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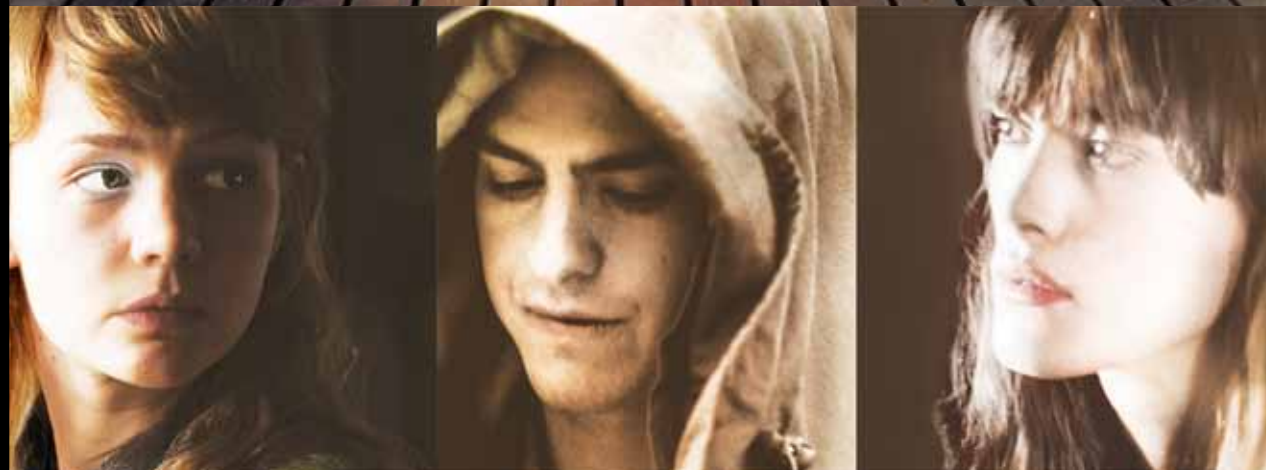
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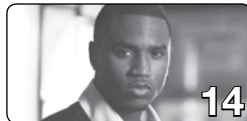
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## EXHIBITIONS

Campus Circle &gt; Culture &gt; Art

At the opening of *Final Projects: Group XXIX*

## MAK CENTER

### Residents offer *Final Projects* at Schindler House.

BY SARAH BENNETT

**WHAT DO SOUTH LOS ANGELES GANG MEMBERS** and a modernist Austrian fashion designer have in common? Probably not much unless you're Felix Burrichter and Sarah Ortmeier.

To the two European-born artists currently living as a residency team in one of Los Angeles' most architecturally stunning apartment buildings, the link is simple – Rudolf Schindler. As part of a final exhibition project they must present at the end of their six-month stay in Los Angeles, the duo is creating a publication-scrapbook centered around Schindler, the pioneering Austrian architect of their current living space.

"You have a large Vienna-Los Angeles link with the Schindlers," Burrichter says of Rudolf and his wife Pauline, "[and so] we are spinning tangents and stories from there on things we've picked up since we've been here."

The connections Burrichter and Ortmeier make between the two urban cultural hubs is a natural extension of the residency program they are participating in, itself a testament to the longtime cultural exchange between the cities.

In 1994, Vienna-based MAK–Austrian Museum for Applied Arts/Contemporary Art acquired use of Schindler's original residential design – a house on Kings Road built in 1922 as a live-work space – for the purpose of establishing a Los Angeles satellite of the museum.

Now home to the MAK Center for Art and Architecture, the structure expands on the organic designs of Schindler's former mentor Frank Lloyd Wright and features living quarters for two separate families, artist studios, a communal kitchen area and, most striking, seamless integration of indoor and outdoor spaces. Known internationally as the Schindler House, it is considered the first house to be built in the modern style and has undoubtedly influenced generations of California architecture.

In 1995, the Republic of Austria acquired another structure by the prolific architect for the MAK Center – the Pearl M. Mackey Apartments, built in 1939 – and established it as one of the United States' premier artists-in-residence centers. Continuing both Schindler's ideologies and practices, the

MAK Center uses its five (originally four) recently renovated apartments as a base for its live-in program, a scholarship given to visiting artists and architects who are exploring the increasing dialogue between the two creative disciplines.

Since 1995, October and April of each academic year welcomes four new residents – two artists and two architects, or teams counting as one "resident" – who move in to the Mackey's spacious, functional units, which have become laboratories for Los Angeles-inspired works.

Residents are chosen during a rigorous judging cycle (which this year drew from 177 project applications from 33 different countries) in which their proposals are assessed for their ability to engage with the city and contribute to the ongoing discussion of art, architecture and where they intersect.

All recipients are young, many are European, some are still students and most have never been to Los Angeles before; yet just as Schindler's avant-garde-for-the-time designs inspired future students of his field, the Mackey residents have a reputation of enriching the ongoing dialogues of interdisciplinary experimentation.

Which brings us back to Burrichter and Ortmeier, who are in the program's 30th group of residents. Though they are both practicing artists (She works internationally with found images and site installations, and he publishes a magazine "for architectural entertainment" out of New York.), the team weaves interdisciplinary elements into their project at every opportunity. During a visit at the end of July, the two talked of photographing architecture as you would a regular portrait and taking pictures of furniture like you would a building.

"It gives you a different perspective," Burrichter says. "[Like how] for Schindler, he didn't make a distinction between furniture and design or architecture and design – it was all one."

Living in the apartment next door for the summer is another program resident who is blurring the lines between art and architecture. Markus Zeber, a 31-year-old from Vienna, was trained as an architect, but his output today is mostly artistic. Though he once practiced traditional architecture, the politics of the industry led him to instead begin responding to his macro-level ideas through architecturally approached art.

"My work started with thinking about building with model symmetric bricks – mass production," Zeber says from his Schindler-designed kitchen's built-in table, "and then goes more into electric gadgets until you get these [reads off a Post-it in which someone has translated his description from German into English] 'poetically pathetic kinetic sculptures.'"

By piecing together found objects with gutted electronic devices, Zeber attempts to answer questions raised about

how to find individuality in a world full of mass production. Since Los Angeles' citizens are so closely identified by the products they buy, his focus during the residency has been on finding innovative ways to rework everyday items – such as fly swatters, flood lights, milk cartons and wire hangers – to assert originality in such a uniform landscape.

The last two current Mackey residents – all of whom will be showing their final projects at an exhibition inside the Schindler house – have also latched on to the idea of Los Angeles as a problematic locale. German artist Mandla Reuter holds site-specific, architectural-based solo shows all around the world and is exploring the complexities behind owning empty land in Los Angeles while India-based practicing architect Zameer Basrai is using three locations around the city as sites in which to dissect the idea of public space, a term that has long eluded the City of Angels.

During their six months in Los Angeles, the residents are under stipend funding from the Austrian government, the Federal Ministry for Education, the Arts and Culture of the Republic of Austria and MAK Vienna. But with no set schedules or daily expectations the artists and architects living at the Mackey apartments are unfettered by the pressures of many residency programs.

The program's unrestricted mentality is no coincidence. The United States' relatively young history has long put it on the art map as a powerhouse for creativity with Los Angeles, in particular, being its quintessential nothing-to-lose city. In addition to Schindler, Richard Neutra and other modernist architects who used the growing city as a laboratory for new, experimental forms, scholars from all disciplines have come to Los Angeles to create discourse on subjects traditionally untouched in Europe. It's no wonder: the city's laid-back atmosphere – as opposed to New York's hectic bustle – is a perfect location for artistic introspection.

"Everyone here is very free of baggage," Basrai says. "There is no history to hold onto and it's refreshing. Most European countries ... are grounded in ideology so strongly that they can't be critical anymore."

The MAK Center for Art and Architecture provides programs with which artists and architects can take advantage of the city's built-in creative freedom and spaces in which this freedom can be displayed and discussed; its family of locations is constantly expanding. Since acquiring access to both the Schindler House and the Mackey Apartments in the mid-'90s, MAK has expanded to include the 1936 Fitzpatrick-Leland house on Laurel Canyon (now home to the Urban Future Initiative, which also offers its own fellowship program) and, more recently, the Mackey apartments' recently renovated garage structure.

After adding a 750 square-foot multi-purpose room atop the building's five garage structure, the MAK Center unveiled its most recent art exhibit: *Fractional Systems: Garage Project II* (runs through Sept. 25). Curated by Peter Noever, Director of MAK Vienna, the exhibit had artists and architects from both Austria and Los Angeles transform the garages and second-story space (dubbed the garage top) into site-specific dioramas.

The new structure's purpose is twofold. As a gallery and event venue, it extends Schindler's principles of open, communal design; but as a functional structure, the garages will be used as studio space for future Mackey residents.

The connection between Vienna and Los Angeles may be politically weak, but our cultural partnership is one that can't be denied. Through MAK Vienna's work at establishing and expanding its Center for Art and Architecture, Los Angeles is now home to an internationally renowned cultural institution. And through its numerous exhibitions, lectures, restoration projects and scholarship programs, the progressive dialogue started by Schindler nearly 100 years ago is being channeled and built upon by a new generation of artists and architects.

*Final Projects: Group XXX opening reception is Friday, Sept. 10, from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. at the Schindler House, 835 N. Kings Road, West Hollywood, and the show runs Sept. 11 and 12 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information, visit [makcenter.org](http://makcenter.org).*



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## PROJECTIONS

**WESTDOC**

Sept. 12-15 @ Doubletree Santa Monica

BY CANDICE WINTERS

**BEFORE EVEN BASIC SPECIAL EFFECTS, BEFORE SCRIPTWRITING, BEFORE** crazy camera angles, the premier filmmakers were worried about one thing and one thing only: the image. The documentary began to take form in the 1960s when investigative journalism was introduced in mainstream television in response to the growing civil rights movement, government corruption and continual anti-war sentiment.

Particularly in the past decade, there have been several documentaries that have raised the quality audiences expect in this genre of film. *In Memoriam: New York City* is a touching look at the events of 9/11. *March of the Penguins* was a break-out hit narrated by Morgan Freeman that showed the annual march of the Emperor penguins through the arctic landscape to reach their mating grounds. Academy Award-winning *Man on Wire* about Philippe Petit's 1974 high-wire walk in between the towers of the World Trade Center brought an aesthetically cinematic element to the normally straightforward documentary. Michael Moore brought persuasion to his films in which a political topic is picked and peppered by Moore until you are convinced out of your opinion.

In celebration of the developments that documentary filmmaking has made, WESTDOC: The West Coast Documentary and Reality Conference is being held Sept. 13 through 15 and gathers producers and directors of non-fiction/documentary and reality television programming with executives who fund and acquire such programs. Marketed as "FOR producers BY producers," the conference culminates in a day dedicated to allowing filmmakers to pitch directly to the executives, known as PitchFest.

A special screening of Sundance Film Festival favorite *Catfish* will start the conference on Sept. 12. Also, Joe Berlinger – whose most recent documentary, *Crude*, is the focus of an important First Amendment rights case – is the Non-Fiction, Keynote Conversation.

Doubletree Guest Suites Santa Monica is located at 1707 Fourth St., Santa Monica. For more information, visit [thewestdoc.com](http://thewestdoc.com).

## TVTIME

**'HELLCATS'**

Robbie Jones cheers for love.

BY STEPHANIE FORSHEE



Dean Foreman

**ROBBIE JONES IS PUMPED TO HAVE A NEW**

TV series to cheer about. "Hellcats" premieres on the CW this week. On the show, Lewis Flynn (Jones) is a former football player who's about to lose his scholarship at Lancer University in Memphis, Tenn. Per his girlfriend Alice's request, he tries out for the cheerleading team. When Lewis makes it, he winds up really enjoying cheering as well as Marti, another cheerleader. Could a nasty love triangle be underway?

Off set, the cast seems to have a little less drama.

"Everybody gets along really well," says Jones. "We all hang out, go to the movies. It's great."

The "Hellcats" cast and crew are currently shooting in Vancouver, though the show's setting is Memphis.

Jones says, "From what I've seen and the way they're shooting it, they've really done a number on it. I've driven through Memphis. It really *does* look like Memphis."

