

PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

Urban Indie Live — The Rutledge

Underground and yet-to-be-discovered local and national artists share the stage at the Rutledge's Urban Indie Live Showcase, with styles as diverse as R&B to rock to neo-soul. The event also welcomes spoken word acts and stand-up comedy. (\$5, 9 p.m., 410 Fourth Ave. South)

Gypsy Hombres — 12 South Taproom and Grill

This acoustic violin/guitar based trio, which blends European, South American and classical music, is sure to bring a new sound to Nashville. Playing selections from Chopin to Louis Armstrong, the trio also values improvisation and a "free spirit" atmosphere. (Free, 8 p.m., 2318 12th

Hammertorch with the Persuasions — The End

Hammertorch, a Murfreesboro-based alternative country/rock band, has cited musical influences in everyone from Neil Young and The Band to Wilco and My Morning Jacket. (\$5, 9 p.m., 2219 Elliston Place)

Open Mic Night — Cafe Coco

Looking for a unique night of entertainment alongside your Commodore Card-expensed delicious meal? Look no further than Cafe Coco's weekly Open Mic Night, where you can enjoy the rhymes of your peers and the night air from a table on the veranda. (Free, 8 p.m.)

Beegie Adair — F. Scott's Restaurant and Jazz Bar

Jazz pianist Beegie Adair has been called "elegant" by the Los Angeles Times and "one of the finest piano players in the world" by Entertainment News. Need another reason to check out this performance? It's free! (Free, 7 p.m.)

Heartless Bastards and Dead Confederate — Exit/In The Heartless Bastards, a rock/indie/soul power trio from Dayton, Ohio, brings their cool and mellow non-nonsense sound to the Exit/In. Despite the off-putting name, these guys are definitely worth a visit to Elliston. (\$15, 8 p.m.)

Peter Moon Band — Sambuca

This trio has been described by radio disc jockey Dave Bartley to be "kinda like Train, Tom Petty and Sublime road trippin' with the Dalai Lama." If that doesn't get to you swanky restaurant Sambuca, maybe the non-existence ticket price will. (Free, 7 p.m., 6010 12th Ave. South)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

Yo-Yo Ma & Joseph Gramley — Schermerhorn Symphony Center

Check out Grammy-winning cellist Yo-Yo Ma on the second night of a three-night stint at the Nashville Symphony. The world-famous artist will be joined by percussionist Joseph Gramley. (\$70, 8 p.m.)

Rascal Flatts with Taylor Swift — Sommet Center

Grammy winners Rascal Flatts will be sure to provide an exciting show with their brand of pop-country. Opening is fellow pop-country star Taylor Swift, touring in support of her upcoming album, "Fearless," to be released Nov. 11. (\$52.50, 8 p.m., 501 Broadway)

Jonell Mosser — 3rd and Lindsley

Eclectic singer Jonell Mosser has collaborated with some of music's greats, including Etta James, Waylon Jennings and B.B. King. Her sound ranges from rock to blues to country. (\$10, 7 p.m.)

MSTRKRFT — Mercy Lounge/Cannery Ballroom

Canadian electronic group MSTRKRFT, famous for their danceable remixes and production skills, come to Nashville for a night of dancing at the Mercy Lounge and Cannery Ballroom. The show also features openers Felix Cartal and unannounced "special guests." (\$17 advance/\$18 day-of-show, 10 p.m.)

Blacklist Royals with Hellfire Revival, Gabe Zander,

Mountain Punk All-Stars and Memphis Belles — The End The End, located just a short walk from campus, hosts a night of punk rock featuring Blacklist Royals. Having performed on the Vans Warped Tour and with artists including Pennywise and Circle Jerks, Nashville's own Blacklist Royals are a band worth your Friday night. (\$5, 9 p.m., 2219 Elliston Place)

Laura Vida — Sambuca

For a night of tasty food and relaxing music, head to Sambuca to check out keyboardist Laura Vida. Laura has co-written with many of Nashville's top artists and features a fresh sound that is sure to please. (Free, 7 p.m., 6010 12th Ave. South)

Janet McLaughlin, Rachel Williams and Brandy Clark with John Ramey and Brad Martin — Douglas Corner Cafe

Singer-songwriter Janet McLaughlin brings her famous singing and guitar skills to the Douglas Corner Cafe. Her music has been recorded by some of the Nashville industry's most prominent artists, including world-famous country artist Loretta Lynn. (Cover TBA, 6 p.m., 2106-A Eighth Ave. South)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

Matt Nathanson — Exit/In The man who describes his music as disco Bob Dylan is playing a show that will involve a lot of audience involvement and a lot of fun. (\$7, 8 p.m.)

Yo-Yo Ma & Joseph Gramley — Schermerhorn Symphony Center

It's your last chance to see world-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma. Come out and get soothed by this timeless musician. (\$80, 8 p.m.)

Sweethearts of the Rodeo — Station Inn

This sister duo hit it big back in the '80s with a series of top 10 country hits, and they are coming back to bring more music to the world. With hits like "Hey Doll Baby" and "Since I Found You," this is sure to be a night that country music will not forget. (\$12, 9 p.m.)

Divas Against Disparities — Ryman Auditorium

Some of music's great female vocalists are coming together for this showcase to support the Meharry Medical College, Angie Stone, Mary Mary and Lalah Hathaway will all perform, so get ready for a night of high notes and high energy. (\$35, 8 p.m.)

The Worsties — The Rutledge

Want to hear that band that describes themselves as a combination of party, rock 'n' roll and sexiness? Then come out and hear The Worsties, a post-punk band native to Nashville. They will also be playing with Nite Nite, Lovers and Liars and Copper. (\$5, 9 p.m.)

Laura Vida — Sambuca

This passionate singer and songwriter has worked with some of the biggest names on Music Row and is bringing her own music to the masses. (Free, 7 p.m., 6010 12th Ave. South)

Christian Showcase — Curb Event Center

Come out and see what the kids down the road do with their time at this musical showcase completely run by Belmont musicians. (Free, 7 p.m., 2002 Belmont Blvd.)

Boston Spaceships — Mercy Lounge/Cannery

This Alice Cooper-inspired band will play its unique style of pop punk that will definitely be reminiscent of the past. The High Strung will also perform. (\$15, 9 p.m.)

