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Wednesday



CARLO ALLEGRI/GETTY IMAGES

Actor Heath Ledger was found dead at age 28.

Ledger Dead: Star actor is found in N.Y.C. apartment | **22**

Run Over: Thompson quits bid for GOP's nomination | **4**



Double Take: Fassel interviews twice with the Redskins | **13**

ENTERTAINMENT

Gold Diggers:

Javier Bardem and 'No Country for Old Men' share the lead for most Oscar nominations with 'There Will Be Blood.'

>> **21-25**



UP IN ARMS: A trader throws his hands up Tuesday at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Stocks steadied themselves after a 465-point drop earlier in the day.

Fed Makes Bold Rate Cut

Central bank responds to global fears with .75 percent cut

WASHINGTON | The Federal Reserve unexpectedly slashed a key interest rate by a bold three-fourths of a percentage point on Tuesday, responding to a global plunge in stock markets that heightened concerns about a recession. The Fed signaled that further rate cuts were likely.

The reduction in the federal funds rate from 4.25 percent to 3.5 percent marked the biggest reduction in this target rate for overnight loans on records going back to 1990. It marked the first time that the Fed has changed the funds rate between meetings since 2001, when the

bank was battling the impacts of a recession and the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues approved the large rate cut Monday night, a day when global markets had been pounded by rising concerns that weakness

in the world's largest economy was spreading worldwide. Despite the bold move, Wall Street plunged at the opening with the Dow Jones industrial average down 465 points before stocks began to rebound. The Dow finished the day off 128.11 points at 11,971.19, according to preliminary calculations.

Analysts said the fact that the Fed did not wait until its meeting next week to cut rates underscored the seriousness of the situation. "The world's stock markets are in meltdown, so the Fed came in with an inter-meeting move to try to stop the panic," said Christopher Rupkey, senior economist at Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi. (AP)



JOINT EFFORT
→ Democratic leaders vow to work closely with President Bush to enact a stimulus package. **PAGE 3**



WOULD JIM FASSEL BE A GOOD CHOICE TO BE THE NEXT HEAD COACH OF THE REDSKINS? **A YES B NO**

	WEDNESDAY 41 25		THURSDAY 36 20		FRIDAY 34 20
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eyeOpeners

UN-UNDERSTANDABLE

Like the Lawyer Who Sued Himself

A candidate for Kerr County, Texas, treasurer is making a single campaign promise: Elect me and I won't serve. Ed Hamilton, 77, is challenging incumbent Treasurer Mindy Williams for the Republican nomination during the March 4 election. No Democrats are seeking the office. He said the job is redundant and costs the county money it doesn't need to spend. The duties should be assigned to another county office. "I don't plan to do the job," he said. "I won't accept a paycheck." Hamilton said, if elected, he would hand the duties to someone else and petition state officials for a referendum on a constitutional amendment that would allow any county to eliminate the treasurer position if it chooses. (AP)



MIXED STATE

Cute or Sad? We Really Can't Decide

When Elizabeth Emerson of Jonesport, Maine, confessed to the New York Times that her only real indulgence has been an occasional chocolate bar during her 87 years, she wasn't prepared for the response that followed. Letters and chocolate followed from all over the country, including a huge shipment from Hershey Co. (AP)



KRISTIAN DOWLING/GETTY IMAGES

PETRIFIED

Mr. Bill: Year 6000

The Melbourne, Australia, Fairytales & Fables Sand Sculpting Exhibition kicked off this week, spawning puzzling pieces of ephemeral public art. We have no idea, however, which fairy tale this image depicts. The guy looks like George Washington and Mr. Bill's love child, though. (EXPRESS)

FIRST RULE OF EYEOPENERS

Anything Involving A Toilet Is Fair Game

This charity concert might stink no matter how well its singers perform.

Organizers at a Charlotte, N.C., nightclub said they will place a portable toilet onstage for performers during a Wednesday concert in support of a local food pantry. WSOC-FM program director D.J. Stout said the singers will

perform at the same time. He said he didn't want any of them sneaking onstage while the others perform, so if anyone has to go to the bathroom, the Porta-Jon will be right there. They also will have a personal waitress. (AP)

Healthy Adult Volunteers Needed

The National Institute of Mental Health is conducting a psychopharmacology study of mild stress and memory. Participants will be interviewed and will complete a series of tasks during which physiological functioning will be recorded. Volunteers must be between the ages of 18-50.

Financial compensation will be provided for participation.

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The number of people, in millions, who watched Monday night's Democratic debate on CNN — the largest audience ever for a debate on cable. Seven of the 10 most-watched primary debates in cable TV history are from this election cycle.

Nation

In Brief

NEW YORK

City Revives Effort to Put Calorie Counts on Menus

The New York City Board of Health voted Tuesday to approve a new version of a law requiring fast-food outlets to display calorie counts on their menus, hoping the fat-filled truth will shock New Yorkers into eating healthier. The regulation, which takes effect March 31, was altered slightly after a judge rejected the city's first attempt last year. The new regulation applies to any chain that operates at least 15 separate outlets, including those that don't currently provide any information on calories. (AP)

FORT COLLINS, COLO.

Man Freed From Prison On Results of New DNA Test

Timothy Masters walked out of court a free man for the first time in nearly a decade Tuesday, his murder conviction wiped out by DNA evidence that points to another suspect. Masters, 36, who was sentenced to life in prison in 1999, was ordered freed on a personal recognizance bond by Larimer County District Judge Joseph Weatherby. New tests announced last week showed DNA found on the victim's clothing was not from Masters. (AP)

AdWatch



“The Bush

economy is like a trapdoor. Too many families are one pink slip, one missed mortgage payment, one medical diagnosis away from falling through and losing everything.”

—SEN. HILLARY CLINTON, IN A CAMPAIGN AD AIRING IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Economic Bill Quickly Takes Shape

Bush, Congress united on need for swift vote on stimulus package

WASHINGTON | You know the economy is in big trouble when Democrats and Republicans start talking cooperation instead of confrontation.

Recession fears and an unnerving meltdown in global markets are forcing a burst of emergency action rarely seen in this slow-moving and politically divided capital.

The bitterness and name calling that have been the hallmark of relations between President Bush and the Democratic-led Congress were replaced on Tuesday — at least for



President Bush is crafting an economic stimulus package with Congress.

now — by cordiality and cooperation. Lawmakers joined administration officials in negotiations on

upward of \$150 billion in tax cuts and government spending to pump up the economy.

Bush summoned lawmakers to the White House to talk about his recent trip to the Middle East, but the subject on everyone's mind was the deteriorating economy and plummeting world markets.

“The urgency that we feel at home is now even more urgent as we see the impact of our markets on others,” House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said afterward.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said the goal was to get a deal through Congress and on Bush's desk within roughly three weeks — lightning speed compared with

the usual snail's pace on Capitol Hill.

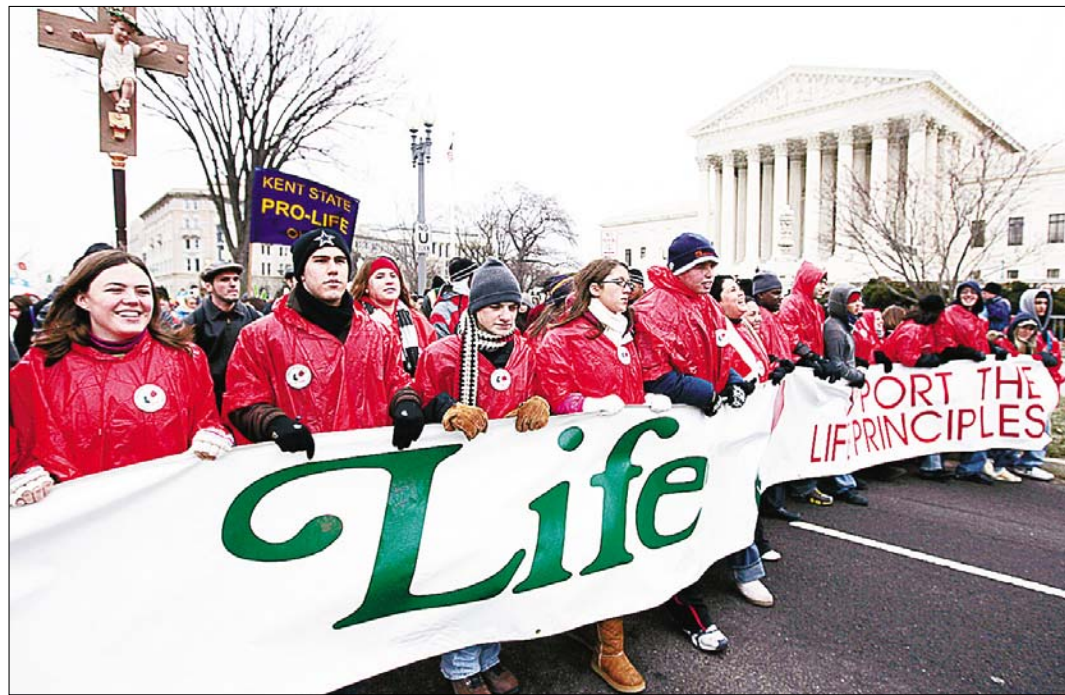
Bush expressed confidence that he and the Democratic-led Congress could put aside sharp differences that have marked his presidency.

Administration officials are focusing on rebates of \$800 to \$1,600 for individuals and couples and so-called bonus depreciation to allow companies to deduct 50 percent of business investments made this year.

Democrats say the package also should include boosts in unemployment benefits, food stamp payments and the Medicaid health care program for the poor and disabled.

TERENCE HUNT (AP)

WASHINGTON | ROE V. WADE AT 35



THE DEBATE CONTINUES: Anti-abortion marchers pass the Supreme Court Tuesday during the annual “March for Life.” The rally was held on the 35th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision, which was that a woman has a constitutional right to have an abortion. The National Organization for Women staged a counterprotest.

Sentence For Padilla Is 17 Years

Man once accused of ‘dirty bomb’ plot gets lenient jail term

MIAMI | Jose Padilla, an American once accused of plotting with al-Qaeda to detonate a radioactive “dirty bomb,” was sentenced Tuesday to a relatively lenient 17-year prison term on unrelated terror support charges.

Prosecutors in the case, who long ago dropped the “dirty bomb” claim that made Padilla infamous, had sought life sentences for Padilla and two co-defendants, but a federal judge said authorities never even proved Padilla was a terrorist.

Padilla, 37, and co-defendants Adham Amin Hassoun, 45, and Kifah Wael Jayyousi, 46, were convicted in August after a three-month trial of being part of a support cell that sent recruits, money and supplies to Islamic extremists, including al-Qaeda. CURT ANDERSON (AP)



Padilla

Minn. Bridge Victims Prep Lawsuit

ST. PAUL, MINN. | Dozens of victims of last summer's bridge collapse in Minneapolis — from surviving spouses to the parents of children riding on a yellow school bus — have filed preliminary paperwork to sue the state.

The documents provide a glimpse into a brewing legal battle over the Aug. 1 disaster, in which the Interstate 35W bridge plummeted 60 feet into the Mississippi River, killing 13 people and injuring 145.

The first legal deadline — requiring those injured to notify the state within 180 days — is coming up Sunday. Lawyers described the notices as a formality that may not even be necessary to sue later, but the number of notices indicate that many victims are contemplating their options in court. (AP)

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Nation

71

The percentage of Army recruits who graduated from high school in the 2007 budget year, according to Defense Department data obtained by the National Priorities Project.

Thompson Exits GOP Race

Ex-senator struggled to gain traction with voters in early states

NAPLES, FLA. | Republican Fred Thompson, the actor-politician who attracted more attention as a potential presidential candidate than as a real one, quit the race for the White House on Tuesday after a string of poor finishes in early primary and caucus states.

"Today, I have withdrawn my candidacy for president of the United States. I hope that my country and my party have benefited from our having made this effort," the former Tennessee senator said in a brief statement.

Thompson's fate was sealed last Saturday in the South Carolina primary, when he finished third in a state that he had said he needed to win.

In the statement, Thompson did not say whether he would endorse any of his former rivals.



Former Tennessee Sen. Fred Thompson dropped out of the Republican presidential race Tuesday after a disappointing third-place finish in South Carolina.

Thompson placed third in Iowa and South Carolina, two states seemingly in line with his right-leaning pitch and laid-back style, and fared even worse in the four other states that have held contests thus far. Money already tight, he ran out of it altogether as the loss-

es piled up.

Despite initial impressions that Thompson could garner strong conservative support, it never materialized. He never won backing from more than one in five conservatives in any of the earliest primaries and caucuses. DAVID ESPO (AP)

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Employers have the opportunity to post positions on the ClearedJobs.Net online job board, search the resume database with more than 75,000 current cleared jobseekers, and participate in job fairs; ClearedJobs.Net also offers employers brand building and advertising services.

Those who have served in the military are very desirable in the civilian workforce, says ClearedJobs.Net CMO Kathleen Smith. "They're dependable, adept at problem-solving, and show initiative," Smith says. "But they don't always realize that they have these skills. We help them recognize their assets and provide them with the resources to put them to good use."

Leaving the military life can be "a very challenging time," Smith adds. "It's difficult to go from a culture where your career path and living situations are completely directed by the military to one in which you have an open field of opportunities."

"In the military life," Smith continues, "the individual and his family are part of a strong, supportive community in which everyone takes care of each other. In the corporate world, however, that same sense of community and support may not be present."

ClearedJobs.Net offers "accessible, available, and supportive" services for those making the transition. The company has special insight into the needs of these individuals, says Smith. The company's founders are former military themselves and ClearedJobs.

Net also employs specialists in military transitioning. ClearedJobs.Net also works with local groups such as AFCEA-NOVA to provide special career transitioning seminars for military and government personnel on a quarterly basis.

Through its regularly scheduled job fairs, ClearedJobs.Net offers seminars that focus on such issues as job researching, resume writing, and interviewing. Valuable tips are also found in the company's newsletter and on its website, www.ClearedJobs.Net.

ClearedJobs.Net offers transitioning military personnel both support and "the confidence to know that things will be OK," says Smith. But, she adds, "Moving forward can be bewildering as you look at the many different options. Transitioning to a civilian job is not unlike looking for your first job."

The types of positions currently being sought by civilian employers are "wide and varied," says Smith—from administrative assistants and drivers to scientists, project managers, IT specialists, intelligence analysts, and linguists.

The next ClearedJobs.Net Cleared Job Fair will be held Friday, January 25, from 11a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Double Tree Hotel in Crystal City. For more information, visit the company's website at www.ClearedJobs.net or call 703-871-0037

This special advertising section was written by Carol Sorgen, a freelance writer and editor, in conjunction with the advertising department of The Washington Post and did not involve the news or editorial departments of this newspaper.

ClearedJobs.Net

**ClearedJobs.Net
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for Transitioning
Military**

By Carol Sorgen

The transition between military life and civilian life can be challenging, both personally and professionally. For members of the military who are seeking employment in the civilian world, ClearedJobs.Net provides valuable resources.

Since it was founded in 2001, ClearedJobs.Net has served as a resource for both security cleared jobseekers and employers with security cleared positions and cleared facilities, both in the Washington metropolitan area and nationwide as well.

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CTO SCHEV

Nation

Democratic presidential hopefuls Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sen. Barack Obama engaged in several heated exchanges during a debate Monday in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

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at **Manassas Clinical Research Center**
9001 Digges Road, Suite 105
Manassas, VA 20110
703-330-1112**Democratic Race
Takes Fiery Turn****Clinton, Obama trade
barbs after intensely
personal S.C. debate**

WASHINGTON | Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton argued on Tuesday that Barack Obama's frustration with losing prompted him to look for a fight in their latest debate. Obama said his rival and her husband, former President Clinton, were distorting his record.

"I think it's very clear that Senator Clinton ... and the president have been spending the last month attacking me in ways that are not accurate," Obama told reporters in a conference call shortly after she lashed out at him in a bitter exchange that carried over from Monday night's debate.

Speaking to reporters in Washington, Hillary Clinton belittled Obama's line of debate criticism against her as "rehearsed points."

"I think what we saw last night

was that he's very frustrated," she said. "I believe that the events of the last 10 or so days, the outcome of New Hampshire and Nevada, have apparently convinced him to adopt a different strategy."

Former President Clinton said Tuesday he enjoyed the bickering.

"I know you think it's crazy, but I kind of like to see Barack and Hillary fight," Bill Clinton told a mostly white crowd at a black church in Greenville, S.C. "They're flesh-and-blood people, and they have their differences — let them have it."

When asked whether he thought his legacy among blacks would be harmed by challenging Obama, Bill Clinton said he wasn't standing in Obama's way but rather advocating for his wife.

"I think it would be just as much a change, some people think more, to have the first woman president than to have the first African-American president," he said.

BETH FOUHY (AP)

**BY THE NUMBERS:** Florida's population boom may be coming to an end. Census figures show that in 2007, the number of people who moved to Florida from other states outnumbered those who left Florida by just 35,301, down from 268,347 in 2005. One in five Florida residents said in a recent Mason-Dixon poll they are considering leaving the state. (AP)



"I am confident that, in this crucial endeavor, we can count on the will, maturity, resourcefulness and judgment of the leaders."

—Kofi Annan, former U.N. Secretary-General, on resolving Kenya's election dispute

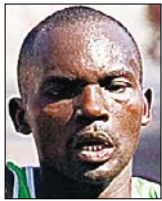
World

In Brief

NAIROBI, KENYA

Marathon Runner Killed by Arrow Amid Kenya's Chaos

A Kenyan marathon runner was fatally shot with an arrow, the second international athlete to die as Kenya struggles with an explosion of postelection chaos, a sports official and fellow athlete said Tuesday. Wesley Ngetich, 34, won the Grandma's Marathon in Duluth, Minn., in 2005 and 2007. He withdrew from the Rock 'n' Roll Arizona Marathon and Half Marathon because of the political strife in Kenya. (AP)



Ngetich

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

44 Killed in Clashes Near Afghan-Pakistan Border

Islamic militants in Pakistan attacked a fort near the Afghan border Tuesday, one of two clashes with government forces that left seven troops and 37 fighters dead, the army said. In Europe, President Pervez Musharraf said border attacks were "pinpricks" that his government must manage. The attack on the fort, the second this month, occurred in South Waziristan, a lawless tribal region where al-Qaeda and Taliban-linked militants operate. (AP)

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Suicide Attacker Targets High School, Injuring Dozens

A suicide bomber pushing an electric heater atop a cart packed with hidden explosives attacked a high school north of Baghdad on Tuesday, leaving students and teachers bloodied and bewildered as insurgents appeared to be expanding their list of targets. The bombing was one of two attacks near Iraqi schools on the same day. One man was killed and 21 people were wounded. (AP)

6 Nations Agree on Iran Sanctions

Draft of 3rd resolution strengthens penalties over nuclear program

BERLIN | The five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and Germany agreed Tuesday to impose new sanctions on Iran over its suspect nuclear program, yet the measures appeared to fall short of what the Bush administration had wanted.

After months of diplomatic bickering and U.S. pressure, Washing-

ton and its European allies overcame strong Chinese and Russian resistance to a third U.N. sanctions resolution and they all approved a draft that expands and strengthens the penalties that were in the two earlier ones.

The draft was presented as a sign of international resolve that Iran should not be allowed to develop nuclear weapons and unity on the need to press the country into suspending its uranium enrichment that can produce material needed to make the bomb.

ELUSIVE DRAFT DETAILS

→ U.S. and European diplomats said the draft bolsters existing sanctions, notably asset freezes and travel bans on Iranian officials. But they disagreed on whether it contains new measures. A U.S. official insisted that the resolution has "new elements," but declined to elaborate on what they were. A European official said the draft does not feature new economic sanctions.

But the document, hailed by U.S. officials as a victory for the Bush administration's tough line on Iran, was not released. And participants in the two-hour negotiating session that produced it pointedly refused to discuss details.

In addition, the foreign ministers of the six nations represented — Britain, China, France, Russia, the U.S. and Germany — canceled a planned news conference and forced the meeting's host, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, to announce results. MATTHEW LEE (AP)



Palestinian women sit next to bags of flour at a United Nations food distribution center in Shati refugee camp in Gaza City on Tuesday. Israel eased its blockade of Gaza Tuesday, but international concern grew about a humanitarian crisis in the region.

Putin Heir Opens His Campaign

Medvedev urges crime crackdown as foe is accused of forgery

MOSCOW | President Vladimir Putin's likely successor opened his election campaign Tuesday with a promise of stability and continued economic growth for Russia, and called for a redoubled effort to root out corruption.



Medvedev

Dmitry Medvedev said U.S. and European criticism of Russian policies stemmed from misconceptions. But he signaled no shift from Moscow's assertive foreign policy.

Medvedev's call for a crackdown on corruption came as prosecutors accused the campaign of Mikhail Kasyanov, a former prime minister who is the only liberal Kremlin critic left in the race, of forging signatures on election petitions.

Kasyanov, who accuses Putin of strangling democracy, said his campaign victim to "an orgy of lawlessness" by authorities. He claimed his activists were intimidated into signing false confessions that signatures were faked. VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV (AP)

Limited Supplies Allowed Into Gaza

70 people injured in clashes along closed Gaza-Egypt border

GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP | Israel sent fuel to Gaza's power plant on Tuesday, easing its five-day blockade of the Palestinian territory amid growing international concern about a humanitarian crisis.

The U.S. warned Israel not to add to the hardship for ordinary Palestinians but blamed the problem on Gaza's Islamic Hamas rulers. Israel imposed the siege in response

to increasing attacks on its border communities by Gaza militants.

Despite the easing of the closure, Palestinian militants fired 19 rockets toward Israel on Tuesday, the military said, up from just two on Monday.

The lights were back on in most of Gaza City by Tuesday afternoon after a blackout that lasted almost two days. But Gazans still vented their anger.

Hundreds of Hamas supporters briefly broke through the Gaza-Egypt border and clashed with Egyptian riot police who fired in

the air, injuring 70 people on both sides. Protesters hurled insults at Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, calling him a coward.

Israel and Egypt have banned most crossings in and out of Gaza since Hamas seized control of the territory in June. Egypt has kept its border closed, tacitly supporting Israel's blockade.

Israeli tanker trucks pumped in 185,000 gallons of fuel, enough to provide electricity to Gaza City for two days. Other trucks delivered cooking gas and medicine.

IBRAHIM BARZAK (AP)



BY THE NUMBERS:
Some 45,000 people die each month in Congo's ongoing humanitarian crisis, despite five years of relative peace, according to a new report.

World



Mexican federal police officers escort a detained man from a home in Mexico City on Tuesday, after 11 alleged hit men for a powerful drug cartel were captured.

