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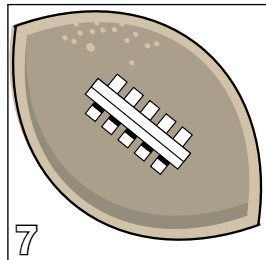
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## COLLEGE STUDENTS LIVING in the LAP of

# Luxury



**ODDS ARE SLIM** that the cast of “Jersey Shore” will ever enroll at University of Southern California. But if they could, TV’s legendary sybarites would find that gym-tan-laundry is just the beginning at a new luxury apartment complex near campus. Nearly every detail at West 27th Place is upmarket, from the fountains, landscaping and custom outdoor light fixtures to the granite countertops and big-screen HD television sets in every unit. There are also televisions in the well-appointed gym, along with a professional-grade Sundazzler; a walk-in tanning booth that resembles a science-fiction movie prop. Five Guys Burgers and Fries, the East Coast’s answer to In-N-Out, opened on the ground floor. Other restaurants are set to follow. Making margaritas? The kitchens include ice makers. Revelry can spill over to the billiard room, swimming pool and a hot tub that is supposed to hold five people. “It’s usually either two or 10” in the tub, quipped David Hilliard of Symphony Development, the owner of the complex.

Those who remember college housing as spartan dormitories or crowded cracker box apartments may be seized with envy or the urge to give denizens of West 27th Place a sermon on how spoiled they are. Get over it. Students today expect more from their college experience, including all the comforts of Mom and Dad’s sumptuous home, according to developers who are rushing to fill the growing demand for deluxe digs. At the University of California-Riverside, the year-old Camino del Sol complex on campus boasts a 24-hour fitness center, billiards, a hot tub, barbecues and a resort-style pool with a sun deck and cabanas. University Gateway, which opened last year just outside the University of Southern California, is “almost like a youth-oriented luxury hotel,” developer Dan Rosenfeld said. “It’s a national trend,” he said. “There is competition among schools, and USC has to provide a competitively attractive student environment.”

The \$55 million West 27th Place complex is a model for campus housing, said Henry Cisneros, the former Housing and Urban Development secretary who is now executive chairman of CityView, the Los Angeles investment firm that helped fund the project.

USC and the University of California-Los Angeles have made strides in recent years to outgrow their former images as commuter campuses where most students left at the end of the day. Both now draw more students from around the world, some of whom pay tuition of more than \$40,000 a year and want housing that meets their refined tastes. Old dormitories are being refurbished and new units that house fewer students are being built to the latest environmental standards. “Students come on campus tours and want to know where they are going to live all four years; where they will work out, where they

will sit with their friends,” said Kristina Raspe, who is in charge of real estate development at USC. “The cinder block dorms I lived in do not meet current demands.” USC students who could afford it have always tended to live in style away from campus. Lodging within walking distance has traditionally been cramped, dog-eared and

**“With all the pressure coming on the tuition side, we need to be sure students have an affordable housing option to attend UCLA...”**

pricey. Figueroa Street, the campus’ eastern boundary, has for decades been populated by automotive repair shops and fast-food joints. West 27th Place is a sharp upgrade. The seven-story, 161-unit complex on Figueroa, with its lush sidewalk landscaping, tiled roofs and Spanish Colonial architecture, is evocative of the nearby landmark Automobile Club of Southern California headquarters.

Sound deadening doors and windows seal tightly to keep out traffic noise. That’s not to say the place is always quiet, it is student housing, after all. “It gets a little loud, but it’s much quieter than the dorms could ever be,” said Jaques Dubois, a grad student from Connecticut. He likes the building’s proximity to campus and amenities such as the full kitchen. “The washer and dryer,” he added, eyes widening with enthusiasm, “is huge.”

There are also study rooms on each floor, a room to park 350 bicycles, hardwiring for the Internet and satellite TV, plus in-room and communal Wi-Fi, said Hilliard, president of Symphony. Recreation areas include a club room with a pool table and a big-screen television where management will host game-day parties. If a resident gets sick, management will deliver a get-well package with chicken soup and ginger ale. It doesn’t come cheaply, of course. A one-bedroom unit at West 27th Place, which can

BY ROGER VINCENT

LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT) LOS ANGELES

house two students, may cost more than \$2,500 a month, more than twice the county’s median price. A four-bedroom, two-bath unit shared by eight students starts at \$680 apiece, or more than \$5,400. Parking is extra at \$150 a month, but judging by the garage many can afford it. Among the student vehicles there on the first day of school were late model Mercedes-Benzes, BMWs and sports utility vehicles.

Still, other students are hard-pressed to pay for school and books, let alone a lavish apartment. Over in Westwood, UCLA is racing to add more affordable housing on campus, where demand has always been high and dormitories operate on a nonprofit basis.

Residence halls for about 1,500 undergrads are under construction. Compared with the hotel-like digs of some colleges, these units are modest. Students will live up to three to a room, share bathrooms and eat in dining halls. Still, the rooms will be wired for the latest electronics and built to strict environmental standards that include separate trash chutes for recycling and outdoor sun shades on the windows. UCLA is also building 500 units of graduate student housing. These studios will have kitchenettes, contemporary furnishings and more privacy. Rent will probably be between \$1,000 and \$1,200 a month.

“With all the pressure coming on the tuition side, we need to be sure students have an affordable housing option to attend UCLA,” said Peter Angelis, who is in charge of housing at the university. “A student’s academic experience is greatly enhanced when living on campus. We are focusing our resources on building beds.” The projects will cost \$347 million, which will be paid for from student housing and dining fees, Angelis said.

With much of the nation’s student residences dating to the baby boom era, housing for their children will grow in importance as expectations and tuition fees rise, said University Gateway developer Rosenfeld.

“Given what college costs today,” he said, “a lot of kids and parents are expecting more than a camp-out.”

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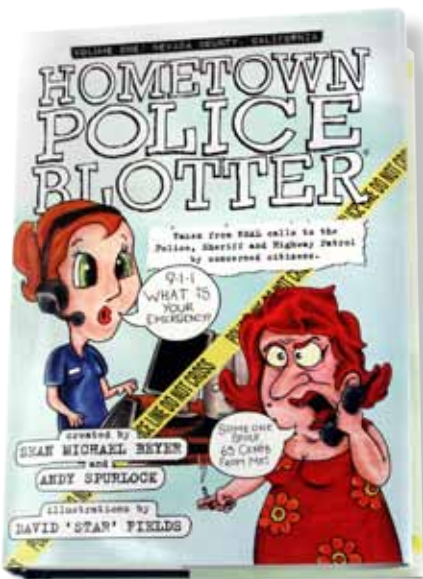
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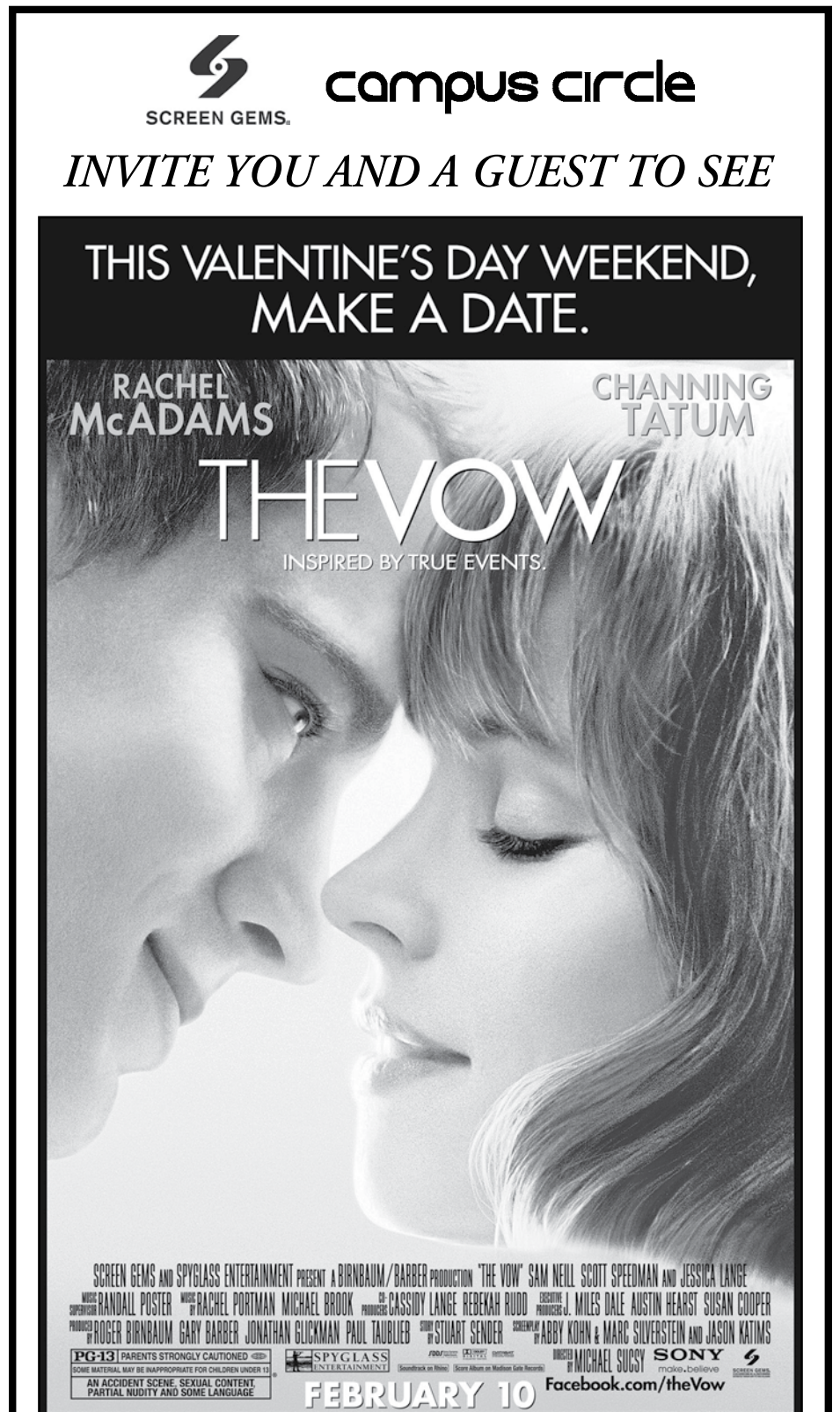
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◀ Eli Manning

## New York Giants

Regular season **645-531-33**  
Postseason **20-24**

**1925** Tim Mara purchases a National Football franchise for \$500

**1927** Finishes with best record; first NFL title

**1935** Advance to third straight championship; lose to the Detroit Lions

**1945** Finish with worst record to date; ended season 3-6-1

### Playoff appearances

1933, 1934, 1935, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1943, 1944, 1946, 1950, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1989, 1990, 1993, 1997, 2000, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2011

### NFL champions

1927, 1934, 1938, 1956, 1986\*, 1990\*, 2007\*

\*Super Bowls

**1956** Team, coached by legends Jim Lee Howell, Vince Lombardi and Tom Landry, wins NFL championship

**1958** Lose to the Baltimore Colts in the NFL Championship's first sudden death overtime; has been referred to as the "greatest game ever played"

**1963** Make it to championship five times out of the last six years; fail to win anything

**1970s** Team plays in four different home stadiums, three different states and not one postseason game; finishes last place or next-to-last eight times in the decade

**1979** Draft QB Phil Simms

**1981** Draft linebacker Lawrence Taylor; make it to the playoffs for the first time since 1963

**1983** Bill Parcells' first season as head coach

**1986** 14-2 season; advance to Super Bowl XXI; defeat Denver Broncos to win first championship since 1956

**1990** Start season winning first 10 games; win Super Bowl XXV against Buffalo Bills; seven Giants players named to Pro Bowl

**1997** Jim Fassel named 15th head coach; finish season with a 7-0-1 division record

**2000** Lose to the Baltimore Ravens in Super Bowl XXXV

**2004** Tom Coughlin hired as head coach; complete draft day trade for QB Eli Manning, becomes team's starting quarterback in middle of season

**2007** Meet undefeated New England Patriots in Super Bowl XLII; win in one of the biggest upsets in Super Bowl history



Tom Brady ▶

## New England Patriots

Regular season **414-365-9**  
Postseason **21-15**

### NFL champions

2001\*, 2003\*, 2004\*

\*Super Bowls

### Playoff appearances

1963, 1976, 1978, 1982, 1985, 1986, 1994, 1996, 1997, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011

**1959** Billy Sullivan Jr. secures franchise for the new AFL; following a contest, team named the Boston Patriots

**1960** Lou Saban named first head coach

**1963** Make it to the AFL Championship for first time; lose to San Diego Chargers

**1970** AFL and NFL merge; Foxboro named new playing site; John Mazur named head coach

**1971** Renamed the New England Patriots; debut at Schaefer Stadium; Heisman Trophy winner QB Jim Plunkett joins team

**1982** Ron Meyer named eighth head coach in club history; first playoff game since 1978; lose to the Miami Dolphins

**1985** First Super Bowl appearance, lose to Chicago Bears 46-10

**1993** Bill Parcells named new Patriots head coach

**1994** Robert Kraft becomes the Patriots fourth owner

**1996** Lose to Green Bay Packers in Super Bowl XXXI; Parcells steps down as head coach

**2000** Hire Bill Belichick as head coach

**2001** Final season at Foxboro Stadium; QB Drew Bledsoe suffers injury in home opener; Tom Brady leads team to 11-5 record and victory in Super Bowl XXXVI

**2003** 14-2 record; beat Carolina Panthers in Super Bowl XXXVIII

**2004** Defeat Philadelphia Eagles in second straight Super Bowl win

**2007** Enter Super Bowl XLII with a 18-0 record; defeated by the Giants

2012 Rematch of Super Bowl XLII

# SUPER BOWL ADS

## The Super Bowl is a make-or-break night for advertisers

■ One-minute commercials during Super Bowl I cost \$75,000 on NBC and \$85,000 on CBS. (Both networks broadcast the game.) One 30-second commercial during the last Super Bowl cost around \$3 million (that's \$100,000 a second).

