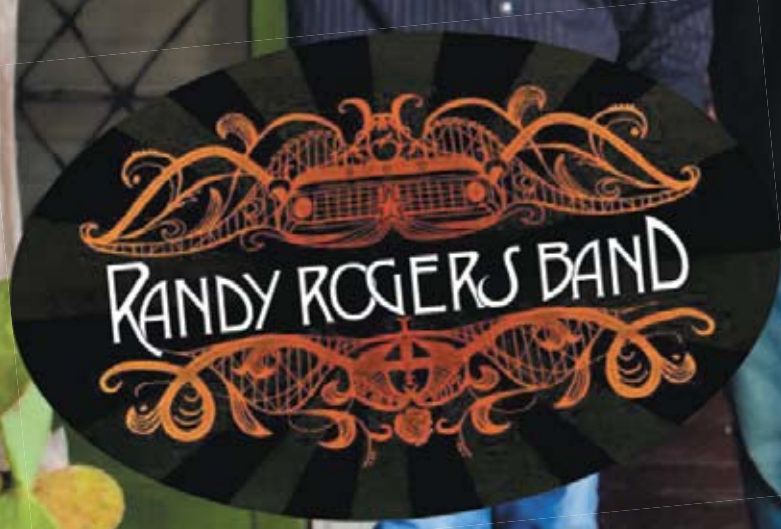
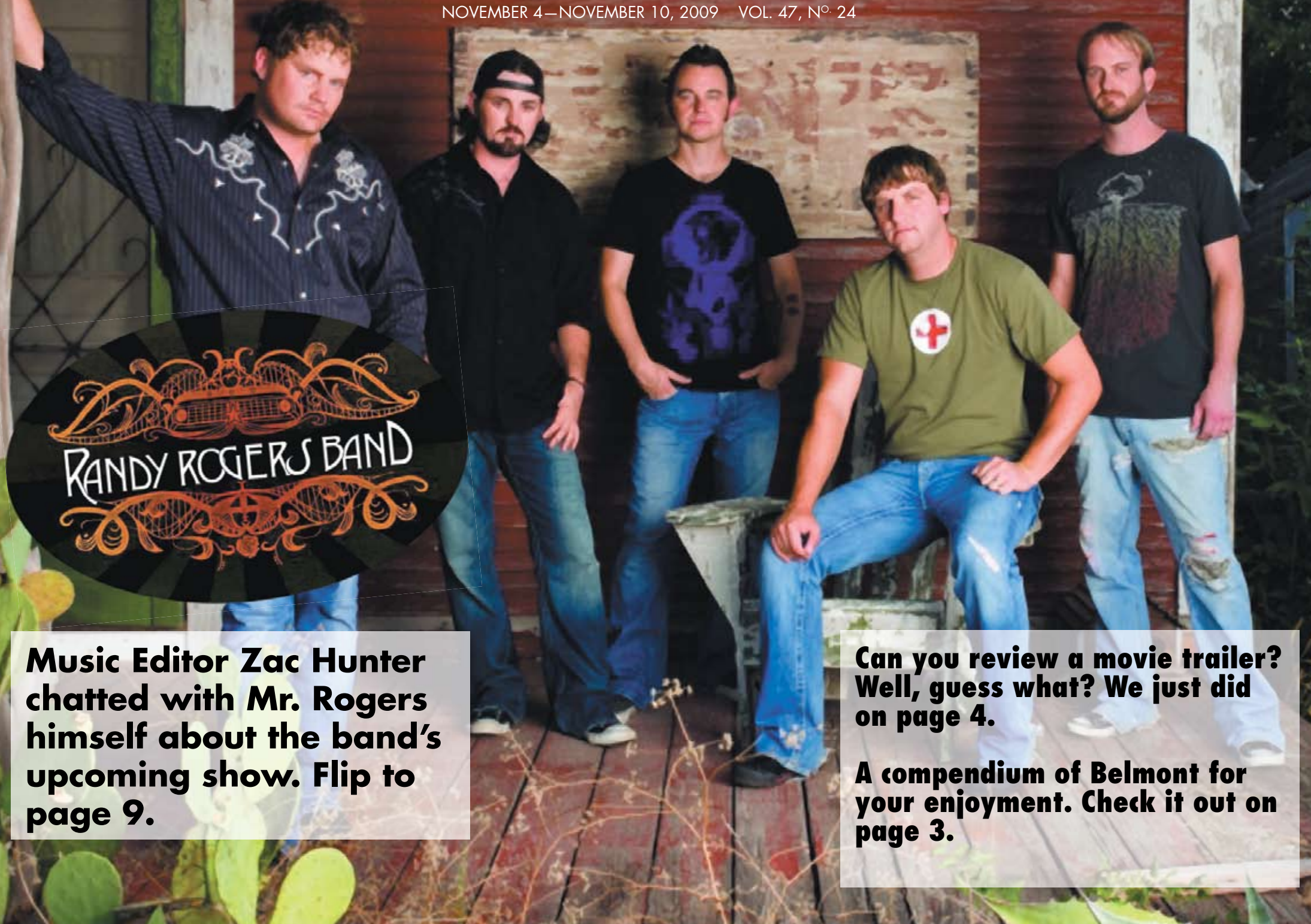


Versus

The Vanderbilt Hustler's Arts & Entertainment Magazine

NOVEMBER 4—NOVEMBER 10, 2009 VOL. 47, No. 24



Music Editor Zac Hunter chatted with Mr. Rogers himself about the band's upcoming show. Flip to page 9.

Can you review a movie trailer? Well, guess what? We just did on page 4.

A compendium of Belmont for your enjoyment. Check it out on page 3.

PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

The Whigs — The Cannery Ballroom
Athens, Ga., rockers The Whigs return to Nashville this Thursday night for an evening of hard driving, catchy rock 'n' roll. While The Whigs have yet to explode onto the national scene, they have developed a spectacularly loyal fan base as well as an impressive repertoire of songs. Some expecting to hear both old popular songs like "Technology" or "Violet Furs," songs from their latest album, "Mission Control," and maybe even a few songs from their upcoming new album. Check the music section for Editor-in-Chief Courtney Rogers' full interview with bassist Tim Deaux. (\$15, 8:30 p.m., 1 Cannery Row)

Blind Pilot & The Low Anthem — The Mercy Lounge
Indie band Blind Pilot plays the Mercy Lounge tonight, just a short flight of stairs away from The Whigs. The band describes themselves as having "literally ridden a pair of bicycles to success." The folk-pop outfit, formed by singer-guitarist Israel Nebeker and drummer Ryan Dobrowski, has taken two bike tours, playing its music all along the West Coast. While they unfortunately will leave the bikes at home this time, the duo will be sure to bring their charming quirkiness to the stage for an evening of memorable, friendly music. (\$10, 9 p.m., 1 Cannery Row)

Willie Nelson — Ryman Auditorium
The Ryman Auditorium welcomes country and folk Singer/Songwriter legend Willie Nelson to their storied stage this evening. Nelson has been chugging away for more than 50 years, reaching a level of popularity, fame and respect usually reserved for the deceased. A legend in his own right, Nelson continues to sell out show after show and tour after tour, winning over audiences with his easy-going, drawling vocals. If you have never seen Willie live, this majestic show at one of Nashville's most famous venues will blow you away. (\$35.50—\$69.50, 7:30 p.m., 116 Fifth Avenue N.)

Leonard Cohen — Andrew Jackson Hall
Legendary musician, songwriter, novelist and poet Leonard Cohen brings his moving music to Music City tonight at Andrew Jackson Hall just downtown. Hailing from Canada, Cohen first rose to prominence for his critically acclaimed poetry and novels. It was not until the late '60s that Cohen achieved similar fame in the world of music. Since then, however, Cohen has become known as veritable musical royalty, winning numerous awards and honors through the years. With over 2,000 renditions of his songs having been recorded (most famously Jeff Buckley's achingly beautiful "Hallelujah"), Cohen has been inducted into the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame, Canadian Music Hall of Fame and the American Music Hall of Fame. It is truly a treat to welcome him to our city. (\$29.50-\$252.50, 8 p.m., 505 Deaderick St.)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Space Capone — The Mercy Lounge
Mark Mays of The Tennessean described Space Capone best, highlighting the popularity of this local artist's "highly danceable, '70s-style grooves and thrift store retro style." There is something appealingly odd about Space Capone, a tattooed, scrawny, bald white man singing R&B, desperate to convey his sincerity and depth of feel. Having already made major inroads with the Nashville press, Capone is beginning to climb in popularity not only elsewhere in Tennessee, but on the national scene as well. Give this hometown musician a chance, and you are guaranteed to leave impressed. (\$7, 9 p.m., 1 Cannery Row)

Ian McLagan & The Bump Band — 3rd & Lindsley
Keyboardist Ian McLagan & The Bump Band roll into town Friday night for a performance at 3rd & Lindsley. McLagan, perhaps better known for his work with Ronnie Wood and Rod Stewart in the band Faces, has continued to be an in-demand session player and guest artist since the group's breakup in 1975. After decades of this, McLagan formed his own full-time band, The Bump Band, in 2006. Immediately the band started generating quite the buzz, playing with artists like the Rolling Stones and at festivals like Austin City Limits. (\$10, 7 p.m., 818 Third Ave. S.)