Mexico Captures 11 Alleged Hit Men

Suspects with links to drug cartel found in Mexico City houses

MEXICO CITY | Eleven alleged hit men for a powerful drug cartel were captured Tuesday at two Mexico City mansions stocked with grenades and automatic weapons — a day after Mexican authorities reported nabbing one of the cartel's reputed leaders.

Police said it was the first time they have found a safe house linked to the cartel in the capital city.

"Yes, the cartel is operating here in Mexico City," said Edgar Millan, top commander of Mexico's national federal police, following pre-dawn raids on two houses in Mexico City. Eight men were arrested in one raid and three in the other.

Millan said the men, whose

identities were not released, were part of three cartel "commando" groups that may have been preparing attacks in response to a federal crackdown on drug trafficking.

The suspects were lined up in the homes' spacious living rooms and presented to reporters alongside caches of seized weapons, including 20 fragmentation grenades, automatic weapons, rifles and materials presumably intended for constructing a drug lab.

Police also found 40 bulletproof vests, eight of which bore the initials FEDA, which Millan said was likely a Spanish acronym for "Arturo's Special Forces." Authorities also found an unspecified amount of cash in one of the homes.

The U.S. ambassador to Mexico, Tony Garza, praised Monday's arrest as "a significant victory."

E. EDUARDO CASTILLO (AP)

U.N.: 9.7M Children Die Before 5

GENEVA | A newborn in Sierra Leone has the lowest chance in the world of surviving until age 5, and the prospects are almost as bad for children in Angola and Afghanistan, according to a U.N. report released Tuesday.

In 2006, nearly 9.7 million children died worldwide before their fifth birthdays, mostly from

preventable causes such as diarrhea, malaria or malnutrition, the U.N. Children's Fund said in its annual report.

More than 26,000 children under 5 die each day on average.

In 2006, the latest year for which data were available, Sierra Leone had the highest child mortality rate, with 270 deaths per 1,000 births. (AP)

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Local

Md. Mulls Soccer Stadium

With D.C. talks stalled, Pr. George's floated as new home for United

With negotiations to build a new stadium for D.C. United stalled in the District, Maryland officials have agreed to entertain the idea of constructing a new home for the soccer team in Prince George's County.

The Maryland Stadium Authority has agreed to spend \$75,000 on a feasibility study to look at the economic impact and potential tax

benefit of locating a new stadium in the county.

The move concerns at least one District official, who noted the soccer team's financial success and growth potential.

"I continue to believe that we should work with D.C. United to construct the stadium in Popular Point," said D.C. Council Chairman Vincent Gray.



Gray

The study comes two months after Prince George's County Executive Jack B. Johnson wrote a letter to David Raith, acting director of the Maryland Stadium Authority, asking the state to help the county lure the professional soccer team away from the District.

"Prince George's County is prepared to work with D.C. United to make this their new home, and would like the support and assistance of the Maryland Stadium Authority to make this happen," Johnson wrote.

OVETTA WIGGINS (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Va. Driver Fees Closer to Elimination

RICHMOND, VA. | The first of about two dozen bills that would end the fees on abusive drivers cleared the House of Delegates on a 95-2 vote. Delegate Clarke Hogan's bill deals with the punitive fees almost as an afterthought.

The primary purpose of the legislation is to prevent auto deal-

ers from collecting additional licensing or registration fees for the Hampton Roads or Northern Virginia transportation districts. But it also repeals the hated civil remedial fees imposed statewide in July. Virginians were outraged when they learned that nonresidents don't pay them. (AP)

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Local

54

The amount, in thousands of dollars, Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot has returned in campaign contributions he received from Hollywood movie mogul James G. Robinson, who violated Maryland campaign finance law shortly before the November 2006 elections.

WASHINGTON | FIRE CLAIMS D.C. NIGHTCLUB



CLOSE CALL: A fire broke out Monday night at JP's Night Club on Wisconsin Avenue NW, causing a street closing Tuesday. The manager, who fled a third-floor office when he smelled smoke at about 3:30 a.m., had to be rescued from the roof of the burning building by firefighters using a ladder truck.

3 Teens Shot Near School

Police: Ballou Senior High students are expected to survive

Three Ballou Senior High students were shot and wounded Tuesday after they left the D.C. school, police said.

The students, all under 18, were expected to survive, according to police. It happened around

3:30 p.m. about a block and a half from the school, in the 3300 block of Fourth Street SE.

Two female students — a ninth-grader and an 11th-grader — were shot, one in the ankle and the other in the leg, said D.C. Public Schools spokeswoman Mafara Hobson. A ninth-grade boy was shot in the back, Hobson said.

Investigators are looking for a pickup truck that may be associ-

ated with the shooting.

The shooting comes nearly three years after a 17-year-old Ballou student was slain during a brawl outside the school cafeteria.

James Richardson, 17, was shot in February 2004 by another student, who now is serving a 16-year prison term for manslaughter.

ALLISON KLEIN AND THEOLA LABBE (THE WASHINGTON POST)

The Lotteries

Tuesday, Jan. 22

DISTRICT	
Mid-day Lucky Numbers	8-3-4
Evening Lucky Numbers	3-4-0
Mid-day DC 4	8-1-5-9
Evening DC 4	8-3-9-6

Rolling Cash Five	8-13-24-25-35
Daily 6	1-14-18-31-35-36 Bonus: 21

MARYLAND	
Mid-day Pick 3	7-8-2
Evening Pick 3	6-6-0
Mid-day Pick 4	4-9-8-6
Evening Pick 4	4-2-4-3
Match 5	1-7-12-19-25 Bonus: 23

VIRGINIA	
Mid-day Pick 3	4-4-9
Evening Pick 3 (Mon.)	6-5-9
Mid-day Pick 4	6-3-6-5
Evening Pick 4 (Mon.)	5-0-4-0
Mid-day Cash 5	1-2-3-13-31
Evening Cash 5 (Mon.)	1-9-13-22-27

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KEEP CARRYING IT: Natural and organic grocer Whole Foods Market announced Tuesday it will stop using disposable plastic grocery bags at all of the company's 270 supermarket stores and encourage reusable bags instead.

Money

High Court Won't Hear Enron Case

Shareholder lawsuit against banks unlikely to succeed on appeal

WASHINGTON | The Supreme Court dealt a probably fatal blow Tuesday to Enron Corp. investors' efforts to recover \$40 billion from Wall Street banks in the 2001 collapse of the Texas energy company.

Without comment, the justices refused to hear arguments in the Enron case. Attorneys for shareholders immediately vowed to return to federal court in Houston in an attempt to prove that the investment banks helped conceal Enron's true financial condition.

"It's an uphill battle, and we'll

keep fighting," Patrick Coughlin, lawyer for the stockholders, said.

Attorney Greg Markel, a lawyer not connected with the case who represents corporate clients in securities fraud lawsuits, said shareholders' "chances of succeeding ... are nearly zero."

Enron's demise wiped out thousands of jobs, more than \$60 billion in market value and more than \$2 billion in pension plans at what had been the seventh-largest company in the country.

To date, Enron plaintiffs have settled for \$7.3 billion with several financial institutions, including JPMorgan Chase & Co., Citigroup and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. PETE YOST (AP)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
MBIA	12.53	+3.98	+46.5
SecCapAs	2.15	+0.50	+30.3
AmbacF	7.97	+1.77	+28.5
CircCity	4.55	+0.79	+21.0
Perini Cp	32.41	+4.00	+14.1

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Waters	58.58	-14.65	-20.0
FairPoint	11.01	-2.21	-16.7
ITT Ed	71.00	-13.34	-15.8
ExprsJet	2.26	-.41	-15.4
UnivInst	12.40	-2.11	-14.5

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	6.50	7.25
Fed Funds close	3.63	4.31
3-month disc	2.37	3.09
2-year	2.03	2.51
10-year	3.48	3.69
30-year	4.22	4.29

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
AllegiantT	25.50	+4.49	+21.4
PetMed	13.30	+2.33	+21.2
BonTon	6.03	+0.99	+19.6
Sonesta	27.25	+4.33	+18.9
Iomai	.89	-.05	-5.3

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
CorinthC	7.55	-3.34	-30.7
TwinDisc s	16.36	-5.99	-26.8
FFdBk IA	11.49	-4.01	-25.9
Constar	2.87	-.98	-25.5
BladeLgc n	17.75	-5.74	-24.4

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5096	.5113	.5060
Canadian Dollar	1.0266	1.0282	1.1822
European Euro	.6843	.6839	.7720
Japanese Yen	106.48	106.67	121.61
Mexican Peso	10.9327	10.9150	10.9281
Taiwanese Dollar	32.46	32.36	32.96

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
-128.11	-47.75	-14.69
-1.06	-2.04	-1.11
11971.19	2292.27	1310.50

Media Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
CBS B	22.88	-.21	-16.0
ClearChan	32.14	-1.41	-6.9
Comcast s	16.65	-.38	-8.8
Comc sp s	16.61	-.29	-8.3
DirecTV	20.06	+0.39	-13.2
Disney	28.12	-.39	-12.9
GpTelevisa	20.85	-.48	-12.3
NewsCpA	18.58	-.11	-9.3
NewsCpB	19.05	-.30	-10.4
ReutrGrp	69.00	+0.35	-9.3
Thomson	33.62	-.22	-17.5
TW Cable n	24.87	-.43	-9.9
TimeWarn	15.18	-.36	-8.1
ViacomB	37.72	-.46	-14.1
WPP Gp	58.17	+1.21	-9.5

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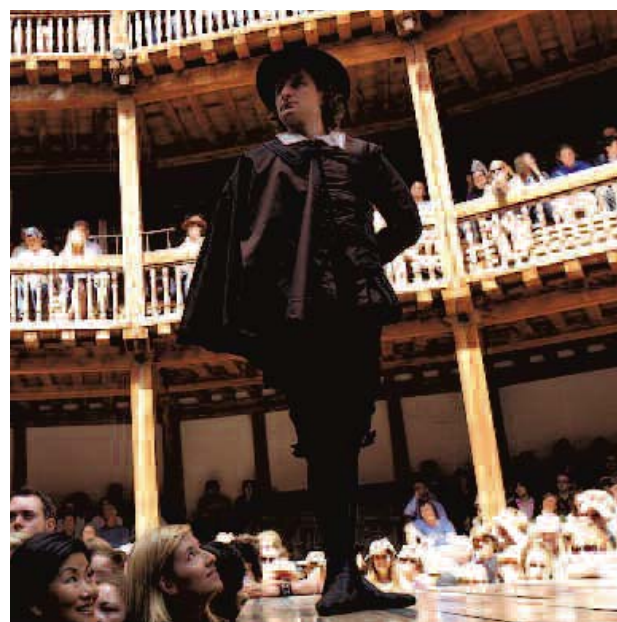
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Culture in London

London is bursting with energy for arts and culture. Where else can you find historic buildings right next door to contemporary art? A vibrant theater scene or exhibitions to suit all the family? Londoners Lorraine, Leon and Lawrence have some great tips about how to feed your culture vulture



The Globe Theatre

Lawrence

My London is all about art and I am spoilt for choice. At the moment I'm really into contemporary art, so you'll find me at the *Tate Modern*, which has world-class exhibitions, or at the *Institute of Contemporary Arts* on *The Mall*, which has cutting edge art, theater and live music. Many of London's galleries and museums have free entry so you can indulge your artistic desires without worrying about the cost.

One exhibition I've been looking forward to seeing is *Henry Moore* at *Kew Gardens*, which has the largest collection of Moore's works that has ever been brought together. Some have never been seen in the UK before!

I really enjoy going to some of London's smaller galleries. My favorite is the *Courtauld Gallery*, which has some incredible collections and temporary exhibitions. There's always something new to see. *The Dulwich Picture Gallery* has amazing collections too. The gallery is in the lovely southeast London village of Dulwich and I recommend experiencing its charming pubs and cafes to really blend in with the locals.

Many of London's galleries and museums have free entry so you can indulge your artistic desires without worrying about the cost.



The Royal Albert Hall

Leon

I arrived in London 20 years ago to study and I haven't been back home since! For me, the best thing about London is the vibrant theater scene. This year is going to be extra special for theater lovers, as it's the centenary of *West End* theater. There will be lots of celebrations running all year, which are sure to be a hit with the locals.

It's a great opportunity for my friends and family back home to come and visit. I think they'll be blown away by all the exciting events. My sister loves the theater just as much as me! She's already booked her British Airways flights and she's found a great deal from Thomas Cook, the foreign exchange experts, on visitlondon.com. This great offer allows her to change dollars commission-free and with great rates too. Included in the deal, she also gets 'two for one' vouchers and discounts to local



Tate Britain

For me, the best thing about London is the vibrant theater scene

Lorraine

I'm a born and bred Londoner, and like so many other locals I feel lucky to have so many attractions on my doorstep.

I've been interested in Royal history since I was young and there is so much to explore in the city. I often watch the Changing of the Guards at *Buckingham Palace* before taking a walk through *St. James' Park*. This year I'm excited because the State Rooms at *Buckingham Palace* will be open in March and April so you don't have to wait until the summer to view the palace's beautiful and magnificent rooms.

Sometimes I treat myself to afternoon tea. One of my favorite places to go is the *British Museum*.

My tip is to book in advance and ask for one of the tables overlooking the 19th century *Reading Rooms*. It's a spectacular sight.

Now I have grandchildren and I am seeing the city through their eyes. From the gruesome history at the *Tower of London* to the stunning views from the top of the *British Airways London Eye* observation wheel, we always have a great day out.

The fun doesn't stop when the sun goes down! With so many *West End* shows to choose from, we're regular visitors to the theater district. My favorite show is the *Sound of Music*, while my grandchildren are always changing their minds between the *Lion King*, *Joseph* and *Billy Elliot*. It's great that there's so much choice.

For more recommendations on how to make the most of your stay in London log onto visitlondon.com/golocal

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The amount, in thousands of dollars, a group of eight skybox tickets to the Super Bowl was going for on eBay on Tuesday. Four third-row tickets on the 50-yard line were up to \$36,000. Tickets for the first Super Bowl 41 years ago cost up to \$10.

Sports

Fassel Is a Leading Coach Candidate

Former Giants coach has interviewed with the Redskins twice

REDSKINS | Former New York Giants coach Jim Fassel has interviewed twice for the Redskins' vacant head coaching position, according to league sources, and is a leading candidate to get the position.

Fassel completed his last interview on Monday and flew back to his home in Arizona, sources said. He and Redskins assistant head coach-defense, Gregg Williams, are the only people to meet with owner Daniel Snyder more than once.

Fassel, who was on the verge of



New York Giants head coach Jim Fassel has interviewed twice with the Redskins.

Shaking Things Up

→ After weeks of everyone thinking they would go with Gregg Williams, now the Redskins may hire Jim Fassel. Plus, Vinny Cerato was named executive vice president-football operations, which sounds a lot like his old job. For all the news and analysis | **Today, Sports**

IN The Washington Post

getting the Redskins job in 2004 before Snyder landed a deal with Joe Gibbs, was impressive in his interviews at that time and has heavy support this time.

Williams, who has been endorsed by coaches and players, was seen by agents and executives around the

league as the front-runner for the position, but there has been some pause by ownership in the matter since he last interviewed a week ago. In the meantime, Fassel's name has emerged.

An offensive coach with experience mentoring young quarterbacks, Fassel is not interviewing for an offensive position with Washington, according to NFL sources, but solely the head coaching job (although the team could approach Fassel or other candidates to bolster the staff should Snyder opt to give Williams the job).

The Redskins have offered the position to no one at this point, according to the sources, but Snyder has told several candidates that he would like to make the process as swift yet diligent as possible, with a decision possible this week.

JASON LA CANFORA (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Swengali

WIZARDS | BY MATT SWENSON, MATT.SWENSON@READEXPRESS.COM

Wizards Need Gil to Be Great

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED to the Wizards when Gilbert Arenas re-injured his knee earlier this year: They got better.

With Antonio Daniels starting, Washington now runs coach Eddie Jordan's offense far smoother than they did under Arenas.

Players who tended to watch Agent Zero do his thing are now producing on the court. Even Brendan Haywood can be accused of being a genuine NBA center after six otherwise unimpressive seasons.

All that is really great news, but let's not kid ourselves: Without Arenas, the Wizards aren't going anywhere in the playoffs.

Caron Butler and Antawn Jamison are superstars in their own right, as evidenced by the team's 22-17 record. Yet Arenas is something special.

The three-time All-Star has proven time and again that he can make game-winners. Players like that don't grow on trees.

So, it perplexes me that some are calling for the Wiz to trade Arenas and others more passively say they would be OK with shipping out the



The Wizards have played well with Gilbert Arenas sidelined most of the year.

city's biggest sports superstar.

Arenas injected life into a dormant franchise. He's a brilliantly funny character in a sea of bland athletes. And, oh, by the way, he still is the Wizards' best player.

Winning in the regular season is one thing. You need your top players when it really matters.

Arenas' vast talent may disrupt the scripted offense, but it opens other opportunities that are not available right now.

The Wizards are good now. Without Arenas, though, they won't be great.

Is Tom Brady's Boot Gone for Good?

Patriots don't comment on photos that show their star QB hobbled

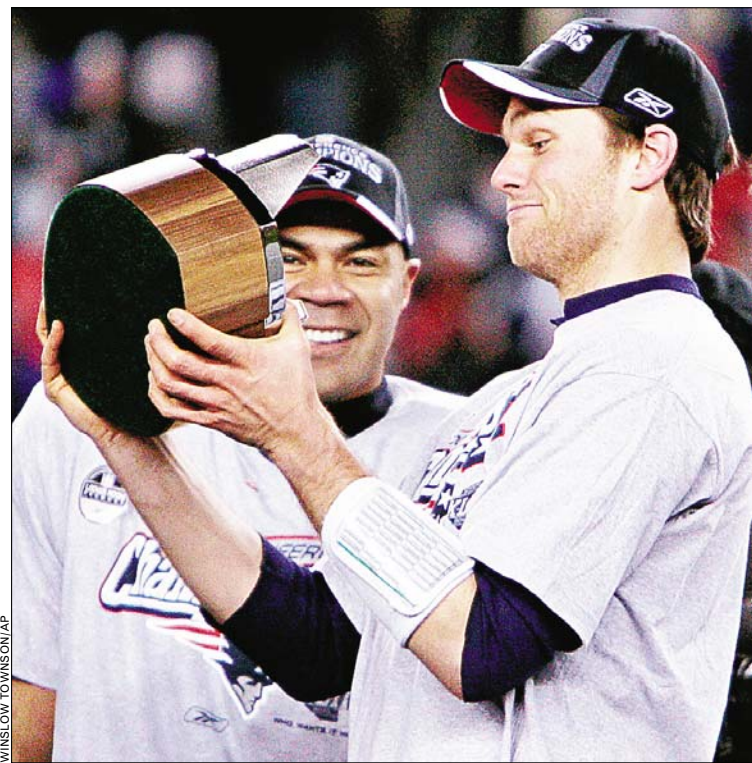
SUPER BOWL | Has Tom Brady given the boot to the boot?

Hours after being photographed with a walking boot on his right foot as he followed girlfriend Gisele Bundchen into her New York apartment on Monday, other pictures showed the New England Patriots quarterback wearing black shoes — and no boot — when he showed up at a New York hotspot.

In "news" that is certain to dominate the dead week before Super Bowl week, the Web site PageSix.com had two photos — credited to INFDaily.com — that showed Brady wearing blue jeans and a black sweater with the black shoes and no boot. In one photo, he was followed by Bundchen as they arrived at the club Butter in New York, the Web site said.

Earlier Monday, several Web sites had photos — credited to Infphoto.com — that showed Brady wearing a walking boot on his right foot. A video of Brady walking with a slight limp from an SUV to Bundchen's home is also available at TMZ.com.

Brady, this season's NFL MVP, and the New England Patriots are



Patriots QB Tom Brady hoists the trophy after winning the AFC Championship.

headed to the Feb. 3 Super Bowl against the New York Giants.

Patriots spokesman Stacey James said the team had no comment. Brady's agent, Donald Yee, did not return a phone call or e-mail seeking comment.

Brady did not appear to be limping during Sunday's game before he was sacked by Igor Olshansky

and Stephen Cooper with just over eight minutes to go. He had thrown three interceptions before that. After the sack, he completed all four of his passes.

Brady has been extremely durable in his career. He started his 126th consecutive game Sunday when the Patriots beat San Diego 21-12 in the AFC championship. (AP)

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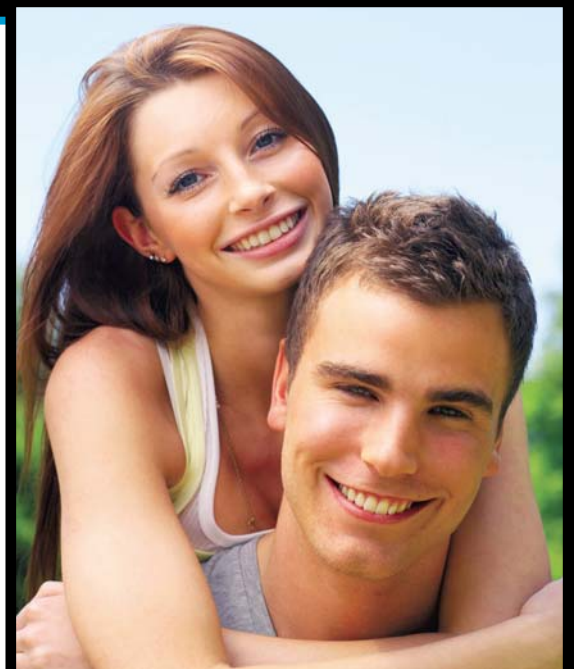


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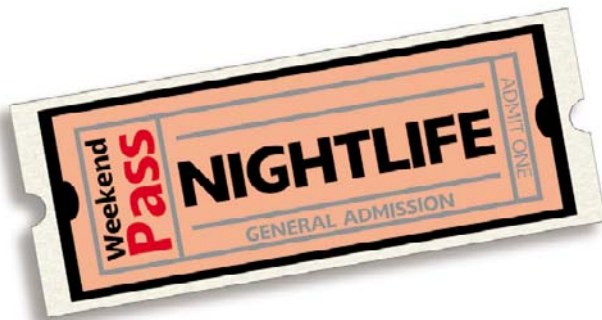
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Sports



All-Star Sidney Crosby skates off the ice in agony after spraining his ankle on Friday.

First-Place Pens Will Miss Crosby

All-Star center will miss most of the year, like his mentor used to

NHL | If Sidney Crosby wants any advice on dealing with the first major injury of his hockey career, he needs only to bring up the subject at the dinner table.

After all, who is better versed on handling a bad injury than Penguins co-owner Mario Lemieux, the team's longtime but oft-injured star?

