

Versus

Entertainment & Culture at Vanderbilt

FEBRUARY 28—MARCH 12, 2008 No. 7

OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW



RITES OF

SPRING

FEIST



PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

THURSDAY, FEB. 28

Silverstein with The Devil Wears Prada — Rocketown
Warped Tour alums and hardcore luminaries Silverstein bring their popular sound to Nashville. The band teamed up with the Christian group The Devil Wears Prada for a long-winded U.S. tour. (\$15, 6 p.m.) 401 6th Avenue S., 843-4000

Steep Canyon Rangers — Station Inn
This bluegrass/honky-tonk band from North Carolina has enjoyed a rapid popularity increase since it started playing gigs seven years ago. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Vinyl Soup with Chronics of the Nar — Windows on the Cumberland
Local quartet Vinyl Soup seems to defy classification, drawing from a variety of genres to produce its unique rock sound. Catch the band supporting its brand new album, "Brandon and Travis," released just this year. (Cover TBA, 9 p.m.) 112 2nd Ave. N, 251-0097

The Refugees — Bluebird Cafe
All-girl trio The Refugees already have a Grammy to their name, and are well-regarded as folk songwriters — many even describe them as the female version of Crosby, Stills and Nash. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

Chris Mitchell and the Collection — 3rd & Lindsley
Check out the Ohio native, whose "finely tuned voice can cross a multitude of genre barriers." Mitchell rejoined local dance band the Collection, with whom he worked in the '90s, for exploration in jazz and funk sounds. (Cover TBA, 8 p.m.)

The Dust Poets — Blair School of Music
Head to Vanderbilt's own Blair Concert Series, which is featuring Canadian folk-pop group The Dust Poets. The five-man ensemble dabbles in a variety of traditional styles, using an entirely acoustic collection of instruments. (Free, 8 p.m.)

Doug Hoekstra with Tori Sparks — Douglas Corner Cafe
Wired Magazine writes, "A lot of people write songs, Hoekstra writes five-minute worlds." (\$5, 8:30 p.m.) 2106 8th Ave. S., 298-1688

Jonathan Richman with Tommy Larkins — The Five Spot
Velvet Underground fanatic Jonathan Richman is a near-forgotten name in rock, but his influence on the emerging punk scene in the late '70s is undeniable. His hit single "Roadrunner" has been covered by the likes of the Sex Pistols and the Violent Femmes, and it is often hailed as "the first punk rock song." (\$12, 8:30 p.m.) 1006 Forrest Ave., 650-9333

Cowboy Dynamite with Meemaw — The End
Given their song titles ("Don't Taze Me Bro" and "I Hate Chores I Love S'mores"), maturity may not be a strong point of the teenage punk quartet from Franklin, but they still manage to produce a catchy pop-punk sound that will get you moving in no time. Expect material from their latest album, "This World is our Playground," released in April.

FRIDAY, FEB. 29

John Davey, Rebekah McLeod and Kat Jones — Rocketown
Indiana native John Davey just might be the solution to February blues — his unique pop/folk sound is immediately soothing and appealing and is sure to put you in a good mood. (\$5, 7 p.m.) 401 Sixth Avenue South, 843-4000

Music in the Grand Lobby: Paula Chavis — The Frist Center for the Visual Arts
Nashville's best-kept secret? The Frist hosts free live music in its lobby every Friday night. Enjoy a selection of wine and other beverages and listen to the music of jazz pianist and vocalist Paula Chavis. (Free, 6 p.m.) 919 Broadway, 244-3340

An Evening with the Jimmy Hall Trio — Bluebird Cafe
Jim Hall, a world-renowned jazz guitarist, visits the Bluebird, bringing with him his current touring band mates Scott Colley and Lewis Nash. Together the trio promotes "Magic Meeting," Hall's latest studio endeavor. (\$10, 9:30 p.m.)

Griffin House with Sons of William — Exit/In
Twenty-five-year-old Griffin House has his unique breed of folk rock down to a science. His deep, classic American voice, guitar strumming and storytelling lyrics make him reminiscent of Bob Dylan — and definitely worth the ticket. (\$12, 9 p.m.)

Gypse Pompe — Cafe Coco
This bluegrass group will take you back to the days of cowboys and hoopskirts with charming fiddle and string arrangements. (Free, 11 p.m.)

Jabe & The All Night Circus — 12th South Taproom and Grill
Tracks from Jabe & The All Night Circus's latest release "Rocket Surgery" are like a breath of fresh air — no, maybe a kick in the stomach, of some much-needed, hard-rocking Americana. (Free, 9 p.m.) 2318 12th Avenue South, 463, 7552

Cadillac Sky — Station Inn
You've got to hear these guys. Their fusion of bluegrass melodies and layered harmonies is completely entrancing, and likely like nothing you've ever heard before. Walk, don't run, to the Station Inn tonight. (\$12, 9 p.m.)

Ray Sisk and Friends with Daisy Dern, Dave Gibson and others — Douglas Corner Cafe
With so much diverse music in Nashville, sometimes you wonder, where can I just get some old fashioned country/Americana? Head to Douglas Corner Cafe to see Ray Sisk, whose melancholic voice and classic acoustic guitar is at the same time a nod to tradition and a breath of fresh air. (\$5, 9 p.m.) 2106-A 8th Ave. South, 289-1688

John Birdsong — F. Scott's
Need some more jazz in your life? Come to F. Scott's for some classic American cuisine, an elegant atmosphere and most importantly, the music of John Birdsong, a well-known upright jazz bass player in Nashville. (Free, 7 p.m.)

David Dewese of the Luxury Liners — Edgehill Studios Cafe
Nashville-based singer-songwriter David Dewese certainly has a lot on his plate right now: He fronts two bands (The Luxury Liners and The Foxymorons), is releasing a solo CD and is launching a clothing line. Despite his hectic schedule, he still manages to make some thoughtful, acoustic music. (Free, 7 p.m.) 1201 Villa Place Nashville 301.8539

SATURDAY 3/1

Sister Hazel — Wildhorse Saloon
Yes, they're still playing together and touring. Yes, they can still rock with the best of 'em. Yes, you should go. Save all your money this week for that incredibly sweet sing-along to "All For You" (you know you love it). (\$20-\$45, 6 p.m.) 120 Second Ave. North, 902-8200

Red White Blue EP Release Show — The 5 Spot
Soft rock has a new champion in Red White Blue. Check out their EP release party to hear their interesting blend of Americana, bluegrass and soft rock. (\$5, 9 p.m.) 1006 Forrest Ave., 650-9333

Will Hoge & Jason Isbell with Dawn Landes — Cannery Ballroom
This Dave Barnes-inspired act brings solid guitar riffs and touching flights of piano to the table in the Nashville music scene. Head over to Cannery Ballroom to find out why he's kind of a big deal. (\$15, 9 p.m.)

The Jack Pearson Band — 3rd & Lindsley
Jack Pearson has been in the business for years and has worked with everyone from Faith Hill to The Allman Brothers Band. Check him out to see why he's been in bands with some of the most legendary musicians in Nashville and beyond. (\$8, 10 p.m.)

Dale Ann Bradley — Station Inn
The 2007 International Bluegrass Music Association's Female Vocalist of the Year will be sharing her incredible voice at Nashville's Bluegrass Mecca, Station Inn. If you haven't heard of her (or bluegrass, for that matter), you seriously need to see this show. (\$10, 9 p.m.)

The Art of Percussion — Schermerhorn Symphony Center
Are you a drummer that really digs the Symphony? Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10 in E minor (Op. 93) is the highlight of the show this week with a percussion showcase that will definitely rock your socks off (if anything at the symphony could do it, it's this). (\$30-105, 7 p.m.)

Grand Ole Opry — Ryman Auditorium
Seriously, do you need a reason to see this Nashville tradition? How about acts like the Del McCoury band, Jimmy Dickens and the legendary Ricky Skaggs? Buy your tickets NOW. (\$34-49, 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.)

Hotpipses CD Release Show — Exit/In
The local foursome Hotpipses may fall into the extremely large and now nondescript category of indie rock, but their new wave garage rock sound definitely breaks the mold. The release party for their second CD will feature friends Courtney Tidwell, Hands Off Cuba and D Funk DJ. (Price TBA, 8 p.m.)

Hip Hop Night — Cafe Coco
Join Nashville local DJ Wick-it this week with his smooth beats that will at the very least inspire some solid head bobbing utilizing old-school jams mixed with modern dialogue created from personal voicemails, clips from Dave Chappelle and everything in between. (Free, 11 p.m.)

The Regulars

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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. S. 37203
255-3307

THE BASEMENT
1604 Eighth Ave. S. 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. S. 37210
259-9891

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FEBRUARY 28—MARCH 12, 2008 No. 7

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FROM THE EDITOR



As 2008 Rites performer DJ Kool once said (and will likely repeat on April 18th on Alumni Lawn),

LET ME CLEAR MY THROAT.

The Rites of Spring lineup — crucial information for which the campus has anticipated with baited breath. As I received the Music Group's press release, I admit I felt like Charlie Bucket with the coveted lineup acting as my golden ticket. I looked down at the headliners, prepared to be overcome with —

YESSSSSS.

