 90 mins. short  
Rating: PG-13  
Starring: Adam Sandler, Henry Winkler, Kathy Bates, Fairuza Balk  
Acting: 2.0 / 5.0  
Action: 4.0 / 5.0  
Drama: 3.0 / 5.0  
Humor: 5.0 / 5.0  
Suspense: 1.0 / 5.0

*Waterboy* is the heartwarming story of a college football team's mentally-challenged water boy Bobby Boucher (Adam Sandler) who rises to fame as an extremely effective tackler. The team's coach (Henry Winkler) clings to the water boy as his only hope of winning games, and the water boy's Mom clings to him as any psycho mom would.

**Sean:** I think that I should preface our review with the following note about our impartiality towards this movie: we have none! I've wanted to see this movie since I first saw



Adam Sandler, the born-again football player, takes direction from his coach on delivering water as well as tackling and drop-kicking members of the opposing team into submission.

By Jon Farmer / TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

the trailer. When the pass showed up in the *Technique* office, Will and I threatened bodily harm to any one who tried to take it from us (senior staff writers get perks).

**Will:** You weren't even there! I had to kill our editor. With bloody pass triumphantly in

hand, we walked into the movie and laughed, and laughed, and laughed. Indeed, anyone who has seen one of the many great Adam Sandler movies knows how consistently funny (and bizarre) they can be.

**Sean:** And this was one of Sandler's funniest to date. I'm not

positive, but I'm pretty sure I laughed more (and harder) than I did when I first saw *Happy Gilmore*. I think what set this movie apart from many in the genre is that Adam Sandler really grasped the motivations behind the character

See *Waterboy*, page 20

## U2 1980 — 1990

Shad Hashmi  
*U2 Fan*

This article is the first in the two part series that reviews U2's latest offering *The Best of 1980 — 1990*.

"This is the end of something for U2. It's no big deal, it's just that we have to go away and dream it all up again," Bono, Dublin, New Year's Eve, 1989, the end of the final homecoming show of the Lovetown Tour. Those words will go down in rock legend, next to stories of Hendrix and Clapton guitar face-offs. This CD set captures the aura of that prophetic statement.

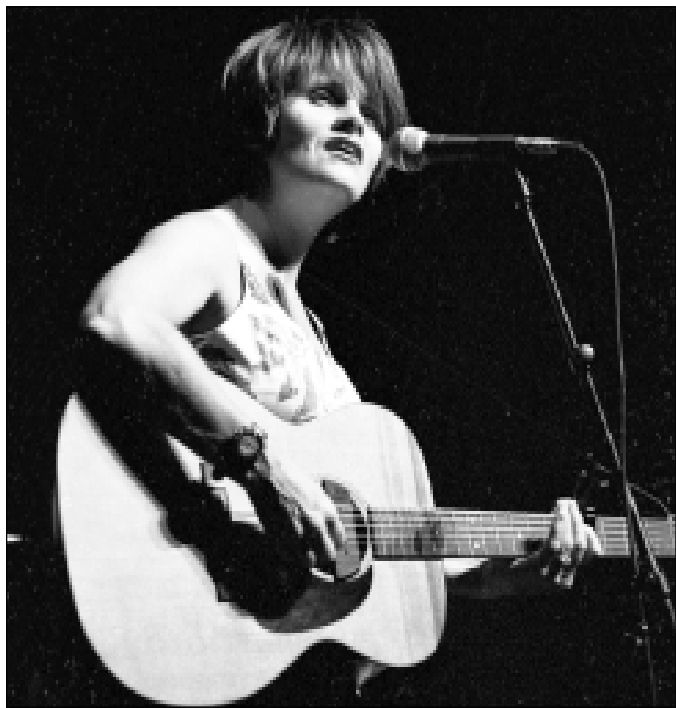
Trying to review U2's greatest hits CD is like trying to critique *Macbeth*, arguably one of the greatest tragedies of all time. The stature of the *Macbeth* is such that any criticisms merely display the ignorance and short-sightedness of the reader, so it passes with U2's *The Best Of 1980-1990*.

The first CD on this two CD limited edition set is just a compilation of the hits that have made U2 a household name worldwide.