Although Jones is cheering on the sidelines in "Hellcats," it wasn't too long ago that he was actually in on the action playing basketball.

"Growing up, I never had aspirations to be an actor," admits Jones. "My focus was on making good grades and trying to make it to the NBA."

Growing up as a basketball player, Jones got the acting bug in college. His basketball buddies were surprisingly the ones that told him, "Man, you should try it." And he did.

Jones tells, "I started taking classes. I just fell in love with acting. My transition from basketball into acting was very seamless. I have no regrets. I'm really happy. I feel the Lord has led me down this path, and it has been a blessing every step of the way."

"Hellcats" premieres Sept. 8 at 9 p.m. on the CW.

## SCREENSHOTS

**'THE HOLLYWOOD SALOON'**

BY ZACH HINES

**THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF PEOPLE** who watch movies and go to the movies.

The first type: those folks who view movies as simply entertainment to pass the time. They like movies but aren't necessarily "movie buffs."

The second type is the person who loves movies and is a movie enthusiast. They avidly go to the movies and possibly even have a collection of movies they love.

The third type is the individual who lives for movies. Not only do they watch a lot of movies, but they re-watch lots of movies. They study movies and study the making of movies. They are head over heels in love with every aspect and facet of the filmmaking process.

I fall into the third category (as most of you already know), and today I'm going to talk about two other individuals who also fall into that category.

## Campus Circle &gt; Film &gt; Screen Shots

I discovered a podcast last year called "The Hollywood Saloon" made by two extreme film enthusiasts named Andy Siems and John Jansen. Anyone who loves to discuss, dissect and analyze films should definitely check this out, and for anyone who wants to be a filmmaker, it's required listening.

This is the definitive film discussion podcast. These two guys are college buddies, filmmakers and borderline film historians, and what's so great about their work is that their only agenda is to celebrate their profound love of films and filmmaking and bring everyone else along for the ride.

Anyone who loves films as much as these guys do will feel like they're right there on a couch with these guys, participating in the discussions.

The topics discussed range from analyzing different filmmaking techniques of great directors and discussing the harmful effect of log jamming tons of films into the summer season to deeply insightful looks at some of the best film franchises in cinema history.

All the baggage of the "business" of film sometimes makes people forget that at the heart of it all is an art form that has the power to affect people and do things that no other art form can.

As a filmmaker I've always been in love with film, but when I started listening to the

Saloon, with each new podcast I learned so much more about the art and the craft of it and I discovered an even deeper appreciation for films than I had before.

And you know it was love at first listen for me when each of the podcasts open up with the main theme from Sergio Leone's *A Few Dollars More*.

But would-be-listeners be warned, these aren't your average 30 minute-long podcasts. No, the "Saloon"'s podcasts run anywhere between one hour and four hours. Hey, extensive film discussion requires a big canvas, man.

Sometimes their discussions of certain films run longer than the actual film they're talking about. John and Andy make me fall in love with films each time I listen. The truth is, even though the movie business is a massive global industry, movies were not always designed to be disposable product made simply for the purpose of making money by committees and focus groups.

Whether you're a filmmaker or not, if you're interested in an education in film, you owe it to yourself to make "The Hollywood Saloon" a part of it.

You can subscribe to the podcast at the iTunes store or you can download it right from the Web site ([hollywoodsaloon.com](http://hollywoodsaloon.com)).

Send feedback to [screenshots@campuscircle.net](mailto:screenshots@campuscircle.net).

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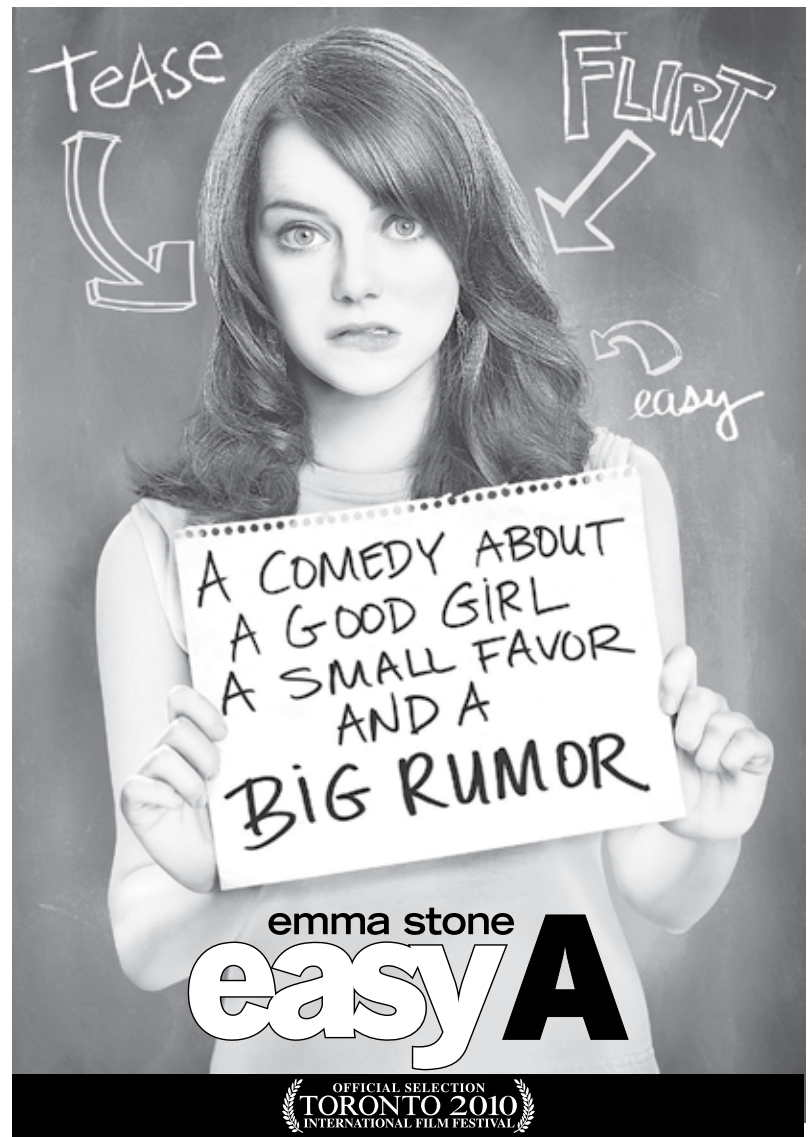
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**IN THEATERS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

**DVDDISH**

**BY MIKE SEBASTIAN**

**Under the Radar:** Michael Douglas leads a stellar cast in *Solitary Man* as a successful Manhattan businessman who alienates his friends and family.

**Funny Business:** MacGyver is parodied in *MacGruber*. Based on the popular "SNL" sketch, Will Forte stars as the one-man army brought out of retirement to find a nuclear warhead stolen by his arch nemesis Dieter Von Cunth (Val Kilmer).

Katherine Heigl and Ashton Kutcher are newlyweds who discover their neighbors (Tom Selleck and Catherine O'Hara) might be assassins trying to kill them in *Killers*.

**The Idiotbox:** In *Boy Meets World: The Complete First, Second and Third Season*, Cory (Ben Savage) navigates the pitfalls of junior high.

While Jim and Pam juggle marriage, work and parenthood, the Scranton branch is introduced to a new ball-busting boss (Kathy Bates) in *The Office: Season Six*.

Everyone's favorite hapless spy returns newly upgraded and dangerous in *Chuck: The Complete Third Season*.

Clark Kent finally embraces his calling as a hero in *Smallville: The Complete Ninth Season* as fellow refugees from Krypton attempt to claim Earth as their own.

*Less Than Perfect: Season One* goes behind the scenes at a TV news office as Claudia (Sara Rue) arrives to assist the network anchor and meets the infighting staff of eccentrics.

"The Norm Show" has the droll Norm MacDonald playing a pro hockey player-turned-criminal-turned-social worker. *The Complete Series* is now available.

Chris O'Donnell and LL Cool J go deep undercover in the criminal underworld in the action-packed *NCIS: Los Angeles – The First Season*.

*Parenthood: Season 1* follows grown siblings, as they juggle life's many complications. Ron Howard and Brian Grazer produce this poignant look at family dysfunction.

**The Horror! The Horror!** A gory throwback to the slasher flicks of the '80s, *Hatchet* comes to Blu-ray in an unrated director's cut.

**British Invasion:** Helen Mirren is the tenacious DCI Tennison, who faces sexism and her own demons as she rises through the ranks of the Metropolitan Police in *Prime Suspect: The Complete Collection*.

**MOVIEREVIEWS**

**Something's Gonna Live**

(7th Art Releasing)

Whoever said change was exciting has never been old. I mean 100 years old, weak and feeble and frustratingly unable to do the things you once took for granted. When you do get there, the only things that seem to hold your hand through the heartache of a decomposing body are the wonderful memories of what once was.

In the case of Robert "Bob" Boyle, life's memories are eternally captured and kept safe in the many films he's worked on. A renowned art director who worked on five of Hitchcock's films (including *North by Northwest* and *The Birds*), Boyle is in his mid-90s and still kicking it with his friends in the industry. Henry "Bummy" Bumstead and Albert Nozaki were also art directors for films like *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Ten Commandments*, respectively.

The three pals, who met in college where they all were architecture majors at the University of Southern California, have worked, played and now grown old together.

This documentary, which contains footage shot intermittently between 1999 and 2009, takes them back to their old stomping grounds: the trio visit the Paramount back lot where they spent so many years behind the scenes, and Boyle travels back to Bodega Bay where he set *The Birds*.

Also in their clique are legendary cinematographers Conrad "Connie" Hall (think *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*) and Haskell Wexler (*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*) as well as storyboard artist Harold Michelson (*The Graduate*).

Interweaving sketches, clips from the films, black-and-white snapshots and exclusive interviews, the documentary is a moving tribute to the men who brought the magic to Hollywood.

Like every good movie must reach its credits, so must the lives of the fab six who we learn to passionately admire (After all, they are allowed to call famed director Alfred Hitchcock by the endearment, Hitch.).

But as sad as *Something's Gonna Live* may leave you, there is some optimism, some hope for the future. If you listen closely enough to your elders, you too can make something that is gonna live forever.

**Grade: A**

—Candice Winters

*Something's Gonna Live* releases in select theaters Sept. 10.

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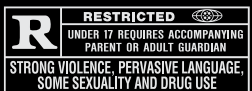


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IN THEATERS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

FILMINTERVIEWS

Campus Circle > Film > Interviews

# HEARTBREAKER

## How Romain Duris Captures the Heart of Johnny's Depp's Lady

BY EBONY MARCH

ON A FRIDAY MORNING AT THE BEVERLY WILshire Hotel, writers sit at a round table awaiting the talent's arrival. Soon, a French-American translator arrives. He takes a seat at the table and makes small talk about his foray into his particular line of work. Moments later, a publicist arrives. She steps to the side and makes her introductions. "Ladies and gentleman," she says, "I'd like to introduce you to director Pascal Chaumeil, Romain Duris and Vanessa Paradis." The writers position their digital recorders on the table in close proximity to the talent, and so the games began.

The French trio is promoting *Heartbreaker*, a clever and stylish take on the classic romantic comedy. Duris plays Alex Lippi. His job is to seduce and destroy ... relationships. With his sister and brother-in-law in tow, Alex travels all over the world – at the request of friends and family members of his subjects – and charms women out of their rotten relationships with other men. The trio often utilizes James Bond-type stealth and equipment to achieve their goals. Costumes are a must. Wiretaps are a given. Results are a definite. Alex is on a 10-year streak of success. However, despite his track record, the company's financial portfolio is bleak. Luckily, they've been hired to do a job that just might change that.

Alex is hired to break up a stunning young heiress

named Juliette (Paradis) and her British playboy fiancé. The mysterious heartbreaker assumes the role of her bodyguard. He discovers Juliette's likes and dislikes, such as old George Michael songs and the 1980s classic *Dirty Dancing*. He even teaches himself some of the film's choreography – you know, just in case. Alex soon makes his way into Juliette's arms. Little does he know that she's about to make her way into his heart and stay there.