The Rites lineup this year is, to use a word of the people, incredibly sick. The Music Group has accounted for all music styles and preferences, ensuring that there is something for every music fan, and beyond that, a unified, diverse experience for everyone.

But it's true — they haven't brought a musical superstar back to campus after Quake, and you may argue that these acts are not of "Kanye magnitude."

Yet Rites of Spring is a music festival (not unlike the famous festivals we outline in the music section, plug plug plug), and it's less about Kanye running around the stage like a nut wearing a backpack crooning "Stronger" and more about the experience, the warm weather, the day and the musicians picked whose styles inextricably lend themselves to badass, soul-infused, once-in-a-lifetime live performances. You don't know bands like Grace Potter and the Nocturnals or The Hill Country Revue? Well, it's a good thing you have two months to get ready. Don't worry. We'll help.

The bottom line? The Music Group has lived up to its Quake-made reputation and booked fantastic acts. Now it's up to you to get your hands on some of this music. Don't blame us if you find some new favorites.

Darcy Newell

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PIC OF THE WEEK



"NOOGIE! IN QUEBEC" OLIVER WOLFE



Dine from a unique, eclectic and diverse menu of dishes from around the world

Lunch favorites-

- Wasabi crusted tuna salad
- Asian style shrimp dumplings
- Smoke Salmon pizza

Dinner Favorites-

- Maple glazed duck over sweet potato risotto
- Black pepper crusted salmon
- Moroccan lamb shank
- Brazilian style Paella in spicy tomato broth

- Chef owned and operated for 6 years
- Just off West End and convenient to Vanderbilt
- Flea Market Eclectic Décor voted "Best of" in Nashville Scene
- Wines from around the world
- Four uniquely decorated dining areas

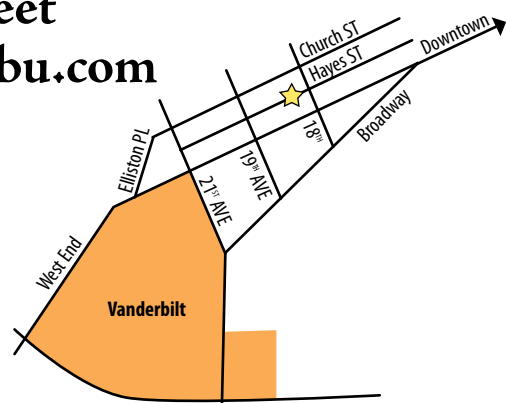
(615) 329-1293

1806 Hayes Street

www.EatDrinkMambu.com

Directions from Vandy:

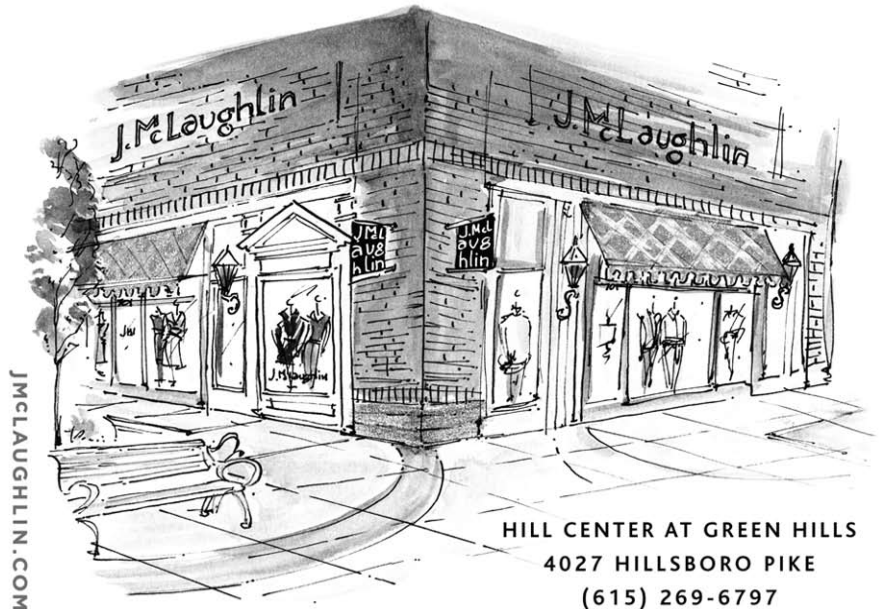
Travel heading toward downtown, go to 19th Avenue and take a left, take a right on Hayes Street and Mambu is on the left between 18th and 19th Avenue.



J. McLaughlin

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POETRY

Ember

WILL PARKS
Contributor

And as you spoke the night thickened
so I listened to every word,
every meaning,
every subtly immured in ephemera
stumbling from your mouth.
And in spite of the moment we fell
backwards from our feet,
forwards into a collapse and
a spiral that neither of us
asked the way out of so
we searched for the exit
separately.

The air cooled around us
in the heat of a passion we
knew was there, somewhere;
a caress of the shaded shoulder
and a grasp of the fatigued spirit
that faded onto our malleable form
and our harsh rhythm,
the muted aria with chords
that sounded beautiful but
no one can ever hear,
or at least I thought so.

And how animated was your face
when you dictated the
embellished brevity,
our scarce attachment to the heart;
and how lost were my eyes when
I watched your face stare
out of the window into the distant
and fall in love with
the depth of space.

We never wanted to sleep but
our souls were weary and
I began to dream of a fire that
consumed our bed and seared our
naked bodies, melting together
with faint force to a dirty brown,
a blend into the dark where
the last hue of red curled back
beneath the dying embers.

Yet when our night weakened
the morning light cast
a lonely shadow of the flesh
on the ruffled sheets where
my hands sifted through air,
where my lips were left
entangled in an abandoned scent,
where my head lay burning
slowly, softly, discreetly.



FICTION

"If you put yourself out there and you're lucky, it comes to you. You find it, and you know right away that's it."

— MICHAEL CHABON

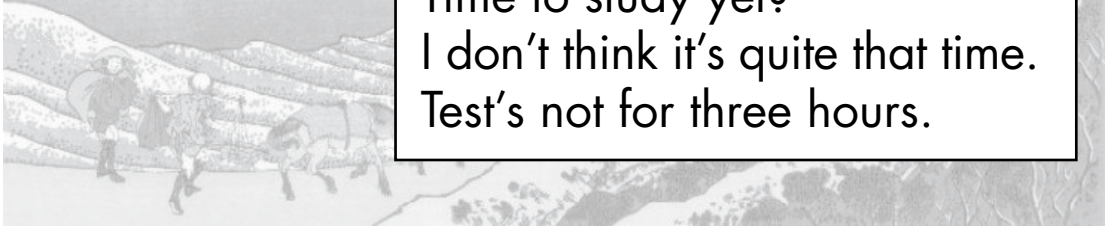


HAIKUS

Words to live by
in seventeen syllables

I don't have the time
To deal with your crap right now.
Wish I could pause you.

Time to study yet?
I don't think it's quite that time.
Test's not for three hours.



Anita Jobb

Vanderbilt University, VU Station B #1234 · Nashville, TN 37235 · (123) 456-7890 · anitajobb@gmail.com

Internship Coordinator
Human Resources Department
Worldwide Group (USA)
666 Judgment Day Lane
New York, NY

February 28, 2008

Dear Sir/Madam,

I read with interest about Worldwide Group (USA) Summer Internship Program through the company website. Please accept this cover letter as my official application for any position you can possibly offer me because I wrecked my car and I badly need laser hair removal. I am convinced I am a perfect match for your company because I've got the mad skillz and you've got the paycheck.

I am extremely interested in the field of work Worldwide Group (USA) has to offer. Who am I kidding? I have absolutely no idea what you do, what I would do; I found a flyer of yours at the Career Fair that says "You've Got What We Need." And I guess I do! What have I got? A multi-figure car insurance bill, a joke of a major and I suppose a pretty decent rack. Is that what you need? Can you transfer this cover letter to a Geico representative who needs a partner for his caveman?

My experience spans from academia to the professional. For three years I have been active at the gym and getting my groove on at my favorite local fraternity. I can dance like I'm in a Timbaland music video and can walk in a semi-straight line after six mixed drinks. I have demonstrated my effective leadership through various programs at the university; I like to get things done. Like lunch and dinner. I am amazing at lunch and dinner. My main interests lie in sleeping, partying and LOST, interests that am I sure will add to the success of your company. This is how I know that Worldwide Group (USA) is everything I want to work for; I am just copying power phrases out of a book, so how about, "I have the depth of experience it takes to make a positive contribution." Wow, that actually fits rather well. Awesome. Next paragraph.

I am appreciative of the time you have spent reviewing this letter and accompanying material. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future, because otherwise I am going to have to resort to Target or babysitting in Kentucky since last summer I was sued in the great state of Tennessee for feeding toddlers whiskey with their milk to make them shut the hell up.

Most sincerely,

Anita Jobb

PHOTOGRAPHY



MALLORY MORSE /Versus

PHOTOGRAPHY



"MAN AT LAKE IN HANOI" OLIVER WOLFE

MUSIC

"My vocation is more in composition really than anything else — building up harmonies using the guitar, orchestrating the guitar like an army, a guitar army."