Once the headphones go on the first CD is emblazoned on the memory of any U2 fan like an Unforgettable Fire. The CD kicks off rattling with "Pride" and the pace with which the hits roll off this CD does not wane.

The only week point in the entire CD was U2's latest single, the unreleased B — side from *The Joshua Tree*, "Sweetest Thing". This track stands out like a sore thumb in the midst of illustrious company. U2 should have realized that the reason that they did not release the song in the first place was that it was good enough. But that is just a minor flaw in an otherwise brilliant CD.

## Colvin rocks the Ferst



By Carrie Chin / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Shawn Colvin gave a touching solo-acoustic performance at the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts.

By Talley Bulman  
*Shagadelic Baby!*

The Georgia Tech community was recently treated to a rare performance—Shawn Colvin, unplugged. Colvin, who is best known for her #1 hit, "Sunny Came Home," appeared at Tech's own Robert Ferst Center for the Arts on October 28.

Shawn Colvin came on stage around 9 p.m. During her nearly two-hour set, she played songs off her first album, as well as her latest release. Her acoustic performance provided for a very intimate setting and allowed her to talk with her fans, and take requests.

Fans showed their appreciation with a standing ovation, and Colvin in turn gave an encore performance. Kudos to the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts for bringing another star to the Tech campus.

For more information on upcoming events at the Robert Ferst Theater for the Arts call the Box Office at (404) 894-9600.

## Rumors swarm around DramaTech

By Leila Whitman  
*Special to the 'Nique*

DramaTech presents Neil Simon's *Rumors* this quarter in the Dean Dull Theatre. One of Neil Simon's most hilarious plays, it shows the rich coping with their ever-demanding lives as suburbanites in New York. For a few short hours we are thrust into a world of fancy homes, prestigious tennis clubs, and BMWs. For the gossiping idle rich, scandal is never far off.

As the lights go up, we find ourselves sitting inside a richly decorated home with matching couches and a stairway leading to the balcony of the second floor. However, all is not well in New York. From the outset, a woman comes into the scene looking nervous and frantic. The action of the comedy starts here and keeps right on going until the final twist of the show.

The all-star cast contains some old DramaTech favorites, but there are new faces making a strong debut. The cast includes Gene Hullester, Kevin Donnelly, Molly Lipscomb, Carletha Jones, Siddharth Manay, Elizabeth Rocco, J. Austin Hajar, Kelly Mitchell, Angelo Maniquis, and Dipika Jain. Each character has a distinct personality, and the mix creates the perfect formula for laughter. A wide array of occupations are represented including a lawyer, a psychiatrist, a woman with her own cooking show, and a political official. Each person's "talents" (quirks along with their respective occupations) come into use as they struggle with the increasing crisis and strange turn of events.

DramaTech does an incredible job of paying attention to details. The glasses, decanters, lamps, flow-



By Josh Freeman / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Molly Lipscomb plays Chris Gorman in DramaTech's latest production, *Rumors*, a comedy set in the rich, snobbish uptowns of New York.

ers, and tablecloths are all meticulously placed. The painting job is also impressive with a elegant marbling effect produced on the floor. As the actors make their entrances in their tuxedos and dresses, we find ourselves at the party with them fully immersed in their problems and crisis. The sound effects, which includes a flushing toilet as well as gunshots, all add to the realism and believability of the events unfolding all around.

*Rumors* does contain some strong language though. The image of the pristine and proper rich elite repeatedly uttering "shit, shit, shit, shit" adds a touch of humor and another dimension of reality. The humor is sharp and quick so you

have to pay attention to catch everything. Better yet just relax, enjoy yourself, and laugh your worries away.

DramaTech's production of *Rumors* by Neil Simon opens tonight. Performances are on November 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 1998 at 8:00 p.m. in the Dean Dull Theatre. Reservations are recommended. On November 13, 14, 20, and 21, DramaTech Theatre will present a special 'late-night' performance of David Ives' *All in the Timing* after the conclusion of *Rumors*.

Tickets: \$4 students, \$6 GT faculty/staff, \$8 general public. For reservations, call 894-2745.

# Waterboy

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of Bobby Boucher. . . or maybe it was just because it was full of wacky stuff that was hilariously out of left field.