■ The average 30-second commercial price reached \$1 million for the first time in 1995. The \$2 million mark was first topped in 2000, and commercial costs reached \$3 million for the first time in 2009.

■ Commercial slots during the first quarter typically are the most expensive with slots in the fourth quarter the least expensive.

■ Fifty-one percent of people surveyed by The Nielsen Company in January 2010 said they watch the Super Bowl for the commercials. Also, commercials viewed during the first quarter tended to be the most remembered and the most liked.

■ The second-half kickoff of Super Bowl I had to be replayed because NBC was airing a Winston cigarette commercial when the kickoff took place.

■ Farrah Fawcett and Joe Namath promoted Noxzema in the first high-profile Super Bowl ad, aired in 1973 during Super Bowl VII. The commercial featured Fawcett playfully spreading Noxzema shaving cream across Namath's face.

■ Budweiser's Clydesdales first appeared during Super Bowl XX in 1986 and have been in more than a dozen Super Bowl ads.

■ Seventeen "dot-com" companies advertised during Super Bowl XXXIV in 2000, making up almost half of the advertisers. But that number dropped to three the following year because of the dot-com bust. One of the three survivors was E\*Trade, which featured a monkey riding a horse past failed dot-com companies.

■ AOL was the sponsor of the infamous "wardrobe malfunction" halftime show

**The teams on the field aren't the only ones with Super Bowl game plans. The companies that will push their products and services from the stage of the world's largest single-day sporting event have been planning since the final seconds of last year's game.**

**Companies have thrived and nose-dived based on Super Bowl viewers' opinions of their brand — all based on television commercials.**

**With the countdown clock ticking for advertisers, here are some things to know about Super Bowl commercials:**

BY DAVID THOMAS MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS (MCT)

with Janet Jackson and Justin Timberlake (Super Bowl XXXVIII, 2004).

■ In the year after Go Daddy advertised in Super Bowl XXXIX (2005) for the first time, the domain name registrar saw its active sites increase by 136 percent. That boosted Go Daddy to become the world's largest Web hosting firm.

■ One of the worst-received Super Bowl commercials was Just for Feet's "Kenya Mission" spot during Super Bowl XXXIII (1999). In the commercial, four white mercenaries in a Humvee chased a Kenyan runner, gave him a drug-laced drink that knocked him unconscious, then put running shoes on him under the motto of "To serve and protect feet." Just for Feet sued its advertising agency — the suit later was dropped — and filed for bankruptcy later that year.

■ Apple's groundbreaking, George Orwell-inspired "1984" commercial during Super Bowl XVIII (1984) introduced consumers to the Macintosh personal computer. It also ushered in a new era of Super Bowl commercials and is widely considered the most impacting Super Bowl ad ever.

■ The original plan called for the Apple commercial to run Jan. 1 during college bowl games, but the commercial was pushed back to the Super Bowl because Macintosh's launch date was scheduled for late January.

■ Apple bought 90 seconds of commercial time for Super Bowl XVIII. But when Apple's board of directors strongly disliked the "1984" commercial, Apple sold 30 seconds of its slot and, eventually, decided to run the commercial anyway. The commercial cost almost \$1 million to produce

and ran only one other time on television — early morning on a small Idaho television station so that the commercial would be eligible for advertising awards.

■ Apple sold 72,000 Macintosh computers during the first 100 days the product was available after Super Bowl XVIII — 44 percent above projections.

■ The following year, during Super Bowl XIX, Apple followed up its super "1984" effort with one of the worst ads in Super Bowl history. Sales dropped after the "Lemmings" commercial, Apple suffered through financial difficulties, and the company didn't advertise in another Super Bowl for more than a decade.

■ New York Giants quarterback Phil Simms (Super Bowl XXI, 1987) was the first player to be filmed on the field after a Super Bowl for an "I'm going to Disney World" commercial.

■ The "Where's the beef?" line from the Wendy's commercial during Super Bowl XVIII in 1984 worked its way into the world of politics later that year. Walter Mondale helped gain the Democratic nomination for president by asking, "Where's the beef?" when criticizing Gary Hart's campaign platform.

■ Burger King's Herb the Nerd campaign during Super Bowl XX in 1986 is considered one of the biggest flops in Super Bowl advertising history. Consumers showed little interest in following the campaign's theme of finding Herb, who had never eaten at Burger King, and the multimillion dollar campaign is still remembered for the wrong reasons.

■ Master Lock is considered one of Super Bowl advertising's greatest success stories. The small

company paid \$107,000 for a 30-second spot during Super Bowl VIII in 1974, and the gamble paid off big-time. In that commercial, a sharpshooter shot a bullet from a high-powered rifle into a Master Lock padlock, but the padlock remained locked. Public trust in its products enabled the small company to become the world's largest manufacturer of padlocks. Although Super Bowl commercials used up most of Master Lock's annual advertising budget, the company aired commercials in 21 Super Bowls before announcing in 1997 it no longer would advertise during the game.

■ Spuds MacKenzie, Bud Light's official party dog, made his Super Bowl debut in 1987 during Super Bowl XXI. Although a male in commercials, Spuds actually was a female bull terrier named Honey Tree Evil Eye.

■ The Coca-Cola commercial featuring "Mean Joe" Greene sharing a Coke and a smile with a kid consistently rates as one of the favorite Super Bowl commercials. However, the commercial did not debut during a Super Bowl. The ad first aired during the 1979 regular season, then aired in the following Super Bowl (XIV).

■ "Wassup" became a part of the American vocabulary because of an Anheuser-Busch commercial that first aired on Monday Night Football, but hit it big during Super Bowl XXXIV (2000).

■ The Mean Joe Coke commercial led to a 1981 made-for-TV movie titled "The Steeler and the Pittsburgh Kid," in which Greene played himself.

■ The first Bud Bowl was held in 1989, during Super Bowl XXIII. Using stop-action to play out the game, producers needed about 10 hours to shoot two seconds of

commercial action.

■ Coca-Cola's peace-promoting commercial featuring young people from around the world singing "I'd like to teach the world to sing" made its Super Bowl debut in 1972 in Super Bowl VI. The commercial, titled "Hilltop," aired for six years. The commercial was recreated for Super Bowl XXIV in 1990 and included some of the original commercial's actors and their children.

■ Louie, one of Budweiser's lizards that first appeared at Super Bowl XXXII in 1998, made it onto the paint scheme of the car driven by NASCAR's Ricky Craven.

■ For Super Bowl XXVI, broadcast on CBS in 1992, Frito-Lay sponsored Fox's "In Living Color Super Halftime Party" that tempted viewers to switch over to the rival network during halftime of the game. The next year, Frito-Lay became the first national sponsor of the Super Bowl's halftime show, which featured Michael Jackson.

■ MillerCoors aired a one-second commercial for its Miller High Life brand during Super Bowl XLIII in 2009. The ad did not run in all parts of the country. MillerCoors had to purchase the spot through local NBC outlets because Anheuser-Busch held exclusive national alcohol advertising rights for the Super Bowl.

■ McDonald's reported a sales increase of 22 percent after advertising in Super Bowl III.

■ The Journal of Advertising Research reported in 2004 that movies promoted during a Super Bowl earned twice as much at the box office during their debut week than movies not promoted during a Super Bowl.

■ Researchers at the University of Buffalo tracked 529 Super Bowl commercials from 1989-2005 and found that companies with the 10 most-liked ads each year saw their stock prices increase a quarter of a percent on the Monday after the Super Bowl. With companies that advertise during the Super Bowl having an average market value of about \$30 billion, that quarter-percent gain represented about an \$80 million increase in one day.

■ Publisher's Clearing House began announcing its winner on live television during Super Bowl broadcasts in 1995, for Super Bowl XXIX. Nervous that the winner would not be home, a member of the PCH prize patrol posed as a Super Bowl commercial surveyor and called the winner the weekend of the big game to learn whether the winner would be watching at home.

■ At Super Bowl XXVIII (1994), Reebok aired a commercial near the end of the game that was filmed and edited during the game. To promote its InstaPump shoes, Reebok purchased the last spot of the game. The commercial was supposed to be delivered to NBC with five minutes to spare, but instead was turned in a little less than three minutes before air time.

■ TNS Media Intelligence research discovered that from 1990-2009, Anheuser-Busch spent \$311.8 million on Super Bowl advertisements. The rest of the top five biggest spenders: PepsiCo (\$254.2 million), General Motors (\$80.5 million), Walt Disney (\$71.6) and Time Warner (\$64.8).

■ During that 20-year period, according to TNS, the Super Bowl generated \$2.17 billion of network sales, with 210 advertisers and more than 1,400 commercials.

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**WITH LOW-BUDGET FILMS** like *Paranormal Activity*, *Apollo 18* and *The Devil Inside* giving the “found footage” horror genre room to grow, classic horror films have lost their place in Hollywood. Looking to change that is Ti West, director of the under appreciated film *The House of the Devil*, *Cabin Fever 2: Spring Fever* and now *The Innkeepers*.

Set in what is believed to be one of New England’s “most haunted hotels,” Yankee Pedlar Inn is about to shut its doors for good. Claire (Sara Paxton) and Luke (Pat Healy) –the last remaining employees whip out the EVP detectors to try and capture proof. As the final days grow near, odd guests check in as the mediocre “ghost hunters” begin to experience bizarre events that ultimately convert them into believers.

After stumbling upon Yankee Pedlar Inn during production of *The House of the Devil*, the inn’s long reputation of being a “haunted house” lived up to those standards. Its unnatural vibe went on to inspire an old-fashioned ghost story as the premise of *The Innkeepers* and served as the key location to bring that aura on film.

Staying in the Yankee Pedlar during filming of *The Innkeepers* was unusual to say the least, yet interesting to experience the supernatural first hand for the cast and crew.

“It’s kookier than it is scary, but it’s strange. And everything that happens there is just a little off. I don’t really believe in ghosts, but it was the closest thing to I’ve ever come to believing because something is just not right there,” says West.

Paxton, who is better known for her role in *The Last House on the Left*, returns to the genre once more and faces her surprising phobia of horror films. Having sworn off watching them, she couldn’t turn down the opportunity to work alongside West.

“He’s so good. He’s so talented - it’s crazy. I know now from doing this movie, knowing him, that people think of him as a beacon of hope for the

# THE INNKEEPERS are Supernaturally Scary

BY NATALY CHAVEZ



Sara Paxton and Pat Healy in *The Innkeepers*.

**“I don’t really believe in ghosts, but it was the closest thing to I’ve ever come to believing because something is just not right there...”**

genre, and that’s really cool,” claims Paxton.

Having been a fan of *The House of the Devil*, it didn’t take Healy long to sign on to *The Innkeepers*. Lucky to have found an instant connection with his co-star and a smooth transition to his dry-humored character with similar traits, Healy was intrigued with the story and impressed with the outcome.

“I was certainly interested in the idea of whether or not there are supernatural occurrences or whether they are happening inside someone’s head. That’s something I’m naturally interested in,” mentions Healy.

Paranoia certainly creates a sinister atmosphere that begins to escalate more and more throughout the film, leaving the audience wondering the reason behind the turn of events. The film without question draws on suspense, dating back to vintage horror where you wait and wait and then jump out of your seat.

Trying to avoid the home video trend, West took an unusually creative take on sound design that put the audience in the EVP perspective, making them cringe in their seat with uneasiness.

“Sound design is very important in horror movies...and I use it to carry the narrative a little, which is bold.”

