

# Versus

The Vanderbilt University Arts and Entertainment Magazine

FEBRUARY 17—FEBRUARY 23, 2010

VOL. 48, No. 5

## of Montreal

James Huggins of the psychedelic indie rock group on putting on a show, working double time and going solo.

## PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

### **Cedric Burnside, Lightning Malcolm, Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybeats — The Basement**

Blues artists Cedric Burnside and Lightning Malcolm take the stage tonight at Nashville's The Basement. Also playing tonight are Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybeats, who are fast becoming one of the biggest up-and-coming bands in blues. As writer Barton King explained in his recent article for Versus, "Take one part James Brown, one part Howlin' Wolf, one part swinging big band, finally adding eight parts soul and you've got Black Joe Lewis & The Honeybeats." Interested in some sticky sweet blues and soul? Don't miss this show. (TBA, 9 p.m., 1604 8th Ave. South)

### **Scott Miller & The Commonwealth — The Mercy Lounge**

Join Virginian Scott Miller with his band The Commonwealth as they perform tonight at the Mercy Lounge. In his own words, Miller "blends folk and rock like there ain't no words for." Furthermore, "unlike most of the faux-simplified-effete-elite-Americana/Alt-Country world, Miller was actually raised on a working farm. His parents were a WWII generation couple that carried on the Spartan lifestyle of their Scots-Irish forefathers. Miller has described the lifestyle as 'Amish that drink.'" Miller is sure to put on one hell of an authentic show. (\$10 in advance, \$12 day of, 9 p.m., 1 Cannery Row)

### **Sonia Leigh and Levi Lowrey — Exit/In**

Returning to Music City tonight is Atlanta country/rock singer-songwriter Sonia Leigh. Joining her is fellow Georgian Levi Lowrey, also a country/rock musician who is fast becoming a household name (both acts have toured with Zac Brown). Levi and Sonia are two of the industry's fastest-rising stars and are sure to wow audiences night after night. (\$10 in advance, \$12 day of, 8 p.m., 2208 Elliston Place)

### **The El Dorados — 2nd Avenue Live**

Returning to the stage at 2nd Avenue Live this Thursday night is Vanderbilt's favorite party band, the El Dorados. After making their 2010 debut just under a month ago at the same venue, the El Dorados (or the El D's for short) have continued to hone their live show, perfecting their covers of sing-along classics. Expect plenty of crowd participation as well as surprise guest artists — drop on by for the perfect dose of Thursday night debauchery. (\$5, 10:30 p.m., 154 2nd Avenue)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

### **We Were Promised Jetpacks — The End**

Edinburgh, Scotland's foremost alternative rockers We Were Promised Jetpacks will be flying into the End this Friday. This band from across the pond formed in 2003 as part of a local battle of the bands contest — flash forward seven years: with the adoration of the UK under the belts, they released their first studio album, "These Four Walls," stateside in June. Exciting and fresh, this band is worth every penny, and if that's not enough to get you in the door, lead vocalist Adam Thompson has one killer Scottish accent. (\$10, 9 p.m., 2219 Elliston Place)

### **Unknown Hinson — Exit/In**

Stuart Daniel Baker, aka Unknown Hinson, is known for his unique brand of psychobilly rock. A manifestation of Baker's subconscious, Unknown Hinson is a carefully crafted stage persona, an alter ego. With an outfit that screams of 1920s country and a hair-do like a the vampirish grandpa from The Munsters, this "country vampire" is sure to rock the house down with his penchant for face melting riffs. Drawing on elements from the darkest reaches of redneck culture, Hinson is spooky-scary good. (\$7, 8 p.m., 2208 Elliston Place)

### **Keb'Mo — Ryman Auditorium**

Raised in South Central LA on gospel and blues, guitarist/vocalist Kevin Moore loves to play the blues the way that it is meant to be played: with lots of heart and soul. A Grammy Award-winning artist, Keb'Mo has earned the praise of such notables as Jackson Browne and Bonnie Raitt. The quintessential musician, Keb'Mo channels the spirits of past blues icons, performing with an unparalleled passion and command. Do not miss this performance Friday at the Ryman. (\$24.50 - \$42.50, 8 p.m., 116 5th Ave. N.)

### **Dierks Bentley, Montgomery Gentry, Craig Morgan & more — Grand Ole Opry**

A veritable who's-who of country superstars will be rocking the Grand Ole Opry as if it were a barn party this Friday night. Dierks Bentley is guaranteed to give country fans all they can handle with hits from his new album, "Feel That Fire." Also performing are Lexington, KY's own "rowdy redneck rebels," Montgomery Gentry. Not to be outdone, Craig Morgan will be initiating members to the "Redneck Yacht Club," capping off a star-studded night of cowboy boots and brass buckles. Also performing will be Diamond Rio, The Del McCoury Band, Riders in the Sky, Bobby Osborne and the Rocky Top X-Press. (\$26 - \$51, 7 p.m., 2804 Opryland Drive)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

### **Mulholland Drive — The Belcourt**

Looking for a more relaxing evening this Saturday night? Head into Hillsboro Village to The Belcourt and check out David Lynch's cinematic psychological thriller Mulholland Drive, starring Naomi Watts and Laura Harring. As IMDB summarizes, the film follows an "amnesic woman and a perky Hollywood-hopeful [as they] search for clues and answers across Los Angeles in a twisting venture beyond dreams and reality." At times ambiguous but wholly entertaining, don't be shy about taking a "drive" to the your local independent theater this weekend. (\$8.50, 12 a.m., 2102 Belcourt Ave.)

### **Toubab Krewe w/ Arpetrio — Exit/In**

A band that has infused influences from American and West African music, Toubab Krewe has, according to Afropop Worldwide, set "a new standard for fusions of rock 'n' roll and West African music." Formed in 2005, this instrumental quintet combines the best elements of African culture with the sounds of their American hometowns. An interesting musical experiment, audiences should expect original percussion and exhilarating instrumentation. Also performing will be Arpetrio, a band that boasts its "new funky livetronica sound" as captivating and creative. (\$12, 9 p.m., 2208 Elliston Place)

### **The Seagull — Neely Auditorium**

Come support your peers as they perform Russian playwright Anton Chekhov's 1896 comedy The Seagull. Often compared to Shakespeare's Hamlet, this play has intriguing love triangles, individual treachery, bouts of insanity and numerous instances of character frustrations, anger and passion. Chekhov's work is critically acclaimed and showing right here on campus! (\$10 general admission, \$7 for grad students, free for undergrads, Neely Auditorium Theatre Room 106)

### **Benefit for the John Jarrard Foundation feat. Walt Aldridge & Bob DiPiero — Bluebird Cafe**

As described on the Bluebird Cafe's website, John Jarrard was "a well-known Nashville songwriter who penned hits for a number of country music stars." In 2001 he lost his battle with diabetes. In his memory, a group of friends led by well-respected songwriter Bruce Burch, organized the John Jarrard Foundation. Proceeds from the concert go to benefit local community organizations in North Georgia. Performers include Walt Aldridge, Bob DiPiero, Rory Bourke and Kendall Marvel. (\$15, 6:30 p.m., 4104 Hillsboro Pike)

### **The Regulars**

**THE RUTLEDGE**  
410 Fourth Ave. South 37201  
782-6858

**THE MERCY LOUNGE/CANNERY BALLROOM**  
1 Cannery Row 37203  
251-3020

**BLUEBIRD CAFE**  
4104 Hillsboro Road 37215  
383-1461

**EXIT/IN**  
2208 Elliston Place 37203  
321-3340

**STATION INN**  
402 12th Ave. South 37203  
255-3307

**THE BASEMENT**  
1604 Eighth Ave. South 37203  
254-1604

**F. SCOTT'S RESTAURANT AND JAZZ BAR**  
2210 Crestmoor Road 37215  
269-5861

**SCHERMERHORN SYMPHONY CENTER**  
1 Symphony Place 37201  
687-6500

**3RD AND LINDSLEY**  
818 Third Ave. South 37203  
259-9891

**CAFE COCO**  
210 Louise Ave. 37203  
321-2626



FRUITIONsalon.com  
STYLING . CUT . COLOR

615.298.7771  
ONLINE BOOKING AVAILABLE  
2700 belmont boulevard

SHU UEMURA *beauty and bumble* GOLDWELL

# Versus

FEBRUARY 17—FEBRUARY 23, 2010 VOL. 48, No. 5

## Versus Magazine

### EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief  
**Avery Spofford**

Life Editor  
**Chris McDonald**

Culture Editor  
**Matt Shelton**

Entertainment Editor  
**Charlie Kesslering**

Music Editor  
**Grant Darwin**

Fashion Editor  
**Lauren Junge**

Art Director  
**Matt Radford**

Designers  
**Irene Hukkelhoven**  
**Kat Miller**

Marketing Director  
**George Fischer**

Advertising Manager  
**Carolyn Fisher**

VSC Director  
**Chris Carroll**

Assistant VSC  
Directors  
**Jeff Breaux**  
**Paige Clancy**

Journalism Fellow  
**Erin Prah**

## Party and Bullshit



**1.** Pip Owen, Brad Gordon and Caroline Agovino in NOLA **2.** Allie Semler, Ali Leblanc, Tracey Feldman and the (in)famous Naked Cowboy at Mardi Gras **3.** Senior members of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority flash the Theta sign at Varsity Grille **4.** Members of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity celebrate Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

## From the Editor



I've never understood the fascination people seem to hold with girls being, by requirement and necessity, shorter than guys. Sure, women as a gender are generally shorter than men, but I don't know why this became required to play out in the dating world at any cost. To be the same height as or taller than your boyfriend (or boy du jour) is considered so abhorrent that my friends (and my mother) constantly caution me against dating below my station ... in height. According to this (skewed) logic, the only men available to me are those who exceed the 5'10" mark. "A pretty average height for a college-aged male," you might say, "What's the problem?" Aside from the obvious issue of principle, I like high heels. Really, really high heels that often put my height at and above 5'11" or 6'0". So, at this point, according to a random chart I found online, we've ruled out 75% of the male population based solely on the fact that by some freak of genetics I am 5'9" and have a 5'2" girl's shoe preferences.