Crosby, the NHL's marquee name and the player the Penguins are building a contender around, learned Tuesday he will be out for six to eight weeks with a high ankle sprain.

"I was hoping three or four weeks would be the most," Crosby said, talking publicly Tuesday for the first time since being hurt. "It doesn't look like it will be like that. We'll see how fast I heal."

If Crosby is out for eight weeks, or until mid-March, he would miss

most of the remaining regular season. That would be major setback to the Penguins, who are locked in a three-way race for the division.

The Penguins, who lost to the Capitals in a shootout on Monday night, are 10-1-2 in their last 13 games but are only 1-2-3 in the six games they've played without Crosby the last three seasons.

Still, the Penguins are very familiar with coping with the loss of a major star to a major injury. It happened repeatedly to Lemieux as he sat out the equivalent of 9½ seasons due to back problems, cancer, a heart condition and other injuries during a Hall of Fame career that began in 1984 and ended in 2006.

"His injuries were a little different from mine — cancer and life-threatening things are a little different," said Crosby, who lives in Lemieux's house during the season. "But he's definitely someone who knows. We'll see if I need to pick his brain at some point." ALAN ROBINSON (AP)

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A MEET AND GREET TO CAPITALIZE ON: Capitals defender Mike Green will be at ESPN Zone in downtown Washington on Wednesday to talk with fans about his improved play and how the team has risen from the basement of the NHL to have a better-than-.500 record. The discussion will take place at I2th and F Streets NW from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. (EXPRESS)



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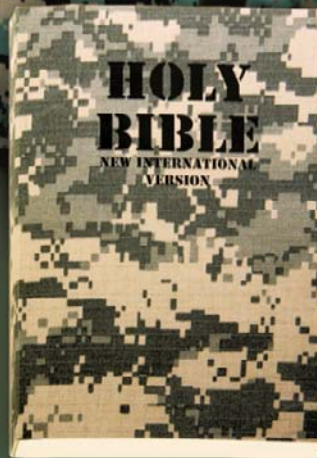
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Sports

United Makes Its 1st Signing of '08

Team brings in striker from Argentina, may snag more foreign stars

UNITED | D.C. United will hold its first practice of the 2008 season next Monday, and it appears that after several weeks of rumors and waiting, a team is starting to take shape.

United announced its first major acquisition of the offseason on Wednesday: Argentine striker Franco Niell, who could be joined as early as this week by two more South American players.

Niell, 24, will be on loan to D.C. for one year from Argentinos Juniors, the Buenos Aires club famed for launching the legendary

Diego Maradona. Niell has scored 10 goals in 60 games since 2004 and had one goal in nine matches last fall, when Argentinos finished a surprising fifth.

"We're getting a player who we believe has all the qualities to be successful on our team," GM Dave Kasper said. "Franco is an energetic, hard-working forward who will be a good complement to our team."

In addition to the rumored acquisitions of a Colombian defender and Peruvian goalkeeper, United is waiting on unsigned veterans Jaime Moreno and Christian Gomez. Its first game is not until March 12, when it visits Jamaican titlist Harbour View in the first round of the Champions Cup.

BRIAN STRAUS

Holmgren Will Stay 1 More Year

NFL | Mike Holmgren will return for a final season as coach of the Seattle Seahawks.

Seattle's veteran coach announced his decision Tuesday, after spending the weekend with his wife at their offseason Arizona home.

"Kathy and I came to this decision to finish my contract," said Hol-

mgren, who had hinted at retirement for weeks. "This will be my last year. We are going to make it the best year ever.

"And then probably after that, I will take a little time off — but not yet. We are going to go after it hard."

Seattle, which won its fourth consecutive NFC West title, was eliminated by Green Bay in the divisional playoffs. Holmgren is 86-68 in nine seasons with Seattle. (AP)

FIGURE SKATING | PAIRS DO THE TWIST



SPIN ROOM: German pair Aliona Savchenko and Robin Szolkowy perform their short program at the European Figure Skating championships in Zagreb, Croatia on Wednesday. They easily won the short program.

Sports



CAMERON SPENCER/GETTY IMAGES

Maria Sharapova beat top-seeded Justine Henin 6-4, 6-0 to reach the semifinals.

Sharapova Knocks Off the Top Seed

Serena loses, removing chance of a rematch in Australian Open final

TENNIS | Serena Williams stumbled one round short of a rematch, so Maria Sharapova had to unload a year's worth of retribution on somebody else.

Justine Henin caught the brunt of it.

Sharapova advanced to the Australian Open semifinals for the fourth straight year with a convincing 6-4, 6-0 win over top-ranked Henin, snapping the Belgian star's 32-match winning streak.

"Even though I beat Justine, it's definitely not over," the 20-year-old

Russian star said. "I still have a lot of business to take care of."

Defending champion Williams had slumped 6-3, 6-4 earlier in the afternoon to third-ranked Jelena Jankovic, who reached the semifinals at Melbourne Park for the first time and only the third time in a major.

Williams was unseeded and ranked No. 81 when she made her stunning run to an eighth Grand Slam title 12 months ago, punctuating that with an emphatic 6-1, 6-2 win over Sharapova.

It was a big setback for Sharapova, who struggled with a shoulder problem for most of the season and saw her ranking slip outside the top 5. JOHN PYE (AP)

TODAY'S TV LINEUP

WIZARDS (7 P.M. ON CSN) The Wizards bring their newfound defense into Cleveland and try to stop LeBron.

CAPITALS (7:30 P.M. ON CSN+) The Caps stay on the road and travel from Pittsburgh to Toronto to play the Maple Leafs.

NBA (9 P.M. ON ESPN) The Lakers and Spurs

aren't leading their divisions, but they're playoff-bound teams in the West and they're squaring off Wednesday night.

TENNIS (3 P.M., 9:30 P.M. AND 3:30 A.M. ON ESPN2) The quarterfinals of the Australian Open wrap up, and then the men's and women's semifinals begin.

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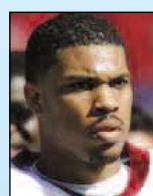
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NEW WHEELS: Ford Motor Co. will unveil the 2009 versions of the Escape and its corporate twin, the 2009 Mercury Mariner, at the Washington Auto Show, which opens to the public on Wednesday and lasts through Sunday.

Cars

'08 Versa Skips Vices

Lowest-priced Nissan car sticks to basics as entry-level sedan

PLAIN CAR | The 2008 Nissan Versa isn't your run-of-the-mill, entry-level car.

Sure, the Versa's starting manufacturer's suggested retail price of \$13,255 for a sedan and \$13,355 for a five-door hatchback make it Nissan's lowest-priced model — car or truck.

In fact, the 2008 five-passenger Versa has the second-lowest starting price of any Japanese-brand new car offered in the United States.

Among all non-hybrid, 2008 mid-size cars, the Versa ranks first in federal government fuel economy ratings. All Versa models are rated at more than 30 miles per gallon in highway driving and at least 24 mpg in city driving. This means a Versa driver can potentially go more



The 2008 Nissan Versa, with a suggested retail price of \$13,255 for a sedan and \$13,355 for a hatchback, make it Nissan's lowest-priced model — car or truck.

than 400 miles on one fillup of the 13.2-gallon gasoline tank.

I just wish the Versa looked more interesting. The hatchback has a neat shape, but the sedan

is ho-hum.

And on both sedan and hatchback, the Versa front end is similar in looks to that of a Nissan Quest minivan — which is hardly praise.

Inside, the Versa can seem mainstream and uninspired in base trim with suede-like upholstery. In the test Versa S sedan, the dashboard and gauges looked plain, and the black fabric on the seats not only provided painful static shocks as I departed, but it also held tight to crumbs and dust.

In the backseat, three people sit close but not too close, and legroom of 38 inches is surprisingly generous — there are only 34.5 inches in the backseat of a Sentra and 34.6 inches in a Civic sedan.

I did hear the Versa engine as it worked, though, and road noise came through regularly from the 15-inch tires.

The front-wheel-drive Versa isn't a heavy car. It weighs about 2,700 pounds — about the same as a Civic sedan — and can feel lightweight as it travels.

While the test Versa sedan handled nimbly around town and on

NUTS & BOLTS

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Powertrain: 1.8-liter, double overhead cam, four-cylinder, six-speed manual transmission | **Wheelbase:** 102.4 inches | **Measurements:** 169.1 inches long, 2,693 pounds | **Horsepower:** 122 at 5,200 rpm | **Torque:** 127 at 4,800 | **EPA Fuel Economy:** 30 mpg city, 34 mpg highway

country roads, it didn't exactly convey a refined ride.

Driver and passengers felt road bumps along the way, and big bumps brought harsh jolts. Also, the Versa can be buffeted while traveling in high wind conditions.

The Versa also is not top-rated in federal government crash test ratings. Instead, it received across the board four out of five stars for both front and side crash protection.

The Versa has done well at Nissan. Versa's 79,443 sales in 2007 helped account for the company's 75,000-car sales improvement over that of 2006. ANN M. JOB (AP)

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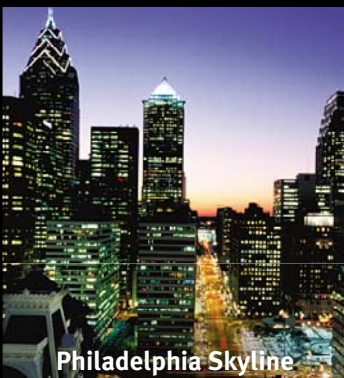
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Travel



HIGH HONOR: The SeaCoast Inn in Hyannis, Mass., was named the "best bargain in the world" in TripAdvisor's annual "Travelers' Choice Awards." The inn is closed for the season.

Windy City on a Whim

Cold Chicago draws a handful of tourists even during the winter

DESTINATIONS | Paul Morrison and Chicago are a perfect match. To him, winter is supposed to be cold, and, in Chicago, it is.

So, maybe it's not surprising that the psychiatrist from Edinburgh, Scotland, was strolling around Millennium Park — a heavy jacket on his back and what looked like a sleeping muskrat on his head — taking in the sights the other day. And he was happy about it.

"You know, when it was really cold and snowing, we went for a walk through Lincoln Park, and that was just magical," he said.

What may be surprising, though, is all the people around him. Tourists may not be flocking to Chicago like they do when Wrigley Field's walls are covered with ivy and not snow. But the average occupancy rates for the city's hotels between November and February is a respectable 61 percent, and many visitors think it's a good time to come because there are deals and



A family snaps photos in front of the snow-covered Anish Kapoor sculpture "Cloud Gate" in Chicago's Millennium Park.

fewer crowds.

"You can get a seat in a restaurant, and the streets are a little less crowded, and the shops are a little less crowded," said Robin Guidera, who brought her 7-year-old daughter, Zoe, to the city from Toledo,

Ohio, for what she called a girls' weekend.

The city and the hospitality industry are trying to convince more visitors to come, promoting everything from nine ice rinks in the city to deals at hotels and museums.

And they also want people to know that although tour boats aren't running this time of year, visitors can still take architecture tours with the Chicago Architecture Foundation, and the Chicago History Museum's "L" tours. **DON BABWIN (AP)**

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two tickets for a private carriage tour of the city, a \$75 gift certificate for one of three local restaurants and breakfast delivered to your room each morning. **WHEN:** Ongoing. **DETAILS:** Taxes are an additional 11 percent. **CONTACT:** 843-853-8439, Harbourviewcharleston.com (BUDGET TRAVEL MAGAZINE)

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LIFE OF A DECISION-MAKER: Director Oliver Stone is looking to put Dubya on the silver screen. Daily Variety reported that Stone has been quietly shopping a script for "Bush," a film about the life and presidency of George W. Bush.

Entertainment



STOIC KILLER: Javier Bardem is nominated in the best-actor category for his chilling performance in "No Country for Old Men."

The Chosen Ones

It's Oscar time again! Without further ado, the nominees are ...

OSCAR | "No Country for Old Men" and "There Will Be Blood" led with eight Academy Award nominations each Tuesday, among them best picture and acting honors for Daniel Day-Lewis and Javier Bardem — but it remained in doubt wheth-

er any stars would cross striking writers' picket lines to attend the ceremony.

"No Country for Old Men," a crime saga about a drug deal gone bad, and "There Will Be Blood," a historical epic set in California's oil boom years, will compete for best picture against the melancholy romance "Atonement," the pregnancy comedy "Juno" and the legal drama "Michael Clayton."

Awards shows have become casualties of the strike by writers, whose union leaders say they will not allow members to work on the Oscars. Nominees already are saying they would stay away in support of writers if the strike lingers until Oscar night Feb. 24.

Viggo Mortensen, who received a best-actor nomination for his performance as a Russian mob member in "Eastern Promises," said he would

not go if the strike is still on.

"I wouldn't do that. I couldn't. I come from a tradition of not crossing picket lines," chimed in Tom Wilkinson, a supporting-actor nominee for "Michael Clayton."

"Atonement" and "Michael Clayton" trailed with seven nominations each, including best actor for George Clooney in the title role of "Clayton." The lead players in "Atonement," Keira Knightley and James McAvoy, were shut out on nominations, however, with teenager Saoirse Ronan the only performer nominated for that film, for supporting actress.

Past Oscar winner Cate Blanchett had two nominations, as best actress for the historical pageant "Elizabeth: The Golden Age" and supporting actress for the Bob Dylan tale "I'm Not There."

The acting categories generally played out as expected — with a few surprises, including best actress nominee Laura Linney for "The Savages" and best-actor nominee Tommy Lee Jones for "In the Valley of Elah."

Best actress looks like a two-person duel between Julie Christie, an Oscar winner for "Darling," as a woman succumbing to Alzheimer's in "Away From Her" and Marion Cotillard as singer Edith Piaf in "La Vie En Rose." Both won Golden Globes, Christie for dramatic actress, Cotillard for musical or comedy actress. Yet they face strong competition from Blanchett, Linney and relative newcomer Ellen Page as a whip-smart pregnant teen in "Juno." DAVID GERMAIN (AP)



FOR MORE TOP STOPS AND ENTERTAINMENT FEATURES, VISIT READEXPRESS.COM

KIMYA DAWSON

No Money, No Problem



1 Kimya Dawson of the Moldy Peaches (think the catchy title track "Anyone Else but You" from the indie flick "Juno") gives

a free, in-store performance tonight at Crooked Beat Records. Her solo work is lyrically intimate and relatable, and, just to reiterate: it's zero dollars, people.

→ *Crooked Beat Records, 2318 18th St. NW; 7 p.m., free; 202-483-2328. (Woodley Park|Zoo-Adams Morgan)*



RICHARD THOMPSON

Nimble Fingers

2 British folk-rocker Richard Thompson brings his extensive musical skill set to Lisner Auditorium tonight. A singer, songwriter and guitarist (he was named one of the top 20 guitarists of all time by Rolling Stone), Thompson's live shows are rife with energy and impressive solos.

→ *Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St. NW; 8 p.m., \$39.50; 202-397-7328. (Foggy Bottom-GWU)*

MUSIC: WHAT'S NEXT?

Talking Heads

3 The Warehouse Next Door hosts a discussion about the future of the venue and the state of the D.C. music scene overall. It's open to the public, so come listen and/or voice your complaints, loves and desires.

→ *Warehouse Next Door, 1017 Seventh St. NW; 7 p.m., free; 202-783-3933. (Mount Vernon Sq.-7th Street)*

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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Sinatra, With a Feline Touch

Cat Power takes on Ol' Blue Eyes, Billie Holiday on 'Jukebox'

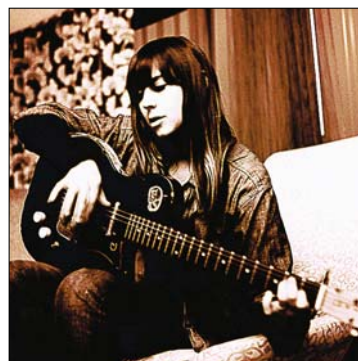
MUSIC | Listening to "Jukebox" is like sitting in a bar, late at night, after most folks have gone home and the band is onstage winding down by playing its favorites.

As she did with her first covers record, released in 2000, Chan Marshall, aka Cat Power, puts her own idiosyncratic stamp on a group of

songs by her favorite singers.

Unlike last time, when it was just the broken and shy Power, "Jukebox" features Power's new bluesy, soulful sound with the Dirty Delta Blues Band backing her as on 2006's breakthrough album, "The Greatest."

Power's lived-in voice is fantastic as she puts a new, otherworldly spin on Frank Sinatra's version of "New York, New York," slows down Billie Holiday's "Don't Explain" or gives Hank Williams' "Ramblin'



Cat Power honors her favorite artists by singing their songs on "Jukebox."

Man" a funky soul on "Ramblin' (Wo)Man."

She even gives herself the treatment, re-imagining her own song "Metal Heart" from "Moon Pix," the first album that showed her unbounded promise. As she has with most of these covers, she adds gravitas in the arrangements and vocals scarred by liquor and cigarettes.

While we'd rather have an album of original material, "Jukebox" is a nice way to pass the time while we wait. CHRIS TALBOTT (AP)

Entertainment



CHESS PLAYER: Adrien Brody is slated to play Chess Records founder Leonard Chess in "Cadillac Records," a musical biopic that follows the turbulent lives of such bluesmen as Muddy Waters, Little Walter and Howlin' Wolf.

Heath Ledger Dies

The actor was best known for his role in 'Brokeback Mountain'

OBIT | Heath Ledger was found dead Tuesday at a downtown Manhattan residence, and police said drugs may have been a factor. He was 28.

NYPD spokesman Paul Browne said Ledger had an appointment for a massage at the Manhattan apartment believed to be his home. The housekeeper who went to let him know the masseuse had arrived found him dead at 3:26 p.m.

The Australian-born actor was nominated for an Oscar for "Brokeback Mountain," on the

set of which he met his girlfriend actress Michelle Williams, in 2005. Ledger and Williams had a daughter, Matilda, together and lived in Brooklyn until they split up last year.

Ledger was to appear as the Joker this year in "The Dark Night," a sequel to 2005's "Batman Begins." He's had starring roles in "A Knight's Tale" and "The Patriot," and played the suicidal son of Billy Bob Thornton in "Monster's Ball."

Ledger grew up in Perth and began doing amateur theater at age 10. At 16, he moved to Sydney to pursue an acting career, quickly landing TV movie roles and guest spots on Australian television.



A LIFE CUT SHORT: The 28-year-old actor was found dead Tuesday afternoon. Ledger was known for his role as Ennis Del Mar in Ang Lee's "Brokeback Mountain."

After several independent films and a starring role in the short-lived Fox TV series "Roar," Ledger moved to Los Angeles and co-starred in "10 Things I Hate About You," a teen comedy reworking of "The Taming of the Shrew."

Offers for other teen flicks came his way, but Ledger turned them down, preferring to remain idle rather than sign on for projects he didn't like.

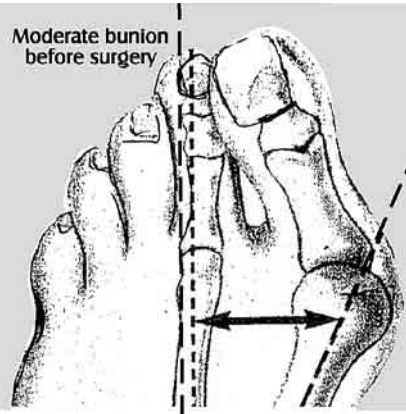
"It wasn't a hard decision for me," Ledger told The Associated Press in 2001. "It was hard for everyone else around me to understand. Agents were like, 'You're crazy; my parents were like, 'Come on, you have to eat.'"

