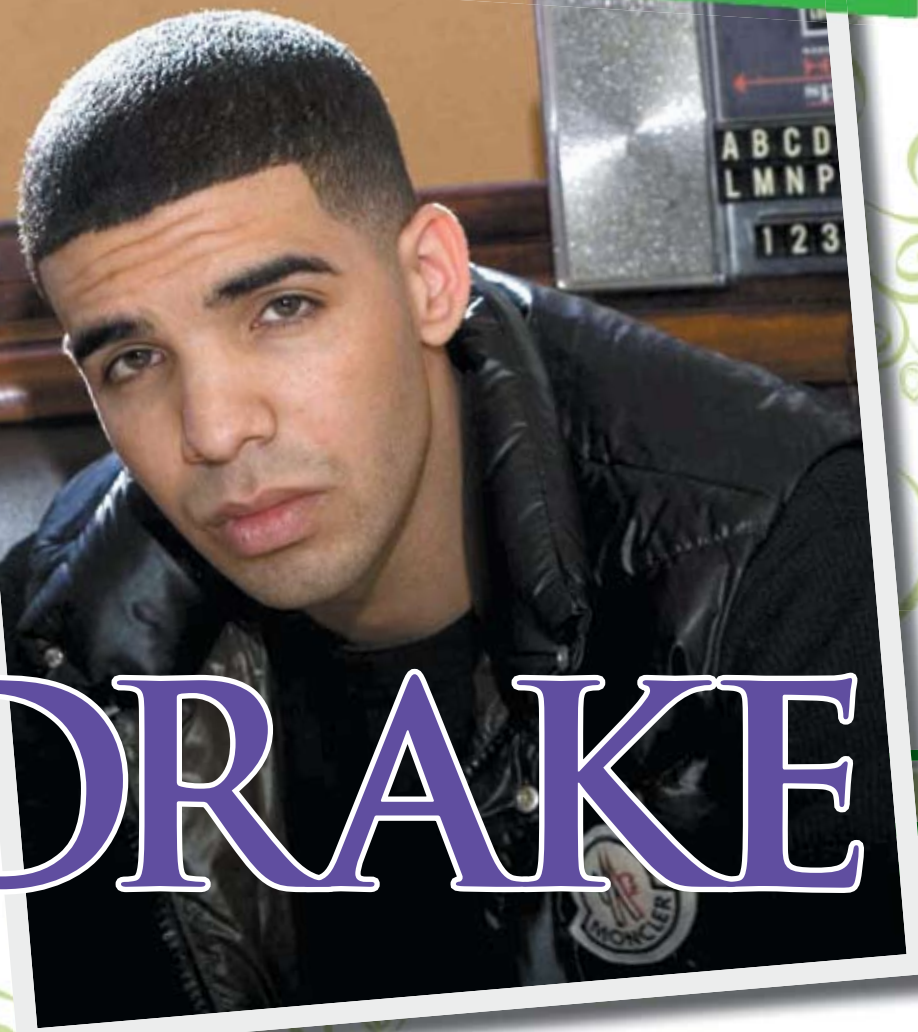


Versus

The Vanderbilt Hustler's Arts & Entertainment Magazine

FEBRUARY 10—FEBRUARY 16, 2010 VOL. 48, No. 4

**rites of
spring**
MUSIC FESTIVAL 2010



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ALSO FEATURING:
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AND MANY MORE**

PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Perpetual Groove — Exit/In

Savannah, G.A. jam band Perpetual Groove (also affectionately known as PGroove) returns to Nashville this Thursday night. PGroove has been delighting audience with a fusion of southern rock, funk and jazz for over a decade now, and their most recent album, "Heal," and subsequent tour are no exceptions. Even the band's self-description is enticing: "A celebrated, international touring act for [years], Perpetual Groove has built a reputation on intense, emotional music ... and a willingness to keep the connection strong between band and fans." (\$12 in advance, \$15 day of, 9 p.m., 2208 Elliston Place)

Nneka — 3rd and Lindsley

Nashville welcomes Nneka to the stage of 3rd and Lindsley tonight for an evening of exotic, moving music. Nneka, born Nneka Egbuna, is a Nigerian-German hip/hop and soul singer-songwriter who performs both in English and her native language of Igbo. Having been featured on tour with numerous major acts (such as The Roots and Lenny Kravitz) as well as having her music included on the recent EA Sports FIFA 2010, Nneka is on the road now on her very own headlining tour. In the mood to try something new? Definitely drop by 3rd and Lindsley. (\$10, 7 p.m., 818 3rd Ave. South)

Excision — Mercy Lounge

Looking to get out and dance without having to brave Hollywood Disco? Look no further than the intimate Mercy Lounge, where Dubstep DJ Excision will perform tonight. As the venue describes him, "Combining the morphing bass lines of Drum and Bass, the aggressive energy of Metal, and the laid back vibes of hip hop, Excision's style is incomparable ... Anyone who has heard a set by this bad boy has walked away feeling energized and refreshed. If you're lucky enough to catch a live set, expect an assault of bass-heavy tracks, mixed quickly and seamlessly." Recipe for a good time? We think so. (\$10, 9 p.m., 1 Cannery Row)

The El Dorados — McFadden's

After making their debut onto the Nashville bar scene just weeks ago, The El Dorados make their return to downtown Music City with a show at the popular night spot McFadden's. Comprised exclusively of Vanderbilt students (including the former Versus Music Editor), The El D's are the quintessential college party band, playing a set of crowd favorites (from country to classic rock and everything in between) and encouraging plenty of loud sing-a-longs. What better way to kick off Mardi Gras weekend than with good friends and great music? (\$5- \$7, 10:30 p.m., 134 2nd Ave. North)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

The Black Eyed Peas with LMFAO — Sommet Center

That's right, the Peas are bringing their "The E.N.D. World Tour" to Nashville's biggest venue Friday night. Get ready for the one of the biggest bands of 2009 as they tour with the insanely fun LMFAO with hits like the ultimate pregaming song "Shots" featuring Lil' Jon. What better way to start the weekend than with these two party-starting groups? Get your pals together soon and get those tickets well in advance because they will sell out quickly. I gotta feeling that tonight's gonna be a good night. (\$37- \$79, 7:30 p.m., 501 Broadway)

Dieselboy — 12th and Porter

This is seriously the chance of a lifetime for any fan of excellent drum and bass electronic music. If you are unfamiliar with this exciting form of music, I encourage you to take this chance to experience the body rush that is drum and bass. Dieselboy, who has toured all over the world from Hong Kong to Helsinki to Philadelphia, is considered by many to be the top dnb DJ in the world. UK's Knowledge Magazine comments, "Dieselboy has managed to build a fan base that rivals that of any rock star." I guarantee you that 12th and Porter will be raving all night long. (TBA, 8 p.m., 114 12th Ave. North)

The Dynamites featuring Charles Walker — Mercy Lounge

Charles Walker and his band The Dynamites are the critically acclaimed saviors of soul in this day and age. Lead singer Charles Walker opened for soul icons James Brown and Wilson Pickett at the Apollo Theater in the late '60s, and he is bringing the energy from that golden era of soul to Nashville's Mercy Lounge for all to witness. In 2008 USA Today included The Dynamites in their list of "acts that are wowing live audiences coast to coast with fresh songs and slamming performances." Don't miss your chance to experience the timeless allure of funk and soul right here in Nashville. (\$12, 9 p.m., 1 Cannery Row)

Terri Clark, Steve Wariner and more — Grand Ole Opry

80 years ago, Grand Ole Opry's live show began and country music took off in Nashville as a result. Today, Nashville's rising talents are still taking the stage at this historic venue. If you call yourself a country music fan, you owe it to yourself to experience the show that helped make country music famous. Notable performers sharing the stage at the Opry Friday night are Terri Clark and Steve Warner, but many soon-to-be-famous singer-songwriters will make their names known this coming Friday. Be there to watch careers take off! (\$29- \$54, 7 p.m., 2804 Opryland Drive)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