**Will:** Wacky stuff is good. For example, Bobby's girlfriend Vicki (Fairuza Balk) is an ex-con who is constantly offering to steal or kill for Bobby. Another terribly fun part of this movie is the central football theme. Watching Bobby go to town tackling endless quarterbacks is like watching the highlight reel on *SportsCenter*.

**Sean:** As an avid fan of *SportsCenter*, I especially enjoyed the little blurbs in the movie where Dan Patrick is talking about Bobby. There were also a number of other funny cameos (and one very ironically funny one). Then there is always Kathy Bates, who does a superb job portraying Bobby's psycho mother.

**Will:** Nothingsays, "psycho mom" like frog cakes. Mmmm, that's right: crispy, crunchy frog cakes fresh from the oven. Indeed, the Southern Louisiana setting adds a lot to the atmosphere of this

movie. Look for lots of dentally-maladjusted locals speaking in unintelligible Creole. What I can't figure out is how South Central Louisiana State University ended up playing Clemson and Ohio in football games.

**Sean:** Well, everyone knows that Climpson is a redneck school, so who better for them to play than a bunch of inbred backwater Creoles? I really must say, however, that some of the wacky stuff was just a bit too wacky for me. I mean, I really loved this movie, but there was just some stuff that, well, <shudder> was just plain wrong.

**Will:** You wouldn't be referring to the forty-something pasty white redneck with prominent nipple rings, would you? Or maybe the rampant eating of poorly prepared furry woodland creatures? Fortunately, that sort of stuff isn't too common in the movie, and I think was just in there for the shock value. It was really quite shocking (or at least quite disturbing)! Once again though that bizarre stuff is something that helps define Adam Sandler's movies.

**Sean:** True. Who could forget Steve Buscemi with his list of people to kill and his scarlet red lipstick in *Billy Madison*? Or Chubbs and his one-eyed hand-eating alligator in *Happy Gilmore*? Just like Chris Farley's trademark was slapstick, physical humor, Adam Sandler's trademark is bizarre, off-kilter humor. You just never know what to expect, that truly adds a fun element to the movie.