His latest role was in "I'm Not There," in which he played one of the many incarnations of Bob Dylan — as did Cate Blanchett, whose performance in that film earned an Oscar nomination Tuesday for best supporting actress. TOM HAYS (AP)

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<p>REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP</p> <p>GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14 701 Seventh St NW 800-FANDANGO 1721#</p> <p>Adv. Tix on Sale HANNAH MONTANA CONCERT 3D (NR) ★ CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (1200 1245 230) 330 500 640 735 930 1020</p> <p>27 DRESSES (PG-13) (1145 1230 245) 345 610 720 910 1010 MAD MONEY (PG-13) (1205 235) 510 750 1025 OC: BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (1150) 455 ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13) (130) 740 BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (220) 730 1005 THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13) (1250 420 745) 1035 CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) - ID REQ'D (1210 235) 515 800 1030 SWEENEY TODD (R) - ID REQ'D (110) 350 705 950 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) (115) 415 715 1025</p> <p>ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) (1155 215) 430 650 910 I AM LEGEND (PG-13) 355 955</p> <p>BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12 Glebe Rd, Arlington 800-FANDANGO 377#</p> <p>CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (1250 230 310 445 525) 700 740 920 1000</p> <p>27 DRESSES (PG-13) (105 140 355 420) 640 720 935 1005 FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13) (240 515) 750 1025 PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) (150 410) 650 1040</p> <p>THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) - ID REQ'D (120 455) 830 ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13) (110) PM THE ORPHANAGE (R) - ID REQ'D (115) 415 700 SWEENEY TODD (R) - ID REQ'D (135 435) 730 1030 I AM LEGEND (PG-13) (1010) PM ATONEMENT (R) - ID REQ'D (330) 630 940 JUNO (PG-13) (155 430) 710 950 NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) - ID REQ'D (345) 635 925</p> <p>BOWIE STADIUM 14 15200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 454#</p> <p>Adv. Tix on Sale HANNAH MONTANA CONCERT 3D (NR) ★ CLOVERFIELD - DP (PG-13) ★ (115 315 515) 730 945 MAD MONEY (PG-13) (145 430) 745 1015 CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (215 415) 630 930 1045 27 DRESSES (PG-13) (145 445) 715 1000 FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13) (130 200 300 400 445 530) 630 715 800 845 930 1020</p> <p>PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) (200 400) 615 830 ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13) 1030 PM BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (230 500) 745 1015 THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13) (100 345) 645 930 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) (130 415) 700 1000</p> <p>ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) (300 515) 730 945 I AM LEGEND (PG-13) 815 1045 JUNO (PG-13) (215 500) 800 1030 ENCHANTED (PG) (315 530)</p> <p>BETHESDA 10 7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 569#</p> <p>MAD MONEY (PG-13) (130 400) 745 1015 CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (120 215 345 445) 610 700 815 910 1020 27 DRESSES (PG-13) (200 430) 715 945 ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13) 1045 PM BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (230 500) 715 940 THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13) (445) 730 1015 THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) (230 510) P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG-13) (745) 1030 CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) - ID REQ'D (245 515) 800 1020 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) (115 415) 715 1015</p> <p>I AM LEGEND (PG-13) (100 320 540) 815 ENCHANTED (PG) (215) PM</p>	<p>POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16 3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690#</p> <p>Adv. Tix on Sale HANNAH MONTANA CONCERT 3D (NR) ★ 27 DRESSES - DP (PG-13) (130 430) 730 1015 27 DRESSES (PG-13) (1250 350) 650 935 CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (1240 220 300 440 520) 700 740 920 1000</p> <p>PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) (155 415) 705 ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) (115 350) 620 850 MAD MONEY (PG-13) (210 500) 745 1025 FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13) (105 145 340 420) 635 715 910 950 IN THE NAME OF THE KING (PG-13) (1230) 955 CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) - ID REQ'D (120 510) 800 P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG-13) (330) 645 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) (150 450) 750 OC: BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (215) 735 BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (455) 1010 THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13) (510) 810 THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) (200) PM THE KITE RUNNER (PG-13) (1255 410) 725 1030 I AM LEGEND (PG-13) (530) 820 ENCHANTED (PG) (245) PM ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13) 925 PM</p> <p>COUNTRYSIDE STADIUM 20 45980 Royal Plaza 800-FANDANGO 394#</p> <p>Adv. Tix on Sale HANNAH MONTANA CONCERT 3D (NR) ★ 27 DRESSES - DP (PG-13) (1140 220 510) 740 1020 MAD MONEY (PG-13) (140 415) 700 940 CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (1210 110 240 340 450 550) 720 820 950 1045</p> <p>27 DRESSES (PG-13) (1240 320) 610 840 OC: BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (1220) 800 IN THE NAME OF THE KING (PG-13) (1215 310 540) 810 1030 FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13) (1215 310 540) 810 1030 PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) (1230 250 500) 710</p> <p>THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) - ID REQ'D (100 445) 830 ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13) (215) 1000 THE ORPHANAGE (R) - ID REQ'D 750 1015 BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (300 530) 1035 THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13) 910 PM THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) (1155 245 520) P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG-13) 725 1010 CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) - ID REQ'D (120 410) 640 SWEENEY TODD (R) - ID REQ'D (1150 230 505) 745 1025 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) (1200 315) 620 915</p> <p>THE KITE RUNNER (PG-13) (1250 345) 645 945 ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) (130 400) 615 850 I AM LEGEND (PG-13) (115 350) 630 900 ATONEMENT (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 330) 635 935 JUNO (PG-13) (150 420) 650 920 ENCHANTED (PG) (1145 210 440) NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) - ID REQ'D (430) 715</p> <p>ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13 Rockville Town Center 800-FANDANGO 248#</p> <p>Adv. Tix on Sale HANNAH MONTANA CONCERT 3D (NR) ★ CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (1230 200 300 430 530) 700 800 930 1030</p> <p>27 DRESSES (PG-13) (1215 115 315 415) 630 730 915 1015 MAD MONEY (PG-13) (1200 230 500) 745 1030 FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13) (1200 230 515) 815 1045 BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (145 445) 715 1000 ATONEMENT (R) - ID REQ'D (100 400) 700 1000 JUNO (PG-13) (130 400) 715 945 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) (145 445) 745 1045</p> <p>PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) (1245 330) 645 THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13) (1245) 930 CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) - ID REQ'D (345) 645 ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) (115 345) 630 900 I AM LEGEND (PG-13) 915 PM</p>	<p>FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10 4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#</p> <p>Adv. Tix on Sale HANNAH MONTANA CONCERT 3D (NR) ★ THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) - ID REQ'D (300) 640 1000 MAD MONEY (PG-13) (145 440) 720 950 NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) - ID REQ'D (100 350) 630 945 I AM LEGEND - DP (PG-13) (140 430) 725 955 P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG-13) (120 410) 710 ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) (150 415) 705 930 SWEENEY TODD (R) - ID REQ'D (125 420) 730 1010 THE ORPHANAGE (R) - ID REQ'D (110 330) 650 920 ENCHANTED (PG) (130 400) 645 MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (340) 630 935 THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13) 940 PM THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) (105) PM IN THE NAME OF THE KING (PG-13) 1005 PM</p> <p>GERMANTOWN STADIUM 14 20000 Century Blvd 800-FANDANGO 455#</p> <p>CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (1230 145 300 415 530) 715 815 945 1030</p> <p>27 DRESSES (PG-13) (100 300) 630 930 1045 MAD MONEY (PG-13) (1245 430) 730 1015 FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13) (1230 130 300 445 530) 715 815 1000 1045 PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) (100 345) 645 915 PM</p> <p>ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13) 915 PM BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (200 500) 745 1000 CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) - ID REQ'D 945 PM NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) (130 430) 730 1030</p> <p>ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) (115 400) 645 915 I AM LEGEND (PG-13) (115 415) 700 ATONEMENT (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 330) 630 930 JUNO (PG-13) (145 445) 745 1015</p> <p>JUNO SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14 9161 Commerce Ctr Dr 800-FANDANGO 570#</p> <p>MAD MONEY (PG-13) (200 445) 730 1000 CLOVERFIELD (PG-13) ★ (145 245 430 530) 715 815 930 1030 27 DRESSES (PG-13) (200 445) 730 1015 FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13) (215 500) 745 1020 PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) (130 345) 630 930</p> <p>THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) - ID REQ'D (100 430) 800 THE ORPHANAGE (R) - ID REQ'D (230 515) 800 1025 BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (500) 1010 THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG-13) 915 PM CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) - ID REQ'D (145) 715 NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) (100 400) 700 1000</p> <p>ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) (130 415) 645 930 I AM LEGEND (PG-13) (415) 945 ATONEMENT (R) - ID REQ'D (115 400) 700 945 JUNO (PG-13) (115 345) 645 915 OC: BUCKET LIST (PG-13) (215) 745</p>
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DIGITAL PRESENTATION
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 2:00, 4:55, 7:35, 10:20
27 DRESSES (PG13) / 1:15, 2:15, 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:40, 10:30
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) / 1:40, 3:20, 4:20, 5:55, 7:00, 8:30, 9:25
MAD MONEY (PG13) / 1:30, 4:10, 6:45, 9:30
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 1:20, 2:20, 4:15, 5:00, 7:20, 8:00, 10:00
IN THE NAME OF THE KING: A DUNGEON SIEGE TALE (PG13) 9:15 PM
PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: A VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) 2:25, 4:50, 7:05
ONE MISSED CALL (PG13) 7:50
THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG13) 1:00, 4:00, 6:55, 9:45
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) 1:35, 4:05, 6:40, 9:20
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 2:10, 5:20, 8:25
P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG13) 1:10, 4:45
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 1:00, 4:35, 7:25, 9:55
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 1:45, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15
THE GOLDEN COMPASS (PG13) 2:30, 5:10
ENCHANTED (PG) 1:25, 4:25

AMC SELECT
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) / 8:15
THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) 2:05, 6:10, 9:35
THE ORPHANAGE (R) 7:10, 9:50
ATONEMENT (R) 3:25, 6:35, 9:40
JUNO (PG13) 1:55, 4:40, 7:15, 10:05
JUNO (PG13) 1:55, 4:40, 7:15, 10:05
SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET (R) 3:05, 6:05, 9:00
THE SAVAGES (R) 1:05, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14

10300 Patuxent Parkway
 703-998-4AMC

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: A VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) 1:05, 3:15, 5:25
ONE MISSED CALL (PG13) 1:25, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:10
THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG13) 2:00
THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) 12:50 PM
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 12:35, 3:30, 6:25, 9:20
P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG13) 3:20, 6:20, 9:10
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 12:20, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:15

AMC SELECT
ATONEMENT (R) 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55
JUNO (PG13) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:35, 10:05
SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET (R) 1:35, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18

2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
 703-998-4262

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) / 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 7:55, 10:05
27 DRESSES (PG13) / 2:15, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) / 2:30, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15
MAD MONEY (PG13) / 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:00
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:40
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:40
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 3:05, 5:30, 7:55, 10:15
IN THE NAME OF THE KING: A DUNGEON SIEGE TALE (PG13) 1:20, 6:55
PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: A VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) 1:35, 4:05, 6:30
ONE MISSED CALL (PG13) 2:35, 5:15, 7:30, 9:50
THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG13) 7:35, 10:20
THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) 2:20, 5:05
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) 6:40, 9:25
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:05
P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG13) 9:00 PM
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 1:45, 4:15, 6:35, 9:10
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 2:10, 4:35, 7:20, 9:55
ENCHANTED (PG) 1:25, 4:00

AMC SELECT
THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) / 1:30, 5:00, 8:30
THE ORPHANAGE (R) 4:30, 10:00
ATONEMENT (R) 1:00, 3:55, 6:50, 9:45
JUNO (PG13) 1:50, 4:20, 6:45, 9:20
SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET (R) 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

AMC SPRINGFIELD MALL 10

Loisdale and Franconia Road
 703-971-3991

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 12:30, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 12:45, 3:15, 5:40, 8:00
ONE MISSED CALL (PG13) 5:15, 7:20
ALIENS VS. PREDATOR - REQUIEM (R) 7:30
THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) 4:30
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 4:15, 7:15
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 4:45, 7:00
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 5:30, 8:00

AMC SELECT
27 DRESSES (PG13) / 12:15, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) / 12:00, 2:25, 4:40, 7:15, 9:30
MAD MONEY (PG13) / 5:00, 7:40
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 12:30, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 12:45, 3:15, 5:40, 8:00
ONE MISSED CALL (PG13) 5:15, 7:20
ALIENS VS. PREDATOR - REQUIEM (R) 7:30
THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) 4:30
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 4:15, 7:15
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 4:45, 7:00
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 5:30, 8:00

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8

Courthouse and Birch Rd.
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DIGITAL PRESENTATION
MAD MONEY (PG13) / 12:30, 3:00, 5:40, 8:20
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 12:40, 3:10, 5:30, 8:10
THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20
THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) 12:20, 2:50
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG13) 5:15, 7:50

AMC SELECT
THE KITE RUNNER (PG13) 1:10, 4:10, 7:00
THE SAVAGES (R) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40

LOEWS RICHMOND 14

3111 K Street, N.W.
 202-342-6441

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) / 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:20
27 DRESSES (PG13) / 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30
MAD MONEY (PG13) / 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:05
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 3:00, 5:25, 7:55, 10:20
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 2:10, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35
THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG13) 7:20
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) 2:50, 5:20, 8:00, 10:25
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 1:05, 4:05, 7:10, 10:10
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 4:55

AMC SELECT
NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN (R) 1:50, 7:35
CASSANDRA'S DREAM (PG13) / 1:40, 4:15, 6:45, 9:30
THERE WILL BE BLOOD (R) 3:10, 6:50, 10:20
THE KITE RUNNER (PG13) 4:40, 10:40
THE ORPHANAGE (R) 2:35, 10:15
ATONEMENT (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:15, 10:25
JUNO (PG13) 1:30, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:30
JUNO (PG13) 2:10, 4:30, 7:10
SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET (R) 2:00, 4:40, 7:40
THE SAVAGES (R) 2:20, 5:00, 7:30

LOEWS RICHMOND 14

3111 K Street, N.W.
 202-342-6441

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) / 1:00, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10
27 DRESSES (PG13) / 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) / 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50
MAD MONEY (PG13) / 1:40, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:35
ALIENS VS. PREDATOR - REQUIEM (R) 7:30
THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) 4:30
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 4:15, 7:15
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 4:45, 7:00
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 5:30, 8:00

AMC SELECT
27 DRESSES (PG13) / 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) / 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50
MAD MONEY (PG13) / 1:40, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:35
ALIENS VS. PREDATOR - REQUIEM (R) 7:30
THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) 4:30
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 4:15, 7:15
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 4:45, 7:00
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 5:30, 8:00

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16

7850 Tysons Corner Center
 703-998-4262

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 1:10, 3:35, 5:55, 8:25, 10:45
27 DRESSES (PG13) / 1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:25
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) / 1:20, 3:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45
MAD MONEY (PG13) / 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 2:55, 3:15, 5:40, 8:00, 10:30
PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: A VEGGIE TALES MOVIE (G) 1:05, 3:10, 5:30, 7:35
ONE MISSED CALL (PG13) 5:50, 8:10, 10:20
THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG13) 7:35, 10:20
THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP (PG) 1:00, 3:25
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) 1:35, 4:10, 7:25, 9:50
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 1:40, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40
P.S. I LOVE YOU (PG13) 1:05, 3:55
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:50, 10:05
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 7:05, 9:35
ENCHANTED (PG) 12:50, 3:20

AMC SELECT
THE KITE RUNNER (PG13) 1:55, 4:55, 7:55, 10:50
THE KITE RUNNER (PG13) 1:55, 4:55, 7:55, 10:50
THE ORPHANAGE (R) 5:50, 8:10, 10:30
ATONEMENT (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15
JUNO (PG13) 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:10
SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET (R) 2:05, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35

MAGIC JOHNSON CAPITAL CENTRE 12

800 Shopper's Way, Largo
 301-324-4220

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
CLOVERFIELD (PG13) 12:35, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15
DIRTY LAUNDRY (PG13) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
MAD MONEY (PG13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 12:15, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 12:05, 12:15, 2:25, 3:15, 4:45, 6:15, 7:15, 9:15, 10:00
ONE MISSED CALL (PG13) 1:05, 4:05, 6:30, 9:00
ONE MISSED CALL (PG13) 1:05, 4:05, 6:30, 9:00
ALIENS VS. PREDATOR - REQUIEM (R) 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10
THE GREAT DEBATERS (PG13) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG) 12:30, 2:45, 5:15, 7:30, 9:50
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 1:35, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35

AMC MAZZA GALLERIE

Jenifer and Wisconsin
 202-537-9553

DIGITAL PRESENTATION
27 DRESSES (PG13) / 1:40, 4:30, 7:10
THE BUCKET LIST (PG13) 2:30, 5:20, 7:50
FIRST SUNDAY (PG13) 2:00, 4:20, 7:00
CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR (R) 2:10, 4:50, 7:15
NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG) 1:45, 4:30, 7:20
I AM LEGEND (PG13) 2:20, 5:00, 7:40

AMC SELECT
SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30

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Entertainment



COPYCAT! Elle Fanning follows in her older sister Dakota's footsteps with a star turn in the film "Phoebe in Wonderland." In the movie, the 9-year-old plays Phoebe Lichten, an insular girl who signs up to play the lead in her school's performance of "Alice in Wonderland."

Long Live the Jesters

Ween is still singing about the sacred, the profane and the inane

DUO | Alt-rock's greatest jokers, Gene and Dean Ween, return with their familiar stylistic restlessness and lyrical mixture of the sacred, the profane and the inane on Ween's new CD, "La Cucaracha."

The brothers Ween — aka Aaron Freeman and Mickey Melchiondo — offer mariachi, dance-pop, balladry, country, hard rock, reggae, new age, pop-rock, epic-rock and schmaltzy David Sanborn-abetted easy listening on "La Cucaracha."

The songs are, without fail, extremely tuneful, frustratingly memorable and characterized by lyrics such as "You are a piece of meat. And I am a butcher," "I can make an airplane that travels over land!" and "I'm in a very defensive place."

It's not laugh-out-loud funny, but "La Cucaracha" is consistently amusing and stands up to frequent listening.

"I'm really happy with it, which I can't always say about all our records," Melchiondo said recently. "I haven't been happy with more than a couple at the point of their release. By the time you're done with a record, you're sick of it. You don't ever want to hear it again. And then

 **readexpress.com**

To view a conversation with Mickey Melchiondo, also known as Dean Ween, visit readexpress.com/entertainment.php

you go into rehearsals, practice it, tour and play it for a year.

"But I was really looking forward to this one coming out, because I feel confident that it is one of our better records," he continued. "It was fun to do and it was done fairly quickly. We



THE JOKES MARCH ON: Gene and Dean Ween are still at it after almost 25 years.

didn't beat it to death — it had a sense of freshness the whole time. The songs weren't sitting around for years."

Ween, almost a quarter-cen-

tury old and set to play a customary three-hour career-spanning set at D.A.R. Constitution Hall on Wednesday, is very popular with jambanders due to the duo's

instrumental chops and loopy, stoned sensibility (Phish's support and admiration probably didn't hurt either).

Still, the label most often affixed to Ween is probably "parody act." Melchiondo disputes the classification.

"Parody implies something pretty negative," he said. "Is there a parody act out there other than Weird Al? Are we the second one? I don't think so. We listen to all kinds of music, and the music we make is a reflection of what we listen to. We just make music that we would want to listen to."

So, it's a sincere tribute to genres you like, then, not a joke?

"No! We don't think about this [stuff]! We don't put any thought into it," Melchiondo said. "We don't discuss it. It's a very natural thing. We listen to everything — Frank Sinatra, Stevie Wonder, Slayer. That's what made our style — the diversity of our record collections." **TIM FOLLOS**

→ *Constitution Hall, 1776 D St. NW; Wed., 8 p.m., \$35; 800-551-7328. (Farragut West)*

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Want to Quit Smoking? Give Research a Try!

Volunteer Now!

for a new, non-nicotine patch for quitting smoking.

The Center for Health Behavior Research at the **University of Maryland College Park School of Public Health**, under the direction of Elbert D. Glover, Ph.D., is conducting a research study of an FDA-approved medication (not yet approved for smoking) that may help people stop smoking.

Participants will receive at no cost:

- Individual smoking cessation counseling
- Physical exams and laboratory assessments
- FDA approved medication (not yet for smoking) or placebo

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- Be 18 or older
- Willing to comply with study requirements

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To volunteer, call **Jessica M. Rath, PhD:**

301-405-0128

Study sponsored by the National Institute of Health and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs





IF YOU CAN'T WIN, PRESENT: John Travolta will be among the stars to present trophies at this weekend's Screen Actors Guild Awards, officials said Monday. Previously announced presenters include Steve Carell, Kate Hudson and Burt Reynolds.

Television

ON TV TONIGHT

EARPLUGS

Auditions divide the gifted from the delusional on **AMERICAN IDOL** (8 p.m., Fox).

HANG TEN

Can dynamite create a surfable wave? Find out on **MYTHBUSTERS** (9 p.m., Discovery).

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

Caitlin can't decide which team she plays for on **CASHMERE MAFIA** (10 p.m., ABC).

GOOD JEANS

Denim dominates on **PROJECT RUNWAY** (10 p.m., Bravo).

THE THEME IS TRAGEDY

A playground murder sparks racial tension on **LAW & ORDER** (10 p.m., NBC).

FALLEN STAR

FINAL 24 (11 p.m., Biography) recalls the last hours of Who drummer



JUDGEMENT DAY: Randy, Paula and Simon tell it like it is tonight on "Idol."

Keith Moon.

DAVE + CONAN = YES!

Comedian Dave Chappelle and hip-hop artist Common chat both appear on **LATE NIGHT WITH CONAN O'BRIEN** (12:35 a.m., NBC). KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

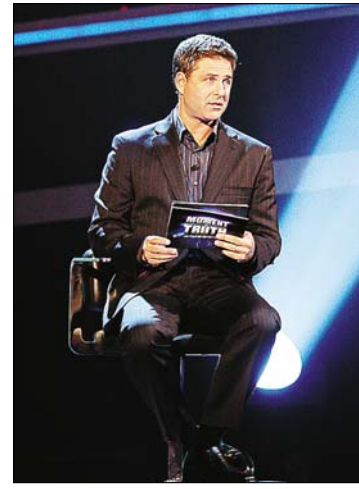
The Truth Hurts

Awkwardness is the name of the new game tonight on Fox

CRINGE | Game shows, game shows everywhere and not a thought to think!

Fox introduces the gimmicky new game show "The Moment of Truth" (9 p.m.) on a night filled with contest fare. It's as if the ill effects of a nearly three-month writers' strike have settled upon us all at once.

Hosted by Mark L. Wahlberg, "Moment of Truth" asks contestants a series of increasingly probing per-



THE HOST WITH THE MOST GIGS: Mark L. Wahlberg runs the show yet again.

sonal questions. A mere 21 answers separate a player from a \$500,000 grand prize. But the answers will be confirmed by a polygraph.

The inquiries range from the flippant, "Do you really care about the starving children in Africa?" to the home-wrecking, "Do you still see yourself married in five years?"