A Night For Love: An Evening with James T. Slater — The Bluebird Cafe

It is the night before Valentine's Day, and you're looking for the perfect date idea for the perfect girl. Take her to the Bluebird Café Saturday night for a lovely evening of romantic stories and song. Presented by writer James T. Slater (That's why God Made Mexico, In My Daughter's Eyes, High Cost of Living), "A Night for Love" is a show that combines romantic storytelling and music to ensure that sparks will fly the rest of the night. (TBD, 9:30 p.m., 4104 Hillsboro Road)

PANTY RAID! Valentine's Day Show — Exit/In

How about some pre-Valentine's Day excitement sexiness? Exit/In is proud to bring you a crazy party full of the wildest burlesque featuring Nashville's own burlesque queen Kicky Larue! Also spicing it up at Exit/In tonight is the enchanting and exotic Shadhavar bellydance show, aerial circus by Chris Lemmon and the seductive pole dancing girls of Gravity Plays Favorites. (\$12, 8 p.m., 2208 Elliston Place)

Rick Springfield — Wildhorse Saloon

The Grammy-winning pop rock star is returning to the Wildhorse with his signature high-energy show. Establishing himself in 1981 with the breakout hit single "Jessie's Girl," he has continued on to sell over 18 million records worldwide as well as dominate the American Top 40 with 16 of his songs making the list. Don't miss Rick Springfield this Valentine's Weekend at Nashville's famous Wildhorse Saloon! (\$25- \$175, 7:30 p.m., 120 2nd Ave. North)

Valentine's Special with Jim Brickman — Schermerhorn Symphony Center

Feeling classy this Valentine's Weekend? Pianist Jim Brickman is performing his most beloved pieces at the Schermerhorn Center. Brickman is renowned for the beautifully expressive playing style that carries his hits "Valentine," "The Gift" and "Love of My Life." On Saturday night, experience his music accompanied by the first-class Nashville Symphony within the walls of the elegant and acoustically perfect Schermerhorn concert hall. (\$27- \$87, 8 p.m., 1 Symphony Place)

The Regulars

THE RUTLEDGE
410 Fourth Ave. South 37201
782-6858

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

BLUEBIRD CAFE
4104 Hillsboro Road 37215
383-1461

EXIT/IN
2208 Elliston Place 37203
321-3340

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

THE BASEMENT
1604 Eighth Ave. South 37203
254-1604

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

SCHERMERHORN SYMPHONY CENTER
1 Symphony Place 37201
687-6500

3RD AND LINDSLEY
818 Third Ave. South 37210
259-9891

CAFE COCO
210 Louise Ave. 37203
321-2626



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Versus

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Versus Magazine

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Party and Bullshit



1. Natalie Berger, Andrew Friedman, Brittany Wagonheim and Kristin Godfrey **2.** Maria Crist and Theo Samets **3.** Pi Beta Phi sorority members at date function G.I. Pi Phi **4.** Jesse DeOms gets in on an all-girls picture at Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity **5.** Will Howard takes aim with friend Kathryn Sargent.

From the Editor



Let me begin by saying that I love this school and I can't imagine going to college anywhere else. I firmly believe that this is the best university in the nation (no joke) and that at no other institution can students find the caliber of academics that we enjoy in combination with an equally amazing social scene (and I guess some people like D1 sports and the SEC).

That being said, I have noticed a disturbing trend in the academic arena of our university: shit-tons of work. This also is not a joke.

Instructors seem unaware students have four to five other courses that require just as much reading and homework. Let me break it down for you, Teach: THIS IS NOT MY ONLY CLASS. If it were, sure, I could read the original publication of Dante's "Inferno," translate it in full and write a critical response, all between our Tuesday and Thursday class meetings. As it stands, however, there's just no way. I'm not even sure what the motivation behind this onslaught of homework is. Do professors think that this is the best way to get their students to learn? Not only can I barely process the volume of pages professors assign, but the idea of a close reading or examining the text in any thoughtful manner is laughable. It's a sad state of affairs — I'd love to be able to thoroughly do the reading and engage with the text, and I know a lot of my friends feel the same way (nerds), but, as it stands, we're all just scraping by and hoping to dodge a bad quiz grade with the brains and bullshit skills that got us into this school in the first place. And if the whole "brains and bullshit" thing doesn't seem to be working out, I don't know if you've noticed, folks, but study drug use is rampant on this campus — didja ever think it might be because we can't read fifty pages per class, per night and still have any semblance of a social or extra-curricular life?

And don't tell me we should sacrifice one of those two for academics. Get a grip. College is about a lot more than burying our noses in textbooks, and spending all of our time on work would drive us insane. You know what they say: "All work and no play makes Jack a suicidal M.I.T. student."

The moral of the story is this: students on this campus not only can't do it, we won't do it. If you professors think your students are doing all of the reading, good, we've got you fooled. Now get a grip on reality, take it down a notch and stop wondering why we're all writing our term papers on "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "The Great Gatsby."

Avery Spofford

Words to live by in seventeen syllables

Trust me. Nothing says "Be My Valentine" more than Some Mardi Gras beads.

Awkward Wednesday: The Fact that you've named it proves you are An alcoholic.

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"



Random Guy: "Let's make a 10-person snuggie and call it a snorgie."

TA: "Corn is my enemy."



Girl in Kissam: "You're perfect. I have a guido fetish."

Girl behind the desk in Sarratt: "I don't even know how I got dressed this morning."

Girl in Rand: "You two guys are like lovers."



Guy in Branscomb looking at the video "Not A Girl, Not Yet A Woman:" Britney Spears looks like a back country Barbie doll.

Horoscopes



AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18

Your significant other plans to break up with you on Valentine's Day. Break up with him on Friday to preempt this.



PISCES 2/19-3/20

Lori Murphy will visit you in a dream.



ARIES 3/21-4/19

Have a crush on that freshman girl in your English class? Bring flowers to class on Monday. Definitely won't creep her out.



TAURUS 4/20-5/20

There is indeed a law in NOLA which permits you to be arrested if you don't provide the adequate response for Mardi Gras beads.



GEMINI 5/21-6/21

Escorting a cougar across the street is not worth a Boy Scout badge.



CANCER 6/22-7/22

I don't think Papermate is interested in sponsoring our "white out" against Tennessee.



LEO 7/23-8/22

Go for it! A tissue paper collage will totally suffice as a Valentine's Day gift.



VIRGO 8/23-9/22

Yes, making out with girls at Mardi Gras, though blackout, is considered cheating. Time to make that call.



LIBRA 9/23-10/22

Sorry it's Valentine's Day and you're alone, but remember, big girls don't cry.



SCORPIO 10/23-11/21

If your Valentine's Day plans involve a dinner for two at Ro-Tiki, you should probably re-evaluate.



SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21

You will find true love this weekend, just in time for Valentine's Day. Well, not really. It'll be a drunken hookup — but everyone needs some love.



CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19

Avoid Chili's this weekend. Seriously. We aren't feeling so great about your future there.

CULTURE

For Him

STUART BRYAN
Staff Writer

Free: A "Do not Disturb" sign. Honestly, no explanation needed.

Cheap: Boxers. Whether you wear them or we do, boxers are a cheap way to say, "I like where this is going." Plastered in puppies or covered in skulls, the more unique the better when it comes to purchasing them.

Moderate: A Tie. Sometimes it's hard to get out and shop with all the raging we do. When it comes to dressing up, most of our ties smell like a tailgate and are plastered with obnoxious animals. We can't wear that to any sort of interview, let alone to meet your parents.

Expensive: Steak dinner. Nothing says you care for

MATT SHELTON
Culture Editor

us like a steak. Randwiches, Chef James and Commons pizzas just don't fill you up like a belt-loosening 20-ounce porterhouse. Whether you make it or take us out, steaks put guys in a good mood. It'll make that over-sentimental Valentine's day movie that much easier to stomach.

Extra Expensive: Weekend trip. Whether it's a weekend of flapjacks and putt-putt in Gatlinburg or one on a beach with Corona, sand and surf in Florida, your boyfriend will relish in some time alone with you away after all the first round of test stress that builds up at Vanderbilt. And remember, don't forget your "Do not Disturb" sign. ☼

Valentine's Day

For Her

FRANCESCA AMIKER
Staff Writer

On Valentine's Day, how do you give your girl the perfect gift? It's that time of year when a guy needs to know what his girl wants for a present. It may be hard for a man to understand this, but women love to receive romantic gifts on Valentine's Day. Here's our gift guide, for starters: It's a Valentine's Day price guide to make her tear, no matter what the tier.