Signal Path & Corleone — 12th and Porter
Electronica band Signal Path comes to Nashville all the way from Montana for an evening of trippy keyboards and danceable beats at 12th and Porter. As the band explains, while still blending both live instrumentation and computer generated production, Signal Path is creating some of the most progressive music in their history. Originally a duo, Signal Path comes full circle with Ryan Burnett producing and playing guitar and Damon Metzner on the acoustic drums. This configuration allows the sound to become focused, spontaneous and rich." Drop on by this downtown club Friday night and let the music move you. (\$10 in advance, \$12 at the door, 10 p.m., 114 12th Ave. N.)

Sky Hi, Ballhog!, and Tender Bear — Exit/In
Sky Hi brings the funk to the stage of the nearby Exit/In tonight at 8 p.m. With "tight horn lines, gutbucket bass and beats, super fly guitars, rocking keys," and soaring vocals, this local band (from just down the road in Murfreesboro, Tenn.) can get even the most boring of nights jumping, thrilling listeners with their soulful, funky music and their explosive energy. If you have nothing else to do this Friday night, make the short walk over to the Exit/In, and dance the night away. (Ticket price TBA, 8 p.m., 2208 Elliston Place)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Rebirth Brass Band — Exit/In
Rebirth was featured in Plug Your Scene New Orleans as part of the local flavor that always delivers a loud, fun, dancing show. It is a rare occasion that you can catch Rebirth here in Nashville and is one that should not be missed. The brass band comprised of trumpets, trombones, saxophones and a second-line-like percussion section will bring the feeling of Mardi Gras to the Exit/In with style. (Ticket price TBA, 10 p.m., 2208 Elliston Place)

Beer, Bourbon, and BBQ festival — Nashville Municipal Auditorium
The Web site reads, "Join us at the festival for a great day of beer sippin', bourbon tastin', music listenin', cigar smokin' and barbeque eatin'." While music might be the third or fourth reason to go, artists Cattletruck and the Joe Walker Band will provide the soundtrack to the afternoon. Both deliver good ole southern country music perfectly conducive to the scene. (\$35 advance only, noon — 6 p.m., 417 Fourth Ave. N.)

Missy Raines and the New Hip — Station Inn
Touring their latest album "Inside Out," the five-piece bluegrass band will stop by the Station Inn for the coveted Saturday night slot. Missy Raines has been praised as a bluegrass musician who is bridging the gap between the old and new generations. Don't expect hip-hop beats and horns, though, the group will stick to the basics and produce solid as always bluegrass. (\$15, 8 p.m., 402 12th Ave. S.)

The Brimms with Tony Garcia & the Spoilers — The Rutledge
Alternative rock band The Brimms plays just what you'd expect: catchy rock with heavy distorted guitar and easy-to-listen-to song structure. The concert at The Rutledge will benefit the Tennessee Returned Peace Corps Volunteers. Their accompaniment for the evening, Toney Garcia and the Spoilers, is an acoustic rock/folk band with a Nashville sound full of harmonicas, mandolins, guitars and simple lyrics. (\$10, 8 p.m., 410 Fourth Ave. S.)

100 Monkeys — Wildhorse Saloon
The Wildhorse Saloon is taking a break from the traditional country and southern rock acts they normally feature. This Saturday, 100 Monkeys will bust down barriers with modern Japanese-influenced electronic sounds in a self described "two-step form." Not sure how the Wildhorse regulars are going to feel about this one, but they'll need an open mind. (\$20, 11:30 p.m., 120 Second Ave. N.)

The Regulars

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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 37210
259-9891

CAFE COCO
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Versus

NOVEMBER 4—NOVEMBER 10, 2009 VOL. 47, No. 24

Versus Magazine

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FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Readers,

At this point in the semester, I think we're all lacking motivation. Let's face it, if Halloween taught us anything, it's that we'd way rather be doing various fun activities than anything academic. However, as much as any of us would prefer to sleep in, relax with friends or spend their days climbing and hitting up Miguel's Pizza, sadly we all have obligations like classes that eat up a lot of our time.

The best example I can think of about how to get out of these doldrums and back into at least a semi-productive mode happened this past weekend when I went rock climbing outdoors for the first time. The first day, I felt like an unstoppable climber of all rock faces in my midst. I was in fighting form and felt like I was totally ruling the wilderness.

And then came day two. Everything, including putting on shirts, felt painful. Later in the day, I decided to try a climb that had some pretty crazy things going on. After much struggle, I was more than three-quarters of the way up the route and I just wanted to give up. My hands felt like they were screaming at me, there were aching muscles in my arms that I didn't know existed and all I wanted was to be lowered back to the ground and curl up in the van eating candy. But when I begged my friends on the ground to bring me down, their answer was a firm, "No."

At that point, I knew I couldn't give up, mostly because I was actually confident they would have kept me hanging up there until the drive home. Inch by inch, I found a way up that route until I swatted the anchor in a mixture of triumph and exhaustion.

I'm not saying you should write an essay until your hands bleed, but just know that every time you're ready to give up, there's someone out there who can tell you how to get to the finish line. And when you do, all of the fun you've been daydreaming about will be that much better.

Later Alligator,
Courtney Rogers

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PIC OF THE WEEK



OLIVER WOLFE

BITS & PIECES



I don't think I've been able to focus the way that I've been when I'm climbing. It totally channels my energy in such a way that I completely lose myself.

And that is such a good feeling.
— Chris Sharma

HOROSCOPES



VIRGO 8/23-9/22: So you think you can dance ... please re-think.



LIBRA 9/23-10/22: Some words of wisdom from "Lion King" antagonist, Scar, and "Be prepared!"



SCORPIO 10/23-11/21: You must be butter, 'cuz you're on a roll.



SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21: You should really write for Versus, look how clever we are.



CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19: Keep your pants on. Sorority rush is just around the corner.



AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18: Halloween's over. Oh, wait. You're really wearing that?



PISCES 2/19-3/20: Don't ask your date if she wants to go back to your room and play Twister.



ARIES 3/21-4/19: If you are scared to cross a road, go against the common wisdom and be chicken. Because chickens cross roads.



TAURUS 4/20-5/20: Choose something to be addicted to and just go for it! It will make you much more interesting.



GEMINI 5/21-6/21: If you're the VandyVan guy, there are some ladies out there looking for a love connection.



CANCER 6/22-7/22: If you put your hands up when they're playing your song, the butterflies will indeed fly away. Just be sure to nod your head like yeah.



LEO 7/23-8/22: Flip a coin this weekend to decide if you will work hard or play hard this weekend. Be sure to find a double headed coin.

HAIKUS

Words to live by in seventeen syllables

Did you see that ghost at the party Saturday?
Me neither! ...no? oh...

If Jesus rapped, would he be nicknamed Young Jeezy or Jam Master Jay?

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"



Girl: I'm just a skank. That's my outfit.

Freshman: I didn't know Rand had a second floor until yesterday.

Girl 1: So he was like, I just want a relationship, not a hookup.

Girl 2: Wow, OMG, that's so weird!

Girl: I want to hook up with the VandyVan guy ... I'm in love with him.

Professor: We give you bunny rabbits to run over before you can tackle a moose with your Jeep.

Guy in Hemingway Munchie: I bought 20 pounds of bulk candy last night. Best decision ever.