In addition to its cringe-inducing questions, "Moment" proceeds at a deliberately plodding pace. Players seem to have been coached to take an unnaturally long time to answer every question, allowing the producers to blare the kind of loud and generic theme music that has been used to build artificial tension on every game show since "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

1.23.08	6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30		
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC 4 News (N) [CC]	TMZ (N) [CC]	NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	Deal or No Deal (iTV) (N) [CC]	American Idol Auditions. (N) [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order "Driven" (N) [CC]	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	Tonight Show		
	WTTG 5 News (N)	ABC Wild News	The Simpsons [CC]	Seinfeld [CC]	Jeopardy! (N)	Wife Swap "Galvan/Martin-Portala"	Supernanny "Terrill Family" (N) [CC]	Cashmere Mafia "The Deciders" (N)	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	TMZ [CC]		
	WJLA 7 News (N) [CC]	Evening News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Power of 10 (N) [CC]	Entertainment	Criminal Minds "Limelight" (N) [CC]	CSI: NY "All in the Family" (N) [CC]	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	(-35) Nightline (N)		
	WUSA 9 News (N) [CC]	King of Queens	King of Queens	Entertainment	Whacked Out	Whacked Out	College Basketball North Carolina at Miami. (Live)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	Late Show		
	WDCA 20 Judge Judy (N) [CC]	State of the State	King of Queens	King of Queens	Pioneers of Television (N) [CC]	Pioneers of Television (N) [CC]	The Jewish Americans "Home" (N) [CC] (DVS)	Windsor Castle: A Royal Year [CC]	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	TMZ [CC]		
	WMPT 22 The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)	State of the State	State of the State	Pioneers of Television (N) [CC]	Pioneers of Television (N) [CC]	The Jewish Americans "Home" (N) [CC] (DVS)	Charlie Rose (N) [CC]	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	(-35) Nightline (N)		
	WETA 26 BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)	Pioneers of Television (N) [CC]	Pioneers of Television (N) [CC]	The Jewish Americans "Home" (N) [CC] (DVS)	Charlie Rose (N) [CC]	News (N)	News (N)	News (N)	Late Show		
	WHUT 32 Business Schl	Tavis Smiley [CC]	BBC World News	Moneywise	These Kids Mean Business [CC]	These Kids Mean Business [CC]	Austin City Limits [CC]	BBC World News	Tavis Smiley [CC]	Charlie Rose (N) [CC]	Charlie Rose (N) [CC]	Late Show		
	WDCW 50 My Wife and Kids	Family Guy [CC]	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Crowned: The Mother of All Pageants	Crowned: The Mother of All Pageants	Gossip Girl "Dare Devil" [CC]	Friends [CC]	Friends [CC]	Family Guy [CC]	Family Guy [CC]	Sex and the City		
BASIC CABLE	A&E Cold Case Files Englishwoman shot.	CSI: Miami "10-7" [CC]	CSI: Miami "Wannabe" [CC]	CSI: Miami "Deadline" [CC]	CSI: Miami "The Oath" [CC]	CSI: Miami "Not Landing" [CC]	CSI: Miami "The Oath" [CC]	CSI: Miami "The Oath" [CC]	CSI: Miami "The Oath" [CC]	CSI: Miami "The Oath" [CC]	CSI: Miami "The Oath" [CC]	CSI: Miami "The Oath" [CC]		
	Animal The Crocodile Hunter [CC]	Profiles of Nature	Killer Bees: Taming the Swarm [CC]	Ants! Nature's Secret Power [CC]	Animal Cops Detroit Stray dogs.	Killer Bees: Taming the Swarm [CC]	Ants! Nature's Secret Power [CC]	Animal Cops Detroit Stray dogs.	Animal Cops Detroit Stray dogs.	Animal Cops Detroit Stray dogs.	Animal Cops Detroit Stray dogs.	Killer Bees: Taming the Swarm [CC]		
	BET 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Top 10 countdown. (N)	Movie Special (N)	MythBusters Cell phone interference.	MythBusters "Lead Balloon" (N)	Smash Lab "Hurricane Proof House"	MythBusters Human projectiles. [CC]	Smash Lab "Hurricane Proof House"	MythBusters Human projectiles. [CC]	Smash Lab "Hurricane Proof House"	MythBusters Human projectiles. [CC]	Smash Lab "Hurricane Proof House"	MythBusters Human projectiles. [CC]		
	Bravo Project Runway "What's the Skinny"	Project Runway [CC]	Project Runway "What a Girl Wants"	Project Runway "On Gardel" [CC]	Project Runway (N) [CC]	Make Me a Supermodel [CC]	Project Runway "What a Girl Wants"	Project Runway "On Gardel" [CC]	Project Runway (N) [CC]	Project Runway (N) [CC]	Project Runway (N) [CC]	Make Me a Supermodel [CC]		
	Comedy (5:00) * "Wagons East!" (1994) [CC]	Scrubs [CC]	Scrubs [CC]	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Futurama [CC]	South Park [CC]	South Park [CC]	Reno 911! (N)	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Colbert Report		
	Court World's Wildest Police Videos [CC]	Cops [CC]	Cops [CC]	Most Shocking (N)	Most Shocking (N)	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice	Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice	Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice	Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice		
	Discovery Cash Cab [CC]	Cash Cab [CC]	How It's Made	How It's Made	MythBusters "Lead Balloon" (N)	Smash Lab "Hurricane Proof House"	MythBusters Human projectiles. [CC]	Smash Lab "Hurricane Proof House"	MythBusters Human projectiles. [CC]	Smash Lab "Hurricane Proof House"	MythBusters Human projectiles. [CC]	MythBusters Human projectiles. [CC]		
	DISCH Code Blue "Close Calls" [CC]	Trauma: Life in the ER "Last Stand"	Trauma: Life in the ER [CC]	Plastic Surgery: Before and After	Switching Sexes: The Aftermath	Trauma: Life in the ER [CC]	Plastic Surgery: Before and After	Switching Sexes: The Aftermath	Trauma: Life in the ER [CC]	Plastic Surgery: Before and After	Switching Sexes: The Aftermath	Trauma: Life in the ER [CC]		
	Disney Wizards-Place	Wizards-Place	Hannah Montana	Zack & Cody	"Up, Up and Away" (2000) Michael J. Pagan. [CC]	That's So Raven	That's So Raven	Life With Derek	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana		
	FX Sunset Tan	Chelsea Lately	E! News	The Daily 10	THS Investigates: Inside the Mind of a Serial Killer	Snoop Father	Snoop Father	E! News	Chelsea Lately (N)	E! News	Chelsea Lately (N)	Chelsea Lately (N)		
	FX (5:30) ** "Fantastic Four" (2005, Action) Ioan Gruffudd, Jessica Alba.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.	** "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" (2003, Fantasy) Sean Connery, Shane West.		
	HGTV Rezoned (N)	If Walls Could	House Worth?	House Hunters	Designed to Sell	Get It Sold	Deserving Design	Design on a Dime	House Hunters (N)	Sleep on It (N)	Desperate Spaces	What's-House?		
	Family ** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	** "Never Been Kissed" (1999) Drew Barrymore. A reporter poses as a high-school student.	The 700 Club [CC]		
	History Gangland: Aryan Brotherhood [CC]	Modern Marvels: The Butcher [CC]	Life After People [CC]	Reba "Invasion"	Reba "Issues" [CC]	"Last Exit" (2006, Suspense) Kathleen Robertson, Andrea Roth. [CC]	MonsterQuest "American Werewolf"	Bloodlines: The Dracula Family Tree	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]		
	Lifetime Reba [CC]	Still Standing [CC]	Still Standing [CC]	Reba "Invasion"	Reba "Issues" [CC]	"Last Exit" (2006, Suspense) Kathleen Robertson, Andrea Roth. [CC]	MonsterQuest "American Werewolf"	Bloodlines: The Dracula Family Tree	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]		
	MTV America's Next Top Model [CC]	America's Next Top Model [CC]	America's Next Top Model [CC]	America's Next Top Model [CC]	America's Next Top Model [CC]	Real World -- Road Rules Challenge	True Life Big and beautiful. [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]	Will & Grace [CC]		
	NICK Drake & Josh [CC]	Drake & Josh [CC]	Zoey 101 [CC]	Ned's School	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh [CC]	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	George Lopez [CC]	George Lopez [CC]	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince		
	SCI FI Stargate SG-1 "Holiday" [CC]	Ghost Hunters [CC]	Ghost Hunters [CC]	Ghost Hunters International (N)	Ghost Hunters International (N)	Ghost Hunters International (N)	Ghost Hunters International (N)	Ghost Hunters International (N)	Ghost Hunters International (N)	Ghost Hunters International (N)	Ghost Hunters International (N)	Ghost Hunters International (N)		
	SPIKE CSI: Crime Scene Investigation [CC]	UFC Unleashed	UFC Unleashed (N)	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]	UFC Fight Night (N) [CC]		
	TBS Friends [CC]	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Family Guy [CC]	Family Guy [CC]	House of Payne	House of Payne	House of Payne	House of Payne	Sex and the City	Sex and the City		
	TLC Property Ladder [CC]	We Have 15 Children [CC]	My Shocking Story: Too Young-Fat	Dr. G: Medical Examiner [CC]	Big Medicine (N)	My Shocking Story: Too Young-Fat	Dr. G: Medical Examiner [CC]	Big Medicine (N)	My Shocking Story: Too Young-Fat	Dr. G: Medical Examiner [CC]	Big Medicine (N)	My Shocking Story: Too Young-Fat		
	TNT Law & Order "Missing" [CC]	Law & Order "Shangri-La" [CC]	** "We Were Soldiers" (2002, War) Mel Gibson, Madeleine Stowe, Greg Kinnear. [CC]	NCIS "Sub Rosa" [CC]	NCIS "Minimum Security" [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]		
	USA Law & Order: Criminal Intent "30" [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit [CC]	NCIS "Sub Rosa" [CC]	NCIS "Minimum Security" [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]	Law & Order: Criminal Intent [CC]		
	VHI 100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 80-61.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 60-41.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 40-21.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.		
SPANISH	TELEM Los Plateados	Noti-Telemndo	12 Corazones	Madre Luna	Victoria	Pecados Ajenos	Noti-Telemndo	Titulares y Mas	Que Locura	Noticiero Univ	Yo Amo a Juan Querendón	Al Diablo con Los Guapos		
	UNIV Que Locura	Noticiero Univ	Yo Amo a Juan Querendón	Al Diablo con Los Guapos	Pasión	Don Francisco Presenta	Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.	Noticiero Univ	Noticiero Univ	Noticiero Univ	Noticiero Univ.		
SPORTS	ESPN SportsCenter (Live) [CC]	College Basketball Iowa State at Kansas. (Live) [CC]	NBA Basketball Los Angeles Lakers at San Antonio Spurs. From the AT&T Center in San Antonio.	SportsCenter	ESPN2 Tennis: Australian Open	College Basketball Georgia Tech at North Carolina State. (Live) [CC]	Gamenight	Tennis Australian Open -- Women's Semifinals. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live) [CC]	ESPN2 Tennis: Australian Open	College Basketball Georgia Tech at North Carolina State. (Live) [CC]	Gamenight	Tennis Australian Open -- Women's Semifinals. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live) [CC]		
	ESPN2 Tennis: Australian Open	College Basketball Georgia Tech at North Carolina State. (Live) [CC]	Gamenight	Tennis Australian Open -- Women's Semifinals. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live) [CC]	ESPN2 Tennis: Australian Open	College Basketball Georgia Tech at North Carolina State. (Live) [CC]	Gamenight	Tennis Australian Open -- Women's Semifinals. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live) [CC]	ESPN2 Tennis: Australian Open	College Basketball Georgia Tech at North Carolina State. (Live) [CC]	Gamenight	Tennis Australian Open -- Women's Semifinals. From Melbourne, Australia. (Live) [CC]		
	CSN SportsNite [CC]	SportsNite [CC]	NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at Cleveland Cavaliers. (Subject to Blackout) (S Live)	SportsNite [CC]	SportsNite [CC]	SportsNite (Live) [CC]	Washington Post Live	SportsNite [CC]	SportsNite [CC]	SportsNite [CC]	SportsNite [CC]	SportsNite [CC]		
NEWS	CNN (4:00) The Situation Room	Lou Dobbs Tonight [CC]	CNN Election Center	Larry King Live [CC]	Anderson Cooper 360 [CC]	Lou Dobbs Tonight [CC]	CNN Election Center	Larry King Live [CC]	Anderson Cooper 360 [CC]	Lou Dobbs Tonight [CC]	CNN Election Center	Larry King Live [CC]		
	FNC Special Report [CC]	The Fox Report With Shepard Smith	The O'Reilly Factor [CC]	Hannity & Colmes [CC]	On the Record-Van Susteren	The O'Reilly Factor	The Fox Report With Shepard Smith	The O'Reilly Factor	Hannity & Colmes [CC]	On the Record-Van Susteren	The O'Reilly Factor	Hannity & Colmes [CC]		
	MSNBC Tucker	Hardball [CC]	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Live With Dan Abrams	MSNBC Reports "Sex Bunker"	Gladiator Days: Prison Murder	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Live With Dan Abrams	MSNBC Reports "Sex Bunker"	Gladiator Days: Prison Murder	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Live With Dan Abrams		
MOVIES	AMC (5:00) *** "Rio Bravo" (1959, Western) John Wayne, Dean Martin. 'NR'	*** "The Hunt for Red October" (1990, Suspense) Sean Connery, Alec Baldwin, Scott Glenn. 'PG'	*** "Navy SEALs" (1990) 'R' [CC]	TCM (1:15) *** "Harvey" (1950, Comedy) James Stewart. 'NR' [CC]	*** "The Fighting 69th" (1940, War) James Cagney, Pat O'Brien. 'NR'	*** "The Gallant Hours" (1960, Biography) James Cagney. 'NR'	HBO (5:15) *** "Superman Returns" (2006) Brandon Routh. [CC] 'PG-13' [CC]	*** "A Good Year" (2006) Russell Crowe, Marion Cotillard. [CC] 'PG-13' [CC]	INSIDE THE NFL (N) [CC]	Real Time With Bill Maher [CC]	MAX (1:10) ** "8MM" (1999, Suspense) Nicolas Cage. [CC] 'R' [CC]	(1:15) ** "Phat Girlz" (2006) Mo'Nique. Two large women look for love. [CC]	** "The Fountain" (2006) Hugh Jackman. 'PG-13' [CC]	Passion Cove [CC]
	SHOW (1:15) *** "Dick" (1999, Comedy) Kirsten Dunst. iTV. [CC] 'PG-13' [CC]	The L Word "Lady of the Lake" (iTV)	The Original Latin Divas of Comedy Four comics perform.	** "The Groomsmen" (2006) Edward Burns. 'R' [CC]	TMC (4:30) Restoration "Love Comes to the Executioner" (2004) [CC] 'R' [CC]	*** "Tombstone" (1993, Western) Kurt Russell, Val Kilmer. [CC] 'R' [CC]	(1:15) ** "The World's Fastest Indian" (2005) Anthony Hopkins. 'PG-13'	STARZ! The Prestige [CC]	** "Underworld: Evolution" (2006, Horror) Kate Beckinsale. [CC] 'R' [CC]	(2:0) * "Wild Hogs" (2007) Tim Allen. [CC] 'PG-13' [CC]	Head Case [CC]	Hollywd Res.	Head Case [CC]	Hollywd Res.
	ENCORE (5:50) ** "Silent Hill" (2006, Horror) Radha Mitchell. [CC] 'R' [CC]	*** "A Fish Called Wanda" (1988, Comedy) John Cleese. 'R' [CC]	(9:50) *** "Carlito's Way" (1993, Crime Drama) Al Pacino. [CC] 'R' [CC]											

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Pets

Commonly portrayed as mean, pit bulls are being redeemed

Bad dogs or bad press? When it comes to pit bulls, it seems like most people assume it's the first. But it wasn't always that way.

A pit bull named Stubby earned the rank of sergeant in World War I and appeared on the cover of "Life" magazine. Loyal pet of "The Little Rascals" on TV, the breed also used to symbolize the nation in editorial cartoons and Army posters at the beginning of the 20th century. At one time, pit bull terriers were the classic American dog.

“People walk in the door thinking they'd never have a pit bull. We've had people completely change their minds.”

EMILY WEISS, ASPCA

Despite this honorable history, they've fallen on hard times. But their defenders are working hard to redeem them.

Next month, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in New York City is introducing its Adopt-a-Bull

contest, co-sponsored by the Animal Farm Foundation in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Open to adopters from shelters that use the ASPCA's Meet Your Match temperament testing, the grand-prize winner will get a trip to New York and a \$5,000 grant for his or her shelter.

"There are myths about every breed," says Dr. Emily Weiss of the ASPCA, who developed the Meet Your Match program. "If you read the breed description of American pit bull terriers, it doesn't say aggressive. They're incredibly social. They've been our heroes at war, our companions at home."

In fact, it's only recently that pit bulls have become the dogs that we fear most.

Ledy VanKavage, senior director for legal training and legislation at the ASPCA, knows this from experience. She had a German shepherd in the 1970s, when that breed had a fearsome reputation.

"When I was a kid, once I was walking my German shepherd. A woman came up to me and said, 'That dog's going to rip your face off,'" she says.

That experience was good preparation, perhaps, because VanKavage now has three adopted pit bulls — which she dresses in frilly collars so that people will stop to pet them instead of crossing the street to avoid them.

Perceptions of breeds change over time not because the dogs change, but because they become popular with different types of owners. "It's the fad dogs, not the

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DOGGED BY HISTORY: Pit bull terriers, including "The Little Rascals" Petey, above, used to be a national symbol.

bad dogs," VanKavage says of the changing fashions for "dangerous" breeds.

Behaviorist Weiss says that it's important to focus on individual animals. Each dog that comes into the ASPCA goes through the same testing, to rule out aggression — which can appear in any breed — and to evaluate personality. Adopters are then given color-coded categories corresponding to the results of these tests, so they can look through the shelter for dogs that will meet their preferences.

"People walk in the door thinking they'd never have a pit bull. We've had people completely change their minds after seeing that animal as an individual," says Weiss.

Lisa LaFontaine, the CEO of the Washington Humane Society, is an advocate for the breed because she has her own pit bull mix, Nicholas.

"[Pit bulls are] loyal, they're funny, they're energetic, they're people-oriented. I'm not surprised that people ... fall in love with them." LINDA LOMBARDI (AP)

LOOK out

Single & Satisfied

Society

Some bachelors enjoy a solitary life, free of serious relationships

At 57, winemaker Bull Gulvin has never been married and has no such plans in the works.

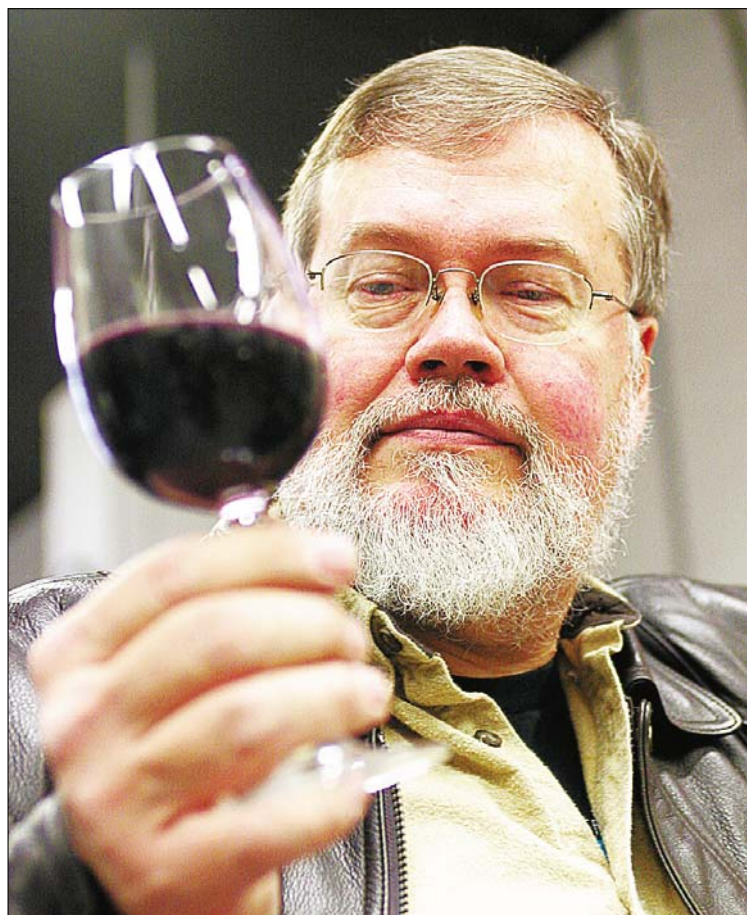
He's not a mama's boy or a playboy. Instead, the Columbia, Pa., resident calls himself a "realist" for remaining single.

"There aren't many really compelling reasons to get married anymore," Gulvin says.

A lot of attention gets paid to single women, who can cheer themselves with chick flicks, self-help books and shows like "Sex and the City," which aim to empower female consumers to think of singledom as independence or self-reliance.

But this Valentine's Day, it's worth noting: Men can be single and fabulous, too.

While single women have seemingly banded together to change their image in the popular culture,



Winemaker Bull Gulvin samples a glass of wine at Nissley Vineyards & Winery Estate in Bainbridge, Pa. The 57-year-old says he has no plans to get married.

there's been no such battle cry for men, who have a whole different set of stereotypes to fight: They're confirmed bachelors, James Bond-style playboys, cranky old men or gay.

None of this is helped by the fact that married men live longer, or by the common notion that men need a woman's touch to perform household tasks like cooking.

But some proud, single men say they're better off alone.

In 2006, 33% of men in their early 30s had never been married.

"A man is a sperm bank, a meal ticket, a handyman and an early retirement plan," Gulvin says. For those reasons and others, he has decided to go through life without committing to one romantic relationship.

Both men and women are staying single longer, as the median marriage age rises. In 2006, 33 percent of men in their early 30s had never been married, compared to 29 percent of women, according to census numbers.

Experts say society still favors married men over their single coun-

terparts, though. The most common complaints come from the workplace, where many say they are discriminated against.

"Especially as you approach your mid-30s and 40s and all your colleagues around you are married, there's a lot of unsaid words that go on and feelings of inadequacy at work," says Sherri Langburt, founder of the new Web site Singleedition.com, an online community for happy singles.

Those include speculation about a single man's sexual preferences and, concomitantly, a difficulty in making friends with heterosexual co-workers because colleagues might question his motives.

Single men often say they are asked to work on holidays, put in longer hours or travel more for business. Employers often assume that without a spouse, unwed workers have extra time to spare, says Nicky Grist, executive director of the Alternatives to Marriage Project.

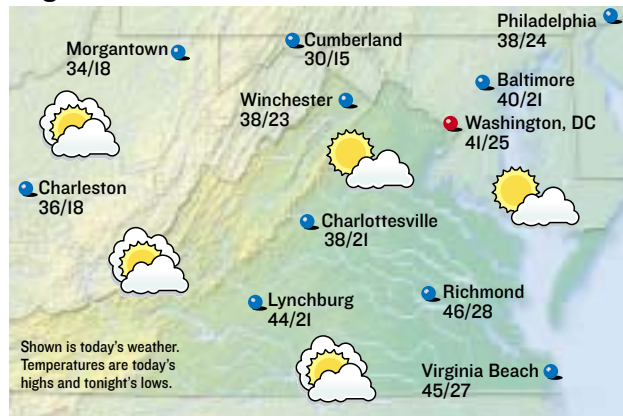
Particularly in the powerful worlds of business and politics, it's often all about appearances and presenting oneself as a stable man, Grist says.

"Part of that expectation probably still stems from the idea that in order to completely fulfill your role as a leader in this business or policy setting, you need the support of a family," she says. HILLARY RHODES (AP)

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mostly sunny	Partly cloudy	Partly sunny, flurry	Mostly sunny, cold	Increasingly cloudy	Cloudy, rain possible
41°	25°	36° / 20°	34° / 20°	41° / 34°	46° / 36°

Regional Weather



Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Tues.

Temperature

High 43°
 Low 27°
 Normal high 42°
 Normal low 27°
 Average humidity 53%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m. Trace
 Month to date 1.31"
 Normal month to date 2.31"
 Year to date 1.31"
 Last year to date 2.41"
 Normal year to date 2.31"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: washingtonpost.com/weather

Regional Forecast

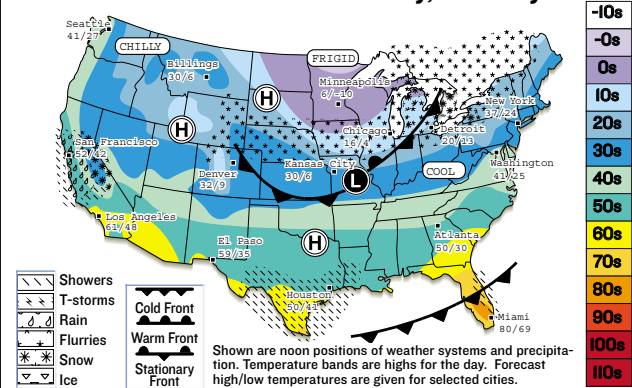
D.C. Metro: Today, mostly sunny. High 41. Wind west-northwest 6-12 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 25. Wind variable 3-6 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today 7:22 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 5:18 p.m.
 Moonrise today 6:46 p.m.
 Moonset today 8:10 a.m.