The Regulars

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BLUEBIRD CAFE 4104 Hillsboro Road 37215 383-1461

EXIT/IN 2208 Elliston Place 37203 321-3340

STATION INN 402 12th Ave. S. <u>37203</u>

THE BASEMENT 1604 Eighth Ave. S. 37203 254-1604

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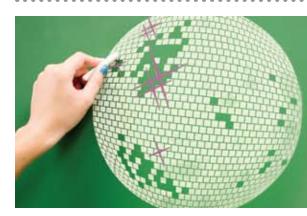
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Versus

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Versus Magazine

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FROM THE EDITOR



As T.I. says, "What's up? What's happenin'?"

It's safe to say that Vanderbilt has a thing for Brett Dennen. The ginger-headed Oakdale, Calif., native has visited the campus twice in my Vandy tenure, first for Rites of Spring in 2007 and again last fall as one of Kanye's opening acts at Quake. The folk/indie-pop crooner, who is gearing up for the release of his latest album "Hope for the Hopeless," has also recently been named one of Rolling Stones' "10 Artists to Watch." I'm jamming to his latest as I write this; his track "Make You Crazy" with roots musician Femi Kuti is quite excellent and definitely merits a download. So I'm pretty sure Brett Dennen is Versus-cover-worthy. We're not worthy; we're not worthy.

We're doing big things in this issue. We're featuring the famed music festival Austin City Limits, reviewing noteworthy Nashville restaurants like South Street and PM and giving the MTV show "TRL" the proper goodbye it deserves. If you hadn't heard, "Total Request Live" has been cancelled after 11 years of daily live video countdowns. It's final broadcast on Nov. 8 will surely be an emotional time for all. Look to friends and family to get through this loss.

I'm hoping you're taking your copy of Versus with you on your various and diverse Fall Break escapades. In addition to starting intriguing conversations, we also serve as excellent reading material for planes, trains and automobiles.

Darcy Newell

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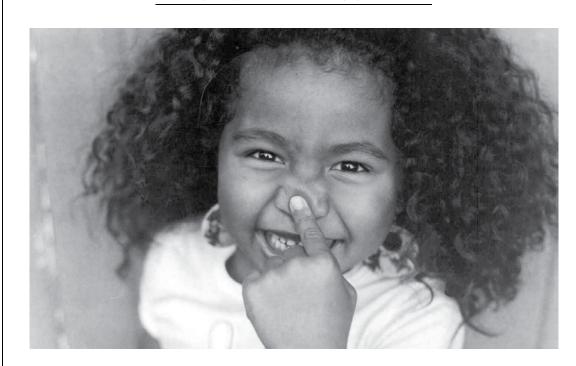
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PIC OF THE WEEK



HANNAH FASICK/ VERSUS MAGAZINE

FICTION

DREAMS ARE TRUE WHILE THEY LAST,
AND DO WE NOT LIVE IN DREAMS?
—ALFRED LORD TENNYSON

Songs of Entitlement

Brett Dennen

One of the great things about the arts is when you can find a way to synergistically combine different avenues of expression. Here at Versus, we're trying something new: Every week, we're going to take the name of a song by a featured artist and have one of our writers turn it into a short story. This week we're giving you twice the bang for your buck with two songs from Brett Dennen.

SEAN TIERNEY

"Ain't no reason" not to call her. Ain't no reason not to apologize for being wrong. (And if you were right, ain't no reason not to apologize anyway and tell yourself it's for one of your many faults she regularly overlooks.)

Better yet, ain't no reason to put your shoes on, fix up your hair and find your car keys in the right pocket of the jeans you wore yesterday. Ain't no reason not to drive into town and buy some flowers and a card. (Never was much reason in the pairing of flowers with dead, artificial folds of stiff paper.)

Ain't no reason to keep on driving. Past the gas station. Past the movie theatre. A few miles out, but you know the way. How you can tingle as you get closer, the way you can smell salt before you reach the ocean. (Was there ever any woman unlike the sea?)

Ain't no reason not to put your foot on the brakes when the traffic sign tells you to. Except when the wind has pulled the sign out. Or when an overgrown shrub has hidden it. Or when some young boys, for no particular reason, have pulled it out. Or when you simply do not see it. (After all, who thought to make stop signs the color of passion and tomatoes?)

Ain't no reason a truck happened to reach the intersection at the same time. Ain't no reason for much. (And that is why we take so many wonders for granted.) \(\mathbb{H} \)

HAIKUS

Words to live by in seventeen syllables

Five and one ain't bad We're so close to a bowl game — Don't fail us now, Dores!



Just one week 'til Quake — One week to convince myself Rap music is good.

CHRIS GEARING
Features Editor

"When you feel it ..." she trailed off.

I didn't know what she was trying to get at, but you could see how broken she was. The flicker of her eyes had been choked to a simmering ember the past three weeks. I don't know why, but since the beginning of October — I didn't love her anymore. Cashmere sweaters and the smell of her hair weren't enough. Midnight cheese omelettes and quietly reading the paper in bed weren't enough. Sometimes people just grow apart, I guess. Reviewing the past three years, I searched for where the break began.

This was true love. We were inseparable six months ago. We used to wander the city and look at the Christmas lights on the fire escapes, her violet scarf wandering behind her head in the wind. Playing tag in between alleys and stolen kisses. Between the heavy air of the subway, the dimmed lighting of the corner restaurants and her whispering in my ear, I knew. This was true love.

Or so we thought. Until we came back down from the cosmos to discover that even the perfect relationship has holes. You don't think about the small things that add up to everything. Hanging up the phone without saying "I love you," not wanting to meet her eyes at the dinner table and not holding her hand like it could be the last time—she figured out what I knew all along.

What did she mean, "When you feel it?" When you feel what? The butterflies filling your stomach at the moment before your first kiss? The rush of blood to the head that knocks your socks off when you see her in that sensational little black dress? The nostalgia for the way she used to look laying in bed? Or the way you feel the moment you see her cliche suitcase by the door?

"When you feel it ... you know it's time for me to leave." I pulled the blanket over my head and searched for sleep. ##

ENTERTAINM

South Street delivers Southern comfort and a relaxing atmosphere

HOLLY WEEHL Staff Writer

Are you craving scrumptious Southern food? Do you wish you could have a little more butter with that broccoli and a bit more fry on that fish? Then South Street Restaurant is the place for you. South Street serves up comfort food like no other, all in an eclectic, breezy atmosphere.