— JIMMY PAGE (LED ZEPPELIN)



SETLIST

THURSDAY, FEB. 28

Get the funk rolling with **G. Love and Special Sauce**, who are bringing their unique blues-infused hip-hop to City Hall. Their newest album, "Lemonade," features a variety of contributors, including Ben Harper and Jack Johnson. The doors open at 8 p.m., tickets \$20.

FRIDAY, FEB. 29

Kid Rock teams up with Allman Brothers legend **Dickey Betts** and his band, **Great Southern**, in what will be an unforgettable show. The concert starts at 8 p.m. at the Sommet Center, balcony seats \$22.50.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

Don't miss the Southern alt-rock quintet **Sister Hazel** at Wildhorse Saloon at 6 p.m. The band is touring hot on the heels of their independent release "Absolutely," unveiled last October. Be sure to snag a general admission ticket for \$20, and stick around at least past "All For You."

New albums you *need* to hear

'VAMPIRE WEEKEND'

Vampire Weekend

CHRIS GEARING
Managing Editor



Last week we claimed that the lissome quintet that is Vampire Weekend is the modern reincarnation of The Clash. However, don't take them lightly, even if you aren't a fan of The Clash — this is good stuff. After seeing the music video for "Mansard Roof," it makes some weird kind of sense that they play their seductively head-bobbing punk songs ironically on a yacht. When talking about the album, there are many highlights that should urge you to go quickly (perhaps even hurriedly) to your local record store to pick up the LP. Even though the album is excellent, I couldn't move past the masterful four opening songs. Seriously, that should give you an idea of the quality of this album. "Mansard Roof" combines modern existential commentary on top of rollicking percussion licks, while the simplicity of "Oxford Comma" brings a mellow mood. But the lyrics are the real show, with references to both Lil John and the Dalai Lama. The high energy single "APunk" showcases high-pitched lyrics and a fun riff, and the subtle charm of "Cape Cod Kwassa Kwassa" is reminiscent of Guster with its nostalgic lyrics and solid musical score.

As Spin Magazine's choice for "The Year's Best New Band," Vampire Weekend is definitely worth your time and hard-earned dollars. Pick up their debut album for a refresher course on what modern rock 'n' roll should sound like. ☘

For some music to have when going to the beach, making breakfast or just to smile to, Jack Johnson seems to be a mainstay among the realms of uplifting music. With his Hawaiian, acoustic-laden melodies, Johnson has never been one to overcomplicate. Throughout his career, his simple songwriting format has been effective and well received by fans and musicians alike. However, with his most recent effort, "Sleep Through the Static," Johnson aimed to change up the approach. With the eco-friendly studio of Johnson-owned Brushfire Records, Johnson wanted to diverge from his bread-and-butter sing-a-longs and make more of a statement on the present state of the world. With lyrics like "The truth is as we say not as we do ..." describing the Iraq war and his various overtures on global warming and energy consumption, Johnson's vocal activism will be a different look to his music. This being said, his simple acoustic structure is still intact, like his references to all things reminiscent of 1970s hippies. His breezy style leads many to undermine his credibility as a musician. Even so, Johnson has never seemed so serious about preaching to his followers what concerns him the most. In the album, "Go On," "Sleep Through the Static," "If I Had Eyes," and "Monsoon" are tracks that provide an adjusted lyrical approach with retention of his mellow surfer guitar approach. Overall, the album seems to give nothing but a resounding feeling of welcoming and well-being, or in Hawaiian vernacular, E komo mai! ☘



'SLEEP THROUGH THE STATIC'

Jack Johnson

JORDAN BOND
Staff Writer

'KEEP YOUR EYES AHEAD'

Helio Sequence

ANDREW LEVY
Staff Writer



"Keep Your Eyes Ahead," the latest album from the Portland band Helio Sequence, reaffirms the capabilities of this dynamic duo, which they so boldly stated with their last album, "Love and Distance." You would not think two people could create so much sound and energy; however, so many of these new tracks say just the opposite. "Can't Say No" and "Hallelujah" especially have the power to rock you right out of your seat. But it's not your typical intense guitar jam — Benjamin Weikel's keyboard/drum combination creates supernatural melodies, sending listeners on a musical voyage floating through outer space. Additionally, Brandon Summers' vocals are an instrument in themselves, meshing perfectly with the mystical sounds of Weikel. The duo also knows how to slow it down and bring it back to reality, with a more classic acoustic guitar and piano sound. Although calmer, tracks like "Shed Your Love" and "Broken Afternoon" do not lack any musical talent. Their soothing tunes and meaningful lyrics clearly represent the band's multifaceted skill. I have not yet been fortunate enough to catch Helio Sequence live, but I would recommend their show to anyone who happens to cross their path. Until then, do as I have done and pick up this new album, "Keep Your Eyes Ahead." Find out for yourself what Helio Sequence is capable of. ☘

Jam bands are not often given credit for their studio efforts. Critics — many of whom are incompetent — generally have two ways of dismissing the album outputs from the improvisational rock bands of today's scene; either they are not representative enough of the band's undisputedly heralded live performances, or they are too similar to their live shows, choosing to include at times the aimless noodling of the live shows. One of New England's jam band prides, moe., just released their eighth full-length record, "Sticks and Stones," which positively proves these critics wrong. This album is concise and clearly the product of a road-tested band that may be facing some interpersonal midlife crises. Upon my first thorough listen, I was completely taken aback by two of the tunes: the opener "Cathedral" and the sure-fire new hit "Deep This Time."

Try delving deeper into the lyric's meanings, a problem that many moe.rons have struggled with communicating to their non-fan friends, and you will find not only that those two songs are even more enjoyable than first thought, but they also represent some of the band's most mature instrumental nuances. With a guest fiddle player on "Conviction Song" and the mournful "September," along with some choice mandolin work from lead guitarist Al Schnier, one will hear that this record, which was recorded in an abandoned church in upstate New York, brings out the already fascinating idiosyncrasies of guitarist Chuck Garvey's mechanical virtuosity, percussionist Jim Loughlin's Mallet Kat and xylophone work and the always thick interplay between both Rob Derhak's melodic bass and fratty vocals and his drummer, Vinne Amico. If you cast it away as a bad record after one listen, then I would cast you as the idiot screaming from the front row for "Plane Crash" before the house lights go down. ☘



'STICKS AND STONES'

moe.

OWEN CANAVAN
Staff Writer

A spring break soundtrack



ISRAEL KAMAKAWIWO'OLE



DAVE KOZ



LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE SOUNDTRACK

Try something new for a week.

MARIA HIBBARD
Staff Writer

Spring break: It conjures up images of white sands, sun, relaxation, service work, mission trips and of course, free time to listen to a plethora of music. You don't need to switch on the old "Umbrella" or other popular standbys — the extra time is almost a free excuse to explore! Whether your destination is the sunny beaches of the Caribbean, an ASB site or home sweet home, some new music should accompany your journey and your destination. This way, you don't have to just build houses to the beat of Soul'ja Boy, "soak up the sun" as Sheryl Crow croons, or put "Sweet Home Alabama" on loop on the drive home. Hopefully, trying something different will make your spring break soundtrack as memorable as the trip itself.

Going on some exotic vacation? Looking for music to accompany your hours under the sun? Try some authentic Hawaiian music to accompany your time in an exotic locale. Israel Kamakawiwo'ole's (now that's an authentic Hawaiian mouthful!) album "Facing Future" is no lame attempt at island music; this is the music to which the hula dancers jive. He was the most popular singer in Hawaii before his death in 1997, and for good reason: His rhythms are catchy, his melodies tuneful and his tenor clear and exotic. Google him — he even looks like an authentic Hawaiian performer! He may be obscure, but sometimes these hidden gems turn out to be the biggest sensations.

Going on Alternative Spring Break might mean a good excuse to try some alternative music. (Hint, hint). Yes, you're probably going to claim that you need Kanye or Rihanna to get motivated, but for a change, listen to some jazz at your site or on your drive

across the country. Jazz isn't just for New York clubs or old movies; it's guaranteed to put almost anyone in a good mood. Try Mindi Abair's "Life Less Ordinary" or Dave Koz's "Lucky Man" for some easy, catchy beats and soaring sax melodies. Although both play beautiful saxophone, Dave Koz's music is more rhythmic, while Mindi Abair has found her niche in her gorgeous melodies. Not a saxophone-type person? Try some of Chick Corea's jazz piano for something light but also catchy. His collaboration with Bela Fleck in "The Encounter" is particularly engaging and different. Even if you've never been a jazz person at all, try them out — hopefully, you'll come home from ASB with an entirely different perspective on music as well.

Road-tripping it home or elsewhere? You're going to need something to keep you alert through the miles of highway. This spring break, try listening to the "Little Miss Sunshine" soundtrack for a

change of pace. The characters in the movie road tripped to it; why can't you? DeVotchKa, Sufjan Stevens' and Tony Tisdale collaborate to an eclectic, yet somehow cohesive soundtrack — much like the movie itself. The distinctive instrumental melodies that accompany the movie, with their odd combinations of instruments, appear in the soundtrack, as well as the ever-hilarious "Catwalkin'" and, of course, "Superfreak." Perhaps the most appropriate to a road trip, however, would be Sufjan Stevens' "Chicago" — a type of musical climax that combines motifs from all the other songs. Diverse enough to be engaging, yet light enough to be entertaining, the soundtrack to the little movie that could is perfect for a road trip.