Yet I continue to be harassed when I choose to date someone my height or shorter. Friends make jokes, my mother says I'm ruining the gene pool, guys tell me to wear flats. What gives? If anything, it's evidence of some weird complex or fetish for men to idealize a "type" of woman that is tiny and twiggish and for women to prefer hulking giants in whose shadow they are completely obscured. I've dated guys taller than 6'3" and shorter than 5'6" ... I don't understand why people seem to think height plays some role in our compatibility. We are not living in caves or in the prehistoric jungle. I don't need to be constantly protected from warring tribes (unless your frat gets in a brawl downtown), and the only hunting I might require is a dive through the line at the bar to grab a beer. I don't need a muscle-bound bodyguard or some kind of super-athlete to ensure survival or even success in this world — women today have their own careers and lives separate from their fathers and husbands, so why are we looking for protectors instead of partners?

Even worse, it's not like the women on this campus are in any position to be making cuts based on something as superficial and silly as a guy being shorter than 6'0". Let's face it, ladies, the general quality of males we're working with is not that great to begin with. Furthermore, there are so many more relevant reasons to rule a guy out — like wearing a "Murse" (see page 8) or drinking fruity drinks (a character flaw that can be remedied by our "20 dollar bottle" feature in the Culture section). Don't let's be ridiculous.

*Avery Spofford*

## Words to live by in seventeen syllables

Know: If you give it  
Up for Lent, the kids will find  
Your eggs by Easter.

All time low: spending  
V-Day eating cookie dough  
Playing Chat Roulette.

## OVERHEARD

Some people on this campus just don't think before they speak. Sometimes we are lucky enough to overhear what they say.

Compiled from the Facebook group "Overheard at Vanderbilt"



English professor: "Tamora knows how to use her sexuality to what she wants; it's just like Jasmine pretending to work it for Jafar ..."

Sorority girls doing homework: "Does 'IV' stand for something? You know, like an IV in the hospital?"

Random guy: "We went to Waffle House because I really wanted pancakes ... but they only had waffles. What the hell?"

Girl in Rand: "Oh My God! I have to waste my meal plan eating with him!"

Girl in Commons study room: "So he picked up my underwear and put them on. It was a thong."

## Horoscopes



### AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18

Still Hungover from Vanderbilt's Takeover of Pat O'Brien's at Mardi Gras Saturday night? Me too.



### PISCES 2/19-3/20

Spring Break is still three weeks away; try to get SOMETHING accomplished before then.



### ARIES 3/21-4/19

Yes, that zombie-pledge is crying in Rand. Life is tough — buy him a cookie, it's only going to get worse for the little guy.



### TAURUS 4/20-5/20

Your mother will become very ill this week, when she releases her debut mixtape. The illest of dem all.



### GEMINI 5/21-6/21

In response to your underwhelming Valentine's Day, you will over-assert yourself in social situations. Don't make it a habit.



### CANCER 6/22-7/22

I told you floppy old lady boobs were not going to be as cool as you thought.



### LEO 7/23-8/22

Yeah! That is a great idea for a sport; get in a giant ice skate and go down an ice roller coaster.



### VIRGO 8/23-9/22

I bet you \$10,000 you can't photosynthesize.



### LIBRA 9/23-10/22

The people at P.F. Chang's totally think it's funny when you stick chopsticks in your nose, go for it!



### SCORPIO 10/23-11/21

You will be a better person this week. Don't make it a habit.



### SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21

The plus side of not going to Mardi Gras: not only did you get all of your work done and not have to spend Valentine's Day in a hungover car of misery, but you can go out THAT MUCH HARDER this week/end.



### CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19

Don't be jealous; they're fake.

# CULTURE

## A fuzzy weekend: One survivor's Mardi Gras memoir

**CHARLIE KESSLERING**  
Entertainment Editor

How do you put a blur down on paper?

I guess it started with a flask of SoCo downed in a sequence of hungry swigs on Friday afternoon. I had catching up to do. We (myself and a few other would-be Neanderthals) had made the nightlong drive from Nashville, and after a God blessed omelet, chocolate freeze and farewell fist bump from my man Marvin at Camellia Grille, a nap had stolen what remained of the morning. So a flask it was.

Happy hour followed. The Boot, a liquor-rich clubhouse for the poor and thirsty students of Tulane, hosted this coming-out party of sorts, introducing our mouths to the delicious fury of a New Orleans Hurricane. Or a few.

What came next was a wild boar of an evening: A cold, hard tour of the Big Easy. Watching a

parade from the war zone formally (or formerly?) know as St. Charles Street,

I exerted myself endlessly, lunging for beads like an obese tween after airborne chicken wings. Then there was Bourbon Street. Stumbling among the obliterated masses, I downed a Hand Grenade and, for an hour, endeared myself to the locals with passionate inquisitions of "Who Dat?" And after a generous friend waved down a cab with a crisp \$50 bill, I slept

like an intoxicated baby, a tremendously pleased intoxicated baby.

Saturday carried the same rapturous tone. Rapturous in the sense that we were

to-face with the supposed teetotalers of the afterlife. Orleans Avenue played

at, friends to revel with and Port-O-Johns in which to find true religion. And as

we emptied my backpack of its sudsy load, my memory, like the air, became darker and darker.

Back to Bourbon we went, entering the French Quarter like child soldiers — veterans of a battle but not yet desensitized to the realities of war. How do you prepare for that? For police officers on horseback giving high-fives? Does one ever get

their appropriate position on the timeline of my past. However, of these things I am sure: I didn't lose my wallet, did lose some dignity and that trashcan at Pat O'Briens remembers what I had for dinner better than I.

Little did I know before Friday, but I'd been practicing for this weekend all along. Those games of pong, pulls of Jack, trips to Sportsman's — but dabbles in the art of debauchery. A preliminary regiment. Earthly preparations for a cosmic adventure. Before my pilgrimage to New Orleans, I had been a mere pickpocket, stealing glimpses at the good life, wholly unaware of the sensory delight found in that first big score.

Mardi Gras — forever an extraordinary blur — was my Debutante Ball, my Bar Mitzvah. With that first shirt on Bourbon went my innocent youth. And, until Sunday morning, it felt like a million bucks. ☘



micheleantonete.com

drinking as if it were the end of days — getting in our kicks before arriving face-

host to our daylong rage, providing an assortment of monstrous floats to gawk

used to boobs on balconies? Yet I'm left with such visions, entirely unsure of

## Senior Citizennes

**EMILIE HALL**  
Staff Writer

If you're a senior girl at a frat party you might as well be a midget in a mosh pit. Everyone's kinda wondering what you're doing there and why you're not at home in your pint-size snuggie. In fact, the only time you're going to get a beer is if it smacks you on the side of the head on its way to someplace younger and hotter. Or it's like being a chaperone. You find yourself walking around pulling people's skirts down and informing the 19-year-old birthday girl that she just lit her cigarette by the wrong end. It's glaringly obvious that the only thing going home from the bar with you these days is a hotdog, my dear. Your body has been through the wars and you, brave soldier, are carrying four years of competitive drinking in your inner thighs. I hate to be the one to tell you this, but the rest of your college nights

are going to be hopelessly platonic. And here's why that is a good thing:

1) You can practice being a cougar now. It will come in handy after your first divorce.

Have about six or seven sophomore boys' numbers in your rotation and send them really inappropriate text messages. They won't really know what to do you, but you will: Laugh.

2) When you want to dance, boys aren't grinding on you. Curiously, there seems to be a four foot radius around you. Get creative. Get low.

3) Notice how lovely and soft our hands are? That's because we aren't scrubbing underage X's off in the industrial sink at Miss Kelli's.

4) Remember that you *are* in a meaningful relationship. With your king-size bed.

5) While everyone else is complaining about the cold weather, you're inwardly

smiling because you haven't shaved your legs since ... um, wow ... I really can't ... Halloween?

6) On spring break, maybe no guys will be staring at your ass. But you can bet your ass those sophomore girls will be staring at your chicken fingers. Offer them a few and watch the tears well up in their eyes as they sadly shake their head. Just remember your skinny-arm pose and your Talbots cover-up. ☘



guestofaguest.com

## 20 DOLLAR BOTTLE 'Ignite the Nite' with Fireball

**CHRIS MCDONALD**  
Life Editor

"The roof, the roof, the roof is on fire. We don't need no water, let the motherfucker burn ... " Wise words never rang truer than when I first indulged in Fireball Cinnamon Whiskey, this week's \$20 bottle. As the name suggests, Fireball tastes like you are drinking liquefied Big Red gum ... except that it kicks your ass as well as your mouth. With only the slightest hint of actual whiskey taste, this liquor is more akin to candy than it is to an actual alcohol ... if candy came in a 66 proof option.

I first found this delectable treat when browsing aisle after aisle at Midtown several weeks into the school year. As seems to be the case with many people my age, I am a total sucker when it comes to bottle design. And with a picture of the Devil himself spitting fire on the label, I was immediately sold on the purchase. Trying it for the first time later that night, Fireball

quickly solidified itself as a fast favorite of mine, no longer just an impulsive novelty buy.

When it comes to taste, few liquors are as genuinely enjoyable as Fireball. The cinnamon flavoring itself is strong but not overpowering — it's not so much that it's hard to swallow, but it is enough to almost completely mask the flavor of the corn whiskey base (sorry to all you purists out there). So, while it may look like whiskey, your taste buds will soon be singing another tune. So, what's the best way to drink this fiery concoction? According to my roommate (who seems to have made it a personal goal to kill at least one bottle a weekend), there is no way to drink it but straight. Sure, you

can *try* to make a mixed drink, but why waste the flavor? Leave it in the freezer until the last possible minute, then pour shots of chilled hellfire.

