

# style

INSIDE

- Exclusive *Broadside* interview with comedian Lewis Black! **Style | B6**
- Mason professor leads double life as actor and teacher, check him out on **Style | B9**
- Two of Mason's students have released an EP. Learn more about them. **Style | B11**

5

The number of lucky fans who got to kick back with Enrique Iglesias onstage during his Patriot Center performance.

## Fans Swoon for Enrique

*Iglesias Kicks Backs With Concert Goers of All Ages at Patriot Center Show*

**GABRIELLA LEONE**

*Staff Writer*

Enrique Iglesias and Aventura, a Bachata music group from New York, rocked the Patriot Center last Friday night, with Latin beats and hundreds of screaming women, both young and old.

Iglesias opened up the concert, by rising from underneath the stage, singing a rock version of "Not In Love." The audience went insane and began screaming and throwing underwear on the stage; and this was only the first song. Iglesias asked "Does anyone in here know Spanish?" before he seduced the crowd with his song "Solo En Ti."

"D.C., how are you guys tonight? You all look beautiful," Iglesias said as fans cheered. "Are you guys younger or am I just older? It's been a long time, D.C., let's have fun tonight."

Iglesias' songs are usually very romantic, with a Latin pop spin to them, but at the concert, his songs held that Latin flavor, adding a new rock and roll element. Iglesias kept it laid back; he wore faded jeans, a t-shirt and a baseball cap, showing fans he is just a normal guy who also happens to be a Latin superstar.

Slowing down the energy of the crowd, Iglesias sang "Nunca Te Olvidare" followed by the classic track "Cien Años," a song about how no matter what changes in life, certain lovers are never forgotten. The audience sang along, swaying their arms to the beat and reaching their hands out to the stage. Iglesias then quickened the pace with fan time favorites "Rhythm Divine" and "Bailamos."

Iglesias had black couches

set up on stage, and pulled people up from the crowd to sit with him. Friday night's lucky audience members were two men and three girls. Iglesias chatted with them about their lives, took pictures with them, sang with them and took shots of vodka with them.

"I need a drink, you guys want a drink?" he said, grabbing a bottle of Grey Goose Vodka. He even allowed a man from the audience to rock out on stage and sing one of Iglesias' songs. Iglesias cheered the man on, throwing his arms around his shoulders and even bowing to him.

After the couches were removed, Iglesias returned to the stage to finish the night with his most popular songs. He ran up and down the stage runway, touching fans' hands, letting them sing into the microphone and encouraging fans to throw up their cameras so he could take pictures of his face, his stomach and as he leaned back and pulled at his pants, he even aimed the camera down his pants to snap a picture.

As silver paper confetti flew everywhere, Iglesias finished the night singing "Be With You," "Dimelo" and "Hero." When singing "Hero," he brought up an older Latina woman and serenaded her. She grabbed his butt, and even gave him a few kisses, leaving him laughing and grabbing her butt as well, all in good fun, of course.

He came out one last time, saying goodnight and thanking the audience, when to everyone's surprise a teenage girl climbed up on stage and ran to him. She threw herself at him, hugging him, kissing him and Iglesias was a good sport. He threw her up over his shoulders, said

goodnight to the crowd and brought her off stage.

Iglesias' songs were romantic, youthful and fun, like his concert, but Iglesias really made everyone feel like they all knew him, as if they were all old friends just hanging out with him.

After Iglesias finished his set, around 10:30 p.m., most of

the older audience left, leaving young teenage girls awaiting Aventura.

Aventura came out to blasts of fireworks and flashing lights, sending chills of excitement through the audience. Lead singer Anthony "Romeo" Santos took control of the band as he went up and down the runway and stage screaming, "Buenos

noche, D.C. How's everyone doing? Let me hear you scream."

Although Aventura was loved by the crowd, it was apparent that the favorite of the night was Iglesias. The audience started getting smaller and smaller throughout Aventura's performance until there were really only teenage girls and their parents left.

The Kings Tour will continue through October in the United States and tour dates can be found on ticketmaster.com.



Enrique Iglesias performed at the Patriot Center to a screaming fan-filled audience last Friday.

PHOTO BY TEDDY MEIER/ASSISTANT PHOTOGRAPHER EDITOR

## Family Weekend Almost Here

*Relatives of Mason Students Invited to Visit Campus*

**MARIA CIANFICHI**

*Broadside Correspondent*

The weekend of Oct. 17 to Oct. 19 is the eighth annual Family Weekend. The Office of Orientation and Family Programs and Services is the main sponsor of Family Weekend. While the OFPS coordinates the main events of the weekend, they work closely with a variety of other organizations around campus including Student Activities, Student Government, the Alumni Association, and the Office of Housing and Residential Life.

The goal of Family Weekend is to allow students and their families to reconnect at George Mason University, and feel a part of the Mason community. Often, this is the first time that many freshman students and their families are able to explore Mason since orientation.

In order to make Family Weekend 2008 a success, the OFPS staff has been working hard, planning and organizing since the start of summer. Some staff members have even been organizing various thoughts and ideas since April, said Assistant Director for Family Programs and Services, Katie Murray.

Veteran Family Weekend-goers will be pleased to see the return of several of Family Weekend's traditional events. Mason Madness, arguably the weekend's most popular event, will take place on Friday, Oct. 17. Pre-madness celebrations will start at 7:30 p.m. in the Patriot Center and will include light refreshments, face painting, prizes and a live performance by Sunset Shootout. Doors open at 9 p.m. and at 9:30 p.m.

Mason Madness will kick off the 2008-2009 basketball season. Mason Madness is an event not to be missed as it builds "spirit, excitement and a sense of community," says Murray. Another Family Weekend favorite is the annual Book Presentation. This year's presentation will feature author John Dau, who will be speaking about his memoir about three young Sudanese men, "God Grew Tired of Us."

The memoir was made into a documentary and won the Sundance Film Award in 2006. Dau will be in the Johnson Center Cinema on Saturday, Oct. 18 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Returning again this year will also be the popular "Get Entertained" interactive family game show.

Held in the JC Atrium at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 18, families will be able to compete against other families and test their knowledge of Mason trivia. The winning family will receive a \$200 cash prize.

In addition to Family Favorites, OFPS will be introducing several new events this year. On Friday from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the North and South

Plazas will be a "Taste of Fairfax." This event will allow families to sample the local restaurants while conversing with academic deans, professors and staff.

While this event has been present in the past, this year it will be done on a larger scale and aims to be one of the more popular events of the weekend. Mason will also be welcoming comedian Lewis Black who will be featured at the Patriot Center on Saturday Oct. 18 at 8 p.m. Tickets for the show are already on sale and can be purchased either at the Patriot Center Box Office or at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

Mason students can purchase a max of two discounted tickets to Black's show in the Student Activities office in Student Union Building 1 Room 101 for \$10.

For more information on Family Weekend, visit [www.masonfamily.gmu.edu](http://www.masonfamily.gmu.edu). Besides featuring a weekend schedule, the Web site provides links and information about hotel bookings for out of town family members. Murray urges "everyone: students, faculty and staff, to come out and be a part of Family Weekend. Even if your families will not be here, Family Weekend will still prove to be a good time."

# breastival.

## Breastival® Is Back

**KRISTEN WHITE**

*Broadside Correspondent*

Not only did last Wednesday mark the beginning of October, it also was the start of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which will be kicked off at George Mason University with the campus' annual Breastival®. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 8 in the Johnson Center North Plaza. The event, whose theme this year is "Save the Hooters," provides students with educational information about breast cancer to raise awareness. This festival will include games, food, and prizes to inform students about the dangers and prevention methods of breast cancer.

Off-campus sponsors and supporters of the event include the Mautner Project, the Breast Cancer Network of Strength, I'm Still Me, the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer, the Young Survival Coalition, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the Tigerlily Foundation. The main on-campus sponsors of this event are the Office of Alcohol, Drug and Health Education, Feminist Ninjas, the Student Nurses' Association, and Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. Danielle Lapierre, who is the assistant director of the Office of Alcohol, Drug, and Health, is one of the many planners of the event.

Breastival's main focus is to make the Mason community more aware of how to detect breast cancer and how to prevent it. There will be booths set up around the North Plaza to help inform students about performing self-exams and information on local resources relating to breast cancer will be given to students. There will also be plenty of games and free food to promote this event and get the students involved.

"Dining Services will provide delicious breast shaped cupcakes

and tasty cookies. At this year's Breastival, stress relievers, hanging shower cards, t-shirts, and cups will be given away. All of these items represent our 2008 theme, Save the Hooters," said Lapierre.

Games will also be available to the students such as "Pin the Nipple on the Boob," "Guess How Many Gumballs This Bra Can Hold," "Celebrity Boobs," "Breast of Show," "Booballoon Toss," and finally, "Breast Fact Jeopardy." Students can win prizes from these games and gain information about breast cancer along the way.

In the Mason Hall Gallery, breast castings from women of the Mason community will be displayed as art between Oct. 27 and 31. "In addition to the educational materials, fun games and free food and give-aways, with the help of trained casters, participants can even cast their breasts in papier mache," said Lapierre. This gallery is designed to promote more awareness, while helping women to become more secure with their bodies.

To follow up Breastival®, Breast Health Awareness Workshops in the JC Northwest Second Floor Alcove will take place on Oct. 15 and 21. This event, facilitated by the Breast Cancer Network of Strength, will ensure that the information about detecting breast cancer is broadcast. A question and answer session will be held after the information is presented, along with lunch.

Anyone is welcome to participate and enjoy the festivities that Breastival® offers. For more information on these events, call or e-mail Danielle Lapierre, Assistant Director of the Office of Alcohol, Drug and Health Education, at 703-993-3690 or [dlapierre@gmu.edu](mailto:dlapierre@gmu.edu).



**Family Weekend 2008**

# Lewis Black Speaks With *Broadside*

## Dishes on Upcoming Patriot Center Show and Fear of Flying

**KERRY SHEATS**

*Copy Chief*

Lewis Black, the comedian known for his social satire and enraged performances, is coming to George Mason University Saturday, Oct. 18. I had the chance to speak with him about his tour, his performance style and our mutual distaste of candy corn.

**Broadside:** Of this leg of the tour, what are you looking forward to the most?

Lewis Black: Just to make what's going on seem funny.

**Broadside:** So, why did you pick Mason to perform and not a major D.C. location?

LB: I've done shows a while back in the Warner Theatre, so I did that a little while back. George Mason came about because we were thinking of initially of possibly doing a special for Comedy Central there. And also, I like playing schools.