South Street is known for its savory barbe-cue items as well as its delicious seafood. Favorite bar-be-cue plates include hearty pulled pork and tender pumped chicken. Its dozens of seafood options include such delicacies as "hol' fried catfish" and shrimp and oyster po'boys. But don't forget your sides with that entree, because South Street's sides mean business. With most main dishes you can add on tasty bar-be-cue baked beans, homemade tater tots, sweet potato casserole and much more. And if you haven't filled up on hush puppies, you can dive into one of South Street's delectable desserts that range from iron skillet peach pie to a homemade

Think you can't handle all the grease and butter? South Street even offers up salads and simple grilled chicken sandwiches. On weekends, they even appeal to the woman trying to maintain her figure by offering a "Nicole Kidman" egg-white omelet. But seriously, if you go, unbutton those skinny jeans and order that full rack of ribs — it's worth it.

But South Street's food isn't the only gem it has to offer — its seating is all open air. You can be seated in the homey porch, fit with tires as fans to keep patrons cool, or the pleasant Tree House, which gives you a nice perch to observe passers by below. The Tree House is especially unique in that it is equipped with a funky, wooden bar and can be rented out for parties. If you don't have any ideas for your 21st birthday yet, this might be the spot. The restaurant is ready for partiers as it is open from 11 a.m. until 3 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and 11 a.m. until midnight on Sunday.

South Street offers up great food and service for a decent price as well. Most sandwiches and seafood baskets are under \$10. So if you want to venture off the Card for a worthwhile eating experience, yet still be in walking distance of Vandy, check out South Street Restaurant. It's located on 20th Avenue South. You can also check out its Web site at www.pansouth.net/ southstreet-index.htm. ₩



Find gourmet, affordable sushi at Belmont Blvd's PM

DARCY NEWELL

Editor in Chief

Of all the gastronomic specialties available in our lovable Nashville, sushi is perhaps not the first thing that comes to your mind when you think of dining out in Music City. Though there is no lack of actual sushi restaurants, the quality ranges from gourmet, delicious and expensive to cheap, semi-satisfying and made with fish of questionable origin. However, my visit to Belmont Boulevard's indoor-outdoor eatery PM this past weekend has answered my prayer for the seemingly impossible to find: good, cheap sushi in a landlocked state.

PM is nestled on a seemingly residential side street adjacent to Belmont University, and for that reason, goes unnoticed by most Vanderbilt students in their pursuit of a new hot spot. Perfect in its combination of hip Asian-influenced decor and mellow lighting, patrons are instantly relaxed the moment they walk in and choose from a variety of seating options, including the spacious outdoor patio, tables and bar seating. Serene music, patterned light from a slow moving disco ball and some sort of modern-art interpretation



of Aladdin on a flat-screen TV round out PM's ambience.

Still, the most surprising and satisfying part of going to PM is the menu. The restaurant boasts an array of gourmet sushi options (as well as other menu options, as diverse as shrimp dumplings to chicken wings) all of which sound absolutely fantastic, and astonishingly, almost all of them are under

The rolls are prepared elegantly, garnished with heaps of brightly colorful fish and strips of fresh eel wrapped on California Rolls. Everything is so fresh and delicious, you might find yourself ordering more than you can handle in an effort to taste it all. But if you can save room for dessert, PM's menu has at least one item everyone can appreciate, from apple wontons to banana spring rolls.

So when the Meal Plan has exhausted your palette and dining out in Nashville has exhausted your bank account, make the short trip over to Belmont Boulevard to give PM a try. With its affordable, delicious and extensive menu, it may not stay one of Nashville's bestkept secrets for much longer. #

MOVIES

Spike Lee's newest film may be a 'Miracle'

Features Editor

Spike Lee has never been a very cuddly director. Most of his movies kick up controversies like a Texas tornado picking up trailer homes, but don't let this fool you. Lee remains one of the most interesting directors of his generation, and although he may not make the prettiest or most facile films, he does stir the pot. He presents things in a new way and inspires discussion on a host of social, historical and political issues. His newest opus, "Miracle at St. Anna," continues his brand of "hard to swallow" films, but it may be one of the most interesting movies of the

The story focuses on four Buffalo soldiers who are trapped in a Italian town which is surrounded by the Nazis during World War II. While there, they tackle love, betrayal and (obviously) war. Pretty ambitious, right? On top of that, each soldier comes from a unique background that shapes his experience of the war, but they all share the burden of racial discrimination and resentment. Their commander, Second Staff Sergeant Stamps (played by Derek Luke), tries to hold the men together through an odd series of events that befall the group. Sergeant Cummings (Michael Ealy) is angry about his place in society and how a foreign society treats him like a human, while many people hate



him for the color of his skin in his own country. Private Train (Omar Miller) becomes attached to a small boy (who may or may not make miracles happen). An odd hand, but Lee plays his cards right, making this latest joint smolder with intensity, controversy and inspiration.

This movie isn't about what you may think it's about. Ultimately, the film tackles the topic of faith. Its virtues and vices plunge our heroes into multiple situations where you'll scratch your head and say, "What are they thinking?" Train has an abundant faith in God and miracles; he believes that God has charged him to protect the aforementioned boy and a random stone head that may have mysterious powers. Stamps believes in the progression of society and that racial equality will come with time and good deeds.

Indeed, this theme is what really makes "Miracle" a stunning success. The racial controversy aside, faith is the true focus of this film and colors it in a very intriguing way. "Miracle" sings with a voice that charges the viewer with a need for faith that everything will work out in the end. It's oddly inspiring how the characters accept their fates and act with gusto in the face of overwhelming danger and violence. They're just hoping for a miracle to save them.

However you may feel about Lee, his latest offering is truly a work of art. You may scoff at the idea of a movie about faith, but Lee's latest film is an interesting effort and the ensuing discussion will keep you thinking for quite

JUST FOR FUN

Versus weighs in on the new Facebook

Hey, it's not so bad.

CHRIS GEARING Features Editor

It seems like everyone is hatin' on new Facebook. Countless groups, events and notes have decried the newest product from Mark Zuckerberg, but let me tell you — you're going to end up thanking him. New Facebook is actually the cat's pajamas.

The biggest boon of the new Facebook is that the organization of pages has vastly improved. We have all encountered the endless scrolling and clicking of the old profile pages. Profiles were cluttered with walls, applications, info and all manner of things, and it was very hard to find what you were looking for. However, the new tabs at the top of the page zip you around with the ease of one click.

The homepage also looks much better and all the information you need is right at your fingertips, including the still-controversial News Feed. Your applications are easier to find and use (you can jump right into Bumper Stickers with one click now. Good news for me since that's how I spend most of my time). Even the ambiguously creepy "People You May Know" is starting to get more accurate with people you might ACTUALLY know (as opposed to people who just attend Vanderbilt).