There's so much music to listen to, so give it a shot — make an effort to try a new musical palette this spring break. ☘

SUNDAY, MARCH 2

Check out **Blameshift**, a post-hardcore band from Long Island who have enjoyed a whirlwind series of successes since their debut album was released this past May. No need to break the bank, though; a general admission ticket can be scored for as little as \$5. The show kicks off at 8 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 3

Robin Trower may be racking up the years, but the soul of his music remains the same. Don't miss a live performance of his epic "Too Rolling Stoned." Advance tickets for the 9 p.m. show at The Cannery are a bargain at \$25.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4

Head out to the Schermerhorn Center to see the renowned **Chieftains**. The band has accumulated six Grammys during their 45-year career, but haven't strayed from their traditional Irish sound. The tickets aren't cheap, though; be prepared to shell out \$75 for a main floor seat. The evening begins at 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

Take a look at folk artist **Malcolm Holcombe**, who specializes in a wide array of blues and old-time country styles. His virtuosity with a number of instruments and hillbilly persona earned him a minor role in "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" Reserve yourself a seat by 9 p.m., tickets \$12.



Munchie Mart man, myth and legend **Will Farmer** gives us 10 tracks that keep his speakers blasting. Stay tuned for other playlists from Vanderbilt faculty, staff and students in the coming weeks.

1. **"LET'S RIDE"**
Yo Gotti
2. **"INDEPENDENT"**
Webbie
3. **"POP BOTTLES"**
Lil' Wayne
4. **"BIG SHIT POPPIN'"**
T.I.
5. **"SWEETEST GIRL"**
Wydef Jean feat. Lil' Wayne
6. **"ZOOM"**
Lil' Boosie
7. **"YOU DON'T KNOW ME"**
T.I.
8. **"UMMA DO ME"**
Rocko
9. **"HELLO"**
Shawty Lo feat. Jeezy
10. **"I'M STRAIGHT"**
T.I.

Langerado festival a sublime experience

ANDREW LEVY
Staff Writer

Many people view music festivals as some sort of hippie drug convention; an excuse for people, young and old, to further their own personal corruption and aid in the demise of others. However, many people have never even been to a festival themselves. Therefore, I encourage those so uninformed to open their eyes to the truths of these mind-altering, cultural journeys that are music festivals.

Walking through the entrance of the Langerado Music Festival one year ago, I could feel the fans' passion encompass my body as it resonated from everyone around me. I felt oddly comfortable surrounded by people and in a place so foreign to my norms. Piercings, tattoos, hair dye, pants, shorts, jorts, an infinite range of styles, but no one wore shoes. And as I removed my own pair, I realized with the warm grass between my toes, that this apparently diverse gathering of people were all one with the festival. I had begun my understanding; almost in awe from the feeling, I began to wander throughout the festival grounds attempting to grasp everything I saw.

Even with the beautiful social harmony, the true spectacle lay within the music. Bands played on multiple stages starting around noon, with the late-night shows rocking away into the early morning. Toots, North Mississippi All-Stars, Trey Anastasio and Matisyahu were a few of the festival's jaw-dropping sensations; however, not many compared to the body-melting experiences left by moe. and My Morning Jacket.

Without warning, moe. unleashed a rollercoaster jam through the speaker stacks. The ups and downs of their astounding melodies seemed to hypnotize the crowd, as many, including myself, seemed to unconsciously dance to the rhythm. Along with moe., My Morning Jacket delivered an unforgettable show to close out one night. Confronted by an explosion of sound and light, I grasped the fence to keep my footing. As neon glow sticks flew threw the jet-black sky, Jacket ripped the



night apart. "One Big Holiday" and "Off the Record" stunned the crowd with amazement. The feelings from these incredible shows were incomprehensible, and after Widespread finished it all off, I was left to sit and wait until the next year's festival.

As spring break quickly comes upon us, Langerado is only a week away, and although I do not understand how, this year looks to be even better than last. The festival has changed locations this time around, to Big Cypress, Fla., a Seminole Indian reservation in the Everglades. Not only does this add an extra spice of Native American culture and history,

but the bigger site also allows for more onsite camping and late night shows. If I could have changed anything from last year I would have camped on grounds, so I could experience the festival at an even greater level. But the location is nothing without the artists, and Langerado again has not failed in signing an amazing line-up.

Headlining this year's festival will be the Beastie Boys, R.E.M. and Grateful Dead legend Phil Lesh & Friends. Raised by a Deadhead, I am most enticed by the possibilities Lesh brings to the festival. Whether he plays old favorites or new hits, he is bound to leave anyone with their mouth wide open and full of awe. R.E.M. and the Beastie Boys also bring a lot of musical diversity to the table, assuring that all tastes will be satisfied. The Beastie Boys have opened up their style, cutting down on the rap and showcasing their instrumental skill, while R.E.M. has consistently shown their musical genius since their birth in Athens, Ga. Along with those greats, many other praised rockers will be lighting up the stages throughout the days, such as: The Roots, Ben Folds, The Wailers, Gov't Mule and many other sensational musicians.

Anybody still searching for a last-minute spring break trip should be forced down to Big Cypress, March 6 through 9. It is absolutely guaranteed to kick off this year's festival season with enormous excitement and power. Go for the fun, go for the music, but more than anything else, go for the experience. Everyone should allow themselves to experience this indescribable phenomenon known as a music festival. ☼

Enjoying the 'Music of the Night' at Nashville Symphony

TAWNEY MILAM
Staff Writer

The chandeliers dim to a level just above darkness. Silence falls on the crowd. A blue glow washes over the stage as the violins softly enter and with the words, "Look at my collection ... isn't it neat?" A voice like that of Ariel begins to dance through the symphony hall.

Though Ariel has not materialized from Disney's "The Little Mermaid" or left the Magic Kingdom to visit Nashville, her presence was felt in the Schermerhorn last Thursday night. Through pieces like "Part of His World," the Nashville Symphony released a hypnotic power that assails the senses with its beauty. Many may believe that the symphony will only lull you into a deep sleep, but I insist that a night at the symphony

holds the potential for so much more.

Entering the Schermerhorn, guests are greeted by cool marble, plush carpets and elegant chandeliers. The tinkle of laughter and whispers of conversation waft through the lobby and halls as women in heels and soft wraps are escorted to their seats by well-dressed gentlemen. There is an atmosphere of relaxed expectation and excitement for the performance about to unfold on the stage.

As a part of the symphony's Pop Series: Broadway Tonight, the evening's performance began with selections from "Guys and Dolls," followed by "Wilkommen" from "Cabaret." The music alone would have been beautiful, but we were graced with the singing of Tamra Hayden,

Craig Schulman and Philip Hernandez, all well-versed performers from Broadway and stages around the world.

With songs like "If I Can't Love Her" from "Beauty and the Beast," "Impossible Dream" from "Man of La Mancha" and "Stars" from "Les Miserables," there was always something new to enrapture the attention of the audience. Humor and fun were added into the mix with selections such as "Popular" from "Wicked" as sung by Hayden. With the lyrics "Popular! / You're gonna be popular! / I'll teach you the proper ploys / When you talk to boys," you could not help but smile.

"Keep your eyes on the chandelier." This was the warning of singer Hernandez as we entered the world of "Phantom of the Opera." As Raoul and

Christine, Hernandez and Hayden sang the lovely duet "All I Ask of You." The sound of the full orchestra coupled with the intensity of the vocals was absolutely captivating. But the evening climaxed with Schulman, as the Phantom, singing "Music of the Night." "Nighttime sharpens, heightens each sensation / Darkness stirs and wakes imagination / Silently the senses abandon their defenses." Such raw emotion laced with passion took everyone on a journey through the world of the Phantom. You could not help but be pulled into his words as the "music caress(ed)" all those lucky enough to be in the room. As the song reached its end, a hush of awe was evident and was quickly followed by an eruption of applauding and a standing ovation.

"The power of the



STEVE HALL / www.hedrichblessing.com

music of the night..." This is the perfect way to describe an evening spent at the symphony. Such a night is one of elegance, beauty, grace and sensory stimulation. The symphony is a wonderful option for a date or an evening with

friends. It's an easy way to get off campus and nurture an appreciation for the arts. Upcoming performances you might be interested in attending include Beethoven Takes a Stroll, March 13-15 and a Celtic Celebration, March 20-22. ☼

Amid slight changes in 'Bedlam,' the song remains the same

THOMAS SHATTUCK
Staff Writer

I can't say I'm the epitome of music criticism; in fact, I generally despise the entire process. I won't pretend I understand why someone considers numbers useful in relative comparison of two dissimilar sounds — it doesn't mean anything. I guess I believe reviews should illuminate rather than sell, but that's an art few (myself not included) possess.