PHOTOS: flickr.com

CULTURE AT BELMONT

Belmont stomping grounds

To the typical Vandy student, Belmont kids are strange beings not likely to be spotted in seersucker jackets and flower-printed sundresses on Saturdays in fall. They're the "artsy" college kids to our preppy, frat-tastic reputation. But as different as our student bodies may seem, we're all still college students,

struggling through papers, exams and the inevitable Sunday hangover.

As intimidating as it may seem to walk amongst foreigners, our campuses are extremely close and Belmont Boulevard has a lot to offer in terms of food and shopping. Versus writers Benjamin Ries and Clara Martin took their

culture-savvy minds and a camera into Belmont land and found out what this street had to offer. So, when you're bored of West End chains or the boutiques of Hillsboro, travel another mile uphill and explore some new college turf. Who knows, maybe you'll make some friends. ☼



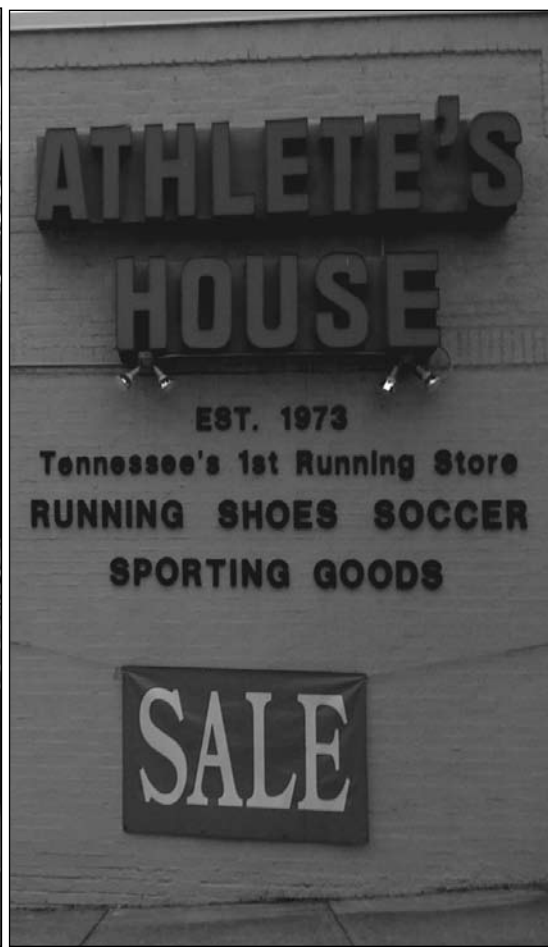
BEN RIES AND CLARA MARTIN/Versus Magazine

Fresh Blends Juice and Smoothie Bar

Have you ever craved a good smoothie? Has your dog? Located at 1703 Portland Ave., Fresh Blends Juice and Smoothie Bar offers a wild assortment of smoothies and juice drinks with prices ranging from \$3.79 to \$6.29. Strawberry Fields is the most popular smoothie, followed by the peanut butter-filled Ode to the King. Other

highlights include dog-treat Puppy Love (Dog Smoothie), a menu of Powershots, a Hangover Blend enhancer and a Cold Buster juice drink made from a combination of carrots, spinach, ginger and garlic. According to the employee we encountered, the Cold Buster is hard to get down but provides the relief its name promises. ☼

The Athlete's House



BEN RIES AND CLARA MARTIN/Versus Magazine

I have passed this building on my runs around Belmont and from the outside it doesn't look like much, but inside is a treasure trove for every level of runner. Owned by the same person since 1975, this running specialty store was the first in Tennessee. The employees are friendly and ready to help in any way they can, and are specially trained to fit shoes according to the type of feet a customer has. Right now they are

having a 20% off sale on all Mizuno products, including both shoes and running clothes. In addition to a wide variety of running shoes, they sell cleats and soccer balls, along with an assortment of other sporting goods. The next time you find yourself getting thirsty in the middle of a run, the orange coolers outside are filled with cold water for your benefit. A trip to the Athlete's House is a definite must for all you exercise fanatics. ☼

Reverb Media



BEN RIES AND CLARA MARTIN/Versus Magazine

Reverb Media, located at 2006 Belmont Blvd. (a few stores down from Curb Cafe), is a CD store set to go out of business in about two weeks. As a result, no new inventory is being brought in, but what's already there is 75 percent off — I

bought two albums for just over \$8. Anybody looking for cheap music or interested in adopting a stray cat (the owner is trying to give one away) may want to stop by Reverb Media. Just don't wait until it's too late. ☼

Bongo Java



BEN RIES AND CLARA MARTIN/Versus Magazine

Listed by Newsweek as one of 10 great "Places for caffeine and conversation," among numerous other awards, Belmont's Bongo Java is a Nashville highlight. Bongo Java serves breakfast, lunch and dinner all day with prices anywhere from \$3-\$7. Drinks include cider-filled "Apple Pie" and double-mocha "Mocahontas," and 10 syrups are available with flavors ranging from coconut to frosted mint. The tables are delightfully decorated with drawings of coffee, Bruce Willis, bikinis and plenty else. Who knows — if you come in at the right time, you may just find Keith Urban sitting at one. ☼



BEN RIES AND CLARA MARTIN/Versus Magazine

International Market and Restaurant

From Bongo Java, cross Belmont Boulevard and keep walking — you can't miss this long, brick building with simple, white letters that spell "International Market and Restaurant."

Walking inside, it is any Oriental food lover's dream, with shelves stocked as high as the ceiling with teas, soy sauces and best of all, Japanese candies. Pocky sticks and bags upon bags of gummy candy line the shelves to the check-out counter, and then there is the food. For all of you who like Thai or Chinese food, this

is the place to go. Wonderfully cheap at several servings for \$2, depending on how much food you want, the price range can go anywhere from about \$6 to \$10. There are tables to eat at, or take-out options as well. Oriental purses, jewelry, shirts and teacups are also for sale and fill the store with a bright and friendly glow. Definitely a place to check out — I have a feeling I'm about to become a regular. ☼

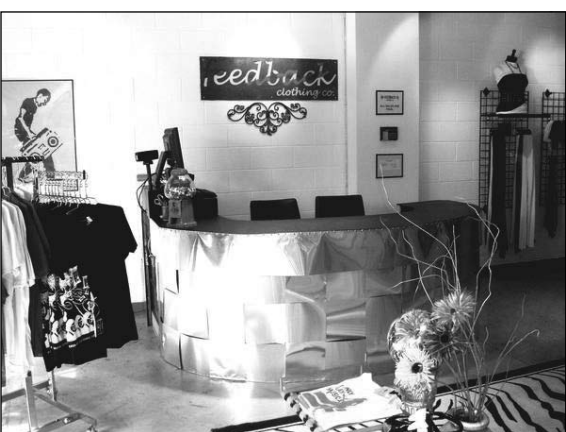
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For all of you fashionistas, this boutique is found next door to Reverb Media and offers a more eclectic, indie style of clothing. Skinny jeans and graphic tees are on sale now, but the average price for a T-shirt is about \$30. Throughout the store, the prices range from \$20 shirts on sale

to \$70 IT jeans, along with an assortment of dresses and skirts. Their selection of TOMS shoes is small, carrying only neutral tones, red and black. What caught my eye, though, were the bins, sunglasses and hair accessories to add a fun bit of artsy flair to any outfit. ☼

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ENTERTAINMENT

HE SAYS VERSUS SHE SAYS

Guy gets in on the 'Gossip'

CHARLIE KESSLERING
Entertainment Editor

Yeah, I watched your stupid show. Despite my friends' ridicule, fear of what my father would think and the dissenting opinion in my pants, I let boyish curiosity get the best of me and watched "Gossip Girl." And I ... liked it.

I know why girls watch "Gossip Girl." Girls watch "Gossip Girl" because they wouldn't dare do it, but absolutely love when Blair does. Because it's a dramatized fashion magazine. Because New York's expensive, but the CW's free. Girls watch "Gossip Girl" to hear Chuck Bass purr shit like, "My outfit hasn't clashed since Anita dressed me for the first day of third grade. I fired her. In Spanish. Are you ... aroused?" Girls eat it up.

What I didn't know, what implored me to squat in front of my computer for 41 minutes with my lips sealed and eyes peeled, was why I, a college guy, should watch "Gossip Girl." What did I have to gain from this glamorized rag, this latter-day "Dawson's Creek," this — to use irony to my comedic advantage — dirty teenage soap opera? As I would find out, more than I could ever imagine.