Bare pockets: Drop a Jackson (\$20)? No worries, the most important aspect of all things Valentine's Day is not the price but the thoughtfulness and creativity of the gift ... for some girls.

Sentiments & quotes (Free)

Make her a coupon booklet where you write the coupons, that she can then later redeem for such things as a back rub or a night at the movies instead of the usual frat raging.

Frugally fruity (\$10)

Cooking for your Valentine is a nice way to let them know you care enough about them to make them something they love. Chocolate-dipped fruit is always an easy hit.

Godiva Valentine's Day 8-Piece assorted chocolates (\$13.99)

It's a chocolate mini-feast of love — eight pieces of luscious dark, milk and white chocolates,

including scrumptious pralines, velvety ganaches, rich caramels, fruit and nut fillings and classic truffles. Toss in a cheerful memory and add a personalized engraved photo book key ring for \$17.99!

All about the Benjamins, Baby? If you're banking, a spa gift card, a cruise and a flat screen TV would be nice. But, if the flashy gifts aren't your style, you can keep it romantic with these gifts.

Juicy Couture starter bracelet (\$42)

The gift that keeps on giving. Start off with this investment piece and add a charm for every special occasion. It's fool proof!

Coach Legacy perfume (\$70)

If she's a fan of Coach handbags and accessories, pick up the Legacy perfume, a soft and romantic fragrance with notes of amber, vanilla, light florals and precious woods.

Tiffany & Co. Elsa Peretti Open Heart key ring (\$79.99)

The Elsa Peretti Open Heart key ring is a stylish and simple key ring made in sterling silver. It's a practical and fashionable gift that is sure to make her smile this Valentine's Day.

Whether bare-pocketed or stacked with Franklins, be sweet and remember, for you, it is her day. ☼

Bro-entine's Day: A Bro's take on the day of love

BROSEPH AGUIRRE
Staff Writer

In recent years, there has been much attention focused on the culture and habits of a specific demographic group in America: the Bro. It is a waste of time to define a Bro, because Bros define themselves. However, I digress, and anyway, everyone knows several. With many new books, blogs, websites and viral videos exploring the morality and lifestyle of the Bro, one must ask the question: "How do Bros feel about Valentine's Day?"

Well, for starters, Bros hate

the holiday of love. They are clever enough to see through the feminist plot that forces them to dedicate a day to respecting women. No Bro wants to purchase chocolates or stuffed bears and offer them to women as tokens of affection. And if Bros are cunning enough to spot the threatening nature of this holiday, they are certainly pros at thinking of cost effective ways to dodge the pressures. Speaking of the aforementioned chocolates and stuffed bears, Bros know that they can buy them on the card. No, you did not misread, the Branscomb Munchie Mart sells these Valentine's

Day necessities for extremely low rates. Kick your holiday into broverdrive with some of these items! It's cheap, and she'll be delighted. But mainly it's cheap. Bros are unfailingly stingy except when it comes to bar tabs, and Valentine's Day should be no exception.

Single Bros, players of the field, are not immune to the severe bropression that can result from all the pink and red and romantic comedies. They just want to be loved — after all, Bros have hearts too.

So much emotion can be draining, causing a severe broverload. And that's why the ladies should be careful

to avoid putting too much pressure on the Bro in their lives. Bro is doing the best he can, and thoughtfulness is always easier said than done. No Bro can combine the mystique of Robert Pattinson with the physique of Taylor Lautner. Even Kristin Stewart had to choose between one or the other, and that was just a movie. Not only that, Bros also hate "Twilight." Anyway, enjoy your Valentine's Day, but realize just how much it runs counter to the nature of free-spirited Bros. A Bro can be sensitive, touching, and adorable ... just not all at the time or under so much pressure from society. ☼



The Valentine's Day D.T.R.

MATT SHELTON
Culture Editor

There is no better way to show someone that you care about them than showering them with expensive gifts in a false show of love through emptying out your wallet. But probably harder than letting that month's stipend seep from your bi-fold is the Valentine's Day DTR that inevitably comes up during that dinner on which you dropped \$150. Somewhere between the rose-colored (and sickeningly sweet) champagne and the heart-shaped chocolate dessert, a glazed look will sweep over her face, a euphoric smile that means you are screwed. As she reaches across the table to grab your hand, you know you are caught in her February 14th trap. Here it comes. Then, depending on where you are in your relationship, she'll drop the question(s). Don't panic, come prepared. Answer

the question right and she'll rush the waiter for the bill, skipping the last course and opting for a different kind of desert. Just follow my lead.

Fledgling relationship: "So, where do you think we are going?" or "I think this is too good not to put a title on."
Your response: Don't freak, or give any facial recognition that her words are ripping the very bro-ness from your soul. Maintain hand and eye contact and reply, "I have been thinking about that a lot recently, and I feel like this is something too special to rush."

Newly "official" status: "Wow, these past few weeks have been amazing! Where do you see us in a year?" or "My family is coming up next weekend, want to go to dinner with us?"

Your response: She is testing your forward-mobility and commitment. While you would normally stave off the meeting, citing an important

service event you promised you'd attend, you've been cornered. Bite the bullet and accept said invitation, there are worse things.

The long-termer: So, she flew in/sacrificed her whole day to spend with you, and the three hours she spent getting ready show, as she's looking drop dead gorgeous. She has that glow that she's been thinking about something pretty hard and wants to share. You think you're going to have an epic night, when she says, "I love you." At this point you've choked on that overcooked steak, and she knows your way too well to believe your choke-attack was the result of a bite much too big. Here it is, the big question. You can't run, hide, or act too drunk to talk about it.

Your response: Sorry, bud, chug that champagne and let loose your best volley of love-filled rhetoric. Make Cupid proud. ☼

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ENTERTAINMENT

'SEX, LIES, AND VIDEOTAPE'

Love movie mashup

ALEX DALY
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day means expensive, romantic dinners. It means Hallmark and Godiva. It means getting ass ... but with candles, roses and all that other sexy stuff. Overall, V-Day is a wonderful time to celebrate just being in love, and there are so many ways to do it (smoke signals via jet plane, candy pathways leading to a hot bubble bath ...). Why not spend your holiday watching some fun films that are all about love itself? Blockbuster nights are the best way to have a cheap, good time. Plus,

it's not all about the money, it's about the moments! So, for those of you who don't want to completely burn through your wallets, here are some suggestions for the cinematically-inclined (with some extremely arbitrary personal commentary):

Merchant Ivory films: For those who like watching the same movie ten times in a row, and for those who do this with their mother.

"Room with a View:" I'm a girl! And I really like British accents.

'80s cult classics: For those who have a heart.

"Say Anything:" John Cusack. Revealing his romantic side in a trench coat. With a huge-ass stereo.

"Pretty in Pink:" I'm sorry. How could a chick not fall for Duckie after his Otis

Redding lip-sync freak out? Come on, Molly Ringwald!

"16 Candles:" What's more lovable? The Geek holding up Samantha's "undies" in a bathroom full of a hormone-crazed boys, or Long Duk Dong saying things like: "No more yankie my wankie. The



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time to celebrate just being in love, and there are so many ways to do it (smoke signals via jet plane, candy pathways leading to a hot bubble bath ...). Why not spend your holiday watching some fun films that are all about love itself? Blockbuster nights are the best way to have a cheap, good time. Plus,

Donger need food.
'90s — '00s rom-coms: For those who thought that "Not Another Teen Movie" was really mean.

"Ten Things I Hate About You:" What happened to that girl from Alex Mack?

"She's All That:" And what about Rachel Leigh Cook and Freddie Prinze, Jr.?

Meg Ryan Marathon: For those who live vicariously through love onscreen.

"Sleepless in Seattle:" The movie that made me believe in love at first sight (awww!) ... But, for serious, I've been disillusioned since I was ten.