**Broadside:** Are you going to gear this part of your act towards college students at all?

LB: College students go to the same shit as real people, but I gear a portion of it to them. It's essentially the same show...But mostly, I talk about what's going on. And a portion of the act is about losing my virginity, so that works.

**Broadside:** What is your least favorite part about touring?

LB: Having to get on a plane to get to the tour bus. Or any time I have to fly.

**Broadside:** You don't like flying?

LB: No, I like flying. I don't like being in airports. When you do it as much as I do, you just dread it. I have to actually spend an hour prepping myself not to scream at people.

**Broadside:** Speaking about screaming at people, are you really that angry at candy corn or is that just your shtick?

LB: No, I think it's a pretty disgusting candy. I just kind of stumbled on doing this. As a kid it was just disgusting to me, and that's where the humor comes from, what makes me angry. Candy corn really makes me angry.

**Broadside:** How did you find out that your way of performing—being angry—would be successful?

LB: A friend of mine told me to go on stage and start yelling and screaming and he wasn't angry and I was angry and I should really express it. I did it and it just worked and then I began to really work on it...and it really seemed to be the key to what I was doing.

**Broadside:** What was your childhood like? Were you funny in school?

LB: Yeah, I was funny. I hung out with a bunch of really funny people, so it's kind of a prerequisite for the group I was in. We were all kind of funny and it kept me on my toes. My mother is very funny and so is my dad.

**Broadside:** When did you discover that you could make a living out of being funny?

LB: 20 years ago.

**Broadside:** How did that come about?

LB: I just started to work clubs as a

headliner and was making what I consider to be a pretty good income. Because I'd been making nothin' so it was a pretty good income.

**Broadside:** What are your thoughts on the 2008 presidential election?

LB: I think it's beyond disturbing. It's like nothing I've ever seen. I literally treat it as—I think it's to the point where it's fiction. I couldn't write what I'm watching. I think it's like waking up every day and somebody gave me LSD. It's nuts. I would not have expected a black man to be running for president in my lifetime and I certainly didn't expect a woman with absolutely no qualifications to be running for vice-president...So to me, as a result, it's fiction. And that we could have a president who has died and we would end up in a position where when we're looking at who could take over, that neither of them really seem to be prepared...it looks bad...I would have expected more at this point.

**Broadside:** I read in one interview that you said that you don't have a very good memory, so is your act kind of ad-libbed, or do you perform it so many times that it just becomes second nature?

LB: I don't have a good memory in terms of day to day things. But my act is something that is the focus of my day and I have friends who watch it and I have tapes but I really do it so much...I'm back working after 10 days so it's always a bit of a slip-up with remembering stuff, but I would say that I remember 90 to 95 percent... And then I just talk about stuff that occurs.

**Broadside:** Is there anything else that you'd like to comment on?



Lewis Black will be performing during Family Weekend at the Patriot Center.

LB: Just that I'm looking forward to coming back to the D.C. area (he was born here, and raised in Silver Spring, Md.). I like visiting it a lot...I think it's a great area.



ANDY MINOR, STYLE COLUMNIST

## LIFE IN A. MINOR

### THE CANDLE BURNED OUT LONG BEFORE THE METAL EVER DID

I was a little disconcerted a few weeks ago at the response I got when I was telling some people about how I used to listen to a lot of metal in high school but over time I sort of grew out of it. I mean, I still enjoy throwing my hair around and having a good time, but for the most part I find most heavy metal these days just sort of runs together and fails to discern itself from the other bands performing in the genre. One of the people involved in the aforementioned conversation couldn't stop saying how "sad" it was that I had essentially lost my metal-enjoying ears. This put me off a little bit; I don't think of myself as "sad" because I don't listen to that much metal anymore, I just simply don't enjoy it as much as I used to. And in no way had I lost my ear for it.

Obviously the person who thought this was a metal head, and I can see where he's coming from, as I would get mad if someone said they "grew out of" the Beatles or James Brown or John Coltrane, et cetera. But at the same time his comment made me think a lot about why people grow out of some styles of music and not others. In my case I seemed to grow out of the ideas that metal stood for and I lost interest in what these bands were trying to tell me. Still, there were many bands I enjoyed in my youth that, though I don't really listen to them regularly, I still revere as talented and still enjoy their music whenever I happen to come across it. For example, I don't listen to Led Zeppelin

every day like I did when I was a bona fide Led-Hed in high school, but I still enjoy a good tune now and then and I won't turn off the radio if a Led song is on. At the same time, I listened to a lot of Metallica back in the day and now I can hardly stand them. Now why is this?

One of the reasons could be because Metallica is the only band I've ever seen get progressively worse with every album they record. I still have a lot of respect for the songs on "Kill 'Em All", but I heard their new song on the radio the other day and I couldn't stop laughing at how terrible it was. How could a true thrash metal band turn themselves into the most commercial, overrated musical act of their generation? Some blame the Napster fiasco, others blame the death of Cliff Burton. I blame the fact that the more metal you make, the worse it gets. Is there any metal head out there who would argue that Ozzy wrote better songs after the death of Randy Rhoads? Most '80s metal bands were all one-hit-wonders, and if they ever tried to branch out it showed how truly untalented they really were. Sure, you can down a pint of Jack Daniels and buy a white Ferrari, but if you try to live that life for too long you burn out.

Now, I'm not here to discredit the obvious exceptions to the rule. For every bad metal band out there you have your Megadeth, Iron Maiden and Judas Priest to carry the flame. But these three aforementioned bands (plus others, which I mentioned last

year in my "Top Ten Metal Bands" article) found a sound and stuck to it; they realized the true extent of their music and stayed within its boundaries. Every Iron Maiden song sounds exactly like every other Iron Maiden song, and they're all great because you don't expect too much from them. Motorhead barely ever changes keys, and they're one of the greatest metal bands ever. You can also look at a band like DragonForce, whom I have nothing but praise for, and recognize that with their face-melting guitar solos and mythical/fantastic subject matter, the entire band is a parody of the genre they play in. The only reason they aren't a novelty is because they pull it off to an extremely high degree.

I guess what I'm trying to get at here is that metal inherently grows out of itself, and that's why people—at least people who listen to as much music as I do—seem to grow out of it as well. The bands that have the most success don't try to do too much with it, and the bands that fail are the ones that see metal for more than what it really is. I'm also only really making the beginning of my case, as my article is hardly long enough to really express my true views on the subject. But let me close with saying that I do in fact love metal, it's just different for me now. And if you want to be a metal head, then be my guest, I just want to point out how metal sets itself up for ultimate failure. At the same time, maybe that's what it's trying to do.

## Things to Do Around Fairfax

### Despite Popular Belief, Fairfax Provides Plenty To Do

**DAVID GREENE**

*Broadside Correspondent*

We often think that all there is to do in a 20-mile radius lies in our brightly-lit neighbor to the east. But how much do we really know? Many of us who live on campus are provided with enough options that we feel we do not need to leave in many cases and those of us who commute from points in Fairfax County and beyond stay here long enough to go to class, smile at a few friends and go home. But what about those times when we are sitting around campus between classes with little to do? Or perhaps resident students are curious to spice up their weekends. Many do not know there are plenty of curiosities in and just around Fairfax to be discovered.

First, the city has provided a wonderful way to get around with the CUE bus system that weaves through the streets of Fairfax. If one was to simply ride around for a while, a number of possibilities would be uncovered. Best of all, the bus is free to all Mason students with their Mason ID.

Taking the bus into the center of the city, one can find a huge array of activities to occupy their time. There of course are new restaurants like Mamma Lucia and the Metro Silver Diner. Mamma Lucia, if you couldn't guess from the name, is an Italian place. They serve pizza by the slice and other options like pasta, salads and sides. What's more, Mason

students can get a 15 percent discount on most items. Just half a block up University Drive on the corner of North Street, the Metro Diner, which is open until 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday, caters to students' late-night cravings with their extended weekend hours. The food there is phenomenal, their service is speedy, and they have an innovative way of placing your order.

Maybe you have had your fill of good food, but you want something more hands-on. There is a craft shop on Main Street called Paint Your Own Pottery with over 600 varieties of pottery for every occasion, or for no occasion at all. The staff will glaze and fire your artwork for you, and call you for pick-up upon completion.

If you are shopping for a bargain, there are plenty of places to do that as well. There is the obvious destination on Main Street of TJ Maxx for name-brand overstock. Farther down the street near Pickett Road at the Fair City Mall, is Five Below for your quirkier needs like oversized totes or beer bong—the inventory is ever-changing. As students of a very community-oriented school, however, there are places we can shop to make our dollar do better things. Consider Yesterday's Rose, a non-profit thrift store. It too is located on Main Street near Stonewall Avenue. Besides operating costs, every cent you spend goes directly to humanitarian and outreach programs. They also accept the donation of new and

gently-used items and articles of clothing.

Speaking of community outreach, there are a couple of farmers markets in the city that aid in the sustainability of local produce. The Community Farmer's Market—located at the corner of West and Main Streets and open on Saturdays, and the Fairfax Farmer's Market—found in Van Dyck Park and open on Tuesdays—both provide locally grown fruits and vegetables as well as other goods like jewelry and fresh flowers. These establishments will close at the end of this month, Oct. 25 and Oct. 28 respectively, so be sure to take time out and do your part.

For something year-round, be sure to visit the Fairfax Ice Area on Pickett Road.

They are open seven days a week and even offer ice skating lessons. If skating isn't your thing, then check out the movie theatre, Cinema Arts, just down the road. They offer mainstream and non-mainstream movies, often at discounted prices. They also host various film festivals throughout the year. University Mall Theatre offers movies to Mason students with their ID for only \$3. Every Saturday at midnight, they have a showing of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and one should not miss this cult classic.

Fairfax is not a large city by any means, but there is plenty of room to stow away some great things to be done.

## SNL Sends Up VP with Fey, Queen Latifah

**JAKE COYLE**

*AP Entertainment Writer*

NEW YORK (AP) It's starting to feel like Tina Fey is running for vice president.

Fey again returned to *Saturday Night Live* to play Republican Vice Presidential Candidate Sarah Palin as the sketch comedy show continued to pull out all the stops in its election year season. Queen Latifah dropped by to portray Thursday's debate moderator, PBS's Gwen Ifill, and cast member Jason Sudeikis stepped into the role of Democratic Vice Presidential Candidate Joe Biden.

The *SNL* take on the week's political events has become a dependable part of the news cycle this fall, offering near-immediate parodies of the presidential candidates, Democrat Barack Obama and Republican John McCain, and their running mates. The show—particularly the opening sketches—have resonated with higher ratings for the NBC program and increased traffic on its Web site where early-to-bed viewers catch the talked-about sketches in the days after.