Why so great as a shot? It's simple — at once, it's both hot and cold, sweet and spicy and smooth and biting, a combination that seems thrown together by the devil himself. Seconds after the cold liquid momentarily scorches your throat, a warmth creeps over your entire body, and before you know it, you'll be halfway through the bottle, clamoring for more.

With a tagline of "Ignite the Nite," Fireball is all about fun. As the website itself promotes, "It tastes like heaven, but it burns like hell. And when that burn hits your lips, you'll definitely snap to attention. It's a great way to start the party ... any time you need a little spark." ☘



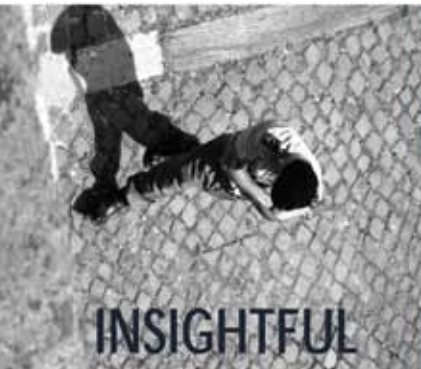
bestbrandinc.com

InsideVandy.com

## John Cabot University



INTERNATIONAL



INSIGHTFUL



INCREDIBLE



INSPIRATIONAL

ROME ITALY

Study with us for a semester or year

JCU is an American liberal arts university in the heart of Rome providing an international education for degree and visiting students since 1972. JCU welcomes visiting students on their study abroad tours.

Explore! [www.johncabot.edu](http://www.johncabot.edu)

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Internet Hoopla

### Facebook's Farmville nurtures fun



LAUREN JUNGE  
Fashion Editor

For those of us with ADD, Facebook's Farmville is by far the greatest thing since sliced bread.

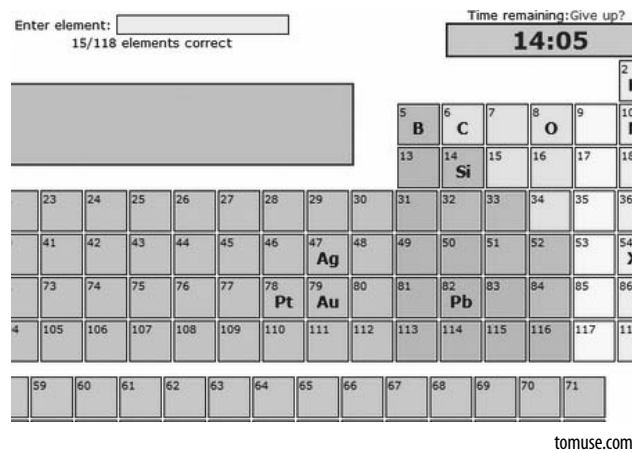
While I am definitely addicted to this seemingly silly game, I once never knew what it was. "Farmville" was something I only read about in TFLN (another ADD-soother), until one day I spied a friend mindlessly planting soybeans on a digital farm in Facebook-land. Looking over, I asked her "What the hell are you doing?" And suddenly, after exclaiming, "OMG, let's so be neighbors!" I was accepting my Farmville invite. Mere minutes later, I was hooked.

Farmville essentially allows you to have a virtual farm online—you do everything from the simple things like harvest fruit trees, plant seeds, collect crops and play with animals to more complex endeavors like decorating your farm for the holidays, building a horse stable, hosting a barn raising and filling a chicken coop. You can even visit your friends and fellow neighbors farms or expand your farm (for a pretty penny, otherwise known as "Farmville Coins").

Farmville really is the best game for boring classes, procrastinating late nights or even those times you simply feel like embracing your inner child. And if you're really hooked, I suggest you check out the other games Zynga makes in collaboration with Facebook.

So, hey, if you happen to get hooked on Cafe World, come visit me, we can cook up some virtual spaghetti together.☞

### Sporcle entertains for hours



ALEX GOLDBERG  
Staff Writer

Ever tried to name every single "American Idol" winner and runner-up since season one? What about every Shakespeare play? Or every college team that has ever made it to the BCS final standings since 1998?

Rather than writing your answers down on a piece of paper and looking on Wikipedia to see whether your guesses are right or wrong, Sporcle.com allows you to play such guessing games in a convenient and organized fashion. Sporcle offers hundreds of user-created guessing games that are sure to both test your knowledge and stimulate your mind. It is the perfect way to pass time, gain knowledge or have fun with your friends as you all try to guess every Adam Sandler movie ever made.

Sporcle.com offers new games every day, so even the most addicted Sporclers always have a new quiz to tackle. The game even lets you know where you rank in your ability to guess the most common first names of U.S. presidents. It's difficult to fully explain the awesomeness that is Sporcle.com, so check it out for yourself as a way to beat off your Mardi Gras hangover and procrastinate studying for that biology test.☞

## Razzie nominees announced

BEN RIES  
Staff Writer

The Academy of Arts and Sciences released its list of nominees for the 82nd Annual Academy Awards on Tuesday, February 2. In accordance with tradition, The Golden Raspberry Award Foundation released its own list of nominees one day earlier. The Golden Raspberry Awards, often shorted to "The Razzies," honor films at the opposite end of the quality spectrum: Namely, the worst of the year.

Understandably, Razzie-nominated stars are typically reluctant to attend the yearly ceremony. There are a few exceptions — Halle Berry showed up to receive her 'Worst Actress' award for 2004's *Catwoman*. And Tom Green donned a tuxedo and brought his own red carpet in 2002 when he received 'Worst Actor,' 'Worst Director,' 'Worst Picture,' 'Worst Screen Couple' (for Green and 'any animal he abuses') and 'Worst Screenplay' for his much-loathed comedy *Freddy Got Fingered* (2001). On March 6, that movie will be competing against *Battlefield Earth* (2000), *Gigli* (2003), *I Know Who Killed Me* (2007) and *Swept Away* (2002) for the grand prize of 'Worst Picture of the Decade.'

Sandra Bullock is in an interesting awards position this year, nominated for both a Razzie for 'Worst Actress' for "All About Steve" and an Oscar for 'Best Actress' for "The Blind Side." Box-office giant "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" is in a similar situation. It's up for seven Razzies, including 'Worst Picture of 2009,' making it the most nominated movie of the year; however, it will also be competing at the Oscars for 'Best Sound Mixing.' The other candidates for 'Worst Picture of 2009' are "All About Steve," "G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra," "Land of the Lost" and "Old Dogs."

Razzie nominations are often made with a dark sense of humor: 'All Three Jonas Brothers' were nominated for 'Worst Actor' for "Jonas Brothers: The 3-D Concert Experience" and nominees for 'Worst Onscreen Couple' include 'Kristin Stewart and either Robert Pattinson or Taylor Whatz-His-Fang' for "Twilight Saga: New Moon" and 'Will Ferrell and any co-star, Creature or Comic Riff' for "Land of the Lost."

The prize for Razzie 'winners' is a shabby statute of a raspberry mounted on a film reel. Each trophy is covered in gold spray-paint and has an estimated cash value of just under \$5.00.☞

## THE ENDORSEMENT

### 'Keeping up with the Kardashians'



tvmedia.ign.com

MARIA CRIST  
Staff Writer

Sisters Kourtney and Khloe bicker, annoy each other, make public appearances and make time to manage their Calabasas clothing store. This season we've seen a wedding, a pregnancy, anger management classes and a fair amount of break-ups and make-ups.

As much as these people don't live in any type of reality, Kris is the prying mother that everyone has, Kourtney's boyfriend, Scott, is the significant other that your family can't accept, and the whole group speaks to one another how you often want to speak to your family but never will. As silly as the episodes are, the show portrays a real family. They look out for each other; they support each other, and this is what distinguishes "Kardashians."

The glamour, the fabulous clothes and the self-absorption are ever-present, but dynamic, loving relationships are the backbone of the show and the reason why "Kardashians" is one to catch Sundays at 9 p.m. on E!.

In theory, "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" is a show you would never want to watch. Mostly obnoxious and always flashy, the Jenner-Kardashian family drama could be written off into "celeb-reality" oblivion. However, "Kardashians" brings something more to the table than just juicy superficiality, and if the 4.1 million viewers that tuned into this season's premiere don't prove it, keep reading.

The show, now in its fourth season on E!, revolves around the Kardashian family and their daily antics. While Kim was the first of her family to establish herself as a Hollywood socialite, sex tape and all, the show has staying power because it truly is about a family. Matriarch Kris balances parenting and managing her children's careers. Step-father and former Olympic athlete Bruce Jenner plays the passive father role, and doesn't do much of anything but observe the chaos of his household.

## Film right now

### What to watch: 'Shutter Island'



aceshowbiz.com

BEN RIES  
Staff Writer

Those looking for spooky fun are likely to enjoy "Shutter Island," which is set for release tomorrow.

The presence of stars like Leonardo DiCaprio and Ben Kingsley under the direction of the reliably brilliant Martin Scorsese virtually ensure that "Shutter Island"

will deliver high-quality entertainment. Scorsese described the movie in an interview as a "psychological thriller with touches of gothic horror," promising a tense suspense film similar to his 1991 hit "Cape Fear."

The story is outlined by the trailers: In 1954 two U.S. Marshals (DiCaprio and Mark Ruffalo) arrive on the titular island off the coast of

Massachusetts to investigate the bizarre escape of a prisoner from a hospital for the criminally insane. Soon, mysterious events lead the marshals to suspect that the doctors and employees running the hospital may have a sinister agenda.

"Shutter Island" is the latest installment in the ongoing Scorsese-DiCaprio partnership, which over the

last decade has produced critical and commercial hits like "Gangs of New York" (2002), "The Aviator" (2004), and "The Departed" (2006), all of which were nominated for Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director ("The Departed" won both). In other words, "Shutter Island" is unlikely to be Martin Scorsese's first bad movie.☞

### What to rent: 'A Serious Man'



2.bp.blogspot.com

MATT SHELTON  
Culture Editor

Chances are, when the Coen Brothers released "A Serious Man," you were busy watching something with a slightly more scintillating title.

