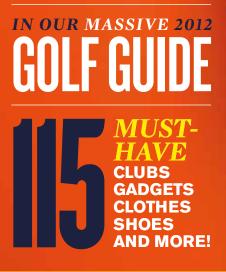
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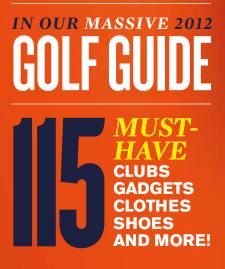
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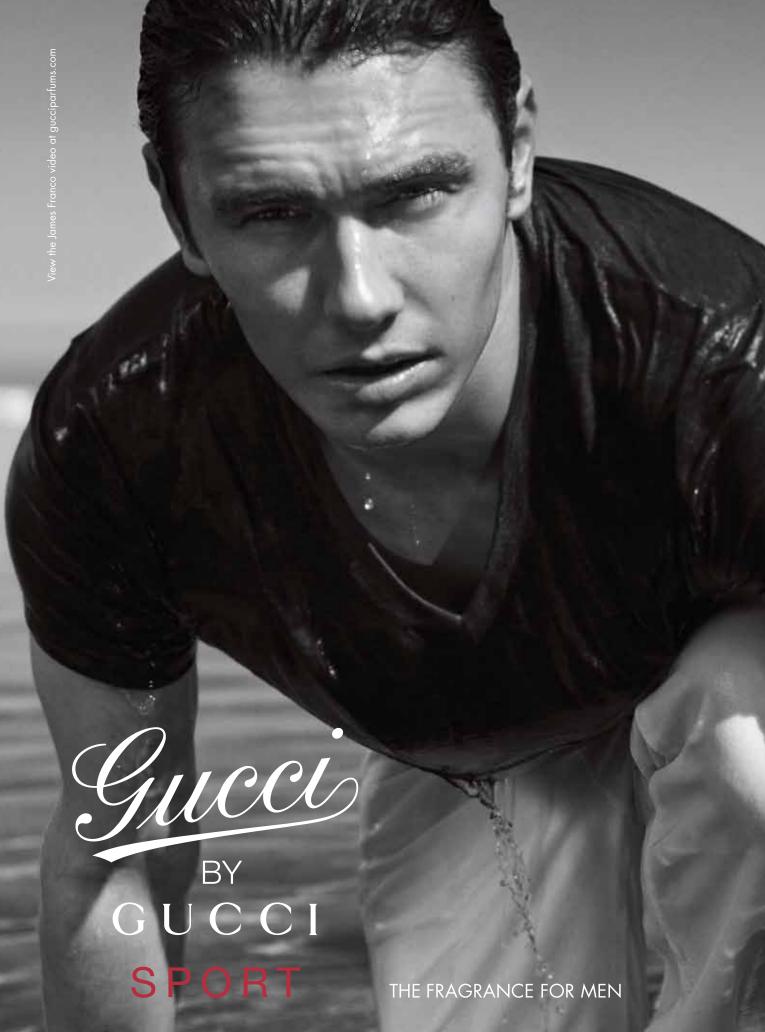
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JEREMY FREED // EDITOR-IN-CHIEF @MRJEREMYFREED

LETTERS@CONTEMPOMEDIA.CA

YOU ARE What you Wear

PUT ON A SUIT, ADOPT A NEW PERSONA.

recently attended a panel discussion on men's style, made up of a menswear designer, a stylist, a fashionable NHL player and a well-known hip-hop artist. Among the points of discussion that day was the question of what men enjoy about their clothes. The hockey player compared wearing a suit to a gladiator putting on his armour before going into battle. The rapper said he saw clothes as both an expression of his emotions and a creative outlet. The stylist admitted he feels most comfortable in casual clothes, and wears jeans and sneakers to his most important meetings. Of the four of them, the athlete was the only one wearing a suit.

Whether you're "into" clothes or not (and if you're reading Sharp, chances are you are), the clothes you wear say a lot about you. I'm not much of a suit guy. I'll wear one for formal events (and editorial photos), but like most of the guys on the panel, I'm a comfort-favouring, jeansand-blazer-wearing guy whenever I can get away with it. I'm nonetheless acutely aware of the difference between wearing a suit and not wearing one—both to myself and to others.

Clothes affect how you feel. If you've ever found yourself the only man in a room without a jacket and tie, or wearing a suit in a room full of guys in untucked shirts and jeans, you'll understand this well. In years gone by, when suit-wearing was standard for professional men in public situations, it was that much harder to stand out from the crowd. Now, men can and do dress more casually, making the distinction of formal wear that much more pronounced. For me, the ritual of putting on a suit, knotting the tie and adjusting the pocket square just so is a means of adopting a new persona. By a series of specific steps, I become a better version of myself. The confidence that comes with that is measurable.