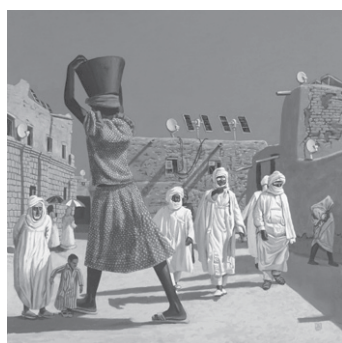
With that in mind, I'm trying to see how to approach The Mars Volta's latest album "The Bedlam in Goliath." Have you ever been woken by a bear, inexplicably wearing a taupe robe and a silver watch, mauling your walls in attempt to rip them open and muttering something about British Romanticism? Assuming the answer is no, that might give you

a picture at what summarizing the album is like.

This is the band's fourth LP, released on Jan. 29, and represents everything the lead singer Cedric Bixler-Zavala and guitarist Omar Rodriguez-Lopez have been striving for. "The Bedlam in Goliath" would most likely be the band's most accessible album, though that's about as pointless as saying "Ulysses" is more accessible than "Finnegan's Wake."

I'd prefer not to give "The Bedlam in Goliath" a genre, but if I was pressed to do so, I'd call it prog-latin-punk-free-style jazz fusion with heavy occult influences. I wish I could be more elucidating, but The Mars Volta have made a habit of making their music inconceivably difficult to pin down. You're just going to have to listen to it.

Since the LP refuses to be user-friendly, I'd recommend



THE BEDLAM IN GOLIATH / by Mars Volta

starting with tracks three and four ("Ilyena" and "Wax Simulacra") and possibly following up with track ten ("Ouroborous"). At that point, if you don't particularly like the album, I can understand. However, if you say you hate it, I might be a tad confused.

Assuming that you did in fact chose to listen to the album, there are a few things worth highlighting. First of all, this time around, The

Mars Volta opted out of ambient noise and eerie background passages. In "The Bedlam in Goliath," the band makes an attempt at creating constant movement, rarely pausing. The only real exception is "Tourniquet Man," the sixth track of the album.

The source of the constant movement seems to be the new replacement drummer Thomas Pridgen's desire to destroy his drum set through sheer force. In comparison to the band's previous work, the drums play a more central and slightly less rhythmical role. Another change in the sound of the new LP is that Rodriguez-Lopez demonstrates an astronomical amount of restraint in his guitar work. While his solos still approach the incomprehensible, their length and atonality has been truncated in exchange for precision. This fact aside, those fans of his solo

albums will still find evidence of his influence, though in a different manner.

In the past paragraph or so, I've mentioned all things that have changed. In spite of these differences, the album somehow remains faithful to the sound defined in the band's preliminary album "Deloused in the Comatorium." This is true, for the band still maintains sonic manipulation as their identifying trait, and Cedric-Bixler's lyrics refuse to become anything close to coherent to anyone but himself. I have to admire his determination, considering that most critics merely assault him for being esoteric to the point of neurosis. I personally find it appealing, but that's just me.

So, if you have a penchant for the occult, music or just a lot of free time, be sure to find your way to "The Bedlam in Goliath." ☼

FASHION

Crime report: Vandy students too fashionable

AMY JOHNSTON
Staff Writer

On a given Monday morning, it may seem at first glance that the women and men matriculating on the Vanderbilt campus wander around bleary-eyed; high-fiving one another over a weekend of successful frat-hopping. Or it could appear they are bro-pounding in celebration of their fellow students' ability to attend three different theme parties on a Saturday night. It may seem this way. But one must wonder if this homogenized assumption is substantiated? Do all Vanderbilt

undergrads really skulk around campus after a long weekend drenched in designer labels; or huddle in North Face fleeces, "Fratagonia" jackets, and Uggs? A Versus fashion crime reporter went to investigate.

The suspects below, spotted on campus on Monday, Feb. 25, are charged with multiple crimes. First, each is suspected of having a unique sense of style that goes against the cookie-cutter image of a "Vandy girl" or "Vandy boy," and wearing what expresses their unique views and cultural background. Second, these suspects are charged with the crime of displaying too much personality and flair on a day

of the week when personal style should be overridden by an intense need for caffeine. Although innocent until proven guilty, Versus holds the truths of these fashionable characters to be self-evident: These suspects disprove long-established stereotypes of "Vandy" culture, even before a Tuesday. Though each suspect stealthily escaped after questioning by Versus, the information below might provide some clue to his or her future transgressions. And remember, in apprehending these fashionable perpetrators, citizens' arrests are always encouraged. ☼



Suspect: Naveed Nanjee
Witnessed Wearing: Gap sweater and jeans
Fashion Icon: Justin Timberlake
Preparation Time: five minutes



Suspect: Maia Cole
Witnessed Wearing: In keeping with "eclectic, classic" style, a jacket, boots with (the) fur and music note earrings.
Fashion Icon: Natalie Portman



Suspect: Russell Brewer
Witnessed Wearing: Elements of his self-described "relaxed, athletic and sporty" style; wearing Nike brand and workout gear
Style Icon: Derek Jeter



Suspect: Ross Barajas
Witnessed Wearing: His father's coat, a shirt he won in a raffle and pants of unknown origin.
Suspect's Style: Self-described as "preposterous"



Suspect: Sean Kunz
Witnessed Wearing: Lacoste pullover, Lacoste button down, Izod pants
Fashion Icon: "None, I have my own style!"
Interesting Fact About Suspect: Kunz confessed, "Boxers, not briefs."



Suspect: Mariam Assadian
Witnessed Wearing: Her self-described "comfortable" style, with "nothing really name brand." Suspect sported jeans from a Nashville boutique, red eyeglasses and converses.
Her favorite Nashville stores: Firefinch, 2L



Suspect: Frank Gallegos
Witnessed Wearing: Brown blazer. "I had an interview (for the Officers' Conference), so I wanted to look professional" the suspect claimed.
Fashion Icons: Super heroes. Gallegos claimed that a man must dress for "what the occasion calls for."

FASHION

Lipstick's hidden shades of meaning and history

TAWNEY MILAM
Staff Writer

"Speak softly and carry a big stick." Epic words of the late Teddy Roosevelt. So since he brought it up, let's talk about the stick. Lipstick.

The beautiful Cleopatra is an ultimate style icon dating back centuries. She may have been one of the first women to use a form of lipstick comprised of henna and carmine. An ancient Egyptian scroll depicted women using a compact-size mirror and applying lipstick. Other founding mothers of the lipstick culture we live in today include Queen Schub-ad of Ur who used crushed red rocks as well as Poppaea Sabina, the wife of Roman Emperor Nero, who used a mixture of ochre, iron and ore.

Lipstick use during the Middle Ages has quite a history of designating social class. In 19th century Victorian culture, using makeup was highly suppressed. Victorian women who felt they could not live without a touch of color on their lips would kiss rose-colored crepe paper to achieve the perfect pout. The Gibson Girls of the early 1900s would bite their lips and suck on hot cinnamon drops to make them appear redder and more swollen.

Milestones for the lipstick jungle include the 1928 invention of lip-gloss by Max Factor, the 1966 trend of white lips in London, the 1973 introduction of Bonne Bell's flavored Lip Smackers, the decision by Yves St. Laurent to number his lipsticks in 1975, the onslaught of black lips in 1979 and the rebirth of the natural look in 1988.

Luckily for the boy next door, your next kiss won't render him senseless because of your lipstick choice. Toxic ingredients used to be commonplace in lipsticks with substances such as lead, mercury, arsenic and vermilion. In 1924, the New York Board of Health even considered banning lipstick for fear men would be poisoned by the seductively toxic lips of the 50 million women wearing lipstick. Fortunately for women today, scientists got to work and found new formulas to produce our favorite

lip shades, rendering them safe for wearing — and kissing.

As a symbol, lipstick represents adventure, glamour and high living at a lower price. This was especially true during the Great Depression when women bought lipstick as their one luxury item, empowering the women to transform a bleak day into one with a sparkle of hope with one swipe of their favorite shade. Lipstick contributes to first impressions and leaves a lasting mark (literally and figuratively). Following World War II, women began lining their lips in red to draw attention to their sexy pouts and to give themselves an edge in competing with returning soldiers for jobs. As women began embracing feminist ideals, they burned their bras and changed their lipstick choices. Rejecting the femininity or submissive qualities of colors like red, women embarked on a trend of naturals with lots of shine.

As evidenced through history, a woman's choice of lipstick expresses her mood and personality, can send an invitation and has the power to seal the deal. Through color and shape, a woman's lips make a statement.

Without saying a word, your painted lips speak for you. So what are you saying? Do you command attention and authority with your shade of red? Or perhaps embrace your more natural side with a sheer and sexy shimmer? With the rainbow of colors available on the market, the choices for lipsticks are endless. Today you want to be glamorous like the old Hollywood starlets in a shade of deep scarlet and tomorrow you may want to prepare for summer fun by choosing a pink gloss. Try something different and have fun because you can be the person you choose to be; and your lipstick can be the first step toward a new you.

For more information on the cultural history of lipstick pick up "Read My Lips" by Meg Cohen Ragas and Karen Kozlowski. ☼

FASHION

Your aura is purple

ELIZA ROBIE
Staff Writer

'60s Sunshine. Psychedelic images of butterflies, summer pilgrimages, headbands, stringy beards and hippie communes should wash over you like the sweet grooves of The Grass Roots, The Youngbloods and The Association. Bohemian styles are making a full comeback this spring, and it's time to revisit their flowery ideals of love, peace and friendship.