"When Harry Met Sally:" Can a boy and girl just be friends if they are both attractive? And cool? That's rhetorical.

"You've Got Mail:" The chick flick that made cyber sex (ahem — cyber romance)

acceptable.

Woody Allen Marathon: For those who like ... Woody Allen.

"Annie Hall:" Alvy Singer: "Love is too weak a word for what I feel — I luurve you, you know, I loave you, I luff you, two F's, yes I have to invent, of course I — I do, don't you think I do?"

"Vicky Cristina Barcelona:" Bitter guys out there, if you really don't like the "V-Day movie night" idea, at least you get to watch two girls make out.

Philosophy of loooooove: For those who like to only watch intellectual movies and who also like really "deep" themes.

"Before Sunrise:" I wish I had met an Ethan Hawke look-a-like on a train to Vienna then talked about life and hooked up in a park.

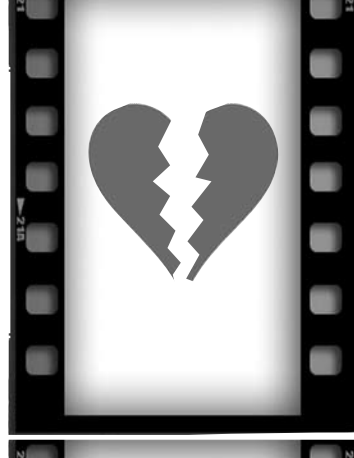
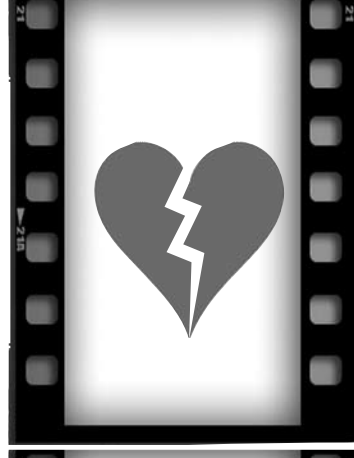
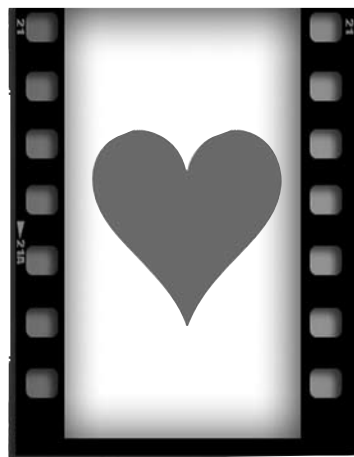
"After Sunset:" I also wish that situations like this actually happened.

Recent goodies(ish): For those who want to see all kinds of love.

"Juno:" It was worth all the hype.

"500 Days of Summer:" As the narrator says: "This is not a love story." Who cares? It's still awesome.

I refuse to add "Twilight." Happy Valentine's Day, you lovebirds! Happy watching!☺



What not to watch

You were making out during 'Schindler's List??'

GRANT DARWIN
Music Editor

1. **"Schindler's List"** — Nothing screams romantic evening like a depressing Holocaust drama. It has been said that "grief is nature's strongest aphrodisiac," but I don't think that insinuates that a charming Valentine's dinner should be followed up with genocide. Besides, as Seinfeld made painfully clear, you don't make out during "Schindler's List."

2. **"The Notebook"** — Emotional, charming and relentlessly poignant, this film has everything a good Valentine's Day movie should have. Don't do it. Beyond the very obvious cliché of watching the pre-eminent love story of the past decade, no one wants to see a grown man cry, especially on Valentine's Day. We all know that when it turns out that James Garner is telling his wife her own story, it's impossible to keep the floodgates closed; do yourself a favor and pick another movie.

3. **"Jurassic Park"** — Yes, dinosaurs are insanely cool, and of course women share that appreciation. Be that as it may, unless your girlfriend is a paleontology major, she may not have the same

appreciation for cloned Velociraptors rampantly destroying a multi-million dollar theme park as you do. Seriously, there is a reason why the T-Rex-shaped chocolate box never caught on.

4. **"Fahrenheit 9/11"** — Last time I checked, Valentine's Day was not synonymous with conspiracy theories. Perhaps it should be, but until the time comes when Hallmark makes cards that say, "I Love You, and Aliens killed Kennedy," I would suggest you avoid this film, or any documentary, for that matter. However, if you do get hot and bothered by the liberal whining of Michael Moore, we at Versus will happily pay for you to see a shrink.

5. **"Return of the Jedi"** — There is something eternally romantic about Han Solo and Princess Leia falling in love, but unless you can convince your girlfriend to wear Carrie Fischer's brass bathing suit (all you nerds know what I'm talking about) I do not think she will be as moved by the destruction of the Death Star as one would expect. The idea is to make a little woopie, not Wookie, on Valentine's Day.☺

OSCAR WATCH: analyzing the nominees

JACK MANIRE
Staff Writer

With the Academy Awards nominees finalized, it's time for everyone to start predicting the winners; what follows is my list of favorites and dark horses for six major categories. You may be asking yourself what makes me qualified to assemble this list. That's a good question.

Best Actress

Favorite: Meryl Streep, "Precious." I'm very happy I just got to type that name. She's done very well at early awards shows, and odds are she will continue her success at the Oscars.

Dark Horse: Vera Farmiga, "Up in the Air." She was excellent alongside George Clooney and stole a few scenes in the movie. Her biggest disadvantage is the possibility that Academy voters remember her terrible accent in "The Departed."

Best Actress

Favorite: Meryl Streep, "Julie and Julia." This is Streep's 16th Oscar nomination. She is probably the most respected actress of the last 30 years, and she cleaned up most of the early awards. It seems like she has Best Actress



joshuajkurz.wordpress.com

locked up.

Dark Horse: Carrie Mulligan, "An Education." An actress I've never heard of in a movie I've never heard of, but she's won four awards for her performance as an English schoolgirl who sleeps with an older man played by Peter Sarsgaard. So, she's got that going for her, which is nice.

Best Supporting Actor

If Christoph Waltz doesn't win this for his performance as Hans "The Jew Hunter" Landa in "Inglourious Basterds," I will officially retire from watching the Oscars. They should rename this prize the "Christoph Waltz Memorial Best Supporting Actor Award."

Best Actor

Favorite: George Clooney, "Up in the Air." Clooney has won more early awards than any of the other nominees. His performance as Ryan Bingham was charismatic, funny, and affecting, and Clooney is an easy guy to root for after his efforts to help Haiti.

Dark Horse: Jeff Bridges, "Crazy Heart." In this movie Bridges plays an aging, struggling country singer who's approaching the twilight years of a hard life. Many people have compared it to Mickey Rourke's performance in

"The Wrestler" last year, and he has an outside shot.

Best Director

Favorite: Kathryn Bigelow, "The Hurt Locker." The Hurt Locker is a movie that is packed with tension from beginning to end. Mostly, I think the Academy will give her the award to make up for snubbing her for "Point Break."

Dark Horse: Quentin Tarantino, "Inglourious Basterds." If Bigelow is being heavily praised for creating so much tension in her film, then Tarantino should have an equal chance for doing the exact same thing with his film.

Best Picture

Favorite: This category looks like a coin flip between "Up In The Air" and "The Hurt Locker." "Up in the Air" has won six early awards while "The Hurt Locker" has won seven. "Up in the Air" may be the slight favorite because it's more of a traditional dramatic film whereas "The Hurt Locker" is more of an action-oriented film. Expect to see one of these two movies bring home the hardware.

Dark Horse: "Inglourious Basterds." Any movie that can make me laugh immediately after someone gets scalped deserves some form of recognition.☺

THE ENDORSEMENT

"King of the Hill"



groupstate.us

ADRIAN RIPPY
Staff Writer

Ever miss the animated shows that actually try to portray a reality in which you can believe? Then look no further than Cartoon Network's Adult Swim for "King of the Hill."

When "King of the Hill" — at the time the second-longest running animated show on FOX — was released by the network in 2009, Adult Swim picked it up.