Even with a solid backing by almost all critics, "A Serious Man" never saw as much commercial success as some of their previous films (think "Fargo"). But fortunately for you, this means that this diamond in the rough makes a

perfect escape from the tacky romantic comedies that plaster the silver screen in February. Its heady themes and subject matter don't make it the perfect escapist drama, but more of a thought-provoking one. It's like an existentialist

"The Big Lebowski" with a shot of religion added.

Need to get your mind off that girl/guy after a rough V-day? Trust me, this relationship will be a lot easier to get serious with than that V-day DTR.☞

# WRITE FOR VERSUS!

Interested in writing about arts and entertainment? E-mail [avery.l.spofford@gmail.com](mailto:avery.l.spofford@gmail.com) or come to our staff meeting on Thursday at 6 p.m. in the newsroom (located in the basement of Sarratt).

## HAVE YOU BEEN VACCINATED AGAINST HEPATITIS B?

Healthcare Workers, Medical Students, Teachers, etc.  
Your antibodies are in urgent Demand!

If you have had the 3-shot series for Hepatitis B six months ago or longer, you can help others who have come in contact with Hepatitis B.

Earn up to \$450 per month for your donation.

Call or email today for more information:  
Southern Blood Services, Inc.  
Tel: 615-342-0180  
Email: [info@southernbloodservices.com](mailto:info@southernbloodservices.com)

**URBAN ACTIVE** Fit, Fun & Ready for the Sun!

**Free 7 Day Pass!**  
Unlimited Gym Access & Level 1 Tanning! [\$100 Value]  
Some restrictions may apply. Expires: 03.14.10

**BRING THIS INTO URBAN ACTIVE**  
Antioch, Hermitage, Rivergate or Brentwood  
1-866-89-URBAN  
[www.urbanactive.com](http://www.urbanactive.com)

**20% OFF** any bottle of lotion!  
**FREE T-SHIRT** First 100 College Students with valid ID!



**JET'S PIZZA**  
2323 Elliston Place  
329-8600

**\$7.99** Large One-Topping Pizza

Pizza by the slice  
Dine in, Carryout and Delivery Available



Was that you with your friends supporting Dance Marathon?  
... Take a peek at p. 219

Were you wearing black and gold at ESPN's GameDay?  
... See p. 230

Did you hang out in front of the Rites of Spring stage?  
... Flip to p. 249

**You might be in the Commodore Yearbook...**  
Share the memories of 2008-09 with your friends and family.



Get the 2009 Commodore Yearbook  
**AT THE BOOKSTORE**  
on sale today!

To pre-order the 2010 yearbook, visit [www.VanderbiltCommodore.com](http://www.VanderbiltCommodore.com)

# MUSIC

## INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS

### Who would you rather be: Jay-Z or Paul McCartney?

#### It's no 'Hard Knock Life' being Shawn Carter

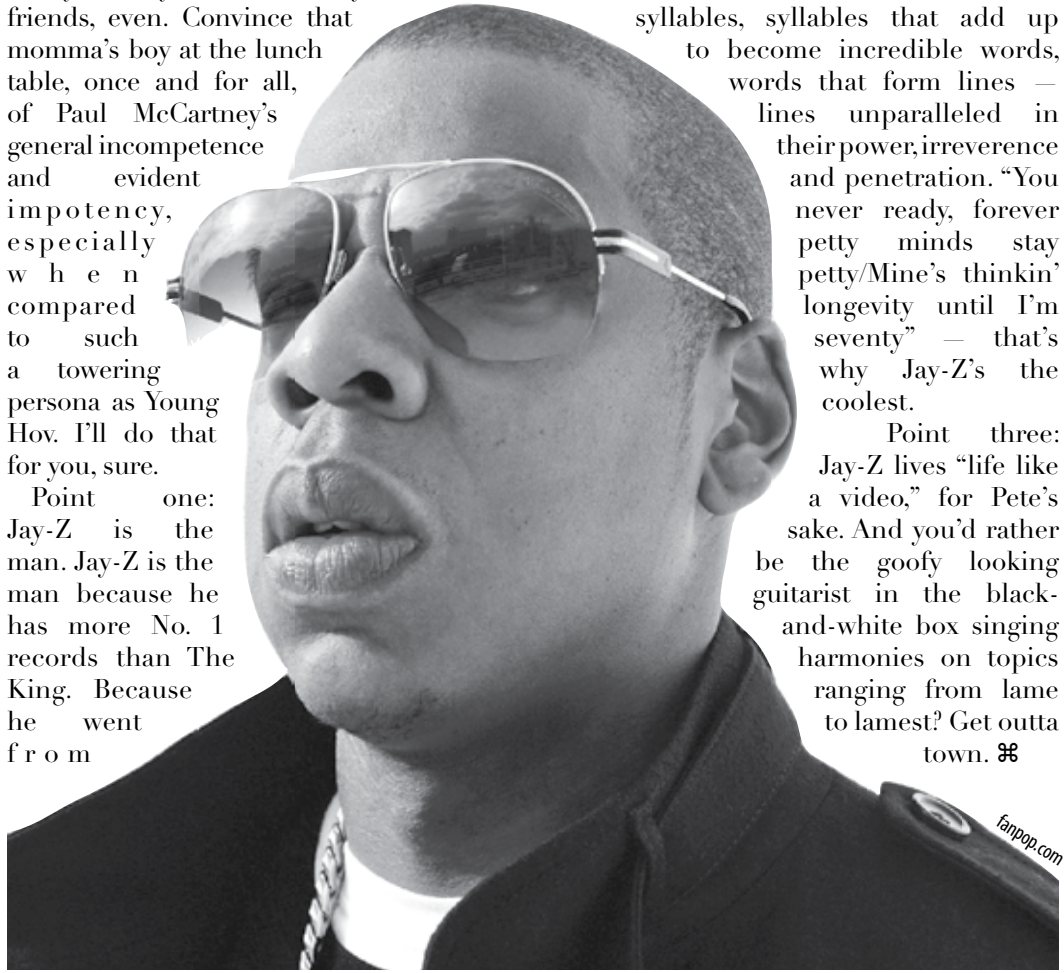
**CHARLIE KESSLERING**  
Entertainment Editor

Around the age Paul McCartney started trying on his mother's clothes, Jay-Z was redefining interstate commerce one crack rock at a time. In adulthood, as in youth, Jay-Z's life puts the aforementioned Brit's to shame. Even in the Beatle's prime, he was a sissy — a sissy who played sissy music (see: "I Want to Hold Your Hand"), took sissy drugs (see: hallucinogens), and most obviously cut his own hair. Justin Bieber with a stupid accent. John Lennon's talent-less shadow. Why would I rather be Jay-Z? Stop being rhetorical, silly pants. But I'll humor you; I'll give you a full-length article and all that jazz, one you can read and feel cultured. One you can yuck about with your friends, even. Convince that momma's boy at the lunch table, once and for all, of Paul McCartney's general incompetence and evident impotency, especially when compared to such a towering persona as Young Hov. I'll do that for you, sure.

Point one: Jay-Z is the man. Jay-Z is the man because he has more No. 1 records than The King. Because he went from

"grams to Grammys." Because he wrote a song called "Money, Cash, Hoes." Jay-Z is the man because he can play ball with LeBron in the morning, cold lamp with Kanye in the afternoon and, at night, experience the innumerable comforts of Beyonce Knowles. Because he can watch a Nets game at the 40/40 club, wearing a RocaWear jacket, lounging with the inconceivable satisfaction of being fingers deep in each of those pies. Point two: Jay-Z is the coolest. The coolest ever. Paul McCartney never walked with the swagger of Shawn Carter, never looked good in all black, never, to quote the rapper, got "shorties like a thespian" — like a wannabe, at best. Hova's a study in freshness. His demeanor cannot be bought, bartered or sold. His flow is a cascade of fantastic syllables, syllables that add up to become incredible words, words that form lines — lines unparalleled in their power, irreverence and penetration. "You never ready, forever petty minds stay petty/Mine's thinkin' longevity until I'm seventy" — that's why Jay-Z's the coolest.

Point three: Jay-Z lives "life like a video," for Pete's sake. And you'd rather be the goofy looking guitarist in the black-and-white box singing harmonies on topics ranging from lame to lamest? Get outta town. ☘



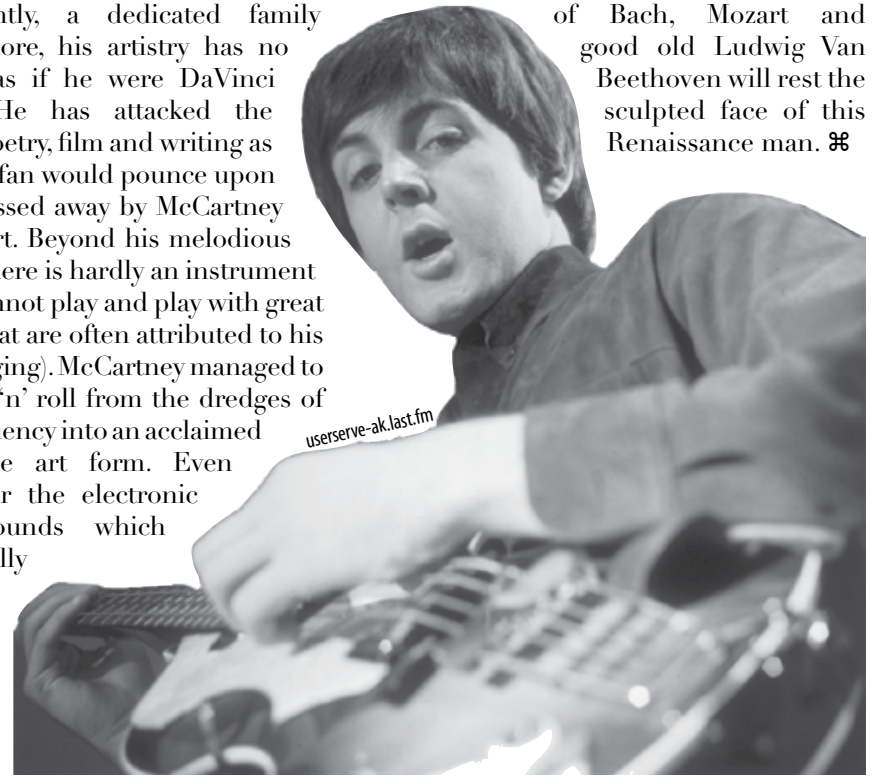
#### 'A Day in the Life:' Why I'd be Paul McCartney