"Gossip Girl" is fantastical, sure, yet exceptionally heartbreaking. The people have too much money, the students too much time, the girls are too beautiful and the lights too bright. But it still hurts — it strums power chords on the heartstrings — when someone sits higher than Jenny on the school steps, or when Dan loses



TVJAB.COM

to the mirror in a smiling contest.

These people's lives are going to hell in a handbag, and no matter how many bills they burn or reputations they baste, the heat only rises. Serena will never love him. Blair will never like anyone. Chuck will never remove that piece of food from his larynx that prevents him from speaking above a whisper.

Sure, these trials separate the socialites from the social lightweights, but at a price no black card can pay. And before long, we viewers feel like tots at an ice-cream social, wanting nothing more than a good scoop — no

matter how cold.

Unfortunately, I think I caught a particularly far-fetched episode — not for the usual embellishments of wealth and status, but because they cast Lizzie McGuire as a legitimate movie star, a fiction even Gordo would have trouble wrapping his noggin around.

And, in the end, I was left with a slew of questions. Why does Jenny consistently dress like a hooker? Why does Serena always forget to wear the front of her shirt? Doesn't Kristen Bell have better things to do than sketch on kids?

Maybe I'll have to watch next week. Damn. ☹

Girl ditches the 'Entourage'

ALEXIS TABAK
Staff Writer

"Entourage" has brought the notion of the alpha male back into mainstream media and reminds the world that the boys have it all — and will continue to do so.

The '90s and early millennium was a decade and a half of "girl power." There was constant media attention on that fact that women had to continue the fight for gender equality and strive to be mothers and career women, while being simultaneously viewed as both attractive and intelligent. It seemed this generation, the "girl power generation," had forgotten about the boys — until "Entourage," that is. "Entourage" shows America that the boys are back or, rather, never left. They can have successful careers, have families, have sex and go out to clubs ... all while being taken seriously.

The women on "Sex and the City" were constantly struggling to get it all: career, friends, men, eternal happiness. Yet, it seems the "Entourage" boys have it all naturally.

Now, it is fantastic that the entertainment world has brought back the boys and the program gives an accurate portrayal of male relationships, but the treatment of women on this program is appalling. All the women are shown as sex objects and the majority of the relationships do not last longer than five episodes.

None of the women on the show are taken seriously as working women, and if they



ENTOURAGE/Z.ABOUT.COM

do have careers, they are made unsexy or without a relationship. Dana Gordon is a movie executive and is very attractive, but the audience is constantly reminded of the fact she and agent Ari Gold engaged in some highly sexually explicit activity during the '90s, which Ari has footage of and repeatedly threatens to expose. Ari Gold's wife is a housewife who quit her successful career as a soap opera actress to take care of her children.

Don't get me wrong, "Entourage" is hilarious. Clearly, Jeremy Piven steals every scene he is in,

with his portrayal of A-list agent who is stressed out, overworked and on the verge of a masculine mental breakdown at any moment. What I commend the show for is, for the most part, not referring to women by derogatory names. Rather, when a woman is discussed, it is almost always in the context of when and where a man will have sex with her. This generation is about girl power, but "Entourage" reminds the powerful spice girls who preach this mantra that women can have it all, but only if they sleep with the boys who have it all. ☹

Vamps, phantoms and film, oh my! Sarratt hosts Halloween showing of 'Nosferatu,' the one that started it all

BENJAMIN RIES
Staff Writer

As the release date of "The Twilight Saga: New Moon" approaches, it's worth taking a minute to recall the very first vampire film: "Nosferatu" (1922). The German production was originally intended as a direct adaptation of Bram Stoker's novel "Dracula," but the rights to the work could not be secured, forcing, among other changes, "Dracula" to be renamed "Count Orlok," played by Max Schreck in one of cinema's most famous performances. Schreck embodied the creepy, animal-like bloodsucker so effectively that 2000's "Shadow of A Vampire" suggested Schreck was a vampire in real life.

A high-quality print of "Nosferatu" was screened at the Sarratt Cinema on Halloween as part of the International Lens series. The event opened with a costume contest, during which audience members displayed their creative outfits, which included the Phantom of the Opera, a pajama pirate and an Octomom. A couple with books covering their faces — literal "Facebook friends" — were later pronounced the winners.

The host turned out to be none other than Count Orlock himself (though there were rumors he was an alter-ego of Associate Professor Paul Young, director of film studies). "Orlock," cane in hand, crept around front of the room as he introduced the film with a hilarious speech delivered in a thick vampire accent. He described the movie's historical background while admitting that Schreck's portrayal of him was "adequate."

"Nosferatu" is a silent film, but its screening at the Sarratt Cinema was accompanied by a live performance by the music group Rats and People. Rats and People began as a rock group but changed course when they were pleased with a live score they created for the Buster Keaton film "Go West" (1925). The post-screening discussion, led by a returning "Count Orlock," revealed that the performance was Rats and People's debut of their "Nosferatu" music.

The music consisted primarily of trombone, keyboard and strings, backed by percussion with occasional use of electric guitar. A Theremin created an eerie effect, enhancing the chilling atmosphere of the movie. The elaborate orchestration developed and



EGO.COM

expanded as the film progressed, introducing a new melody when movie-Orlock first appeared. When a messenger banged a drum in the movie, Rats and People's drummer delivered an appropriate burst of sound.

As host Orlock related, in the past live

music was always played with silent movies. Now, such an experience is very hard to come by. Thanks to the International Lens series, several dozen people were able to enjoy a high-quality screening of a great movie and a top-notch musical performance. ☹

PREVIEW REVIEW: 'Avatar'

MATT SHELTON
Staff Writer

It's about that time for another James Cameron film.

This rendition is a far cry from his "never let go" "Titanic" drama, and back to his sci-fi roots, a la "Terminator" and "Alien." "Avatar", his newest child, released its theatrical trailer to the world on Nov. 1, a 3-minute, 31-second hint at the themes and narrative spine of the film.

Avatar's visuals look amazing; all the talk about revolutionizing CG techniques are true — these graphics are sure to shock everyone with their clarity and fantasy-realism. Not only are the characters brilliantly CG'd, but also the world that they live in, Pandora. Beyond the visuals, the story arc surrounds one man plugged into a genetically engineered clone of an alien race, possessing full control of the body. This race's home is sitting on top of a mine of a mineral worth an ungodly sum. His goal to get this race to relocate.

Guess what? They don't want to, and the main character is not so sure they should have to, either. In turn, social and environmental commentary is scattered throughout. From what I've seen, this movie will live and die on the audience's ability to connect with this alien race. If it can connect, as Steven Spielberg got us to with the child-like innocence of "E.T.," this movie could revolutionize the genre, and gross much more than that movie where the ship hits the ice cube. ☹

Avatar Movie Trailer [HD]



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MUSIC

"A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and gets to bed at night, and in between he does what he wants to do."
—Bob Dylan

SETLIST

TODAY

Knoxville's **The Royal Bangs** return to Nashville tonight for a show at the Mercy Lounge. Having been described as a "chirpier, younger, less navel-gazing Radiohead," The Bangs bring to the stage a lively evening of experimental indie rock. This 9 p.m. show is only \$7.

THURSDAY, NOV. 5

Thursday is too big to mention only one show. Legendary songwriter **Leonard Cohen** plays Andrew Jackson Hall tonight while **Willie Nelson** takes the stage at the Ryman Auditorium. Blocks away, indie rock band **The Whigs** plays Cannery Ballroom and 3rd & Lindsley plays host to **Ezra Furman and the Harpoons**.

FRIDAY, NOV. 6

Ian McLagan rolls into town this evening with his new band, **The Bump Band**. Though McLagan is most predominantly known for his work with Rod Stewart in Faces, The Bump Band has made waves as well, earning supporting spots with artists like the Rolling Stones. Doors open at 7 p.m., and tickets are only \$7.

Foo on Facebook

STUART BRYAN
Staff Writer

This past week, Facebook played host to something more interesting than any app or game it currently has: a live broadcast of a Foo Fighters' concert.

Though, admittedly, I am not the biggest Foo Fighters fan, even I had to respect the pure passion emanating from frontman Dave Grohl and the rest of the band as they belted out their song, "All My Life." Grohl's vocal chords sounded nearly ready to burst as he screamed, "I'm done and I'm on to the next one," with a fervid style he surely picked up from the late Curt Cobain.