Set in the fictional town of Arlen, Texas, the show stars the Hill family. Hank is a husband and father who sells propane and propane accessories, and his wife, Peggy, is a two-time Substitute Teacher of the Year — a title that goes to her head — at Tom Landry Middle School. Their son, Bobby, performs prop comedy (with the disapproval of his father)

and tries desperately to make an identity for himself. Luanne Platter is naive and air-headed but sweet and sensitive. Dale Gribble, the family's next door neighbor, believes in conspiracy theories yet doesn't realize his wife Nancy has been cheating on him. Bill Fontaine Delatour is a hopeless romantic who's constantly demeaned by his friends and women. Jeff Boomhauer, whose speech can only be truly understood by his friends and family, is the handsome ladies' man. The combination of these characters with the many (just as crazy) citizens of Arlen makes for an incredibly funny series. So check out Adult Swim on Cartoon Network at 9 and 9:30 p.m. to catch the men drinking and saying "Yep" and "Mhm." Don't miss it or Hank is gonna kick your ass. ☺

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MUSIC

"What's Your Fan-ta-ta-syyy?"

Five baby-making songs for Valentine's Day

"Pony"

—Ginuwine

Ginuwine's "Pony" won out for best baby-making R&B song. In a genre defined by sexual undertones, this song is a perfectly crafted horse-riding metaphor to sex. Honestly, if this song can't get you up and in the mood, then you should probably rethink with whom you're riding that pony.

"8 Second Ride"

—Jake Owen

Even the good ol' Southern guy and gal sometimes need a little music to get in the mood, and Jake Owen clearly had this in mind when he wrote "8 Second Ride." Giddy up and get down with your lover. If you want the full experience, put a blanket down in the back of your pickup truck, crank up your stereo, boastfully text your friends, and hopefully enjoy a ride under the stars longer than eight seconds.

"Maps"

—The Yeah Yeah Yeahs

Despite their determination to separate themselves from most trends, even indie kids enjoy getting it on just like the rest of us. No song provides a better atmosphere for an indie baby-making session than the Yeah Yeah Yeahs' "Maps." The continuous pounding of the drums and vocalist Karen O's desperate yearning for her lover to "wait" will intensify any indie kid's passion.

"Crazy Bitch"

—Buckcherry

Despite being a rather cliché choice, "Crazy Bitch" wins my pick for best rock song because it never fails to get your blood rushing and your mind on one thing: getting laid. This song gets straight to the point and doesn't let up until the very last line. If this is your song of choice for your baby-making session, I suggest you follow suit.

"You Shook Me"

—Led Zeppelin

This gem from Zeppelin's first album back in '69 provides a solid six and a half minutes of baby-making time for a guy and girl with equally long hair and tight bell bottom jeans. Light up and add a thick layer of intoxicating (incense?) smoke to the room beforehand, and enter into a virtual time machine of love. There's at least one thing that hasn't changed in the last 40 years ... ☼

STUART BRYAN
Staff Writer



"I Wanna Hold Your Hand"

Five love-making songs for Valentine's Day

"Wonderful Tonight"

—Eric Clapton

The guitar legend takes a break from spindling riffs to produce one of the purest expressions of loving devotion ever recorded. Written in 1977 as an ode to Clapton's lover Pattie Boyd, the song memorializes the little moments in life that take your breath away. Charming and touching, one can do little but feel "wonderful" about being with the person they love most.

"Your Song"

—Elton John

Few songs are as heartwarming as Elton John's splendid piano ballad. He knows he can't give his lover money or a big house, so instead offers a song that comes from the deepest reaches of his heart. Sir Elton's voice gently rings out above the twinkling piano, proclaiming from the rooftops that the world is a far better place because the one he loves is a part of it.

"Wonderful World"

—Sam Cooke

"Don't know much about history ..." begins Sam Cooke's romantic morsel of high school crushing, puppy love in its truest form. Sweet and unassuming, the song's apparent innocence makes it all the more powerful. Yet, hidden in the song's simplicity is a lasting, powerful message: In a complicated and uncertain world, the only thing one can really be sure about is the love they have for another.

"Save Tonight"

—Eagle Eye Cherry

Sadly, sometimes the world rips love apart. Eagle Eye Cherry's song screams of an exasperated longing to live forever in a single waning moment. He urges his love to "save tonight" because the morning's reality comes to tear him away from her. A modern



"Dear John" letter, this song instructs the listener to cherish love's every second, because you never know when it will all be over.

"Truly, Madly, Deeply"

—Savage Garden

In 1997 it was hard to go anywhere without hearing Savage Garden's song about eternal love. This emotional toast to enduring devotion shows a willingness to go to the ends of the earth for true love. Impassioned lyrics ("I'll be your dream, I'll be your wish, I'll be your fantasy ... I'll be your hope") prove that when taken by love's tender grasp, the one you are with will "be everything that you need." ☼

B.O'B sits down for a conversation with B.o.B

BRIAN O'BANNON
Staff Writer

Versus Magazine: What did you listen to when you were growing up? What were your early influences?

B.o.B: The more I get asked that question, the longer the list gets, so I'll try to paraphrase it. I listened to OutKast, M.O.B. ... Eminem was a big influence to me. I listened to a lot of Nas, a lot of Shady Records. And a lot of this is very recent, you know, because I'm still part of that generation. I listened to a lot of Coldplay, Nirvana ... I wasn't really a regional fan of music — I'm a fan of music from all over the place, so a lot of influences rubbed off on me.

VM: You just mentioned OutKast, and you have been compared to Andre 3000 a lot. Do you think that is a fair comparison?

B.o.B: I definitely understand the comparison, because there's nothing else to compare me to ... Everything [I do is] outside of the norm, so it's only fair. I mean, what else would you compare me to? I'm outside the norm, outside the box.

VM: What influence has T.I. had on you, having worked with him so much in the past?

B.o.B: T.I. has helped me a lot ... When I was growing up in Atlanta, I was listening to a lot of "Trap Muzik" and "I'm Serious," so I was

actually interested in him first as a fan. And, more recently, he has helped me out a lot as a mentor and has been helping me in certain areas where I, as a new artist, would need help.

VM: You recently released "Nothing on You," which is No. 90 on iTunes' most downloaded songs and is the No. 11 most downloaded hip-hop/rap song on iTunes.

B.o.B: Wow, No. 90?! Like, No. 90 overall?! That's amazing. (Laughing) man, you do know everything about me. That definitely exceeds my expectations.

VM: What made you decide to start going by B.o.B, a.k.a. Bobby Ray? Why add Bobby Ray?

B.o.B: In this industry, it's easy to get caught up in a persona and it's easy to get caught up in a lot of hype. And I wanted to bring myself down to Earth by using my birth name. So I started going by Bobby Ray not necessarily as a name change but to let people know, "Hey, Bobby Ray, that's my name." I think it definitely translated well into my career in music. It represents a lot of what I bring to the table, musically. Hey, you know, Bobby Ray! (laughing)

VM: What do you like to do in your free time?

B.o.B: Smoke, smoke and smoke! (laughing). Honestly, though, there is

no free time. But when there is, I make music ... and smoke (laughing).

VM: You've said that Lupe (Fiasco) and Coldplay will be featured on your new album. Any others we should look forward to?

B.o.B: Well, Coldplay ... don't quote me on that, because it's not set in stone enough to quote. But Lupe, yeah, I can say that.

VM: What's your favorite song to perform on stage?

B.o.B: I love doing "No Man's Land." That and "Generation Lost," "Satellite" and "Haterz." It's hard to pick just one, though. Usually, the crowd's favorites are my favorites.