**GRANT DARWIN**  
Music Editor

Jay-Z undoubtedly changed the rap game, but Paul McCartney changed the game, period. HOVA makes money. McCartney has made more. Jay-Z may run New York, but Paul commanded an international legion of unwavering followers. Frankly, who wouldn't choose to be this man if they could? To be this musical mastermind, an iconoclast in his own category, is simply incomparable. Beyond the obvious benefits of international superstardom and a plethora of adoring girls worldwide, to be McCartney in the '60s means having the power to fundamentally alter the shape and form of music history. Beyond the ubiquitous accolades, being the most successful songwriter of all time, boasting 60 gold records and millions of singles sold, McCartney has shown a human depth that extends far beyond his music. Humble and always professional, he has proven to be a consummate businessman, a wise investor, an admirable activist and, most importantly, a dedicated family man. Furthermore, his artistry has no limits, almost as if he were DaVinci reincarnated. He has attacked the disciplines of poetry, film and writing as ferociously as a fan would pounce upon a guitar pick tossed away by McCartney during a concert. Beyond his melodious singing voice, there is hardly an instrument that Sir Paul cannot play and play with great skill (abilities that are often attributed to his musical upbringing). McCartney managed to transform rock 'n' roll from the dredges of juvenile delinquency into an acclaimed and respectable art form. Even the concept for the electronic beats and sounds which are so critically elemental to rap were in many ways born of the blood and sweat shed by McCartney

in London's studios. He would ravage instruments, splitting and splicing bits of music and insignificant noises to create potent electronic symphonies. Certainly, Jay-Z gives Paul a run for his money in terms of their personal lives (Beyonce is one hell of a catch), and Lord knows what the former Beatle was thinking when he married lunatic Heather Mills in 2002. However, to say that Paul's private life was not an immense success would be wrong. He married a beautiful photographer, Linda Eastman, and the two had a very strong and long-lasting marriage that thrived until her passing in 1998.

But what is most impressive is that age has not affected this living legend. He is as universally cool today as he was 50 years ago. That's a tall order for Jay-Z to fill. Perhaps it's unfair to compare these two individuals, but if I had to choose to spend my life as one of these icons I would choose the Beatle every time. I firmly believe that in the future sitting in a row with the marbled busts of Bach, Mozart and good old Ludwig Van Beethoven will rest the sculpted face of this Renaissance man. ☘



## This year's Bonnaroo lineup guarantees you will lose your flip-flops (and maybe your mind?)

**CAITLIN MEYER**  
Staff Writer

Each year's Bonnaroo lineup is an indie kid's wet dream, leaving the musical layman out in the cold with nobody or nothing but alcohol and bud to fill the daytime slots between Kings of Leon, Dave Matthews Band and Jay-Z's nighttime headlining spots. This year, though, fear not — here's a brief lowdown on who to know and what to expect for this summer's greatest four days of music, camping, inebriation and mass hysteria.

For those of you going to bro out to Dave and Kings of Leon, give The Dodos and The Temper Trap a listen. The Dodos' lo-

fi, percussion-driven, feel-good brand of indie pop can make anybody smile and sway to tracks such as "Fables" and "Fools." The Temper Trap's runaway hit single which has taken Australia by storm, "Sweet Disposition," has successfully passed through customs along with the rest of their album "Conditions." Their live performances embody the feel of their music — happy, semi-danceable pop-rock that guarantees a good time.

If Jay-Z is more your speed, lend another Jay, Jay Electronica, your ear. His unconventional beats (generally formed from scores and soundtracks of various movies, including "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind") witty lyricism and New Orleans soul create a fantastically amalgamated style of music and make for an invigorating show. Also representing on the rap front is the voice of D.C., Wale, and the man who has stuffed the rap world into a rocket and shot it to the moon, Kid Cudi.

If dancing and getting lost in the bass and strobes is what you're looking for, Bonnaroo 2010 is

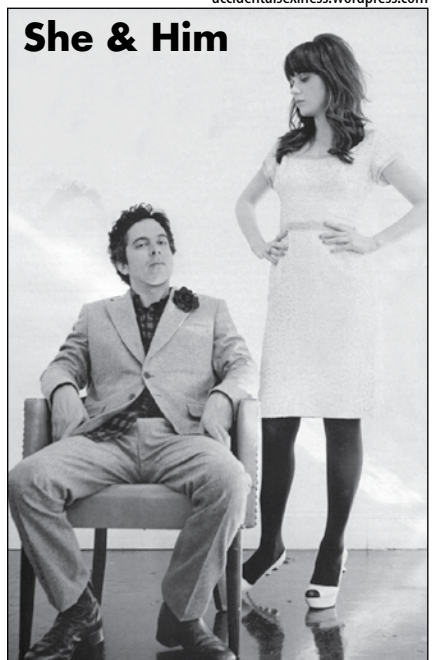
happy to accommodate. Attendees will be engulfed by Neon Indian's psychedelic, intricate, poppy dance jams. Furthermore, Sweden's Miike Snow, who touts irresistible tracks like "Animal" and "Black and Blue," and The xx are sure to

keep your high going all day.

Be sure not to miss She & Him, an interesting dark horse act. This band, the love child of Zoëy Deschanel and M. Ward, has perfected the art of sunshine pop. Their raw talent and pure energy are sure to translate

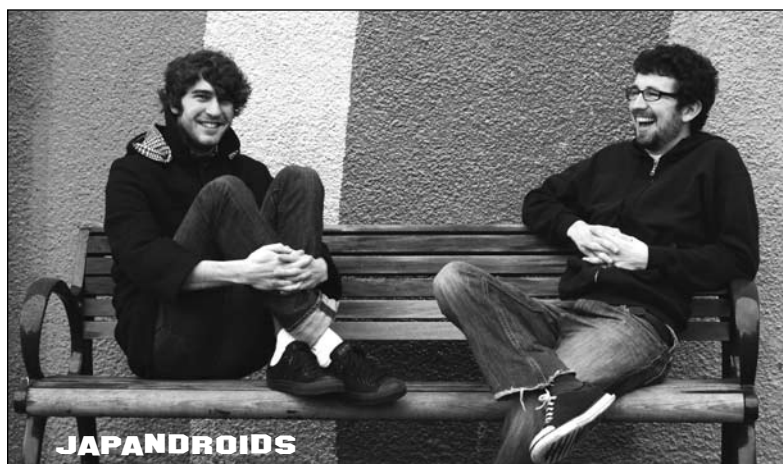
to an incredible performance.

With acts like these, "bang for your buck" is an understatement. Don't oversleep, chug a Red Bull, and get up and go see the myriad of other bands that make this annual event so undeniably special. ☘



“He and I were about as compatible as a rat and a boa constrictor.” — Stevie Nicks

# Be indie-vidual: Five indie bands to know



JAPANDROIDS

bcsene.ca.com

**OLIVER HAN**  
Staff Writer

## JAPANDROIDS

Japandroids have figured out a way to combine noisy, lo-fi garage fuzz rock with super catchy pop hooks. On each track, singer-guitarist Brian King’s vocals light up behind the exploding drums of David Prowse. The duo’s debut, “Post-Nothing,” will drag you through climax after whip-lashed climax until you are literally winded from the impact of their glorious noise. Tracks like the head-banging “Young Hearts Spark Fire” and the adrenaline-pumped “Rockers East Vancouver” demand to be played loud — very, very loud.



PHANTOGRAM

phantogram.com/forotcomes.com

## PHANTOGRAM

The hypnotic, Metric-like vocals of keyboardist Sarah Barthel, fat hip-hop drum machine break-beats, the shoegaze guitar work of Josh Carter and a luscious, dark synth drone combine with such perfection that, minus one or two missteps, each Phantogram track is bliss to hear. Make sure you listen to “Mouthful of Diamonds” and “Turn It Off,” both from the group’s stellar debut album “Eyelid Movies.” I’ll tell you one thing, I cannot wait to see where their sound goes from here.

## SURFER BLOOD

The debut album by this exciting new group from Florida, “Astro Coast” is chock full of high energy, catchy, guitar-driven power pop tunes. Tracks contain familiar elements of Vampire Weekend, Weezer and Ra Ra Riot, but are glazed over with warmth reminiscent of The Beach Boys. The band really shines on the dueling guitar anthem “Floating Vibes,” the mesmerizing rhythmic guitar strumming of “Harmonix” and the hook-ridden closer “Catholic Pagans.” For those who like to see a group live before investing in their music, this hot band is playing at The End on Saturday, Feb 20.

## MEMORY TAPES

Dayve Hawk’s debut album “Seek Magic” has the indie world up in a storm for good reason. The gorgeous synth pop he molds is rich with dense textures on top of luscious bass riffs — each track is a work of stunning complexity. Listening to “Pink Stones” is like exploring the depths of an overgrown jungle on an alien planet while experiencing all

its secrets in slowed-down trickling bass synth. “Bicycle” is similarly engrossing, a track that boasts an amazing chorus followed by a bass breakdown that makes the track’s climax an incredibly beautiful aural moment.