Having made a small contribution to *V/H/S*, which will premiere at Sundance this year, West does draw on “found footage,” but is confident the film steers away from the obnoxious and unoriginal reputation “found footage” films have made for themselves in the last few years.

Set on being seen as more than a genre director, West already has a werewolf film in the works, as well as a Sci-Fi script further along the road. Having yet to become rich and famous by Hollywood standards, West is perfectly comfortable relishing his independent film lifestyle.

*The Innkeepers* releases February 3.

## New Web reality series puts USC in a bad light

BY ANGEL JENNINGS AND RICK ROJAS LOS ANGELES TIMES (MCT)

“Undergrads,” the USC-centered Web reality series, focuses on a bacchanal a la *The Hangover*: Amorous, good-looking young people hooking up, wild parties, run-ins with the law and booze. Lots and lots of it. These scenes could be captured on any Friday night at almost any university. But for many students and administrators at the school, the show that debuted recently was a real buzz kill.

“I can’t help but laugh and be disgusted at the same time,” said Travis Newhouse, 29, a junior cinematic arts major. “It’s irresponsible.”

The Web series was produced by actor and perennial student James Franco and follows a wolf pack of USC students through the travails of off-campus life.

“We want to take YOUR LIVES, YOUR STORIES, and YOU, and turn them into an amazing scripted web series about college life,” an online casting call from 2010 said.

Based on the promo, the show depicts a “senior year bucket list” that includes a young woman painting her body in Trojan colors and going to a football game, young men chasing after women and, in one scene, chugging vodka from a bottle. It also includes grainy, night-vision shots of police shutting down parties. This is all happening at a school that for years has attempted to move away from a perception of being the so-called “University of Spoiled Children” -- a culture centered around a hard-partying Greek system where wealthy young people lead a pampered existence. Greek life,

however, remains prominent at the school. In the last year, eyebrow-raising incidents have occurred. Photos were posted online of students having sex atop a campus building, and an email sent by fraternity members using crudely explicit terms to rate women went viral.

Such episodes have come amid a decades-long investment to build up the university’s reputation as a world-class research institution.

And, by many measures, the school has undergone a notable shift, with an investment to attract stronger faculty, more research dollars and an increasingly diverse student body, higher education experts say.

“It’s a very strong university, and it’s clearly gotten quite a bit stronger over the past 15, 20 years,” said Hunter R. Rawlings III, president of the Assn. of American Universities. In 2010, for the first time since *U.S. News & World Report* began its annual top college rankings, USC narrowly beat out UCLA (tying with Carnegie Mellon) for 23rd place. This year’s admitted freshmen had, on average, a GPA of 3.80.

And for the 10th year in a row, USC enrolled more international students than any other school in the country.

So a show centered on coed hijinks has rankled many on campus.

“More accurately representative of USC are the students who provide hundreds of hours in community service, who rank among the country’s most



academically and artistically gifted, and who value diversity in cultures, nationalities and socio-economic backgrounds among their peers,” said Michael L. Jackson, vice president of student affairs, in a statement. Ellie Newcomer Smith, a junior film major, found the idea of the show irritating and potentially detrimental to the reputation of the school and, in turn, her degree. “It so undermines the strides the school has made academically,” said Smith, 26. “It’s not the school it was in the ‘80s, when your dad could buy you in.”

Her husband, Leslie Smith, added: “I still want my two hours back for watching the Oscars,” referring to Franco’s 2011 hosting gig that received decidedly mixed reviews. Miles Levy, Franco’s producer and partner on the show, was unavailable for comment.

Ryan Navar, 20, a computer science major, said, “Everybody knows that USC has a lot of parties. But that doesn’t define us.”

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# DVD

SPECIAL FEATURES

All the latest  
Dish on Disc



Chris Helicmanas-Berige

Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Seth Rogen star in *50/50*, which is now available on DVD.

BY MIKE SEBASTIAN

**THE MAJORS:** The most distinctive directorial statement of the year, *Drive*, is a highly stylized story of a stuntman and getaway driver (Ryan Gosling), who goes to war with the mob.

*The Whistleblower* is the disturbing true story of a U.N. peacekeeper (Rachel Weisz) that discovered U.S. contractors involved in human trafficking in the aftermath of the Bosnian War. Three paramilitary operatives square off in a deadly game of cat and mouse in the action thriller *Killer Elite*. Robert De Niro, Clive Owen and Jason Statham star.

Ryan Gosling is a young staffer for a charismatic presidential candidate (George Clooney), who gets in over his head with the dirty side of politics in *The Ides of March*.

Also available: Justin Timberlake in the sci-fi thriller *In Time*, Richard Gere and Topher Grace star in the spy thriller *The Double* and the Broadway musical *Memphis*.

**FUNNY BUSINESS:** Joseph Gordon Levitt is a young man dealing with the fallout of being diagnosed with cancer in the dramedy *50/50* (Seth Rogan and Anna Kendrick co-star).

Jack Black, Owen Wilson and Steve Martin compete to find the rarest bird in *The Big Year*.

**THE HORROR! THE HORROR!** A prequel to John Carpenter's classic, *The Thing* shows how the shape-shifting creature was freed from its Antarctic prison and preyed on the original research team.

A married couple (Daniel Craig and Rachel Weisz) moves into a new home only to find it's haunted. But the ghosts may be somehow related to the family's past in *Dreamhouse* (Naomi Watts co-stars).

**THE IDIOTBOX:** "Star Trek: The Next Generation: The Next Level" offers a sampler of the enormous hi-def remastering project of the continuing adventures of the Starship Enterprise. Included are the feature-length pilot and two fan favorite episodes.

Remastered and presented in its original broadcast order, "Agatha Christie's Poirot: Series 1" comes to Blu-ray.

Also available: "The Comic Strip Presents: The Complete Collection," "King Arthur and Medieval Britain" and "Hey Dude: Season 2."

**STRANGER THAN FICTION:** Before the internet, Peter and Raymond became the first viral sensations when secret tapes of their violent arguments got passed around in *Shut Up Little Man! An Audio Misadventure*.

Also available: *Revenge of the Electric Car*, *Hell and Back Again*, *Queen of the Sun: What Are the Bees Telling Us?*

**FROM THE VAULT:** Christopher Reeve in *Monsignor*, *Lethal Ladies Collection, Vol. 2* and Mickey Rooney in *Treasure Train*.

**UNDER THE RADAR:** Roland Joffé's historical epic of faith and war: *There Be Dragons*.

Also available: *Essential Killing*, *Beware the Gonzo*, *The Confession*, *Today's Special*, *Beginning of the Great Revival*, *Janie Jones*, *Another Happy Day*, *Chalet Girl* and *Texas Killing Fields*

**BLU NOTES:** One of the all-time great films, *To Kill a Mockingbird: 50th Anniversary Edition* stars Gregory Peck as Atticus Finch, a small town lawyer defending a wrongly accused African American man in the 1930s South.

Spike Lee and Denzel Washington made the perfect pair to bring to life the story of history's most controversial civil rights leader in *Malcom X: 20th Anniversary Edition*.

Three Hitchcock classics come to Blu-ray: Cary Grant and Ingrid Bergman in *Notorious*, Laurence Olivier and Joan Fontaine in *Rebecca*, and Gregory Peck and Bergman in *Spellbound*.

Robin Williams shines as an inspiring English teacher in Peter Weir's *Dead Poet's Society* and as a rebellious radio DJ sent overseas in *Good Morning Vietnam*.

Have a Richard Pryor-athon with classic comedies *The Toy*, *Stir Crazy* and *See No Evil, Hear No Evil*.

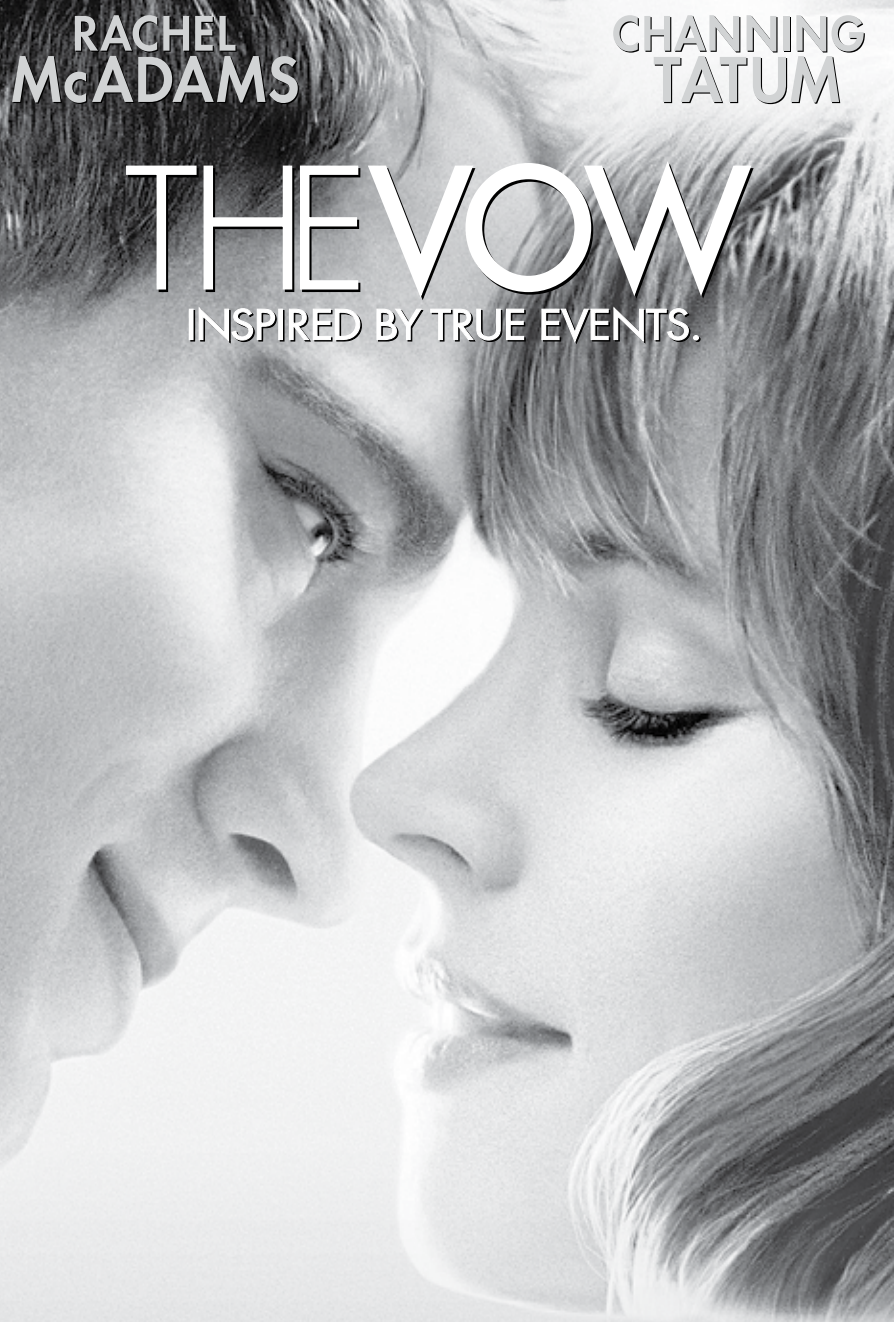
Charlie Kaufman re-teamed with Spike Jonze for *Adaptation*, a delightfully meta dramedy proving Nicolas Cage can indeed act. Meryl Streep and Chris Cooper are equally great.

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# GRAMMY HISTORY QUIZ

**1** In 1967, "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" was the first rock album to win the Grammy for Album of the Year. Which artist won the award in 1965 and '66, the two years prior to the Beatles.

- A. Glen Campbell
- B. Henry Mancini
- C. Barbra Streisand
- D. Frank Sinatra



The Beatles (clockwise from top left) Ringo Starr, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and John Lennon.

**2** The Beatles won the Grammy for Song of the Year just once. Which one of their songs took home the statuette?

- A. "Hard Day's Night"
- B. "Let It Be"
- C. "Yesterday"
- D. "Michelle"

**3** In 1968, Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy were assassinated. Riots disrupted the Democratic

convention in Chicago. The Tet Offensive was launched in Vietnam. Back at the Grammys, which of these nominees won Song of the Year?

- A. "Honey"
- B. "Hey Jude"
- C. "Little Green Apples"
- D. "Mrs. Robinson"

**4** Without a doubt, 1975 provided the lamest list of nominations for Song of the Year. Which one of these four nominees won the trophy?

- A. "Rhinestone Cowboy"
- B. "Feelings"
- C. "Love Will Keep Us Together"
- D. "Send in the Clowns"

**5** Upon further review, 1976 probably topped '75 for awful Song of the Year nominations. Which of these four took home the hardware?