The hippie subculture began as a liberal youth movement in the 1960s, and followers celebrated the counter-culture, alternative lifestyles, music festivals and psychedelic drug use in hopes of self-exploration and spiritual revelation. Whether or not mellow mushrooms are up your ally it is important to understand that underneath the somewhat shabby exterior of the movement, it is one associated with a political agenda of peace and anti-war demonstrations. Hippies were known as societal dropouts; much of their political expression relied on a pacifist approach. Traveling was also an



important aspect of hippie culture, and they would hitchhike or pack themselves into a paint-splotted VW bus en route to Monterey Pop and Woodstock music festivals. In a 1967 article entitled "The Hippies: The Philosophy of a Subculture," Time Magazine outlined the hippie culture with the following quote: "Do your own thing, wherever you have to do it and whenever you want. Drop out. Leave society as you have known it. Leave it utterly. Blow the mind of every straight person you can reach. Turn them on, if not to drugs, then to beauty, love, honesty, fun."

Fast forward almost a half a century, and we are seeing the hippie movement's legacy on the spring/summer runways. Did this arise because of a growing anti-war movement in our country? I know not. No matter the motivation behind this trend, it's very clear: This season, it's hip to be a hippie. We are seeing tie-dye, beads, floral prints and peasant blouses. See by Chloe offers several ethnic printed blouses that radiate bohemia while Antik Batik's brown suede vest would be perfect for an afternoon of cloud gazing in a field. It doesn't matter if you are spending \$250 to look like \$2.50 or tie-dying your own tees, just remember in the words of Scott McKenzie, "Be sure to wear flowers in your hair." ☼



BOOK REVIEW

A Pulitzer 'what if?' in noir

Michael Chabon's 'The Yiddish Policeman's Union'

DAVIS MCMILLAN

Staff Writer

What if the state of Israel had fallen during World War II and the surviving Jews were given dominion over a small swath of land in Alaska? This region grows, taking in refugees from all over the world, and eventually achieves a tentative status as a US territory known as Sitka.

This outlandish idea is the premise for Pulitzer Prize winner Michael Chabon's "The Yiddish Policeman's Union." Part noir novel, part alternate history, "The Yiddish Policeman's Union" is a delightful, engrossing read from start to finish.

Chabon's novel centers around Meyer Landsman, who, in true noir fashion, is a rickety alcoholic well past his prime, living in a run-down hotel in the outskirts of Sitka. He is also recently divorced, and his new boss happens to be his ex-wife and one true love. The district of Sitka is set to revert back to U.S. control in six weeks, and it is put to Landsman and his partner Berko Shemets, an Inuit turned Orthodox Jew, to resolve all of their existing cases.

So things start off pretty complicated. It only gets worse when a junkie living in the same hotel as Landsman is murdered. The boy was a chess prodigy, and possible Messiah, and Landsman takes a personal interest in the case. Landsman disobeys orders and takes on the case, quitting drinking in the process (his DTs provide the element of unreliable narration and potential insanity necessary in all noir novels).

Pretty soon, Landsman and Shemets are barreling around Sitka, stepping on all the wrong toes. Sitka's equivalent of the

mafia is a violent sect of Orthodox Jews, headed by a morbidly obese rabbi. He takes care of the spiritual well being of all the devout Jews of Sitka, and cuts a tidy profit on the side.

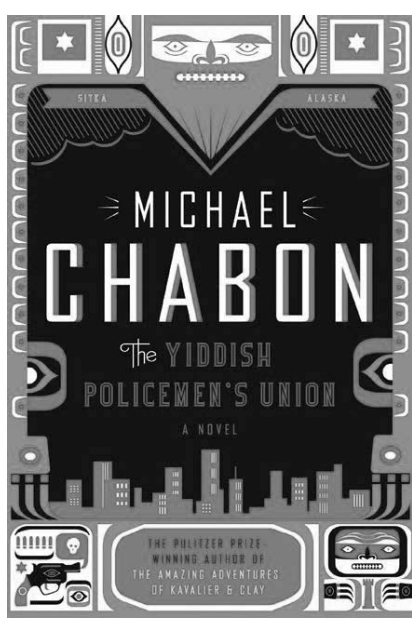
Sitka's main language is Yiddish, and Chabon crafts a fascinating noir slang by melding Yiddish's natural tones with a darker, distinctly American edge. A stool pigeon is a "shtinker," a gun is a "shomer" and cigarettes are "papiros." The characters babble back and forth like this, confusing the reader and any Americans who cross their path.

Chabon's story builds quickly, encompassing modern day events in an almost unbelievably convenient way. He sticks close to conventional noir storytelling, but manages to make it his own along the way. "The Yiddish Policeman's Union" builds on recent religious ideas, featuring a group of Americans trying to jump-start the apocalypse, but it manages to end on a bright note for both the Jews of Sitka and Landsman.

As an alternate history, "The Yiddish Policeman's Union" works almost perfectly. The situation is unbelievable, but Chabon's writing is so charming this doesn't really matter. In the end, the reader is left pondering a world consumed by religious fanaticism, a reflection from which we might all benefit today.☞



MICHAEL CHABON



ART

Art and the City

LINDA YONGKHAMCHANH

Culture Editor

On a Sunday afternoon, Alex Reich, a senior in Peabody College, took me on a mini tour of Vanderbilt's Studio Arts Building, a haven of skill and creativity for student artists. This is the same place Alex spends several hours a week painting portraits from photographs she takes herself. Portraiture has been her long-time hobby and is the subject of her independent study of studio art.

Wearing a paint-smeared tee with a paintbrush in hand, Alex casually chatted with me about her passion for portraiture and her hopes to pursue art after college, all while she continued working on the detailed shadows of an unfinished oil-on-canvas portrait of a subdued young woman.

"I find the human condition — the face and the eyes in portraits — very interesting. It shows emotion and I connect with it. A portrait shows so much more than what people think. There are so many layers to it. Every picture, every portrait, has a story behind it," Alex said.

Alex considers Edouard Manet's "A Bar at Folies-Bergere" an inspirational piece. She said she is moved by Manet's ability to speak to the female viewer through the woman's face and stare in the painting.

Having grown up in New York City, Alex was immersed in a world of exquisite architecture, renowned museums and rich culture. She attributes her love for art to her surroundings as a child and to the support of her family. She recalled a moment in her childhood as a young girl innocently painting "little people" in pictures that still adorn her parents' home. However, extensive schooling along with her culturally rich background has strengthened her artistic ability and the once "little people" are now flawless portraits.

Alex started painting seriously when she attended a liberal arts high school in the Bronx that allowed her to practice six to eight hours each week as an art major.

"I was lucky to attend a great school that exposed me to ceramics and life drawings," she said. "There, I saw a whole different side of art."

Upon arriving at Vanderbilt as a freshman four years ago, Alex did not intend on pursuing art. After taking drawing and painting classes, she saw progress in her portraits and found her niche. After years of practice and guidance, she overcame the obstacles that she constantly

faced as a portrait artist. Suddenly, her ability to render the human figure on canvas had evolved into exquisite one-of-a-kind portraits, and thoughts of graduate school were put on hold in order to



see where this talent could take her.

After graduation, with the support of her friends and family, Alex will follow her dream of being an artist, despite the uncertainty that comes with it. She aspires to eventually have a studio in New York City and showcase her work in gallery shows.

Very aware of the risky career path she has chosen, Alex said, "A lot of people consider portraiture a dead art, but I'm passionate about it so why shouldn't it be something I pursue? If it doesn't work out, I would just be happy to paint every day."

She laughed, "But I do want people to see my work and want to buy it."

Alex's ambition, smarts and gregarious personality will help her put a foot in the door, yet her undeniable talent is what will allow her to succeed in New York City's art world.

Still carefully painting, Alex said, "I never went in thinking I have to be an artist. I just love it. Even though it's a scary thing to pursue this, I don't want to look back in 20 years and regret not trying."☞



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Email the editor at VersuVU@gmail.com

Red-carpet fashion: The Oscar's best-dressed celebs

REANNE ZHENG
Staff Writer

Anyone can read about who took home the statuettes, but the main event, as we all know, is the walk down the red carpet before the show. If you read my Oscar predictions a couple of weeks ago, you know I didn't exactly ace all the predictions for winners, but I will venture to say who deserved honorary mentions for their impeccable taste on the biggest night of the year.

Heidi Klum, for her unparalleled glamour
The color of confidence is best when worn by the ultimate golden girl. Red is a popular choice on Oscar night, but it helps when the dress is by John Galiano and the wearer happens to be one of the most radiant supermodels on the face of the planet.



Cameron Diaz, for her natural glow
The former Charlie's Angel shows up in a ruched shell-pink number by Christian Dior. Diaz opts to keep the romantic look demure by forgoing any heavy makeup and keeping the (Bulgari) jewelry to a minimum. Even if women all around her are going for the dramatic, Diaz knows what looks good and works it.