## GIRLS

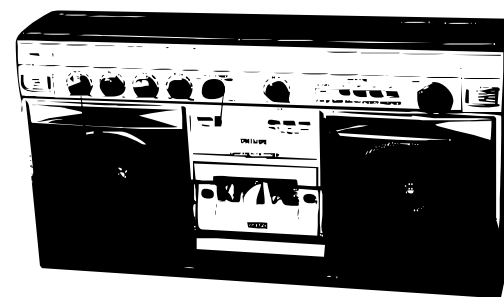
Singer Christopher Owens was raised in the extremist Children of God cult, where medical attention was banned and women were sometimes forced into prostitution. At 16 he ran away and lived on the streets of Texas before moving to San Francisco. There, he and Chet “JR” White formed Girls and recorded some of the most beautiful Californian guitar pop melodies of recent memory, all while under the influence of heavy prescription drugs. On tracks like “Lust for Life” and the seven-minute epic “Hellhole Ratrace,” Owens’ honest lyrics call forth memories from his miserable past, but the songs still manage to sound happy overall due to Owens’ laid-back vocals and sun-glossed guitar work. ☼



GIRLS

nypress.com

## SOUNDTRACK TO THE ISSUE



Below, the editors share what tracks we’ve been spinning as we create the glory you’re holding in your hands.

1. Staring at the Sun (Diplo remix) — TV on the Radio
2. Resurrection (ft. Kenna) — Lupe Fiasco
3. Light Outside — Wakey!Wakey!
4. Blood — The Middle East
5. Flossin' — The Cool Kids
6. Mouse and the Model — Dresden Dolls
7. Murder Ink — Dr. Dre
8. What's It In For? — Avi Buffalo
9. Big Eyed Fish — Dave Matthews Band
10. Right Now — SR-71

# The most interesting 'Man of the World'

**GRANT DARWIN**  
Music Editor

Animal Liberation Orchestra sounds like the name of a fundamentalist group, an organization more likely to blow up a meat production facility than to calm your nerves. The reality, however, is this: ALO is a band that emits a sound so intoxicatingly relaxing that stresses simply melt away, listeners likely working up a nice drool in the process.

A member of Jack Johnson’s Brushfire Records, ALO recently released their sophomore album, “Man of the World.” Boasting what is one of the coolest album covers I have seen in recent years, the album is noticeably less poppy than its predecessor, “Roses & Clover.” While maintaining the smooth percussive elements that have proven to be their bread and butter, “Man of the World” has a lyrical sentimentality absent on the previous record. Driven by a delightful bass line and subtle piano, on “Suspended” pianist/vocalist Zach Gill begs his love to “Carry me back, carry me back/Carry me home/We were born to live between tension and release.” A low tide to the high tide of “Roses & Clover,” this album is softer, generally with a much slower tempo. Jack Johnson’s fingerprints are all over it. “Gardener’s Grave,” which features tranquil vocals by Johnson and Gill, is simplistic and unimposing. Its lyrics are poetic and poignant: “So this place became my own/Planted a garden, I picked



alomusic.com

a spot for my grave/I called it home.” On the instrumental track “Matchbook Serenade,” the band shows its experimental, psychedelic side. The electric guitar is uninhibited and hypnotic, reverberating gently into listeners’ ears, and Dave Brogan’s drums guide the track along without making too much of a fuss. However, the album is not all laid-back. “I Love Music” is gleefully funky and “Time & Heat” has an upbeat tropical sentimentality to it, recalling the band’s SoCal roots. Gill, Steve Adams and Dan “Lebo” Lebowitz harmoniously collide on the chorus, bellowing “Time and heat” as Lebo’s guitar twinkles along. Colorfully serene, when listened to in its entirety “Man of the World” evokes the feeling of being awoken from a great night’s sleep by a charming, blue-skied morning. ☼

alomusic.com



**THIS PLACE WILL NEVER LET YOU GO**

A MARTIN SCORSESE PICTURE  
**LEONARDO DICAPRIO**  
**SHUTTER ISLAND**

PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENTS A PHOENIX PICTURES PRODUCTION  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH SIKELIA PRODUCTIONS AND APPIAN WAY A MARTIN SCORSESE PICTURE  
LEONARDO DICAPRIO MARK RUFFALO BEN KINGSLEY MICHELLE WILLIAMS SHUTTER ISLAND  
EMILY MORTIMER PATRICIA CLARKSON AND MAX VON SYDOW MUSIC BY ROBBIE ROBERTSON  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CHRIS BRIGHAM LAETA KALOGRIDIS DENNIS LEHANE GIANNI NUNNARI LOUIS PHILLIPS  
PRODUCED BY MIKE MEDAVOY ARNOLD W. MESSER BRADLEY J. FISCHER MARTIN SCORSESE  
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY DENNIS LEHANE SCREENPLAY BY LAETA KALOGRIDIS DIRECTED BY MARTIN SCORSESE

PHOENIX PICTURES R RESTRICTED  
SOUNDTRACK ALBUM ON BUNO RECORDS  
IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE FEBRUARY 19

# FASHION

## Long live McQueen

ALEXIS TABAK  
Staff Writer

On February 12, renowned British fashion designer Alexander McQueen passed away. The artist's death came as devastating news to not only those close to him, but also to the fashion community at large. McQueen was found dead in his apartment in Mayfair, London; those who found him have been quoted saying it appears he hung himself. It is clear that McQueen had a very difficult few weeks leading up to his death; both his mother and his mentor,

designer. Upon his entrance into the fashion world, the highly influential fashion stylist Isabella Blow saw that McQueen had a true gift for designing clothes and bought his entire fashion line. Blow wasn't the only one who had an attraction to McQueen's over-the-top, shock-worthy designs: they soon caught the eye of singer Bjork, who wore a McQueen design for the cover her 1997 album "Hegemonic." Bjork was so inspired by his creativity that she asked McQueen to direct the music video for her song "Alarm Call."

McQueen continued to shock the fashion world with his extravagant runway shows, ranging from recreating a shipwreck to a human chessboard. He added a sense of rebellion and imagination to the runway and was the first designer to use Indian models in London. In 1996 he succeeded John Galiano as head designer of Givenchy, but left in 2001 to pursue his own line after feeling his creativity was too constrained. Creating his own line turned out to be a smart idea: McQueen is the youngest designer to win the British Designer of the Year award and was named International Designer of the Year at the Council of Fashion Designer Awards. By 2007 the designer had opened high-end boutiques in all major fashion cities including Milan, New York, Las Vegas and Los Angeles. Today, A-list celebrities like Lady



aceshowbiz.com

Gaga, Sarah Jessica Parker and Rihanna publicly wear his clothes to many events.

McQueen's designs impacted the fashion industry and changed the runway world forever. With a gift for designing fresh, original, "push-the-envelope" collections, he inspired many designers to be more creative with not only their clothes but also their runway presentations. Truly a household name in the fashion and arts worlds, McQueen will be missed by members of the fashion realm, his fans and all those he so greatly inspired. ☞



angelesalmuna.com



chicstories.com

style guru Isabelle Blow, died weeks before he took his own life. McQueen was set to premiere his fall 2010 collection during this week's New York Fashion Week, but the show has been cancelled in light of his death.

Born Lee Alexander McQueen in 1969 to Ronald and Joyce McQueen, the designer often said he knew from a young age that he wanted to be a fashion designer. He attended London's most prestigious fashion school, Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design and graduated with a master's degree in fashion

## Tips for finding fashion gems on eBay

AVERY SPOFFORD  
Editor-in-Chief

1. Tell yourself how much you're willing to spend on an item BEFORE the final seconds of the auction.

There have been so many times that I've half-heartedly told myself I'd spend about \$200 on a purse, only to be taken up in the final-moment bidding frenzy and end up spending nearly twice that. Consider how much the item is worth and whether you can find another one on the site or in stores, which brings us to ...

2. When considering whether or not to bid on an item, or how much you want to pay for it, think about whether you can find the item in stores or again on eBay.

If there are currently five pairs of the Marc Jacobs pumps you want listed on eBay, you can bet that you'll be able to find them again at some point if the first pair slips out of your grasp. If something is still available in stores, don't buy it unless it's a real steal, because ...

3. Shipping costs can really screw you.

When you're shopping for an item, make sure to check out the shipping costs before you bid. A lot of items, especially those being shipped from overseas, can have shipping costs that

even exceed the price of the item. Disreputable sellers charge higher shipping fees to make a profit for themselves — make sure you include the cost of shipping in your plan for how much to pay.

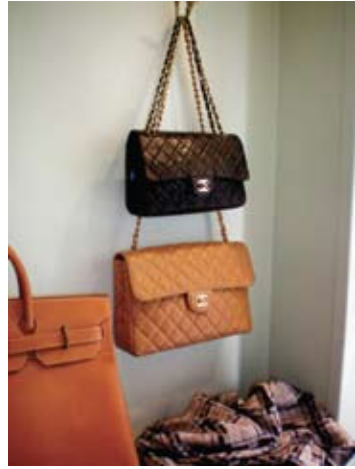
4. Beware of counterfeits. "Chanel purse! 100% AUTHENTIC! Bid now! No reserve! \$200!" ... A pretty clear indicator that

but no one other than an authorized dealer of the brand can officially guarantee that the item is legit. That being said, there are also a lot of authentic goods on the site — I've gotten three mid-level designer purses and three or four pairs of Marc by Marc Jacobs shoes from eBay, none of which ended up being counterfeit.

5. Always, always, ALWAYS check the item description for damages and whether or not the seller allows returns.

Another huge mistake buyers make is bidding on goods without thoroughly checking the item description, especially when the seller offers a "Buy it Now" option (you just want to buy it! Now!). You can get great used clothing and accessories from eBay, but many of them have damages like small tears or stains. Major damages might be a deal breaker, but don't sweat the small stuff, especially if it means a deep price cut on a one-of-a-kind item.