However, the biggest Easter egg in this joyful chorus of change is found in the "Settings" for new Facebook. If Sept. 19 was your favorite day on the calendar (a.k.a. Talk Like A Pirate Day), now you can change your language to translate everything into "English (Pirate)." That's right, all your dreams have finally come true, matey. Videos are now "Bewitched Portraits," events are "Grog Fests" and friends are now called "Me Hearties." I'll let you discover the wonderful world of pirate English on your own time, but this Web site just reached a whole new level of awesome in my book.

I know that you may fear change, and that's OK. Even though this year has been dominated by politicians and pundits endlessly discussing change, Facebook has actually brought you results! It may take a little getting used to, but new Facebook is the bee's knees. Just give it a chance, and you won't want to make Mark Zuckerberg walk the plank. #

No, actually it is that bad.

BRANDON HERIFORD **Culture Editor**

Facebook — the one true constant in a college student's volatile life. Whenever I was bored, lonely or studying for a test, I could sign on, check out the News Feed and recommence stalking my "friends." Life was great.

That was then, this is now. When I sign into the new Facebook, I'm just sad. Where is my friend, with whom I've shared so many good memories (with people I don't really even

At one glorious moment in time Facebook was reserved for those who had a college e-mail address. I looked down on those MySpacers and their unorganized, sprawling communication network. However, those feelings of superiority have been washed away by Facebook's recent transition.

Here is something weird — the new phonebook listing. It's one thing to allow someone to click through my tagged pictures, but to be able to get my phone number from a listing on Facebook? You know what else is weird? The Live Feed. I feel like I'm gamecasting my friends' lives. I guess I don't really have to go out anymore; instead I can just wait for Facebook's minute-by-minute updates (which is good because my typical conversation is relatively uncomfortable).

How do we know this new Facebook is miserable? At the top of the News Feed Facebook offers its users a tutorial option to become acquainted with the new Facebook. A tutorial? Really? If I needed to use Photoshop I'd think about clicking on the tutorial, but

Maybe I'm not the biggest fan of change. But in my opinion, if it's not broke, don't fix it. The original Facebook was an efficient and orderly, much unlike Mark Zuckerberg's most recent spawn. Am I that angry about Facebook's recent demise? Not really, because it is fantasy football season, and I usually kill time by reading Sunday predictions. But one day I'll return to Facebook's welcoming embrace only to be met by a shadow of Facebook's former self. ₩

TODAY

If you are in search of a muchneeded rave, then going to the Bassnectar concert is the thing to do. These hippies always provide an electric experience, and tonight they are bringing the party to Exit/ In. Tickets are \$15, and the show starts at 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCT. 16

The week is almost over, and it is time for a night of indie music. Thankfully, The Rutledge is presenting their annual showcase of independent musicians in **Urban** Indie Live. Come out and see underground musicians from a variety of genres. Tickets are \$5, and the show starts at 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCT. 17

Country music is coming home with this performance from Rascal Flatts and Taylor Swift at the Sommet Center. Come out and see the band that has five studio albums and is still going strong. Tickets are steep but worth it at \$52.50. The show starts at 8 p.m.

There are no musical limits to Austin

KELLY HUGHES Staff Writer

The 2008 Austin City Limits Music Festival brought masses of music fans out to Texas to soak up music and plenty of sun during the last hurrah of the summer festival season. There were two reasons I attended:

1. As a co-chair of The on singer Ezra Koenig's Music Group, to scout moccasins than on the possible bands for Rites of Spring.

2. ACL is pretty epic.

began with Vampire Weekend. Their songs translated well live, but their performance lacked excitement. I found myself concentrating more song "Cape Code Kwassa Kwassa."

Next up was Jakob Dylan. My first taste of the music Dylan performed songs from his new solo album as well as Wallflowers classics such as "Three Marlenas." His smooth vocals and strippeddown folk songs were perfect

for his afternoon time slot.

Jenny Lewis' voice soared as she packed emotion into every lyric. Clearly, the perfect way to follow Lewis was N.E.R.D. It was impossible not to dance throughout the entire set, which included hits "Lapdance" and "Rock Star." However, the night's headliner, The Mars Volta, was a little harder to digest. Although they are all incredible musicians, their music is overwhelming, and it's difficult to separate one song from the next.

Day two began with Sharon Jones and the Dap Kings. This up-and-coming funk group is going to be huge. Jones is an amazing vocalist, and they put on one of the best performances at the festival. Equally as entertaining was CSS. Singer Lovefoxxx jumped into the crowd and pranced around in a body suit, proving she was born to be a rock star. Their brand of electronic rock could make them the next big thing.

biggest disappointment of the festival was electro-psychedelic rock duo MGMT. I am a huge fan complained about their first

of their album "Oracular Spectacular," but they were awful live. The band lacked energy and stood still for the entire set. Due to my boredom, I left early to catch Conor Oberst and the Mystic Valley Band. Oberst had a fantastic set, but the highlight of ACL was that night's

Day three featured The Kills, another up-andcoming band with a lot of potential. They constantly

headliner: Beck. Singing

hits from every album, Beck

had the crowd dancing and

singing along to every word.

show in the sunlight but redeemed themselves with their infectious indie rock. Highlights included "Sour Cherry" and "U.R.A. Fever."

Lastly, I saw Nashville legend Gillian Welch, one of the best songwriters out there. Singing renditions of "Orphan Girl" and "Look At Miss Ohio," Welch's Americana music was the culmination of the weekend. Monday morning arrived, and I boarded a 6:30 a.m. flight back to Nashville tired, sunburned and filled with ideas for Rites of Spring 2009. **X**



2 Guys + 1 Stage = A Perfect 10

ALLENA BERRY

Drunken tap-dancers. Light shows a la 1972. And one sick guitar. This is what happens when the Black Keys come to town. I feel the need to thank them because been that entertained. Well, outside of Bravo television.

I will apologize in advance: I arrived at the concert a little late, due to circumstances outside of my control, missing the first of two quite memorable opening



it's been quite some time since I've acts. My deepest regrets go out to the Royal Bangs. I hope you lived up to your title. The second performer can only be described as, well, a show. Jesco White, the Dancin' Outlaw, brought an act that can only be rivaled by other train wrecks such as Britney Spears in the 2007 Video Music Awards. Except that Britney Spears at least made an attempt to sing. I'm not quite sure what White was attempting, but after falling twice, the crowd decided they'd had enough of Jesco and his dancin' shoes. Hallelujah.