To see Duris and Paradis together onscreen is to witness cinematic magic. The actors light up the screen with great comedic chemistry and sex appeal. They are most notable in their big dance sequence that is a recreation of Jennifer Grey and Patrick Swayze's romantic turn in *Dirty Dancing*. Both are perfect for one another and just may give historic onscreen duos serious run for the money.

*Heartbreaker* was shot on the luxurious streets of Monaco. From pristine waters to five-star hotels, each location sets the stage for romance to occur and surprisingly, for humor to erupt. Aside from its humorous, contemporary dialogue, *Heartbreaker* is filled to the brim with physical comedy. In what is perhaps one of the funniest and most physically challenging scenes in the film, Duris' Alex is stabbed in the thigh by a drunken socialite.

"The fork in the leg scene had to be shot several times," notes Chaumeil.

But the director confesses that he and his actors were laughing through nearly every take and in between many of the scenes. Chaumeil is pleased with the end result, noting that he is quite aware of the unique charm his film possesses.

"Some people have said that this is like a glass of champagne," he says.

For Duris, the chance to play many different characters as a romantic master of disguise was a wonderful challenge.



Vanessa Paradis and Romain Duris in *Heartbreaker*

He had a few favorite characterizations within the film that really stood out.

"The guy who works in the Japanese restaurant – that guy was funny," says Duris. "And also the gospel singer because the music was so good."

He also loved Chaumeil's hands-on directorial style.

"[Pascal] wanted to push the romantic aspect of the film to the maximum by focusing as much as possible on the emotion of the meeting between my character and Vanessa's," says Duris.

Paradis found the dancing to be a good way to break the ice and really let down her guard with Duris for the shoot.

"There was a lot of foot-stamping – crushing," she says.

"It was a nice way to meet you," jokes Duris.

Paradis agrees: "Yeah, it was a nice way to get to meet you."

*Heartbreaker* releases in select theaters Sept. 10.

D-DAY

Campus Circle > Blogs > D-Day

# 2010 FALL TV PREVIEW

## My Show Picks

BY DENISE GUERRA

FALL IS ALWAYS AN EXCITING TIME FOR ME. WITH school starting, old friends return and the vibrant colors of the foliage outside is just as wonderful as the colors and storylines coming back to primetime television for 2010. Expect to see some milestones happening this season with many shows gearing up toward some type of finale in the near future.

One of the most-talked-about is Steve Carell's departure from "The Office," with this season being his last. You have to wonder what the show's creators are going to do when the heart of the show says farewell. Even without Michael Scott, there are enough big personalities and storylines to fill the boss' absence, so it will be up to the writers to really step it up next season.

But the storylines for "The Office"'s Season 7 fall premiere on Sept. 23 promises the continuing manhunt for who leaked to the press Sabre's malfunctioning fire-breathing printers. Kathy Bates reprises her role this season, and there's also the surprise return of Holly, which might signal a very interesting romantic plot for Michael. Will they end up together before he leaves? I'm stoked to find out.

Now in its sixth season, my favorite show of all time, "How I Met Your Mother," is actually giving us a flash forward to

married Ted in its premiere episode Sept. 20 on CBS. Fans of last season were left disappointed at the uneven and random storylines, and the show's creators promise that this will be a season of redemption.

Rachel Bilson reprises her role as the roommate to "the Mother," and there's talk that Robin Sparkles is back, though the show's creators are acting hush-hush to the development of Robin's character this season. The main plotline, however, involves Ted's commission to design a new building for Goliath National Bank, which puts him at odds with a woman protesting the destruction of the building the bank replaces.

Will this finally be the mother we've been waiting so patiently for? With the show rumored to last until Season 8, the show's creators are gearing their storylines toward a tangible finale that brings us ever so closer to finding out whom Ted finally settles down with.

Changing channels to the CW, the only show that's really kept my attention has been the super dramatic but extremely stylish "Gossip Girl," premiering Sept. 13 (C'mon, I'm a girl. I'm allowed to go gaga over the hot boys and pretty dresses that this show offers.).

There were some pretty big cliffhangers last season. Jenny was somehow banished, and Chuck was left dying on the street after a failed proposal to Blair. Dan and Georgina having a baby? Umm, should make for a funny episode. And Blair and Serena are out gallivanting in Paris where, according to Internet buzz, old rivalries for "Queen B" resurfaces when both girls are scheduled to attend Columbia in the fall. Apparently, this bitter battle for "Gossip Girl" queendom ends with a big splash ... in a fountain ... in Paris.

Speaking of a splash, and a lame attempt at a transition, the 2010 remake of CBS' "Hawaii Five-O" looks to be amazing (premieres Sept. 20). The cast is certainly pretty. We've got



Steve Carell is planning to leave "The Office."

"Lost"'s Daniel Dae Kim playing a Hawaiian local whose knowledge of the island's people and culture will be of great use in solving beach bum crimes.

The plot is relatively cliché, you know the whole elite police unit solving crime in a big, interesting location. However, the show's legendary opening song – and the premise of hot beach dudes and babes – has me ready to say, "Book 'em Danno!"

Lastly, "Modern Family," now an Emmy Award-winning sitcom (and definitely deserving of it) premieres Sept. 22 on ABC. According to blog Zap2it.com, there will be a big earthquake episode where we will watch, and probably laugh, at the way each character handles the situation (I'm looking at you, Phil.). We will also see a guest star coming in to fill the role of Cameron's mother.

So there we have it; my picks for fall. There are just too many good shows on this season, including "Glee," "90210," "Chuck" and "House." I swear, begin setting your TiVo now.

**MILLA JOVOVICH**

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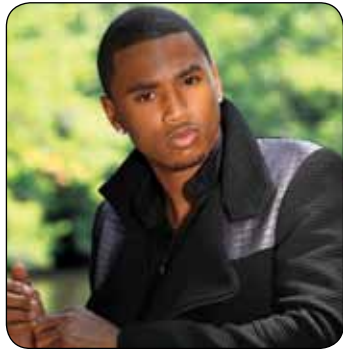
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MUSICINTERVIEWS

# TREY SONGZ

BY LYNDA CORREA



**THE INVENTOR OF SEX WILL SOON** make Angelenos “Say Aah,” as the tour for his latest album, *Passion, Pain & Pleasure*, stops at Club Nokia. Trey Songz’s date in Los Angeles is guaranteed to be an experience like never before.

He reveals, “[It’s] not just another show; it will be an up close and personal experience for everyone. Come see me perform your favorite songs live and hear new music from my album, *Passion, Pain, & Pleasure*, for the first time. [I] promise you a night to remember.”

On this tour, Songz is “promoting just the passion, pain and pleasure within my life” through his new album. Pleasure, as fans are all aware of, is something that was more than just a blip on Songz’s radar from his previous album, *Ready*. With YouTube videos of fans fainting at the sight of him, one wonders just how all this makes the sex idol feel.

“Women go crazy all around the world, but that don’t make me no better than nobody,” he says. “So, I’m cool.”

Cool and levelheaded he is, as Songz keeps grounded by thinking about the important things in life.

“I’ve never been the type of person to get overly excited over man-made things or things like that,” he says. “The real things in life I love are friends and family. I’m very fortunate and excited but at the same time humbled and ready to see what’s next.”

Songz reminds us, “I’m very grounded in life. There’s never going to be one hundred percent happy times, but that’s not a reason to get lost and saddened ... Life goes on. You can’t get stuck in any moments good or bad.”

Thankfully, Songz hasn’t gotten stuck and continues to pull out of whatever rough situations come his way. It is safe to say that Trey Songz is “Successful” and always keeps a “Smiley Face.” LOL.

*Passion, Pain & Pleasure is available Sept. 14. Trey Songz performs Sept. 10 at Club Nokia. For more information, visit treysongz.com.*

FREQUENCY

BY BRIEN OVERLY

**Frank Turner**

Sept. 8 @ The Troubadour

If you like your punk rock loud, fast, in your face and unafraid to rip its subjects a new one when necessary, Frank Turner is the man for you. What sets Turner apart from the countless other punk acts attempting to do the same is that he’ll expertly deliver all of that on stage by himself, armed only with an acoustic guitar and possibly a harmonica. The singer-songwriter can effortlessly deliver emotive and heartfelt folk jams that still have the biting precision and do-it-yourself ethic of punk’s forefathers, making him a do-not-miss act for fans on either end of the spectrum.



Frank Turner is a do-not-miss act.

**Call the Cops**

Sept. 9 @ Chain Reaction

I know, it’s total guilty pleasure synth-pop-punk, but ... y’know what? I don’t really feel all that guilty about it. These dudes bring massive amounts of energy to the stage whenever they play and their music is really friggin’ catchy. So no, I feel no guilt whatsoever about liking this band, judge all you want.

**The Material**

Sept. 11 @ 118 West

This band of SoCal locals made a big impression on me a few months ago when I caught them opening for Every Avenue and There for Tomorrow and have been on my radar ever since. I had never heard of the melodic emo-pop act prior to the show, so I was pleasantly surprised to find a local support act that looked and sounded like they could be a headliner already.

Frontwoman Colleen D’Agostino has the vocal skills and stage presence to put the other similarly styled singers in her genre to shame, and the rest of her band likewise bring the rock just as hard. Suffice to say, that whole “look and sound like headliners” thing probably isn’t too far away from being an actuality for this band.

CDREVIEWS

Campus Circle > Music > CD Reviews

**The Acorn**

*No Ghost*

(Bella Union/Yep Roc)

The Acorn prove to be another magical indie-folk gem to fall into our hands from the land of fur traps and leafy forests. This five-man band from Ottawa takes an innovative approach to the folk genre by creating a grander musical scheme to the traditionally simpler, somber folk sound. The band is due its recognition here in the States for its unique blend of instruments, including the vibraphone, keys, cello and gourd guitar, to name a few.

What you get is something magically contemplative on *No Ghost*, which ranges from traditional ballads to all-out rock grandeur like on the title track, showcasing jungle-like percussions and the sounds of distorted violin that would make any forest nymph dance happily. Reminiscent of their 2007 hit “Crooked Legs,” “No Ghost” starts off slow and crescendos into a festival of drumming and unique beats that sound like water echoing above string quartets.

Even with these songs, the band is able to incorporate traditional folk roots with beautiful guitar solos plucking simultaneously as best heard in the mystical odyssey of “Misplaced.” The Acorn are at their peak when they add and reshape the traditional folk ballad, because when they do, it’s sure to be heart-pounding.

**Grade: B+**

—Denise Guerra

*No Ghost is currently available.*

**Debutaunts**

*Why Can’t We Have Fun*

(Architek One)

There’s more to the swept-to-the-side parted hairdos,

checked sweater vests and unbuttoned shirts with rolled up sleeves that Jazek, Jonny, Stephen and Tondo don. The rad guys of Debutaunts are going to pop and rock your world with their full-length record, *Why Can’t We Have Fun?*

Their debut is a fresh, preppy album with songs about the perfect past, hopeful love and life’s continual changes. And don’t be surprised when these guys break out a full string quartet with gusto. The Atlanta band is inspired by the great music mastermind Morrissey, and just like their influence, their songs are romantic, synthesized love stories. If you like the Strokes, Rooney or even New Found Glory, it’s time to catch up with this foursome.

**Grade: A**

—Christine Hernandez

*Why Can’t We Have Fun is currently available.*

**Stone Sour**

*Audio Secrecy*

(Roadrunner)

“Mission Statement” not only sets the tone for the album, but for the tour that’s happening right now (See them Sept. 17 at Verizon.). Frontman Corey Taylor’s energy alone is a sight. Add to that Roy Mayorga on drums, and you have the start of something powerful.

The tracks have an anthem-like quality that’s primarily to the credit of James Root and Josh Rand on guitar and also backed by bassist Shawn Economaki. You’ll find the better songs on this offering at the start and end of the album.

The big news on this record is Taylor’s voice. He shows off his range nicely and still leaves hints of his roots in Slipknot throughout the collection. This is a great addition to your fall collection.

**Grade: B+**

—David Tobin

*Audio Secrecy is currently available.*

**Unicycle Loves You**

*Mirror, Mirror*

(Highwheel)

*Mirror, Mirror*, the sophomore album from Chicago’s Unicycle Loves You, is either light, fun,

surfer casual or dark, intricate and a little artsy, depending on which song you’re listening to. Most of the songs are medium-paced and beachy with catchy, memorable riffs. Lead singer Jim Carroll’s voice seems like a throwback to the ’80s, when guttural crooning wasn’t so much soulful, but simply dramatic.