Cate Blanchett, for her originality
In a sea of billowing skirts and trailing trains, twice-nominated Academy Award winner Cate Blanchett stands out in a sleek, navy blue Dries Van Noten. And while some of her peers lace themselves with an abundance of diamonds, Blanchett elects to distinguish herself by choosing jewelry embellished by emeralds. Cate, we salute you for knowing the difference between being trendy and being a trendsetter.



Jennifer Garner/Keri Russell, for sticking to the classics
Black is safe, but it can also come off as boring. Jennifer Garner offsets her black Oscar de la Renta with eye-catching jewelry and her ravishing but casual side-swept up-do. Keri Russell offers a similarly stunning package in the lighter version with a nude Nina Ricci gown and cream-colored Elazer sling-backs by Jimmy Choo.



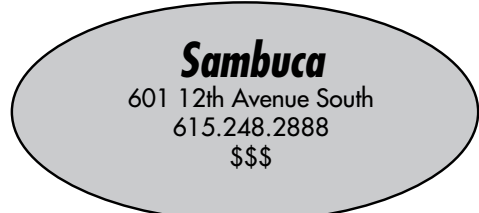
Jessica Alba, for working the baby bump
Normally, the idea of feathers usually causes me to cringe and conjures up images of exotic dancers (not that there is any shame in exotic dancing — just look at Diablo Cody). I know Ms. Alba has been named on some worst-dressed lists, but the feathered detailing on Jessica Alba's plum-colored Marchesa actually helps to balance her baby bump.

RESTAURANT

Seduced by Sambuca

AVERY SPOFFORD
Staff Writer

From its sultry music to its plush, dimly lit interior and rich entrees, Sambuca oozes luxury.



Located on 12th Avenue in the urban Gulch area, Nashville's new see-and-be-seen hot spot for the business set, Sambuca offers a sophisticated atmosphere of metropolitan opulence in a modern supper-club setting.

Sambuca mirrors the old-time feel of a supper club with a focus on musical performance: jazz, classic rock or performances by what is described in a tabletop brochure as a "sultry singer" are available seven nights a week from the restaurant's main dining room stage. The music's carefree, elegant tone mirrors the attitude of the restaurant as a whole: unpretentious sophistication and sensuality.

The restaurant features multiple levels and dining rooms, including the "Balinese Balcony," "Tambour Terrace" and a laid-back and intimate bar lounge. The bar itself is an after-work watering hole for the twenty- and 30-something businessperson set, attracting Nashville's urban elite for relaxation and networking. Sambuca is not the place to get Nash-trashed on a Thursday night, but is a great

spot for a sophisticated night out or a romantic date (example: try ordering a vintage cocktail rather than the standard Bud or Natty).

Along with the luxurious atmosphere and music, a diner at Sambuca can expect decadent food. Light fare is rare — popular entrees include lobster enchiladas, hickory smoked prime pork chop and zebra pasta (shrimp, scallops and lobster in lobster cream sauce). And although Sambuca is a great late-night spot, it offers a special deal for early diners: visit the restaurant Sunday through Wednesday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. to enjoy the Chef's Special, a three-course meal (soup or salad, entree and dessert) for a flat rate of \$20.

Whether dining at Sambuca for a big



date, an evening out with friends or to get a real meal during parents' weekend, expect delicious food and luxurious music in a cosmopolitan setting. A menu, photo gallery and calendar of music are available at www.sambucarestaurant.com. ☘

VANDERBILT MEDIA

What's up at VTV

"Balls to the Wall"

What do you get when you combine adrenaline, charisma, hilarity, 40 ounces of Nitroglycerin and three ballsy men? Well, frankly, we're not sure either ... probably Kiefer Sutherland's wedding. But that has nothing to do with anything. Watch "Balls to the Wall."

Produced by Brian Collura, Sahil Patel and Benton Payne

"Outlet"

"Outlet" is a program dedicated to GLBT life at Vanderbilt. Its goals are to promote awareness about this community, educate other students about GLBT issues and encourage involvement in student organizations committed to fostering a welcoming environment on campus.

Produced by Kristina Lyons and Brook Johnson

"Cook!"

What's better than hanging out with your friends, catching up and enjoying a meal care of VTV? The only catch is that you maintain a constant dialogue explaining what you're making. Easy and fun — that's what "Cook!" tries to make everyday college cooking into.

Produced by Rachael Geisler

"SexRx"

"SexRx" is a call-in talk show about relationships and sex. We take questions and try to give out useful and entertaining advice.

Why you should watch it: Even if you think you know it all, you just might learn something new. Plus, it's a great way to find out what Vandy students are really thinking about when it comes to sex and relationships.

"West End"

"West End" is a sitcom about the awkward adjustment to college life. It's centered on a sexually ambiguous but morally fundamental freshman, his borderline alcoholic roommate and their increasingly insecure best friend. They usually hang out with the only two girls on campus who haven't filed restraining orders against them yet. All those terrible things that happen to you and make you want to put a bullet in your head, but leave your friends laughing their asses off — yeah, that's "West End."

Produced by Brian Rodenbeck

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RITES OF SPRING

**Friday,
April 18**

Spoon
Colbie Caillat
DJ Kool
The Avett Brothers
Jeremy Lister

**Saturday,
April 19**

Lil Jon
Feist
Old Crow
Medicine Show
Grace Potter and
the Nocturnals
Randy Rogers
Band
Hill Country
Revue featuring
members of
North Mississippi
Allstars
H-Beam

**Soundtrack to
Rites 2008**

"Wagon Wheel"
**Old Crow
Medicine Show**

"Get Low"
Lil Jon

"The Underdog"
Spoon

"Sea Lion Woman"
Feist

"One Fine Wire"
Colbie Caillat

"Kiss Me In the Dark"
**Randy Rogers
Band**

"Falling or Flying"
**Grace Potter &
the Nocturnals**

"Paranoia In B Major"
**The Avett
Brothers**

"Hostage"
Jeremy Lister

"Thrifty Bitch"
H-Beam



Lil Jon

Who he is: Hailing from Atlanta, Lil Jon has made a career out of three guttural words: "Yeah," "Okay" and "What?" Growing up in an upper-middle-class family, Lil Jon (born Jonathan Smith) escaped the "hard knock life" that many rappers infuse in both their persona and lyrics, but still managed to earn himself credibility in the rap and hip-hop game. Exploding onto the scene a few years ago with his hit with Usher "Yeah," Lil Jon is probably most known for pioneering a new hip-hop sub genre, crunk. Yes, that's right—crunk. Emanating from the south, the subgenre lets intricate lyrics go by the wayside in favor of strong bass beats and frenetic chanting. What's more, Lil Jon has also popularized the "Crunk Cup" a jewel encrusted chalice from which he sips.

Why he rocks: You'd be hard pressed to find a college student who couldn't identify the tell-tale opening beats of "Get Low": the "duh dum dum DUM" that makes you immediately want to dance like a complete jackass, regardless of the place or time. And while he is not always the most comprehensible of folks (I thought "Snap Yo Fingers" was actually "Snackin' Bagels" for weeks), he is a complete genius. Never seen without his shoulder-long dreads, gold grill or his signature shades (which he, like Corey Hart, wears at night), Lil Jon has made himself into somewhat of a caricature, thus tapping into a goldmine for both himself and for funnyman Dave Chapelle, who impersonates the rapper frequently. As far as Rites of Spring goes, Lil Jon promises to bring a frenzied, energetic and unbelievable performance, and I wouldn't miss it, not for all the Crunk chalices in the world. —DCV

Feist

Who she is: If Lil Jon became popular singing "3,6,9, damn you fine," then Feist made a name for herself singing "1,2,3,4" to the whirling of brightly colored iPods, while dancing in some spectacular onesies. Born Leslie Feist in Toronto, Canada, Feist has also recorded music as a member of the super-popular indie group Broken Social Scene. Sure, she may owe some of her success to the Apple commercial (prior to its airing, "1,2,3,4" was downloaded about 2,000 times per week after it hit 73,000 downloads), but I'm pretty confident she would have found her new indie queen crown on her own time. She has been nominated for numerous Juno Awards, and thus far has won four of them for both her solo work and her recordings with Broken Social Scene. This year she was also nominated for four Grammy's for her 2007 album "The Reminder," but alas, went home empty handed.

Why she rocks: Sometime in the past few years, there has been a slow resurgence of popularity to indie and folk music, and musicians like Feist, who combine intellectual lyrics with an interesting and appealing sound, are reaping all the benefits. Furthermore, the Rites of Spring festival is traditionally dominated by men, both solo artists and in bands, and it is refreshing to see a female musician as talented and popular as Feist at the helm of this year's stellar lineup (joined, of course, by the effervescent Colby Caillat and rock group The Nocturnal's frontwoman Grace Potter). Her entire musical repertoire is superb, including her much older stuff, but if nothing else, listen to "The Reminder." B-A-D-A-S-S. —DCV

Old Crow Medicine Show

Who they are: Although OCMS may have formed around the Ithaca, NY, area, it certainly remains true to the spirit of true bluegrass with guitar, banjo, mandolin and fiddle to spare. The band hit it big while playing outside of a pharmacy in North Carolina (no joke) where folk mogul Doc Watson took notice and immediately helped the band start building a career. He moved the band to Nashville with a career plan including playing the Grand Ole Opry, opening for Dolly Parton and touring with Merle Haggard. But really, if you haven't heard of OCMS by now, you must have been under a rock for a few years. The band has been dominating the country/bluegrass/Americana scene for years. Although their rise to fame may have been Cinderella-like in nature, they certainly back up their fame with toe-tapping tunes that will please your ears even if you bought your ticket for the nefarious Lil Jon.