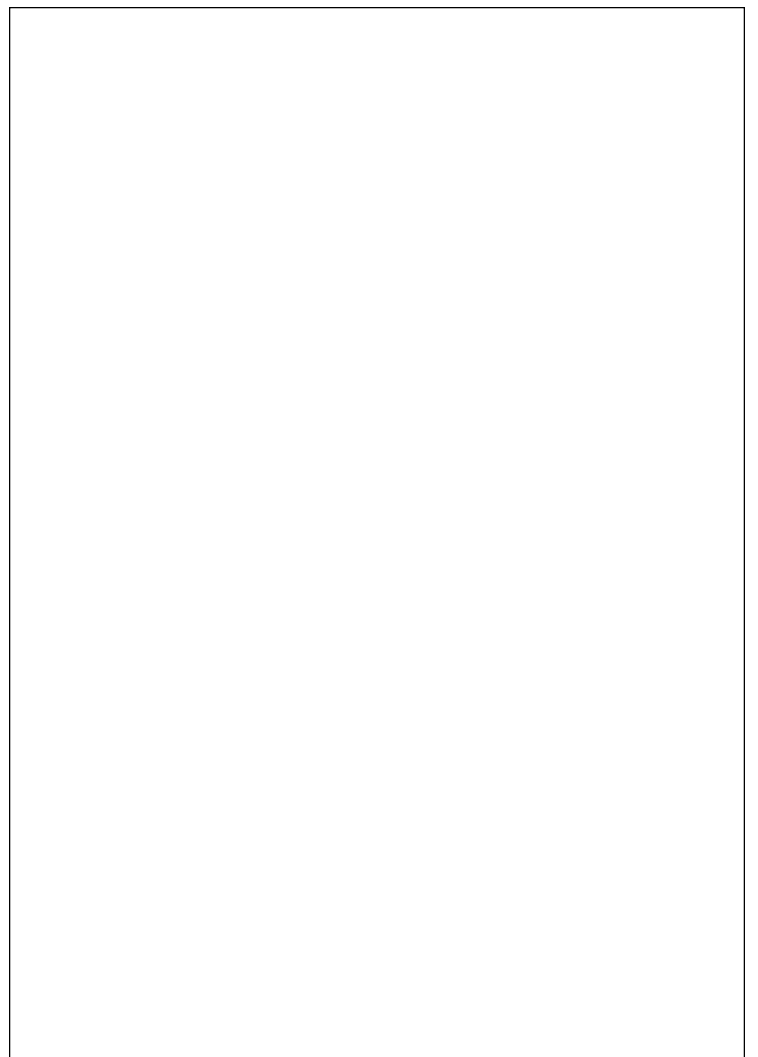
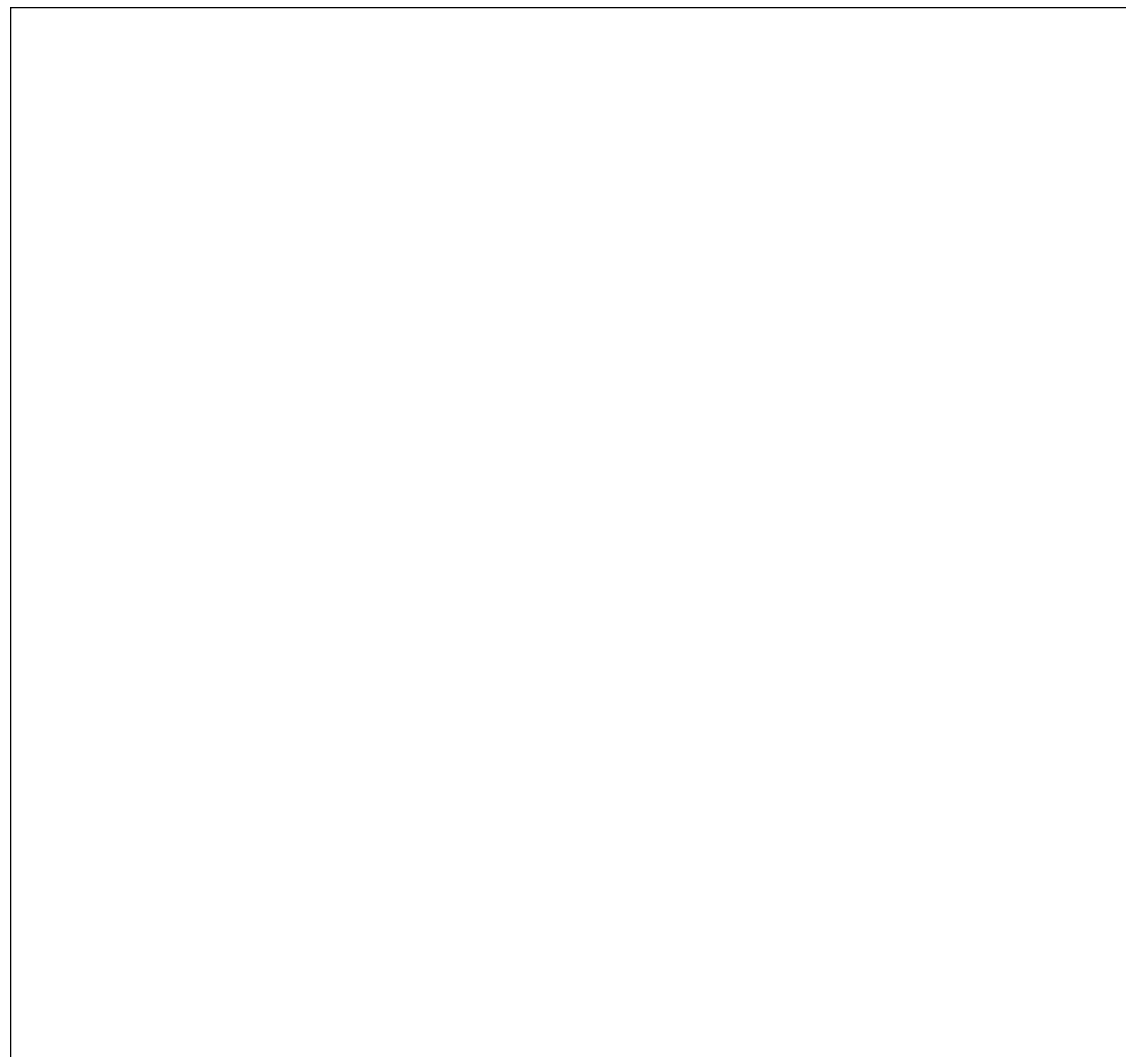
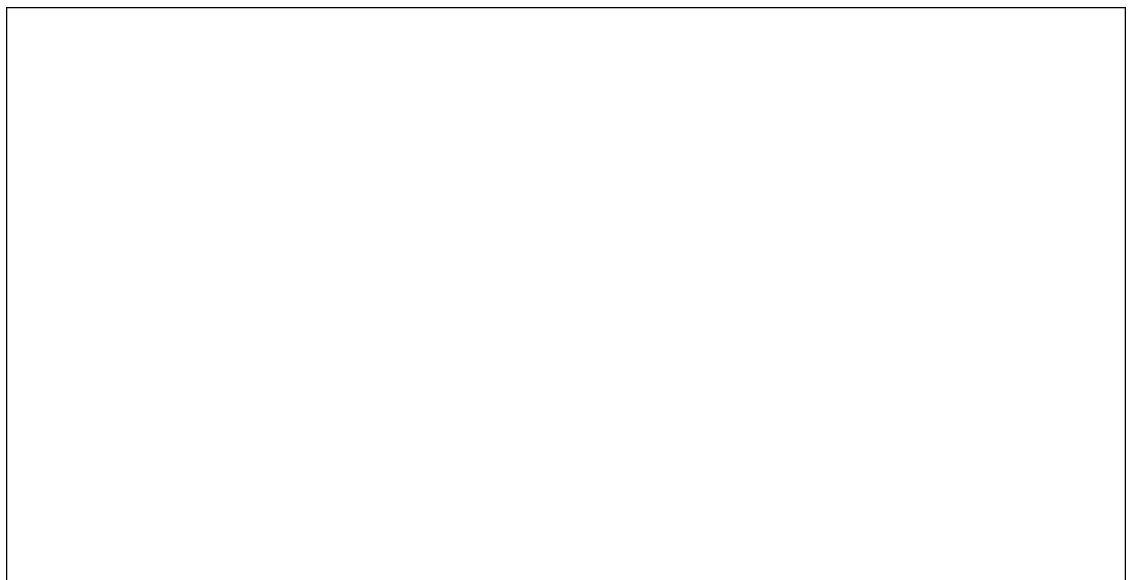
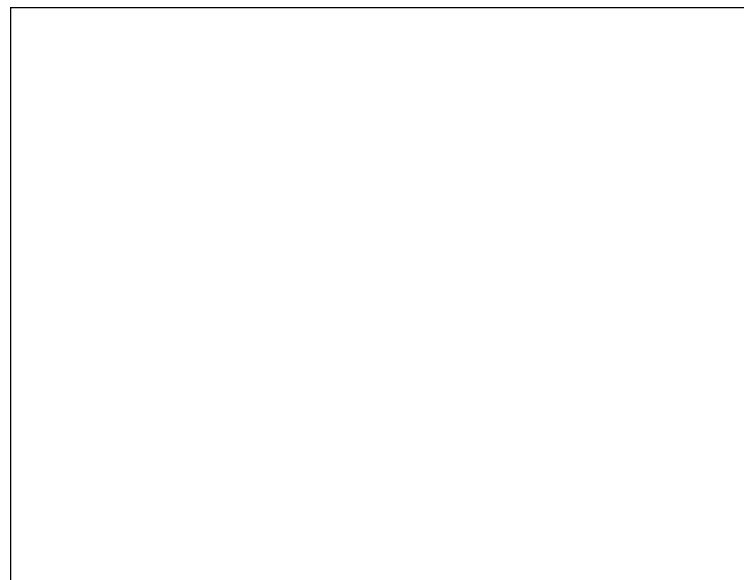
**Will:** Fun is the name of the game in an Adam Sandler movie. We were both laughing throughout the movie, and there were lots of surprises to keep us on our toes. Anyone who likes football would also get a kick out of this film. I loved all the great 'football players are dumb' jokes. Go see it! It's funny! So there!