From the outside I believe the change is no less apparent. A man in a suit (provided the suit fits him well—and the importance of this cannot be overstated) commands instant respect and credibility. People don't just look at you differently, they treat you differently.

As much as I enjoy these benefits, however, they aren't enough to change the way I dress day-to-day. Indeed, none of the guys on the panel (except the hockey player, whose job requires he wear a suit when not on the ice) seemed too concerned about ditching their jeans and boots for something more formal. It would be easy to bemoan the dressing down of the modern man, but there's an undeniable upside: the more casually men dress in daily life, the more powerful the suit-wearing man becomes. And the better the rest of us feel when we suit up for special occasions.

Instead of joining a sea of navy blue suits, men are now free to express themselves through clothes—and enjoy what they wear—as never before (as Matte Babel demonstrates on page 96). Still, I would never wear sneakers to an important meeting. And unless you work in fashion, neither should you.



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STYLE CULTURE TRAVEL GROOMING WOMEN TECH CARS

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AND OTHER MANLY PURSUITS



A PARTNERSHIP TO BENEFIT ENVIRONMENTAL CHARITIES

Leonardo DiCaprio and TAG Heuer have joined together to contribute to the Natural Resources Defense Council. «For nearly 40 years, NRDC has led the environmental movement to protect our planet. I have been a proud board member since 2003. To get involved please visit www.nrdc.org.»



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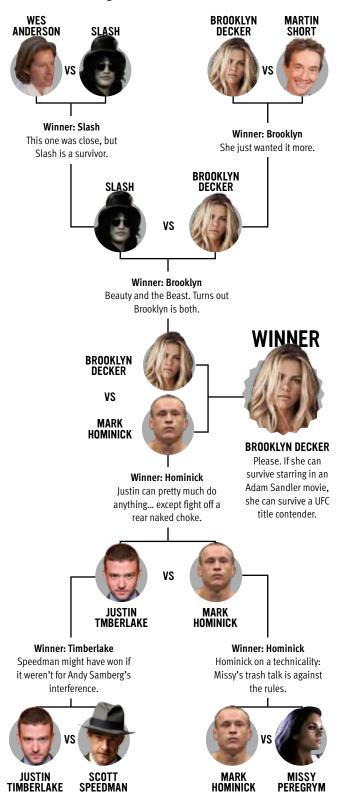
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NEW YORK MONTRÉAL VANCOUVER TORONTO

SHARP'S MAY MADNESS RANKINGS

Why should epic matchups be limited to the NHL playoffs? Or professional sports, for that matter? Herein, the people interviewed for this issue, meticulously and wholly unscientifically ranked according to who would win in a fight.





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CARS: TAMING THE RALLY FIGHTER

We heard about a Frankenstein of an automobile tearing up dirt-farms down in Arizona. It's called the Rally Fighter, and it happens to be the world's first crowdsourced car, bolted together by car enthusiasts from pieces rummaged out of automakers' parts bins. We dispatched our intrepid racing driver to tame the monster.



WOMAN: dominik garcia-lorido

You'd think Andy Garcia's daughter wouldn't have to worry about paying her dues in life. But after we spoke to the woman, she was quick to quell any such notions. You'll be seeing a lot more of her soon in STARZ's new Miami-based, '50s gangster series *Magic City.* We think she suits the look perfectly.



GROOMING: how to spring-clean your face

Spring-cleaning doesn't stop at pressure-hosing the evestroughs. A healthy-looking face is just as crucial when it comes to first impressions, and after a long, dry winter it could use some TLC. We'll show you the best moisturizer, the manliest eye cream around, and a few more essentials to brighten up that mug.



STYLE: KNOW YOUR SPRING ACCESSORIES

Does the word "accessorizing" make you uncomfortable? You should get over it—especially considering the difference a great tie clip, or a quality pocket square can make for the way you look (it's all in the details, remember?) This month, 10 headto-toe accessories from the best brands around, updated for spring.



TECH: the best apps for your new ipad

With its mind-blowing retina display and lightningquick connectivity, Apple's new tablet is as amazing as you hoped it'd be. But without the best apps, you've really only got a great-looking coaster. Here, we'll show you how to watch HBO on the go, a golf program that'll improve your swing tenfold, plus a few more you won't know how you lived without.