The concert, filmed live at Studio 606 in Los Angeles, was streamed directly to Facebook for any member's viewing pleasure. What made the concert unique, other than being seen only by Facebook users, was the interesting dynamic between the uncontrollable intensity of the band during songs and the relaxed and lighthearted tone established during the time between songs. With no set list, the band decided what song to play next by viewing the posts put on their Facebook wall by fans. Grohl made jokes and endorsed his favorite beer, and even with no fans in the studio, the band still managed to create an atmosphere of a small private concert created only for you, the viewer.

Yet as I watched Dave Grohl strum the opening chords to "Times Like These," I wondered to myself: Why are the Foo Fighters providing a free concert open to anyone on Facebook? Looking at Taylor Hawkins's wide grin as he viciously and almost religiously pounded away on his drums, one might think that maybe these guys just want to give back to all the fans who have supported them since their inception 14 years ago. Unfortunately, the ticker at the bottom of the concert screen indicated otherwise. "PREORDER NOW Foo Fighters' new Greatest Hits album!" The "free" concert was simply the newest opportunity for the Fighters to try and vacuum up the last

remaining dollars of each and every kid on Facebook.

Sure, I'll probably buy the album, but then again I've always been susceptible to good advertising. I suppose I can only congratulate the Foo Fighters on becoming the newest members to join the group of celebrities, politicians and anyone attempting to market anything who realize that Facebook is no fading fad but rather the perfect medium to target and solicit teenagers and young adults. Hopefully Curt isn't rolling in his grave right now. ☹



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z.about.com



images.fanpop.com

Whig-ing out with Tim Deaux

COURTNEY ROGERS
Editor-in-Chief

Tim Deaux of The Whigs gave Editor-in-Chief Courtney Rogers a call to talk about their upcoming show in Nashville and other cool stuff. He even promised to serenade her with a song.

Versus Magazine: What have you guys been up to since you played at the Exit/In last spring?

Tim Deaux: Basically, this summer we pretty much spent at home in Athens writing songs and material that we actually just finished recording for our upcoming record. We've been home a lot, really. It's been a real treat because we don't typically get to spend a lot of time in Athens. We're usually on the road touring, so getting a chance to go home and actually sleep in our own beds and work on those songs was really great. And then we got to hit the studio and record a bunch of new songs. And we basically just finished wrapping up the record about a week ago.

VM: Oh, wow!
TD: I guess maybe even less than a week ago. We basically just finished up everything, tying up the loose ends. We got that done literally the day before we left for this tour that we just started.

VM: Nice. So when is that record coming out?

TD: If everything goes as scheduled, it should be out early next year. We're hoping that by February, that will be out.

VM: Is your song "More Than Before" going to be on that one?

TD: That song is actually under a different title (but) those are definitely the lyrics. OK, this is kind of crazy, but that's the one tune that we haven't nailed down a title for yet.

VM: Really?

TD: Believe it or not, it's the one song where we haven't solidified the title. "More Than Before," actually could be what it ends up being, but it will be on the record. Who knows what it will be called, but it will be on the record.

VM: Good, I really liked that one live.

TD: That's actually one of my favorites, too. It's funny how when you're sort of coming up with new tunes, a lot of times you have the basis for a song and maybe all the lyrics might not be complete yet. But you have to identify the song somehow, so you kind of make up these silly names just so that you can basically discuss it or understand each other when you're trying to finish the tune. You kind of have to give it some sort of a nickname. We've had so many of these weird nicknames, and every other tune that we've had that once had a weird name has ended up with an official song and that's the one that has not been given a serious song name.

VM: What are the weird nicknames for it?

TD: Oh man, they're just dumb things. I named one "Jodie Foster." I've been naming songs after our favorite Atlanta Braves baseball players. We had a song "Fred 'Crime Dog' McGriff" for awhile. It's very silly.

VM: So are you going to play that song at the Cannery Ballroom?

TD: I hope so. We actually are in the midst of sort of reacquainting ourselves with a lot of those songs. We've been working really hard with getting these songs recorded, but we just haven't had a chance to get on stage and play a lot of them. You saw us play that song back at the Exit/In last spring. But we really just haven't had a lot of time to just work on the performances. So hopefully by the time you see us in Nashville, we'll have reacquainted ourselves with all the material. I would love to play it, I hope we



thewhigs.com

do. I'll remind Parker and Julian and be like, "Hey, we have to play this song for Courtney."

VM: You guys are so nice. Have you guys played at the Cannery Ballroom before?

TD: We played upstairs.

VM: Mercy Lounge?

TD: Mercy Lounge. We played there a handful of times, but this will be our first time in the Cannery Ballroom. So we're pumped. We love Nashville. We were just there last week. ... We spent about a week there and soaked up the Nashville vibe. It was really great, it was awesome.

VM: Did you go to any restaurants or anything that you really liked?

TD: This might be extremely touristy, so forgive me if this is just kitschy, but Robert's Western World. At least three or four nights we went there and drank PBRs and listened to honky-tonk music. Love that place. But yeah, we also went and played pool one night at Losers, which is a little kind of hole in the wall dive bar. We went to the Whiskey Kitchen one night, that place was kind of nice, it had a good atmosphere.

VM: Well, it sounds like you really got to hang out in Nashville and do some fun stuff.

TD: It was awesome, I love Nashville. We're all kind of smitten with Nashville after last week. Great people and so much music. I can definitely see myself wanting to relocate there sometime. We'll see.

VM: I was looking at your tour schedule, are there any stops besides Nashville that you're especially excited about coming up?

TD: Yeah. We're playing in Syracuse (N.Y.) tonight. I don't think we've ever played Syracuse before, so playing towns you've never been to, we have no idea what to expect. We typically have a really good time in Buffalo. We

love Buffalo, it's got such a great blue-collar kind of vibe. Hopefully this time around we won't have to endure a blizzard. I feel like every time we go there it's literally three feet of snow. We always have a good time in Buffalo, and Columbus, Ohio. The bigger cities, Chicago, New York, those are always great.

VM: Now onto the fun questions, what is your favorite color and why is it your favorite color?

TD: Man, that's funny because literally I just had this conversation last night. My favorite color is yellow and it's always been yellow. But, why? That's a good question, I don't really know what the answer is. I just like it. It has to be the right color yellow, maybe like a canary yellow. Not school bus yellow, I want yellow yellow. Like when you open a box of Crayolas, the yellowest yellow you can find.

VM: If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

TD: French fries. I have no prejudice against any sort of french fry, I love french fries. It's really unhealthy. I actually already had french fries today, I had french fries yesterday.

VM: Oh my gosh, you basically are eating just french fries!

TD: Yeah. When I'm home, I don't eat them very often. But when we're on the road, I don't know what it is, but I can't resist them. I guess they're like my comfort food, they just make me feel happy.

VM: And if you could be any animal, what animal would you be?

TD: I think I'd be a fish. I just like swimming, I think it would be really fun to be able to breathe underwater. Or maybe a house cat, I feel like house cats have it pretty easy.

VM: Is there anything else you want to add about the show?

TD: We're excited to be coming back to Nashville and we're looking forward to the show. We can't wait. ☹



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NEW RELEASES

THIS WEEK'S LATEST ALBUMS

WEezer, "Ratitude"

SHWAYZE, "Let It Beat"

CARRIE UNDERWOOD, "Play On"

THE SWIMMERS, "People Are Soft"

RYAN LESLIE, "Transition"

* Indicates that the album will be reviewed in next week's issue
** Reviewed in today's issue

SATURDAY, NOV. 7

The **Rebirth Brass Band**, as featured recently on Plug Your Scene, travels from New Orleans to Nashville for a show at the Exit/In. This jam band plays a lively fusion of jazz, funk and soul and is sure to get the crowd moving. Tonight's funky fresh show starts at 10 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOV. 8

Tonight the Cannery Ballroom will feature an evening with **moe.** This well-respected, guitar-shredding jam band will make you groove all night with their catchy build-ups and smooth transitions from song to song. Don't be surprised to hear 15-minute jams on the same song. \$24, starts at 9 p.m.

MONDAY, NOV. 9

The multi-platinum selling rock band **Tesla** will hit the Cannery Ballroom tonight. The band, which hails from Northern California, has developed quite the fan following over the years. On a fairly empty night in Nashville, this is a great option. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 day of and the show starts at 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, NOV. 10

Country music stars **Brad Paisley** and **Carrie Underwood** will hit the Sommet Center to team up as hosts of the CMA awards Wednesday night. But the morning before the awards, two of the best known acts in the game will play for free outside at the Sommet Center Plaza. As a morning TV show, the start is an early 6 a.m. if you're up to it.