Saturday night's opening sketch of the VP debate appeared likely to garner similar buzz thanks to Fey's popular Palin impression. Winking and giving answers not always directly related to Queen Latifah's questions, Fey's Palin said that if she was elected, her decisions would be guided by considering "what would a maverick

do?"

At the end of the segment, she asked with flute in hand, "Are we not doing the talent portion?"

Palin was runnerup in the 1984 Miss Alaska contest.

Sudeikis, with hair slicked back and a tight-fitting suit, portrayed Biden as conflicted in his feelings for McCain, whom he called "a raging maniac and a dear, dear friend."

Saturday's *SNL* concluded the opening run of four straight shows — including three with guest appearances from Fey, a former cast member and head writer for *SNL* whose day job is starring in, producing and writing for NBC's *30 Rock*. The network has said her appearances on *SNL* are being decided on a week-to-week basis.

The show has shown its willingness this fall to cast from beyond its current lineup. Last week, former cast member Chris Parnell returned to play Jim Lehrer, the moderator of the first presidential debate.

*SNL*—which was hosted Saturday by Anne Hathaway with the Killers performing—will get its first weekend off this week. But it will still capitalize on election campaign fodder with the first of three prime-time "Weekend Update" specials beginning Thursday.

Style is looking for writers!

E-mail [style@broadsonline.com](mailto:style@broadsonline.com) for more information

# New Club Celebrates Its Coming Out Mason Apollonic Society Unites LGBTQ Community

EMILY SHARRER  
Style Editor

For a little over three weeks, George Mason University doctorate candidate Jaap Weel has been working to make the Mason Apollonic Society, an organization promoting a sense of community for LGBTQ graduate students, faculty, staff and allies, a reality. Weel, the new president for the group, has had help from Treasurer Jen Wolf and Vice President Dan Waxman, as well as Ric Chollar, associate director of LGBTQ student affairs, who has agreed to become the organization's faculty advisor. Although the club has not been officially enstated at Mason, that hasn't stopped the Mason Apollonic Society from planning their first big event. After all, the LGBTQ graduate student association wouldn't want to miss putting on an event for National Coming Out Day, one of the largest celebrations for the LGBTQ community.

In coordination with Mason's week-long celebration of National Coming Out Day, the Mason Apollonic Society is planning a National Coming Out Day happy hour, planned for Saturday, Oct. 9, the official date of coming out day. Having the happy hour on National Coming Out Day is significant to the LGBTQ community according to Weel and will provide students with a low-key, unstructured social event that allows for plenty of face-to-face interaction.

"On a large level there is a need for equality. Everybody is encouraged to take the next step in coming out, no matter what that step may be . . . This is a day where we celebrate everybody's own decision about outing themselves," said Chollar.

Those interested in attending the happy hour will meet in the lobby of the Arlington Original Building on Mason's Arlington campus.

"It's important to build community, and this event links the George Mason campuses between Arlington and Fairfax," said Waxman.

Thus far, the Mason Apollonic Society has gotten a board of officers together and found a faculty adviser, but there are still a number of steps the organization must go through to become recognized as a student organization. Next, the club must write a constitution and submit a formal application to Student Activities.

"We want to seek official recognition so that we can use university facilities and money to promote ourselves and host events, and generally better fulfill our mission of building and bringing together the LGBTQ graduate and professional student community," said Weel.

Although Pride Alliance, a Mason organization that promotes education and resources for fostering respect and diversity on campus, Weel felt that the need for a similar organization for graduate students was great, especially after a previous Mason LGBTQ graduate organization became defunct.

"We felt that there was a demand among LGBTQ graduate and professional students for a way to connect with their direct peers in a way that is targeted specifically to them," said Weel. "We plan to center events around both the Fairfax and Arlington campuses since many grad students attend class in Arlington."

According to Weel, in the future the group plans to focus mainly on social events that can help the graduate and professional student LGBTQ community grow and connect.

"It's all about brining people together and building community," said Waxman.

To learn more about the Mason Apollonic Society visit the group's Web site at [www.apollonic.info](http://www.apollonic.info), check out their facebook group or e-mail one of the group's officers at [board@apollonic.info](mailto:board@apollonic.info).

# Springsteen Rocks Obama Rally in Philly

MARY CLAIRE DALE  
Associated Press Writer

Bruce Springsteen called the Bush presidency "a disaster" and said many Americans have "justifiably lost faith" in the American dream.

The legendary rocker interrupted a seven-song acoustic set at a voter-registration rally in Philadelphia on Saturday to praise Democrat Barack Obama and bemoan the crises facing the next president. Springsteen said that America remains a house of dreams for some, but that too many people have given up on the promise of fairness and equality.

"I've spent 35 years writing about America and its people and the meaning of the American promise — a promise handed down right here in this city," said the New Jersey rocker, whose songs often depict down-on-their-luck, working-class dreamers. "Our everyday citizens ... have justifiably lost faith in its meaning."

The rally, planned by the Obama campaign a week ago, drew tens of thousands of people to the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Springsteen approached the campaign and asked to help out, an Obama aide said. The Philadelphia event came just days before Monday's voter registration deadline in Pennsylvania.

"The Boss" also plans to perform at Obama gatherings in Ohio on Sunday and Michigan on Monday. On Oct. 16, he will join Billy Joel at an Obama fundraiser in New York City.

Springsteen cited the Iraq war, the recent economic turmoil and Hurricane Katrina as examples of the Bush administration's failures. He bookended the set with his rock classic "Promised Land" and Woody Guthrie's folk anthem, "This Land is My Land."

The Obama camp says its registration efforts have helped give Democrats a 1.2 million-voter advantage over Republicans in Pennsylvania, up from a 580,000-voter lead in 2004. The most recent Quinnipiac University poll, conducted late last month, showed Obama with a 54 percent to 39 percent lead over Republican John McCain among likely state voters.

Artist Colleen Dougherty-Bronstein, 55, of Yardley, was perhaps one of the few undecided voters on hand.

"I have concerns about both candidates," she said. "Are either of them strong enough to take on the mess that they'll be going on to?"

## Assistant Style Editor Wanted!

Interested applicants should e-mail

[style@broadsideonline.com](mailto:style@broadsideonline.com)



Artists Marian McLaughlin and Jesse Vollrath read poetry and performed their own Indie Folk Rock music at Tuesday Jams, held in Jazzman's in the Johnson Center.

# Amateurs Come Out For National Coming Out Week

DAVID GREENE  
Broadside Correspondent

Within hours of Friday night's Amateur Night Drag Show Cabaret, Ryan Allen will do what he always does before such events; become Reann Ballslee, his alter ego and drag queen extraordinaire. He will squeeze into his outfit, contour his face in all the right places, throw on his hair and heels and become a statue of perfection—and though skirts may make you nervous, and you may not know your way around a tube of mascara, he still wants you to join him. Who knows, you may end up the belle of the ball.

"Everyone is invited to perform," Allen, a senior communication major, said. "No experience needed."

The show will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the Johnson Center Bistro. When the doors open at 8 p.m., attendees may meet with the performers and mingle before the festivities get underway.

The event is free, unless, of course, you would like to tip your favorite performer. There will also be dancing, karaoke and plenty of time afterward to hang out and have a good time.

"This is a chance for folks to celebrate whoever they want to be for the night, regardless of gender or appearance or anything like that," said Allen.

Though this is not the wildly popular annual drag show sponsored by Program Board and Pride Alliance, which is always held during Pride Week in the spring, there will still be plenty of fast-paced music, red lipstick and full-length performances.

Allen said he envisions that there will be a "fabulous cast" of amateurs to tickle and tease everyone in attendance.

Friday's drag show is to celebrate National Coming Out



Reann Ballslee will be performing at the Drag Ball on Friday, Oct. 10 at 8:30 p.m. in the Bistro.

Week which is Oct. 4 to the 12 and is a chance for the Mason community to become better aware of the turmoil one goes through when he or she is trying to come to grips with his or her sexuality, and the struggles one faces when considering coming out.

The event is intended to show people that there is acceptance and community waiting to lend support, no matter who you are. "Coming out can be very stressful for members of the GLBTQ community," Allen said. "For me, the Drag Ball is a chance for everyone, even if they're not

members of the GLBTQ community, to kick back and have fun. It is one of many events Pride Alliance will be sponsoring."

This event is a shining example of how Mason embraces diversity and a wonderful opportunity to learn more about one another. Everyone is urged to come out and show support, both for the performers, and for each other. So dust off your pumps and ready your hairspray, because this ball certainly won't be a drag in the least.

## Tips from a Drag Queen

You will need:

\***Foundation:** normal foundation doesn't work well with male skin. Allen recommends to go to a foundation stick instead, preferably MAX Factor Pan-Stik which costs under \$10 at Wal-Mart.

\***Control top pantyhose or biker shorts**

\***Blush, eye shadow, eye liner, mascara and fake eyelashes**

\***White powder so blush and eyes "pop"**

\***Wig**

\***Dresses:** Allen says go to Forever 21 or H&M for in-style, fun frocks

\***High heels:** You might need extra time to shop for heels, Allen advises, since finding women's shoes to fit a man's feet can be difficult.

\***A drag name:** you can pick

something close to your real name like Reann (Ryan) did or be creative and go totally over the top with fun, imaginative names.

\***A performance number or two:** pick your favorite upbeat songs to perform to to get crowds excited. Also, dress appropriately for the song you choose to perform. "If I'm doing a Britney song, for example, I might wear a school girl outfit," Allen said.

**Keep within a college student's budget by shopping at stores like Wal-Mart, Target, H&M and Forever 21.**

*These tips were compiled from spring 2008's Drag 302 lesson with Queen Reann Ballslee*

Be a Hero!

Sperm Donors Give  
the Gift of Life &  
Get Paid

Seeking healthy,  
college educated  
students and  
professionals, 18-39  
to participate in a  
donor program.

Fairfax  
Cryobank  
A GIVF Cryobank

Conveniently located near Fairfax Hospital

Online application at [www.123donate.com](http://www.123donate.com)

Up to  
**\$100**  
per visit



## Good Grief

*Peanuts Characters All Grown-Up in Dog Sees God*

**THOMAS MCCURDY**  
*Broadside Correspondent*

The Department of Theater and GMU Players will be putting on their first studio show of the year, *Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead*, written by Bert V. Royal and directed by Patrick Magill. The show will begin Thursday, Oct. 9 and run through Sunday, Oct. 11 in the Black Box Theater located on the first floor of the Performing Arts Building.

