

Versus

The

Entertainment Magazine

APRIL 8—APRIL 14, 2009 VOL. 47, No. 12

TIM GUNN

Make it Work! Tim Gunn stops by Nashville's Kate Spade boutique to share fashion tips, talk "Project Runway" and tips for breaking into the fashion industry.

When Holly met Hooly (da kid). A story of making friends on formal weekend on page 5.

Oh my God, shoes! Let's get 'em! Quick, they're on page 8!

PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

Minnie Murphy — Sambuca

Enjoy excellent musical stylings along with your meal at Sambuca, one of Nashville's trendy Gulch restaurants. Thursday's performer is Minnie Murphy, a confident young jazz singer with skills on the keyboard. Let Minnie set the mood for a stylish and scrumptious meal. (Free, 7 p.m., 601 12th Ave. South)

Pat Bergeson — 12 South Taproom and Grill

Multi-talented musician Pat Bergeson has worked his way up the musical ladder from the humblest of beginnings. Starting his career at the University of Illinois, Bergeson later moved to New York and then Nashville, where he collaborated with Chet Atkins for several years. (Free, 9 p.m., 2318 12th Ave.)

Brian Jonestown Massacre with The Flavor Crystals — Exit/In

Formed in 1990 in tribute to the Rolling Stones' legendary guitarist Brian Jones, the Brian Jonestown Massacre has had some 40 different band members pass through its lineup. Its 1995 release, "Methodrone," features the shoegazer sound so common to the '90s. (\$16, 9 p.m.)

Rick Huckaby with Ernie Halter and Seth Walker — 3rd and Lindsley Bar and Grill

Rick Huckaby lives his life by his own personal mantra: "Play hard or go home." This Louisiana-born country boy plays music that reflects his roots, drawing influences from both country and southern rock music. Opening will be Ernie Halter and Seth Walker. (\$5/6 p.m., \$7/9:30 p.m.)

Lonesome River Band — Station Inn

1991's breakout release, "Carrying The Tradition," catapulted the Lonesome River Band into the spotlight: Today, the Band enjoys praise as one of the most popular and influential bluegrass bands on the map. With more than 25 years of performing under their belts, the members of the Lonesome River Band are sure to bring a show to please. (\$12, 9 p.m.)

The Applesseed Cast with Shot the Mountain, An Horse and Hey Penny — The End

Indie rock band The Applesseed Cast favors a post-rock sound accented with impassioned vocals. The four-piece act hails from Lawrence, Kan., and has evolved to its current sound and composition after a series of lineup changes and natural musical progressions. Opens An Horse and Hey Penny are sure to set the show off right. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Nashville Symphony — Schermerhorn Center

Presented as part of Suntrust's Classical Series, the Nashville Symphony's most recent venture into the past, "Vienna Old and New," brings the many sounds of the European center to you. Join conductor Giancarlo Guerrero and violinist James Ehnes for an evening of excitement. (\$35, 8 p.m., 1 Symphony Place)

Eastern Block, The Justin Kack Orchestra and Red Beard Rattlesnake — The End

Keeping their nose to the grindstone since releasing their debut EP earlier this year, Eastern Block has been pounding the pavement, getting their indie pop sound heard all over Nashville. Hear them at The End this Friday, with two openers bound to get you excited for a great show (\$5, 9 p.m.)

Doug Stanhope, The Mattoid and Chad Riden — Exit/In

Once in a while, the weekend needs a good jolt to get it started. Anticipating this need, Exit/In has booked Doug Stanhope for a rockin' performance this Friday night, ready to shake you into a good mood. The Mattoid and Chad Riden will certainly complement him well. (\$20, 9 p.m.)

Flight of the Concorde — Ryman Auditorium

Join the outrageous New Zealand duo as they bring their guitar-riddled comedy to the hallowed stage of Ryman Auditorium. Known for their popular radio and television series, Bret McKenzie and Jemaine Clement will bring you to tears with their Grammy Award-winning compositions. (\$38.50, 8 p.m.)

J-PO and the V.A.D. and The Running — 12th and Porter

There's nothing quite like CD release parties. The artist sits anxiously on the brink of their future, the fans clutch excitedly to the new music—whether the artist is an international celebrity or local talent, you feel like you're in the middle of history. Join J-PO and the V.A.D. for just a moment, as they release their new disc. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Renee Flemming — Blair School of Music

When internationally renowned vocalist Renee Flemming blows away the audience with her gift of music, you'll want to be there. Just a short walk from your residence, the Blair School of Music will play host to one of the world's most talented sopranos Friday night. Don't miss it. (Price TBD, 8 p.m.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Pico vs. Island Trees — Mercy Lounge/Cannery Ballroom

You need not know anything about this beyond their name and their emo picture — three dudes staggered in a hallway with skinny black ties and ill-fitting pants. Whether or not you had an ill-fated run in with a tropical tree over your formal weekend (although if so you'd be rooting for Pico the whole time), come check out this show at the Mercy Lounge. (STBA, 9 p.m.)

Victoria Shaw, Gary Burr, Ryan Rothe — Bluebird Cafe

Continuing on our theme of things to do before you graduate, now may be your last chance to get to The Bluebird, a Nashville must-see. What's more, these three songwriters have their hands all up in the country music scene, which is also something you should get into in Nashville at least once. Having written songs for Lady Antebellum, LeAnn Rimes and more, you know this is going to be a good show. If you don't know that, go anyway. (\$12, 9:30 p.m.)

Jeff the Brotherhood — The End

Billed as a psychedelic/punk/grunge duo, this pair is going for something a bit different — they're releasing a 7-inch vinyl at this party at The End. Do you have a record player? Neither do I. But that doesn't mean you can't come see this show — no equipment required. What's more, the other bands playing are called "The Tits" and "The Weiners," so there's something for all you girls and boys. (\$5, 9 p.m., 2219 Elliston Place)

Blair Harp Ensemble — Blair School of Music

Have you ever heard a harp ensemble? Because I haven't, but I bet it's heavenly. Under the direction of Marian Shaffer and presented in our own Turner Recital Hall, this very different performance will leave you pleased, I guarantee it. How can I say such things? Consider the following: Who else plays the harp? That's right: angels. (Free, 6 p.m.)

The FAB — Third and Lindsley

You know what's going to be—ULOUS? The FAB. Whether you're a Beatles fan or not (and let's be honest, we all are at least a little bit), this Beatles Tribute band will not need any "help" getting the show started. "Imagine," if you will, "a hard day's night" filled with all your favorites. Whether you're a devoted fan or just a "daytripper," this show will be more than worth it. (\$10, 7 p.m.)