National Weather for Wednesday, January 23



National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thur. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	50/30/pc	45/20/pc
Boston	36/23/s	30/17/sf
Chicago	16/4/sf	16/7/pc
Dallas	51/26/pc	46/29/pc
Denver	32/9/pc	39/20/s
Honolulu	79/67/s	79/67/s
Los Angeles	61/48/r	58/46/sh
Miami	80/69/pc	81/59/pc
New York City	37/24/s	32/19/sf
Orlando	78/58/c	70/44/c
Seattle	41/27/pc	38/28/c

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Thur. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	43/37/sh	47/37/r
Athens	57/48/r	54/46/r
Berlin	36/30/c	41/36/sh
Buenos Aires	86/70/pc	88/72/pc
Calgary	36/10/pc	23/5/c
Dublin	52/39/r	45/37/pc
Geneva	42/33/pc	48/34/pc
Moscow	27/16/c	23/16/c
Rome	52/37/s	54/36/s
Sydney	72/63/s	74/69/s
Tokyo	45/39/r	42/35/s

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.



SECOND TIME'S A CHARM? Perhaps. Lisa Witzer poses with bridesmaid dresses from weddings past.

designer Catherine Marie Thomas. "It was kind of hilarious."

Heigl looks beautiful in every zany outfit dreamed up by Thomas and her team, from the spike choker (Goth wedding) to the Playboy, Greta Garbo and Bahama Mama getups.

Witzer's collection isn't quite so multi-culti. But she's got some doozies. Looking at her stash, one can't help but wonder: Can any of

“Don't go into it thinking you're gonna wear it again.”

MILLIE MARTINI BRATTEN, EDITOR

these dresses be saved?

We asked expert Port Washington dressmaker Nancy Sinoway to do a bit of satin-and-taffeta triage.

Sinoway approached the flock of bad dresses with a discerning gaze. "This one is too far gone," she declared, casting aside an acrid lilac two-piece with polyester chiffon shawl.

A ruby gown verging on drapery wasn't too bad, nor was a Vera Wang-ish ivory strapless. A black gown with a useless white panel in back felt oddly reminiscent of ... Pilgrims. But the mother lode came in the form of a sequined, emerald number with "Dynasty"-worthy shoulder pads and big, puffy sleeves.

"If you can make this pretty again, I'd wear it," says Witzer, who wore Big Green to a cousin's wedding about 10 years ago.

Sinoway took up the challenge, making over both the green and black dresses — a process that can cost anywhere from \$125 to \$300.

The results were surprising:

"I can't believe they're the same dresses," says Witzer.

Of course, being a bridesmaid is about more than just the dress.

"Don't go into it thinking you're gonna wear it again," says Millie Martini Bratten, editor in chief of *Bride's* magazine. "Go into it knowing you're there to support a friend."

JOSEPH V. AMODIO (NEWSDAY)

Taffeta Triage

Bridesmaid gowns are being revamped and (gasp!) reworn

Most women think it can't happen to them. They live in sweet denial. It's time someone blew the lid off this dirty little secret.

We're talking, of course, about BBD — Bridal Blindness Disorder — the sudden, inexplicable way brides lose their sight (if not sanity) when

choosing bridesmaid dresses. How else to explain the plethora of god-awful dresses that faithful friends are forced to wear, marching lock-step a few feet ahead of the chick all in white? C'mon, bridesmaids, fess up — you've worn some dogs, in all their poofy, sherbet-toned glory.

Lisa Witzer has a basement closet full of them. Five so far. By May, she'll have two more.

"It's like the bridesmaid closet," says Witzer, 31, a personal trainer

at Equinox in Woodbury. "You always think in your head, 'Maybe I'll wear this again,' but then you realize ... it'll never happen."

Could be worse — she could be stuck with 20 more, like Katherine Heigl's role in the romantic comedy "27 Dresses." Heigl plays Jane, a gal who's worn so many bridesmaid gowns she can't shut her closet.

"There were plenty of women on the crew, and they'd say, 'I'll bring in my old dresses,'" says costume

Beauty



No Poker Face Here

Lush's **PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT MASSAGE BAR** (\$9, Lush.com) takes the shape of the ol' ace, but in solid brick form. It felt odd rubbing a slab of lotion on, but the moisturizing goodness softened as it warmed. We think traditionalists should stick with massage oil: Who wants to wait? Plus, we read if you leave it in the sun, it melts. Yet those annoyances are made up for by the subtle jasmine scent. This is one card we want in our deck, as long as someone else will warm it up for us. RACHEL KAUFMAN

Fashion



Retro Spectacular

Reese Witherspoon and Natalie Portman grace the red carpet in vintage frocks. But those of us sans stylists often have trouble making that '70s disco dress or '50s jacket look terrific, not tag sale. At the **VINTAGE TO VOGUE** fashion show Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. (\$35) at Heineman Myers Contemporary Art (4728 Hampden Lane, Bethesda; 301-951-7900), decked out models and style expert Elizabeth Gibbens show how to mix old and new pieces. Stuff strutting the runway (and on the sale rack) ranges from Bill Blass jackets to Galanos gowns. JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)

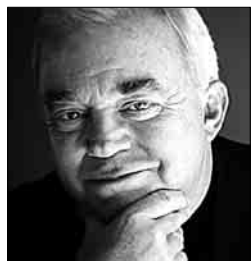

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BOOKS

Faith & Politics

The Rev. Jim Wallis is the type of evangelical Christian who touts his protest arrest total (22). Express contributor Tim Follos spoke with Wallis, who reads Wednesday at Politics & Prose, about his new book, "The Great Awakening: Reviving Faith & Politics in a Post-Religious Right America." | COMING UP



MUSIC

One Bitchin' Babe

Debi Smith is best known as one of the satirical-folkie Four Bitchin' Babes, but her recent solo album, "The Soprano," finds her reaching new pitches, if not heights. Express contributor Paul Stelter spoke to the wise gal who plays Wednesday at the Birchmere. | COMING UP

FIT

Macho Mat

Three-time World Wrestling Champion Diamond Dallas Page probably never thought he'd be hitting the mat as a yoga instructor. Express contributor Marc Silver sat in on one of Page's classes, dubbed "yoga for regular guys." | ONLINE NOW



comment board

“ I honestly think

if she wasn't Bill's wife, she wouldn't even be one of the top four Democratic nominees. She wouldn't even rank.”

AN ANONYMOUS COMMENTER, WHO ADDED, "BILL NEEDS TO SUPPORT HIS WIFE WITHOUT INSULTING OTHERS, BUT HE JUST CAN'T SEEM TO DO THAT."

“ I don't think that

Bill Clinton is a liability so much as he weighs in on the 'con' side of the pros and cons equation for the campaign.”

COMMENTER JUST A THOUGHT, WHO ADDED, "HIS PRESENCE MAY VERY WELL PUT OFF AS MANY PEOPLE AS IT PULLS IN FOR THE CAMPAIGN."



“Let us all hope that this smirking amoral Arkansas mouth-breather keeps opening his (lying) trap to remind us all that this country does not need another Clinton administration.”

AN ANONYMOUS COMMENTER, RESPONDING TO TUESDAY'S POLL CENTER QUESTION, "IS BILL CLINTON AN ASSET OR A LIABILITY FOR HIS WIFE'S PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN?"

poll center

IS BILL CLINTON AN ASSET OR A LIABILITY FOR HIS WIFE'S PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN?

64% ASSET **36%** LIABILITY

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT [READEXPRESS.COM/POLLCENTER.PHP](http://readexpress.com/pollcenter.php)

Blog LOG

“There is much I admire about Hillary Clinton. I do not think she is evil, nor would I refuse to vote for her in the general [election].”

BUT, A RAISINGKATIE.COM CONTRIBUTOR IS NOT PLEASED WITH HOW THE CLINTON CAMPAIGN IS CARRYING OUT THE RACE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION.



BRUCE MCBROOM/DREAMWORKS

“ [W]HILE WE WOULD bask in the ironic glow of an Oscar win for an Eddie-Murphy-in-a-fat-suit vehicle, it's for Achievement in Makeup and actually up against 'La Vie en Rose.' We must admit, though, that Eddie knows a good fat suit when he sees one.”

THECULTUREWARRIOR.COM WAS TAKEN BY SURPRISE THAT THE LACKLUSTER 2007 FILM "NORBIT" HAS BEEN NOMINATED FOR AN ACADEMY AWARD.

“ ... [T]he TV flashed a news report: 'Brady Seen in Cast.' We weren't around for the JFK assassination, but now we have a pretty good idea what the terrified hush that fell over the nation felt like.”

BOSTONIST.COM HOPES THAT TOM BRADY'S APPARENT FOOT PROBLEM WILL BE ALL BETTER BY SUPER BOWL TIME.

“ PLUTO'S PLANET designation was stripped 16 months ago. This isn't a small detail. The Smithsonian is disseminating wrong information. Just because something was accurate two years ago doesn't make that the case in the present. And 16 months should be more than enough time to fix this.”

WHYIHATEDC.BLOGSPOT.COM SPOTS AN ERROR AT THE AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM.

“ WHAT AMAZES ME is the casino-like insanity where the U.S. market just has to be gamed and made out to look like it's a great deal or great value and that this is an opportunity. ... [I]t seems like we have a mafia in place that has no other vision than to window-dress a casino that has almost burned to the ground.”

NAKEDCAPITALISM.COM ASSESSES THE DISMAL STATE OF THE U.S. ECONOMY.

Discussions

Oscar Nominees

Washington Post film critic **DESSON THOMSON** was online Tuesday to discuss this year's Academy Award nominations.

What is your opinion on the exclusion of "The Kite Runner" from the list of best picture nominations? I believe that the exclusion of "The Kite Runner" from this list is a major oversight on the part of the Academy.

You are right, in that "Kite Runner" was a viable candidate. I can only say that, by definition, there

will be "snubs." And here's my disappointment for best pic: "Zodiac." That movie made the mistake of getting released too early in the year for the attention deficits of the Academy.

I saw "Juno" and liked it a lot. I thought Ellen Page was adorable, but I don't think her performance was Oscar-worthy. And while it was funny, the script seemed a bit contrived and it tried too hard. Is the Academy just trying to be hip? There's a sort of "Juno" juggernaut thing going. I liked the film. And I liked that it was contrived — part of its post-modern cleverness.

Were you surprised "Knocked Up" was

not nominated for screenplay honors? Usually, the Academy awards eccentric movies ("Pulp Fiction," "Good Will Hunting") in this category.

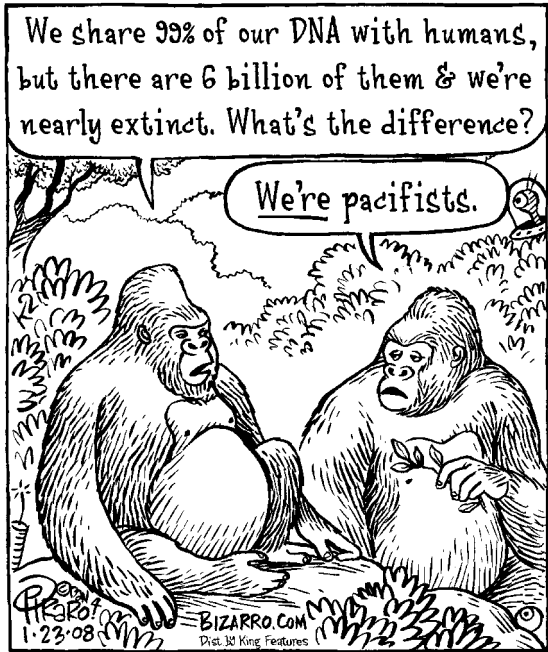
Yes, I did expect a screenplay nom. But not everyone can get the Oscars' traditional "consolation" award — their nod for something they don't have the courage to give a greater statue. Not saying that writing awards are inferior — quite the opposite. But, politically, a writing award excites few people. So, it seems like Oscar gives those to the smart or edgy ones.

TODAY ON DISCUSSIONS: Post business columnist Steven Pearlstein discusses Wall Street and the global markets at 11 a.m. | washingtonpost.com/discussions.

DO

LEARN THE GOVERNOR'S REAL PHONE NUMBER, MARYLAND. A Cecil County man discovered the number for the governor's office is misprinted in the latest edition of the Armstrong Telephone Co. phone book, after he called and was greeted with "Hi, sexy." The printed number connects with a phone sex service.

Bizarro | Dan Piraro



Cornered | Mike Baldwin

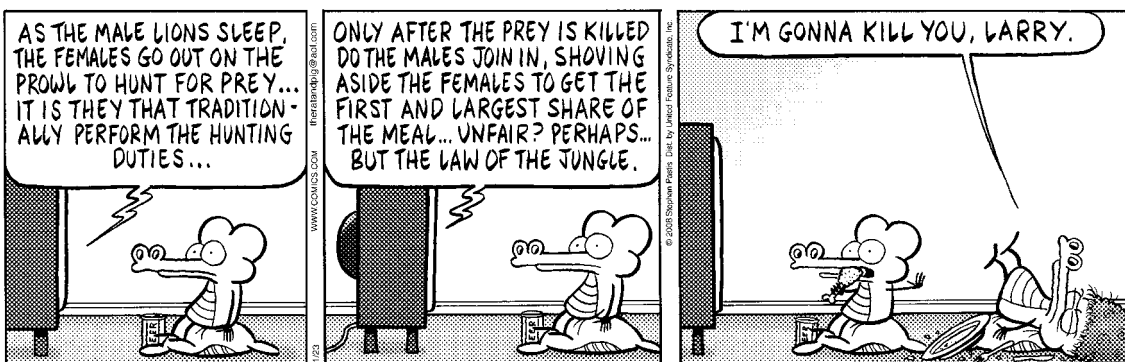


"Sure, I can stay late. Will you help me work through my feelings of anger and bitter resentment?"

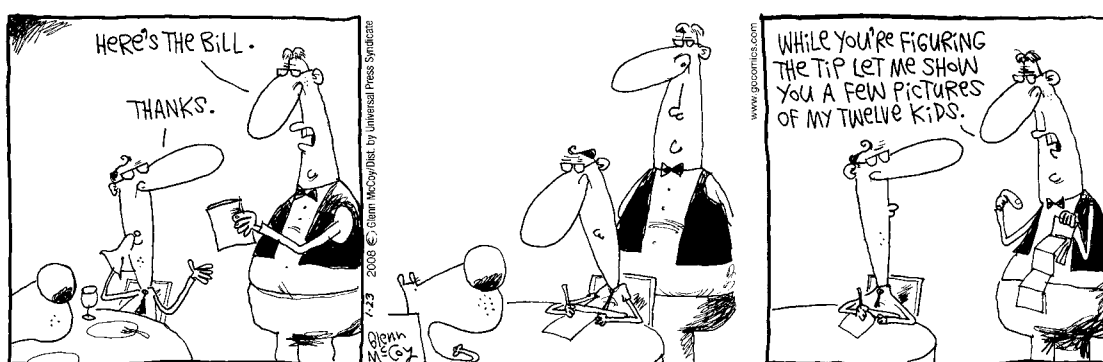
Pooch Cafe | Paul Gilligan



Pearls Before Swine | Stephan Pastis



The Duplex | Glenn McCoy



Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You may be tempted to follow in another's footsteps without considering the responsibilities that go with any new course. Reconsider.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You'll receive some admiring attention from someone who has never considered the possibility of doing what you do. Share what you know.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Concentrate on saving both time and space. Consolidate efforts, and do what you can to improve efficiency at home and at the workplace.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Someplace that holds special meaning can provide you with an important clue. Finally, a mystery can be solved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Take care that you don't lash out when things get tough and you find yourself in a situation you cannot handle on your own.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) This is a good

day to relax and let things wash over you in a manner that allows you to assess each and every thing as it comes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You're likely to stumble upon an opportunity that you must experience to believe. Can you really believe you are so lucky?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A collaborative effort can pay off for all concerned, but someone is going to have to spearhead the project. Is that a role for you to take?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Anything that is advertised as "top secret" is best avoided. You don't want to look back and regret decisions made and the course taken.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Steer clear of those who would have you do things in a way that doesn't feel right to you. You must maintain your own code of ethics.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You can expect to be led astray if you keep putting your faith in promises that are too easily offered. Your trust must be earned.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You can see a key relationship progress to a new level, but you mustn't hope for too much. Be sure your expectations match reality.



Bette Midler bids farewell to Johnny Carson on his next-to-last show. He died in 2005.

Today in History

1789 Georgetown University is established in present-day Washington, D.C.

1845 Congress decides all national elections would be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

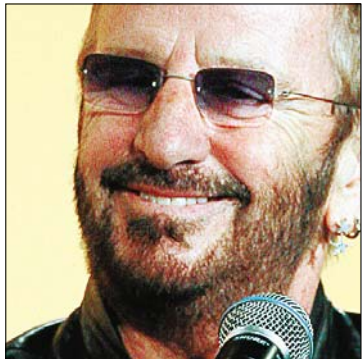
1932 New York Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt announces his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination.

1968 North Korea seizes the Navy intelligence ship USS Pueblo, charging its crew with being on a spying mission. (The crew was released 11 months later.)

2002 Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl is abducted in Pakistan by a group demanding the return of prisoners from the Afghan campaign; he was later slain.

2005 Former "Tonight Show" host Johnny Carson dies in Malibu, Calif., at age 79.

LOOK out People



PAUL ELLIS/AP/GETTY IMAGES

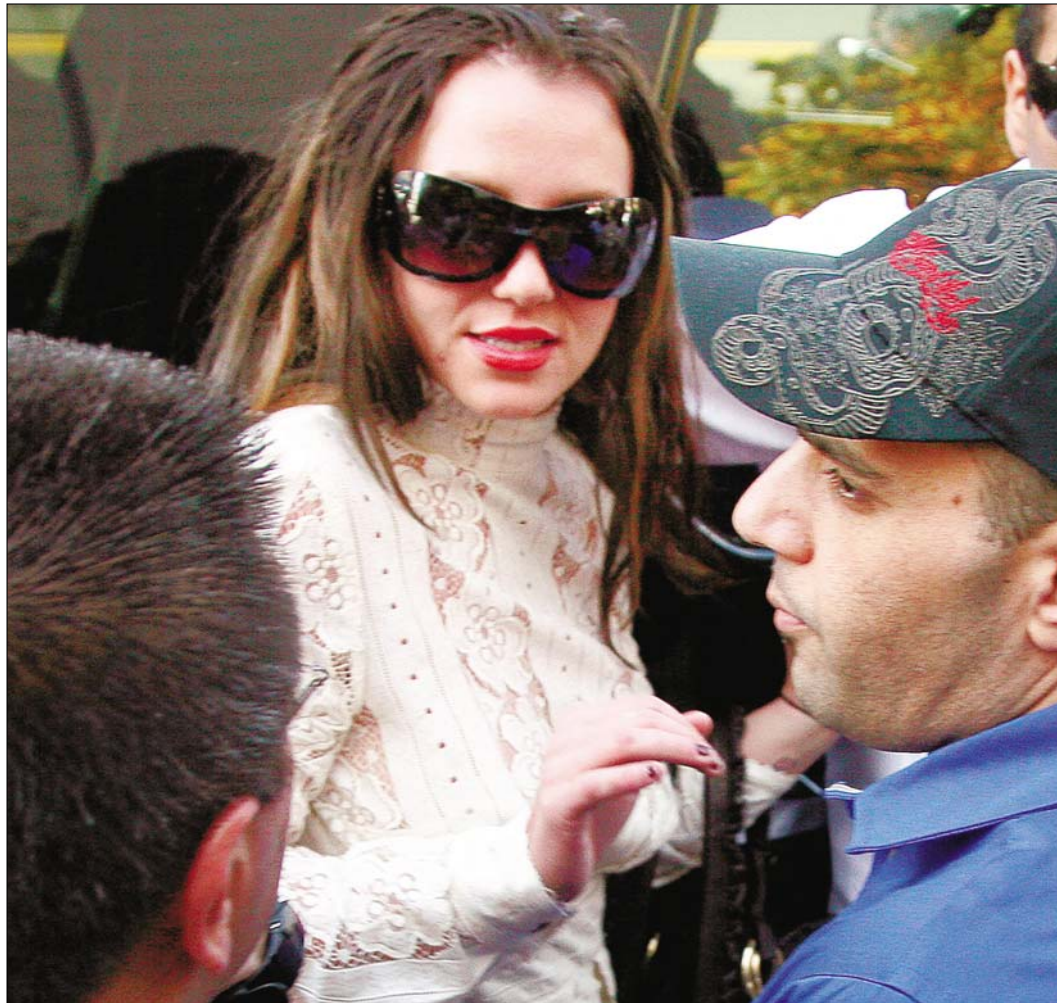
Gradient lenses do nothing for anyone.

FAILING CAREERS Ringo Fan Club Member Rips Photo in Twain, Sobs

RINGO STARR showed his tough side Tuesday when he walked off the set of "Live With Regis and Kelly" rather than cut short one of his songs. Starr, who is promoting the new album "Liverpool 8" planned to perform the title song. However, due to a miscommunication, Starr didn't realize the performance had to be 2 1/2 minutes or less. (AP)

FAILING CAREERS Paris Announces Intent To Adopt Spears' Two Boys

PARIS HILTON is rooting for Britney Spears. "I wish the best for her, and I just wish everyone would leave her alone so she could live her life," the 26-year-old hotel heiress-actress tells E! News. "She's a great mother and a great girl, and I really care about her. ... She's a very sweet girl, and I love her to death." (AP)



GABRIEL BOUVIS/AP/GETTY IMAGES

TO-DO LIST/FAILING CAREERS

Starbucks, Deposition, Jail

BRITNEY SPEARS showed up. The pop star went to a deposition Monday in her dispute with ex-husband Kevin Federline over the custody of their two boys, according to published reports. Spears drove to the office of Federline's attorney, Mark Vincent Kaplan, with a friend and was seen leaving more than two hours later. Spears has had trouble making recent legal dates. On Dec. 12, she called in sick for a court-ordered deposition, then arrived late at Kaplan's office on its rescheduled date, Jan. 3. (AP)



CHUCK BURTON/AP

She gets him and Mark confused, too.

WEIRD CAREERS Mark Hamill's Still Alive? Wait ... Who Is This Guy?