The modern play features characters from the popular comic *Peanuts* 10 years after the comic ended. The play begins with Charlie Brown writing a letter to his pen pal, talking about how his dog died. It is here when he asks a question that is repeated throughout the entire play: what happens when we die? The play deals with controversial themes such as bullying, homosexuality, afterlife, teen sexuality, drug and alcohol abuse and death. The *Peanuts* gang has grown-up in this play, drastically changing from the young comic strip kids they once were. The play has a comical take on teenage angst, but also has a deeper and more important meaning. Patrick Magill said he chose to direct this play "because of my personal love of *Peanuts*, the ensemble cast, the coming of age teenagers finding their true selves story and the hilarious script."

The cast includes Phillip Dallman as Charlie Brown, Buffy Billone as Sally Brown, Sean Ordway as Van, Rachel Heyd as Van's sister, Kelly Hennesy as Tricia, Beth Wherry as Marcy, Michael Deveney as Matt and Andrew Hawkins as Beethoven. Throughout the show, the relationships between the characters give hints as to which character in the show portrays the classic comic strip characters. Old childhood crushes turn into teenage romances, unexpected changes of behavior occur between

characters and one of them goes crazy enough to set the little redheaded girl's hair on fire.

"It has been a good, challenging piece that deals with hot topics that exist in real life. It is a challenge to bring these characters people so commonly known into a high school world," said Dallman.

According to set designer and senior Michael Kellerher, the set pieces for the play are just as good as the familiar storyline.

"The show has a great message and a lot of humor. Being the set designer, I love seeing my ideas being built, and creating the world the play is in," he said.

The design itself is simple, yet effective, having classic images such as the wall, a baby grand piano and a little red doghouse. Costumes were done by Joanna Berezny, who captures a modern style that still brings out the comic characters in their own distinct ways. Lights and sound were designed by Chris Anderson and Adib Chua, respectively, and include video projections, live and canned sound as well as a technical phenomenon that has never been pulled off in the Black Box before, but you will have to go see the play to witness the surprise.

Limited free tickets are available to all students through the Concert Hall Box Office. Students can also purchase tickets for \$3 and non-Mason students can purchase them for \$6 either at the box office or the night of the show. With only 80 seats in the black box, and only five showings of the production, tickets are selling fast according to organizers. Dates for the show, including a free preview Oct. 8 to 10 at 8 p.m., Oct. 11 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Oct. 12 at 2 p.m. According to the cast, you do not want to miss the first show of year; it will be one that you will never forget.

## Sketch Comedy At EFF Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrated Salsation

**ADAM BISHOP**  
*Broadside Correspondent*

To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, the Hispanic Student Association and Program Board spiced things up at last week's Every Freakin' Friday event by bringing Salsation Theater Company, a Latino sketch comedy group located in Chicago, to George Mason University. Founded in 1998, the group tours college campuses throughout the United States, performing original acts with Latino-themed material.

"I enjoyed the fact that [Salsation] took different aspects of Latino culture, some good and some not so good, and put a positive and comedic spin on them," said alumna Karishma Patel. "They showed a cool control of their heritage."

The show started with a day in the life of Mercedes, one of the cast members. During the sketch, Mercedes was struggling to find a balance between raising her son and dating. She goes on a date with a new man and he has a car with a talking navigation system. After he picks Mercedes up, the navigation system starts saying "Caution, you are now entering El Barrio. Please lock your doors and secure jewelry. Do not make eye contact."

Mercedes was upset about the navigation system suggesting her neighborhood is crime-ridden. "Angry Latina in front-passenger seat," said the navigation system.

Another skit in the show featured two children visiting their grandmother in the future. They found a VHS tape labeled Menudo, from 1983 and played it in their hologram machine. The tape showed their grandmother dressed in bright tacky clothing in the parking lot of the Kmart in Fairfax.

The grandmother was very



The Latino comedy group, Salsation Theater Company, performed at Every Freakin' Friday.

excited to see Menudo and she was asked to get an autograph in their trailer. The children started to speculate that their father was the child of one of the members of Menudo. Then, out comes their grandmother, who took the tape and shooed the children off stage. "Oh, Menudo!" she said, and started reminiscing as "My Heart Will Go On," by Celine Dion started playing in the background.

"It is fun to see a different perspective of sketch comedy and culture," said Kevin Hartley, Every Freakin' Friday committee member.

Later in the show was the skit "Al Pacino's School of Hispanic Acting." The cast got the audience involved by asking them to yell out a location that would fit on stage. The audience

picked Disneyland to which the actor playing Al Pacino responded "Great, we'll do a strip club at Disneyland!"

The cast also asked the audience for emotions they were feeling to incorporate into the skit. Excited, nervous, nauseous, depressed, frustrated, sleepy and constipated were among the emotions the audience listed. The cast then performed an improv act in a strip club at Disneyland with all of the emotions that the audience suggested.

"[Salsation] incorporated Latino culture that Mason students would not ordinarily get to see. It is not normal to see comedy with this much culture," said Tara Passwaters, chair of Every Freakin' Friday committee.

"Salsation is agreeable with Latino core values across all 26 Latino nations," said Ricky Carmona, one of the cast members of Salsation, who noted that the show includes current issues that are relevant to Latino culture.

For more information about Salsation Theater Company, visit <http://www.salsation.com> or their MySpace comedy page.

Next week, Every Freakin' Friday will host Alex Winston. Program Board also is selling tickets for Lewis Black featuring John Bowman on Oct. 18 and One Republic feat. The Spill Canvas and The Hush Sound on Oct. 23. For more information about future Program Board events, visit <http://pb.gmu.edu>.

## MySpace Changes Layout

*Music Pages More Interactive And User-Friendly*

**FIZAH MALIK**  
*Staff Writer*

MySpace.com is one of the biggest social networking centers online, where people can send messages to friends, post pictures and become friends with some of their favorite bands. Though the site's music pages allowed artists to share tracks with fans and share information about their musical endeavors, the section just got a much-needed upgrade.

An upcoming artist's dream, MySpace's new music page layout is a great way for bands to showcase their music and make it available to the public. The new and improved music layout is just as accessible as the old layout, but with more advanced features to help musicians share their music with other MySpace users.

New features include the personalized MySpace music page for regular users, featured playlists, artist player, user profile player and even MySpace karaoke; the world's largest online karaoke experience,

according to the site. It gives aspiring young talent everywhere the chance to live out their rock star dreams.

The first of these features, the MySpace music page, is designed to manage new music where you can create and edit your MySpace music playlists, as well as your profile playlist, which is featured on your Web site.

With the "create your own playlist link" you can put your music on your Web site for everyone to hear.

The new layout also features an option where you don't have to stop listening to the music on your MySpace page while you browse the Internet. The new personal music player pops out so that you can browse and listen to your favorite tracks.

As well as these new features, users are also able to buy music from other playlists. There is no more need to search the web for the songs you want. It's as easy as going on to your friend's Web site and if there is an MP3 or buy music button the song, you can purchase it for your page. Users are also

able to purchase entire playlists if all the songs on the list are available for purchase.

With the new layout, there may be many questions for those who are solely dependent on their MySpace Web site for networking. The new music layout is advanced but has no implications on the actual user Web site. The only thing that is different is the new navigation bar on the site.

The new layout is fun and easy to use. If you are new to MySpace music you can click on the "new to MySpace music" link on the page, where answers to general questions about the new layout as well as the new features that are on it are answered.

A "what's new" blog, which will be coming soon to the MySpace music page, will give users a chance to blog about their experience with the new layout.

To find out more about the new layout, visit [MySpace.com](http://www.myspace.com) and click on the music link on the navigation bar. You don't have to be a MySpace addict to check it out.

## Touring Warhol Show in Ohio

**DOUG WHITEMAN**  
*Associated Press Writer*

Watch Andy Warhol's films and videos and it's easy to imagine the late pop artist feeling right at home in the current age of reality TV and Web video.

This was a man who made an hourlong film of people's random activities at his New York art studio, shot "screen tests" of subjects instructed to simply gaze into his camera for a few minutes without moving or even blinking and videotaped his own mother sleeping.

"He somehow did foretell our complete obsession with putting ourselves in the limelight, reflecting ourselves back to the world in a kind of instantaneous way, all the things that the Internet, YouTube and 'American Idol' have made possible," said Sherri Geldin, director of the Wexner Center for the Arts.

Warhol's movies and video share the stage with his more familiar Campbell's soup can paintings and colorful celebrity prints in "Andy Warhol: Other Voices, Other Rooms," an exhibition running through Feb. 15 at the Wexner, on the grounds of Ohio State University.

Columbus is the only U.S. destination for the multimedia show, which debuted in Amsterdam, Netherlands, last year. Because film and video can be duplicated and because Warhol was so prolific in painting and other media, the show also opens Oct. 7 at the Hayward Gallery in London.

Warhol, who was 58 when he died in 1987 following complications from gall bladder surgery, assigned equal importance to each of the different art forms in which he worked, Geldin said.