The real star of the album is Nicole Vitale, the band’s bass player and other vocalist. Her voice is as smooth as Carroll’s is rough. In songs like “Mirror, Mirror” and “Evil Twin” her voice gives the songs a nostalgic element. In general, the songs she sings on (either as a lead or backing vocalist) highlight the band’s potential better than the songs she merely performs on.

At points throughout the album the band plays about four artsy, non-lyrical pieces. They open the CD with the instrumental “Lethal Attraction,” a short keyboard and synthesizer piece, play a couple more instrumental songs and close with a spoken word, art installation worthy song called “The Small Print.” The album could do without the instrumentals, but the final piece is an example of experimentation gone right.

**Grade: B+**

—Arit John

*Mirror, Mirror is currently available.*



**LIVESHOWREVIEWS**

**Guy Sebastian**

Aug. 25 @ Hotel Café

Guy Sebastian's high notes are not rivaled by any other male singer on the scene right now. He gave a stellar live performance at Hotel Café, and the crowd was definitely diggin' this Australian cutie.

Sebastian's soulful riffs are delivered with such control and grace, you get chills listening. He wowed the audience with his treasure of a voice just as he did for audiences when he snagged the title of the first "Australian Idol."

Sebastian and his band work together flawlessly. A few of his best that can be found online are "Never Be You," "Art of Love" (which he duets with Jordin Sparks, who was not in attendance) and "Like It Like That," off of latest album of the same name. He even dedicated a melodic and delicate oldie of his, "Be Mine," to a fan attending the concert for her birthday.

Sebastian is definitely in a category all his own. If you decide to check him out, rest assured he's not one of those singers that loses momentum or his voice after a few songs into the set. He'll keep those high notes flowing for his entire soulful performance.

— Stephanie Forshee

**Goo Goo Dolls**

Aug. 29 @ The Greek Theatre

A pretty good damn night of rock! Before Goo Goo Dolls cracked the stage at the Greek Theatre, Green River Ordinance and Switchfoot delivered their unique styles. Then, the Goo Goo Dolls became the evident crowd pleaser for the show, which featured tracks from their entire 23-year career, including tunes from their latest album, *Something for the Rest of Us*. This summer night was the last on the Goo Goo Dolls' tour, and they made it one to remember for the fans in Los Angeles.

The New York natives performed "Sweetest Lie," "Not Broken," "As I Am," "Home" and "Now I Hear" – all from the new album. What the audience enjoyed the most turned out to be the band's hits from years ago. "Slide" provided chills, while "Black Balloon" produced screams, smiles and laughs of happiness as black balloons were released to the sky.

With its passionate lyrics and invigorating sounds, "Iris" completed the experience, spotlighting the lead vocals of John Rzeznik. It was definitely a concert to remember.

—Marvin G. Vasquez

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## CAMPUSNEWS

# THE FRESHMAN 15

## Surprising Revelations

BY EBONY MARCH, NEWS EDITOR

**COLLEGE BRINGS A SLEW OF CHANGES TO** a young person's life. The freedom to make one's own decisions may carry a lot of excitement, but can also provoke unforeseen stress. In times of adversity, many students turn to the comforts of food to stave off homesickness and anxiety. There is even a name for the subsequent weight gain that plagues the first year of university study: the freshman 15.

But amid the first year trials and tribulations of academic life is the growing epidemic of eating disorders and the startling realization that ethnicity plays an increasingly large part in students' eating habits and perceptions of their bodies. According to the National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA), nearly 20 percent of all students polled admitted having an eating disorder. Of that 20 percent, 36.5 percent were men and 63.5 percent were women, from freshman through graduate and postbaccalaureate. Ethnically, 78.9 percent were Caucasian; 8.2 percent Asian; 7.6 percent African-American; and 7.2 percent Hispanic.

Schools sensitive to the growing needs of their students have begun to deal with the plague of eating disorders (binging, purging, comfort eating) with a sensitive hand. *Newsweek* reports that universities such as Harvard have

gone so far as to remove nutritional information cards from eating areas in an attempt to quell disordered eating among students. But what do students think?

"I think I'd rather be broke than fat," says Jennifer, who is 18 years old, five-feet, six-inches and describes herself as "athletic." "I don't have anything against bigger people, but for me, it would be so frustrating to be like that."

Jennifer, who is half-Asian and half-Caucasian, says that growing up she was taught to believe that fat equaled laziness and that society would hold her back based on that assumption.

"I've never seen a big doctor; I'd never go to a trainer with a visible weight problem. I've never seen chunky news anchors," she says.

Tiffany is a black freshman who has been accepted into USC. She, too, has no noticeable issues with her weight (She's five-feet, eight-inches and approximately 130 pounds.), but is less worried about the freshman 15.

"I've heard about that," she says. "But if I get it, it won't matter. I'm tall. I can carry a little extra weight."

This difference in aesthetic sensibilities finds its home in anthropology. Around the world, black communities generally embrace weight with a bit more tolerance. Some tribes in Africa even require female inhabitants to spend time in "fattening huts" to pack on the pounds. Asian communities celebrate weight in sports such as sumo wrestling but exhibit eating habits consistent with slender populations. Women of Hispanic and Latin cultures also tend to embrace their curves. When Jennifer Lopez emerged in Hollywood, her assets quickly made her a superstar, paving the way for other Latinas like America Ferrera and Sofia Vergara to do the same.

The best way to avoid the freshman 15 is by eating healthy and getting regular doses of exercise. Isometrics (isolating

## Campus Circle &gt; News &gt; Campus News



The freshman 15 can sneak up on students.

and releasing the muscles) can be an easy and effective way to stay toned. Also, attending a school with a carefully thought-out nutritional program can be helpful as well. Students in Southern California for years have enjoyed the perks of their enlightened administrations. There have been a number of healthful choices available to them at UCLA, USC and other area universities.

It is best for students not to fixate on the details of what they consume or the caloric intake of each item that passes their lips, but instead to practice balanced eating for energy and sustenance. Late-night meals can also exacerbate weight gain, therefore, it's discouraged to eat large entrees after 7 p.m. In the event that extra weight finds its way into a student's life, fad diets should be ignored and replaced with portion control and exercise. Experts caution afflicted students to accept their bodies, regardless of racial and social considerations, and to adopt a clean lifestyle rather than attempting to fix what is broken if and when the freshman 15 finds its way into their lives.

## COLLEGECENTRAL

# USAC GLOBAL ADVENTURES

## Your Gateway to the World

BY ARIT JOHN

**IF YOU'VE EVER STUDIED ABROAD OR CONSIDERED** studying abroad, you know there are several questions that come up. Maybe you start off wondering where and when you should go (Paris in the spring or Melbourne in the fall?) and how you're going to make a summer in Prague fit into your Economics major.

Eventually hard and fast logistics start to get in the way: How will you pay for your trip? Are you going to need a scholarship? A loan? A promissory note between you and your parents? And once you finally get to Denmark or China, how will you transfer your units over? Where will you live? Who will you call if you need help?

Studying abroad can be stressful – luckily, the University Study Abroad Consortium knows that and is here to help offer affordable plans and individualized attention.

USAC's greatest strength is that it is a non-profit organization. This helps keep fees lower and more affordable than other study abroad programs.

The cost of tuition for Rebecca Whistler's five-week session in Costa Rica was \$5,800. As Whistler, a USAC intern, puts it, "Everything you pay to USAC goes toward your study abroad."

There are also a number of scholarships and work-study programs available to help finance your study abroad education. The Lüneburg Work-Study Grant is offered to students who study in Germany – recipients work at the USAC office in Lüneburg. The Félix Menchacatorre Memorial Scholarship is one of two Basque country scholarships awarded to students who attend a session in San Sebastián or Bilbao. Last year, USAC gave away over \$200,000 in award money.

For 25 years, USAC has been sending students abroad for winter (three weeks), summer (three-10 weeks), semester and yearlong programs. They have 40 different programs in 25 countries (everything from Ghana and Malta to Switzerland and France), as well as a number of internships and work-study programs.

USAC has offices across the globe, including resident directors who mentor students during their stay.

"Each of our resident directors is handpicked by Carmello, the head and founder of USAC. A lot of students describe the resident directors as their parents while they're away," says Whistler, who also participated in the USAC summer program to Costa Rica.

During her stay in Costa Rica, known as the "Switzerland of South America," Whistler says she attended several field trips, including a trip to an animal research institute where she was able to hold crocodiles and eat termites. There was also a weeklong trip to a nature reserve accessible only by boat.

USAC programs are geared toward allowing students to learn as well as take in the sights of their country. Though fitting in a lot of units into a short session, especially a three-week winter session or a five-week summer session, can be a lot of work, students still have time to enjoy themselves.

"They do realize you're there for the cultural experience,

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See the world with the University Study Abroad Consortium.

not just to sit in a classroom all day," says Whistler.

Field trips are integrated into the class curriculum.

According to Whistler, one of the best parts of studying abroad with USAC was the time she spent getting to know her host family and becoming immersed in the culture.

"The host family was definitely the best cultural experience. They took me to their family reunion. My host mom taught me how to cook Costa Rican food," says Whistler. "Go study abroad. I think it's one of the most valuable things I've done for myself in my college career."

For more information, visit [usac.unr.edu](http://usac.unr.edu).

## MUSICREPORT

BY KEVIN WIERZBICKI

### Can He Do It? Kenny Do It!

Kenny Livingston of Orange County band Good Man Down has been on the road for over a month and a half now, but not in the band's van. Livingston took off from the Hermosa Pier back in July on a beach cruiser bicycle headed for Kitty Hawk, N.C., on a mission to inspire his fellow Americans, through example, to change the way they approach personal health, nutrition and lifestyle choices.

For the immediate future Livingston is hoping the ride raises lots of money to go to providing better school lunches and for cancer research and is asking those who are able to make a donation at [LivingTheDreamFoundation.org](http://LivingTheDreamFoundation.org).

Find out where Kenny is today by visiting [KennyDoIt.org](http://KennyDoIt.org).



Kenny Livingston aims to inspire and change through his national bike ride.

### Mogwai is Burning for You

Seminal Scottish rock band Mogwai has just released their first official live concert film, *Burning*. The film was shot during the band's three-night sold-out residency at Brooklyn's Music Hall of Williamsburg in April 2009.

Directed by Vincent Moon and Nathanael Le Scouarnac (La Blogothèque's Take-Away Shows), the film presents itself as a modern urban-noir thriller; a black-and-white journey starting on the same New York City streets that Bernard Hermann scored for Martin Scorsese where manholes hiss steam, taxi headlights flare in the camera lens and strangers wait in street corner shadows.

Moon and Le Scouarnac call their Mogwai film an "experience of the senses; a lifetime of feelings in just one night."

Find out what they mean when *Burning* screens at the Echo on Sept. 12 at 8 p.m. Admission is free. The *Burning* DVD and its companion album, *Special Moves*, are available now.

### It's Yoga Month

September has been designated as National Yoga Month, and Putumayo World Music has put together a compilation to help further soothe you as you rejuvenate with Downward-Facing Dog and other yoga poses. Yoga instructor and musician Sean Johnson, founder of Wild Lotus Yoga studio in New Orleans, helped select the cuts found on *Yoga*, including contributions from Senegalese singer Ablaye Cissoko, Bhutanese monk Lama Gyurme, bhajan and kirtan singer Karnamrita Dasi and British producer Niraj Chag.

Krishna Das, the best-known U.S. performer of traditional Indian kirtan-style music demonstrates call-and-response chanting on the Dub Farm remix of "Hanuman Baba" and Wah! sings a tranquil verse that is believed to bring bliss to all who chant it. Johnson and his Wild Lotus Band also contribute melodic chanting in the form of "Om Hari Om/Sharanam Ganesha (Refuge)." *Yoga* drops on Sept. 14.

### Greg Graffin's Anarchy Evolution

Iconic singer Greg Graffin of punk rock band Bad Religion is about to release his new book, *Anarchy Evolution: Faith, Science and Bad Religion in a World Without God*. Most music fans probably think of Graffin as just the rebellious lead singer of the legendary punk band but the rocker is also quite the brainiac – he earned a Ph.D. at Cornell University and teaches evolution at UCLA.