**Sean:** Ooh, you sure told them. Let me just summarize my feelings on this movie. This movie was stupid in parts, silly when it wasn't stupid and often predictable. . . I laughed my hinder off watching it. When it opens this Friday, I will probably go see it again. So don't miss this one, go see it. Laugh! The world needs more laughter anyway.



By Jon Farmer / TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

Adam Sandler plays the lowly water boy who learns how to channel his aggressive instincts into the game of football.



Kill the guy with long hair.



# 'Pleasantville' candidate for your mom's favorite movie

By Daniel Booth  
Proud to be related to J.W.B!

Studio: New Line  
Running Time: 124 min.  
Rating: PG-13  
Starring: Joan Allen, Jeff Daniels, William Macy  
Acting: 4.0 / 5.0  
Action: 1.0 / 5.0  
Drama: 4.5 / 5.0  
Humor: 4.0 / 5.0  
Suspense: 1.0 / 5.0

*Pleasantville* may not be the best movie you will see all summer, but it could very well could be your mother's.

When two high school kids, possible poster children for Generation X, are fighting over a television remote they are magically whisked away from their 1998 broken home into *Pleasantville*, a television show/

altered realm where everything can be summed up as "swell" or "keen."

*Pleasantville* is the epitome of the black-and-white 1950s sitcom ala *Nick-at-Nite*. *Pleasantville* weaves a secure atmosphere that would even be sterile even in the eyes of the elderly or the most devout of *Leave It to Beaver* junkie.

Tobey Maguire plays David Wagner whose mind is born of black and white reruns. He is cast alongside Reese Witherspoon, sister Jennifer the embodiment of all that is cheap in a relationship, she's a harlot. Together, David and Jennifer try to fit into this world devoid of color, clouds, sex, toilets, and people like Holden Caulfield. In short the town is seemingly utopian. Unfortunately, order is fleeting and seldom worth its price.

Very soon after their arrival changes start to take place. These changes

spread like wildfire through Pleasantville, their constructive or destructive nature is left to opinion.

*Pleasantville* makes a smooth transformation from the comic to

"Through subtle conversions Pleasantville skillfully satirizes the individuals most ardent for social regression."

the dramatic, its comic twists do not dampen the movies' depth. Along with this transformation the movie blooms from black and white

to full color using state-of-the-art technology, thereby adding visual transformation to the already well planned dramatic conversion. Through these subtle conversions, *Pleasantville* skillfully satirizes the individuals most ardent for social regression, while managing to sound neither controversial nor offensive.

Despite *Pleasantville's* seemingly original plot, it does rather coincidentally resemble this summer's blockbuster *The Truman Show*. For those who enjoyed *The Truman Show* or thought it was interesting but a little disturbing you are likely to find *Pleasantville* just as amusing while a bit easier to swallow. This last part is largely due to the subtle comedy of *Pleasantville's* Jeff Daniels and William Macy (the car dealer in *Fargo*) as opposed to Truman's manic and overly exaggerated Jim Carrey. While Daniels and Macy

play well suited roles as simple and oblivious Pleasantville towns people, Joan Allen (*Face Off's* female lead) supplies us with this year's second ranked abdomen-clenching masturbation scene (The first being in *There's Something about Mary*).

All three performers are known for their supporting acting and no one actor overshadows another. This makes for a well balanced movie that cannot help be comical while adequately restrained.

*Pleasantville* ends after little over two hours with most everything done well but only special effects done remarkably.

In conclusion, I would not recommend running red lights to see this movie but it certainly provides a reasonable substitute for a cold beer or a back massage if you happen to have six dollars and a couple hours to kill.

## Liz Phair

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versy have dissipated. Now a wife and mother, Liz Phair explores more down to earth issues in *Whitechocolatespaceegg*.

With this in mind the entire premise of the album becomes evident, a lot of her songs deal with her own self and family. The notable ones amongst these are "Polyester Bride," "Baby Got Going," "Uncle Alvarez," "Only Son," and "Girl's Room."

Each of these songs brings an air of Phair to our ears. The first single off the album, "Polyester Bride" is a sweet catchy tune about Phair's relationship with bartending is simply great, definitely the best on the album.

The wavy drum machine at the start of "Headache" makes it a very interesting song. Another numbers like "Ride" with a fast paced melody definitely stands out on the album.

What makes this album good isn't the drum machines or catchy lyrics, but something much more. On the first listen, it's clear that this album is nothing like you've experienced in Liz Phair's career. With this album Liz steers way clear from her Lilith Fair cohorts. Liz Phair's truly folklorish/rock-and-roll nature are truly a unique combination.