- A. "Afternoon Delight"
- B. "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald"
- C. "I Write the Songs"
- D. "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do"

**6** Which artist won Album of the Year Grammy in 1973, '74 and '76? Hint: He shares the record for most Album of the Year awards and has 22 Grammys.

- A. Stevie Wonder
- B. Elton John
- C. Paul Simon
- D. Barry Manilow

**7** 1984 was a "Thriller" year for Michael Jackson. He won 8 Grammys, a record he shares with Santana for most in one night. But he did not win Song of the Year, even though two of his songs were nominated. Which two?

- A. "Thriller" and "Wanna Be Startin' Somethin'"
- B. "Billie Jean" and "Thriller"
- C. "Billie Jean" and "Beat It"
- D. "Beat It" and "Thriller"

**8** All of the 1988 Album of the Year nominees were by solo artists. Which one of these four nominees won? (Sting was the 5th nominee.)

- A. Tracy Chapman
- B. Bobby McFerrin
- C. Steve Winwood
- D. George Michael

**9** 1999 was a strong year of the best New Artist category.



Singer, songwriter Stevie Wonder was 11 when he signed with Motown.

Which one of these nominees took home the Grammy?

- A. Christina Aguilera
- B. Kid Rock
- C. Britney Spears
- D. Macy Gray

**10** Since 1959, three movie soundtracks have won Album of the Year. Which of these did NOT win the trophy?

- A. "The Bodyguard"
- B. "Saturday Night Fever"
- C. "Oh Brother, Where Art Thou?"
- D. "Toy Story"

**11** Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy both won Grammys for Best Spoken Word Performance. In recent years, three presidents have won Grammys in that category. Which one of these did NOT win?

- A. Bill Clinton
- B. Barack Obama
- C. Jimmy Carter
- D. George W. Bush

**12** From 1994 (Toni Braxton) to 2003 (Norah Jones), women won the Best New Artist Grammy every year except one. Which group interrupted the streak over a field of four female nominees?

- A. Backstreet Boys
- B. Counting Crows
- C. Hootie & The Blowfish
- D. Green Day

**13** In 1980, Christopher Cross became the first person to sweep the big four awards at the Grammys: Song, Record and Album of the Year honors and Best New Artist. Who is the only artist to do it since?

- A. No one
- B. Norah Jones
- C. Mariah Carey
- D. Tracy Chapman



Christopher Cross' No.1 hit, "Sailing," won three Grammys.

**14** Every year from 1964 to 1969, the Grammy for Best Comedy Recording went to the same funny man/men. Who?

- A. George Carlin
- B. Bill Cosby
- C. The Smothers Brothers
- D. Bob Newhart

**15** Jimmy Sturr and his Orchestra have won the Grammy in a specific category 18 times in the past 24 years. What category is it?

- A. Polka
- B. Children's
- C. New Age
- D. Classical

— Tom Borgman, St. Louis Post-Dispatch

beat Brandy, Alanis Morissette, Joan Osborne and Shania Twain in 1995. **13.** A. No one has done it again. Maybe no one wants to, after seeing what it did for Christopher Cross' career. **14.** B. Bill Cosby. Before Carlin's "7 Words" or Richard Pryor or Chris Rock, Cosby proved you could be funny without uttering one bad word. **15.** A. Polka. In 1966, he beat a formidable field of Frankie Yankovic, Eddie Blazonczyk, Walter Ostanek and Lenny Gomulka. No kidding.

Billy Joel and George Michael all won it. **9.** A. Christina Aguilera. It's hard to believe that Britney Spears has only been around since 1999. **10.** D. "Toy Story." However, its composer, Randy Newman, won a Grammy for music in "Toy Story 2," as well as "Cars," "A Bug's Life" and "Monsters, Inc." **11.** D. George W. Bush. Although Obama won his while he was still a senator. Evidently, Democrats have a lock on this award. **12.** C. Hootie & The Blowfish. They

recorded by **5.** C. "I Write the Songs" recorded by Barry Manilow. Even disco didn't seem so bad after listening to this. **6.** A. Stevie Wonder. During the 1975 Grammys, winner Paul Simon thanked Wonder for not releasing an album that year. **7.** C. "Billie Jean" and "Beat It." The Police won for "Every Breath You Take." Amazingly, Jacko's only Song of the Year Grammy was for "We Are the World." **8.** D. George Michael. This seems to be an award for men with two first names. During the '80s, Paul Simon, Lionel Richie,

they finish picking next year's nominees. **4.** D. I'll send in the clowns as soon as spirit of the time, huh? **3.** C. The song that really captured the Impossible Dream." **2.** D. "Michelle" in 1966. It was up against "Born Free," "Strangers in the Night," "Somewhere, My Love" and "The

## ANSWERS

## GRAMMY TRIVIA QUIZ MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

**Creative Artists  
Give the Gift of their  
Talents to The  
HARC  
FOUNDATION**



Poet Stacy Gnull

BY KATHY LEONARDO

**EVERY CHILD HAS A DREAM.** When they are very young, there is usually a hint or whisper of what they will become. Two young creative artists/performers offer their talents to a very important cause. They will both be performing at the gala benefit, "Command Performance" for The HARC Foundation at Gebert Gallery on Abbot Kinney Blvd., Saturday, February 4 at 2:00 pm.

Although these two artists have never met, they have something in common -- a clear-cut vision of what they would be doing with their lives.

For poet, Stacy Gnull, originally born in Ohio but now residing in West Hollywood, her love of poetry was the first thing she remembers. She explains, "I've been writing ever since I was a little girl. I would dictate poems to my parents before I could even read or write. I've somehow always known I wanted to be a writer. I had fantasies in elementary school of living in a remote cottage in New England because that's what I thought writers did! I began writing and performing my work seriously while I was an undergraduate at Sarah Lawrence College."

Rebecka Larsdotter, singer, songwriter/composer recounts her early journey, "I've written songs for as long as I can remember. In fact, I have a recording of a song I wrote at the age of two. I decided this was what I really wanted to do around 2006 and have since performed and written on a more serious basis."

Both artists are excited to be involved in this special performance for The HARC Foundation. Created in 1990 by Susan M. Marchese, The HARC Foundation (Help Artists & Rehabilitate Children) was created with two purposes: the first was to discover, support, promote and present emerging creative artists from all art disciplines. The second was to promote the use of the creative arts as a therapeutic science in the rehabilitation of abused and neglected children.

Larsdotter explains how she became involved in HARC, "I was introduced to Susan Marchese through a friend/pianist in Sweden. HARC is a very good foundation in my opinion! Apart from being a musician, I also teach and have seen how children can be helped by music education. It's a powerful tool."

A composer she met in a class at USC last year introduced Stacy Gnull to Susan Marchese. Gnull talks about her upcoming performance and her poetry, "My poetry is a blend of fantasy with reality. They are both airy or ethereal and meditative. What I hope they convey is that there can be great beauty even in great trauma." She adds, "I'm quite thrilled about the event. HARC's dual mission of supporting the arts and using art as therapy for children is actually quite close to my heart, and I feel so fortunate to have the opportunity to get involved with the foundation."

Rebecka Larsdotter will be performing mostly originals and songs that are also available on her newest album, *Feathers & Concrete*. Though in recent months, Larsdotter has traveled between LA, NY and Scandinavia, for this performance her band is composed of musicians she has played with while in LA. Musicians include: Mahesh Balasooryia (piano), Zane Musa (saxophone), Dale Black (bass) and Zack Harmon (drums).

Saturday's event (February 4, 2:00 p.m.) will offer a salon style concert performance featuring additional international creative/performing artists Markus Pawlik, Patricio da Silva and Yevgeniy Milyavskiy. Wine & antipasti from Mosto Enoteca will be served.

In addition to the concert, a silent auction of art will be held featuring the works of local creative artists Derrik Van Nimwegen, A.M. Rousseau, Darla Warner, Elana Kundell, Les Mayers, Carol Henry, Candace Biggerstaff, Leo Garcia and Domenico Foschi.

Tickets are \$50 (tax deductible donation per person as allowed by law) and can be purchased on HARC's website via credit card at <http://www.harcfoundation.org/donations.html>. Student discounts are also available with proper Student ID at \$20.00 per ticket by calling HARC at 310.823.2310.

"Command Performance" is being held at the Gebert Gallery Feb. 4. For more information, visit [www.gebertgallery.com](http://www.gebertgallery.com).

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Archer Black is a Los Angeles-based music group.

“...I set out to break all the rules, and then write new ones and then break them all again.”

## ARCHER BLACK: MAKING SONIC STEW

BY BRENDA CAMBEROS

**LOS ANGELES-BASED BAND, ARCHER BLACK**, is the brainchild of the composer Dustin Morgan, also a classically trained musician at California State University of Northridge. Comprised of eleven members, they collectively take you from Black Sabbath to Bjork and from Steve Reich to Steve Albini, all within a matter of minutes. Such disparate influences might seem inharmonious at best, but in this case, they forge a moody musical rhapsody that sets them in a category of their own. Post Planetary Records will release the band’s debut album, *Forgiveness Is A Weapon*, on February 7.

*Forgiveness Is A Weapon* may sound like a political statement, but the real concept is far from that. “I did not intentionally set out to write an entire record of songs about war. In fact, none of the songs are really about war. Really, the record is made up of love songs.” Citing the song, “The Bomb,” Morgan clarifies that the tune is actually about when two become so wrapped up emotionally, it’s essentially an arms race where either one of you have your finger on the button and can destroy each other. That’s what makes it beautiful. This is really just a reflection of the time. It’s part of the reality right now. The imagery I use is taken from the reality I live in.”

The initial songwriting for the band began in 2008 while the recording began in 2009, but it wasn’t until three years later that *Forgiveness Is A Weapon* finally came into fruition. The reason for the delay was a combination of scheduling conflicts

between the eleven members and slow and steady fine tuning that Morgan patiently detailed in order to create the ideal work.

“One thing I’ve learned from working in the studio with other people is that you can’t compromise. Twenty years from now, you won’t remember that this took you six months to do extra vocals, but you will remember if there’s something you don’t like,” explains Morgan. The vision for Archer Black became clear to Morgan when he began studying with Victor Vanacore, orchestrator and arranger for Ray Charles and Johnny Mathis among others. As Morgan began arranging his music for strings and brass, the music became a compulsion. “My original intention was to learn how to orchestrate for film,” says the lead singer, “But after getting deeper into what Vic does, I got the idea to do a pop record that included a large ensemble.”

Morgan set out to create music in modern form, but with the soul and beauty of the past, allowing the compositions, not the instrumentation to define the music as modern. In order to achieve that feat, he formed the collective Archer Black. At first thought it seemed hard to have almost a dozen talented people with creative ideas joining together to come up with one cohesive and impressive sound. Morgan explained that in this case, the band was more like a ship and crew.

“I put the notes in front of them [his band] to play, but they are all people that I respect and who respect me so there have been lots of opportunities to voice their opinion. There’s

no way to throw 11 people on stage without having someone steering the ship,” says Captain Morgan, –no pun intended– “The great thing is that they’re not going to let me run into an iceberg just because I want to.”

The main conflict was obviously to marry the classical orchestral sound with that of a modern rock band.

“When I started writing this music, I kind of set out to not have any rules. Better yet, I set out to break all the rules, and then write new ones and then break them all again. In the past, I’ve always felt restrained by the rock band format,” explains long time bassist of The Autumns. “I think, ‘well it will never come across live, or we can’t put it on a record ‘cause how would that be performed?’”

Recently it’s become a trend to throw in strings in a rock band with the hope of creating an authentic sound. Morgan understands this and is committed to skillfully fusing the art of composing with the rock band idea without sounding trite.

“Where some people miss the mark is that they think that adding a classical instrument adds emotional depth to the expression as if it’s like icing or this decorative sugar rose they put on top of the cake,” says Morgan. I worked backwards and thought to start with a string quartet to let the rock shine through that everyone’s a part of. This [Archer Black] was an opportunity to do everything I wanted to do. Why compartmentalize things when you can just put it all in a pot and make it work.”

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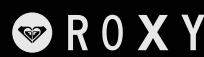
# COLLEGE NIGHT

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**THURSDAY · FEBRUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> 2012**



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**Ominous Words & The Musical Mammal**

Music provided by: **DJ CLO**

For more info go to [facebook.com/thepowerstrip](http://facebook.com/thepowerstrip) or [mthigh.com/college\\_night](http://mthigh.com/college_night)

Vintage Fashion Expo



Amoeba Pet Adoption



Excision



Health & Fitness Expo



In Flames



Karamzov



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

All the cool places to go and fun things to do.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

### Film

**Kevin Smith: Live From Behind Featuring "Jay and Silent Bob Get Old"**  
fathomevents.com

Broadcast live from Toronto to select theaters, this is a unique opportunity for fans all over the country to interact with Kevin Smith, ask him questions, etc. The three-hour event will begin with Smith (Silent Bob) and frequent co-star Jason Mewes (Jay) hosting their highly rated podcast, "Jay and Silent Bob Get Old" followed by a live interactive Q&A with theater audiences across the US. Fans will have the opportunity to submit their questions directly to Kevin via social media.