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Versus

APRIL 8—APRIL 14, 2009 VOL. 47, N° 12

Versus Magazine

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FROM THE EDITOR



I've got something to share, Versus readers. I'm an addict.

I'm addicted to disorganization. Have you ever written yourself the proverbial "To Do" list? A running catalogue of things you need to accomplish by the end of the day? Well, I didn't. I've been relying on memory and guile to carry me through my days, and I had some very limited calendar usage for the big things (i.e., tests, breaks, parties). Needless to say, I was forgetting things.

Share sad sob story check.

I hit rock bottom when I started asking professors for extensions on papers and taking off days of class. I got help. I went to meetings, got a sponsor and started a 12-step program. Not really, but you get my point. ... You want to know what the real life saver is? Google has done it again, my friends. They've created exactly what you really need and it's free and easy to use. It's called Google Tasks. You can access it through your Gmail account and get to it with your mobile device (iPhone, Blackberry, whatever you choose to use). It's simple, type in your task and when it's done check it off. It structures my life and goes everywhere with me. It's like my personal assistant, but it's free!

Shameless promotion of Google Tasks check.

Let's fill up your "To Do" list with suggestions from this week's issue of Versus, shall we? Make sure to read our review of the new comedy "Adventureland," reserve time to make our top 10 frat songs playlist on iTunes and hear what sartorial guru Tim Gunn has to say on spring fashion (he even liked Features Editor Courtney Rogers' outfit see?! We know what we're doing here at Versus).

Promote the next awesome issue of Versus check.

Stay Legendary,
Chris Gearing

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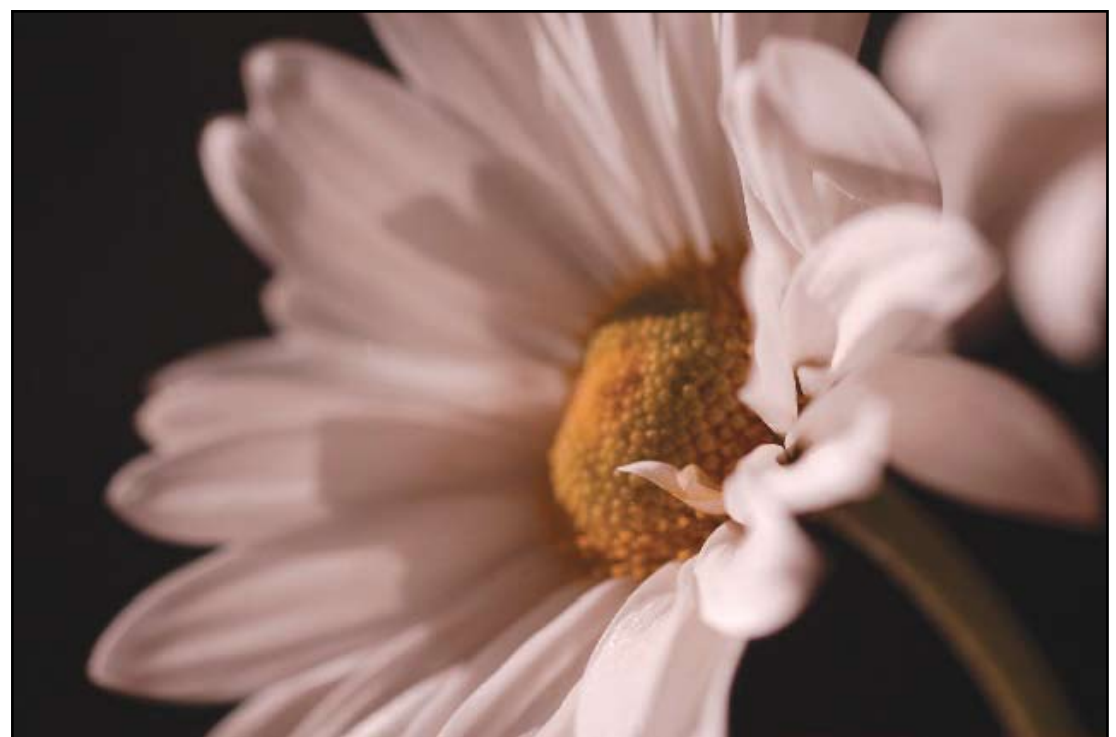
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PIC OF THE WEEK



NICOLE MANDEL / VERSUS MAGAZINE

BITS & PIECES

A lot of compelling stories in the world aren't being told, and the fact that people don't know about them compounds the suffering.

— Anderson Cooper

HOROSCOPES



ARIES 3/21-4/19: You have now officially said "I'm on a boat" more times than you have actually literally been on a boat. And you never thought you'd see the day...



TAURUS 4/20-5/20: You can never be your favorite superhero, but you CAN be just like their alter ego. If that alter ego is lame, then it's really just an ego for you.



GEMINI 5/21-6/21: Even Kim Jong-il can't even get it up, so don't feel bad. If you missed that joke, you should "stay up" on current events more.



CANCER 6/22-7/22: If The Smurfs were communists (think about it), then Gargamel was the only American of the group. Still, watch out for him just in case.



LEO 7/23-8/22: If you have a fear of public speaking, re-evaluate its merits considering the implications of private speaking.



VIRGO 8/23-9/22: Although an Alliance sounds great, an Axis is more badass.



LIBRA 9/23-10/22: You think you're a great dancer. Well guess what, you're NOT.



SCORPIO 10/23-11/21: Although it sounds like they'd be cuddly, your acute symptoms this week are not good things.



SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21: Compose a letter to Taylor Swift this week: "Dear Taylor, Yes. Sincerely, Me."



CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19: One would think that sinful and cynical could become synonymous, but that's not as clever as you think it is.



AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18: As a pre-med, you can self-diagnosis and self-treat the flu. The same cannot be said of loneliness, though.



PISCES 2/19-3/20: While mermaids may seem attractive at first, don't try to hook up with one this week. Because... gross, fish parts. Unless you're into that kind of thing.

HAIKUS

Words to live by in seventeen syllables

Thousand dollar dues
Per semester, per person
Could save lots of lives...

Three weeks left in school
Means only three Thursday nights
Make the best of them.

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"



Rando: "Have you hooked up with that guy with the baby face yet? Wait, is he even legal?"



Guy: "We'll make it like a Ouija board ... but the goal is his dick."

Guy: "I just got herpes ... and I'm single! What's up with that?"