SCOTT HAMILTON is now a father of two. The figure skater's wife, **TRACIE**, gave birth to the couple's second son, Maxx, Monday in Nashville, Tenn., said his publicist Michael Sterling. "According to Scott, mother and child are doing very well," Sterling said. The couple's first child, Aidan, is 4. Hamilton, 49, is a 1984 Olympic gold medalist and four-time world champion. (AP)

OVER CAREERS Hollywood Gives Him a Watch and a Gift Certificate

Italian designer **VALENTINO**, who will retire this week after 45 years in business, has been called everything from the "Sheik of Chic" to "King of the Red Carpet." A perfectionist with an unparalleled sense of fit and fabric, he has dressed royalty, first ladies and movie stars in his signature scarlet dresses and tasteful couture. The designer was to unveil his swan song collection on Wednesday. (AP)

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LOOK outK

CROSSWORD | GET CRACKIN

ACROSS

- 1 Longish dress
- 5 Profound void
- 10 "___ Get Fooled Again" (The Who)
- 14 Sir ___ Guinness
- 15 Olympic speedskater Bonnie
- 16 Jidda resident
- 17 Make good on a deal
- 20 Worked the Dial?
- 21 Noted Greek fable writer
- 22 Cereal grain
- 23 Door busters
- 25 Takes place
- 28 Throw a tantrum
- 29 Abbrs. on city maps
- 32 Ruer's word
- 33 Yankee captain
- 34 Kind of tent
- 35 Greyhounds do this
- 39 Color quality
- 40 "As You Like It" forest
- 41 EPA study
- 42 Flat sound?
- 43 Nectar source
- 44 Behind-the-scenes
- 46 Resistor ratings
- 47 Build up interest?
- 48 Support beam
- 51 Laced
- 55 What a baggage handler may do
- 58 To ___ (exactly)
- 59 Diner stack

- 60 Nehemiah follows it
- 61 Suds, so to speak
- 62 Take care of
- 63 Say it isn't so

DOWN

- 1 North America's largest is in Edmonton
- 2 "Idomeneo" heroine
- 3 Insurance covers it
- 4 Cold storage
- 5 Scrubs a launch
- 6 Big Mama Thornton's genre
- 7 The one of "fourth and one"
- 8 Drink like a lady
- 9 Broadway letters
- 10 Rouses
- 11 They need refinement
- 12 Postwar alliance
- 13 Baker's abbr.
- 18 1000 or 2000, but not 0
- 19 Judge's chambers
- 23 Boca ___
- 24 "Ain't She Sweet" co-composer
- 25 Wedding promises
- 26 Name on seasonal mail
- 27 "Pound" and "sponge" ending
- 28 Make mention of
- 29 Aromatic seasoning

EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

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- 30 English royal family
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- 33 Betrayer of biblical proportions
- 36 Entertainer Kotto
- 37 Neighbor of Provo
- 38 Divulged
- 44 Famous tenor
- 45 Ham's relinquishing word
- 46 Fall color
- 47 Twist partner

- 48 Give it all away
- 49 Ceremonial act
- 50 "A Death in the Family" author
- 51 Actress Daly
- 52 One way to miss a performance
- 53 Become worthy of
- 54 WWII event
- 56 Typesetter's units
- 57 Wedding notice word

Yesterday's Solution

P	A	L	S	B	O	I	L	S	A	D	Z	E		
U	T	A	H	O	R	D	E	R	L	I	E	N		
T	H	R	E	M	I	L	E	I	S	L	A	N	D	
E	D	D	Y	B	O	Y	S	C	O	G				
E	N	E	E	L	E	L	L	A	Y	O	F	F		
E	A	R	L	E	M	A	I	L	N	A	E			
O	F	T	E	S	T	I	M	A	T	E				
U	R	I	N	C	H	E	E	L	S					
P	A	N	D	E	M	I	C	E	R	A				
I	C	S	E	P	A	L	S	A	R					
A	L	E	P	H	S	L	L	O	E					
O	I	L	C	O	M	E	A	S	P	A	R	T		
F	I	V	E	Y	A	R	D	P	E	N	A	L	T	Y
A	L	E	C	E	D	E	D	C	L	A	P			
B	O	R	E	T	E	S	T	S	E	S	S	E		

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Fill in the boxes so each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. See www.sudoku.com for solution, tips and computer program.

Need more Sudoku? Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

Yesterday's Solution

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

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



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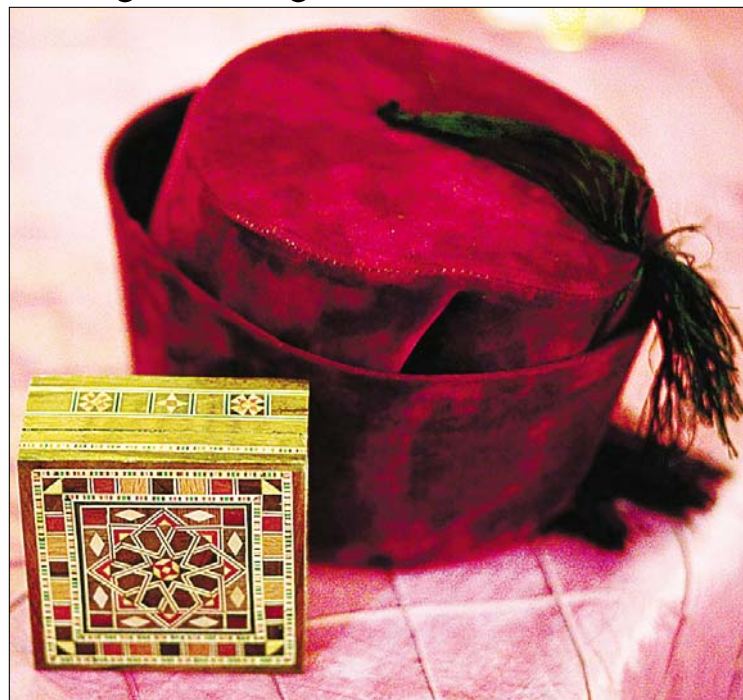
Wedding favors, it seems, are falling out of favor. The standard take-home goodies — picture frames, votive candles, sachets (traditionally with a monogram tackily emblazoned across them) — are so cliché that many couples would like to ditch the ritual entirely. There's only one problem: the guests.

"Even if they won't use it, they like opening the box," moans wedding planner Jessica Greenstein (Aperday.com). And a few players have significant clout, adds Vicky Johnson (info@holymatrimonyonline.com; 202-517-9189), who's been in the

business for more than 15 years: "Some brides say, 'My mother is going to die if I don't have a tchotchke.'"

So, each place setting still requires some sort of memento. But what that should be is now up for debate.

"My mantra toward favors is not against them, but to make them more useful and have a meaning," Johnson says. Recently, that's meant donations to charities. Often, it's a medical cause honoring a close relative's battle with a particular illness. Environmental groups are also frequent beneficiaries; they help assuage the guilt of eco-conscious folks who've just left a vast carbon footprint in the name of love. The do-gooder route is also an attractive option for tight budgets, Johnson notes. While an allotment of \$1.50 per favor might mean your 200 guests



At a recent wedding, guests received fezzes and jewelry boxes—a reference to the couple's invitation, depicting the fez-wearing groom giving the bride a jewelry box.

will be taking home junk, a \$300 donation to a charity seems more worthwhile.

Another way to make sure a souvenir isn't dumped in the trash is to make it delicious — as in a pretty box concealing truffles or

“Some brides say, 'My mother is going to die if I don't have a tchotchke.'”

VICKY JOHNSON, WEDDING PLANNER

a cupcake. "The good thing about food is that somebody will always eat it," notes planner Terri Carter (Benchmarkevents.com). The latest trend in that arena is the "candy bar," a buffet of sugary snacks often displayed in clear glass containers. Guests get a cellophane bag or a Chinese take-out box, then go to town scooping their favorite treats.

CONTINUED ON E4



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All for Favors

CONTINUED FROM E3

In a twist on that concept, Bob Mikolitch, director of catering for the Fairmont Washington hotel, worked with a bride who loved baking cookies. She supplied her favorite recipes, and his staff whipped up dozens of mini versions. On their way out, guests could customize a doggie bag and take recipe cards to try replicating the experience at home.

That kind of surprise unveiling near the event's end "gives a final oomph to the last hour of the wedding. It's all about the unexpected," Mikolitch says. Food-centric favors also provide a sugar rush for tiring dancers and a cake alternative for

folks who just say no to fondant.

Another popular option to fill that niche: luxe lollipops. Couples may opt for cheesecake scoops on a stick, or they can call on a company like A Sweet Idea (Asweetideaonline.com) to set up a station where guests can have images of themselves imprinted on chocolate lollipops.

Greenstein, however, steers her couples away from edibles. "It's nice to have that nosh, but with food, you eat it and you're done. The point is to make it last," she explains. Even with virtually no budget for the favors, you can make a CD. ("Although it's cheap, and people know that," she admits.) With a little more effort and cash, couples can cobble together

Greenstein's new favorite idea — the family cookbook. "It has Grandma's cookies, the fish dish he's famous for, the pasta carbonara she made for that great dinner party," she explains. Just laminate the pages and stick them on a binder ring, and you're done.

Gifts aren't totally off-limits, of course (except for maybe those votive candles). If they capture an aspect of the couple's personality, there might be nothing better. That way, they don't need a monogram to be memorable, which means guests are more likely to keep using them — even if the couple isn't married five years later.

BAR NONE: At a candy bar, guests fill bags or boxes with favorite confections.



COURTESY BENCHMARK EVENTS

The real secret to favor success is putting some thought into them, Johnson says, which isn't always easy when dealing with the never-ending list of other concerns related to throwing this epic bash. Her most recent bull's-eye came from a couple whose invitation featured the image of a groom in a fez presenting his bride with a jewelry box. So, at the wedding, when ladies got jewelry boxes and gentlemen got fezzes, everyone felt in on the joke. Even better: They wore them onto the dance floor. "It turned into a free-for-all, with all of those tassels spinning," Johnson recalls.

So, remember, when all else fails, there are always silly hats. VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

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A Place in the Fun

Head to the craft store to create witty, memorable DIY place cards

When it comes to wedding seating arrangements, you have a few options. A) Enlist a pushy family member to escort guests to their tables. B) Let anarchy reign as guests snatch up seats next to their buds, giving you flashbacks of elementary school field trips. Or C) Give everyone a card that leads them pleasantly and directly to their assigned seats.

Sure, craft stores and Web sites sell place cards and holders and frames by the dozen, but if you're feeling inventive, you can break out of the folded-paper rut by pairing cardstock with some artful accents from a craft store. (We like A.C. Moore). Designers, beware: You will end up spending more cash and time if you go the DIY route. These designs each took only two to five minutes to throw together, but when multiplied by your guest list, those minutes will add up.

But if you have a short roster — and some willing friends and family — glue, glue away.

1 GARDEN PARTY

Spongy reindeer moss gives this combination a rainforest-y feel. Plug the flower pot (49 cents) with the moss (\$4.49 for 2.5 ounces). Found in the garden section of the craft store, this feathery butterfly (\$1.29 cents for a set of two) is attached to a bendable wire. Stick the wire in the moss and then fold the butterfly over a place card.

2 BEACH BASH

Pair a wee bucket (\$1) with some sand (\$2.49 for a 2-pound bag) for this whimsical display. Add an accent like a beach-ball sticker (\$1 per sheet) to the card, which can be tucked askew

into the sand as if it washed up on the beach.

3 DOUBLE-TIMER

Make that place card do twice the work by attaching it to a small pillow box (\$1.49) containing reception favors, like chocolate or matchbooks. We dressed up this simple version by looping a band of ribbon (\$1.99 per spool) around the middle and gluing the place card to the front.

4 MESSAGE ON A BOTTLE

Fill an artful miniature vase (99 cents) with colorful glass pebbles (96 cents for a bag big enough to fill two containers). Attach a place card to a T-pin (\$2.39 for 100) with tape or glue and stick the pin into the top of the container. JULIA BEIZER

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 This Texas-based press' paper plate announced a picnic reception and arrived complete with plastic cutlery. Above, the bold colors and blocky typefaces of this concert poster-esque invite create a vintage vibe. (866-487-3801, Inkylipspress.com)



PAPERZEST
 Couples can rein in an invitation's many parts with pocket folds, far right, ribbon wrappers or this one-piece, origami-like Save the Date card. (703-945-4469, Paperzest.com)



Greet Expectations

Choosing wedding invitations once meant either ivory cardstock or bold, daring ecru. Today, "we still see brides loving something classic and traditional, just with a twist," says Laura Ching, co-founder of Weddingpaperdivas.com. And some are more twisted than others (see the paper plate above). Most of our picks here range from \$6 to \$11 per ensemble, including invitation, reply card and envelopes. **JULIA BEIZER**



PARKLIFE PRESS
 Travis Friedrich's one-man shop in North Carolina creates delicate letterpress designs using novel typography and simple motifs, as on this elegant leafy tree design. (919-360-7746, Parklifepress.com)

PAPER SOURCE
 Crafty types can learn to make complex styles like peekaboo pockets and layered rectangles in Paper Source's classes. The company also prints custom letterpress designs, like this bird-bedecked card. (Locations and schedule at Paper-source.com)



WEDDING PAPER DIVAS
 Traditional layouts meet modern fonts on Eternity (right, \$3 per ensemble). Or toast an engagement with the Champagne card (\$130 per 100, 866-594-1226, Weddingpaperdivas.com)





KAREN SAYRE/EIKON PHOTOGRAPHY

← MOST OUTRAGEOUS RECEPTION

Anya and Joe Carpenter

HOW DOES ONE TOP GETTING MARRIED IN A CASTLE? (Albeit one in Brooklandville, Md.) Contortionists, to start with, Joe, 29, and Anya, 26, can tell you. As guests nibbled appetizers after the two wed Nov. 2, “two of my sisters did a contortion hand-balancing act,” says the groom, whose large family is rife with performing artists. Jewish chair lifts and Russian leg-kicks came later: “Even the grandmothers were getting as low as they could.” Other highlights included a love song written and performed by Joe’s older sister. But it wasn’t until the end of the night, “when everyone was nice and toasty,” that they broke out Russian and American-style karaoke — and another sis sang. This time, though, it was less ballad and more rap: “It was actually rather dark for a wedding setting,” recalls Joe. Only one thing was missing, sadly: “We went way over-budget, of course, and decided not to hire a clown.”

↓ MOST METRO-Y MEETING

Diana Paez-Cook And George Cook

READING THIS ON A PACKED METRO CAR? Look beyond the armpit precariously near your face — true love could be just an awkward step away. It was for Diana, 29, and George, 31, who married Dec. 15. On the Red Line at Metro Center during the evening rush, Diana was dismayed to hear that the train was delayed. Then, “there among all of the arms holding on, coats and books, I saw him,” she recalls. “I looked, and he was looking at me. He smiled; I smiled.” When the car emptied a bit at the next stop, George made his move: “I’m so glad we’re not claus-



MAURICIO ALANIS

ophobic,” he said to Diana; she had his card when she got off at Dupont Circle. And to think, if Metro hadn’t had issues, they never would have met? Diana thinks it was inevitable: “After we got together, we ran into each other on the Metro at least two more times. I guess fate was making sure we’d meet.”

“Then, ‘There among all of the arms holding on, coats and books, I saw him.’”

THE BEST OF

B.I.O.

Each Friday, By Invitation Only provides Express readers a peek into the lives of engaged couples. Our crack B.I.O. team sorted through a year’s worth of meetings, proposals, first dates and traditions (old and new) to find pairs who reminded us why the page can be so fun to do. Here, we follow up with seven who made us laugh, made us go “awww” or just made us wish we were invited. Hint, hint, future B.I.O. subjects.

KRIS CORONADO (EXPRESS)



DANIEL BUI

↑ MOST INAUSPICIOUS MEETING

Sally Do-Chen & Ben Chen

HOW BEN CAUGHT SALLY’S EYE at a 1999 College Park house party could easily have been a scene from “Superbad.” “I was passed out on the couch,” says Ben, 30. “Then you woke up to throw up, and everyone standing nearby jumped back and hit the DJ’s equipment,” says Sally, 27. Not exactly a fairy tale. They didn’t interact again until 2003, when, bored in a hotel room on a business trip, Ben saw her online and sent her an instant message. A few electronic quips later, they met at Dream. Without IM, both agree, their May 12 nuptials wouldn’t have happened. “I don’t think we would have stayed in touch,” admits Ben. “I was enjoying single life at the time.” All the while, his future wife was just an LOL away.

→ BEST FAMILY TRADITION

Elizabeth and Cary Greene

The day before their wedding, most couples run around frantically, fretting over last-minute details. This pair just ran. A 5K. At 8 a.m. “My brother and sister had a 5K race at their wedding,” says Cary, 31. “They called it the ‘Cold Feet Classic.’” He and Elizabeth, 24, followed suit with “The Race to the Chuppah,” June 2 in Baltimore’s Patterson Park. Elizabeth sported a cap reading “bride,” complete with veil; Cary’s bore a little rose. The 40 participants even got entry forms. The waiver, says Cary, noted that “weddings are a hazardous activity and Elizabeth and myself couldn’t be responsible for bad dates and dancing.” Prizes — “First Couple,” “First Bridesmaid,” etc. — came after. “For me, the best part was that everybody let me win,” says Cary. Is another wedding race on the way? “The next, I suppose, would be by my nephew, but he’s only 4,” he says. So, plenty of time to train.



NED BONZI



VENDOR PHOTOGRAPHY

➔ **ODDEST FIRST DATE**

Erin and Blair Miles

SOME MIGHT SAY THEIR FIRST DATE was a delicate situation — after all, delicates were involved. “I actually thought, ‘Is he going to see my underwear? All my dirty clothes?’ But you don’t want to say no when a guy you like asks you out,” says Erin, 26, of her first date with Blair, 29, to a Laundromat. One day, her law-school classmate was fretting about “how he hadn’t had a chance to go to the Laundromat, and how he went to this cool one with pool tables and video games.” A few minutes later, they had a date: Saturday, 7 a.m. “I forgot detergent because it was so early,” she says. Have they returned to the fateful spot since they married Sept. 22? Alas: “We have a washer-dryer in our new place, so it kind of defeats the purpose. But it will always hold a special place in my heart,” says Erin.

⬇️ **BEST CAKE**

Lindsey Swanson And Terry Burcham

Cutting a pristine wedding cake the first time is never easy, but for Lindsey, 25, and Terry, 37, slicing into their groom’s cake was even more upsetting: They’d be wrecking a building. “I was a little reluctant,” Terry says of their miniature Guggenheim Museum. “But as soon as we cut into it and people tasted it, it was not a problem.” The Guggenheim? The vanilla and raspberry-filled museum — created by Cakes Unique — was part of the wedding’s “Architectural Fusion” theme. “We designed our invitations



KEN HAYDEN

using a Piet Mondrian print pattern as the background,” explains Terry. The altar was four plain white cubes, and wire models of the Taj Mahal, Hancock Center, Eiffel Tower and Big Ben decorated the reception site. Does the Guggenheim itself hold special significance for the pair? “I wish it were something as romantic as that, but we both really like the building,” Terry says. “She’s been inside it. I, unfortunately, have not.” So he’s eaten it but hasn’t visited it? “Exactly, which is unfortunate.”



➔ **BEST GUEST BOOK**

Katie and Tyler Morell

“I’VE WANTED ONE AT MY WEDDING since I was a teenager,” Katie, 28, admits. A 10-foot cake? A candlelit, rose-strewn aisle? Nope. A photo booth. After phoning carnivals with no luck, she stumbled across Boston Photobooth, booking it just three months before her Oct. 7 marriage to Tyler, 27. (“It actually was the easiest part of the entire wedding.”) Instead of signing a formal guest book at the reception, guests queued to take wacky snapshots, and some even came prepared with fake mustaches. And, “the drunker people got, the better the photos were.” Not realizing that, in addition to the pics they kept as favors, a second copy was destined for the guest book, some pals got a little racy. “It was out of control near the end! There were pictures of my friends from high school without tops on,” laughs Katie. As for the happy couple, “it was great because we got to cut in line.”

“There was a line for the booth the entire evening — it was usually five couples deep.”



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mates of honor

➔ **Every bride** wants to be breathtaking on the Big Day. You know who else wants to look breathtaking? The bridesmaids, and their style can reflect yours without involving the words “seafoam” or “taffeta.” For your own dress, know that sleek silhouettes are in and that beading is mostly showing up as trim. Strapless frocks are still popular; retro halters also look ideal on the aisle. “Brides want to feel sexy, but they don’t want to look cheap,” says Woodbridge, Va., gown designer Aimee Lauren. For maids, pick similar lines and fashionista details. That way, they’ll focus on your “I do,” not their own fashion don’ts. **ASHLEY JOY PARKER**



1 Save the Romance for Me

In a grand ballroom with a black-tie dress code, Pamela Roland’s ruffled silk chiffon gown (\$3,445, Saks Jandel, 5510 Wisconsin Ave., Chevy Chase; 301-652-2250; also on cover) marries elegance and couture glam. Play up its Ginger Rogers charm with Edina Kiss earrings and a pearl necklace (\$148 and \$130, Edinakiss.com), and a bejeweled tiara (\$305, Promise, 4931 St. Elmo Ave., Bethesda; 301-215-9232). Badgley Mischka’s drapery chiffon bridesmaid style looks ready to sweep down the red carpet, but it’ll also work on a church aisle or under a tent at a winery wedding (\$300, Promise).

HAIR AND MAKEUP FOR ALL, VICTORIA STILES; MODEL, ASHLEY THOMAS. BOTH, T.H.E. ARTIST AGENCY.

2 I’m With the Sand

Making promises on the beach doesn’t mean the bride should wear a caftan. A strapless frock (\$2,725, Harriet Kassman Bridal Salon, 5300 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-363-1870; Harrietskassman.com) from the new line of cotton wedding dresses feels cool and looks lovely from Nanaimo, B.C. Beaded trim means you should keep accessories simple, like earrings (\$120, Maple Ave. W., Vienna; 703-255-3300) and a sleek veil (\$90, Trousseau). The bride looks well in Shoshanna’s linen A-line dress (\$395, Urban Chic, 1626 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 338-5398), which pairs as well with bare feet as with strappy sandals.



“BRIDES
WANT TO FEEL
SEXY, BUT
THEY DON'T
WANT TO
LOOK CHEAP.”

AIMEE LAUREN, BRIDAL GOWN DESIGNER

3 You Garbo, Girl!

It's TCM, not HBO, that dominates your TiVo, so take a cue from retro screen sirens like Jean Harlow and Myrna "The Thin Man" Loy with local designer Aimee Lauren's organic silk-satin sheath (\$2,750, 3710 La Havre Place, Woodbridge, Va.; 888-494-4945; Aimeelauren.com) paired with a pearl necklace (\$38, worn as bracelet, Trousseau), Edina Kiss earrings (\$158, Trousseau), an elbow-length veil (\$140, Trousseau) and Two Lips shoes (\$80; Piperlime.com). Attendants also radiate vintage va-va-voom in Betsey Johnson's lacey, tea-length frock (\$380, Betsey Johnson, Tysons Galleria; 703-442-3940) that cries out for red lipstick and upswept hair.