The real shock of the night, however, was that it could be resurrected after such a showing. The Black Keys — a blues duo comprised of guitarist/vocalist Dan Auerbach and drummer Patrick Carney — came out with an unbelievable energy from the getgo. The Akron, Ohio-based duet showed no mercy in promoting their newest album, "Attack & Release." And even though it is the



first album to be recorded outside of a dingy basement, The Black Keys haven't lost any of the gritty charm that has made them popular. Fan favorites like "Your Touch" and "I Got Mine" proved to be the perfect stage Auerbach to enter guitar euphoria. This is not to say Carney just kept the beat. After an impressive display of tambourine drumming (who knew it could be done?!), it was quite clear the two were neck-in-neck for musical prowess. We were all just lucky to witness it happening.

In a state where the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame makes its home, it's nice to know that great artists are not only honored there but made there, too. Viva la Ohio — and all the low-key, non-pretentious rockers you wrought. #

It's a small town with a big influence on music

Staff Writer

It's no secret that Nashville is one of the world's music capitals. However, it's less widely known that just to the south lies a small town with a musical history on par with Nashville, Detroit and other important recording centers. Muscle Shoals, Ala., is a small city on the Tennessee River about 125 miles from wielded enormous musical influence and continues to play a role in the industry today.

The first hit to come out of the city's studios was "You Better Move On" in 1961, recorded by Arthur Alexander. The business took off, and by the 1970s hit records were rolling out of Fame Studios and Muscle Shoals Sound, in a new company started by the session band from Fame. list goes on and on – These musicians — Jimmy Johnson, David Hood, Roger and countless others

Hawkins, Junior Lowe and Barry Beckett – became known as the Swampers and were instrumental in developing a distinctive sound that fused elements of blues, country and R&B — the "Muscle Shoals Sound" that drew attention throughout the '70s.

ThelistofartistswithMuscle Shoals records is staggering. Percy Sledge's "When a Man Loves a Woman" was an early Nashville that at one time hit, while Wilson Pickett and Aretha Franklin had important cuts — Johnson and Hawkins both played on "Respect." The Stones' "Sticky Fingers" and

Paul Simon's "There Goes Rhyming Simon" albums were also recorded with Shoals. Lynyrd Skynyrd's gives a nod to the Swampers and Shoals "Sweet Home Alabama," and the Alabama, Shenandoah

have ties to the city's music

Although less important than it used to be, the former "Hit Recording Capital of the World" still exerts some influence in the music business. Songs by local songwriters have been recorded by the Dixie Chicks, Kenny Chesney and Rascal Flatts, while Fame has signed a stable of upcoming artists including "Nashville Star" winner Angela Hacker and her brother Zach. Hopefully these artists will continue the legacy of great music that so many have enjoyed. #



They aren't your average Kidz in the Hall

ZAC HUNTER Staff Writer

With the release of their sophomore album, "The In Crowd" in May 2008, Kidz In the Hall are busting onto the hip-hop scene in a powerful way.

Jabari Evans and Michael Aguilar, who make up the group, bounce complex rhymes off each other and find a way to make the music mainstream enough to have serious potential success without losing the clever and original touch.

They're also one of the few groups that is making hip-hop the way it should be made – with a full drum set and horns in the background. The instruments give their music the feel of a live show that is hard to achieve with a synthesizer and drum machine. Double O's (Aguilar) genius as a disc jockey and producer doesn't

hurt. Evans and Aguilar also

of relaxation and confidence in their voices, something rare in a genre of music that often lends itself to yelling into the mic and rushing lyrics so fast that you can't hear what they're saying.

"The In Crowd" gives the impression that these Kidz are here to stay. Released on the Rawkus Records label (the people who introduced us to rappers like Mos Def and

Talib Kweli), album contains the single "Love Hangover," which features the smooth, melodic voice Estelle. The video has been played on TRL and it's good.

Trying to push the new album, Kidz in the Hall have a strange combination is touring

heavily this fall, with a stop at the Mercy Lounge in Nashville on Nov. 7. They will also be the opener for such bands as Pharrell's N.E.R.D. More and more people are starting to know about Kidz In the Hall, and you should too. Pick up "The in Crowd" for a fresh hip-hop sound with rare true musical integrity and substance. **X**



SATURDAY, OCT. 18

If you need some calming jazz after a wild Friday night, then come out and see the **Jody Nardone Trio** at F. Scott's Restaurant and Jazz Bar. While you are listening to some soothing jazz you can also have dinner — it's a win-win situation. The music starts at 7:30 p.m., and the show is free.

SUNDAY, OCT. 19

Remember back in the day when Indigo Girls were the group with the music that could rock your world? Tonight you've got the chance to listen to group member **Amy Ray**, who will be jamming at 3rd and Lindsley. Tickets are \$15, and the show starts at 8 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT. 20

If you thrive on suspense, then 8 off 8th at Mercy Lounge is the show for you. Local musicians come and play short sets of music, and you never know who will show up. The show starts at 9 p.m. and it's free!

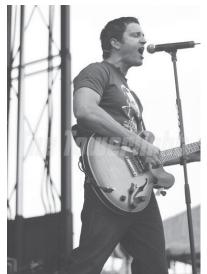
TUESDAY, OCT. 21

The second round of **Obamarama** is at 12th and Porter, and if you don't go you will be sorry you missed it. Performers

include Suzi Ragsdale, Jeff Black, Danny Flowers, Will **Burrow** and so many more. An \$8 donation is suggested, and the show starts at 8 p.m.

Road trip mixtape

Fall Break is the perfect opportunity for a road trip with your best college buddies, and everyone knows the most essential part of a road trip is to put an iPod playlist on shuffle and let your favorite tunes flow. In case you do not trust the new Genius feature, here are a few songs for you to include in your playlist.



"Crazy Game of Poker," O.A.R.

This is the perfect sing-along song for a road trip. Put on the version from Live at Madison Square Garden, enjoy the guitar riffs and kill a good 15 to 20 minutes of your long car ride.

"Semi-Charmed Life," Third Eye Blind

It's always good to listen to a song that reminds you of your days in middle school and watching "Total Request Live" when it was hosted by Carson Daly and showed full music videos. This song can make you forget that you're sitting in a car with only a few feet of leg room.

"Steal My Sunshine," Len

When you listen to this song driving, you feel like you're the star in the song's music video. The song also offers great opportunities to alternate verses between the driver and passengers.