Frat boy: "Unless there's a chance of death, it's not hazing."

Rando: "Priests' daughters are FREAKY!"

Professor: "If I gave the wrong instructions, blame the '70s."

PHOTOS: flickr.com

lead.

As media continues to change nationally, Student Media at Vanderbilt is also making some changes to our structure to allow for more in-depth news gathering and improved content streams.

We invite you to consider applying to lead our efforts into the future of Student Media at Vandy.

The Vanderbilt Student Communications Board of Directors is seeking applications for the following leadership positions for the 2009-10 academic year:

GROUP 2

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 Student Media **Sports Editor**
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 Student Media **Features Editor**
 Student Media **Multimedia Editor**

Applications are available at www.vscmedia.org

APPLICATION DEADLINES

GROUP 2

Applications are due on **Friday, April 10 at noon.**

For more information about the job descriptions and responsibilities of the above leadership positions, please contact **Paige Clancy** at paige.clancy@vanderbilt.edu

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SEND IN ...
pics of you and your friends, interesting shots capturing life on campus, team and organization group photos, images of parties and events



submitted by Laura Calabrese

VanderbiltCommodore.com

If you haven't already ordered your 2009 Commodore yearbook, order online today.

ENTERTAINMENT

Make some formal friends, like young foreign rap stars

HOLLY MEEHL
Culture Editor

So like many other Vandy students this past weekend I embarked on the infamous spring formal trip to Panama City. After returning on the long bus ride Sunday evening, I considered the trip a success as I was not as red as a lobster, I had no obvious bruises or battle wounds, and my liver, although a bit angry with me, was still intact. Reminiscing about the days on the beach and nights in the penthouse I realized that some of my best or perhaps most interesting memories involved the friends we made in Panama. No, not the Vanderbilt randos you suddenly become besties

with, but the Panama locals, teenage spring breakers and the rare aspiring rapper.

While on the beach enjoying the masses of Vandy kids of varying frats, I met some people who were not from Vandy or even from America. My friend and I struck up a conversation with two young men from Argentina. They seemed to be enjoying the college party scene and informed us that they were having a party at their house later that evening and we were invited. We had to politely decline.

Another group we met were from the U.S. but were a bit younger. While searching for a hot tub to lounge in one evening we

met a group of vacationers that we assumed to either be college age or a bit younger. Our judgment was slightly off. As we asked the group of giggling Southern girls how old they were they replied, "Seniors in high school."

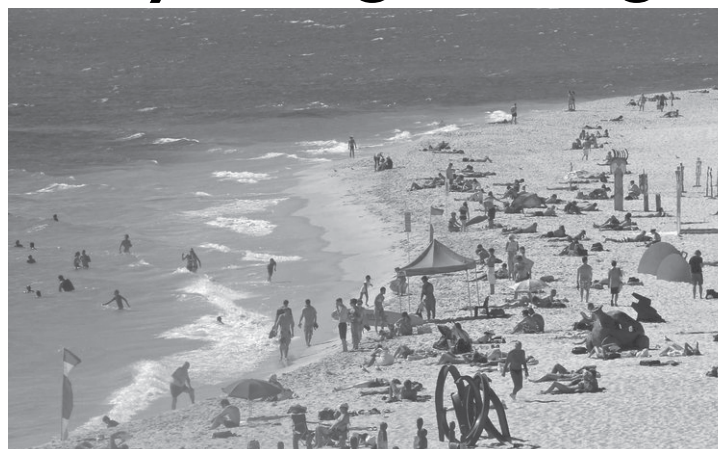
OK, acceptable. We proceeded to ask the boys sitting next to them how old they were.

"I'll be a freshman next year," he said.

"What school are you going to?" I asked.

"Well, I mean, I'll be a freshman in high school."

Seeing as it was nearly midnight and a boy next to me was holding a bottle of Andre, I felt a bit uneasy about the 13-year-olds we



abc.net

were sharing a hot tub with. But after my initial qualms, I relaxed and enjoyed the conversation.

Despite the charm of the Argentineans and the high schoolers, my favorite "friend" we made in Panama was a 21-year-old called Hooly da kid, or at least this was his rapper

name. Well, we didn't exactly make friends with him per se. On Friday night, we were walking to a restaurant for some Panama seafood when a car slowed down next to us and rolled down its windows. "Yo, check out my demo." The young black man in the car, presumably Hooly,

proceeded to throw several CDs at us. The CD is titled "Biz," and as soon as we got back to our room we eagerly put the CD in the stereo. After several minutes of him talking, his music started and surprisingly was not that bad. After our tenth listen of the song "How Many Chicks" it really started to grow on us and became the theme song to the trip. You can check out Hooly da kid on MySpace along with his addicting jams.

So for all those heading to Panama or some version of this next weekend, don't forget to make friends with strangers. It gives an extra element to the debauchery-filled weekend and great stories to tell your friends. ☼

'Adventureland' scores well with laughs and sighs

TRIP COTHREN
Culture Editor

When I saw the previews for this movie, I thought I knew what I was getting myself into. I was wrong.

This movie comes off as another hilarious movie with the same tone as the Apatow-verse movies. It was hilarious at many points throughout while having many serious moments that were more than unexpected. Sure, there are comedies that border on being serious movies that have been good, but this one did it very

well. This coming-of-age tale of a newly graduated virgin English major is something that we all can relate to in some way. Typically the virgin story is overdone and played up like it's the main punch line, but that was not done here. "Adventureland" writer/director Greg Mottola had more in mind with this story. Mottola also directed "Superbad," this generation's classic go-to movie. He turned over a new leaf with his most recent effort, and it was something that I really liked.



laist.com

"Adventureland" provided some great, gut-busting laughs while also alluding to classics like "Fast Times at Ridgmont High" and even

"American Pie." Jesse Eisenberg is that nerdy, lovable, awkward goob that we have become familiar with in the past. However, Mr. Eisenberg pulls this role off in a way that it was not annoying and cheesy but lovable and hilarious. "Twilight" star Kristen Stewart was able

to provide that contrast of hot girl and nerd. And then there is the talent-driven Ryan Reynolds who plays the legendary, mysterious park repair guy. Reynolds has lately proven that he actually does have some talent, not just looks and charm.