The book is said to wed Graffin's experiences in punk culture to the academic world and explore the deep connection between art, religion and science. Co-authored with science journalist Steve Olson, *Anarchy Evolution* drops Sept. 28, the same day that Bad Religion's *The Dissent of Man* releases. A limited number of autographed copies of *Anarchy Evolution* are available for pre-order at [AnarchyEvolution.com](http://AnarchyEvolution.com).

### Another Sip of Bitches Brew

Miles Davis' landmark *Bitches Brew* album has turned 40 years old but it has lost none of its cachet; the 1970 release is widely given credit for being the album that brought jazz into the commercial rock era and stands today at No. 94 on *Rolling Stone's* list of the "500 Greatest Albums of All Time."

The just-released *Bitches Brew: Legacy Edition* is a triple disc set that contains CDs holding the original album, plus six previously unreleased alternate takes and edits and a performance DVD from a 1969 concert in Denmark.

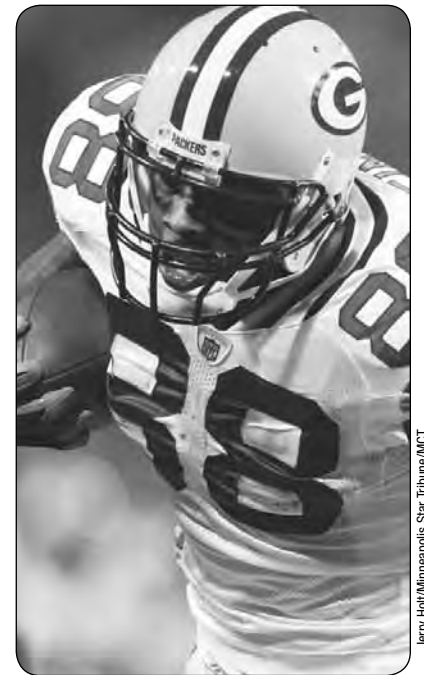
The super-deluxe *40th Anniversary Collectors Edition* box set, due Sept. 14, includes all of the above, plus a 1970 concert on CD, the original album on two 180-gram vinyl discs in a gatefold jacket, a 48-page color book, a fold-out poster and a memorabilia envelope.

## FOOTBALL

# FANTASY FOOTBALL

## Man Crushes for 2010

BY SCOTT BEDNO



Scott Bedno's ultimate Man Crush: the Green Bay Packers' Jermichael Finley

**I DON'T WANT TO OVERSTATE THIS**, but fantasy football is the biggest thing to happen to professional football since the invention of the forward pass or the three-team parlay. Hell, they could make the ball square and it wouldn't have as much of an impact as fantasy football has had over the past 10 years.

But fantasy football isn't just about running your own team and smack talking your friend who drafts three tight ends. It's a test of your intellect, your decision-making and your patience. It's chess with shoulder pads, war without all the blood and guts and stuff. It takes your ego to the altar and leaves it for the bridesmaid, week after week, yet you come back for more. It's a sadomasochistic relationship with no safety word.

Now, are you ready for some fantasy football?

My original idea was to provide my "Ten Commandments of Fantasy Football." However, seeing as how you people regularly disregard the real Ten Commandments (I see you out there coveting!), I've scrapped that idea.

Today I want to talk about the phenomenon known as the Man Crush.

It happens every year to every owner. There are one or two players in the draft who have caught your eye. Maybe you had your eye on them last year but they were with another team, so you'd flirt with them, innocently. Now, it's a new season, they're a free agent and you **HAVE TO HAVE THEM!**

You pray to each and every god that he will be there when it's your turn to pick in the draft. You crave him, you covet him, you love him.

I remember my first Man Crush: Carolina Panthers wide receiver Steve Smith in 2004. He was small for a receiver, but played angry. Man, I love players who play angry! I knew 2004 would be his "breakout" year. However, I didn't expect that 2004 would be his "break a leg in the first game of the season" year. I was Man Crushed.

Just like a real-life crush, you can be crushed worse if you **DO** get your man, then if you don't. Either way, you'll try, try again, because crushes, like fantasy football, are out of your control.

So, let's take a position-by-position look at who I'm Man Crushing this year. Keep in mind, I'm not suggesting these players should be taken before obvious stars like Chris Johnson, Drew Brees or Andre Johnson. But if the big boys are all gone and you're looking for strong upside value, and if you're able to manage the highs and lows, these guys may be for you.

**QB – Jay Cutler, Bears:** His offensive coordinator, Mike Martz, never met a pass he didn't like. He will probably throw 600 times this year; will have a five-interception game but will also have a five-touchdown game. He is the ultimate heartbreaker.

**RB – Jamaal Charles, Chiefs:** A Chris Johnson clone who can only be stopped by his coach. Talent-wise, he should get 400 touches this year but will probably get much less. Still, what he can do with those touches...

**WR – Roddy White, Falcons:** He's already an elite receiver, but most people don't know who he is. Let someone else take the bigger name (Reggie Wayne, Larry Fitzgerald) while you get better production from White.

**TE – Jermichael Finley, Packers:** Seriously, I don't think I've Man Crushed this bad, ever. I may name my first born son (or daughter) Jermichael. I'd go on, but my girlfriend will be reading this and I'm just about to cross a line one cannot easily uncross.

**Defense:** Normally I don't care about defenses, but the 49ers get to play the Rams, Seahawks and Cardinals twice, so that just makes my mouth water.

**Kickers:** Who cares about kickers?

I know you will have your own Man Crushes, so if you have a chance to get your man, do it! Remember, it's your team and your fantasy so have fun and, like my man Steve Smith, play angry!

*About the author: Scott Bedno has been commissioner of his fantasy football league for the past nine years. He is pretty sure fantasy football has cost him at least one long-term relationship. He is OK with this.*

FOOTBALL

Campus Circle > Sports > Football



Joe Rogate/Newsday/MCT

The Jets should finish first in the AFC East with sophomore Mark Sanchez under center.

# 2010-2010 NFL PREVIEW

BY RICHARD CASTAÑEDA

**THE WAIT IS OVER, AND SUNDAYS HAVE REGAINED** their meaning. Enjoy this season, because there might not be one next year. With the NFL and the players union at an impasse toward the collective bargaining agreement, we need to soak up whatever football we can get.

The offseason was spectacular with Kurt Warner's retirement, Brett Favre's faux retirement (again) and return to the Vikings – for what he claims is his “last season” – and all of the blockbuster trades.

The trendy picks this season are for the Cowboys, Packers and Vikings to duke it out in the NFC while the Colts, Jets and Chargers fight it out in the AFC. The Saints have an uphill battle toward repeating as world champions, but it's not impossible.

Here's the way the season will likely play out, with projected regular season standings next to each team and each team placed from first to last place in their respective divisions.

## AFC EAST

### New York Jets (12-4)

The Jets are too good to pass up this season. With monster trades acquiring LaDainian Tomlinson and Antonio Cromartie from the Chargers, Santonio Holmes from the Steelers and a proven sophomore quarterback in former Trojan Mark Sanchez, this team shows more power than New

England.

Darrelle Revis' monthlong holdout is over – much to the relief of every J-E-T-S fan. Without him, Kyle Wilson would have had to fill those shoes, and much of the Super Bowl talk would have faded before the leaves in fall.

An area of concern is Braylon Edwards, who is notorious for dropping passes. Edwards' routes are tight and he can run circles around any cornerback in this league, but he needs to improve his catching technique.

### New England Patriots (11-5)

Tom Brady simply doesn't have enough weapons this season to compete with the Jets. I have no doubt in the type of magic he's capable of, but the Patriots have lost so many offensive weapons that I can't see them outshining the Jets for the division title.

Wes Welker is back from the knee injury that prohibited his presence in the 33-14 loss to the Ravens to open up the playoffs last season. This might also be Randy Moss' last hurrah in New England if they don't pony up the dough to keep him. As great as the Patriots look on paper, I believe it's only good enough to get them as high as the fourth seed in the playoffs.

### Miami Dolphins (8-8)

Miami looks better with the addition of Brandon Marshall. He will be another great weapon for Chad Henne this season. The other Chad (Pennington) is back from the scary shoulder injury. Pennington is an excellent veteran backup and only enhances Miami this season.

I really like this offensive line, and it's the main reason their Wildcat offense and run game work so efficiently. Ronnie Brown and Ricky Williams should cut through defenses like butter. I have them at .500, but they can easily surpass expectations.

### Buffalo Bills (4-12)

C.J. Spiller, the rookie from Clemson, has performed above

expectations this preseason, and he's definitely one important part of a puzzle with many missing pieces. Since Trent Edwards has been injury prone – due in part to a shaky offensive line – I would expect Spiller to handle a bulk of the offense.

The defense, again, looks like it'll make the offense work overtime to either win games or stay in them. I hope Bills fans have a lot of coffee, cocoa, tea or whiskey – anything to keep them warm, 'cause these Bills are built to leave them out in the cold for another season. Good luck in the draft.

## AFC NORTH

### Baltimore Ravens (10-6)

The leading division favorite this year is Baltimore. Joe Flacco keeps improving, and it helps that Anquan Boldin is now part of his receiving corps. He also has Derrick Mason, and he could be a deep threat if he can stay healthy.

I like Ray Rice as Willis McGahee's replacement. McGahee might not share the same sentiment, but he can be a solid backup to Rice in third down and red zone situations.

On the defense, I like Ray Lewis. Age is only a number with this guy. He's reliable, and his veteran experience can only strengthen the pass rush. I also expect Kelly Gregg and Cory Redding to be an opposing quarterback's nightmare.

### Cincinnati Bengals (10-6)

Why are they so high on my list with the great potential for a meltdown? Ben Roethlisberger's four-game suspension is why. Adding Terrell Owens and Adam “Pac-Man” Jones to the integrated drama of Chad Ochocinco sounds bad on paper, but I'm confident all those charged personalities will learn to get along.

I expect the Bengals to sputter out of the gate 0-2, but quickly regain ground and end 3-2 by the bye week. They have one of the toughest schedules this season, but if Cincy can overcome early adversity, they can accomplish great things. Remember last season, no one thought they could sweep their division, and they did.

### Pittsburgh Steelers (9-7)

Ben Roethlisberger's four-game suspension has great potential to derail this team early on.

Their schedule is easy, but I still have doubts about Dennis Dixon. He will play these four games, and the Steelers better hope Dixon is up to the task of being the leading man because Byron Leftwich left a sour taste in the Bucs' mouths last season when he led them to a 0-3 start.

Shipping Santonio Holmes to the Jets eased tensions in the locker room, but is Mike Wallace the answer at this position? I'm not quite sure. Hines Ward might become more of a predictable target unless Wallace steps up.

### Cleveland Browns (5-11)

Appointing Mike Holmgren was a major plus to this often-clueless front office. Keeping Eric Mangini wasn't the smartest move despite the Browns' 4-0 close to the season.

Five of their seven games before the bye come against opponents who were .500 or better last season. Worse than that? Jake Delhomme is their new quarterback.

Josh Cribbs is the bright spot on this offense. Mohamed Massaquoi is a big question mark. He has the size and talent (six-feet, two-inches and 207 pounds), but running routes seems to be an issue for him.

Mangini will be fired by November.

## AFC SOUTH

### Indianapolis Colts (14-2)

As long as Peyton Manning is steering this ship, it will be a success.

Manning is still working on a new contract at press time. Although Jeff Saturday got his contract settled before Manning, no one in their right mind believes Manning's going anywhere.

**FOOTBALL - CONTINUED**

Campus Circle > Sports > Football

Manning has extra motivation to reach the Super Bowl this season after losing to the Saints 31-17.

Manning isn't the only one with a chip on his shoulder; Dallas Clark is also out for revenge, and that added motivation – coupled with rookie Brody Eldridge – makes them a great offensive threat.

I think Pierre Garcon is making a comeback of sorts. He becomes the major receiver along with Reggie Wayne and Austin Collie.

Special teams is lacking with injuries to safety Jamie Silva. With hopes resting on Devin Moore, don't expect too many eye-popping kick or punt returns.