"To Be Young," Ryan Adams

It's the song from the opening credits of "Old School" in case you do not recognize the title. Great song means a great car ride.

"Sweet Caroline," Neil Diamond

Who knew this would be such a great song? Just think about you and your friends shouting "ba ba ba" while sitting in traffic and try not to put this on your road trip playlist.

"We Built This City," Jefferson Starship

yourself. Lower your windows and let every car around you hear the glorious style of the 1980s.

Playing this song will remind you that wherever you go for Fall Break, be sure to rock out and enjoy

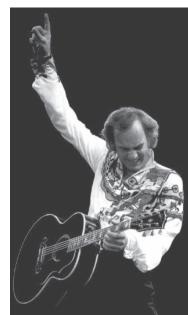
"Karma Chameleon," Culture Club

It worked for Romy and Michele — and it can work for you. Grab some oversized sunglasses and a gauzy scarf for the full effect. You come and go, you come and go.

"All Summer," Kid Rock

This summer's pop-country-rock hit is getting old fast, so jam out to it one last time before it's that song that automatically makes you change the station.

When putting together your playlist, try to put songs on there where you know all the lyrics. Singing along is what makes the car ride the most fun. Enjoy Fall Break everyone! ##



An unfortunate era: the life and death of 'TRL'

Staff Writer

I don't remember much of middle school. Not because of the spray paint, the glue or the liquor (although it all probably helped), but because of MTV, the cold-hearted think-tank that stole my childhood. In light of the last episode is Nov. 8), I

nail to its coffin. For me, the first four years of this century exist as a blur of music videos, band boy interviews and screaming tweens innocent kids, like me,

brainwashed to clap when Britney Spears tongue-kissed aging women. The television fed us false idols like a pagan Pez dispenser; we were made to believe N*Sync was the second coming of Jesus Christ (who, when split into five pieces, was a lord of the dance). My life existed in a 20-inch screen, buzzing with sensational noise.

Every day, during the prime years of "TRL," Carson Daly doled out subtle diatribes against all things intellectual and worthwhile. He was pop music's crusader, keeping all knowledge that actually mattered out of the kingdom. I loved it. I ate it up.

Although I never voted for the top 10 ("no time for computers, need my 'TRL'!"), the short snippets

of music videos shown were Away": After spending four just anticlimactic enough to keep me utterly captivated. Honestly, I would've broken down after each episode of "TRL" if not for "Dismissed" being aired immediately afterward (which, by the way, warped my dating ideal

television for a long, long time). Then, before I could gather my things and run, impending cancellation of the world burned down "Total Request Live" (its around me. Daly left for a legitimate channel, the less wanted to pay tribute to an cool, more bad-at-his-job era that has long since met Damien Fahey took his place, its demise and add another and I learned how to read. I felt like Tom Hanks in "Cast

years on a deserted couch with nothing but MTV, I was pushed recklessly into the real world, leaving my only friend behind (Caaaaarsoooon!).

Sure, time and therapy (and time in therapy) have helpedmendthewounds,but I can't forgive the disservice done – I should've been out there being awkward with everyone else during middle school, not inside, mesmerized by loud and flashy nothingness. Good riddance, "TRL." May you go quietly. **X**



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If you are under the age of 21, it is against the law to buy alcoholic beverages.

SOUNDTRACK



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.

- "DREAM WORLD"
- Robin Thicke
- "LONDON RAIN" We The Living
- "BLISS" Phish
- "BLACK BETTY" **Spiderbait**
- *"AIN'T NO REASON"* **Brett Dennen**
- "HERE I COME" The Roots
- "CAN'T BELIEVE IT" T-Pain featuring Lil' Wayne
- "IN LOVE WITH A GIRL" Gavin DeGraw
- "ROADS" **Portishead**
- "BLOWN A WISH" My Bloody Valentine

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FASHION

Trend of the week: A scarf for all seasons

ALLENA BERRY Staff Writer

The fashion industry has never praised itself on being ambiguity free.

One day it's OK to wear patterns with stripes -the next it's fashion suicide. I've tried to keep up with the times; I've just gotten accustomed to the shorts and boots phenomenon (hopefully not too late - I was planning on trying that one out soon). But a new wave of fashion idiosyncrasies has reared its confusing head: the scarf.

Once intended for warmth, the fashion scarf provides a new conundrum to overcome. As a Midwestern girl, I find it somewhat difficult to move past the functionality of clothing. If someone were to ask me what I was wearing, I would say, "Shorts and a T-shirt." If someone were to follow up that question, charmed by my witty repartee, and ask why I was wearing what I was wearing, I would say, "I don't know. It's hot out." So the idea of wearing something solely for the purpose of achieving an aesthetic is a foreign concept. But



it in style. Practical or not, the fashion scarf is about as chic as you can get.

Exactly when the trend became popular is if you've got to go foreign, you might as well do debatable. But the fact that it works with dresses,

shirts, tanks and jackets makes it one of the most versatile options to date. It also creates a visual pop with all the options for patterns and widths. Want to be a little bohemian? Try a chunkier scarf with an ethnic-inspired pattern. Feeling a little more '50s glamour? Try a shorter scarf in solid colors. How about the ever-popular "I-just-wokeup-looking-this-good" effect? A long, skinny scarf in any pattern or color is sure to dress up a plain white tee and jeans. The scarf is that signature accent piece which makes any look come together effortlessly. Throw on some oversized sunglasses and gladiator sandals and you'll be so hipsterchic, strangers will assume you're with the band.

Regardless of whether or not it makes sense, the fashion scarf is a trend that works, no matter the body type of the wearer. It's fashion oblivious' panacea, the minimalist or the fashionista. In a way, the scarf is the great unifier among the trend world. Who thought that a scarf could have such a profound message? I wonder if a piece of clothing could run for office someday ... #

- Make it your goal to take at least one shower without flip-flops unless you're visiting a friend at school, in which case, rock those flip-flops in the name of self-preservation.
- Take some time to chill out. Whether you're at a terminal, at a cafe or at your house flopped on the couch, these four days should involve at least a little "me time."
- Eat your favorite foods from home with no regard for calories.
- Sleep in and rest up as much as you can to get ready for Quake and Homecoming go Dores!