"All of this counted; all

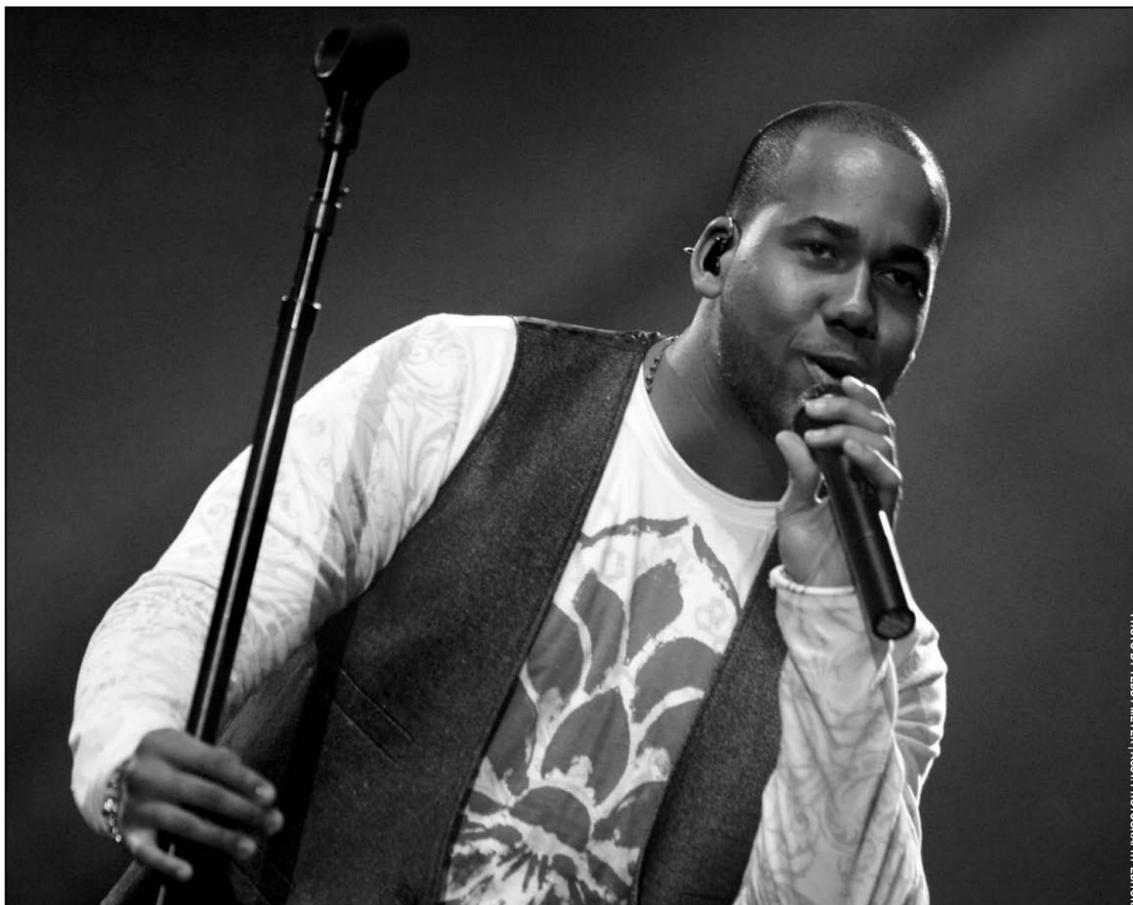
of it mattered. And if all of it didn't matter, then none of it mattered," said Geldin, who also chairs the New York-based Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

At the Wexner, visitors are greeted in the first room by a series of huge screens showing the screen tests, 4-minute black-and-white face-shots of actor Dennis Hopper, socialite Edie Sedgwick and dozens of other visitors to Warhol's art studio, the Factory, in the mid 1960s. Other faces look on from a nearby wall in the gallery, including rocker Mick Jagger's, in a series of 10 prints, and Warhol's, in a simply drawn self-portrait repeated in a pattern on wallpaper.

The show's curator, Eva Meyer-Hermann, said she wanted to make Warhol's work in moving images more accessible and show how it relates to his other art.

"These films, they were shown accompanying big (Warhol) shows, but they were hardly seen. So, they're much more written about than seen," Meyer-Hermann said in an interview from her office in Cologne, Germany.

Two other rooms feature screens opposite seating in abstract, undulating shapes. Visitors are invited to hang out watching some 20 Warhol movies such as "Horse," a Western parody with gay overtones, "Couch," chronicling the goings-on on the Factory furniture, and "Empire," an 8-hour film consisting of a steady shot of the top of the Empire State Building. The films are played on a loop and each screen has a countdown clock to the next start time, for those who want to watch — or at least attempt to watch — from the beginning to the end.



Aventura performed after Enrique Iglesias on Friday, Oct. 3 at the Patriot Center.

## Interview with Theater Company Founder

**DYLAN HARES**  
Staff Writer

**Broadside:** How did it come to pass that you founded Shakespeare and Company?

**TP:** Well I love acting and did it for a very long time. I also loved Shakespeare and it seemed like a natural next step. I decided that this was better than going from play to play.

**Broadside:** What was your favorite work of Shakespeare to produce?

**TP:** My favorite is whichever is being focused on at the time because at the time it's all you can think about.

**Broadside:** How do you like playing Queen Ophelia?

**TP:** I actually wasn't originally involved in the production, but was called on because my son is playing Hamlet.

**Broadside:** What can we expect from Hamlet by means of the production? Is it portrayed in classic Shakespeare style or has been modernized?

**TP:** Difficult to explain, but this director focuses on the language of Shakespeare and really keeping with the Elizabethan facets of it.

**Broadside:** Your son Jason Asprey plays Hamlet; how was working with him? Have you been working together very long?

**TP:** Much easier than being his mother.

**Broadside:** What is your favorite audience to play for?

**TP:** I think it would be difficult to perform for an Elizabethan audience, but I do enjoy a lively one.

**Broadside:** What kinds of things does your company do on the side if not in the middle of a production?

**TP:** We do a lot of educational things like we put on a festival for high school students who perform and watch their own plays.

**Broadside:** Do the high school students you work with seem understand the depth of Shakespeare's works?

**TP:** Yes they do. I think all people should in order to really live.

# Shakespeare & Co. Brings *Hamlet* to CFA

## Group Brings a Fresh and Creative Way to Tell a Classic Play

**DYLAN HARES**  
Staff Writer

Elaborate and convincing depictions of betrayal, vengeance, love, madness, darkness and humor are hard to find in any modern-day work of film or theater. *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare is cleverly written and deviously concocted by a man whom I believe to be more clever and twisted than most people give him credit for. In Shakespeare & Company's recent production of *Hamlet*, which came to the Center for the Arts this past weekend, a new and innovative spin was put on this literary classic.

What really can I say about any production of *Hamlet*? There is no room for criticism of the story, plot or characters since they are all classic figures in English literature. The Shakespeare & Company production started off with a trippy prologue featuring the hectic inner workings of Hamlet's mind and likely was put in place to give audience members with no background of the story an easy transition into the plot. The very first thing I noticed was the

Elizabethan language combined with modern dress and props, something which threw me violently against the back of my seat. I attributed my surprise to the fact that the director decided to take every element of a classical production of *Hamlet* except the dress and set design props and gave it to us like we would not notice. It is simply a dualism that I cannot live with. But now that I've dealt with the main thing I did not like, I can say everything that I loved.

The acting was very professionally done and each of the actors played their sympathetic and twisted characters in their own unique way. The chemistry between the actors was amazing and natural, and I could really tell that when it came to the dialogue and blocking, everything was done to preserve Elizabethan style. Jason Asprey gave an amazing and engaging performance as the often schizophrenic and crazed Danish Prince Hamlet. Despite the use of Old English as the dialogue of choice, something that lost and even bored the casual audience, a lot of the very



Shakespeare & Company performed *Hamlet* in the Center for the Arts this past weekend.

PHOTO BY RANDY URICK

funny elements went over very well and the Shakespearean dark humor really shined through the dramatic and emotional scenes. The only problem with refusing to modernize the speech is that the longer monologues and soliloquies causes the casual theater-goer to lose focus, since we're used to more modern, shorter

speeches between characters.

At the very final moment of the last scene, Fortinbras, Prince of Norway and enemy of the Danes, appears at the back of the stage behind Horatio holding the dead Hamlet in full camouflage, war paint and carrying a pistol. I thought it was completely absurd that Fortinbras came out

speaking Old English and was carrying a 9mm pistol like he was the Shakespearean Rambo to wrap up the play.

Despite this, however, Shakespeare & Company's production of *Hamlet* was great. Besides a few directional and artistic flaws here and there, I think it was a really great and relevant production which the whole audience

seemed to enjoy.

## Mason Professor Profile: Edward Gero

### Theater Professor Moonlights as Shakespeare Theatre Company Actor

**EMILY SHARRER**  
Style Editor

Associate Professor of Theater Edward Gero is not your typical academic. In fact, one might go as far as to say that Gero, in his 25th season performing at D.C.'s Shakespeare Theatre Company, warrants his own adage: those who can, do, and those who can, also like to teach. Gero, who has been teaching Theater at Mason since 1991, is well-versed in practicing what he preaches; not only does Gero teach a full course load, he moonlights as a four-time Helen Hayes award-winning actor for his work in Shakespearean, contemporary and musical theatre.

"When I came to George Mason what I brought to the university was actually the experience of being a professional actor," said Gero. "I've been in Washington for 25 years so balancing life and career has been part of my responsibilities. To act as a role model to students and bring professional standards to the classroom has been my mission. It doesn't feel like work."

Gero, who joined the Mason faculty in 1990 has performed in New York, in regional theater, on television and in films and is now riding the success of the Studio Theatre's Irish drama *Shining City*, which wrapped in June.

The teacher by day and actor by night is also a member of the Actor's Equity and the National Committee for Standards in the Arts and you might just recognize him from his performances at Mason's Theatre of the First Amendment, The Studio

Theatre, Round House Theatre or Olney Theatre.

"It's awesome that working in Washington I get to work with actors from around the world and not often, but from time to time, break out onto the national stage," said Gero.

Currently, Gero, who has been featured in over 55 Shakespeare Theatre productions, is starring as Horace Vandergelder in *The Matchmaker* at Center Stage, a leading professional producing theater company in Baltimore, Md.

Since the play's opening in September, Gero has been making trips to Baltimore on the weekends while successfully juggling a three-course class load at Mason. However, when the production draws to a close this Sunday, Gero's acting days will be far from over.

Center Stage recently named the Mason professor an Associate Artist, meaning that both the theatre and Gero plan to collaborate on other productions in the future. Also, the veteran thespian has two upcoming theatre appearances to look forward to. From January 14 to February 22, Gero will star in the Broadway comedy *The Seafarer* at Washington, D.C.'s Studio Theatre and follow it up with an appearance in *The Shakespeare Theatre Company's* production of *King Lear* beginning June 16, 2009 alongside famous actor Stacy Keach.

But that's not all, Gero also enjoys doing voice recordings for Discovery Channel documentaries, and has one that will air in November called "The President's Guide to Science."

"I do that pretty regularly,"

said Gero. "There was a writer who worked for Discovery Channel that has one foot in the professional world as a renaissance scholar and he also writes scripts for discovery documentaries."

The two developed a relationship after Gero spoke to a class that the writer brought to the Shakespeare Theatre and landed a job narrating documentaries.

"That started a long relationship with the producers at discovery channel," said Gero.

Surprisingly, Gero's acting commitments have rarely taken a toll on his teaching career, though during a production of *King Lear* in Chicago, flying back and forth between Chicago and D.C. took a toll on the actor.

"It is hectic but I get a chance to practice what I'm teaching and show the students I can hold my feet to the fire," said Gero. "It's very exciting and rewarding. It all comes back to the classroom...certainly in the performing arts you can't teach it unless you can do it whether it be painters or dancers or musicians. Teaching and doing actually go hand in hand."