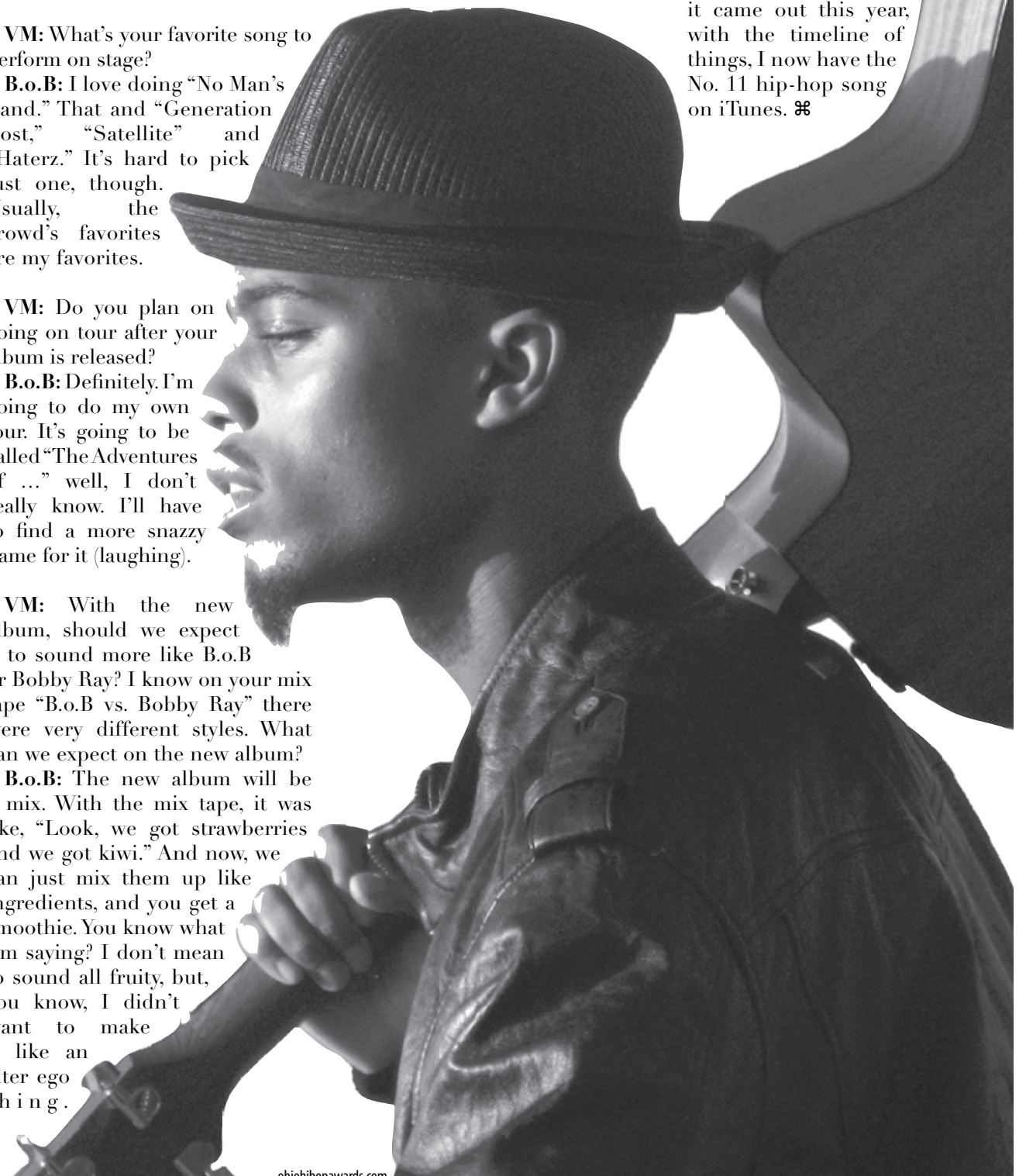
VM: Do you plan on going on tour after your album is released?

B.o.B: Definitely. I'm going to do my own tour. It's going to be called "The Adventures of ..." well, I don't really know. I'll have to find a more snazzy name for it (laughing).

VM: With the new album, should we expect it to sound more like B.o.B or Bobby Ray? I know on your mix tape "B.o.B vs. Bobby Ray" there were very different styles. What can we expect on the new album?

B.o.B: The new album will be a mix. With the mix tape, it was like, "Look, we got strawberries and we got kiwi." And now, we can just mix them up like ingredients, and you get a smoothie. You know what I'm saying? I don't mean to sound all fruity, but, you know, I didn't want to make it like an alter ego thing.

B.o.B: Man, I can make a beat on my own right now and make a song. And it's hard with the rate I make songs because I don't know when or how they are going to be released, because timing is key. If "Nothing On You" had come out last year, it wouldn't have the same effect. But now that it came out this year, with the timeline of things, I now have the No. 11 hip-hop song on iTunes. ☼



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“On stage I make love to 25,000 different people, then I go home alone.”

—Janis Joplin

Athens, G.A.'s of Montreal: False advertising; great show

ALEX DALY
Staff Writer

Men wearing lipstick. Lots of neon and glitter. Really tight spandex. Dudes rolling around on the ground, so happy and on so many kinds of drugs. In a nutshell, of Montreal rocked my world.

First of all, the venue itself was perfect for the kind of show that this band puts on. The Mercy Lounge is small, but not too small — although I was standing toward the back, I still felt very much a part of the whole experience. And what an experience it was.

Essentially, the whole show was like a theatrical performance on acid. On stage, there were two screens projecting trippy Alice in Wonderland/60s types of images — a great backdrop for the band members, who danced around in circus-like costumes (imagine lots of pig masks, a lion head and other bizarre things that I'm probably

forgetting). There were actors too, doing crazy, sexual skits

(Exhibit A: a priest rubbing the chest of a male actor pretending to be a crying little boy in pajamas). And although some people might be turned off by such a display, the crowd was eating it up. Ultimately, the crowd embraced the band's unadulterated fun.

While the spectacle quality of the show was stellar, the music, too, was stunning. I was lucky enough to interview the drummer, James Huggins, about his new solo project, “James Husband,” as well as his involvement with of Montreal. In regards to the gig at Mercy Lounge, their last stop on the short-lived tour, Huggins spoke about how the band was going to focus more on the music



wikimedia.org

and less on the staged spectacle during shows. A new philosophy that was readily apparent in the band's Nashville performance. Although this was my first of Montreal concert, I was more than aware of their penchant for pulling out all the stops — riding horses on stage, doing over the top sexual stunts. Entertaining as it is, in all honestly such antics would have detracted from the power of the music. While the show had its fair share of visual eye candy, I was actually able to appreciate the music because there wasn't too much going on. Lead singer Kevin Barnes has an

incredible voice that deserves to stand out. Whether singing hits like “Oslo in the Summertime” or songs from the new album coming out this spring, “False Priest,” Barnes delivered a vocal range comparable to Mariah Carey (but in a good way).

From the bizarreness to the theatricality to the awesome sound, I felt like I was in another world. Impressed would be an understatement. ☘



musicreflections.files.wordpress.com

SOUNDTRACK TO THE ISSUE



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

1. “Slow Dancing in a Burning Room” — John Mayer
2. “Maybe I'm Amazed” — Paul McCartney
3. “Dynomania” — The Vernicious K'nids
4. “Where the Party At” — Jagged Edge
5. “In the Air Tonight” — Phil Collins
6. “Feel Good Track of Rosemead” — Family of the Year
7. “Still Not a Player” — Big Pun
8. “Love Me Two Times” — The Doors
9. “Harold T. Wilkins” — Fanfarlo
10. “Losin' It” — R. City

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rites of spring MUSIC FESTIVAL 2010

It's that time of year again. After all the speculation and rumored leaks (yes, you guys were right about Passion Pit, now stop being smug and just be happy you get to dance around to "Sleepyhead" while wasted on Alumni Lawn), the Rites of Spring lineup has finally been released by the enigmatic [and really, really good-looking -Ed. Note] Music Group. With a diverse spread of artists and more still to come, it looks like this year's festival brings the best to our student body once again.