**Houston Texans (9-7)**

Brian Cushing's four-game suspension might affect Houston, but Matt Schaub should be able to right the ship. Expect a sputter though.

Schaub was the NFL's passing yards leader last season, and he's likely to repeat in the top five QBs with receivers like Andre Johnson in his offense.

Arian Foster has potential to be Houston's premier back; if he can avoid injuries. Otherwise, the running backs look pretty slim down the line with Steve Slaton, Chris Henry and Jeremiah Johnson.

**Tennessee Titans (8-8)**

Vince Young has proven he has the talent to resume the starting quarterback position but has yet to prove he's matured enough to accept the responsibilities that come with it.

Off-field behavior aside, Young is the right man for the job. Coupled with offensive beast Chris Johnson, you've got yourself a bona fide threat.

The Titans won't pose a threat to the Texans or Colts because the latter half of their schedule looks too tough for their defense to handle.

Stanford Keglar and Stephen Tulloch need to improve the pass rush.

Otherwise, expect Cortland Finnegan and Michael Griffin to run amok in the backfield.

**Jacksonville Jaguars (6-10)**

Aaron Kampman got his wish when he was traded from Green Bay in the offseason – a return to the 4-3 defense that made him a star. He's coming back from an ACL tear, and that's always a questionable injury to return from.

Kampman will still make a difference on this defense alongside Derrick Harvey. Defensive coordinator Mel Tucker, like Kampman, has to readjust to 4-3. Their familiarity with that scheme is a positive.

I'm not entirely sold on David Garrard. He's interception prone, but he's got the guts to run the ball when he has to. He does have redeeming values, but nothing screams "Irreplaceable" to me.

Garrard's only got the starting job because Luke McCown and Trevor Harris haven't shown any indication they're ready to be anything more than backups.

**AFC WEST**

**San Diego Chargers (11-5)**

San Diego hardly looks the same anymore.

They traded LaDainian Tomlinson and Antonio Cromartie to the Jets, and Vincent Jackson (at press time) is probably going to sit out the season unless contract extension talks improve.

The Chargers acquired Patrick Crayton from Dallas, and he should fit in well in Jackson's likely absence.

The Cromartie and Tomlinson moves point to a calmer locker room, which can boost morale and cohesion and win them the division again, but the AFC West is the second weakest division in the league behind the NFC West, so that isn't saying much.

Shawne Merriman, who has often clashed with the front office, is back for another year, and Philip Rivers is a happier QB without L.T.

This might translate into a more fluid passing game. Look for Antonio Gates to get many of those catches if that's the case.

**Denver Broncos (8-8)**

Is Josh McDaniels running everyone out of town?

Brandon Marshall, Denver's elite wide receiver, is now with the Dolphins, and Tony Scheffler is with the Lions thanks to disagreements with McDaniels. We can't forget about Jay Cutler last season, either.

The initial infatuation Denver had with McDaniels after their 6-0 start is over, and now he needs to prove he is the right man to replace Mike Shanahan.

Much had been said about Tim Tebow's addition to Denver but with Kyle Orton's one-year extension, the Tim Tebow era isn't quite ready to start yet.

The offense is still strong behind Orton, but the backfield looks terrible. Pass rush looks inconsistent, and the linebackers don't seem like they've adapted to McDaniels' standards. Look for high-scoring games.

**Oakland Raiders (7-9)**

JaMarcus Russell is finally gone, much to the delight of all Raiders fans.

Jason Campbell was traded from Washington and makes a smart fit in this offense. His wrist was injured in preseason, so time will tell how it will affect Oakland.

The only downside to the equation is Tom Cable. He has yet to impress with his command over the offense, but John Marshall's command over the defense does reveal lots of potential, especially with Pro Bowler Nnamdi Asomugha.

The pass rush looked mean against the Bears in preseason. If that momentum can carry on, the Raiders might be poised to hit .500 or above.

**Kansas City Chiefs (4-12)**

The good news? The Chiefs face 10 teams who didn't reach the playoffs last season.

The bad news? Matt Cassel still doesn't have the offensive weapons to resurrect the 2008 Matt Cassel everyone fell in love with back in New England.

I like Jamaal Charles, but he'll start the season off behind Thomas Jones. Having the 32-year-old Jones instead of the 23-year-old Charles makes more sense to Todd Haley for some reason.

And people wonder why the Chiefs are among the worst teams.

Worse than the offense is the defense. The Chiefs traded Jarrad Page to New England for a conditional draft pick. They're a better team for it, but it won't make a difference this year.

**NFC EAST**

**Dallas Cowboys (13-3)**

Not only the division favorites, but the Super Bowl favorites again.

The Cowboys made a splash drafting Dez Bryant from Oklahoma State. If he doesn't have the breakout season I think he will, everyone else in the NFL will laugh, point fingers and say, "I told you so" to owner Jerry Jones.

Tony Romo stuck it to his naysayers by beating the Eagles wild-card weekend but choked against the Vikings. If this offensive line can overcome their red zone difficulties from last season, the Cowboys will be the top seed or second come January.

Another question mark is offensive tackle Flozell Adams' absence. Can new blood replace experience? Undrafted offensive tackle Doug Free seems to have Jones convinced he's worth the risk.

**Philadelphia Eagles (10-6)**

Welcome to the Kevin Kolb era, Philly.

This doesn't vastly improve the Eagles' chances of reaching the Super Bowl, but a wild-card berth might be in the cards. Kolb has to overcome adversity to step out of Donovan McNabb's shadow.

The City of Brotherly Love might not have so much for him if he starts throwing lots of interceptions. Kolb has some dangerous offensive weapons in running back LeSean McCoy, tight end Brent Celek and wide receiver DeSean Jackson.

Defensively, cornerback Asante Samuel anchors the backfield. The regular season opener versus the Packers is a statement game for Kolb.

If Philly can gel and gain momentum in an easy September schedule, it might hold up in October when McNabb comes into town with the Redskins.

**New York Giants (7-9)**

The only thing scarier than Eli Manning's bleeding forehead in their first preseason game is their potential dominance.

If the defense doesn't shape up, this will be a long season. It's unlikely the Giants will catch the Eagles, but there is hope.

What the Giants need to improve: Maybe the curse Plaxico

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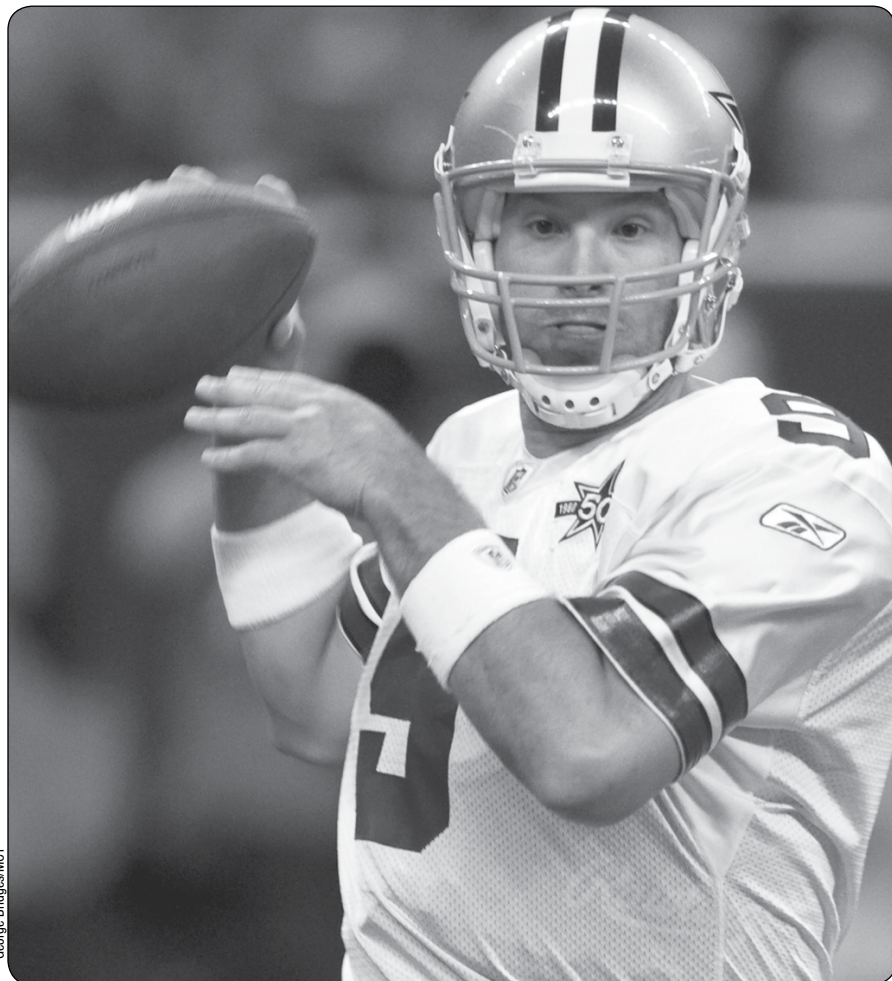


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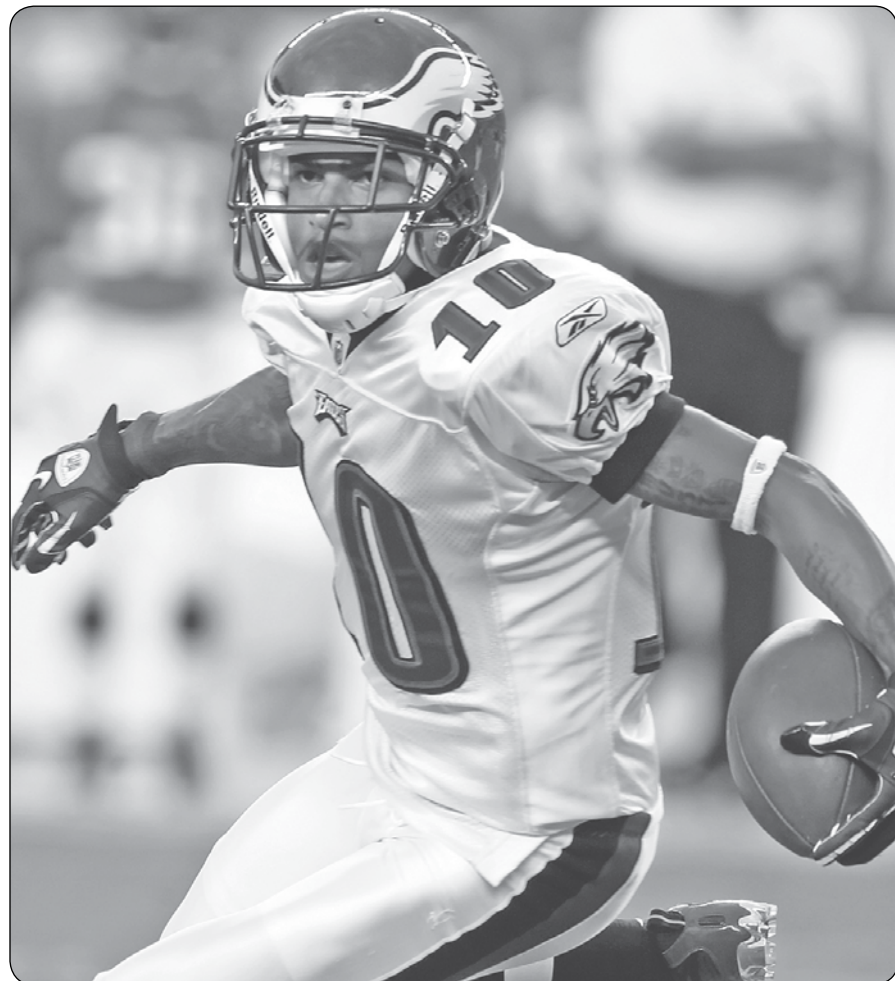
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FOOTBALL - CONTINUED

Campus Circle > Sports > Football



Tony Romo is at the helm of division favorite Dallas Cowboys.



Philadelphia has some dangerous offensive weapons, like DeSean Jackson.

Burress secretly put on Mario Manningham will wear off and Manningham can catch passes again.

Hakeem Nicks is more than capable to be Manning's go-to receiver.