SOUNDTRACK TO THE ISSUE



We at Versus have excellent taste in music. Below, the editors share what tracks we've been spinning as we create the glory you're holding in your hands.

1. "ROCKS OFF" **The Rolling Stongs**
2. "GLORIA" **Van Morrison with Them**
3. "THE TIME HAS COME" **Pretty Lights**
4. "RYAN ADAMS" **Come Pick Me Up**
5. "I WANNA BE YOUR LOVER" **Prince**
6. "THRILLER" **Michael Jackson**
7. "FOOD CHAIN" **Eric Hutchinson**
8. "FULL MOON" **Atmosphere**
9. "NOT COMING DOWN" **moe.**
10. "FLUFFHEAD" **Phish**

Pretty Lights, sweaty crowd at the Exit/In

ZAC HUNTER
Music Editor

The electronica/hip-hop/jam music scene is generally oversaturated, over-glorified and under-talented. Last Wednesday, Pretty Lights proved to be an exception to the last two rules. With a sold-out crowd as fuel for energy, the duo led by DJ and producer Derek Vincent Smith seamlessly transitioned from hit to hit, playing most of their album "Filling Up The Skies." Drummer Corey Eberhard, who adds an organic feel that makes the show feel unique, accompanies Smith at live shows. While Eberhard for the most part simply plays over the beats already laid down by the DJ, he is an essential part of the performance; he leaves room



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for exploration within a type of music that is often stagnant live and simply a playback of the studio recordings.

Equally important to the artists making the music are the lights that accompany it. The group plays in front of an LED light board that streams images from distorted dancing girls to disco neon squares and lines. Think The Flaming Lips. The synchronization between lights and music is key — like a conductor and an orchestra, they cut at precisely the same time. Pretty Lights is all about tension and release in the music, and the lights have a way of aiding the build up, cool down and general direction.

Unfortunately, one is subject to the crowd at a concert like this. The scene is an attempted throwback to the '60s Woodstock era, where everyone is encouraged to wear weird things, remove them to become shirtless and do a lot of drugs (smart venues like the Exit/In provide free water in coolers). Positively, people try to recreate the "everybody-love-everybody" feel, and for the most part it works. However, because the



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crowd can make or break the show, all it takes is one self-important jackass who thinks he IS the show to ruin it for everyone around him (a mosh pit during the finale remix of "Paper Planes" is simply unacceptable).



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Smith and Eberhard were clearly psyched to be playing, announcing that they had never been to Nashville and thanking the crowd for coming out in such a force. Playing at a venue that boasts a wall of fame with talents ranging from The Police to Johnny Cash to the Talking Heads and Red Hot Chili Peppers is no easy feat, but Pretty Lights held their own. In the

final song before the encore, the popular "Finally Moving Remix," the entire crowd chanted back the lyrics in unison, rendering an intangibly good feeling.

Their peers and leaders of the scene, Sound Tribe Sector 9 (STS9), came to Nashville Saturday night for what was sure to be a weird Halloween set, but Pretty Lights is a tough act to follow. ☼



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Milkman live > Girl Talk

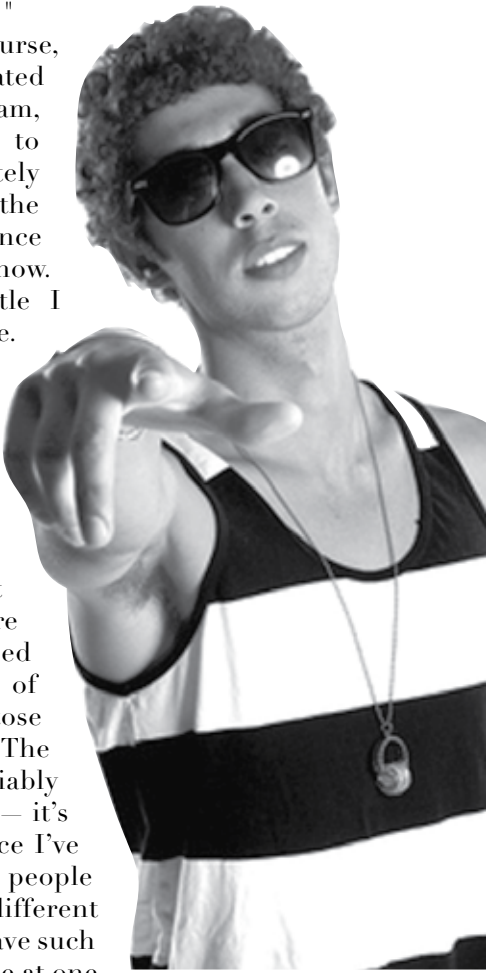
AVERY SPOFFORD
Life Editor

All hail Milkman; my faith in live mashup music is restored. Playing to a full house at Beta Theta Pi fraternity on Friday night, Milkman (Gregg Luskin) brought the crowd to their knees and proved that, despite disappointing on-campus performances from peers Girl Talk and the Super Mash Bros, there is still hope for the genre's live show.

There was never any doubt that Luskin is a talented DJ with the capability to produce very catchy, danceable mashups. The fear was that, like Girl Talk, his music might not translate into the impressive live show that his albums promise. I was prepared to be disappointed when the man himself heard I was skeptical and issued a challenge: "Come on stage and watch from there. You'll see. I dare you not

to love this show."

And so, of course, attracted to elevated surfaces as I am, I proceeded to be completely blown away by the entire experience of Milkman's show. This was a battle I was happy to lose. The man was unstoppable: Luskin mixed the entire show live onstage, dropping fresh samples that appear nowhere on his two recorded albums ("Circle of Fifths" and "Lactose and THC"). The crowd was undeniably feeling the show — it's been a while since I've seen a group of people with so many different tastes in music have such a great time at one



milkmanmusic.com



milkmanmusic.com

concert, and there wasn't a still body in the house. Milkman felt out the crowd and spun a sample after sample of exactly what they wanted to hear, dropping both current hits and throwbacks (and I'm pretty sure I heard some TV soundtracks in there, too). The show was unbearable; it was sick. My skepticism got thoroughly rocked.

So, my formal apologies for doubting you, Milkman. The comparisons between you and Girl Talk were completely unfair: You're much more talented, not to mention much more fun. You came to party, and showed us all that mashup music live can be more than the point-and-click repetition our campus has seen from Girl Talk and the Super Mash Bros. Just when we thought we'd given up, you saved the day. Milkman, all hail. ☼

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FASHION: BATTLE OF THE SEXES

STYLE SPOTTER:

Kalan Contreras

NIKKY OKORO
Fashion Editor



Living out and dressing up by the mantra that “a good outfit is the perfect remedy for a bad day,” junior Kalan Contreras is repping the female front in this week’s Style Spotter: Battle of the Sexes edition. Majoring in anthropology and film studies, Kalan finds daily style inspiration in both her family and foreign pieces from around the world. She sported a great mix of edgy and girly, plus the perfect shade of red lipstick for fall. But don’t let this fool you, as this native Texan fittingly drives a truck and loves online shopping. Continue reading to learn more about some of her favorites and how she describes her style ...

WHAT ARE YOU WEARING RIGHT NOW?

Velvet dress from Max Azria, thrifted leather jacket and boots from Posh Boutique in Nashville

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE STORES?

I really like boutiques like Jigsaw London in Nashville and also Anthropologie. I’m not too big into thrifting unless I get things dry-cleaned.

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE STYLE ICON?

My grandma. She was my age during the ‘60s, and I look back to younger pictures of her as inspiration. I also find inspiration in a lot of foreign pieces.

MOST DISLIKED VANDYGUY TREND?

It is never OK to wear Oakley sunglasses outside of 1994.

IF YOUR CLOSET WAS BURNING AND YOU COULD ONLY SAVE ONE ITEM, WHAT WOULD THAT BE?

I love shopping, so probably nothing just because it would give me an excuse to buy more things!

AND LASTLY, DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE IN THREE WORDS ...

Fun. Flashy. Functional.



NIKKY OKORO/The Vanderbilt Hustler

If you know of anyone who deserves to be in Style Spotter, nominate them through emailing n.okoro@gmail.com.