'We Need to Talk About Kevin' is a haunting must read

COURTNEY ROGERS

Culture Editor

Fall break is a miniature oasis in intriguing dynamic. As a reader, it is another location for a few days, the downtime at the airport is a great time to do something which many of us lose reading things we genuinely enjoy. Some of the most tempting options in the terminal are the glossy tabloids, fashion magazines and Vogue. I myself often wander down this path, and if that is your plan while waiting for your plane to refuel, I bid you happy reading. But if you are looking for a substantial and thought-provoking read that is nearly impossible to put down, you should try "We Need to Talk about Kevin."

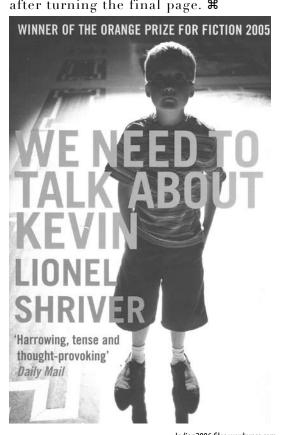
Written by Lionel Shriver, the book is written in the form of letters from a wife to her husband. Eva is the mother of Kevin Khatchadourian, a boy who committed a fictional school massacre on the scale of Columbine. In each letter, she chronicles her life since Kevin's birth and we are introduced to a boy who, at least in Eva's mind, was born with a streak for malevolence.

Through Shriver's effortless prose, we are able to discover the clues to Kevin's stealth acts of terrorizing his mother. Watching the events through Eva's eyes, the reader easily becomes her ally and sympathizes with her for having a child who is so menacing. Kevin is a smart and cunning character and is careful to keep his father, Franklin, in the dark about his actions that range from spraying ink all over the new wallpaper that Eva has handcrafted from rare maps to an "accident" with bleach getting on his little sister's face that caused her to need a glass eye.

Through all of these incidents, Kevin makes sure that Eva knows he was involved, but he also makes sure that his father is on his side to defend him at every turn. Eva and Kevin are in a constant opposition and their rivalry coupled with Franklin's shortsighted inability to see through Kevin's behavior creates a tense but

the midst of the midterm crunch. For as though Shriver has clued you into those who are traveling home or to the secret of Kevin's psychopathic behavior, and you begin to take on Eva's role of wanting the rest of the world to see Kevin for who he really sight of amidst all of the textbooks: is. There is also a large focus on Eva's need to understand and rationalize Kevin's behavior and the question of why he murdered his classmates and a teacher. The scenes in which Kevin tap dances around this question to the point of tormenting his mother are emotionally charged and dynamic but so believable that you feel as though you are eavesdropping on their conversation.

The story is filled with intricate and unexpected turns, especially at the end; the last time I was so surprised by a twist that I had to re-read an ending was the final Harry Potter installment, so this book is definitely at the top of my list. Its combination of innovative style and thorough characterization will keep you talking about Kevin well after turning the final page. \(\mathbb{H} \)



Indian2006.files.wordpress.com

FASHION

Who are you wearing?

REANNE ZHENG Staff Writer



Laura Kelly Something designer:

Coat and headband, 3.1 Phillip Who is your favorite designer? Phillip Lim and Marc Jacobs. Where do you shop locally? I don't. While I'm at school I get most of my stuff online. This fall season, I am most excited

Booties. Christian Louboutin C'est Moi booties.



Clive Liu

Something vintage: Vest, found at Savant on 12th Avenue. Who is your favorite designer? Lacoste, for their brights. Where do you shop locally? American Apparel is good for

Do you have any style icons? I try not to copy others, but ... Marc Jacobs.

This fall season, I am most excited about:

Layering. I love a structured jacket.



Colette Jackson

Something exotic: Scarf from Australia Where do you shop?

The shops along 12th Avenue.

Do you have any style icons? Different people, different days.



All Photos by Reanne Zheng

Rolling Stone magazine has named him one of the "10 Artists to Watch" and Entertainment Weekly called him a "Guy on the Rise." Brett Dennen has come very far from being a camp counselor in northern California and dealing with campers' homesickness. Now, he's a nationally known artist who is compared to Bob Dylan, Neil Young and Dave Matthews. His soulful, message-filled songs have been featured on "Scrubs" and "Grey's Anatomy." His new album "Hope for the Hopeless" drops on Oct. 21, and Dennen is well on his way to becoming a household name that promotes a social cause. This week Versus writer Eileen Begley chatted with him about his newfound success, the Mosaic Program and his new video with Mandy Moore.

VERSUS MAGAZINE: When did you first pick up the guitar, and when did you first open up your mouth and realize you could sing? How was that?

BRETT DENNEN: I first started playing guitar at summer camp when I was around 13 or 14 years old. We sang along to the songs at the campfire, but I never like did the whole singer-songwriter thing until I was in college.

VM: Before getting into music, you were a camp counselor. Do you ever miss those days? Or do you ever want to go back?

BD: Oh yeah, I wish I could go back. It was such a simpler time, you know? I only worried about dinner and (taking) young, exciting, homesick, patient kids backpacking through thick and thin. And teaching them how to build a fire. I wish I could do it again. I'll probably do it someday. But right now I wish I was up in the mountains.

VM: Can you talk about the Mosaic Project and how you got involved with that?

BD: Well, pretty much the only thing I could talk to you about is what we teach there. I'm one of the founders of it. I started it with a couple of people in the Oakland area with Lara Mendel (and a couple others). And they wanted to start a program that brings kids with different backgrounds together and educates them about building communities across different areas that can keep away perpetual violence and discrimination. So I got involved — my school gave me credit for it. I wrote a bunch of songs for it, and as soon as I graduated I started working there. And now I'm on the board of directors.

VM: How would the world would be different if every child went through the Mosaic Program?

BD: If every child went through the Mosaic Program, I think people would want to have a much better time solving their conflicts non-violently. I think there would be a lot less stereotyping and discrimination. I think everyone would be a lot more in touch with themselves and with other people. I think overall people would be celebrating their differences.

VM: What was it like the first time you heard one of your songs on a television show like "Grey's Anatomy" or "Scrubs"?

BD: Um, it was a little shocking because you write a song and the song is very personal to you. It's kind of like your baby. ... And then you get called in with it (and) you share it. And then when you hear it on a TV show, it's like the song went out to the world and came back to you in a different way. Like it grew up or something, because you know in a TV show they use your song to help their plot along or tell stories that they want to tell. So they might use your song to tell a part of the story. And when you wrote your song, it had nothing to do with what they are trying to use it, like with "Grey's Anatomy." I hear my song on "Grey's Anatomy" and it took on a completely different meaning then when I originally wrote it. So it's a little interesting — it's almost like the song doesn't belong to you anymore.