Why they rock: You know National Public Radio's "A Prairie Home Companion"? Old Crow Medicine Show is the modern go-to group for playing the classic country variety show. Forget the innumerable times they've played the Opry; OCMS takes touring to the extreme. Since they've been cutting records, the band has pretty much been on a constant touring schedule with breaks only for eating, sleeping and breathing. If you want to know why the group is so popular, pick up their album "O.C.M.S." or their newest, "Big Iron World." With singles like "Wagon Wheel," the band shows that even if it does play Bob Dylan covers, it knows how to have fun while crooning. "So rock me mama like a wagon wheel/Rock me mama any way you feel." Expect kind of an edgier Woody Guthrie as you wait with baited breath for OCMS to take the stage this April. —CSG

Spoon

Who they are: An indie rock band from Austin, Texas, Spoon formed in 1993 and released its first album in 1996. The quintet has released six albums to date and shows no signs of stopping. Their most recent album, "Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga," hit stores this past summer and left fans speechless. For real though, the album even debuted at No. 10 on the Billboard 200 list. Despite (or perhaps because of) its stupid name, the album reached for the sky on Billboard and was listed as one of the Best Albums of the Year by Rolling Stone. Contributing songs to shows like "The OC," "Veronica Mars" and "Chuck" and even to the soundtracks of "Wedding Crashers" and "Stranger Than Fiction," Spoon is perpetually on the cusp of runaway success. But hey diddle diddle, they won't run away with the dish anytime soon.

Why they rock: Energetic yet seductive, Spoon promises to become the new favorite band of many Vanderbilt students this spring. This rock 'n' roll cornerstone's live performances are downright fun and even more crowd-pleasing than Bruce Pearl getting a technical. Catchy songs like "The Fitted Shirt," "The Way We Get By" and "You Got Yr. Cherry Bomb" will be stuck in your head days for days after Rites. Their single "Don't You Evah" has a delightfully snappy and funky bass line that may leave you no choice but to shake those hips from side to side. Their current anthem "The Underdog" utilizes all sorts of brass to add triumphant notes to their solid rollicking acoustic guitar riff that keeps the rhythm going as solidly as a conductor on a train. Honestly, if you're not fighting the impulse to dance while they're onstage, you really need to turn up your hearing aid. —SFT

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	6		7	5		1
	9	1	8			
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SUDOKU: To solve, fill in the blanks so the numbers 1-9 appear just once in each horizontal row, vertical column and 3x3 box.

SOLUTIONS

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

CLOSING PICS



"SUNSET AT HA LONG BAY" OLIVER WOLFE



"HULA! DOG SLEDDING" OLIVER WOLFE

Crossword

- ACROSS**
 1 Tranquilizes
 6 Ike's initials
 9 Stop, look and look?
 14 Circa
 15 "Dallas" commodity
 16 Pay tribute to
 17 Feel
 18 One Gabor
 19 Long-tailed lizard
 20 Draws forth
 22 Rigid bracelets
 24 Santa ___ winds
 25 Age-old rumors
 26 Castle defender
 29 Capital on the Nile
 31 Freudian concerns
 32 Harder to find
 34 Laurel and Musial
 36 Most passe
 38 Silver services
 43 Bart Simpson's mom
 45 Inexpensive
 46 Allergic reaction
 50 Forest
 52 Gymnast Korbut
 53 Beautify
 55 Doctor of music?
 57 Swagger
 58 Shrinking flowers?
 62 Two-wheelers
 63 Actress West
 65 Journalist Shriver
 66 Happening
 67 Drop a fly, e.g.
 68 Top spots
 69 Takes five
 70 Meat cut
 71 Approaches
- DOWN**
 1 Perry Mason story
 2 Genesis shepherd
 3 Actress Anderson
 4 Sweet wine
 5 Pewter mug
 6 Bucks' mates
 7 Fourth of MMXVI
 8 Went into detail
 9 Knee-ankle connection
 10 Two-way switch
 11 Computer type
 12 Cesar or George
 13 Expunges
 21 USAF grp.
 23 Without help
 25 Be the right size
 26 Wife's address
 27 Mare's morsel
 28 Southern constellation
 30 Stargazer
 33 "Losing My Religion" group
 35 U.S. def. group
 37 Made logs
 39 Sneaker do-up
 40 Slippery fish
 41 Chasing game
 42 Hot tub
 44 Acquired

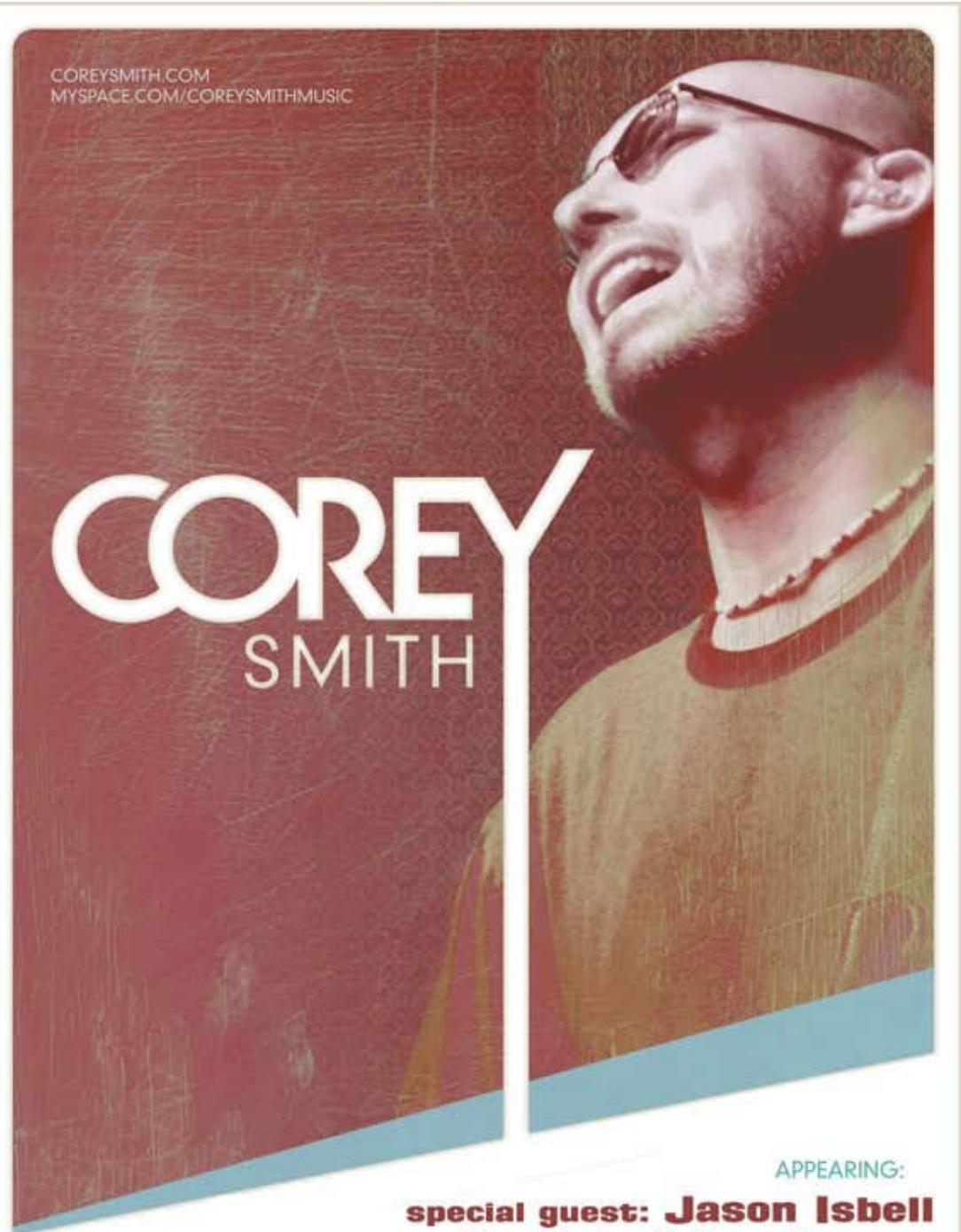
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69						70			71			

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Solutions

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V	I	H	A	W	A	W	S	E	K	I	B	
S	T	E	L	O	I	A	O	D	A	V	A	B
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					S	N	V	L	S	E	R	V
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R	O	N	O	H	L	O	I	L	T	O	A	B
R	E	S	T	A	R	E	S	D	E	S	L	T

- 46 Thief
 47 Make it big
 48 Underhanded characters
 49 Lack
 51 Star Wars, initially
 54 Spars with sails
 56 Kind of candle
 58 Word of action
 59 Ms. Bombeck
 60 Level
 61 Give guff to
 64 "Exodus" hero



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