**When** Thursday, February 2, 2012

**Times** 6:30 p.m.

**Prices** Check website for prices

### Expos

**Long Beach Coin, Stamp & Collectibles Expo**

Long Beach Convention Center

300 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach

longbeachexpo.com

One of the largest shows of its kind provides a venue for dealers, mints, collectors and numismatic & philatelic organizations to gather, do business, market new products and present educational exhibits.

**When** Thursday, February 2, 2012-Saturday, February 4, 2012

**Times** Thursday & Friday: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Prices** \$8

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

### Festivals

**XOS Battle of the Sexes Winterfest**

Big Bear Mountain Resorts

880 Summit Blvd., Big Bear Lake

xosbattleofthesexes.com/events-3/xos-winterfest-2012

The event kicks off Friday with a night-time DJ concert, featuring top-name DJs and a fashion show inside a large structured tent. The following day, the Big Bear Visitor Center parking lot transforms into a winter-themed festival with snowshoe demos, live entertainment, carnival-type games, food vendors, art displays, winter apparel and booths providing information about breast cancer awareness. The main attraction on Saturday is the XOS Rail Jam, featuring top female snowboarders that rival top male snowboarders, on professionally-built rails and jibs for an exciting snowboarding competition. Once the sun goes down, the music starts up again in the tented arena for a second DJ concert and fashion show on Saturday night.

**When** Friday, February 3, 2012-Saturday, February 4, 2012

**Times** Friday: 5 p.m. – 12 a.m.; Saturday: 11 a.m. – 11:59 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$25

### Sports

**USC Men's Volleyball vs. UCLA**

Galen Center

3400 S. Figueroa St., Los Angeles

usctrojans.com

With both teams firmly entrenched in the Top 10, this game is not only important for city bragging rights (though fellow Top 10 teams UC Irvine, Pepperdine, CSUN and Long Beach State might disagree), but for NCAA tournament seeding as well.

**When** Friday, February 3, 2012

**Times** 7:00 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$7

### Film

**Kill List**

The Cinefamily at the Silent Movie Theatre

611 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles

cinefamily.org/films/kill-list-special-one-week-run

**Kill List** director Ben Wheatley will travel all the way from the UK to the Cinefamily for select key screenings at the beginning of the run.

After the Friday, Feb. 3, 7:30 p.m. show, all ticketholders are invited to a free after party on the Cinefamily back patio!

**When** Friday, February 3, 2012-Thursdays, February 9, 2012

**Times** Check website for times

**Prices** \$10

### Theatre

**Buddha: Triumph & Tragedy In The Life Of The Great Sage**

Bootleg Theater

2220 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles

thebuddhaplay.com

John C. Reilly directs the West Coast premiere of writer/performer Evan Brenner's critically acclaimed one-man play, which enacts the extraordinary life of the Buddha entirely from the original texts. It's no dry tale – the Buddha's life stands among the great archetypal adventure stories. Framed in a most unusual and personal context, Evan Brenner brings selections from these texts to the stage, unchanged, to enact the extraordinary life of the man from start to finish. It's an epic story of personal struggle, supreme enlightenment and horrific tragedy.

**When** Friday, February 3, 2012-Saturday, February 25, 2012

**Times** 7:30 p.m.

**Prices** \$30

### Comedy

**Flying Karamzov Brothers**

Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts

12700 Center Court Dr. S, Cerritos

cerritoscenter.com

Their vaudevillian juggling-and-comedy act, everything flies – swords, apples, torches, fish, theatrics and jokes. Recipients of an Obie Award and an Award of Excellence from the International Jugglers' Association, the troupe has appeared on television's "Seinfeld" and in the film *The Jewel of the Nile*.

**When** Friday, February 3, 2012

**Times** 8:00 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$39

### Comedy

**Kathy Griffin**

The Pantages

6233 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles

kathygriffin.net

Griffin's rapid-fire wit targeted at Hollywood gossip and celebrity blunders has been making audiences laugh for years, and there will be more stories, more dish, more of what she shouldn't say-- but you know she will.

**When** Friday, February 3, 2012-Saturday, February 4, 2012

**Times** 8:00 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$41.50

### Theatre

**Lobby Hero**

Avery Schreiber Theatre

11050 Magnolia Blvd., North Hollywood

averyschreibertheatre.com

This drama, by award winning writer Kenneth Lonergan, is about a luckless young security guard who is drawn into a local murder investigation. Loyalties are strained to the breaking point, as Jeff's tightly wound supervisor is called to bear witness against his troubled brother, and an attractive rookie cop finds she must stand up to her seasoned partner. Truth becomes elusive and justice proves costly.

**When** Friday, February 3, 2012-Saturday, February 25, 2012

**Times** Fridays & Saturdays @ 8:00 p.m.

**Prices** \$18

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

### Sales

**Vintage Fashion Expo**

Santa Monica Civic Auditorium

1855 Main Street, Santa Monica

vintageexpo.com/coupons.htm

Join your fellow fashionistas at the semi-yearly event featuring 85 dealers of vintage clothing & accessories. (Download the Campus Circle web coupon to receive \$2 off admission.) Students are free on Sunday with ID and coupon.

**When** Saturday, February 4, 2012-Sunday, February 5, 2012

**Times** Saturday: 10:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., Sunday: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Prices** \$2 off with coupon

### Tours

**The Undiscovered Chinatown Walking Tour**

chinatownla.com

Visit a temple, an herbal shop, art galleries, antique stores and more when guided to the unique treasures - not to mention great bargains - to be found in Chinatown. The 2 1/2 hour walking tour will be offered on the first Saturday of every month and will take visitors to a number of off-the-beaten-track points of interest, and will guide those interested in shopping to some of Chinatown's best bargains and its trendiest shops.

**When** Saturday, February 4, 2012

**Times** 10:30 a.m.

**Prices** \$20 - RSVP required

### Sports

**Super Bowl Sunday 10K/5K and Heath & Fitness Expo**

redondo10k.com/

The expo, on Saturday and Sunday, is held at the Redondo Beach Seaside Lagoon while the 10K/5K Run/Walk on Sunday morning is a great way to enjoy the picturesque sites of Redondo Beach. Start your Super Bowl Sunday on a healthy note before you dive into the pizza, chips and beer.

**When** Saturday, February 4, 2012-Sunday, February 5, 2012

**Times** Saturday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sunday: 6 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Prices** Free for the expo



### Sports

**AMA Supercross**

Angel Stadium of Anaheim

2000 Gene Autry Way, Anaheim

amasupercross.com

"The Monster Energy Supercross Championship has always been about combining the best racers on the planet and one of the most accessible and fan-friendly stadium-based events you'll see anywhere," says AMA President and CEO Rob Dingman.

**When** Saturday, February 4, 2012

**Times** Doors @ 12:30 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$20

### Art

**Enter the Dragon**

Hold Up Art

358 East 2nd Street, Los Angeles

facebook.com/events/206660686091390/

Hold Up Art's 2 Year Anniversary Show features art pulled from their private collection that has been building over the past two years of curating art shows and events. Along with the collection of art on display, "Enter The Dragon" will feature the launch of Hold Up Art's new retail store front, featuring apparel designed by local artists as well as a smatter of collectible vinyl, magazines and more.

**When** Saturday, February 4, 2012-Wednesday, March 7, 2012

**Times** Tuesday & Wednesday: 1-7 p.m., Thursday-Saturday: 1-10 p.m., Sunday: 12-6 p.m.

**Prices** Free

### Book Signing

**Kareem Abdul-Jabbar**

(continued on page 16)

# • CALENDAR •

Kathy Griffin



Mariachi Vargas de Tacalitián



The Jacksonian



Vintage Fashion Expo



Vintage Fashion Expo



Excision



Barnes & Noble @ The Grove  
189 Grove Drive, Los Angeles  
barnesandnoble.com

The Laker icon signs his children's book, *What Color Is My World? The Lost History of African-American Inventors*.

**When** Saturday, February 4, 2012  
**Times** 2:00 p.m.

## Food

### Cupcake Challenge

Renaissance Hotel  
1755 N. Highland Ave., Los Angeles  
drinkatplay.com/cupcakechallenge/

The baking gloves are coming off as the best cupcake bakeries are squaring off and allowing you to pick the winner. The public and a panel of celebrity judges will each vote on their favorite mini-cupcakes, culminating in the crowning of LA's best traditional and non-traditional cupcakes.

**When** Saturday, February 4, 2012  
**Times** 4:00 p.m.

**Prices** \$40

## Music

### Maria de Buenos Aires

Warner Grand Theatre  
478 W. 6th Street, San Pedro  
longbeachopera.org/2012-season/maria-de-buenos-aires

Long Beach Opera will premiere this new production that's set during Argentina's Dirty War, a time when over 30,000 people were arrested, killed, or simply "disappeared." Astor Piazzolla's pulsing Latin beats blend with Horacio Ferrar's poetic libretto to create a love story of "stunning originality" and power. Starring Peabody Southwell, Gregorio Gonzalez and Gregorio Luke. Sung in Spanish with English supertitles. *Contains scenes of violence, simulated rape and partial nudity.*

**When** Saturday, February 4, 2012  
**Times** 8:00 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$29

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

## Sports

### Super Seoul Sausage Bowl

The Forge  
2636 Huron St., Los Angeles  
facebook.com/events/226315334118506/

What do you get when you add the Super Bowl, open bar, all-you-can-eat Seoul Sausage, beer pong, halftime giveaways, desserts and beats by Mister Rocks? You get the first annual Super Seoul Sausage Bowl.

**When** Sunday, February 5, 2012

**Times** 2:00 p.m.

**Prices** \$20

## Sports

### Super Bowl at the Downtown Independent

Downtown Independent  
251 S. Main Street, Los Angeles  
downtownindependent.com/events/super-bowl-xlvi

Watch the big game on the big screen while enjoying the drink specials and stadium style food.

**When** Sunday, February 5, 2012

**Times** Doors @ 3 p.m.

**Prices** No cover

## Music

### Seth MacFarlane

Catalina Jazz Club  
6725 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles  
catalinajazzclub.com

Sure you know him as the politically incorrect creator of "Family Guy," but he's also quite the accomplished jazz musician.

**When** Sunday, February 5, 2012

**Times** 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.

**Prices** \$20

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

## Music

### In Flames

The Wiltern  
3790 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles

inflames.com

Find out why *Music Connection Magazine* wrote, "Infusing metal harmonies with melodic breakdowns has never sounded sweeter."

**When** Tuesday, February 7, 2012

**Times** 6:30 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$21.50

## Book Signing

### James Hormel

Book Soup  
8818 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood  
booksoup.com

The first openly gay ambassador and heir to the Hormel empire discusses and signs, *Fit to Serve: Reflections on a Secret Life, Private Struggle, and Public Battle to Become the First Openly Gay U.S.*

*Ambassador.*

**When** Tuesday, February 7, 2012

**Times** 7:00 p.m.

## Theatre

### The Jacksonian

Geffen Playhouse  
10886 Le Conte Ave., Los Angeles  
geffenplayhouse.com

Bill Pullman, Ed Harris, Amy Madigan, Glenn Headly and Bess Rous star in this eerie offering by Pulitzer Prize winner Beth Henley and directed by Tony Award winner Robert Falls. Be transported to a seedy motel in Jackson, Mississippi circa 1964. You go to The Jacksonian Cottages to bury your secrets, making the motel an unsettling world where the subversive becomes commonplace and the passage of time becomes hauntingly unpredictable. Revolving around the night of a murder, *The Jacksonian* is a surreal trip that is rife with disturbingly dark humor. As this salacious tale's mysterious events unfold, both characters and audience find themselves on a road that ultimately leads to a dead end.

**When** Tuesday, February 7, 2012-Sunday, March 18, 2012

**Times** Tuesday-Friday: 8 p.m., Saturdays @ 3 & 8 p.m., Sundays @ 2 & 7 p.m.

**Prices** Check website for prices

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

## Expos

### Los Angeles Boat Show

L.A. Convention Center  
1201 S. Figueroa, Los Angeles  
losangelesboatshow.com

The largest indoor boat show on the West Coast will feature hundreds of boats, including 2010 model introductions, and a giant marine mega-mall of accessory products and boating related services ranging from water skis and wakeboards to hi-tech electronics and anchors.