Sellers that don't allow returns may be selling counterfeit goods or may just be assholes, but I don't really deal with them either way — you just never know, and it's always good to have the option to return, even if it means taking the shipping fee as a loss. ☞



fashioncoup.com

the item you're looking at is a fake. It's very, very tricky to get your hands on legitimate designer items on the site — counterfeits abound, especially in listings for popular designer brands such as Chanel, Louis Vuitton and Marc Jacobs. Sites such as www.purseforum.com have discussion boards where you can post auctions and have items "authenticated,"

## The Murse: Pack or purse?

CHRIS MCDONALD  
Life Editor

MATT SHELTON  
Culture Editor

As I was tearing away at the wrapping paper like a 10-year old finally opening up the biggest present last, I unearthed an oddly shaped brown bag I was familiar with. "Epic," I exclaimed as I beheld my gem of a gift. "Cole Haan," my favorite brand of any shoe or leather accessory, was classically scribed in cursive on the front of the gift bag. But then I noticed that it wasn't a shoe-box shape. Perplexed, I opened up the bag to find a messenger bag, aka a "man bag," sitting inside. I sighed, hand forced.

For a long time I had been questioning whether or not to make the switch to a man bag, abandoning the high school backpack for something more sophisticated. On the other hand, man bags come with an effeminate quality, as they resemble a big purse. After a week of debate, I decided it was time to grow up and brought the bag back to Vandy. I've discovered

my mother's acumen was correct.

Combining fashion with function, the man bag (or messenger bag) is a must have for all the males out there looking to upgrade



images.allmoviephoto.com

"It's where I keep all my things. Get a lot of compliments on this. Plus it's not a purse, it's called a satchel. Indiana Jones wears one." — *The Hangover*

from that ratty old backpack to something that positively compliments his attire and adds a level of sophistication

to his overall appearance.

Not to be confused with the dreaded "Murse" (or man purse), messenger bags are the perfect size: large enough to fit laptop and books, but not so large as to lose half your belongings every time a new textbook is deposited. The over-the-shoulder strap doesn't add to the Hunchback of Notre Dame look people get when they walk around campus with 100 pounds worth of books stuffed into their Jansport or Northface backpack. Made of high-quality, durable cloth or rugged leather, this bag is built to last. Sure, it may not be as durable as your rip-stop Nylon backpack, but come on — L.L. Bean was all the rage ... in 3rd grade. A well-made, masculine satchel adds a level of maturity and poise that you may just be in need of.

It takes a brave man to rock a man bag, but those with the chutzpah will enjoy the benefits of this gender-bending trend. So do your style (and your back) a favor and move forward and upward in the world. Opt for elegance over easiness and get yourself a man bag. ☞

## This week on Inside Vandy...



nymag.com

Get day-by-day coverage of New York Fashion Week & the A/W 2010 collections. Plus, check back next issue for a full review of NYFW!

Check out our new column, 'Fashion That Fits!'

TAYLOR BACKUS  
Staff Writer



vogue.com

# SALON FX

20% OFF ALL SERVICES WITH VANDY ID

Men's haircuts starting at \$29  
Women's haircuts starting at \$39

Hair • Nails • Skin Care • Med Spa Services • Makeup • Waxing



salonfxspa.com

615-321-0901

1915 Broadway • Nashville  
gift certificates available



# of Montreal

## Interview with James Huggins

Staff Writer Alex Daly sat down to chat with James Huggins, of Montreal's multi-instrumentalist and front man of new solo project James Husband, before he took the stage at the Cannery Ballroom.



**Versus Magazine:** How are you? You look tired . . .

**James Huggins:** Good, I woke up this afternoon and immediately was whisked away to play this Grimey's in-store thing.

**VM:** And how did that go?

**JH:** It went really well, considering that I hadn't even had half a cup of coffee let alone breakfast. And [one of our instruments] broke within the first five minutes, so we had to improvise . . . but it's a really cool little venue.

**VM:** How is the tour going so far?

**JH:** It's almost over, actually. Tonight is the last night, and it's disappointing, really, because I want to keep going. It's been so short — it's only been like, ten shows, and it kind of came out of nowhere. We had planned to take the whole winter off and then suddenly these dates popped up in January and we just kind of threw it together. It's been short but it's been really fun and super exhausting.

**VM:** Where were you guys before Nashville?

**JH:** This is honestly one of those embarrassing moments where I can't remember.

**VM:** It's probably a huge blur by now . . .

**JH:** I am totally ashamed to say that I can't remember.

**VM:** Were there any gigs that come to mind as favorites so far?

**JH:** New York was incredible. We played the Hi-Liner Ballroom. I hadn't been there before and it's relatively new.

**VM:** How is it doing two projects now [of Montreal and solo opening act James Husband]?

**JH:** It's not something that I'm not comfortable with, because I've done it before. It's just different this time because it's the first real push of my new band, so I've had a lot of responsibility there. In addition to that, what used to be a sort of easy job for me has now been redefined, so I'm doing ten times the physical effort during the of Montreal shows, and it's been physically exhausting me. I used to play the drums in the band for most of the songs for six of seven years, but for the last five years I've also been playing guitar, bass, keyboards, trumpet and only touching the drum set for like, four songs out of the set.

And on this thing I turn all of the last four albums which [consists of] electronic, dance-pop, very much drum-machine oriented music into straight up rock tunes. So the only things we have on stage are two guitarists, the bassist and a drum kit, so I'm playing for 90 minutes.

And this makes me sound like some kind of light eight, but I'm just not used to doing that . . . I have an hour of cerebral, emotional performance, and then I have to switch off my brain and just bash the drums for an hour and a half, so the physical end of it is what's really killing me. But every night we've done it, and I'm still kicking, so we'll do it again tonight.

**VM:** What inspired you to do the solo act?

**JH:** Well it's not really a new thing; it's just newly officially billed. I've been doing it for, like, over ten years. I guess things are starting to finally slow down for of Montreal, because in the last few years we haven't had more than a couple weeks off at a time in a year. We did something like 267 shows in 2007 and roughly the same in 2008, so I just haven't had time.

But now [I] have time. I went to a couple of different studios, I was living overseas in Sweden, and I had time and I had access to a studio and [went for] it. It was just kind of long overdue, so the time came and I decided to just stick it out there.

**VM:** Listening to your music, it's a very dynamic sound and ranges so much from the first song to the last. And it doesn't sound anything like of Montreal. What inspired you?

**JH:** Well, it had very little to do with of Montreal. It's more [about] the timetable and the places where the songs were recorded, because this is very much a collection of scattered recording from all over the place and from different times. So if they sound all over the place, it's because one might have been recorded in my bedroom in 2002 and another might have been recorded in a proper studio in Stockholm in 2008. It depends on who I might have had with me to record with, or what I had written earlier in the year.

The whole point of it is that it's not just meant to be an album. Many people have the misconception that it's a new album and that I just went in with ten hot songs and I recorded them all in a week, but it's much more like a collection of snapshots, like a scrapbook — like, "Here's me at summer camp with my parents in 1983," and "Here's me at my college graduation" . . . it's like that, but with songs.

**VM:** I was reading about that, about how you crafted this as just a huge collection of snapshots from different moments. And this style really brings diversity to the album.

**JH:** I'm all about diversity.

**VM:** Have you guys ever played here in Nashville before?

**JH:** Oh yeah, many many times.

**VM:** What do you think of the city?

**JH:** We love Nashville! Nashville has always been a wild place for us. People love to meet us up here and we tend to get whisked away. We have done probably six or seven other shows with [this promoter] both in two other small venues

and twice in this venue. And I have performed once solo at the Ryman, but that was during tour when they just let me stand up there and play. It's like a dream to play there. Nashville has a million other venues, but they don't all cater to the kind of show we do. We have gone to very small rooms, as well, and played in Nashville at least 15 times over the last 11 years.

**VM:** I have personally never seen you perform before, so what are your shows like? What are they like for you?

**JH:** Well that's the trouble with people who see us for the first time and people who saw us once even three, five or seven years ago, or even people who saw us once only three, five or seven months ago. We try to do a completely different show every time. And that doesn't just mean in terms of a set list, I mean in terms of members in the band, different people on our performance crew, different video projects, different stage lighting . . . and for the past several years we have building our own stages to put on top of the venue's stage.

And we have been getting bigger and bigger, and now we have these video projection things, because we have these groups of, well, I wouldn't call them actors, I definitely don't like to call them performance artists and I certainly wouldn't call them dancers . . . but they kind of do something resembling all three. And for the last couple of years, [the show] has gotten really elaborate — we have 19 people on the road and only six in the band. We have tried to blow it out as big as we can get it for the bigger venues and festivals, but now we are doing these smaller shows and doing, like I said, rock 'n' roll versions of the grandeur of the past several years.

So in some ways I hope that someone like yourself wouldn't feel gyped, because there is this legend looming out there that we are always going to put on this outrageous stage show. And we still are, to some degree, but I think it's more interesting for us to focus on the music and do it in a different way. So if you look at the last four or five albums, what we do tonight will not sonically represent the album very well, but the songs are presented in a very live way.

We haven't heard any complaints, but in the past it's always been about totally recreating the record exactly. And we'd have two different computers, two different electronic brains that would control sound effects and drum patterns, and loops that go to our ears, so we'd all be playing along with the grid — it was all very robotic and complex, and it was all about blowing out as much sound and as much of the album as possible. But tonight it's a much more minimalist approach [than] that.

It's not some new thing we're doing, but we decided that since we're doing a small tour in the winter we might as well do it in a way that's fun for us. So we're going to try to play like we're a live band again.

**VM:** Is it a collaborative thing, this creative side to the performances? Is it even the band that takes care of that or is there a side team?

**JH:** It's all-inclusive — everyone in the band and on the crew has equal say and tends to get equal ideas rejected and accepted. It's sort of compartmentalized, in a way. I mean, David Barnes, Kevin's brother, who has always been kind of the sixth member of the band, doesn't play any instruments, but he's an artist and does all the artwork (well, most of the artwork — Kevin's wife started doing some of the late stuff). But all of the imagery and artwork and videos that feature things that have to do with our band are done by David. He also kind of directs the performance bits and is responsible for most of the costumes and one-act plays that take place, so he pretty much gets free reign when it comes to that department.

But as far as the set and stage design, I have had a lot to do with that, and also our sound engineer and video engineer have hand-built everything together. Everything we use is hand-made, and those guys are the carpenters/electrical-engineers. And input for the video screens comes from Nick and also Dottie, the keyboard player's fiance. We've been planning a big wedding party for them in the spring.