The movie overall was very well done. It was very well acted and probably will not do so well in the box office, but will likely be a cult classic

someday soon. With the likes of Bill Hader and Kristen Wiig, the movie was full of good jokes contrasted with a heavy undertone that is at times a little awkward and hard to watch. Reynolds' and Stewart's interactions are the most awkward of scenes. I do recommend this movie to any and all fans of the darker humor and the heartfelt tales of love. ☼

VERSUS MOVIE RATING: ★★☆☆

Fashion for a Cause's runway show 'died'

ANA ALVAREZ
Staff Writer

If Rachel Zoe had been able to attend last week's fashion show, "Living in Color," she certainly would have said, "It died." In case you're not familiar with the celebrity stylist's lingo, that means literally, it was the best thing ever! Why? Because the Fashion for a Cause event not only offered Vanderbilt students the latest spring fashion trends, but also the opportunity to receive hands-on experience with the fashion world and benefit a cause at the same time.

"Interacting with designers and their work was an awesome experience!" said Francesca Barillas, vice president of designer planning. "At this stage in my life, I never thought I'd get such in-depth exposure to the fashion industry. I also never thought that so many designers and storeowners would be so enthusiastic about participating in the show. Many of them were more than willing to work with me and gave me a lot of input on how I could make the show better. In fact, we even had two designers exclusively design and create collections just for the show (Southerly Designs and Local Honey). This was particularly exciting for me because I had the chance to also give my input into the design process."

While Southerly Designs offered a white and cream color palette, Local Honey provided deep red and black hues. One notable piece from the UAL boutique collection was a yellow, "safari" dress. Around the model's waist was a thin, caramel belt that went along with metallic gladiator sandals. The juxtaposition between chic and casual created the allure of the outfit, like many others the audience found on the runway.



ANA ALVAREZ / Versus Magazine

"While some (designers) had special requests as to what color they'd like to take on, others offered a variety of colors, and I just picked whichever one they had the most of or their most powerful pieces," Barillas continued. "I did my best to represent just about every primary color, and I think I was pretty successful in doing that. The show has never really been done like this, but I feel like this theme really provided a cohesive and artistic element."

Ever since 2004, the runway shows put together by Fashion for a Cause, a Vanderbilt student-run organization, have benefited various charities. This year, members of the board chose Nashville CARES to be the recipient of the fundraising event. In turn, those affected by HIV or AIDS will receive the care and treatment they need.

"We decided to call the show 'Living in Color' because

we found it had a connection with our cause," said Amanda Shield, Co-President of Fashion for a Cause. "(It) added another dimension to the show ... and was catchy and familiar enough to stick in the minds of our audience."

Even though the planning process is a year-long endeavor, Shield and her co-workers prove that the outcome is worth all their time and effort.

"The fundraiser and the show were extremely successful, because not only did it draw in a large audience ... the silent auction achieved the largest profits than it has ever had in years past, and the energy remained high throughout the evening," Shield added. "The event also promoted awareness for Nashville CARES and a continued growing reputation and campus familiarity of Fashion for a Cause." ☼

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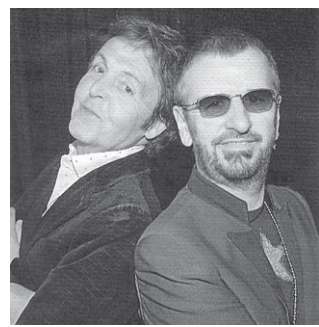
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MUSIC

I'm a big woman. I need big hair.
—Aretha Franklin



In an unexpected turn, The David Lynch Foundation's Transcendental Meditation benefit on Saturday in New York played host to a Beatles reunion, as Paul McCartney and Ringo Star teamed up for three final songs.



magicwebchannel.com

Top 10 Frat Jams

When you're out fratting hard, perhaps a drink or two deep, there are always those few songs that come on and you just go, "I LOVE THAT SONG!" Here I've compiled my top 10 countdown of those awesome frat jams that everyone seems to know.

KRIS STENSLAND

Head Writer

10. "Love Story (Pop Remix)" — Taylor Swift

At first, this sugary sweet pop tune may seem like a strange choice for a group of adolescent men, but look around the next time this song plays and check just how many people are singing along. Not just girls, either. What started as ironic listening turns into unabashed belting in the middle of a party. Come on, it's a "Love Story" — just say yes.



cmt.com

9. "Summer of '69" — Bryan Adams

"I bought my first real six-string, something something something ... it was the summer of '69!" Despite only knowing approximately 10 percent of the lyrics to this song, there's no reason one can't scream that chosen portion again and again. With love of '80s tunes leading frattastic musical endeavors, this Bryan Adams hit is a regular at all frat parties. It appears that nothing can last forever ... except our love of this song.

8. "Sweet Home Alabama" — Lynyrd Skynyrd

Normally played during the day (or sampled in the form of Kid Rock's somehow-Grammy-winning song) "Sweet Home Alabama" is the leader of the genre of Southern rock that everyone knows and is familiar with, from the very first guitar riff. Whether or not you're actually from the South, you probably know and love this song. On your porch with a beer in hand, you definitely know and love this song.

7. "Paper Planes" — M.I.A.

Who knew that a girl with a past riddled with guerilla warfare and religious persecution could crank out the perfect funky jam to keep frat boys miming guns and cash registers into the wee hours of the morning? While M.I.A. herself has said that she finds the song's aggressive mainstream infiltration surprising, it certainly has done just that — what started as a cult favorite, quirky indie jam has become an insanely overplayed and monotonous. What could be frattier than that?

6. "Your Love" — The Outfield

Until just now, I wasn't exactly sure what this song was about. What makes this a great frat jam is that it doesn't even matter — all you have to do is scream out "I don't want to lose your love tonight" (whether that's true or not), and go with the beat. Then, realize that it's also, "I just want to use your love tonight," and realize how fitting it is for your sketchy dark bumping and grinding. And then attempt to forget it.

5. "I'm On a Boat" — Lonely Island



rap-up.com

Though a recent addition, this song definitely belongs in the top five. Not only does everyone know and love it, but it's so easy to call out the lyrics that you can't help but join in. Add in the fact that T-Pain is involved, and that it hits every awesome aspect of every rap song ever, and you've got what may be the most perfectly designed frat jam ever. However, it has not yet gotten past fad status — we'll see if it withstands the test of time.

4. "I Love College" — Asher Roth

If your fraternity has yet to discover this song, look it up. Now. Everyone else already had it painted on their coolers last weekend. This song is the quintessential ode to college life, straight from the lips of middle-class prepster Asher Roth. Whether he went to college or not, this kid definitely knows what he's talking about. With lyrics including "Pass out at 3, wake up at 10, go out to eat and then do it again" and "Time isn't wasted when you're getting wasted," "I Love College" speaks to the frat boy in all of us.