The run game with Brandon Jacobs is troubling. If he can play a full season healthy, chances of .500 or beyond improve from impossible to unlikely.

**Washington Redskins (5-11)**

McNabb's trade to Washington is key to future success, just not this season. It also helps that Super Bowl winning coach Mike Shanahan is at the helm.

The big question mark is Albert Haynesworth. He has missed most of training camp due to bogus injuries and holdouts.

Rifts and gossip in the locker room aren't ingredients for playoff-bound teams.

Owner Dan Snyder's irresponsible spending has hurt this team for years to come. Rectifying those mistakes with Shanahan and McNabb won't be enough for a successful campaign this season.

**NFC NORTH**

**Green Bay Packers (12-4)**

Much has been said about the Packers this offseason. They're favored to win the division and possibly the Super Bowl.

They improved their offensive line by drafting Bryan Bulaga from Iowa and finding a steady lineup with Chad Clifton, Mark Tauscher and Josh Sitton. I'm not too sold on Daryn Colledge at left guard though.

Special teams is still a main concern. If that can improve, Aaron Rodgers' job will be easier. Rodgers is poised to be within the top five QBs (again) this season. I expect him to be the league MVP.

Running backs Ryan Grant and Brandon Jackson are

poised to create a lethal combination in red zone offense. Look for the running game to be as deadly as the passing game.

**Minnesota Vikings (11-5)**

Brett Favre's back in the lineup after a drama-filled summer of uncertainty. His return instantly makes the Vikings a favorite once more to reach the postseason and win the division.

It will be a neck-and-neck battle with the Packers because the Vikings' schedule isn't as soft as it was last season. After their bye in October, they immediately face the Jets, Cowboys, Packers and Patriots.

Making matters worse is Sidney Rice, who is out because of hip surgery. He'll be out half the season.

The Vikings seem desperate since they signed ex-Favre foe Javon Walker and Greg Camarillo from the Dolphins as replacements.

The last question mark is Percy Harvin. His migraine attacks have been widely reported. His absence would be greatly felt down the stretch.

**Chicago Bears (8-8)**

The Bears made strides during the offseason by trading for Julius Peppers and firing most of the coaching staff. Coach Lovie Smith might be the first head coach to get fired this season.

Jay Cutler is now a year removed from his ugly divorce with the Broncos but has yet to prove he can be the Bears' franchise quarterback.

Brian Urlacher's dislocated wrist is all healed up, but he's injury prone. All the Bears' linebackers are already banged up, and the season hasn't even started. That's cause for major concern.

If Cutler struggles down the stretch, look to Dan LeFevour to step in.

The Bears have one of the toughest schedules this season, so a playoff run doesn't seem likely with a December/January

schedule that includes the Patriots, Vikings, Jets and Packers – all teams projected to make the playoffs this year.

**Detroit Lions (3-13)**

The pieces are slowly coming together for the Lions to build something other than a dastardly-to-halfway mediocre team.

They drafted smart by picking Ndamukong Suh from Nebraska, and hopefully his car accident in August won't affect his performance.

Matthew Stafford is now recovered from his separated shoulder that plagued him toward the end of last season. Let's hope that was the reason he threw 20 interceptions.

Detroit needs vast improvements at their offensive line if they plan to keep Stafford healthy.

This is a pass-happy offense that needs a running back. Javid Best – a rookie drafted from Cal – is their, uh, best hope at this position if he can stay healthy. He'll likely win the starting job from Kevin Smith who tore his ACL in week 14 last season.

**NFC SOUTH**

**New Orleans Saints (10-6)**

They ain't the "Aints" no more!

The defending Super Bowl champions are looking to copy the 97-99 Broncos and 03-04 Patriots in becoming back-to-back champions. But many a team has suffered the so-called "Super Bowl Hangover," so it will be up to Drew Brees and company to get to a quick start this season.

They didn't lose many vital pieces to free agency, and they drafted smart by acquiring Patrick Robinson from Florida State to create depth in the backfield. Veteran safety Darren Sharper is on the physically unable to perform list, so it's up to Malcolm Jenkins to step in and fill big shoes.

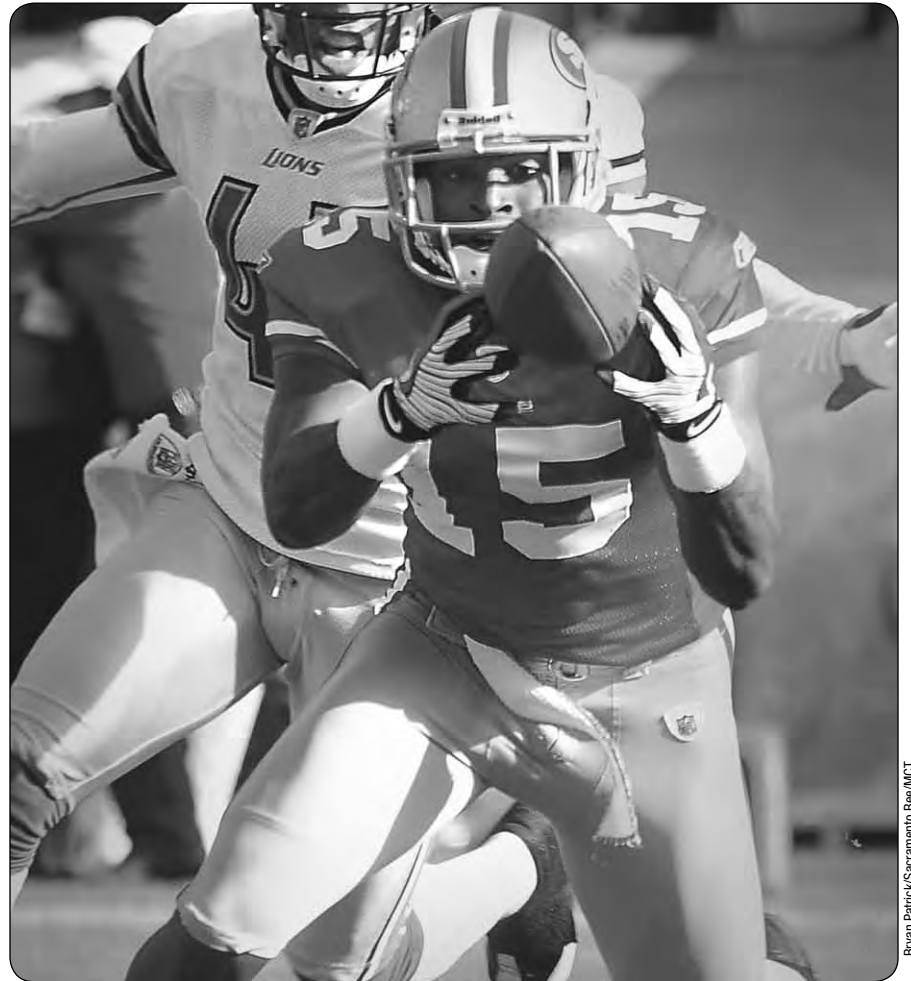
With more consistent output from running back Reggie Bush, Pierre Thomas and Bush have potential to destroy the

**FOOTBALL - CONTINUED**

Campus Circle &gt; Sports &gt; Football



The Falcons' Kroy Biermann strikes fear into many a quarterback.



Michael Crabtree and the 49ers could have a standout season.

backfield and preserve Brees' arm.

**Atlanta Falcons (9-7)**

Quarterback Matt Ryan has risen to the task of being the face of this franchise. This year, the Falcons tout "Rise Up" as their slogan after failing to reach the playoffs despite their 9-7 record.

History might repeat itself. Are the receiving corps cursed? Fifth-round pick Kerry Meier is out for the season with a knee injury in preseason, Michael Jenkins has a shoulder injury and Harry Douglas is returning with a torn ACL from last season.

Look for Kroy Biermann to strike fear into quarterbacks and record many sacks this season.

**Carolina Panthers (7-9)**

Jake Delhomme never recovered from his embarrassing 2008 playoff game against the Cardinals and was finally shipped off to Cleveland this offseason in favor of Matt Moore. John Fox is in the last year of his contract. If he hopes to coach again next year, it won't be with Carolina.

As bad as the Panthers might be this season, the silver lining is they aren't the Buccaneers.

Losing Julius Peppers to free agency without a viable replacement seems like a recipe for disaster. How many guys will step up? Greg Hardy might be an answer. The rookie from Mississippi won't have people saying "Julius who?" anytime soon, but the potential is there.

**Tampa Bay Buccaneers (2-14)**

Josh Freeman is the foundation for the Buccaneers' future success. The heir apparent brought the lifeless Bucs to a 3-13 record after starting the second half of the season.

It doesn't help matters he fractured the tip of this throwing thumb in preseason. The Bucs decided against trading for a veteran backup QB and that might become regrettable if Freeman isn't up to par by the regular season opener against

Cleveland. This defense is very young and that can play to their advantage. Having Gerald McCoy, Roy Miller and Brian Price in the rotation is perfect trial by fire for these rookies.

**NFC WEST****San Francisco 49ers (9-7)**

Not since the days of Terrell Owens have the 49ers been atop the NFC West, or the playoffs for that matter. That changes this year with Kurt Warner retiring.

The offense is pretty much the same, but they're a year older now. Wide receiver Michael Crabtree could have a standout season. He held out the first five games last season but with a full one ahead of him, he could be on his way toward a Pro Bowl soon.

The No.1 draft pick from 2005, quarterback Alex Smith, has a lot to prove in his game. He's been riddled with injuries and looks to complete his first full season since 2006. He's got the weapons, but will he know how to use them? He has a veteran running back in Brian Westbrook, who was recently traded from the Eagles. Westbrook is also notorious for injuries, as is Frank Gore.

If they can stay healthy, the latter half of their schedule looks favorable toward a playoff run.

**Arizona Cardinals (8-8)**

With Matt Leinart's release, Derek Anderson's appointment (Remember his inconsistencies in Cleveland last season?) and Anquan Boldin's trade to the Ravens, this season is hardly the same as last season. I still think they have enough to make a .500 run, considering this is the weakest division in football.

Larry Fitzgerald is still Arizona's premier wide receiver, but he won't post dazzling numbers with Anderson as his quarterback. There's also Fitzgerald's preseason injury to consider.

There are bright spots on this team, however. Running

back Beanie Wells, who will play a major role alongside Tim Hightower, can be the breakout star the Cardinals need, if he can hold on to the ball. Early Doucet is also capable of filling the void left by Anquan Boldin.

Third down conversion and red zone offense are paramount to the success of Arizona this season.

**St. Louis Rams (6-10)**

The Rams should have drafted Ndamukong Suh in April but instead got Sam Bradford. They got rid of Mark Bulger to make room for Bradford, but the problem isn't at quarterback so much as it is at defense and the offensive line. Their O-line could easily be compared to Swiss cheese with all the holes in it.

Bradford looked amazing this preseason, and it will go a long way toward rebuilding this franchise, but spending \$50 million on a rookie who has yet to prove himself in the regular season presents a huge question mark. The Rams will improve this season but not enough to crack .500.

**Seattle Seahawks (4-12)**

With all the offseason drama concerning USC, Pete Carroll insists he didn't bail on them in favor of a second try in the NFL. Who still believes him? He brings new life to the Seahawks, who saw a lot of glory under Mike Holmgren.

Matt Hasselbeck needs to stay healthy this season. The last two have seen Hasselbeck out for a bulging disk and shoulder issues.

His backup, Charlie Whitehurst, might become essential to this team if Hasselbeck goes down again. He's shown potential, but under duress, Whitehurst tends to throw interceptions.

Leon Washington could post big numbers this season if he can play as brilliantly as he has shown he can this preseason. The Seahawks are also without starting left tackle Russell Okung, who is out indefinitely with an ankle injury.

PIGSKINBLITZ

Campus Circle > Sports > Football

# BARKLEY LEADS USC, RUNNING BACKS SHAKE UCLA

BY MARVIN G. VASQUEZ

## USC 49, Hawaii 36

Lane Kiffin's debut with the USC Trojans resulted in a win over host Hawaii 49-36, while sophomore quarterback Matt Barkley led the way.