CHRIS MCDONALD
Life Editor

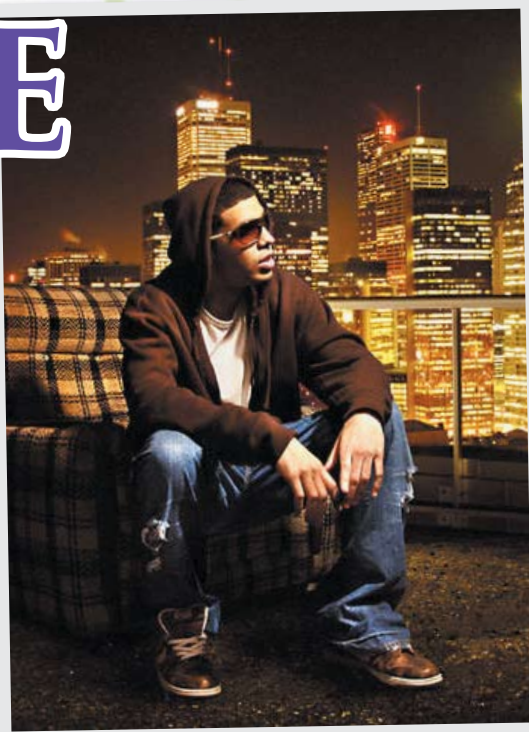
AVERY SPOFFORD
Editor-in-Chief

DRAKE

Without having even released his debut album, Drake (born Aubrey Drake Graham) has already become one of the hottest new stars in the world of hip-hop. While originally known for his acting career (he spent nearly nine years starring in the series "Degraasi: The Next Generation"), Drake made the switch to music in 2006, quickly garnering success and critical acclaim with the release of his first mixtape, "Room for Improvement."

The next year Drake followed up his success with his second mixtape, "Comeback Season," featuring songs with such heavy-hitter collaborators as Lil' Wayne. Wayne, blown away by the talent of the upstart artist, officially welcomed Drake to Young Money (though didn't sign him to a record deal) and went on to work with him on such songs as "I Want This Forever." In February of 2009 Drake dropped his third and most acclaimed mixtape, "So Far Gone." Featuring hits including "Best I Ever Had" and "Success," the tape propelled Drake to stardom, earning him a record deal with Young Money Entertainment and guest spots on songs with artists such as Young Jeezy, Kanye West, Timbaland, Jamie Foxx and many more.

Drake will take the stage at Rites of Spring this year in anticipation of his upcoming debut album, "Thank Me Later." With guest artists including Jay-Z, Lil' Wayne, and The-Dream, the album is expected to explode onto the charts, and what better place to see Drake perform this new material than right here on our own campus?



Ben Harper and RELENTLESS7

Co-headlining Rites of Spring is Ben Harper and new accompanying band Relentless7. Since his debut album was released in 1994, Harper has been delighting audiences with his brand of bluesy, folksy rock 'n' roll. Initially a singer and guitarist, Harper has also spent his career perfecting his skills on the keyboard, piano, bass and drums, helping to push his sound to new levels with each ensuing album.

A chameleon when it comes to style, Harper brings his more raw, rock-oriented sound to Vanderbilt with his newest backing band, Relentless7. With R7, Harper has mostly forgone his rootsy, acoustic songwriter vibe of old, instead opting for a more electric and much more explosive sound. In fact, on his newest album (and the first with his new group), "White Lies for Dark Times," Harper elected to cowrite six of the album's 11 tracks with the band, a decision that is evident in the album's Texas-style blues riffs topped off with Harper's soulful groove. Released in May of 2009, "White Lies" marked a totally new era in Harper's career.

With the album receiving rave review from critics and pleasing both old and new fans alike, Harper, who is particularly well known for his live performances, has again taken his act (and new band) on the road. A perennial crowd pleaser (particularly to college-aged crowds), Harper is the consummate showman, bringing unparalleled passion to the stage night after night. Considering the rest of the Rites lineup, Harper should provide an appreciated laid-back (yet still rock 'n' roll) feel to the high-octane festival.



THE SUPPORTING ACTS

COLD WAR KIDS

Fresh off the release of their latest EP, "Behave Yourself," Cold War Kids return to Nashville to reclaim their spot as soulful indie rock royalty. As Versus music critic Oliver Han wrote: "Behave Yourself" is just a four track, 15 minute EP, but it shows the band returning in its finest form." For those who don't know the Kids, the band are purveyors of infectiously catchy piano/guitar-driven rock — a sort of quirkier version of Spoon, but with more dynamic vocals and darker, more meaningful messages, incorporating philosophy, political references and narratives into their songs.

PASSION PIT

"And everything is going to the beat ..." Or at least everyone at Vandy will be when Massachusetts electronic band Passion Pit take the stage. Formed just over two years ago as a way for vocalist/keyboardist Michael Angelakos to impress his girlfriend for Valentine's Day, Passion Pit has taken the music scene by storm. First gaining notoriety in 2008 with the release of the group's first EP, "Chunk of Change," it was last year's release of their full-length debut album, "Manners," that propelled Passion Pit to international success and popularity. Featuring the hit songs "Moth's Wings," "Sleepyhead," and "Little Secrets," "Manners" has been nearly universally acclaimed, with the band's high energy, synth-heavy songs working critics and music fans alike into a frenzy.

MELANIE FIONA

Lending a totally different sound to the festival lineup is R&B soulstress Melanie Fiona. Though she labels her music as "soul pop," Fiona brings to the stage a mixture of hip-hop, pop, soul, reggae and R&B, taking the sounds of '60s MoTown crooners and updating them with a twist. Fiona's debut album "The Bridge" was released in the summer of 2009 and catapulted Fiona to acclaim with popular songs "Give It To Me Right" and "It Kills Me." Fiona's sultry voice cuts straight to the heart of fans and critics alike — as one review poignantly put it, "Fiona's release may not venture into unknown realms, but where it does go, it goes masterfully."

SIERRA LEONE'S REFUGEE ALL STARS

Don't recognize the name? After seeing one performance you'll never forget it. Comprised of musicians who fled the horrific violence of the civil war in their native Sierra Leone, the band was formed with the explicit purpose of keeping "spirits up and hopes alive" in the midst of a world of pain, suffering and turmoil. The All-Stars were internationally recognized after an award-winning 2005 documentary told their story and have since gained popularity with their blend of traditional African music and reggae, a sound as enlivening as their story is inspiring.

THE NEW MASTERSOUNDS

While Britain may be better known for its extensive influence on rock 'n' roll (The Rolling Stones, The Beatles and The Who are just three of the countless legends), Leeds band The New Mastersounds are looking to leave their mark in musical history through a different medium: a delightfully upbeat blend of funk, soul and jazz instrumentation. With sweeping electric organs, '70s-style guitar riffs and downright groovin' bass playing, this four piece band has quickly established itself as one of the most talented and entertaining bands in the new age of funk, crafting one danceable tune after another.

TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB

How to explain Two Door Cinema Club ... A more danceable Bloc Party? A happier version of Editors with a penchant for Vampire Weekend riffs? Maybe if Minus the Bear had a love child with Friendly Fires and moved to the UK? An electropop/indie rock band from Ireland, Two Door Cinema Club is fast on their way to becoming something of a sensation overseas. The three-piece band isn't anything groundbreakingly original, but every song they play just feels successful, incorporating a pulsing, explosive rhythm section and quick-paced guitarwork that will soon inspire the same popularity stateside as the band already enjoys overseas. Watch out for these guys in the future (not to mention at Rites) — they could get huge.

SALVADOR SANTANA

Even though he may be nowhere near as famous or recognizable as his legendary guitarist father Carlos, Salvador Santana is the real deal. Mixing hip-hop beats with an R&B sensibility, soulful backing music and a Latin vibe, Salvador Santana has steadily been working to make a name of his own since debuting in 2004, building a career of fairly mellow, chill-out songs like "Summer Days" and "Keyboard City."

DOUG E. FRESH

For several years now, The Music Group has had a penchant for booking former rap superstars as a part of Rites, and this year has proven to be no exception. Legendary rapper, beatboxer and producer Doug E. Fresh, also known as The Human Beatbox, takes the stage at Vandy almost three decades into his musical career. Most famous for early hip-hop classics like "The Show" and "La Di Da Di" (both featuring fellow legend Slick Record), Fresh hasn't released a new album in 15 years but continues to rock the stage night after night across the country, including a recent appearance at this year's Grammy Awards.