3. "Take Me Home Tonight" — Eddie Money

This song is catchy, sure and classic (again, '80s music rules frats like Natty Light), but it breaks the top three by also tossing in the desires of 90 percent of the dancing males in any given frat party. Is that dude singing the lyrics or pleading with you? Perhaps a bit of both. This song is so Money.

2. "Livin' on a Prayer" — Bon Jovi

Oh, Bon Jovi. Made for frat action, you were. "Livin' on a Prayer" is merely the greatest of the hits by this (again '80s) star. Especially useful as a rally at around midnight (when you're oh, halfway there), this song can nonetheless be played at any point throughout the night (or day, for that matter).

1. "Don't Stop Believin'" — Journey



moonbeamqueen.files.wordpress.com

One word: duh. Even if you're living in a lonely world, you know this to be the frattiest (and thus most awesome) song ever created. Though it probably wasn't intended as such when it was written and initially performed, this has become a drunken (and by proxy fratty) anthem. If your midnight train is a silver bullet, then your Naturday is undoubtedly highlighted by Journey ... at least once.

Peter Bjorn and John's 'Living Thing' is alive

SHEMSI FREZEL

Staff Writer

Contrary to the title of the most noted song ("Nothing to Worry About") from Peter Bjorn and John's fifth album, "Living Thing," these guys have plenty of grounds for concern — their main worry being discontent with the pop status their 2006 hit "Young Folks" earned them. It seemed no one, including Kanye West who sampled the song on a mixtape, could escape the catchy whistle-driven indie-turned-mainstream tune. This album is the trio's attempt to distance themselves from 2006's "Writer's Block." Peter Moren, Bjorn Yttling and John Eriksson, who make up the Swedish group, seemed to have focused more on production than lyrical content and pop appeal this time around.

The first song on the album, "The Feeling," is in some way indicative of what's to come as Eriksson proclaims: "I feel it, can you feel it, there's something in the air." It's possible that something is in the different sound of this album. "Living Thing" showcases some of the various influences on PB&J's sound. Songs like "It Don't Move Me," the up-tempo song of a scorned lover; and "Last Night" pay homage to the 1980s when



windshagency.com

the synthesizer was king. The album's title track "Living Thing" is carried by a beat quite noticeably derived from South African styles of percussion. And the lead single "Nothing to Worry About" oddly features the voices of small children who chant/sing the chorus without the sing-a-long characteristic that childlike voices usually evoke. The sing-along quality is lacking from the entire album because these are songs of few words — the words are secondary to the music.

What drives this album more than anything is the use of the drum machine. Not since "808 and Heartbreaks" has the drum machine been this overused. There are moments within many of the songs where the only sound is a drum machine; these rhythms are often more interesting than the song's lyrics, which are loosely woven and repetitive. However, the steady, thumping rhythms that the machine provides lend most of the songs their charming sound — a charm that is not rooted in a pop esthetic but harkening back to their indie roots. Peter, Bjorn and John are clearly working outside their box on "Living Thing," and whether you love, hate or just tolerate the album, you have to respect artists who take risk with their work. ☞

Artists to know

White Lies

AVERY SPOFFORD

Music Editor

British band White Lies may take its cues from some of the most popular music of the '80s, but it's no hair band. With influences including Joy Division, Talking Heads and Tears for Fears, White Lies takes the best of the '80s and leaves the rest.

Formed in October 2007 from the ashes of pop-punk act Fear of Flying, White Lies got its start with a first gig at the humble Hoxton's Square Bar and Kitchen ... a first gig that just happened to be stacked with influential A&R executives. After this inaugural performance, record labels came calling and the newly-named group rocketed to the forefront of the U.K.'s musical consciousness: from BBC Radio (who named the group one of their artists to watch in their Sound of 2009 feature) to festivals and media this side of the pond (the band is scheduled to perform at this summer's Coachella festival and have been featured on MTV), everyone seems to want a piece of White Lies.

Their sound is unique, but it's impossible to describe without mentioning the influence of music from the '80s. The group's first LP, "To Lose My Life," debuted earlier this year and showcases heavy throwbacks to new wave and '80s alternative rock. From the single-worthy



blogs.mirror.co.uk

"Death" to fan favorite "E.S.T." (which was featured earlier this year on The CW's hit TV series "Gossip Girl"), "To Lose My Life" sounds like it could be the soundtrack to a Brat Pack movie — "Sixteen Candles," anyone?

Ever since their movement towards a lighter name and a darker sound, White Lies have been gathering momentum. With a first album that skyrocketed to No. 1 on the U.K. charts and recognition from some of the most influential media outlets both at home and abroad (BBC and NME in the U.K. and ... "Gossip Girl" ... in the U.S.), listeners can look forward to great things from Britain's newest '80s act. ☞

Ryan Bingham

ZAC HUNTER

Staff Writer

Ryan Bingham could be the Luke Skywalker of country music — you know, "A New Hope." In an age where the country music scene is dominated by distorted electric guitars and pop-sounding No. 1 hits, a singer-songwriter from Texas strumming a beat up acoustic guitar accompanied by tasteful fiddle and a hard living voice is refreshing. Bingham sings with a voice stained by smoke and whiskey and maturity beyond his young age of 28. With a sort of modern cowboy look (designer jeans, scruffy beard and a cowboy hat), Bingham has found a way to bring the sound of "The Gambler" to 2009.

His first major studio album, "Mescalito," is one great number after another. "Bread and Water" has the driving-train, foot-stomping feel of an Allman Brothers tune, and "Don't Wait For Me" follows as a slow ballad, with the sad sounds of a mandolin and banjo crying behind the sweet harmony in the chorus. He also somehow pulls off an entirely acoustic, authentically Mexican song, in which he mumbles some raspy Spanish lyrics. The first single on "Mescalito" is the six-minute plus "Southside of Heaven." Sad and then suddenly upbeat, it is a great piece



picasaweb.google.com

of old-school songwriting that has a unique ambiance, which makes the listener feel like he is riding on a railway car through the Texas desert.