STYLE SPOTTER:

Naveed Nanjee

NIKKY OKORO
Fashion Editor

This week’s Style Spotter features Naveed Nanjee standing in for the the males as the guy’s guy in preppy style. From the get-go, it’s obvious Nanjee is equipped with both a unique mix of brands and comic ability. He also possesses a genuine respect for people who wear clothes for a cause, especially products like TOMS shoes, FEED bags and organic tees. Read on to learn more about his classic style, his clever sources of inspiration and his advice for girls with handbags.

WHAT ARE YOU WEARING RIGHT NOW?

A Polo vest and shirt, Walmart khakis, a thrifted hat that I bought while I was visiting Paris, and lime green accented Sperry shoes I’ve had forever.

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE STORES?

Club Monaco (for inspiration, not necessarily for purchasing), Urban Outfitters clearance rack and the Polo Outlet Store in Lebanon, Tenn.

WHO ARE YOUR FAVORITE STYLE ICONS?

Kanye West because he can wear whatever and it will be fashion. Also, Frank Sinatra with his fedora is a classic icon.

MOST DISLIKED VANDYGIRL TREND?

Longchamp bags. If you’re going to have a big bag, then make it more fashionable.

IF YOUR CLOSET WAS BURNING AND YOU COULD ONLY SAVE ONE ITEM, WHAT WOULD THAT BE?

My straw fedora. I’m not notoriously known for it around campus, but I’d like to be.

AND LASTLY, DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE IN THREE WORDS ...

Preppy with pizzazz.



NIKKY OKORO/The Vanderbilt Hustler

Don’t forget to also check online for more photos and fashion features at www.insidevandy.com

She says: Variety the spice of style

ALEXIS TABAK
Staff Writer

Though most faux-pas fashion trends seem to focus on females, there are still several male fashion trends that ought to be completely avoided for the upcoming seasons at all costs.

Male fashion can tend to be more complex than women’s clothing due to fewer options and the lack of variety of male celebrity style icons. There isn’t a huge difference between what makes George

Clooney a sharp dresser than from what makes Matt Damon look great on the red carpet. Having said that, I have noticed on television and movies that there is slowly becoming more of a range of what men can choose in their daily wardrobe choices. For example, Rufus Humphrey, the father of Dan and Jenny on “Gossip Girl,” has mastered the delicate balance between rock ‘n’ roll rugged edge and New York sophistication. Television characters like him are providing more options and alternatives for guys.

Though I am not a fashion authority and certainly am not trying to be, since matriculating at Vanderbilt I have been surrounded by smart, fashionable women who have lots of ideas about good and bad in style. What I have discovered from my research is that most women, particularly Vanderbilt women, like their male counterparts to dress and look masculine. This translates into dark tones, nothing too

tight and definitely nothing with flowers or chains. One thing that is an absolute horror in male fashion is a T-shirt with obnoxious phrases. Unless your shirt advertises a funny political slogan, a charity you support or a phrase in a different language that is inspiring to you, then use it as a dishrag.

Another recent male trend that is an absolute failure are male cropped pants that are somewhere between capris and full-length pants. They not only make you look like you own pants that don’t fit you, but there is no occasion or season when this is appropriate (except maybe summer in the south of France if you are a serious European metrosexual). Lastly, bad shoes are unacceptable. Shoes, whether sneakers, dress shoes, boat shoes or sandals, should be clean, good quality and not falling apart. Women notice shoes on a man almost as fast as they notice their face — so take notice. ☹



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HE says: Branded by another

MATT SHELTON
Staff Writer

The day I got accepted to Vanderbilt early decision was a great one. My mom made me whatever I wanted for dinner that night and my dad was proud that I’d keep the family legacy alive. Since then I’ve thrown or given away all of the gear collected throughout the past year’s college visits; they were not necessary.

One of the most aggravating experiences I have at Vanderbilt is walking around campus and seeing people who seem to be confused about which university they attend. While I understand that Friday mornings are tough after a few too many drinks downtown, be a little more cognizant of what you throw on in the morning. An example: A girl was dragging herself to class in Georgetown sweat pants, a Harvard sweater, and a Northwestern hat. I wouldn’t be surprised if her socks were embroidered with a blue devil too. Guess what? I don’t care about the other

schools you were looking at, or that your sister/ brother goes to Duke: You don’t. So please stop advertising other schools on our campus.

Another aspect about this trend that irks me is when people try to use other school’s clothing to suggest personality traits in themselves. Just because you can buy a Princeton or Harvard sweater doesn’t make you smarter than me. In fact, most of the time these students are attempting to hide their insecurity about their intellect. It’s social armor: When they say something stupid in class that makes the teacher give them a quizzical look, they just puff out their chest, making the school’s name emblazoned there prevalent, and nod, saying, “I know you think what I just said was wrong, but it’s OK, I visited an Ivy league school.”



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Girls aren’t the only perpetrators of this crime, either. Frat guys wear caps that rarely boast Vandy. While I understand it’s a stamp of regional pride, more repping the state that you are from than that state’s university, it still isn’t acceptable. Asking where someone is from is one of the first four questions everyone asks, so don’t worry, people will still know that you’re from Bama without the elephant stamped on your backwards cap. Vanderbilt is one of the only top-20 academic and party schools in the nation. Respect that — wear the black and gold Commodore colors with pride. ☹

Chi Omega mixes philanthropy and fashion

IMANI ELLIS
Staff Writer

Imagine going to one of your favorite local boutique stores, having them dress you in the latest fall fashions — for free — strutting down the runway like Naomi Campbell in 1999, and doing it all for a great cause. This Thursday, 23 Chi Omega seniors will do just that as Chi-O presents their annual Fashion Show.

This show is the best of both worlds because it not only showcases some of the cutest fall trends, but also serves as a great act of philanthropy. One hundred percent of the proceeds go to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation, an organization that grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. All of the designs that will appear on the runway come from three of Nashville’s local boutiques:

Posh, Cotton Mill and Boutique Bella. The models were allowed to visit the stores and personally customize and collaborate their own personal style with the newest fall and winter trends of the season. All three of the stores donated the clothes for free in an effort to show support for the fashion show.

As if that weren’t enough to touch your heart, two children who have had their wishes granted by Make-A-Wish

will join the model line up in walking down the runway.

The event coordinator, senior Alex Bettis, said she is very excited about the show, and more importantly, about where the proceeds go.

“Our biggest goal is to raise money so we can, as a chapter, make a wish come true. We’re really honored that we have the opportunity to give back,” she said. It costs approximately \$6,000

to grant one wish and Chi-Omega has already raised enough money to grant two.

“We’re hoping that after the final sale of tickets we can grant three wishes in all,” Bettis said.

Tickets are \$5 and will be sold all week on the Wall outside of Rand and also at the door. The show will debut this Thursday in the Student Life Center at 5 p.m. ☹

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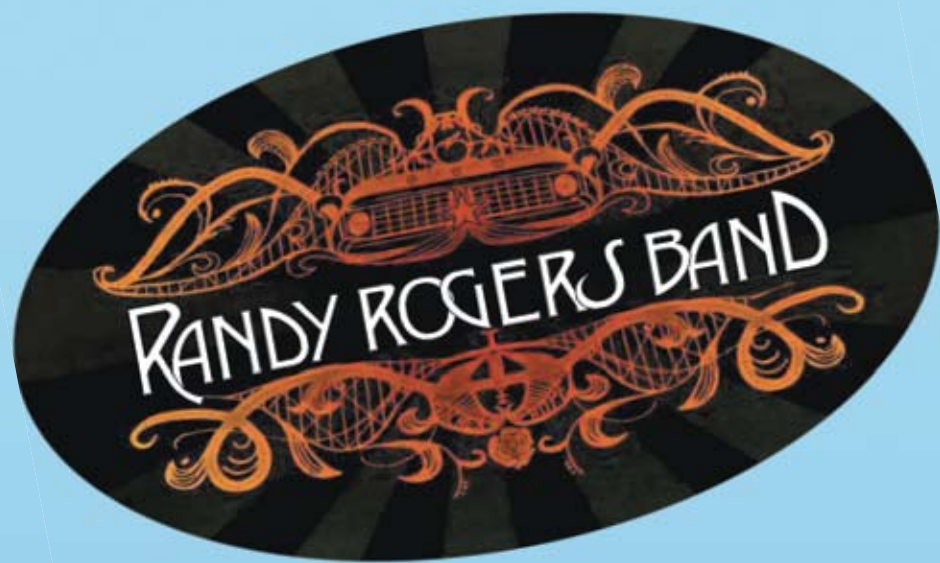
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ZAC HUNTER
Music Editor

VERSUS MAGAZINE: *Rolling Stone* said your tour was a must see of the summer and *Playboy* rated your album best country album of the year. As a guy and as a musician, which was more satisfying?