Besides boasting a full acting and teaching schedule, Gero still finds time to visit Italy with his wife Marjike, a special educator for D.C. Public Schools, and 20-year-old son Christian, a junior at Northwestern University. Gero, of Italian descent discovered his passion for genealogy several years back.

"I'm very grateful to express all my passions in the theater, in teaching and in language translating and being able to have a successful balance between a career as an artist and teacher and family life," said Gero. "It's a great gift and I only hope that by example I can show that it's possible to have a rewarding and fulfilling life and thanks to GMU it's been possible."



Mason professor, Edward Gero starring as Gloucester in *King Lear* (right) alongside actor and narrator Stacy Keach, as King Lear.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EDWARD GERO

## Write for Style!

E-mail style@broadsideonline.com for more information.



## Free Tickets for Mason Students!



TONIGHT!

**VISION SERIES: JEREMY D. MAYER**  
*The Last Month in Presidential Elections, This Year and Every Time*  
Monday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m.  
Free, Tickets Required CH

**STUDIO SERIES #1**  
*Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead*  
Thursday, Fri., Sat., Oct. 9, 10 & 11 at 8 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun., Oct. 11 & 12 at 2 p.m.  
\$6 Adults, \$3 Students/Seniors BB  
Limited Free Student Tickets Available Now

**SONG AND DANCE ENSEMBLE of WEST AFRICA**  
Friday & Sat., Oct. 10 & 11 at 8 p.m.  
\$46, \$38, \$23 CH  
Free Student Tickets Available Now

**GMU OPERA**  
*Trouble in Love: an Operatic Double Take*  
Friday & Sat., Oct. 17 & 18 at 8 p.m.  
\$20, \$15 HT  
Limited Free Student Tickets Available Oct. 7

**VIRGINIA OPERA**  
*Il Trovatore*  
Friday, Oct. 17 at 8 p.m. \$86, \$72, \$44  
Sunday, Oct. 19 at 2 p.m. \$98, \$80, \$48 CH  
Limited Free Student Tickets Available Oct. 7

**TURTLE ISLAND STRING QUARTET with ASSAD BROTHERS**  
*String Theory*  
Saturday, Oct. 18 at 8 p.m.  
\$42, \$34, \$21 CH  
Free Student Tickets Available Oct. 7

**GMU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA and CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**  
Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 8 p.m.  
\$15 Adults, \$10 Students/Seniors CH  
Limited Free Student Tickets Available Oct. 14

**AVT VISUAL VOICES SPEAKER SERIES**  
*A Printmaker's Voice: the Art of Karen Kunc*  
Thursday, Oct. 23 at 7:30 p.m.  
Free HT

**GMU PLAYERS #1**  
*Shakespeare in Hollywood*  
Oct. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, Nov. 1 at 8 p.m.  
Oct. 25, Nov. 1, 2 at 2 p.m.  
\$12 Adults, \$8 Students/Seniors TS  
Limited Free Student Tickets Available Oct. 14

**FAIRFAX SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
*Angela Cheng, piano*  
Saturday, Oct. 25 at 8 p.m.  
\$55, \$45, \$35, \$25 CH  
Limited Free Student Tickets Available Oct. 14

**GMU WIND SYMPHONY and FAIRFAX WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT**  
Tuesday, Oct. 28 at 8 p.m.  
\$15 Adults, \$10 Students/Seniors CH  
Limited Free Student Tickets Available Oct. 14

**MASON DANCE COMPANY FALL CONCERT**  
Thurs., Oct. 30 at 8 p.m., Fri., Oct. 31 at 2 & 8 p.m.  
\$15 Adults, \$10 Students/Seniors HT  
Limited Free Student Tickets Available Oct. 21

Call 703-993-8888 or visit [gmu.edu/cfa/students](http://gmu.edu/cfa/students)

# Center for the Arts



# Sold-Out Shows Continue For Fleet Foxes

**MARIAN MCLAUGHLIN**  
Staff Writer

Fleet Foxes, a five-piece band from Seattle, has been non-stop touring for months. They played at a sold-out show at the Black Cat this past July that was recorded and broadcasted live by NPR, and with that exposure, plus their recent self-titled album release, they have been playing sold-out shows ever since.

The band returned to Washington D.C. Friday night, coming back through "America town" before heading overseas for more sold-out venues and festivals. A flood of fans, many sporting flannel shirts, impatiently waited for the band to begin. Frank Fairfield, the opening act, was like a character straight out of the early 1900s. Dressed in simple, yet proper attire, he plucked upon a banjo, strummed a tenor guitar, and went crazy on his fiddle. Most of the words he sang were inaudible due to his wailing style of singing, but he kept to his genuine style, impressing the crowd with his fast finger-picking and honest songwriting.

Afterwards, Fleet Foxes came on, opening with "Sun Giant," the title track off their first EP, which is a beautiful ode to Summer and Spring, consisting solely of four-part harmonies. From there on, they transferred straight into "Sun it

Rises," building it up with droning guitar strums, ethereal keyboard lines, and a delightful melody before exploding with more powerful vocal harmonies and booming bass drum kicks.

They continued to cover many of the songs off of their self-titled album, many now favorites to their fans, such as "Ragged Wood," an up-beat song painting wonderful pastoral pictures of love, wondering and wandering. The crowd cheered during "White Winter Hymnal," a definite hit that grew more popular this summer when front man Robin Pecknold's brother created a fun, yet somber



animated music video for the song.

Between songs, the band made a few political jokes about the current debates. They apologized for mentioning politics so much, but could not help bringing up the topic. One of the crowd members shouted that they saw Dick Cheney this past week at a Borders store in

Washington D.C., to which Joshua Tillman, the drummer, asked, "Are you sure it wasn't the devil?" From there they joked around more, asking what section he was in, hoping perhaps that he was checking out witchcraft or self-help.

The band took a break at one point, leaving Pecknold alone to do a few acoustic songs. Some were obscure covers, whereas two of them were "Tiger Mountain Peasant Song" and "Oliver James," two solo songs on their self-titled LP. The audience grew silent as they were hypnotized by Pecknold's lulling voice.

Although Pecknold has a lot of energy, he thrives when the whole band is together. This was shown all throughout the show, especially in epic, storytelling songs such as "Protector" or "Blue Ridge Mountains," their final song on Friday night. Some people relate their sound to the Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young and the Beach Boys. Fleet Foxes draws inspiration from those artists, but they capture their own pure and original sound, sharing their love for music and their magic with anyone willing to listen.

To hear their Black Cat show from July 7, 2008, visit <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=92089028>. To learn more about the band, visit their MySpace page at [www.myspace.com/fleetfoxes](http://www.myspace.com/fleetfoxes).

# Forensics At Mason Campus Hosts 18 Schools in Tournament

**FIZAH MALIK**  
Staff Writer

Over the weekend, if you were lingering in the halls of Enterprise, Robinson or David King Hall, you may have been startled to see many students arguing with the walls in front of them, making hand gestures and distorting their faces, but no, they're not crazy; they're in forensics.

Every year, on the first weekend of October, students from all over the nation come together at George Mason University with one goal in mind: winning.

James Madison University partnered with Mason to host the "Virginia is for Lovers" Forensics Tournament on campus this past weekend, marking the Mason Forensics Team's second tournament so far this year. In its 32nd year, the tournament is a two-day event that runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year, 18 schools showed up to compete, making this the largest college forensics tournament held during the first semester on the East Coast, according to sophomore co-tournament director Quincey Smith.

"We're really excited to not only just showcase our team at this event, but also George Mason University," Smith said.

Sophomore forensics team member Katie Miller added, "The tournament is a good precursor for the rest of the year. It shows us what we were capable of."

Forensics is public speaking and an oral interpretation of literature, with events designed to focus on each of the ways the spoken word can be used to persuade or move an audience.

Schools from all over the nation came out to compete and show off their talents in the art of speech interpretation and persuasion. The range of talent in separate events makes each event fun to watch. Students prepare their pieces of literature or speeches for months, perfecting every gesture, pronunciation of words and the quality of the work.

This speech competition gives students the opportunity to practice their talents in 11 events, which include persuasive and informative



A participant at the Forensics Tournament looks for his next event.

speaking, duo interpretation, poetry and pros interpretation, extemporaneous speaking, communication analysis, after dinner speaking, dramatic interpretation, program oral interpretation and impromptu. During this weekend's tournament, there were over 50 entrants in the tournament's largest event, impromptu speaking.

Each event is designed differently than the next, with a different set of rules.

The tournament has two blocks of rounds for each category, thus students are able to compete in up to six events per tournament. This gives them a chance to show off their range of skills in the different categories.

This tournament differs from others in the forensics world, since the first day the top six students in each category are placed and the second day there are two rounds and then a final, in which the top 12 students from the impromptu round and the top six in all other events "break" or go to the final and then they are ranked in the final round.

As well as the students

receiving awards, individual schools also get their chance to win. The first and second day of the tournament the top five schools are awarded "sweeps." This means the top five schools with the most combined points for their team are awarded. On the second day only one school is given an award for their team's performance for the whole weekend, excluding James Madison and Mason.

Since 1975, the George Mason Forensics team has ranked in the national top 35 schools for forensics. The team placed fifth at last year's national competition, and Peter Pober, director of forensics, thinks that this year's team has what it takes to make a repeat performance at this year's national tournament.

"We had a great day yesterday with 35 placements in the tournament and now we're enjoying hosting," Pober said on Sunday. "The team is so dedicated and talented."

Auditions for the spring semester will be held in early November. For more information contact Peter Pober at [ppober@gmu.edu](mailto:ppober@gmu.edu).

Have an interest in music, culture, fashion, literature, or the arts?

Become a Style writer!

E-mail us at

[style@broadsideonline.com](mailto:style@broadsideonline.com)

# Jack's Mannequin Creates Successful Sophomore Album

## The Glass Passenger Chronicles Singer's Battle with Cancer

**RACHEL PALTING**  
Broadside Correspondent

Life for Andrew McMahon, lead singer of Jack's Mannequin, has been far from typical since he started his musical career. In 2002, at the age of 19, he debuted his first full-length album with his previous band, Something Corporate. *Leaving Through the Window*, was pop-based and upbeat, leaking with piano-based hooks and memorable choruses from songs such as, "Punk Rock Princess" and "If U C Jordan."

A year later, Something Corporate released *North*, an album with evidence that the band had matured as artists by shying away from their initial pop-friendly formula and attempting an alternative sound. By age 23, he introduced his first solo project, Jack's Mannequin, with the album *Everything in Transit*. That same year, he was diagnosed with leukemia.