While critics call Bingham out on his sometimes cliché country-western lyrics, he has the background that makes it authentic. A former touring rodeo cowboy, Bingham saw more hard times than most (perhaps explaining his voice that Rolling Stone says sounds like "Steve Earl's dad"). Bingham may never see a No. 1 hit with his name next to it in today's country world. He is an artist to know not because you can say "I told you so" in five years when he's accepting country music's artist of the year award, but because he makes good music. And everyone can use more good music in their lives. ☞

Back in Cleveland after a 12-year retreat to New York, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony ushered Metallica, Run DMC and others into the halls of history Saturday night.



iconvision.com

They say politics make odd bedfellows, but what about music? Gangster rapper 50 Cent and rockers Fall Out Boy will join forces for five shows during the month of April.



tinypic.com

Concert Review: The Whigs

COURTNEY ROGERS
Features Editor

I'm guessing that it would be pretty difficult to write a negative concert review when you get to walk into a venue and tell them, "I'm on the band's guest list," but fortunately I do not have that kind of task before me. Not only did Friday's show at the Exit/In make me feel important, it also was one of the best concerts I've ever been to.

The night began with opening acts The Ettes and Wax Fang. The Ettes had a solid punk vibe and their energetic drummer set the bar high for having rocker hair that added to her intensity without distracting her. I would have needed a scrunchy for sure. Though punk is not my top genre, I kind of want their songs on my iPod for when I'm on the elliptical because the yelling might scare me into literally going the extra mile. Wax Fang ran the spectrum

from a permutation of metal to more traditional rock 'n' roll. I found myself slightly distracted by their graphic tees and denim on denim, but they had a lot of fans in the crowd and definitely helped get everyone pumped for The Whigs.

The Whigs started off with an intense, almost war chant before their first song, and that intensity carried through the entire performance into the encore. They played a good variety of songs from "Mission Control" such as "Like a Vibration" and "Right Hand on My Heart" and even treated to the audience to some new jams that will be on their third album. I am especially excited for "Alabama Stars," a song that let their Southern roots show, and "More Than Before," the song that I have had stuck in my head for two days and cannot find anywhere, even on YouTube. The quest for "More Than Before" was frustrating,



delawareonline.com

but if it was some sort of tantalizing mind game to get me excited for the next CD, it worked.

A man of his work, lead singer and guitarist Parker Gispert treated us to some epic dance moves, including maneuvering under the drum set and climbing on the speakers during the encore. Though I sadly did not realize that my plus one and I could have met the band (I caught on to the idea of a guest list 12 hours too late), the Whigs put on a great show and I've been rocking out to "Mission Control" ever since. ☿

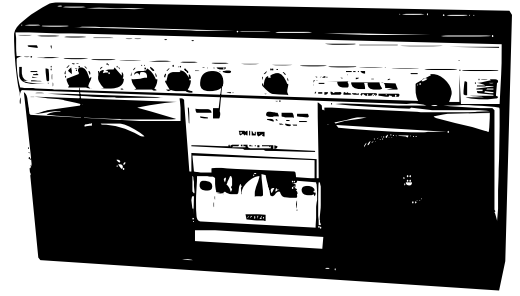
CORRECTION

In the April 1st issue of Versus, we mistakenly said rapper T.I. was headlining Rites of Spring on Saturday night. T.I. will be performing on Friday night.



bighassle.com

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. "YOU ARE MY SISTER"
Antony & the Johnsons
2. "VID SPILUM ENDALAUST"
Sigur Rós
3. "MY TYPE"
T.I.
4. "IN THE AEROPLANE OVER THE SEA"
Neutral Milk Hotel
5. "DAY 'N' NIGHT"
Kid Cudi
6. "LENINGRAD"
Billy Joel
7. "BROOKLYN (WE GO HARD)"
Jay-Z feat. Santigold
8. "LOVE GAMES (DISCO STICK)"
Lady GaGa
9. "GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY"
Bob Dylan
10. "KISS ME THRU THE PHONE"
Soulja Boy Tell 'Em feat. Sammie

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WORLD OF FASHION

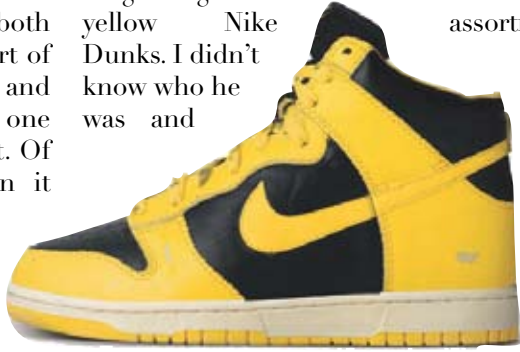
For the love of sneakers

NIKKY OKORO
Staff Writer

Shoes: one of the most essential and perceptible parts of any person's wardrobe. To not wear the perfect shoes with an outfit is to essentially sabotage the ensemble all together.

It is so simple to both observe and discern part of a person's overall style and individualism just from one glance down to the feet. Of course, I believe when it comes to guys, the only true way to exude your individuality is through a pair of bold, eye-catching sneakers. There's no limit to what brands can be bought and what styles can be worn—as long as the sneakers say a bit about your aura.

Just the other day, as I slowly made my way to another mundane class, I was startled by what came across in the corner of my eye. As I looked ahead, a mysterious boy with a rather simple outfit caught my attention with his high lighter yellow Nike Dunks. I didn't know who he was and



nicekicks.com

probably never would, but I did know that just from his shoes he was sure to be someone I wouldn't mind meeting. Though I may have somewhat of a small bias towards



sneakers.pair.com

both classic and modern Nike styles, it is also necessary to point out that alternatives do exist. Signature styles such as old-school Adidas or authentic lace-up Vans prove to also pack the punch. However, nothing gets better than a pair of high "Supreme Edition" Nike Dunks in an assortment of bright hues—what girl could resist?

Often, it seems only a chosen few on campus are able to consistently pull off a look with trendy sneakers (no names mentioned, but you know who you are). Still, more guys should be encouraged to take up the challenge. Invest in a brand, customize your style and make it work. Many sneaker companies, such as Reebok and Nike, often include special online sections that allow for a customer to create a specifically tailored pair of shoes. There's no doubt that you're sure to be noticed and given a double look—in the best way possible. So, if the shoe fits, don't just wear it—rock it. ☼

Your shoes: An abundance of shoe styles

SHEMSI FREZEL
Staff Writer

From platforms to sandals, fringe to snakeskin everything was present on the runways about a month ago during Fashion Week. While some shoe fanatics will always argue that the shoe makes the look; this spring shoes have emerged as the focal within design. Embellishments like studs, floral touches and even a pistol-shaped heel (as shown by Chanel) are giving this season's shoes their unique flare. Many current designs have updated and developed popular styles of the past by adding artistic

and architectural influences. It is easy to look at the trends of spring and summer within three categories.