RANDY ROGERS: I'm gonna have to say the *Rolling Stone* mention as a musician was definitely more satisfying than *Playboy*. But if I was going to brag in a bar, I'd probably brag that we were voted Best Country Album in *Playboy Magazine*.

VM: *Have you used that to make it out to the Playboy mansion yet?*

RR: We didn't get to go the mansion but we got to go to dinner with the editor not too long ago in Chicago. That was nice, a real treat. We asked about the mansion, but we got rejected.

VM: *Maybe next time. Can you tell me about your experiences on "The Jay Leno Show" and "Late Show with David Letterman"?*

RR: The experience we had on *Letterman* was our first national TV experience and we were all a little nervous. Plus, it was about 9 degrees outside, and inside the studio it was about 35 degrees. You know, you read and hear about the Ed Sullivan theater being cold, and it's true — it's freezing cold. We all had to like rub our hands together before we hit the stage. I think it was really neat that *Letterman* came over and shook our hands after. And Clint Eastwood was on the show, so that was a humongous thing for us, to be on that show with him. He's a living legend. And then L.A. was the exact opposite: It was 75 degrees and beautiful outside. They were shooting an episode of the TV show "Entourage" on Leno that day so we got to be around that show all day, watch them film it, watch all the stars play their parts. So by the time we played that show, I think were a little bit more relaxed.

VM: *Is that the show that aired this season?*

RR: Yeah, it's the first episode of the last season. When Ari's walking through the hallway to go check Vince out, those are all our road cases up against the wall. They're blue. We didn't make it in the shot. We tried a couple of times, but our road cases made it.

VM: *Speaking of road cases, you play 220 dates a year? That's quite a lot.*

RR: Yeah, it's been about five years now that we've been trucking it on the road that much. It's something we're proud of. As a band, we've probably played 1,400 shows together. This is our ninth year being together, and we're working on our seventh record. Lots of miles, man, millions of miles.

VM: *I went to the Exit/In for the first time last night and saw the wall of names of people who have played there — everyone from Johnny Cash to Kris Kristoferson to the Police and the Talking Heads. How do you feel about playing in a venue with that kind of past company?*

RR: It's a great feeling. Anytime you get to do a show in a historic building is always just a treat. One comes to mind: Cains Ballroom in Tulsa. The Sex Pistols played there; Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys — you know, that was their home. It just means a lot as a musician to grace that stage that

Last week, Music Editor Zac Hunter called up Randy Rogers to talk about the band's success, their upcoming show at the Exit/In and performing on television. Though the band has yet to make it to the Playboy mansion, they're excited to make one of their 220 tour dates a stop in the Music City. Read on for more on favorite drinks, working with Radney Foster and "Entourage."

so many have before that you look up to.

VM: The song "Better Than I Ought To Be" — is that about the current success you're enjoying?

RR: Well, it's about a kid that came up to me after a show and I asked how he was doing and he said, "Well, I'm better than I ought to be." And I said, "I'm gonna write that." This guy had a unique outlook.

VM: "We'll Never Be That High Again" is about the fun you have on the first time, whether kissing a girl or taking your first drink. Have there been moments in your career that are like that?

RR: Gracing the stage at the Ryman and the Grand Ole Opry. I remember feeling that night afterward: "I don't know that I'll ever have that feeling again." That sense of accomplishment. It felt so good to be on that stage (which is another one, like you said earlier, just of all the great people who have been on that stage). I remember thinking: "There's nothing I can do to top this right now."

VM: *What do you do when you're in Nashville?*

RR: I write. I've been writing a ton for this record. Most of the time, when I do come to town it's business and it is usually co-writing. And then, you know, I hit the bars. I go to the Exit/In and check out whoever's playing.

VM: *Radney Foster is quite the legend. What was it like working with him?*

RR: He did our last three records, actually. He's been basically my mentor, in life and in music. I'm very thankful that he's been a part of our career. I wouldn't say our success is solely because of him, but he's played a huge role in developing this band and helping us become the players we are.

VM: *How did you catch up with him in the first place?*

RR: (Laughs.) I stalked him, pretty much. We opened shows for him, and every time we did I made myself visible to him and let him know that I was serious about wanting to write with him and wanting to pursue this as a career. He finally listened and we got to be real close friends.

VM: *What did you listen to growing up?*

RR: Lots of Christian music. My dad is a Baptist preacher. But he also had a badass record collection, so I got lots of Rolling Stones, Beatles, Don Williams, Merle and Willie and Waylon and Cash, and The Who and The Guess Who, and lots of Creedence Clearwater Revival — that was my dad's favorite.

VM: *What's a song — not one of yours — that you love to sing?*

RR: I've always been a big fan of Ryan Adams' "Come Pick Me Up" ... "Take me out, fuck me up, steal my records." I like jamming that one out.

VM: *What do you like to drink?*

RR: Vodka-soda. And cold Bud Light beer, our wonderful sponsor.

VM: *What are you listening to right now?*

RR: Well, I can tell you before we go on stage every single night in the front lounge it's Merle Haggard. Can't get enough of Merle.

VM: *Like I said, we're excited about the show coming up in Nashville. Anything else you want to say on that?*

RR: Love the Exit/In. Gonna be making our record in Nashville in the next few months, with new music coming in early 2010.☿



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			5		1	9		3
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Level:

1	2
3	4

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

11/2/09 SOLUTIONS

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

11/4/09

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 ___ be an honor"
- 4 Absurd sham
- 9 Music performance rights org.
- 14 Fizzle out
- 15 Where work may pile up
- 16 Bit of wisdom
- 17 Respond to Uncle Sam's poster request
- 20 Navajo relative
- 21 Wood decay
- 22 Tall and long-limbed
- 23 Hope/Crosby film title word
- 24 Captured
- 27 ___-Cat: winter vehicle
- 28 Movieland
- 30 Eliminate entirely
- 32 ___ meenie ...
- 33 Outdoor nap site
- 36 Women, in old-fashioned parlance
- 38 Blow one's top
- 39 Chasms
- 40 "Pay attention!"
- 43 Pesky little tyke
- 46 Retailing pioneer R.H. ___
- 47 Eternities
- 48 Zellweger of "Chicago"
- 50 Anxiety
- 52 Texas metropolis
- 53 Passive-aggressive tactic
- 56 Land along the ocean
- 57 Two under par, on a hole
- 58 Up to, in classified ads
- 59 Aches
- 60 Father of Beau and Jeff
- 61 Go out with

DOWN

- 1 Lofty principles
- 2 ___ Alley: old music-publishing district
- 3 Old White House middle name
- 4 Suspicious
- 5 Poker payment
- 6 Sac fly stat
- 7 Approve tacitly
- 8 Crowd scene actors
- 9 Copycat
- 10 Furry North Pacific swimmers
- 11 Hanna-Barbera output
- 12 Escort's offer
- 13 Thickness
- 18 "Gross!"
- 19 Jekyll's alter ego
- 23 Actuary's calculation
- 25 Cut or scrape, in tot speak
- 26 Lego relative
- 28 Tic ___: mint
- 29 Eric the Red's son
- 30 Loneliness syndrome when kids leave home
- 31 Repetitive learning method
- 33 Captain's position
- 34 "Carmen" highlight
- 35 Like weightlifters
- 36 Animal rights activists' concerns
- 37 Draft choice
- 39 Five-star leader
- 41 Nifty
- 42 Low-cost lodging
- 43 Coastal irregularities, and word anagrammed in this puzzle's four longest answers
- 44 Stinker
- 45 Mortar and ___
- 48 Gave a PG, say
- 49 Shade tree
- 51 Tolkien tree people
- 52 Six-time Emmy winner Tyne
- 53 Teaching inst.
- 54 Chit
- 55 Bigheadedness

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11/4/09

11/2/09 Solutions

G	A	M	S	A	C	M	E	E	S	I	T	E
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S	N	E	R	S	L	O	E	T	I	M	E	

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