**When** Thursday, February 9, 2012-Sunday, February 12, 2012

**Times** Thursday & Friday: 12-9 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.,

Sunday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$9

## Theatre

### A Basket Full of Miracles

Elephant Space Theatre  
6322 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles  
plays411.net/newsite/show/play\_info.asp?show\_id=2973

The story is about a poor, young man who travels to the big city in search of his fortune and love. In a series of comedic accidents, he becomes the reluctant leader of the local mafia. He leads a group of gangsters on a roller coaster ride adventure as he tries to repay a debt to an old woman that saved his life. The story also centers around the woman he falls in love with. She tries to inspire him to do the noble things - much unlike a gangster. This results in one hilarious event after the other until it reaches its ending comic crescendo.

**When** Thursday, February 9, 2012-Sunday, February 26, 2012

**Times** Thursday-Saturday: 8 p.m., Sundays @ 7 p.m.

**Prices** \$20

## Film

### Orson Welles Double Feature

Egyptian Theatre  
6712 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles  
americancinemathequecalendar.com

One of the consensus best movies of all time, *Citizen Kane*, along with *The Magnificent Ambersons*.

**When** Friday, February 10, 2012

**Times** 7:30 p.m.

**Prices** \$11, \$9 w/ student ID

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

## Concerts

### Hot 92 Love Affair 2012

Gibson Amphitheatre  
100 Universal City, Universal City  
hot923.com

With The Intruders, Bloodstone, The Impressions, Eddie Holman, Barbara Lewis, The Originals, The Temprees, The Fuzz, The Notations and The Delegation.

**When** Friday, February 10, 2012-Saturday, February 11, 2012

**Times** 8:15 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$25

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

## Scavenger Hunt

### 5th Annual Venice Valentine's Hunt

Venice Beach Boardwalk  
Ocean Front Walk, Venice  
outoftheboxevents.com/calendar.php

Skip the usual dinner and go out of the box for this Valentine's weekend. Grab your partner and a bike to spend quality time getting to know each other's intellectual side. Designed for teams of two, uncover the dirty secrets and fun surprises of Venice Beach through our biking scavenger hunt. Bikes also available to rent for only \$10. Prizes to the top 3 teams! Starting location revealed upon registration.

**When** Saturday, February 11, 2012-Tuesday, February 14, 2012

**Times** Saturday & Sunday: 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 1:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.,

Tuesday: 3 p.m.

**Prices** \$25 per person

## Film

### Rebel Without a Cause

Alex Theatre  
216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale  
alexfilmsociety.org

Celebrate what would have been James Dean's 81st birthday with *James Dean Died Here* author Chris Epting and *Griffith Park* author E.J. Stephens as well as a memorabilia exhibit. Plus you could win a romantic dinner for two just in time for Valentine's Day.

**When** Saturday, February 11, 2012

**Times** 2 & 8 p.m.

**Prices** \$13.50, \$9.50 w/ student ID

## Tours

### Sweetheart Sunset Cruise

hornblower.com/hce/port/overview/mdr+MDRSweetheartSunset  
Get in the Valentine's spirit with this two hour romantic cruise off Marina del Rey. Enjoy complimentary appetizers and a boarding glass of champagne while watching the sunset over the ocean.

**When** Saturday, February 11, 2012-Sunday, February 12, 2012

**Times** Boarding @ 2:30 p.m.

**Prices** Tix start @ \$40

## Exhibits

### I Art You

Premiere Events Center  
613 Imperial St., Los Angeles  
createfixate.com/2012/01/i-art-you-february-2012-press-release/  
The Ten Year Anniversary Valentine-themed art and music celebration features Create:Fixate's signature blend of vibrant artwork and music produced by over forty local artists, DJs and musicians. To add to the fun, there will be a live painting face-off, a Valentine's Day card-making station and a Singles Mingle. 21+.

**When** Saturday, February 11, 2012

**Times** 7:00 p.m.

**Prices** \$15 before 9 p.m., \$20 after

## Film

### Brokeback Mountain

Angel City Drive-In  
240 W. 4th St., Los Angeles  
devilsnight.com/drivein.htm

Not only can you see Ang Lee's groundbreaking film on the big screen for Valentine's Day, you can see it at an actual drive-in, here in L.A.

**When** Saturday, February 11, 2012

**Times** 7:30 p.m.

**Excision**



Prices \$10 advance, \$12 at the gate

**Film**

**Gone With The Wind**

Egyptian Theatre

6712 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles

americancinemathequecalendar.com/

Frankly my dear, this is the truly highest grossing movie ever (when adjusted for inflation).

When Saturday, February 11, 2012

Times 7:30 p.m.

Prices \$11, \$9 w/ student ID

**Concerts**

**Mariachi Vargas De Tecalitlán**

Grove of Anaheim

2200 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim

citynationalgroveofanaheim.com

Internationally acclaimed as “the best mariachi in the world,” the group comes to SoCal for a rare Orange County-area appearance.

When Saturday, February 11, 2012

Times 8:00 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$43

**Music**

**Excision**

Club Nokia

800 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles

http://bit.ly/y5wO05

Following up the massive SUBSONIC Tour of 2011, which featured show after show of ear-crushing bass, and after hundreds of packed headline shows all over the world, Excision - one of the most prominent musicians in the dubstep community - is back. With Liquid Stranger and Lucky Date.

When Saturday, February 11, 2012

Times 10:00 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$20

**Film**

**Xanadu**

New Beverly Cinema

7165 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles

newbevcinema.com/calendar.cfm

Rolling skating goddess Olivia Newton-John makes “Magic” with Gene Kelly.

When Saturday, February 11, 2012

Times 11:59 p.m.

Prices \$7

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

**Pet Adoption**

**Amoeba Pet Adoption**

Amoeba Music

6400 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles

amoeba.com

Celebrate this Valentine’s Day by opening your heart to a senior dog looking for a love to call their own.

Come meet the wonderful, adoptable dogs from the Pepper Foundation. The Pepper Foundation, is an Animal Rescue Organization that rescues mostly special needs and senior animals from high kill shelters and gets the animals rehabilitated and adopted into loving homes.

Come meet your new best friend. Receive an Amoeba coupon with a cash donation to the Pepper Donation on the day of event. Amoeba will match each individual donation up to \$1000.

When Sunday, February 12, 2012

Times 12:00 p.m.

Prices Free



**Nature**

**Sex and the City Zoo III**

L.A. Zoo

5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles

lazoo.org/valentinesday/index.html

Have a wild Valentine’s Day where they’ll be celebrating animal

**Health & Fitness Expo**



**Vintage Fashion Expo**



**Health & Fitness Expo**



mating, dating and cohabitating with a provocative “birds and bees” presentation by Zoo veteran Jason Jacobs. He will share some of his insights about the pros and cons of relationships and staying single in the jungle with this light-hearted and informative lecture. Desserts and drinks included.

When Sunday, February 12, 2012

Times 5:00 p.m.

Prices \$35

**Comedy**

**Amy Poehler in Conversation with Jane Lynch**

Aero Theatre

1328 Montana Ave., Santa Monica

livetalksla.org

Amy Poehler makes you laugh on “Parks and Recreation” while Jane Lynch makes you laugh on “Glee.” Let these hilarious ladies make you laugh in person when Jane Lynch interviews Amy Poehler.

When Sunday, February 12, 2012

Times 7:30 p.m.

Prices \$25

**Film**

**Dirty Dancing**

Arclight Beach Cities

831 S. Nash St., El Segundo

arlightcinemas.com/Movies/Arclight-Presents

Though the title is a little misleading, you can see how Patrick Swayze and Jennifer Grey refuse to put baby in a corner.

When Sunday, February 12, 2012

Times 7:30 p.m.

Prices \$14.50

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

**Book Signing**

**Jaws: Memories from Martha’s Vineyard**

Book Soup

8818 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood

booksoup.com

The filming of *Jaws* in Martha’s Vineyard required the hiring of hundreds of locals to work as actors and laborers. Matt Taylor and Joe Alves present and sign their book comprised of the photographs and memories of the islanders closest to the legendary movie-making events of 1974.

When Monday, February 13, 2012

Times 7:00 p.m.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

**Music**

**A Night of Love Concert**

Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center

1935 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Redondo Beach

anightofloveconcert-auto.eventbrite.com

Let the sexy and sultry R&B of Faith Evans, Dru Hill and Michel’le help you get in the mood tonight.

When Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Times 7:30 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$35

**Film**

**Breakfast at Tiffany’s**

Egyptian Theatre

6712 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles

americancinemathequecalendar.com

The ‘60s Audrey Hepburn classic is still a film and fashion inspiration today.

When Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Times 7:30 p.m.

Prices \$11, \$9 w/ student ID

**Film**

**The Graduate**

Aero Theatre

1328 Montana Ave., Santa Monica

americancinemathequecalendar.com

“Would you like me to seduce you?” Spend Valentine’s Day with your own Mrs. (or Mr.) Robinson, Dustin Hoffman and Anne Bancroft in, arguably, her most iconic role.

When Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Times 7:30 p.m.

**In Flames**



Prices \$11, \$9 w/ student ID

**Burlesque**

**Lucha VaVoom: Lucha is For Lovers**

Mayan Theater

1038 S. Hill St., Los Angeles

luchavavoom.com/tickets/valentines-2012/

The gloriously unhinged mix of Mexican-style lucha libre wrestling, traditional burlesque and blow-by-blow comedic commentary will feature, among others, “Miss Exotic World 2005,” Michelle L’amour, one of the premiere names in modern burlesque and Peekaboo Pointe, known as the “Fastest Tassel-Twirler from East to West.” There will also be a brief marriage ceremony by the beloved Reverend Brown... on stage.

When Tuesday, February 14, 2012-Thursdays, February 16, 2012

Times 8:00 p.m.

Prices \$35

**Concerts**

**Martina McBride**

Nokia Theatre

777 Chick Hearn Court, Los Angeles

martinamcbride.com

In the U.S., she has sold over 14 million albums and has won the Country Music Association’s “Female Vocalist of the Year” award four times (tied with Reba McEntire for the most wins) and the Academy of Country Music’s “Top Female Vocalist” award three times. The concert will support PGA Tour charities during the Northern Trust Open to benefit Los Angeles non-profit organizations.

When Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Times 8 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$45

**Clubs**

**Valentine’s Day Tribute to Celia Cruz**

Conga Room

800 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles

congaroom.com

Enjoy an intimate dinner of contemporary Latin tapas for two. Then, dance the night away while listening to the repertoire of acclaimed salsa queen Celia Cruz.

When Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Times 8:00 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$20

**Film**

**The 100 Most Outrageous F\*\*ks**

The Cinefamily at the Silent Movie Theatre

611 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles

cinefamily.org

For something a little irreverent this Valentine’s Day is Cinefamily’s sequel to their popular Halloween clipfest, The 100 Most Outrageous Kills.

When Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Times 10:30 p.m.

Prices \$12

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

**Book Signing**

**Carrie Fisher**

Book Soup

8818 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood

booksoup.com

Fisher discusses and signs *Shockaholic*, of which *The Washington Post* wrote, “the follow-up to her successful autobiography and one-woman show, ‘Wishful Drinking,’ is similarly witty, ramshackle and outrageous.”

When Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Times 7:00 p.m.

**Sports**

**UCLA Men’s Basketball vs. USC**

L.A. Sports Arena

3911 S. Figueroa, Los Angeles

uclabruins.com

With both teams having disappointing seasons, L.A. bragging rights will be that much more important now.

When Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Times 7:30 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$15

# WHITE DENIM:

## *The Music Comes First*

BY BRENDA CAMBEROS



White Denim

**AUSTIN, TEXAS'S WHITE DENIM HAS BEEN MAKING MUSIC SINCE 2005.** The group has achieved moderate success and is now ready to relish in the spotlight with the release of its most recent LP *D* (Downtown Records) this Spring. Previous to *D*, White Denim was often known for self-recording, countless musical influences and multifaceted song structures. This time around, the group has used a different formula, and the results are impressive. Not bad for frontman and former English student, James Petralli.

"Personally I never really expected to be a full-time musician. I was driving a truck and saving up to finish my teaching certification. I thought that I'd probably end up teaching English somewhere," says Petralli.

However, teaching took a back seat as soon as White Denim launched its first full-length record, *Workout Holiday* (2002), and even more so now with the release of their latest effort, *D* (2012).

With a new album, a new member (Austin Jenkins) and a distinct ability to take complex riffs and make them sound beautiful and effortless, it's no wonder the group has garnered comparisons to '70s musical masterminds like King Crimson and Grateful Dead. James took time amidst the group's tour to speak to *Campus Circle* regarding everything from new musical strategies to intimate thoughts.