Platforms

After years of absence in mainstream fashion, platforms are back in a major way. Houses like Gucci and Prada have breathed new life into the staple shoe of the 1970s, giving them a refined yet edgy look through subtle leather detailing. Stud embellishments are being added to some of that leather detailing giving wearers of these ultra-feminine shoes a tough girl swagger.



harpersbazaar.com

Sandals

What would the warmer months be without sandals? This season there are plenty of fun options to choose from. The omnipresent gladiator style of last season is still relevant but made even more dramatic by being attached to a spiked heel rather than the flat styles of days past. Tribal influences like fringe and bright, intricate and repetitive patterns are also cropping up on sandals, providing endless options to choose from.



verycool.it

Wedges

A spring and summer standby, the wedge sandal has been adapted this season to have a cork rather than a woven base. The design most seen is that of a thickly strapped simple sandal. Designers like Michael Kors have optioned

Overall shoes trends for this spring and summer are allowing ladies to stand tall, stand out, and be unique and expressive, and isn't that what fashion is all about? ☼

5 reasons to love 'Project Runway'

COURTNEY ROGERS
Features Editor

Last week, in addition to being a milestone in my fashion career when Tim Gunn complimented my outfit, "Project Runway" fans collectively jumped for joy in their stilettos—and with good reason. For months now, a war of Prada and Armani power suits has ensued over the rights to the new season of the show, which has already been taped. Fortunately, a white Hermes flag waved, and Lifetime will be airing the new season this summer. For those of you snickering about Lifetime, know that first and foremost, the show will be exactly the same as it was on Bravo, and secondly, those movies are strangely therapeutic. If you aren't already addicted to this competitive reality show, here are five reasons why you should procrastinate with seasons 1-5 of "Project Runway" and get excited for season 6.



z.about.com

1. It's something you can really judge. Maybe this won't appeal to the small percentage of us who are not judgmental, but for everyone else, this is a show where you can actually pretend you're a judge because the criteria is only visual. Not to badmouth "Top Chef," but that show makes me feel as though I have zero agency. True, I'm not really judging "Project Runway" (don't remind me), but when an outfit comes down the runway, I know whether it's good or bad. On "Top Chef," I can only guess. Maybe that crazy egg dish really did succeed and blow everyone's mind. But you can't smell it or taste it and though presentation is important, it's not exactly my top criteria for food. With "Project Runway," you and your friends can pretend to sub in for Nina Garcia or

Michael Kors with lines like, "Wow, that is too short/too long/too heinous for words."

2. The catchphrases are nothing short of incredible. Never underestimate the power of a good catchphrase. Like good puns, they're an inside joke and a gift that keeps on giving. Most of the show's great lines come from co-host Gunn ("Make it work!" and "That is a lot of look"). But other notable contestants such as season 4 winner Christian Siriano have made their own (such as "Fierce"). If Beyonce's adopting it as her new persona, you know it's noteworthy.

3. More drama than rush, semi-formals and formal season combined. Designers tend to have rather dramatic personalities, and when they're given tasks such as "Create a party dress out of flowers in one day" or "Design an outfit from anything you can find in a supermarket," tensions run high. This is most likely a horrible situation for the designers, who will later talk to their respective shrinks about flashbacks from being locked in the New School's design studio, but for viewers it makes for some interesting television. Last season, we were treated to the personality of Kenley, a designer whose combination of erratic ideas and defensiveness led her to do the unthinkable: get Gunn to not like you. Gunn is nice to everyone, but Kenley just couldn't dial back the drama long enough to take his advice. Once you exhaust Kenley's eye rolling moments, just keep taking a trip back in time because the earlier seasons have drama to spare.

4. The judges are brutal. "American Idol" has its nice, set pattern of polarized judges with Simon as the mean one whose insults are shockingly creative and Paula as the nice one who isn't necessarily all there at any given moment. "Project Runway" has no Paula. Though Heidi Klum and the guest judge dujour often try to be more diplomatic, Nina Garcia and Michael Kors will call you out for

everything from sloppy sewing to bad taste. It's a little like watching weekly installments of the "Devil Wears Prada." Though I have survived being judged for wearing cable knit, I don't know how I would fare in front of that panel. They will make you cry only to tell you not to ruin the silk dress that they despise.



flickr.com

5. It's the Bloomingdales of reality television. The new shows that are devised for reality T.V. are absolutely mind boggling. Shows that have spawned bizarre spinoffs such as "Charm School" for the losers of scandalous dating shows remind me of what happens to the gremlins when you spill water on them and feed them after midnight. But amidst all of these Sketchers cork wedges of questionable shows, "Project Runway" stands out as a Manolo Blahnik mary jane. It's classy, the judging is based on more than a game of mud football in bikinis and the people who win it are actually very talented. By now you may not even be reading if my impressive rhetoric has been that convincing, but if you are still reading, stop, find a computer and bring yourself up to speed. ☼



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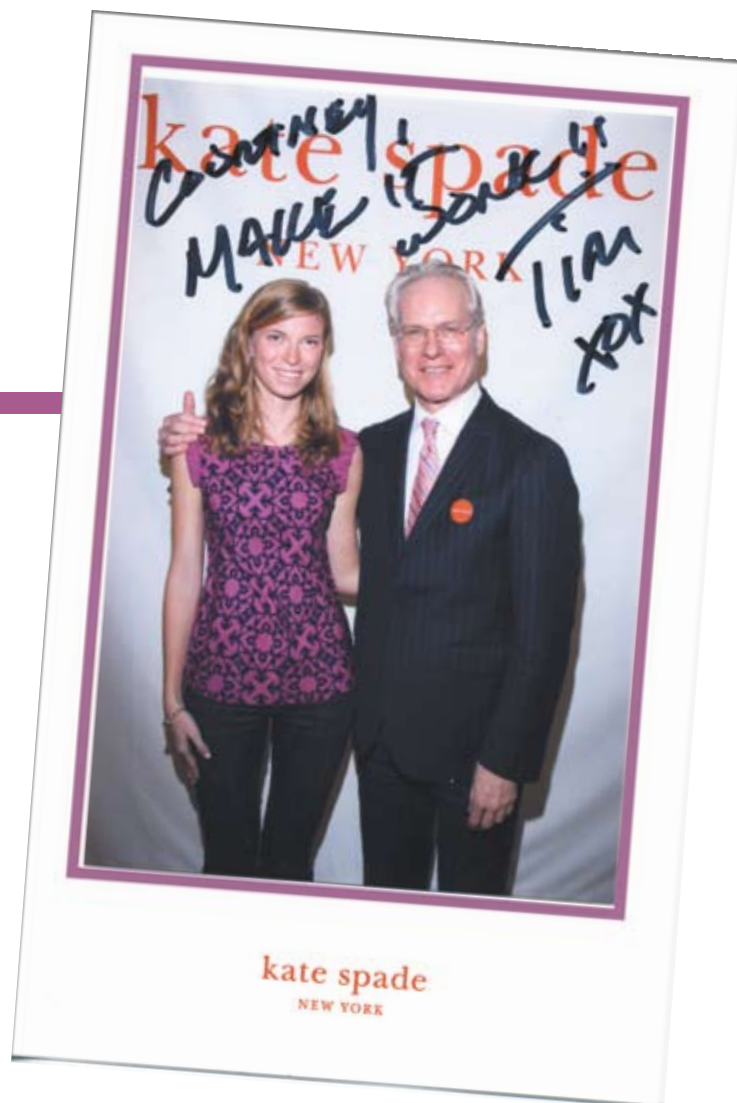
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Making it work with **TIM GUNN**