TROMBONE SHORTY AND ORLEANS AVENUE

While The New Mastersounds will bring the noise from across the pond, Trombone Shorty brings the funk straight from the Southern capital of good times, New Orleans. As the name suggests, Shorty (a.k.a. Troy Andrews) is a prodigious trombone player as well as phenomenal trumpeter, putting more soul and heart into each note than some bands bring to entire songs. Shorty and his backing band, Orleans Avenue, will flat out rock the stage, turning their set into a veritable party more reminiscent of Mardi Gras in the French Quarter than a normal weekend at Vanderbilt.

JJ GREY AND MOFRO

Continuing the same vein as Trombone Shorty and The New Mastersounds is JJ Grey and Mofro, a down and dirty Southern rock and funk band out of Jacksonville, FL. Reminiscent of the bluesy, distinctly soul-fueled spirit of the Stax era, JJ Grey has been churning out sinfully good music for over a decade with no signs of slowing down. Arriving in Nashville shortly after touring with Booker T. (of Booker T. and the MG's) and just before touring with the legendary George Thorogood and the Destroyers, Mofro is the kind of band that just makes you want to close your eyes and lose control.

CHRIS HENNESSEE

The only local artist announced thus far in this year's lineup, Chris Hennessee is a country music singer-songwriter born and raised in Tennessee. A Nashville transplant as of 1998, Hennessee defines his own sound as "Southern Country Blues," lending more of a personal feel to his music and favoring smaller, more intimate venues such as the legendary songwriter haven the Bluebird Cafe. While Hennessee is not as well known or recognizable in name as the other artists slated for Rites, he is sure to bring a crowd-pleasing sensibility and style to the stage, as well as the country flavor that every Rites needs.



FLIP SIDE

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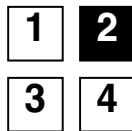
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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

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

Level:



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

For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at www.INSIDEVANDY.COM

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Struggle (through), as a tedious book
- 5 Leatherworking tools
- 9 Sheriff's star
- 14 Incur additional cell phone charges, perhaps
- 15 Profound
- 16 Gonzalez in 2000 headlines
- 17 Nice retinue?
- 19 Mel, "The Velvet Fog"
- 20 Slob's opposite
- 21 Nice nonpro?
- 23 Film noir's Lupino
- 24 "Hood bud"
- 25 Prefix with mom, coined after historic 2009 births
- 26 Nice keepsake?
- 30 Dying-out sound
- 32 Riddle
- 33 More apt to be picked
- 35 "Dropped" drug
- 38 Space bar neighbor on a PC
- 39 Nice stand?
- 41 Wall St. news
- 42 Spoil
- 43 "Thanks ___!"
- 44 Old beaker heaters
- 46 Within: Pref.
- 48 Nice behind?
- 50 Actor Morales
- 52 Phillies' div.
- 54 Tiny amount
- 55 Nice rubdown?
- 57 Played some jazz numbers, say
- 61 "___ be seeing things"
- 62 Nice walk?
- 64 Ship-finding acronym
- 65 Overhang
- 66 Folk singer Burl
- 67 Refuse
- 68 "___ in Rome ..."
- 69 Site of a Lincoln profile

DOWN

- 1 Small songbird
- 2 Primo
- 3 Entered material
- 4 Eliciting feeling
- 5 Vikings running back Peterson who holds the NFL record for yards rushed in a single game
- 6 Unsound, as an argument
- 7 Relay race part
- 8 Asparagus unit
- 9 ___ blocker
- 10 Umpteen
- 11 Privileged connection
- 12 Whole range
- 13 It began on vienes in 2010
- 18 Take in too little
- 22 One with a long face
- 24 Nice squad?
- 26 Cybertrash
- 27 "Return of the Jedi" green-skinned dancer
- 28 Govt. note issuer
- 29 "Dies ___"
- 31 Full scholarship, e.g.
- 34 With 53-Down, French toon who would be right at home in this puzzle?
- 36 Have heated words
- 37 Two tablets, say
- 40 It doesn't cover much of a
- 48-Across
- 45 Ill-fated vessel
- 47 Maxima maker
- 49 Cleanup hitters, briefly
- 50 Actor Jannings and pianist Gilels
- 51 South Pacific island nation
- 53 See 34-Down
- 56 Periodic table fig.
- 57 Peace symbol
- 58 Put away
- 59 "East of ___"
- 60 Means of determining proficiency
- 63 Cheer syllable

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

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For the solution to today's puzzle, please go to the bottom of the homepage at www.INSIDEVANDY.COM

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LAUREN JUNGE
Fashion Editor



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Head-to-head: denim vs. jeans

"Upgrade your denim wardrobe"

"They're called jeans, not denim"

MATT SHELTON
Culture Editor

Jeans have been the go-to pant in any circumstance since James Dean got on a motorcycle in what was then considered working pants, shifting denim from "comfortable and durable" to "badass." You can dress them up, dress them down, any way you want. They are omni-seasonal, a staple of the wardrobe that never gets packed away before or after Labor Day. You can wear them with Sperry topsiders to class or head out to bars in them, and no one would think twice. They are the only pant that you don't have to wash after you wear them once, twice, even five or six times. They are the perfect investment. So why spend \$75 bucks on every equestrian-esque pastel polo and then only devote \$30-50 on Wal-Mart Wranglers, whose spokesman is a 40-year-old QB playing an obnoxiously mock and muddy game of football with his model-esque

"friends"? You wouldn't. You go to Vanderbilt, so you're obviously smarter than that. In a fashion bubble that worships the brand name, why not show some



HTTP://SHOPNORDSTROM.COM

7 For All Mankind 'Austyn'
Relaxed Straight Leg Jeans
(with a Goldflat Wash),
\$178.00

individuality and step away from those jeans your mom bought you in middle school? Premium denim not only has aesthetic superiority,

but also tangible benefits too. When designers don't have to worry about mass-market fitting, they are allowed to create a more custom fit and feel for their denim. This means that with a little searching, you can find a brand that suits your body type and, as a result, is much more comfortable than mass market jeans. More expensive also translates into composite denim, which has more stretch and memory than its mass-market brethren. Whenever you put them on, it's like you never took them off, a far cry from the iron-like stiffness of those Wal-Mart cuts. So don't listen to Brett Favre when it comes to jeans, he doesn't know when to quit. It's time revamp the wardrobe — sometimes "classic" or "old-fashioned" is just another phrase for "outdated." The only thing you should have that is "old-fashioned" in your life is your Don Draper-inspired drink. ☘

BARTON KING
Staff Writer

When jeans were introduced to the States, they were meant to be tough, simple garments and were considered a modest, if not lowly, fashion selection. If you're like me, you wonder how this concept has become so bastardized in the 157 years since Levi Strauss started outfitting the miners of the West Coast. This whole concept of designer denim and the highway robbery entailed in \$150-300 pairs is a plague to anyone who values the future of the male gender. Jeans should be riveted and reinforced, and take abrasions and age with style. Most importantly, they should be like the man who wears them: Classic and subtle. The jeans you buy

should be just like the ones that icons like Redford, Eastwood and Newman wore in their hey day (that's Robert, Clint and Paul for you children), or the kind that you'll find Favre and



US.LEVI.COM

Levi's 501 Original Dark
Aged Jeans, \$59.50

McConaughey wearing today. Do understand that though times change, the right choice of denim does not. If you want to look

like Kenny Chesney, "The Situation," Jon Gosselin or all of suburban Chicago, IL, go ahead and spend triple digits on some sweet denim, brah. If you want to pay \$50 or less on a pair of jeans that will last you at least a decade, opt for the Wrangler Cowboy Cut or the Levi's 501 in a generic to light wash. Who would have thought maintaining your dignity could be so inexpensive? In an era where a man is tempted to abandon all of his masculinity (and taste) in an effort to be hip, I challenge you to be one less fool and realize it's not the price tag or the "hot" designs on the ass pocket of the jeans that makes the outfit, but rather the man himself that makes the outfit. You buy your True Religions for \$250, and I'll buy my Wranglers for \$50, as well as 12.5 cases of Budweiser with the remaining \$200. I bet I'll be the one having more fun that evening ... Go ahead call me old-fashioned. ☘

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PM	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	12 w	
	3:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z	4:30 z
	6:15 w	6:15 w	6:15 w	6:15 w			6:15 z
	7:45 z	7:45 z	7:45 z				

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