4 The Short Story

You're walking down the aisle to your favorite Sonic Youth song, and you and your honey wrote vows based on that episode of "Gossip Girl." For a wedding that's decidedly, delightfully different, Shoshanna's halter frock (\$330, Urban Chic) rocks with a hair pin and Yellow Drop earrings (\$63 and \$44, Trousseau), a clutch (\$44, Trousseau) and blingy sandals from Two Lips (\$80, Piperlime.com). Mom won't dig the hiked hemline? Take a cue from Christina Aguilera, and be beautiful in every single way for the ceremony in a trad gown, then don this number for the reception. Sisters by your side go edgy, too, in Nicole Miller's bubble hem silk trapeze dress (\$385, Nicole Miller, Tysons Galleria; 703-821-1630).

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TLC, NOT THC: Hemp's shucked its loaded connotations. Rawganique.com's Eco-Couture Belle Epoque gown, \$349, is made of the sustainable, chemical-free fabric.

**Something
~~Blue~~ Green**

An Earth-friendly wedding doesn't have to trouble the happy couple

You know the words to "An Inconvenient Truth" by heart, you'd recycle your grandma if you could, and you really respect the plight of polar bears. But at your wedding, you

don't want to treat friends and family to granola and a "Kumbaya" sing-along. Now, thanks in part to couples' raised awareness of environmental issues and to wedding vendors' efforts to meet this rising demand, there's a happy medium at which you can do your part without feeling uncomfortably crunchy.

"I would consider us environmentalists," says recently married Cheryl Mackay, 33, "but not the

Greenpeacers on street corners and all that. We wanted to minimize the waste in a mainstream way — we weren't interested in making a political statement." Mackay wed Corey Norton, also 33, this past October at Woodend Sanctuary in Chevy Chase,

“I would consider us environmentalists, but not the Greenpeacers on the street corners and all that.”

CHERYL MACKAY, BRIDE

where part of their rental fee doubled as a donation to the estate's environmental programs.

Similarly, 27-year-old Trish Nowoslawski, who will marry Justin Kenlon, 27, in June, said she wanted their event to be as eco-friendly as possible ("within reason"). Sustainability "is a big part of my life, and I've done a lot of reading about how easy it is to



GRASS IS GREENER: Cheryl Mackay's green wedding was held at an energy-efficient venue with tons of outdoor space.

do," she says. "Just little, tiny changes that make a difference."

It's true — it doesn't take much to add a tinge of green. Hire a digital rather than a traditional photogra-

pher, or a DJ like Evan Reitmeyer (Mydeejay.com), whose company offsets its carbon emissions and runs a paperless office. Maybe you'll choose a green hotel for your out-of-town

guests, or, instead of buying new, look on Craigslist.com or rent what you know you'll use only once. "It's the type of stuff I don't think anyone even noticed," says Mackay.

In that spirit, we've gathered some easy wedding tweaks ranging from mini to medium to major.

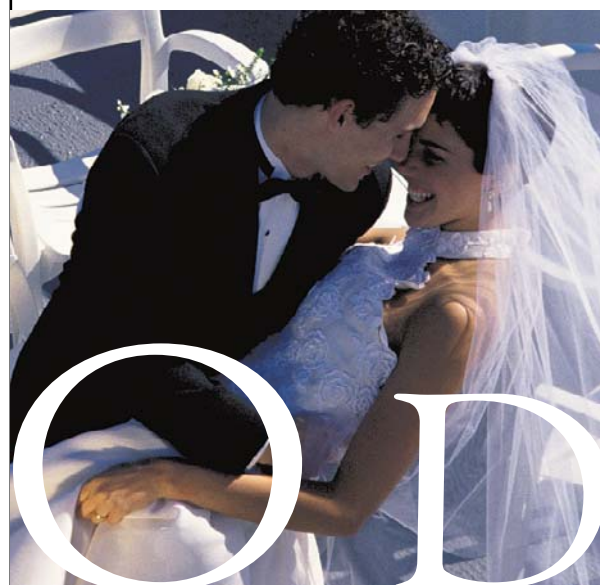
Invites

→ **GREEN:** Calligraphy is expensive, but it eliminates the inks and chemicals that might be used in a commercial printing process.

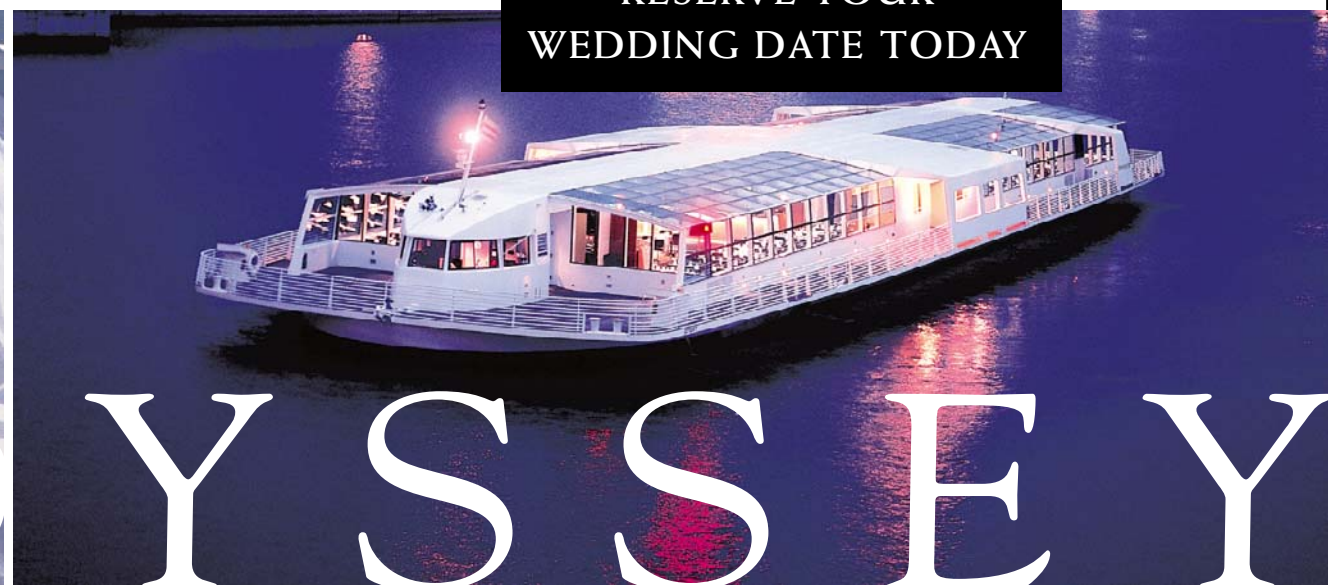
→ **GREENER:** Look for locally sourced paper, either recycled or made from cotton, a renewable resource. Logan Circle's the Written Word (1427 P St. NW; 202-223-1400), for instance, sells soy-based inks printed on U.S.-made cotton paper.

→ **GREENEST:** Skip the paper invites and e-mail/call your guests. Build a Web site with the pertinent details and send guests to it for info. Or do as Mackay did: She and her fiancé sent invitations but included only one extra slip of paper. "We put a little bird on it that said, 'To support our conservation efforts, go to our Web site to RSVP.' That's as aggressive as my husband was willing to go," she laughs.

CONTINUED ON E17



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3. Describe when times were tough, but you stayed together and forged ahead.
4. If you were to use a TV show, movie or book for the theme of your wedding, which would you choose and why?
5. What would you do if... you arrive at the church on your wedding day and the roof has fallen in?
6. Would you rather get married in a lime-green prom ensemble from the 1970s, or include all your exes in the wedding party?

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The most compelling and creative entries will be selected as finalists. The finalists' answers and photos will be published in Express, and readers will vote for their favorite couple. See readexpress.com for complete official rules and details.

See readexpress.com for complete official rules.

No purchase necessary. Entrants must be engaged, 21+ years old, and a resident of the District of Columbia, Maryland, or Virginia. Employees of Express, The Washington Post and contest sponsors are not eligible. Entries must be received by midnight February 3, 2008.



BARBARA VON ELM

Peonies grow locally, so why settle for blooms from across the globe? "I don't think people really understand how far flowers travel," says Barbara Von Elm.

Something Green

CONTINUED FROM E15

Flowers

→ **GREEN:** Reuse ceremony flowers as reception centerpieces. Planner Laura Auer of Soiree Special Events (Soireespecialevents.com) says it's as simple as checking with your florist, who may be heading back in your direction anyway.

→ **GREENER:** Buy pesticide-free flowers, so their area of origin stays clean and/or less-polluted.

→ **GREENEST:** Harvest seasonal posies from a friend or neighbor, or buy from a local farmer. This is tougher for a winter wedding, but still possible: Cindy Brown, assistant director of Greenspan Gardens in Fairfax County, suggests using brightly colored berries or dogwoods, which have red, pink or gold branches. If you don't want to give up flowers entirely, talk to Barbara Von Elm (Growingwildfloral.com), who

combines imported and home-grown blooms (from her Delaplane, Va., farm) for her clients.

Food

→ **GREEN:** Donate your extra edibles to a local food bank. Some don't have the staff to pick up food from an evening reception, but for

“I don't think people really understand how far flowers travel.”

BARBARA VON ELM, FLORAL DESIGNER

a lunchtime meal, brides shouldn't run into problems.

→ **GREENER:** Locally grown, in-season organic food has much less of an impact on the earth than pears flown in from China.

→ **GREENEST:** Ban meat. The folks at

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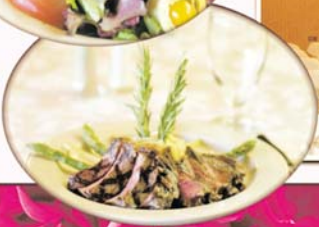
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SEEDS OF LOVE: Cargo's Plant Love lipstick line has a pile of green gimmicks. The tube's made of corn; the box grows flower

Something Green

CONTINUED FROM E17

PETA are right: Vegetarianism and veganism really are better. For the environment, at least. According to a 2006 UN Food and Agriculture Organization study, the international meat industry is responsible for 18 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions — even more than transportation.

Dress

→ **GREEN:** Borrow accessories instead of buying, and ask bridesmaids to buy a dress they'll wear again. Or, if you must have it all match, ask your entourage to donate their dresses to the Glass Slipper Project (Glasslipperproject.org) or Fairy Godmothers Inc. (Fairygodmothersinc.com), organizations that give dresses to underprivileged teens come prom time.

→ **GREENER:** Buy a vintage wedding dress. Poshgirlvintage.com has a wide selection that varies weekly. And Brides Against Breast Cancer's sales of donated dresses benefit Making Memories, a non-profit that grants the wishes of breast cancer patients.

→ **GREENEST:** Consider a gown made from sustainable materials, such as hemp. Rawganique.com and others sell organic hemp wedding dresses; hemp's a renewable, quick-growing resource that requires few to no chemicals to grow.

Venue/ Transportation

→ **GREEN:** Consider a reception spot that supports the environment, like a museum, garden or arboretum. At the Philip Merrill Environmental Center in Annapolis, one can admire views of the Chesapeake Bay from inside a LEED-certified building.

→ **GREENER:** Use shuttles or hybrid vehicles to move guests from the ceremony to the reception. Bonus points if you arrange for group transporta-

Look locally
for a cozy little B&B to hole up in — it cuts down on your carbon footprint."

ANNA POST, ETIQUETTE EXPERT

tion to get your out-of-town guests to and from the airport.

→ **GREENEST:** Hold the ceremony and reception at the same venue, or within walking distance of each other. Nowoslawski is doing this at the Decatur House, and the hotel is five blocks away.

Hair/Makeup

→ **GREEN:** Cargo Cosmetics' Plant Love lipsticks (\$20 each, Sephora) come in a compostable tube made out of corn. Plant the box and it'll sprout a patch of wildflowers.

→ **GREENER:** Look for the USDA

National Organic Program seal, which signifies at least 70 percent organic goodness inside. Or, set a natural tone with non-product-shellacked hair. Go "more relaxed, with loose, natural-looking waves — something any hair type can accomplish with a great stylist and a good blow-dryer," says Fred Hawck, event-styling specialist at one80 Salon on K Street.

→ **GREENEST:** Skip the nail salon. Several chemicals in polish have been designated by the EPA as potentially harmful.

Honeymoon

→ **GREEN:** Calculate the CO₂ your airplane trip will emit, using a calculator like the one at Terrapass.com, then buy offsets — money that funds the development of wind, solar or other renewable energy products. Warning: Carbon offsets are a controversial topic right now, with many debating the pros and cons.

→ **GREENER:** Select a hotel at Greenhotels.com. They're responsible for many of the changes occurring in the hotel industry — notably, those little cards in the room that ask you to reuse your towels.

→ **GREENEST:** It's official: Being green shows good taste! Anna Post, great-great-granddaughter of etiquette maven Emily Post, suggests: "Look locally for a cozy little B&B to hole up in — it cuts down on your carbon footprint and keeps your dollars in your local community." RACHEL KAUFMAN

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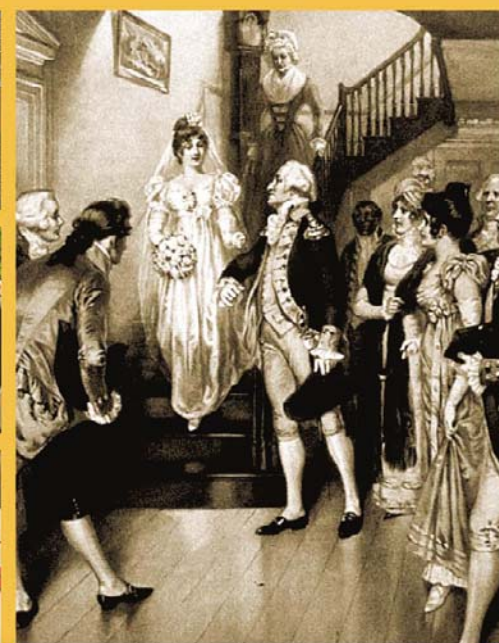
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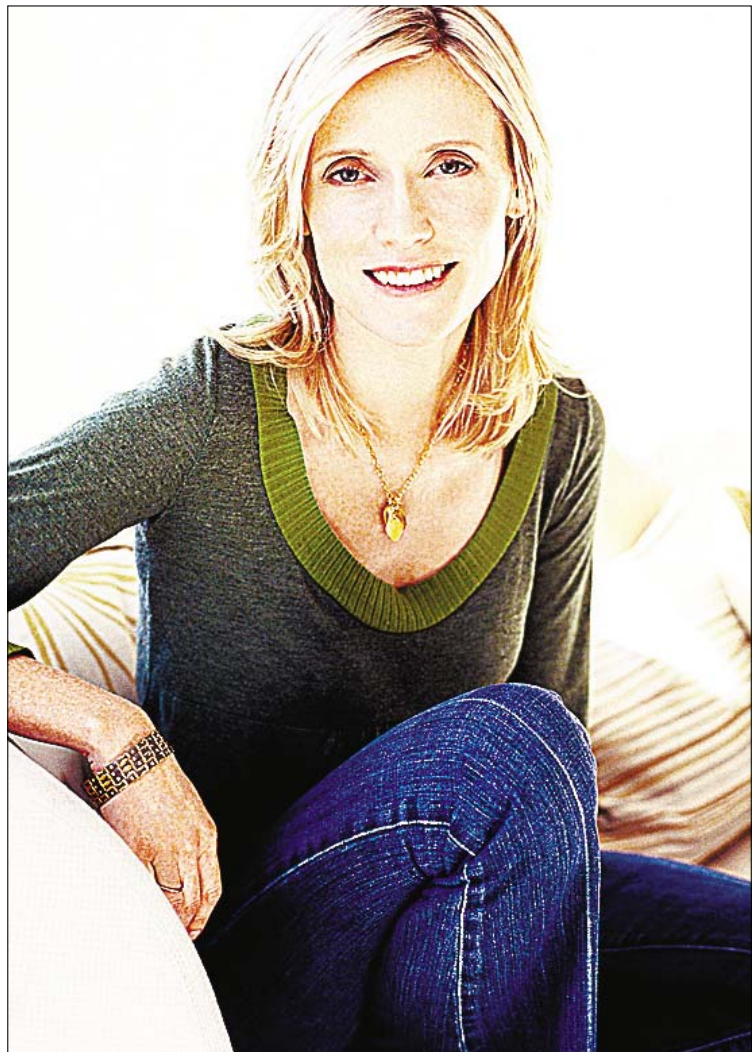
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Carly Roney got married on a budget of \$5,000 but kept guests jolly with sangria.

The Big Day: It's Knot Easy

Nuptials are no problem if you follow this book's handy checklists

Devoted users of Theknot.com — or “knotties” as this particular tribe refers to its members — know Carly Roney, the adorable blond guru of all things wedding. The site’s “Ask Carley” feature covers the tricky matters of taste and etiquette that accompany the modern wedding. Roney and the other editors of the Knot recently released “The Knot Book of Wedding Lists: The Ultimate Guide to the Perfect Day, Down to the Smallest Detail,” a series of

checklists and bullet points that map out the road to wedding success for brides and grooms to be.

Last week, we got the opportunity to have a little “Ask Carley” of our own, in which she dished about the book, bridezillas and the perils of a cash bar.

What are you trying to accomplish with this — the Knot to-go?

We realize that there are so many people that are going to do in-depth research about all of these different categories, but they need a very simple, straightforward, go-to source of every single little item in a list form that they can just check off. Have we made this decision yet?

CONTINUED ON 23



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Knot Easy

CONTINUED FROM E21

Have we asked ourselves this question? Here are the 13 things we need to remember to bring with us to the ceremony. Here are the 14 questions we have to ask this vendor when we go to visit them.

How can brides prevent getting overwhelmed by all the to-dos?

We basically said we want to make it less overwhelming by the fact that it's broken down, but we're not going to shy away from the fact that all those things are "to-do."

Yes, it might be overwhelming to look at all those to-dos, but with the book, you should have the confidence that you're not going to be panicked at the last minute. It's not like you can't glaze over certain things. You might be like, "You know what? I just don't care about transportation. I'm going to delete that entire chapter." We wanted this to be a book that, by the end of your process, you probably just want to throw the heck out; it's really meant to be a working manual.

Why did you decide to include little tidbits about wedding traditions?

To keep it fun. It's cool to know that getting married on a half-hour has meaning in Chinese tradition about starting your relationship on an upswing. It's good cocktail party conversation — not just the questions you need to ask your florist.

What are some of the biggest pitfalls that await brides and grooms?

Good people go wrong most often in two categories. One, the guest list. They start talking about the wedding to everyone, then they feel backed into a corner to invite everybody that they've talked to. And that's not just the bride and groom; that's the moms. They're talking to their friends at the manicure salon and then all of a sudden, the reality strikes that they're only having 250 people at that wedding and that doesn't actually include your friends from the manicure salon.

This all ties in with budget, too. People spend money before they know how much money they're going to spend and can get themselves into a real pickle when they have that drop-dead gorgeous \$7,000 wedding dress and realize, "Hmm, maybe there won't be a cake."

I think the other thing is not

knowing what's important to them from the start. Your average bride wants every single thing to be a priority, and that's simply not realistic. And your friends will hate you.

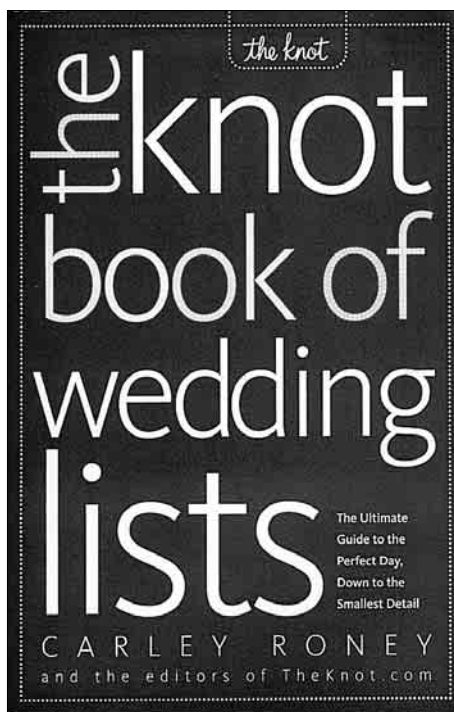
OK: Bridezillas. What happens to these otherwise normal people?

I think this "unbearableness of brides" is anxiety. This is the day where you are being seen for "all that you are" by everyone you know, so every decision you make, in the background, you're thinking, "What will my boss think about this? My sister always thought I was cooler than I really am; maybe I should choose the cooler thing."

It's not often you get to throw \$30,000 into your own Broadway show, so I respect how anxiety-pro-

duced in certain parts of the country, but now that guests come from all over, you can't expect everyone at your wedding to know the rules of your local area. So, we're trying to make some nationwide expected standards. We're not saying, "You must do it this way. Who cares how much it costs?" We try to give you workarounds for it because we know that none of us have as much money as we'd like to have to throw our wedding. My wedding cost \$5,000. And I found a way. I just had sangria at my wedding because I couldn't have an open bar. But it was a festive solution; people still had something to drink. And, you know, I'm sure my uncle wanted his whiskey on the rocks, but it didn't create that complication for everyone.

“
Yes, it might be overwhelming to look at all those to-dos, but with the book, you should have the confidence that you're not going to be panicked at the last minute because you forgot things.”



voking it is, because you are in the limelight. I think people lose perspective on the fact that it's the relationships that matter most — not the color of the bridesmaid dress.

The Knot sometimes shows an editorial opinion — when plus-Is are OK, why cash bars are out. How do you come up with these "rules"?

We try to balance what we know are the realities of people's lives and the feedback. We do a lot of surveying of wedding guests and something like the cash bar, for example — people are just so bummed out about that. We're trying to translate for you: It's not worth it. Buy the cheapest beer you can think of. And we know that it's very accept-

Your wedding only cost \$5,000?

For flowers, I had an aunt and I was, like, "Can you get some flowers and decorate the place?" And she just bought potted plants and put them in baskets and put them everywhere. Was it the most glamorous look on Earth? No. Did it feel festive? Yes. My wedding was not ready for the pages of my own magazine.

What you don't want people to do is, "Oh, we don't have any money. OK, so we're going to take two friends and go to city hall and have a quiet dinner and it'll just sort of be a non-wedding." The people I know who have done that are kind of like, "Eh, it kind of would have been nice to have all of our friends there." JULIA BEIZER

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