And then you've got everyone from our tour manager, who is onstage in costume every night, to various road managers and workers who are in costume doing their thing each night. But it's like I said — I don't think we have ever done the same show twice.

**VM:** Do you have any background in art or design? Or did you just figure this all out as the years went by?

**JH:** I grew up in a very musical but also very church-oriented, Southern Baptist family in Georgia, and my father is the musical director [of our church]. So not only did he make sing in the church choir and all that crap, but he would always put on the Christmas pageant and the school play etc. and my mom would always design the props, make backdrops and make costumes by hand and stuff. I had this very home-spun, "Waiting for Guffman"-style, tiny town theater experience, and I have always been acting in little plays. So I pretty much started out doing that stuff before we had any money.

In fact, five or six years ago, I had borrowed these huge slide projection screens from my uncle (I had used them for these church productions in the '80s). I set up three screens with old-school clips and slides of carousels and projected the whole slideshow behind the band. And then we started to get some money and decided to buy a bunch of new, high-tech electronics, so I turned things over to Nick. I was running this crap while playing drums in the middle of the

show . . . Now, I have less of a hands-on approach and more just suggestions.

**VM:** You definitely have to come back and play at the Ryman with this theatrical aspect!

**JH:** We could do at least the most visually stunning show there, but certainly not the best musically, since every legend in the world has played there. Unless The Flaming Lips have played there — they are our one big competitor. It seems like everything we do, they end up doing bigger. But we're close on their heels, and we're doing it in a similar spirit but a different way.

**VM:** What do you foresee happening in the future with both James Husband? Do you see yourself continuing with your solo project?

**JH:** Absolutely. It's not like it's some kind of whim. It's just a long overdue beginning of something that will be the focus of my attention from this point on. And that's not to say that I'm going to stop playing with of Montreal — in fact, I think for the rest of this year [I'm] continuing to do both. I think we are going to do another leg or two this way.

But this whole temporary diversion of being a straight up rock band is not going to last very long. I think the plan for the next record, which is not going to come out until the end of the summer, is to totally revamp the whole thing, bring in additional musicians, and expand the band so the musicians are able to more closely recreate the record but without all the previous sampling technology that we were using. The idea is to have about ten or twelve [musicians] and multiple percussionists so we can do complex rhythms, because it's just impossible for me to do as one man, especially since I'm not using any drum pads or anything. We want to bring in a couple of extra string players and horn players and make it more of a big-band sound, really a '70s kind of band that would have that sort of instrumentation. But that all depends on us finding all of the right people — we are going to start auditioning people, talking to all of our friends in various bands and seeing their availability.

If we can pull it off it would be something of like a super group and much more focused on the music. I'm sure there will still be some sort of elaborate stage production, but the idea is to sort of scrap everything we have been doing for the last year and a half and create some new characters. We also want to get rid of the more colorful things and instead create some darker settings and lighting.

**VM:** Do you opt for the same kind of stage shows for James Husband?

**JH:** No, with that, it's just about the music. I mean we already have all the [of Montreal stuff] set up there, so we sometimes will throw some of that on for the colors, but I think most of that would just distract you. The point of the James Husband project is for me to feel comfortable singing the songs. We tried doing it like a big rock band to make it more exciting, but the truth of the matter is, you listen to the album and it's all pretty mellow — it's all just about my singing. And I can't sing very loudly or very well when a lot is going on, so I tried to make it a very soft band. I have a cellist and a clarinet player and I play mostly acoustic guitar . . . so it's very, very much the opposite of a [loud rock show].

**VM:** You mentioned that tonight is your last show on this tour. Any idea when you'll start up again?

**JH:** Well, I'm doing another run by myself, which is obviously not as easy because everything falls to my own resources. I don't have the tour bus, I don't have the crew of ten people . . . which is why it's so nice to tour with of Montreal because, sure, I'm a member of the band, and it's all my equipment and my money in a way (at least a fifth of it), but at the same time I'm looking at it like I'm a new artist and I got an opportunity to play with a band like of Montreal. So you remove the obvious conflict of interest, and it makes things a whole lot easier [to look at].

But, that being said, the five or six of us will jump in a van and do a small club tour in March, and then of Montreal will [start touring again] in June, so I'm doing both worlds for the next few months. Then we have Dottie's wedding, which we are all taking a month off for, and then . . . who knows. Maybe we'll play some festivals, or something. ☸



# FLIP SIDE

Hustler and Versus can be read online at [InsideVandy.com](http://InsideVandy.com)



Click the gold Hustler/Versus button at the bottom right of the home page

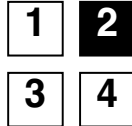


WHO SEES THIS AD?  
**11,500 STUDENTS**  
and many faculty/staff,  
parents and alumni

## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

Level:



	1	8	6		9	7	2	
				8				
4		7					8	
6	2		1					
9								5
					2		4	3
	3					4		7
			4					
9	4	2		6	5	3		

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at [www.OutsideVandy.com](http://www.OutsideVandy.com)

2/17/10 © 2010 The Mephams Group. Distributed by Tribune Media Services. All rights reserved.

## CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Whack, biblically
  - 6 Condescending sort
  - 10 Kodak rival
  - 14 Brightly colored tropical fish
  - 15 Chaplin's last wife
  - 16 Road for Pilate
  - 17 "That's \_\_\_ trick!"
  - 18 Cutting-edge Motorola phone?
  - 19 Statistician's input
  - 20 How some scary things go
  - 23 Nous minus moi?
  - 24 "The loneliest number," in a 1969 hit
  - 25 Wasted, as a chance
  - 29 Not subject to change
  - 35 "I wish!"
  - 37 On the calmer side
  - 38 Floors, briefly
  - 39 Wolfgang Puck's restaurant
  - 40 Third qtr. start
  - 41 Talons
  - 43 Male in an alley
  - 44 Cognac initials
  - 46 More work
  - 47 Some stilettoes
  - 50 Not easy to see
  - 51 Crimson opponent
  - 52 Not quite oneself
  - 54 Activity that involves the first words of 20-, 29- and 47-Across
  - 62 Perfume holder
  - 63 Tobacco unit
- DOWN**
- 1 Rough guess
  - 2 See 3-Down
  - 3 Unit on a 2-Down
  - 4 Ambush
  - 5 Weird Al Yankovic spoof of a Michael Jackson hit
  - 6 Airman's assignment
  - 7 Early boat builder
  - 8 Quatre + sept
  - 9 With no exceptions
  - 10 Act nervously
  - 11 Home to Zion National Park
  - 12 Rocker Joan
  - 13 Brokerage statement subj., perhaps
  - 21 Overly curious
  - 22 Bat's prey
  - 25 Leans, as a ship
  - 26 King \_\_\_ (Michael Jackson)
  - 27 "Ditto"
  - 28 "Star Trek" sequel, for short
  - 30 Brownish gray
  - 31 Under the weather
  - 32 Giraffe cousin
  - 33 Hopeless
  - 34 Exam type you can't guess on

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16			
17					18					19			
20				21				22					
23							24						
25	26	27	28	29	30	31				32	33	34	
35				36			37				38		
39					40				41	42			
43				44	45			46					
47				48				49			50		
51								52		53			
54	55				56	57				58	59	60	61
62					63					64			
65					66					67			
68					69					70			

- 36 Apollo 13 commander Jim
- 40 Average guy?
- 42 Auction unit
- 45 "Star Trek" defenses
- 46 Defunct gridiron org.
- 48 Sullivan's charge in "The Miracle Worker"
- 49 Emulated a couch potato
- 53 Canine woes
- 54 Guilty pleasure
- 55 lolani Palace site
- 56 "Uh-huh"
- 57 In one's birthday suit
- 58 "The Wizard of Oz" family name
- 59 Bard's river
- 60 Clothing store department
- 61 Fringe
- 62 U-Haul rental

For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at [www.OutsideVandy.com](http://www.OutsideVandy.com)

## HOT YOGA NASHVILLE

COOLEST THING IN FITNESS!

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
AM	6:00 w		6:00 w		6:00 w	7:30 w	
	9:30 w	9:30 w	9:30 w	9:30 w	9:30 w	9:30 w	9:30 w
	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	
PM	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w	4:30 w
	6:15 w	6:15 w	6:15 w	6:15 w			6:15 w
	7:45 w	7:45 w	7:45 w				

2214 Elliston Place (1 Block from Campus) 615.321.8828  
[www.HotYogaNashville.com](http://www.HotYogaNashville.com)



5360 Edmondson Pike, Nashville, TN 37211  
Phone 615-837-8776 Fax 615-837-8706  
[keyfarmsapts@bellsouth.net](mailto:keyfarmsapts@bellsouth.net)

Spacious 2 & 3 br apts  
excellent location, minutes from  
Maryland Farms and Cool Springs.  
Gated community,  
full size washer/ dryer in unit

We offer discounts to  
Vanderbilt Faculty and Students!

## Baja Burrito

Nashville's Favorite Burrito Since 2000

Bring in this coupon for a  
**FREE COMBO**  
(chips and drink)  
with burrito purchase  
(expires 4/1/10)

722 Thompson Lane  
Nashville, TN 37204  
(across from 100 Oaks mall)  
615.383.2252  
[www.bajaburrito.com](http://www.bajaburrito.com)

Rape is REAL.

IT'S TIME TO TALK ABOUT RAPE  
**SO WE CAN PREVENT IT.**

Educate yourself. Log on.  
[TNblue.org](http://TNblue.org)  
RAPE. Its a reality.

Tennessee coalition AGAINST DOMESTIC SEXUAL VIOLENCE  
[www.tcadsv.org](http://www.tcadsv.org)

Planned Parenthood of Middle & East Tennessee, Inc.  
\*This project is funded under an agreement with the State of Tennessee.\*

For immediate help,  
call the Nashville Sexual Assault Crisis Line at 1-800-879-1999