September 30 marked the release of Jack's Mannequin's second album, *The Glass Passenger* on Sire Records. McMahon conveys his emotions and struggles with cancer throughout the 14-track album, which includes the bonus song "Miss California." The new record is a contrast to band's first album and like *North*, the record departs from the pop-based hooks for a more mellow, more mature sound.

The record begins with "Crashin'," an upbeat guitar and piano driven track, in which McMahon cries out for his plain desire for music. In the track, he seems to ponder whether or not he'd come out of his battle

with cancer able to come back to being an artist. "Even if my voice comes back again, maybe there'll be no one listening," he sings. Well, we're all listening again, McMahon.

The next song, "Spinning," has a heavy and melodic beat, conveying a sense of confusion and dizziness. In contrast to the first two tracks, "Swim" follows with a slow tempo, allowing listeners to focus on the lyrics, which encourage listeners to keep going through life, even



when no hope is in sight. "The currents will pull us away from our love just keep your head above," he says.

McMahon temporarily leaves behind his cancer-related experiences and emotions to sing about love and sex in "American Love" and "What Gets You Off." By using contrasting melodies and keys during "Suicide Blonde," it seems that McMahon has created two separate songs between the chorus and verse. He also experiments with echoes in his vocals in "Annie Use Your Telescope" as if to convey a sense of distance between himself and the person addressed.

"Hammers and Strings (A Lullaby)" shows an introspective, almost nostalgic side to McMahon. The lyrics "These hammers and strings/Been following me

around/From a box filled garage/To the dark rock punk clubs," seem to reflect back upon his musical journey so far.

The first single off the album, "The Resolution" is a powerful, piano-driven anthem of hope. McMahon seems to relate his victory over cancer through singing, "I'm alive, but I don't need a witness to know that I survive."

The eight-minute epic song of the album, "Caves," begins as a haunting recollection of McMahon's lonely time in a hospital room. The song picks up, three minutes later, with a cascade of piano melodies layered upon each other, building up and fading into a much happier tune. However, the subject of his loneliness still remains. "The walls are caving in/The doors got locked for sure/There's no one here but me," sings McMahon.

The mastermind behind Jack's Mannequin would not let his second album end on such a melancholy note, however. Therefore, "Miss California" is typical of McMahon's classic pop-driven style, singing about his love of his home state.

McMahon has undoubtedly matured musically and lyrically during the past three years and though oddly contrasted in some spots, *The Glass Passenger*, is an overall successful sophomore effort by Jack's Mannequin.

**Students get 50% OFF**  
your first service when you show your student ID and this ad

Offer valid Sunday-Wednesday  
Expires 10/29/08  
Selected Stylists only.  
No double discounts.

**Students always receive 20% OFF**  
at BUBBLES®  
Ask your Stylist for details.  
No double discounts.

**BUBBLES®**  
SALONS

[WWW.BUBBLESSALONS.COM](http://WWW.BUBBLESSALONS.COM)

Fairfax Corner, 11946 Grand Commons Ave. 703.266.9919



The Brinkmen Ship, composed of Juniors Alex Heigl and David Long, perform at local venues.

## Mason Students Release EP

**LAUREN JOST**  
Broadside Correspondent

Juniors Alex Heigl and David Long, who have been playing together for over two years, have faced their share of musical speed bumps. But besides the absence of a constant drummer, and their different sets of musical backgrounds, the two musicians recently released their first EP. Along with friend Jeremy Duvall, and after endless months of jam sessions, The Brinkmen Ship have produced an EP worthy of the wait.

Long says that his experience was a more hands-on approach rather than a formal education.

"I picked up my father's flea market bass guitar about five years ago. Shortly after, I asked for a guitar. I have little formal experience whatsoever as I've never taken lessons or played in a serious performing band outside of acoustic restaurant gigs...and busking on the sidewalk, of course," he said.

Heigl has been playing bass since he was 15, making his way through the basement and garage band venues.

"If you don't spend your formative years playing in absolutely horrible venues with terrible equipment and no talent, then you have not paid your dues as a performer," he said.

The self-titled EP is a five-song collection of the band's eclectic musical tastes. Various genres of music are present in the album ranging from the

rockabilly "Esperanto" to the driving riffs and reggae of "Sailors Rat." Amongst the album's creative song-titles is a danceable surf rock jam named after Mason's own security staff, "Securitas."

Aside from physically creating a set of songs that can be passed amongst music lovers, the band has a sense that the act of creation is what makes this piece special.

"I was a visual artist long before I became a musician and I believe that every mode of human expression shares the same underlying process of creating tension and release by stimulating the senses and playing with people's expectations," said Long, who claims to have a love and understanding of composition and harmony in all mediums of art.

Overall, the EP has a steady feel of the "impending doom" with a mix of what Heigl describes as, "60s power trio sound like Cream and early Hendrix Experience," that moves the album forward but keeps the common thread through all of the songs. "We ended up with the rough story of a group of pirates that have been lost at sea and end up coming back to land square in the middle of a zombie apocalypse," said Heigl.

The hardest thing about stringing the songs together and keeping egos in check while writing songs is something Heigl and Long both agree upon: objectivity.

The band's biggest musical

influences are prevalent in this EP; from Ravi Shankar to Bad Brains as well as cement mixers, trains and howler monkeys.

"In my heart, [The] Beatles are number one, the Velvet Underground are number two, and everything else that rocks comprises the rank of third," said Long.

As Mason students, the duo has taken advantage of local venues to showcase their talents. In the past year, Heigl and Long played at Potbelly's, a local sandwich shop which encourages local musicians to play cover songs. The reward for playing a set lasting for a few hours is a free meal. "Obviously, the free food is a really big plus, but the atmosphere was really nice and there were occasionally people that would recognize some songs and sing along," says Heigl.

People turned out to Potbelly's on Sunday nights to hear Heigl and Long play covers from bands such as The Beatles, and Wreckless Eric. A few Mason favorites have shown up at the restaurant as well.

"Jim Larranaga came up to us one time while we were there and talked for a while when he found out we were Mason students. Local celebrity encounters like that are fun," says Heigl.

The Brinkmen Ship's self-titled EP can be found at <http://www.ourstage.com/fanclub/thebrinkmenship>, where you can hear all five of the songs in their entirety.

## October CD Releases



Annuals: *Such Fun*  
Bella Morte: *Beautiful Death*  
Deehoof: *Offend Maggie*  
Sarah McLachlan: *Closer (best of)*  
Oasis: *Dig Out Your Soul*  
The Pretenders: *Break Up the Concrete*  
The Police: *Certifiable (live CD/DVD)*  
Rise Against: *Appeal to Reason*

The Streets: *Everything is Borrowed*  
Tesla: *Forever More*  
Travis: *Ode to J. Smith*  
Michelle Williams: *Unexpected*  
Elliott Yamin: *My Kind of Holiday*  
Los Campesinos!: *We are Beautiful, We are Doomed*  
Ashanti: *The Vault*  
Nikka Costa: *Pebble To A Pearl*  
Jo Dee Messina: *Unmistakable*

Keane: *Perfect Symmetry*  
Ray Lamontagne: *Gossip in The Grain*  
The Secret Machines: *Secret Machines*  
Sixpence None The Richer: *The Dawn of Grace*  
AC/DC: *Black Ice*  
Kenny Chesney: *Lucky Old Sun*  
Brett Dennen: *Hope for the Hopeless*  
Ludacris: *Theater of the Mind*



Matisyahu: *Shattered EP*  
Of Montreal: *Skeletal Lamping*  
Various Artists: *All Aboard: A Tribute To Johnny Cash*  
Lee Ann Womack: *Call Me Crazy*

Breaking Benjamin: *Title TBA*  
Coolio: *Steal Hear*  
The Cure: *Dream 4.13*  
Emery: *While Broken Hearts Prevail EP*  
Tom Gabel of Against Me!: *Heart Burns EP*  
Kaiser Chiefs: *Off With Their Heads*  
Toby Keith: *That Don't Make Me a Bad Guy*  
John Legend: *Evolver*

Pink: *Funhouse*  
Queen and Paul Rodgers: *The Cosmos Rocks*  
Snow Patrol: *A Hundred Million Suns*  
Lucinda Williams: *Lu in 08*



**Free! Free! Free!**  
**HAPPYTIZERS**  
MON - FRIDAY 4-8PM  
AT THE BAR ONLY!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>DAILY SPECIALS 7 DAYS A WEEK 4 - 8 PM</b>						
<b>Mon - Fri SELECT APPETIZERS AT THE BAR ONLY \$4.99</b>						
<p><b>Famous BRUNCH BUFFET</b> All You Can Eat! <b>\$14.95</b></p> <p>***** <b>NFL HOUR</b> Select Appetizers and Burgers <b>\$4.99</b> NOON - 8 PM *****</p> <p><b>14 SAT TV'S</b> WE SHOW EVERY GAME!</p> <p><b>KARAOKE NIGHT</b> 10PM - CLOSE</p>	<p>★Complimentary★ <b>BUFFALO WING BUFFET</b> 4-7PM</p> <p><b>TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER NIGHT</b> 7PM-CLOSE POKER PRIZES AVAILABLE</p> <p><b>MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL</b></p>	<p><b>Ladies Night</b> NO Cover Party Starts <b>10PM</b></p> <p>★Complimentary★ <b>BUFFALO Meatballs</b> 4-7PM</p> <p><b>DJ and Dancing</b> 10 PM - CLOSE</p>	<p>★Complimentary★ <b>TACO BAR</b> 4-7PM</p> <p><b>wii wednesday</b> Tournaments compete for <b>Free Gift Certificates</b></p>	<p><b>THIRSTY THURSDAY</b> 5PM - 9PM</p> <p>Complimentary <b>BUFFALO Meatballs</b> 4-7PM</p> <p><b>The Area's Best Acoustic Bands!</b> 9pm - close</p>	<p><b>TGIF!</b></p> <p>★Complimentary★ <b>BUFFALO WING BUFFET</b> 4-7PM</p> <p><b>DJ and Dancing</b> 10 PM - CLOSE</p> <p><b>TGIF!</b></p>	<p><b>Your COLLEGE GAME HEADQUARTERS</b></p> <p>SELECT <b>APPETIZERS and Burgers \$4.99</b></p> <p><b>NOON - 8 PM</b></p> <p><b>Live BANDS and Dancing</b> 10 PM - CLOSE</p>

**Show us your Mason ID and get 20% Off!**

**Banquet Rooms - for every Occasion!**  
"50 BEST BARGAIN RESTAURANTS"  
WASHINGTONIAN MAGAZINE

# The Influence of Music

## Broadside Talks to Upcoming Band The Influence

**EMILY SHARRER**  
Style Editor

The Influence, a band out of Virginia Beach that is influenced by 90s rock movement, has quickly been establishing itself as an elite rock outfit of today by fusing acoustic and electric sounds. Band members Matthew Stephenson, Collin Cogan, William Clarke, Tully and John Zontini have toured with major bands like Silverchair and Jimmy Eat World and now, the band is headlining their own tour. *Broadside* had the chance to talk with drummer Collin Cogan about the band's upcoming Jammin' Java show this Thursday and their new EP *Dust and Sun*.