"I didn't go to school for music, but the other members did. I studied English in college. Some of us are trained, but we don't really have that approach. None of us really listen to contemporary rock 'n' roll. The older rock 'n' roll era is what

we're into so it's a pretty natural comparison. We definitely listen to that more than Foo Fighters or something like that. I take it as compliment. It used to be a really big deal for rock bands to play in different styles and be serious about musicianship. We appreciate that and try to apply that to our own band," says the singer.

The new album, simply titled *D*, may be construed as an evolution of the band as one entity as well as the continued marriage between Petralli's two loves: English and music.

"I'm sure from a lyrical standpoint a lot of what I was reading made its way into it [the new album]. I was reading Sherwood Anderson and Gertrude Stein. Since I left school, I've been really bad about reading so around this time I started reading quotes and little pieces of poetry. It was my way of getting back into it," he explains.

The new tunes started out with his acoustic guitar after a year and a half of touring the record *Fitz*. Although Petralli is the band's primary writer, he admits the group is constantly evolving and plans to make more of a collective effort with the music writing process.

"We're starting to write collectively a little bit more now. But there are probably only two or three tunes in the catalog that we sat down and worked on together. I think we'll get more into a collaborative in the future," states the singer.

This record seems to flow fluidly like liquid genius, however Petralli explains that there were some pretty difficult tasks the band had to face during its making, the main one being the pressure of the music industry. Nevertheless, White Denim

managed to find a way to make pressure work to its advantage.

"There was a lot of pressure on the business side to make something more that advances sonically. Our early recordings were done in a home studio, and we were more relaxed about how we were capturing sound and building material," recalls Petralli. "We worked in a different studio, on a couple of different tunes with the producer and an engineer that was giving us input on some of the sounds that we were using. I think you just have to be open to new ideas and be willing to try them. It's really about patience."

The Texas rockers are known for their style and sophisticated musicianship and not for giving outrageous antics filled performances. He explains that his main focus is to deliver quality music to his audience rather than an eccentric act or adopting an over-the-top persona.

"I feel like the band likes to focus on delivering good music and having a good time. But I'm starting to feel like maybe I should say something to people in between songs," he says thoughtfully. "I'm not super comfortable with that personal kind of connection or trying to establish that on stage. I do believe it's important to give a good show. The parts are really physically demanding... but as far as being a comedian on stage or really personable, I'd be lying if I didn't say I needed to improve in that area. I never like it when I see bands with a really loud member. I just wish people would play the music."

*White Denim performs at The Satellite Feb. 11. For more information, visit [www.whitedenimmusic.com](http://www.whitedenimmusic.com)*



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Food To Go

After the departure of longtime guitarist Greg Hill, the band MuteMath found itself trying to figure out where to go next and how to move forward.

# A RE-INVENTION OF THEIR "ODD SOULS"

BY ARIEL PAREDES

**THE GROUP'S NEWEST ALBUM,** *Odd Soul*, has proven that the members have navigated in the right direction. A bit of a departure from its traditional sound of electronica with strong vocals, this album has infused rock, blues, jazz, gospel and the electronic sounds fans have grown to love.

I got the chance to speak with lead singer Paul Meany, one-third of the talented group (Roy Mitchell-Cardenas and Darren King complete the creative trio). I wanted to find out about the revolutionary process in creating this fresh, new album. The band originally started as a side project with King mailing some instrumental tracks to Meany in New Orleans where he would add on bits and pieces, and then send them back. "We eventually added a bass player and a guitar player and something started to happen when we performed live. It felt right, and the songs began to evolve on the road." Meany continued, "We turned this electronic experiment into this four piece rock band. Darren still starts with an electronic part, but now it's a bit more organic and [King] finds a way to fuse what we do."

After their first two albums, they were ready to create a third and as Meany put it, "Not being afraid to chase rabbit trails." They sequestered themselves, put their heads together and went to work. Meany mused, "It was the three of us locked up in my house, and we quarantined ourselves for nine months until we came out with something we loved." It seems very intense, but Meany put it best, "The reward is when you chase inspiration blindly, and it proves to be good in the end."

With so many different sounds on *Odd Soul*, I had to

wonder if this New Orleans native was influenced by the musical Mecca he calls home. "It is definitely responsible for a chapter in regards to groove. There is a spirit and a funk that's consistent in New Orleans music, and it's fun to bring that element..."

Gearing up for a national tour that will be the group's biggest to date, I wondered if the excitement was starting to build about being on the road again. Meany's enthusiasm started to really come through, "It's gonna be the first proper tour. We plan on playing every song; a two hour set--the longest show we've ever done. We really wanted to raise the stakes both visually and musically."

Meany also acknowledges that the audience is crucial in making it a positive experience for everyone involved. "They are so important to the show. We can practice until we're blue in the face, but the response of the audience is what makes things memorable."

Being on the road has its ups and downs and every band has a horror story or two. Meany chuckled thinking back about one time in particular. "There was this one time we played a gig in a restaurant when we were first getting started --right

after a tornado had wiped out the town! We're playing this gig, and it was so awkward. No one was there." He continued, "we were across from the kitchen under a banister. It was a bit inappropriate. They had just been ravaged, and of course our tour stop was right after."

The band has come a long way from their early days, and this latest album is a reflection of where they have been and where they are going. Meany expresses it best, "Any album is a snapshot of what you're doing. For us, we were digging a little deeper in our own experiences. The motivation was to reinvent our original influences, some of our first memories of creating music."

*MuteMath performs at Club Nokia Feb. 2. For more information, visit [www.mutemath.com](http://www.mutemath.com)*



Colin Gray

MuteMath

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# MARIACHI VARGAS

## THE HISTORIC SUCCESS KEEPS GROWING

BY MARVIN VASQUEZ

**THE NATION OF MEXICO** has had a significant influence on American culture with its tourist-ready scenery, food, actors, singers and music just to name a few. Mexico's most valuable musical contribution is mariachi. Emerging from the beautiful southern state of Jalisco, mariachi originated in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century in Cocula. Interestingly enough, rumor has it that the term



Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan

**“We look forward to seeing everyone in Anaheim. The crowd can expect the best mariachi music ever, including new songs and favorites with a lot of energy and maybe a surprise.”**

“mariachi” originated from the French word mariage, which means wedding or marriage.

Nowadays, mariachi is heard all over the world, though most predominantly in Latin America. The genre has evolved so much that big time singers such as Luis Miguel, Juan Gabriel and Linda Ronstadt have performed accompanied with mariachi.

The universally renowned Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan

proudly carries on the tradition. Founded in 1897 by Don Gaspar Vargas, Manuel Mendoza and two violinists in Tecalitlan, Jalisco, Mariachi Vargas rapidly gained popularity throughout Mexico.

They parlayed their musical success into group roles in more than 200 movies, not to mention their extensive album catalog that even includes waltz and polka. With a combination of experienced and young members, Mariachi Vargas has achieved significant success that can be attributed to their passion, organizational structure and chemistry as a group.

“My parents loved mariachi music,” Mariachi Vargas member Andres Gonzalez declares to *Campus Circle*. “My father and grandfathers were mariachi musicians, so I grew up loving this music.” Gonzalez, who is 30, is a descendant of this multi-generational musical tradition. “I want to continue playing as long as possible and help youth continue this style,” says Gonzalez, who also sings and plays the violin.

Regardless of the traditions involved with this genre, we cannot discount the relationships of the group members that have contributed to their ongoing ventures. “It is a relationship among us, built on support and friendship,” Gonzalez explains. “It is a lot of fun.”

Now with a worldwide audience, Mariachi Vargas sports three trumpets, one harp, one vihuela, guitar, guitarrón, guitarra and five violins. Their immense song catalog includes crowd favorites like “La Culebra (The Snake),” “El Mariachi Loco (The Crazy Mariachi),” “Guadalajara” and “El Pastor (The Pastor),” among many others.

“I have a lot of satisfaction in being a part of Mariachi Vargas,” Gonzalez states when asked about his emotions before going live on the stage. “I get nervous, but I am happy to bring this music to the public.”

To feel the joy for this particular style of music, you only have to be an avid lover of music. It does not matter if you are Latino or are fluent in the language; understanding the lyrics in Spanish is a plus, but not required to enjoy mariachi.

“We look forward to seeing everyone in Anaheim.

The crowd can expect the best mariachi music ever, including new songs and favorites with a lot of energy and maybe a surprise.” Gonzalez finishes.

*Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlan performs Feb. 11 at The City National Grove of Anaheim. For more information, visit [mariachi-vargas.com](http://mariachi-vargas.com).*



### VARIOUS ARTISTS

*Underworld: Awakening (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)*  
Lakeshore

*Underworld* is back, and in true *Underworld* fashion, its soundtrack is filled with dark, gothic goodness. So, it's no real surprise that standout tracks from the likes of Evanescence, Lacuna Coil and Linkin Park made the cut. The seventeenth-track CD seems to be a direct continuation of the soundtracks from the first three films, which will make fans of the previous soundtracks feel right at home.

The CD opens on a strong note. “Made of Stone (Renholdër Remix)” by Evanescence could be described as a “bad-ass song with feelings,” and Amy Lee’s signature haunting vocals take center stage as thumping electronic beats pulse behind. Many of the songs are hard-hitting with an electronic-rock edge to them such as “Watch Yourself (Renholdër Remix)” by Ministry or “Bottle of Pain” by Combichrist; however, the soundtrack also contains its fair share of slower, moodier songs. “Young Blood (Renholdër Remix) by The Naked and Famous is a definite highlight. It brings a hipster-like edge to the CD, with breathy vocals and an instrumental that could have easily belonged on a Coldplay album.



Another track that will undoubtedly be a listener favorite is “How’m I Supposed To Die” by Civil Twilight. It’s almost depressing, and that’s meant in the best possible way. The opening ghost-like notes play like some sort of strange siren song, and the listener will surely only become more entranced by them as the song continues. Don’t worry! You won’t be in that emotional coma too long. The soundtrack continues with “Consolation Prize” by & SONS, a song that makes little to no sense lyrically.

After several more electronic-rock songs from 8mm, Collide and others, the CD finishes with “Exit Wounds” by Justin Lassen featuring Silent Fury. The song closes the album on a slightly epic note with a choir full of voices interlaced with the instrumental.

Overall, the soundtrack is another great success on the part of the *Underworld* crew. The song choices fit the atmosphere of the film perfectly, and many of the remixes are better than the original versions. This album is a must-buy.

**Grade: A**

—Nick Golden

*Underworld: Awakening (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack)* is now available.

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# FOODIE DOES GOOD!

Campus Circle's Art Director  
submits his tasty Pot Pie  
recipe for a chance to  
appear on National TV.

BY SEAN MICHAEL BEYER

**IT ALL STARTED WITH MEATBALLS.** Or in my case, a meatball. A long-time and loyal viewer of NBC's "Today Show", I was intrigued last Fall when they announced a Meatball Madness Recipe Competition. Three lucky viewers would be flown to New York to present their creations for Celeb Chef, Bobby Flay to judge. So I put on my culinary thinking cap and came up with a Thanksgiving Dinner Meatball. This softball-sized baby had ground turkey, stuffed with mashed potatoes and cranberry, wrapped in crispy bread crumbs and served with an herbal-citrus gravy. Thanksgiving dinner in every tasty bite! So I grabbed my trusty 35mm camera, snapped off a photo and submitted it with my recipe to the "Today Show."

About three weeks later, I got a call from a "Today Show" producer who said that I was on the "short-list" for their Meatball Madness segment and wanted to see if I would be available to fly to NYC. Of course I was! This was very exciting, only until I never heard back. Oh well, such as a life as an aspiring foodie.

Right after the holidays, they announced another "Today Show" viewer competition, only this time it was their Pot Pie Cook-off. Okay, I've never made a pot pie before, but I'm gonna do this! Going traditional, would most definitely go unnoticed, but I also didn't want to go too "out there" either. A friend suggested a hot dog pot pie. A hot dog pot pie, judged by Iron Chef Bobby Flay? I'm thinking no.

I decided it would be a twist on tradition. Having grown up on my family's cattle ranch in Northern California, I was quite familiar with country-style-meat-and-potatoes kind of cooking. And a pot pie is certainly that, especially chicken. But what can I do to make it unique? I'm a big fan of roasted garlic, so that'll be a place to start. What can I do with the chicken that'll make it stand out? Ah yes, smoked chicken. That's the ticket. I'm going to make a Hickory-Smoked Country Chicken Pot Pie. Chef Flay is a big fan of grilling and smoking, so I thought I was on to something.

I spent the better part of a Saturday experimenting until I came up with my recipe. A head of garlic (yes, an entire head, work with me here) oven-roasted in olive oil, then the cloves are puréed. The chicken breasts and thighs are smoked in my handy-dandy stove-top smoker (ironically, a gift from the friend who suggested I go with hot dogs) and along with roasted veggies, Mexican crema (sour cream for us gringos) a little lemon juice, the garlic and a savory garlic-thyme crust, garnished with pink Himalayan salt and



Sean Michael Beyer's Hickory-Smoked Country Chicken Pot Pie



Courtesy NBC-Universal

(left to right) "Today Show" Host Carl Quintanilla, Sean Michael Beyer and Chef Bobby Flay.