Barkley tossed 257 yards and tied a school record with five passing touchdowns. His favorite receiver of the day became senior Ronald Johnson, who caught seven passes for 59 yards that included three touchdowns, also tying a school record. Johnson also returned an 89-yard punt for a touchdown.

Despite the brilliant production in the air, the Trojans running game set the tone for the entire affair. Junior Marc Tyler rushed for an impressive 154 yards on 17 carries, including a 44-yard run and one touchdown.

"It was a good start for Matt, five touchdown passes and no interceptions," an unhappy Kiffin tells reporters. "Ronald had four overall touchdowns, which was good to see, and Marc, in his first start, got probably nine or 10 yards a carry."

Talk about making an offensive splash – the Trojans accomplished that and more, as they could easily have the best offensive trio in the nation after one game played. Allen Bradford pitched in 52 rushing yards, and Sylmar native C.J. Gable contributed 39 of his own. Receivers David Ausberry and Rhett Ellison collected a touchdown each.

Nonetheless, with strengths also came weaknesses. USC displayed an inconsistent defensive performance in all four quarters. The defense allowed 31 total first downs and 588 total yards that included 459 passing.

"Defensively, we didn't play very well obviously," states Kiffin, who feels the team could have won the contest in a more fashionable manner, especially because of the team's lack of discipline. "We ended up winning the game, which was good, but as you can see, we've got some depth concerns and issues. We've got a lot of work to do."

The Trojans committed 11 penalties for 100 yards, experienced a turnover and held the time of possession for five fewer minutes than Hawaii.

No. 16 USC (1-0) now returns home to the Los Angeles Coliseum, as they entertain the ACC Virginia Cavaliers Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in their second of four non-conference games this year.

## KSU 31, UCLA 22

UCLA held the lead at one point in the first half, but it could not contain a Kansas State comeback en route to the hosts' 31-22 win over the Bruins. The Wildcats' rushing attack was key to their success of the day.

Running back Daniel Thomas rushed for 234 yards on 28 carries, including a 44-yard run and two touchdowns. William Powell pounded 72 yards and a touchdown of his own to finalize the one-two punch for KSU.

"They had us on the ropes, and it was a great 1-2 punch ... I looked up at the scoreboard walking off the field and I think they had over 300 yards rushing," Bruin head coach Rick Neuheisel says. "That's not UCLA football. That's not how we play, and it can't be how we play if we expect to have any success this year."

Early in the first quarter, Thomas ran in a score for KSU, but UCLA's sophomore quarterback Kevin Prince knotted the score at seven early in the second quarter. The Bruins went on to take the lead, 10-7, on a 44-yard field goal by Kai Forbath, but it was not enough as the Wildcats mounted 24 points thereafter.

Prince threw for only 120 yards, a touchdown and two interceptions on 9-of-26 attempts. However, the rushing game was a bigger factor in this contest, as the Wildcats outran the Bruins 313-193.

"It looked like, especially in the second half, they were having their way in the running game," Neuheisel adds.

Three turnovers plagued the Westwood squad enormously as well, and they factored in negatively. Nonetheless, the receivers hurt Prince and the unit drastically as they dropped multiple passes that could have resulted in game-changing catches.

The punt return team saw light since Josh Smith ran the ball 27.5 yards on two occasions, but Forbath's kicking seems to be key for the Bruins' success this season.

After the opening loss, the Bruins return home to face the No. 25 Stanford Cardinal, beginning Pac-10 play at the Rose Bowl Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

GALAXYKICK

# GALAXY DRAW FIRE And Beckham to Return Saturday

BY MARVIN G. VASQUEZ



Omar Gonzalez reacts to the 1-1 draw.

**DAVID BECKHAM ANNOUNCED HE IS SET TO RETURN TO THE PITCH** this coming Saturday, and it comes at a time when the Galaxy need an uplifting change.

Los Angeles managed only a draw on the road against the Chicago Fire over Labor Day weekend, and it has cost them in several areas. First of all, the Galaxy (13-5-5, 44 points) only hold a one-point lead over Real Salt Lake in the Western Conference. Second, they are no longer the sole holders of the MLS' best mark as the Columbus Crew carry an identical record. The 1-1 tie in Chicago came seconds before the match ended, as defender Omar Gonzalez headed a corner-kicked ball from midfielder Landon Donovan. Chicago had netted their goal moments before Los Angeles knotted the score.

"I think we aren't going to complain when we put ourselves down in the 88th minute and we get out of here with a goal; I'm going to take it," Galaxy head coach Bruce Arena comments on [lagalaxy.com](http://lagalaxy.com). "It was a day where obviously if we were a little bit better, we'd get the three points today."

Donovan could have easily controlled the tempo of the contest, but Donovan failed to score on a penalty kick and via a one-versus-one with the Fire keeper. Both opportunities came in the first half, which featured an ejection of a Fire player. The Galaxy outshot their hosts 20-9.

"Personally, it was frustrating because I am relied on to score goals, especially penalty kicks, so that was frustrating," Donovan says to [lagalaxy.com](http://lagalaxy.com) about the miss.

Beckham looks to make his season debut with the Galaxy on Saturday, Sept. 11, as they entertain the Crew at the Home Depot Center at 7:30 p.m.

THE DIAMOND DISPATCH

# MISSING MANNY

BY DOV RUDNICK

**THE ERA OF MANNY RAMIREZ IN DODGER BLUE CAME TO AN END LAST** week when he was released to the Chicago White Sox. Manny haters saw his willingness to go as a spiteful betrayal of a team that had done so much for him. Most notable of these voices was Bill Plaschke of the *Los Angeles Times* who called Manny a "quitter," "drug cheat" and "...one of baseball's most conniving players." Plaschke accused Manny of "pouting" over lack of playing time and "...trying to extend his money grab" by returning to the American League. The biggest problem with Plaschke's accusations about Manny's character was that nowhere could it be corroborated by the very people who actually worked with him: the players and coaches, including manager Joe Torre and GM Ned Colletti. Torre fielded dozens of questions about Manny when the news broke, and he made it very clear that in all his time with Ramirez, he never had any problems. Colletti, who first arranged the deal that brought Manny to the Dodgers and later signed him to a two-year, \$45 million contract says he had "...absolutely no regrets." Colletti explained that Ramirez had been cooperative throughout the entire process leading to the decision to release him to the White Sox. The picture painted of Manny Ramirez is hardly that of a quitter or moneygrabber. Colletti went on to say that in all his years in baseball he had never seen a player energize a team and a fan base the way Manny did when he first arrived in the latter half of the 2008 season.

It might seem like ages ago, but the significance of that final stretch of 2008 should not be underestimated. "Manny put us on the map" offered Andre Ethier reflecting back on that time. It wasn't simply the improvement in overall play that accompanied his arrival; it was the sense of fun that Manny brought to the team. For a Dodger organization that had so long lacked for color and character, Manny was like a spice that brought out the other flavors in the dish. He had a curious mix of athletic excellence and childlike enthusiasm for playing baseball that was infectious. Like all great performers he made his success look easy and when his numbers declined, he was lambasted by those who felt he owed them more. For the many fans, however, who still wear his jersey, his very presence in Dodger Blue was enough. He will be missed.

## CALENDAR THE 10 SPOT

BY FREDERICK MINTCHELL

THURSDAY SEPT. 9



### "Sushi Pop-Art"

Royal/T, 8910 Washington Blvd., Culver City; [royal-t.org](http://royal-t.org)

Master Sushi Chef Kenny Yamada presents his "Sushi Pop-Art" dinner series. Royal/T afterdark is going to serve à la carte sushi in the back space with live entertainment and cocktails. Reservations at [kennyyamada.com](http://kennyyamada.com). 6 p.m.-10 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY SEPT. 8 UCLA Women's Volleyball vs. Pepperdine

Pauley Pavilion 301 Westwood Plaza, UCLA; [uclabruins.com](http://uclabruins.com)

The Lady Bruins are out to prove they're better than their No. 7 preseason Pac-10 ranking in this intra-city match against the Lady Waves who return 11 letter winners. 7 p.m.

### THURSDAY SEPT. 9 "Walking with Dinosaurs – The Arena Spectacular"

1111 S. Figueroa St., Downtown; [dinosaurlive.com](http://dinosaurlive.com)

Seventeen roaring, snarling "live" dinosaurs mesmerize the audience – and are as awe-inspiring as when they first walked on earth. The dinosaurs are life-size, making the show so immense, it could only fit in arenas. It's a \$20 million arena spectacle of unprecedented size and quality. Runs through Sept. 12.

### FRIDAY SEPT. 10 WCG U.S.A. National Final: The National Championship of Video Games

Universal Studios, 100 Universal City Plaza; [us.wcg.com](http://us.wcg.com)

At the World Cyber Games' 2010 National Championships, the top gamers in America compete for a spot to represent Team USA at the WCG Grand Final, as well as the chance to take home a share of more than \$50,000 in cash and prizes. Spectators can enjoy activities including walk-up tournaments and the Samsung Mobile Challenge. Runs through Sunday. FREE.

### SATURDAY SEPT. 11 USC Football vs. Virginia

Los Angeles Coliseum, 3939 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles; [usctrojans.com](http://usctrojans.com)

Both teams are sporting new head coaches this year. See which squad prevails after the change in leadership. 7:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY SEPT. 11 UCLA Football vs. Stanford

Rose Bowl, 1001 Rose Bowl Drive, Pasadena; [uclabruins.com](http://uclabruins.com)

Catch the Pac-10 opener for both teams. Keep an eye on UCLA All-American safety Rahim Moore. 7:30 p.m.

### SATURDAY SEPT. 11 "Leap of Faith"

Ahmanson Theatre, 135 N. Grand Ave., Downtown; [centertheatregroup.org](http://centertheatregroup.org)

You'll be dancing in the aisles when con man Jonas Nightingale brings his gospel-charged tent revival to rain-starved Kansas. Based on the movie, "Leap of Faith" boasts a brand new score from eight-time Oscar winner Alan Menken and stars Brooke Shields. Runs through Oct. 24.

### SUNDAY SEPT. 12 "Shitty Jobs"

Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre, 5919 Franklin Ave., Hollywood; [ucbtheatre.com](http://ucbtheatre.com)

Everyone remembers that one nightmare job they used to have. The UCB interview a random member of the audience about their worst job, then spin it into fully improvised show filled with creepy bosses, depressed co-workers and jerk-ass customers. 11 p.m. \$5.

### MONDAY SEPT. 13 Spa Week

[spaweek.com](http://spaweek.com)

Select spas in the area offer certain spa treatments for just \$50. Indulge in anything from massages and facials to manicures and pedicures that normally range from \$100 all the way up to \$450. Runs through Sunday.

### TUESDAY SEPT. 14 Umami Dinner and a Movie

Space 15 Twenty, 1520 N. Cahuenga Blvd., Los Angeles; [space15twenty.com](http://space15twenty.com)

The delicious burger and beer joint sets up tables in the courtyard for their Tuesday night film screenings. Arrive early for a good seat and to browse the stores at this cool outdoor mall. Shop, sip, screen: What more could you ask for on a weeknight? 8 p.m.-10 p.m. Free.

For more events, visit [campuscircle.com/calendar](http://campuscircle.com/calendar). To submit an event for consideration, e-mail [calendar@campuscircle.net](mailto:calendar@campuscircle.net).

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Principal Investigator  
UCLA IRB#: 07-03-009-04  
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## CURTAINCALL

### "Neighbors"

Now-Oct. 24 @ Matrix Theatre

"Love Thy Neighbor" takes on a whole new meaning with the controversial and thought-provoking "Neighbors." Richard (Derek Webster) has devoted his life to working his way to the top and leaving his past behind. That past is revisited with the arrival of his new neighbors.

The ensemble cast was astonishing. Rachae Thomas (Melody) was brilliant. Julia Campbell (Jean) was genius as the Stepford Wife experiencing an unexpected breakdown. Baadja-Lyne (Mammy) held the show together, and James Edward Shippy (Jim) and Leith Burke (Zip) stole the audience's hearts.

"Neighbors" is beautifully executed.



Julia Campbell and Leith Burke

—Stephanie Forshee

Matrix Theatre is located at 7657 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles. For more information, visit [plays411.com/neighbors](http://plays411.com/neighbors).

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