**Broadside:** So tell me the story of the band, you guys formed in VA Beach?

**Cogan:** We've been playing together for basically the last four years now and have been touring for the last two and half years up and down the East Coast.

**Broadside:** You've opened for Silverchair, Jimmy Eat World, Finger 11, The Bravery, Starting Line, Sum 41, Angels and Airwaves, Sister Hazel, Vertical Horizon and about 20 more major bands, so what is it like to finally headline your own tour?

**CC:** It's humbling, I guess. You play with bands like that and they draw tremendous crowds and they make you better by playing with them; they have their stuff together. It helps to play with [established] bands...they push you to work harder.

**Broadside:** Just for the record, which band was the best to tour with?

**Cogan:** Silverchair was I think the coolest act that we've gotten to share the stage with, mainly because we grew up listening to them. I think Matt actually got to really hang out with their lead singer, Daniel Johns, afterwards, but I actually only talked to them

a few times.

**Broadside:** Tell me about the EP. How many tracks are on it; what's the feel?

**Cogan:** The EP is a good representation of what we do live. We just wanted it to be really raw, and I think it kind of came across that way. I'm really happy about it; it's only three songs, but they really will get a good idea of what we're all about lyrically and musically.

**Broadside:** I understand you guys are big fans of '90s alternative rock, so which bands have the biggest influence on the band?

**Cogan:** I think we all love the Smashing Pumpkins. Siamese Dream is still one of our favorite albums. I'm a big Incubus and Tool fan, Nirvana, Stone Temple Pilots, Radiohead, Pearl Jam; a lot of timeless acts. These bands put out albums that people are going to be listening to for a long time. We hope that people will be listening to our music for a long time too.

**Broadside:** What's your live show like?

**Cogan:** It's gonna be high energy; it's gonna be a blast. We really hope that in general it's just sort of an emotional show. We love our stuff and we hope that energy carries over into the crowd and I think they can just sort of expect something familiar, but also something they've heard before. We're going to be covering a Tool song and that's kind of a big exciting cover, and I'm sure we'll throw



The Virginia Beach band, *The Influence* performs 90s alternative rock music.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INFLUENCE

one more in there, maybe from Michael Jackson.

**Broadside:** What about the opening bands, did you hand-pick them?

**Cogan:** We've actually never played with them, so I don't know much about them. It's gonna be a really cool show...any time we play with a new band, it's great. Everybody's different and there's nothing better than playing with a new band.

**Broadside:** Anything else?

**Cogan:** Obviously we would love for people to hit up our MySpace page or our Web site, theinfluenceofmusic.com.

We just want people to come out to the show. The live show is everything that we are and I think we're pretty good at it.

# Hounddog Doesn't Howl

## Fanning's Latest Film's Plot Raises Eyebrows

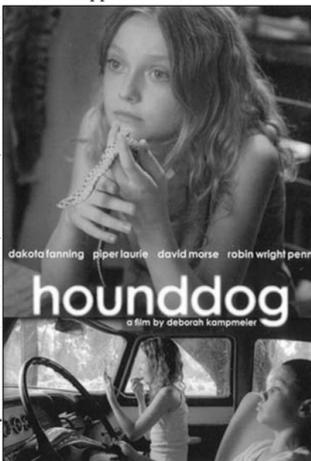
**JOSHUA HYLTON**  
Broadside Correspondent

It seems like only yesterday that we were watching Dakota Fanning star in family friendly films like *Cat in the Hat* and *Charlotte's Web*. She was adorable, irresistible, and talented. When she took on roles in *War of the Worlds*, *Hide and Seek*, and *Man on Fire*, she played the child in peril, but was still just as precious as before. Her new film, *Hounddog*, shows her maturing as an actress. She is not just a cute little girl anymore; she is a force to be reckoned with. Fanning puts on a mesmerizing performance that will shock and amaze even the most jaded movie-goers. Too bad she didn't have a better script to work with.

Fanning stars as Lewellen, a 12-year-old girl living in the 1950s South who loves Elvis' music, particularly his cover of Big Momma Thornton's song, "Hounddog." Elvis is coming to her town to play a live show, however she lives in an abusive life with a poor family who simply cannot afford much of anything. In one of her attempts to get a ticket, she is forced down and raped by an older boy. She loses sight of what she loves and must learn how to overcome her broken spirit that is weighing heavily on her heart.

You know how some movies seem to have a scene or two that don't really seem necessary to

the overall picture? This whole film is like that. Outside of a few important key moments, scene after scene felt like small, insignificant parts strung together. Plodding along at an uninteresting pace, few things that happened were relevant to



the story.

The main plotline is where the heart of the film stands. Unfortunately, there were useless side stories that mucked it up. Early in the movie, her father is struck by lightning and inexplicably loses his ability to think intelligently, which is unimportant to Lewellen's story. I found this and other unnecessary additions to the story to be confusing. Why is her father slow now? It is never

explained. Along with others, this scene was simply filler to make this production into a feature length film.

Much has been said about the controversy surrounding *Hounddog*, thanks to its rape scene with Fanning, who is only 14-years-old. North Carolina, where the film was shot, actually called for future scripts to be approved in advance because of it. Since we all know Fanning as this innocent young child she has portrayed in previous films, it is indeed a difficult scene to watch.

However, that scene is the least of the film's worries. It drags on for far too long, despite only being about an hour and a half, and ends up going nowhere. It's impossible not to feel sympathy for Lewellen during the rape, but there was nothing else in the entire film to grasp onto to really make me care. We have seen this type of story before: a girl leading an abusive life has to overcome difficulties and escape. Not to undermine the powerful nature of that story, but after seeing it so many times, it loses a lot of its impact. The script is disjointed, the side stories are dispensable and the supporting cast is weak. Fanning takes her next big step in her career with a remarkable performance. It is just a shame that it had to be in *Hounddog*.



Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds w/ Kid Congo Powers and the Pink Monkey Birds  
Monday, Oct. 6  
9:30 Club  
7 p.m. doors  
**Sold Out**

Hot Chip w/ Growing  
Wednesday, Oct. 8  
9:30 Club  
7 p.m. doors  
**Sold Out**

Against Me! w/ Ted Leo & The Pharmacists and Future of the Left  
Wednesday, Oct. 8  
Black Cat  
8 p.m.  
**Sold Out**

Of Montreal w/ Love Is All  
Thursday, Oct. 9  
9:30 Club  
7 p.m. doors  
**Sold Out**

The Influence w/ Atomic Tom, The Wellingtons and Mitch Hood  
Thursday, Oct. 9  
Jammmin' Java  
7:30 p.m.  
\$10

Girl Talk w/ Grand Buffet & Hearts of Darkneses  
Friday, Oct. 10  
9:30 Club  
10 p.m. doors  
**Sold Out**

All Time Low w/ Mayday Parade, The Maine and Every Avenue  
Monday, Oct. 13  
9:30 Club  
4:30 p.m. doors  
\$15

Janet Jackson w/ LL Cool J  
Wednesday, Oct. 15  
Verizon Center  
6:30 p.m. doors  
\$50-130

The Secret machines w/ TK Webb and the Visions  
Thursday, Oct. 16  
9:30 Club  
7 p.m. doors  
\$20

Little Feat w/ The Bridge  
Friday, Oct. 17  
9:30 Club  
6:30 p.m. doors  
\$35

Cold War Kids w/ A.A. Bondy  
Saturday, Oct. 18  
9:30 Club  
8 p.m. doors  
**Sold Out**

T.I. with T-Pain  
Sunday, Oct. 19  
Patriot Center  
7:30 p.m.  
\$40-120

Hip Hop Live Featuring Talib Kweli, David Banner, B.O.B. w/ Rhythm Roots Allstars  
Monday, Oct. 20  
9:30 Club  
7 p.m. doors \$25

Jason Mraz  
DAR Constitution Hall  
Monday, Oct. 20  
6:30 p.m. doors  
\$39

Relient K w/ Ludo, This Providence and House of Heroes  
Tuesday, Oct. 21  
9:30 Club  
5 p.m.  
\$18

Minus The Bear w/ Annuals & Sylvie  
Wednesday, Oct. 22  
9:30 Club  
5:30 p.m. doors  
\$18

OneRepublic  
Patriot Center  
Saturday, Oct. 25  
7:30 p.m.  
\$30

The Black Crowes  
9:30 Club  
Thursday, Oct. 23; Friday, Oct. 24 and Saturday, Oct. 25  
Thurs. 7 p.m. doors  
Fri. and Sat.: 8 p.m. doors  
\$45

Panic at the Disco w/ Dashboard Confessional, Plain White Ts and The Cab  
Friday, Oct. 31  
Patriot Center  
7 p.m.  
\$30-40

Coldplay  
Verizon Center  
Friday, Oct. 31  
6:30 p.m. doors  
\$50-98

**CAREER OPPORTUNITY**

**P.J. SKIDOO'S**  
THE AMERICAN WAY

**NOW HIRING!**

**ALL POSITIONS**

Food Servers - Cocktail Waitresses  
Host / Hostess - Line Cooks  
Doormen - Bar Maids

Full or Part Time - Flexible Schedule  
**HAVE FUN WHILE MAKING MONEY!**

**703-591-4515**

9908 Lee Highway  
(1/2 Mile West of Fairfax Circle on Rt. 50)

**Engaged? Living together? Married?**  
Strengthen your relationship and GET PAID up to \$200

Participate in our Nation-wide Study of couples' relationships!  
Go to <http://couplestudvus.org/Portal.aspx> to start.

**University Mall Theatres**

[www.universitymalltheatres.com](http://www.universitymalltheatres.com)

ALL SEATS FOR NORMAL MOVIES ARE ONLY \$3.00 WITH YOUR GMU ID!

**\$3.00**

**Midnight Shows**  
EVERY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT

FEATURING

**THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW**  
(Rocky tickets are \$5.00!)

[www.universitymalltheatres.com](http://www.universitymalltheatres.com)

We're right across the street!!!  
What are you waiting for?

**703-273-7111**  
(Ask about special group rates!!!)