Smoked chicken and oven-roasted veggies

cracked black pepper — my Pot Pie was complete.

I grabbed the camera, snapped a couple shots and typed up the recipe. Did I mention how much work it is to accurately transcribe a recipe? You actually have to indicate measurements, cooking times, portions, yadda, yadda, yadda. This is why I don't bake, it's too precise! But I digress.

I sent the whole kit-n-kaboodle to the "Today Show" and went on with my life. I honestly figured the odds of me getting contacted again were slim to none. But as fate would have it, I got a call from "Today Show" producer, Sarah. After several phone calls over several days, they were booking my travel to the Big Apple to be on my favorite morning news show!

I arrived in NYC the afternoon before our segment was scheduled to air for a rehearsal of sorts at NBC. I met my fellow competitors, Lindsay, from Kansas City and Kiira, from Washington, DC, as well as producer Sarah, and our food stylist (yes, we had a food stylist) Deb. We went over the presentation and what we would be doing on the air. Deb and her staff would prepare each of our recipes to be presented on the show. Wow, not only do I get to be on TV, other people will be making my food. How cool is that?

On the day of the segment, 7 a.m. rolled around quite early as my body was still on California time, but after a healthy dose of coffee, I was ready to rock-n-roll. I arrived at the studio for hair (hair?) and makeup and hung out in the green room (which, isn't really green, BTW). I wore my Oxford salmon-colored (okay, it's pink) shirt. and they outfitted us with these cool "Today Show" aprons.

About thirty minutes before our segment, we were taken to the studio to do some teasers. We met Bobby Flay and went over our recipes. Bobby was very kind and encouraging. He and I had a chance to chat for a bit, and I found him quite charming. Al Roker had just finished an interview with Martin Scorsese, so we were up next. I wasn't nervous, there was only going to be about 6 million people watching.

In Five, Four, Three, Two... and we're live! Substitute Host, Carl Quintanilla was handling the segment along with Chef Flay. First up was Lindsay, with her Kansas City Steakhouse Pot Pie. It looked really good. Next was yours

truly with my Chicken Pot Pie. I began describing my creation and Bobby asked me why I garnished the crust with Pink Himalayan Salt. I told him because it matched my shirt! My, salmon, uh, pink shirt. That got a chuckle out of everyone, and I went on to demonstrate how I finished the pie. Then it was Kiira's turn with her Herb-Roasted Pork Pot Pie. Her's also looked good.

After tasting all three of our creations, Bobby was about to crown the winner. Did I want to win? Of course, who doesn't like to win. But I already got a free trip to New York and was appearing on National TV, that was pretty awesome as it was.

(Drumroll please) And the winner of the "Today Show" Pot Pie Cook-off is... Kiira and her Herb-Roasted Pork Pot Pie. Well, sh\*t! But hey, I'm a good sport, and I congratulated her and then watched as Carl, Al Roker, Ann Curry and Natalie Morales each dug into our pies. Too bad I didn't get to taste any of them, including mine because of the speed in which they do their segments on live TV. When we went to commercial I snapped off a few photos with the on-air talent and then was off to the Greenroom where I had to reluctantly return my cool "Today Show" apron.

As they say, it's an honor to be nominated and that certainly applies in my case. My recipe was selected out of several thousand submitted, and I got to meet and appear with a lot of great people I have admired for years.

Back in L.A., I'm anxiously awaiting the next "Today Show" competition. Maybe the third time will be the charm, right?

*The "Today Show" segment aired on January 27, 2012 and can be viewed [online](#).*

*Sean Michael Beyer is a freelance writer, graphic artist and Guerrilla Culinarian.*



THE GUERRILLA CULINARIAN

## LADIES... LET THE *PAMPERING* BEGIN!

Affordable Beauty at Blushington Makeup and Beauty Lounge



Blushington is located in West Hollywood.

BY MARY BROADBENT

**AS A WOMAN, IT'S KEY TO FEEL YOUR BEST AT WORK, HOME, OR HANGING WITH THE GIRLS.** However, not everyone is born with an entourage at her side so finding a place that works well for your budget, beauty and convenience can be a challenge...until now! In October 2011, Blushington's Makeup and Beauty Lounge opened its doors to make those impossible dreams come true offering professional makeup jobs, at an insanely affordable price for the Everyday Ladies. And since opening at the Sunset Plaza, the boutique has already been receiving a very warm welcome to many makeup-deprived women adding itself

**Perfect for ladies of all vocations; it's a great place to visit for headshots, interviews, spa days, or even Mommy and Me time!**

to the list of tiny treasures you can find *ONLY* in LA!

Upon first entering you're immediately transported into a relaxing, spa-like atmosphere with friendly faces, upbeat music and a warm environment of trained professionals. After waiting a moment or two in their decadent lounge of soft grays, lovely corals and sparkling whites, you'll then be escorted to one of the 14 vanity stations to meet your makeup artist! Once you've taken a seat and eyed a peek at Blushington's own Look Book to select one of 6 options, you can ease your mind, close your eyes, and let the magic start as your pampering begins!

Having six different Full Looks, all costing only \$35.00, they range from fresh and everyday looks like Pure & Simple, Life of the Party and Simply Glowing to the more glamorous nightlife looks Cutting Edge, Lucky Stars and Smoke & Mirrors. But not only will you receive a stunning look and application from an elite makeup artist, but your makeup includes top brands such as Stila, Kevyn Aucoin, BECCA, Julie Hewett and Temptu, which are also available for purchase at Blushington.

However the dream doesn't just stop there! Not only does Blushington offer professional services in makeup application, but the salon also has add-ons such as lash application and airbrushing (\$15-\$20), eye brow maintenance and facial waxing, (\$10-\$30), eye makeup application (\$25), lash extensions (\$175), and brow/lash tinting (\$15-\$20). They even offer a special Sweet Pea look for little girls who've just stepped in with their moms. Perfect for ladies of all vocations; it's a great place to visit for headshots, interviews, spa days, or even Mommy and Me time!

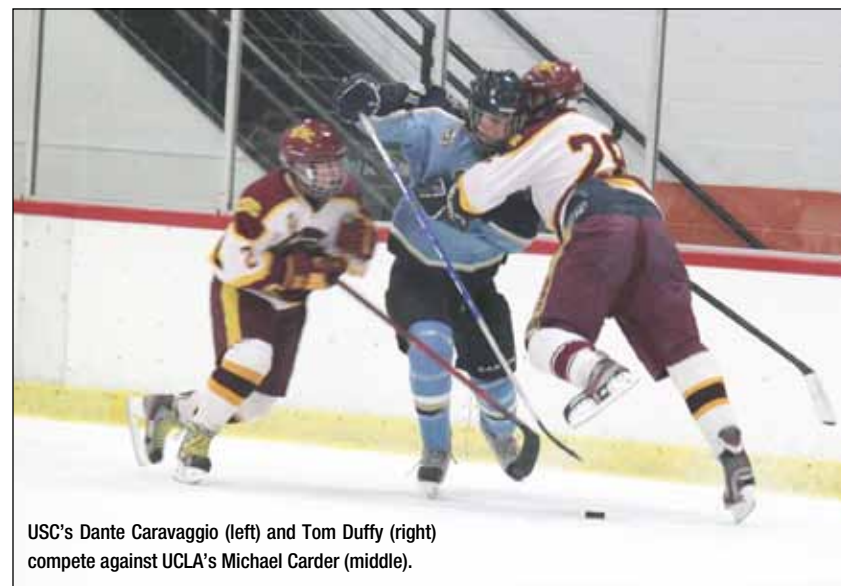
But if you're one of those girls who would also love to be educated on the beauty world, Blushington has three different classes to finely tune ladies on everyday beauty as well as those special nights out. Their classes cover all angles going from quick and simple tricks, to day and night looks. There's New Mommy (\$75), which caters to the gal on the go with less than 15 minutes of time to get ready. Makeup 101 (\$100) that gives the basics on how to apply and buy makeup that's suitable for you. And finally, there's the Advanced Class (\$200) covering all your makeup needs from the primer, that you put on for everyday looks to the crimson red lips and sparkly eyes you dawn for night-time glam. Blushington also encourages ladies to bring in their own makeup for classes to get a top-notch opinion on what works, what doesn't and the essentials you need for your look!

The boutique is also the perfect spot if you're planning a big event such as a wedding, bachelorette party, girls' night out, Sweet 16 or prom. They offer At-Home Services to come see you, or you can bring your party to Blushington where they offer an option of renting out rooms or the whole lounge to transform you and your party into Hollywood starlets. Each room has multiple iPod stations for your own DJ mix, and at your request they will deliver lovely glasses of champagne while you're getting your face done! It's the perfect touch to make any outing special and any party fabulous!

Truly a memorable experience at any age, Blushington is a luxury worthy of any women's 'To-Do' list for 2012. For your own appointment, visit the lounge located in the Sunset Plaza at 8591 Sunset Blvd, or go to their website at [www.blushington.com](http://www.blushington.com). It will no doubt be your new #1 guilty pleasure in LA and will turn those normal days into fabulous occasions!

## Trojans, Bruins to Battle on the Ice Again

BY MARVIN VASQUEZ



USC's Dante Caravaggio (left) and Tom Duffy (right) compete against UCLA's Michael Carder (middle).

Kristie Suterant

### A VICTORY WILL BE MORE THAN JUST A VICTORY FOR THE TEAM WHO WINS.

Attaining confidence and bragging rights are on the line. More importantly, the Crosstown Cup is up for grabs since both the USC Trojans and UCLA Bruins hockey teams have topped each other twice thus far this season.

"To beat the Bruins, we need to stick to our game," defender and captain Noah Comisar says of the upcoming Feb. 4 affair. "...If we show up and play the way we know how against these guys -- no question, we win decisively."

UCLA took the first two games versus USC, winning 4-3 after a shootout on Oct. 15 of 2011 and then by a score of 5-4 Nov. 8. Still, the Trojans fought back in the last two affairs where the squads faced each other in back-to-back matches.

"Year after year, our UCLA games are always the most exciting and most emotional," USC junior defender Dante Caravaggio confesses about the intriguing match-ups.

The Trojans defeated the Bruins 3-1 on Jan. 20 before comfortably coming out on top the following night 7-3 at the Valley Ice Center in Panorama City. Now, game number five is approaching in this best-of-five Crosstown Cup series.

"In order to win, UCLA must be willing to grind it out in the corners and sacrifice everything it takes in order to win the major one-on-one battles," UCLA right wing and captain Michael Carder acknowledges.

But before squaring off against the Bruins, the Trojans host Cal State Fullerton (Feb. 3); a win is a must to boost the morale of the club prior to facing their rivals.

On the other end, UCLA hosts Loyola Marymount the night before. Carder, who classifies his team as resilient, is to play a key role in motivating the Bruins since the Trojans are a threat. "The threats that USC pose are an effective dump-and-chase system, as well as an oppressive

penalty kill," Carder shares.

Junior left wing Adam Zacuto, USC's leading scorer, will be an imperative element in the host's potential road to victory over the visitors. "Adam has been consistently our most dangerous offensive weapon. Every time he steps on the ice there is the chance we will score," Trojan head coach Jeffrey Langille comments. "I would say that his ability to find the back of the net in general is the best thing he has done, as it forces other teams to modify their game plan to and focus on trying to contain him."

Zacuto, however, attributes his success to his teammates, specifically two linemates. "This season I have been lucky enough to play with two tremendous linemates; I play with James Huebner (junior right winger) and Cory Newman (freshman center) on my line," he says. "Both players are tremendous playmakers and have contributed to both my success and the success our team has experienced this year."

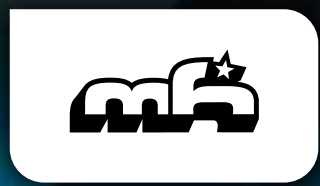
The Bruins have already beaten the Trojans twice this season, and Carder recalls that vividly. "Beating USC at the Honda Center and Staples Center," he says after asked about the best things the team has done this year. "The major reason we have accomplished this is because of everyone buying into the team concept, which is difficult with club hockey."

Carder leads the Bruins offensively, and he sounds very competitive in looking to gain as much production as possible in order to help UCLA thrive on the ice. "It will be there Senior Night, and we plan on making it very emotional for them," Carder adds.

"This game has huge implications for us. It's a winner take all affair for the Crosstown Cup on our home ice, and tensions are running high between the teams," Langille says.

*USC and UCLA meet Saturday, Feb. 4, at The Rinks - Anaheim ICE. The game is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.*

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