Each of the sixteen tracks on this album has a different air to it; the ride of the CD is akin to an amusement park roller coaster. Liz Phair takes you fast to slow to fast again, mixing it up for her listeners.

This *Technique* is unique, and

something that was definitely appreciated by this reviewer.

I wouldn't go as far as saying that this album is perfect. It does have its weak spots: specifically the title track, which is one that is always fast-forwarded simply because it doesn't seem to fit into place among her other songs. At other times the al-

**"What makes this album good isn't the drum machines or catchy lyrics, but something much more. On the first listen, it's clear that this album is nothing like you've experienced in Liz Phair's career. With this album Liz steers way clear from her Lilith Fair cohorts. "**

bum just doesn't seem to fit the mood. Although this album does have its weak points, they don't outweigh its good parts, at least in this critic's point of view. It is truly a unique album, something worth checking out.

# Begin to use your computer now

Steven Moy

*T-minus 36 days and counting*

It's been nearly two months now. You're well into the Fall Quarter, maybe you've picked up an intramural, you've probably dropped a couple courses already. You've had less than 24 hours of sleep in the past two days. You are totally fried! Perhaps going to that last lecture wasn't the best idea. You're desperate for something to relax your frizzled brain.

Now, take a look over to your desk for a second. What do you see? Something that vaguely resembles a television screen? The Magic E-mail Box? The Matlab Torture Device? No, no, it's just your computer. Now, wait a second, I know what you're going to say. You don't want to spend any more time than necessary chained to your desk, but hear me out. I'm about to tell you about something that will relax your mind, ease your aggression, and do something useful with that two-thousand dollar radiation box for no additional cost.

NO, DON'T THROW IT OUT THE WINDOW. Just go to these sites and download these three files and you'll be well on your way to escaping all your troubles:

**Blood 2** - [www.the-chosen.com/home.asp](http://www.the-chosen.com/home.asp)

**Heretic II** - [www.hereticii.com/](http://www.hereticii.com/)

**Trespasser** - [www.avault.com/pcl/adventure\\_temp.asp?](http://www.avault.com/pcl/adventure_temp.asp?)

[game=trespasser&size=29.77](#)

The idea here is to give you something to do to get your mind off of school. What you'll find at these sites are demos of games that are slated for release in the next few weeks. The beauty of the demo concept is that you get a taste of how the game will play without having to shell out forty or fifty dollars for the experience.

First up is *Blood 2* from Monolith Productions, who also created *Shogo*, covered in a previous issue of the *Technique*. In short, Caleb, through whose eyes you see the world in *Blood 2*, has walked the Earth for years, trying to discover a way to resurrect the original three Chosen: Ophelia, Gabriella, and Ishmael. With their combined force, they can retake the Cabal and help Caleb return to his former position of power as the Cabal's supreme leader, a position which he feels is rightfully his.

From a press release from Raven Software, the developer, and Activision, the publisher, "*Heretic II* sets players on a quest through dark, labyrinthine environments as they search for a cure to a deadly evil plague before all is lost."

As Corvus the character from *Heretic* who has been banished to the Outer Worlds by D'sparil, players perform a variety of acrobatic, swimming and climbing maneuvers in order to penetrate the mystery of the plague. Exploring city, swamp,

canyon and dungeon levels, gamers use a variety of offensive and defensive spells such as the Sphere of Annihilation, Repulsion and Fireball in conjunction with a magical bow and staff to defeat a multitude of insane plague-ridden denizens of Parthoris.

Finally, Dreamworks Interactive presents *Trespasser*. Based in *Jurassic Park*, *Trespasser* offers a promising combination of exploration and dinosaur combat to pull you into 'site B' now in ruins after the *Lost World* fiasco. *Trespasser* is the first 3-D game to feature a complete physics engine allowing the player to stack crates to climb over a wall, push a trailer home on its side or even use a rifle as a club when you run out of ammo.

Well, there you have it. Three more ways to procrastinate from studying, each interesting in its own way. Whether as a creature from the underworld, or a mythical leader from a fantasy world, or a scientist trapped on an island of dinosaurs, you're sure to forget your responsibilities for at least a few hours. Go ahead; do something useful with your computer for once.