COURTNEY ROGERS
Features Editor

Last Thursday wasn't a fabulous day. It was rainy, included a tornado watch, and no one's hair looked great. Cars near Lewis were submerged, and for many, the prospect of driving down 21st avenue was a laughable fantasy. However, it's days like Thursday that separate the fair-weather fans from the true fashionistas. Because Thursday was no ordinary Thursday. It was a day that will go down in Nashville fashion history as Tim Gunn Thursday because the style icon himself visited the Kate Spade boutique in the Mall at Green Hills. For those of you who do not know Gunn, he is the co-host of "Project Runway" who encourages designers to "Make it work!" even when the "it" happens to be some combination of flowers, solo cups and lycra. Even if you missed out on this chic event, here's a wrap-up of what went down when Nashvillians and Vandy girls alike dressed up.



LETTER FROM AN ANGRY WASP

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



Dear Rising Sophomores,

Please, continue crying about where you're placed for housing next year. Yeah, that sure sucks that you're right in the middle of campus. So close to the frats and all of your classes, and a Munchie Mart right on the ground level — what are you going to do? Can you believe that you have your own bathroom AGAIN? And all your friends are going to be so close to you, yikes! Some privacy, please!

Just seriously, knock it off. Are you really so spoiled that you're going to complain about housing, of all things? It's a room! Can you sleep there? Great. Is it clean? Great. Does it have a bed and a desk and a closet, just like every other place on campus? Perfect. Do you really need that extra couple of square feet of floor space? Does it really make a difference to you? If you really have that much crap, your biggest problem is not your on-campus location.

Even if you're "stuck" in Kissam next year — is that really the end of the world? I doubt an extra five minutes of walking is going to kill you (in fact, after this year you could probably use the exercise). Just deal with it — you get your own space that you can do what you'd like with, so quit complaining.

As for the rest of you, aren't you glad you got what you asked for? I would be, too.

**Sincerely,
An Angry WASP**

Who:

Tim Gunn and his legion of (mostly) female fans.

What:

A night of fashion tips, champagne and Kate Spade. Also the celebration of Kate Spade's Quinn bag's 10th birthday.

Where:

Kate Spade boutique at the Mall at Green Hills.

Tim on ...

College Fashion:

"I don't believe in college students being fashion victims necessarily. I believe that it's important to save up for a few key items, a great blazer, classic dress pants, my 10 essential items. But they need to be personalized — they really need to be you and who you are. And a lot of that will be informed by what you actually do when you leave college, where you're working, with whom you're working and what the community expectations are for where you work. So in that sense we're chameleons."

His work at Parsons:

"In many ways it chose me. I had been at Parson design, where I've taught for a total of 24 years, I'd been there 17 years and was associate dean. I was sent in for a year to diagnose the curricular situation and offer up a prescription. I found out that morale was very bad; it was basically about the fact that the curriculum had not evolved in 50 years. We know that fashion is all about change, so to have a curriculum that stood still was incomprehensible. The repositioning of that department for the 21st century was one of the things I'm proudest of professionally."

Breaking into the fashion industry:

"What I love about the industry today is that you can form your own path. You can forget about the old paradigms and say 'I'm going to do it my way.' The industry is eager to find innovative thinkers and creative people of course but you have to be thinking of the long term. You can't be thinking about one season or one year — you have to be thinking of five years or 10 years. And you must have an unbridled passion for this, an unerring passion, a love, because there are way too many obstacles that will be thrown in your path that will derail you. But if you love it, you'll get right back on the track and persevere."

Season 5 contestant Kenly Collins:

"Let's just say, the editing was kind toward Kenly." (Kenly was the contestant everyone loved to hate on Season 5 with her eye rolling and defensive attitude toward the judges. Gunn assumed that fellow contestant Jerrell had beaten Kenly for the third spot, but when Kenly walked into the room, Gunn said, "I thought to myself, she's still here?!")

Fashion tips for spring:

Use bright accessories to accent an outfit. No matter your body type, remember that you need to find a silhouette, proportion and fit. Don't be afraid of trends, but classic pieces should be the bulk of your wardrobe.



Tim's 10 Essential Items:

1. Basic black dress



6. Any occasion top



2. Trench coat



7. Skirt

3. Dress pants

8. Day dress

4. Classic shirt

9. Jacket

5. Jeans

10. A comfortable alternative to a sweat suit

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 - 25 Meth. or Luth.
 - 27 Bear's milieu
 - 30 Night in Paris
 - 31 Letter for Plato
 - 34 Complaint to a chiropractor
 - 35 Low voices
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 - 37 Table game
 - 41 Sawbuck
 - 42 Low wagon
 - 43 Before: pref.
 - 44 Sign of a hit show
 - 45 Nautical word
 - 46 Hesitate
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 - 49 Overlay
 - 50 Progeny
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 - 57 Member of the reserves
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 - 62 Rim
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 - 65 Peter I
 - 66 Affirmatives
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 - 6 Resister
 - 7 Renowned Persian poet
 - 8 Russian space station
 - 9 List-shortening abbr.
 - 10 _ mignon
 - 11 Religious picture
 - 12 Tear
 - 13 Periods of time
 - 19 Amatory
 - 22 Parvo shot giver
 - 24 Shrewd
 - 25 Aggressive
 - 26 Upward slope
 - 27 Realities
 - 28 Earthy color
 - 29 Horned animal
 - 30 Mother-of-pearl
 - 31 Happening
 - 32 Baked dessert
 - 33 Goose's response?

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S	A	R	G	E	R	E	A	L	E	R	S	T

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