VM: What is it like going home and hanging out with all your friends?

BD: I don't know because I'm pretty lucky to have the right kind of friends who give me s*** and don't let me (get egotistical), and they'll give me a reality check. If anything perceivably good happens in my career or whatever, they'll be the first ones to let me know that I'm not anything special. It's not like they don't appreciate me. They love me, and I love them. I have this group of friends who I may only see ... a couple times a year. But when I do, nothing ever changes; people get older, lose their hair, get fatter and have kids. But we always pick up where we left off.

VM: "Ain't No Reason" is really popular. I was wondering if you could tell us a little about that song in particular?

BD: Like tell you about what I'm trying to say?

VM: Yeah.

BD: That song is about people, comfort and the routine of discrimination. Well, I guess the injustices of the world over time. America is obviously built on racism and slavery and (that) became the fabric of our country. Over time, lots of different types of discrimination have woven themselves into our institutions and our daily lives. And its like, why do we put up with it so much? Its mostly writing about the comfort levels that we have as our privilege. A lot of Americans are privileged and leading very comfortable lives, and I think in order for reparation and justice to be brought to a lot of people who deserve it, that would mean a lot of people would have to give up some of their privileges that they have, and I think it would affect peoples lives. Also, discrimination has worked its way into our little, everyday routine.

VM: I love your new single "Make Me Crazy." It's very different from your past songs because you added the Afro-beat artist Femi Kuti. Why did you decide to partner up with him?

BD: I've been a huge fan of his for a long time. Even beyond him, I always wanted to do some sort of collaboration with another artist from a different culture. It's really important and makes music sound so much richer and worldwide. I've always wanted to do that

VM: How was filming with Mandy Moore for your new music video "Make Me Crazy"?

BD: It was really fun. It was interesting, because when we first started filming she wasn't there. She had a later call, and so we shot a lot of my scenes earlier. It was my first real on-screen acting so I was learning as I would go. The director was good at telling me how to be subtle and not be too subtle. I thought I was doing pretty good — then Mandy Moore came, and she's really good. I guess she's been acting for a long time. But in a very subtle way, she was able to get a lot of points across without words; it was a music video so she couldn't say anything. I definitely got very inspired watching her work. It made me want to be an actor.

VM: If you can survive on one food for the rest of your life, what would it be?

BD: Sushi.

LETTER FROM AN ANGRY VASP

Each week,
our resident
Angry WASP
sounds off on things
that make him buzz.
(see what we did there?)



Dear Overly Upset Football Fans,

Actually, allow me to rephrase: Inordinately Upset People Who Have Only Become Fans This Season. Did you even watch the Mississippi State game? If not, then you need to stop being so upset about a single loss in our conference.

Now, I don't claim to be a huge football fan (my first full football game was our win over Auburn), but I also don't get ridiculously depressed based on one game that we probably should have won, and neither should you. If you just hear the score in passing, or don't even know the final score, then you have no right to be upset at all.

Allow me to make an exception, of course. All of you who drove down to the game, or even just went and watched all of it intently: Please feel free to feel however you want. Angry, sad, frustrated, whatever. You've paid your dues. Carry on.

But as for the rest of you: Just calm down a bit. The team doesn't suck. We play in a really tough conference, and things happen. Just a week ago you were praising Bobby Johnson's coaching ability — don't let it stop now. If anything, it's MORE important that we have a huge fanbase coming out for games all the time. We're still just a win away from being bowl eligible, and Duke's got nothing on us. Not to mention UT.

So let's just all relax a little bit. We've got a few great games left to get fratty at, but maybe if you all want to get so upset and "into" Vandy football, perhaps we should all start watching all the games in their entirety? Just a thought.

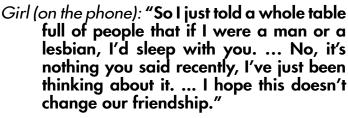
Sincerely, An Angry WASP

FLIP SIDE

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"



Guy: "I think we're good on everything, except my pants."

Rando: "Everyone needs a good dirty spoon story."

Girl: "Oh, you like giraffes! You know they have to like spread their legs and bend down to pee. ... Oh wait, that's to drink from like the river!"

Professor (about a fictional character): **"Maybe** she had a pressing reason to need to marry him, like a serious disability like dyslexia."

Guy (on the phone): "I want to catch a

Guy (walking out of the Munchie Mart with a bag of candy): "Dude, the last time I bought an ounce of anything it was

Girl: **"I don't have a seasonal wardrobe! ... I** am such a gross person."

Professor: "There are some secrets that you don't tell people, and there are some secrets that bring you closer together by sharing, like the fact that you have an albino grandmother."

HOSCOPES



LIBRA 9/23-10/22:

Try counting to infinity today. Bring water.



SCORPIO 10/23-11/21:

Keep your eyes on the ground for loose change today. Seriously, there's treasure to be found.



SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21:

Your two days of monthly depression should be over by now. Suck it up,



CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19:

Today, try the fortune cookie trick and end every sentence with "in bed."



AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18:

You're such a whore that if you went to The Virgin Islands, they'd change the name to "The Islands."



PISCES 2/19-3/20:

ARIES 3/21-4/19:

Go monochromatic with you food choices today and see what happens. Maybe your skin will change colors!



Try those hot leather pants today. Trust us — they look GOOD.



TAURUS 4/20-5/20:

Some people may be offended if you greet them with "Sup, slut?" Do it anyway.



GEMINI 5/21-6/21:

Dude, go order up a Baconator at Wendy's. You won't regret it. At least not until that heart attack in 30 years.



CANCER 6/22-7/22:

When a freshman girl asks to play Rock Band, it is no longer nerdy. Rock on, bro.



LEO 7/23-8/22:

You know what the best cure for hiccups is? Getting naked.



VIRGO 8/23-9/22:

You are a beacon of wonderful. Let it shine forth!



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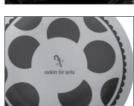














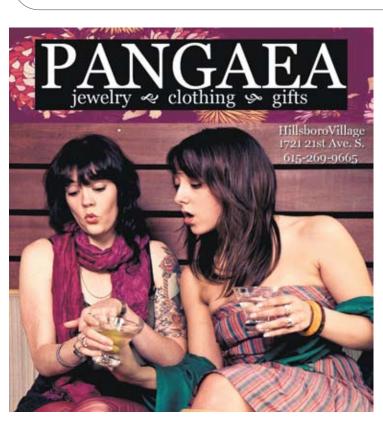
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