KATE UPTON

Are we seriously at point in pop culture where all it takes is a viral video of a pretty girl doing something asinine like the "Dougie" to warrant a feature in a men's magazine? After reading Greg Hudson's sensationalized article on Kate Upton, it made me realize that society must be pretty hard pressed for women who, you know, have something interesting to say. She likes untucked shirts? Really? **DONALD FLEMMING //** OTTAWA, ON

We can only assume you didn't actually watch that Dougie video. It's really quite something. -Ed

FATHERHOOD

I hope men will continue passing valuable skills onward from one generation to the next. Thinking back to my childhood, I realized that I should have spent more time with my father. I was always too busy being that rambunctious, rebellious teenager that I never took the time to peer into the garage to see what my dad was up to, or to take his advice on how to change my car's oil or install a toilet. Reading Shaughnessy Bishop-Stall's column, it was nice to see I'm not alone. I'm excited to see the next instalment. **M. KIPLING** // HALIFAX, NS

THE DEATH OF THE CLEAN-CUT MODEL

The recent shift of burly, bearded mod-

els gracing the pages of men's fashion magazines is certainly a step in the right direction. I'm the type of woman who believes that a little character and masculine ruggedness in a man's appearance is a good thing. But don't get the wrong idea. If your hair makes you look like Jesus, your clothes should be faultless. There's nothing sexier than a guy that goes against the grain.

DEVON GILBERT // MONTRÉAL, QC

THE STRAIGHT TRUTH ABOUT VODKA

As a self-proclaimed gin aficionado, I was taken aback by your drink selection on last month's The Straight Truth About Vodka article. Considering a classic martini is ginbased, don't you think it would have made more sense to include a Bloody Caesar or a White Russian to compliment the article? Only heathens drink vodka-based martinis. CHRISTOPHER DE FELICE // TORONTO, ON

You and your gin-soaked brethren are in luck. Skip to page 50 for some valuable gin-formation. See what we did there?

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MAN ABOUT TOWN

SHARP AT TORONTO FASHION WEEK

Sharp took in the sartorial sights as the fashion-savvy flooded the tents at David Pecaut Square for Toronto World MasterCard Fashion Week. Joe Fresh showed bold coloured coats for men, while Bustle designers Shawn Hewson and Ruth Promislow's western-inspired collection was a celebration of leather and denim. Off-site, supermodel Heather Marks and Rick Genest (aka Zombie Boy) appeared in a circus-themed show for Montreal brand Mackage.





1. BELINDA STRONACH AND MICHAEL LIEBOCK AT JOE FRESH 2. JOE MIMRAN AND GALEN WESTON JR. AT JOE FRESH 3. BUSTLE DESIGNERS RUTH PROMISLOW AND SHAWN HEWSON 4. RICK GENEST AT MACKAGE 5. STACEY MACKENZIE AT BUSTLE 6. SINGER TRISH AT JOE FRESH 7. BRIGHT COLOURS ON THE JOE FRESH RUNWAY 8. DANIEL JOHNSON AND ALIYA-JASMINE SOVANI AT JOE FRESH





eyewear

MAN ABOUT TOWN

SHARP AT G-STAR RAW

Denim trendsetter G-Star Raw held an event to celebrate the opening of its flagship store in Toronto's Queen West shopping district—its largest outlet in Canada. The urban brand welcomed celebrities and media personalities with cocktails, sushi and complimentary copies of Sharp, while models in custom denim creations by designer Pierre Morriset strode through the room.





1 JAY ROSEHILL (TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS), KARIM KANJI, JOEY CRABB (TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS) AND MATHIEU GAGNE 2.MATHIEU GAGNE, KREESHA TURNER AND GUEST 3.TYLER ARMES (DOWN WITH WEBSTER), BUCKY SEJA (DOWN WITH WEBSTER), DAVID TAM, CINDY LAM, PAT GILLETT (DOWN WITH WEBSTER) AND MARTY MARTINO (DOWN WITH WEBSTER) 4.MORRISET'S CUSTOM DENIM, COMPLETE WITH ZOMBIE-READY ACCESSORIES, WAS SADLY NOT FOR SALE 5. ACTOR DANIEL DESANTO



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TOD'S "GOMMINO" Driving Moc

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WISDOM GUIDE



A MAN WORTH LISTENING TO

MARTIN SHORT IS JUDGING US

BY GREG HUDSON

any, the word is zany. Martin Short is zany-or at least his characters are. And, to a certain extent, so is his public persona. That sounds disparaging. Maybe a better word is committed. Or energetic. Or, actually, what's wrong with being zany? It doesn't have to mean cheap, or childish, or hacky. Because Martin Short is none of those things. He's a legend, not just in this country-where he is now a judge on Canada's Got Talent-but everywhere. He's a character actor who has earned praise for his comedy. He's earned high praise for his drama, too, but he's not begging people to take him seriously. "Quite honestly I've got a lot of respect from doing what I've done," he says. And, it's true. We've respected him since his Ed Grimley days.

CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING A MAN WORTH LISTENING TO.

Thank you so much. It's high time.

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT *CANADA'S GOT TALENT* THAT MADE YOU WANT TO BE A PART OF IT?

I knew it wasn't going to be a kind of mean-spirited, humiliation: a let's-humiliate-the-poor-kids-whoare-auditioning-type-show. When I was a kid I grew up with Ed Sullivan, and variety shows where you would see a series of different acts. It always interested me. I get tired with a show that has twelve singers, but I never get tired if there is a singer followed by a guy twirling buzzsaws.

I NEVER THINK OF IT AS A DESCEN-DANT OF THE VARIETY SHOW; I ALWAYS THINK OF IT FIRST AS A COMPETITION.

I don't really. It's a showcase for talent that doesn't get a showcase. There was an era, for example, in the early seventies, just pre-*Saturday Night Live*, when if Johnny Carson didn't book you, you weren't on television.



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GUIDE WISDOM



Joni Mitchell didn't go to Woodstock because she got a chance to be on the Dick Cavett show.

When you think of some of the acts on *Canada's Got Talent*, where would you see them on television? To me, the contest is just the fun part.

HAS THE WAY TO "MAKE IT" FUNDAMEN-TALLY CHANGED?

It's hard to know, because you only know your career. I started in Toronto. It wasn't like I was going to New York City and saying, 'Here I am!' It seemed like the pond was smaller. You knew everyone, and you'd go to auditions and see people you recognized, the same actors. It seemed gentler, but maybe that's me remembering something the way it wasn't.

I THINK THERE IS THIS SENSE THAT THERE USED TO BE A MORE AUTHENTIC ROUTE TO GETTING KNOWN.

Certainly one thing that has changed from when I was 24 years old, as a Toronto actor, is everyone who was working and got work was hugely talented. Big talents. Some people who were certainly more talented than I didn't have the luck of a show that showed them off. We're now in an era where you can be hugely successful simply based on being a housewife or a party girl or party boy. That didn't exist.

YOU'RE A CHARACTER ACTOR. ARE YOU PLAYING A CHARACTER WHILE YOU ARE A JUDGE?

I think it's pretty close to me. It's an entertainment show, though. If you go on Letterman, you don't do the same interview you'd do with Charlie Rose. You try to be an upbeat version of yourself. I try to be as understanding as I can be. I don't think we're solving the problem of Afghanistan or climate change; I think it's an entertainment show, it's light and it shouldn't make anyone feel like, 'I want to jump off a bridge because I didn't succeed in it.'

THAT WOULD BE A GOOD TALENT, THOUGH, FIXING AFGHANISTAN. I would vote for that.

YOU'RE A PARENT; DO YOU SEE A LOT OF STAGE PARENTING IN *CANADA'S GOT TALENT*?

You see the occasional one, especially when a 10-year-old comes out and sings *Like a Virgin* or something. But you'd have to be backstage to really see which ones are the classic pushy ones, and which ones are the supportive ones.

DID YOU PUSH YOUR CHILDREN IN ANY SPECIFIC DIRECTION?

I think if you spent your life acting, you aren't hoping to hear your kid say, 'I want to be an actor!' Forgetting talent, you know the thick skin you have to have, and the endurance. It's a miracle you can pay the rent for a year, let alone many years. Frank Sinatra said that his dad was always there to piss on his dreams, so you can't be that guy, either. You just have to be encouraging and happy when they say they want to go into social work.

DO YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT THE THICK SKIN OF THE CONTESTANTS?

No. I don't know the contestants. I have enough to worry about. It's up to them to figure this out. If they can't handle the rejection, they should not be pursuing it. I've been in this a long time, and the only thing you learn is that you have to treat it like a business.



FIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM A SOON-TO-BE FAMOUS American Actor: Josh Dallas



J.CREW LEATHER WEEKENDER

It looks super cool, and it's the perfect bag when I go to Los Angeles for a couple of days to catch up on my vitamin D.

BRAVEHEART



The way the movie is structured, the way the story is told—it's always great to look at a movie like that, particularly when I'm on a job. You can learn a lot from it.



FIVE GUYS BURGERS AND FRIES CHEESE-BURGERS

In the South, we have Five Guys Burgers. It's

simple, it's no-nonsense and it's oldfashioned. It's the best burger you can buy. And I just discovered there's one in Vancouver.

SPRING SKIING IN BC

I started skiing again when I came up to Vancouver. I love it. Even if I go for two days, I feel like I've gone on a week's vacation.



KNOB CREEK Bourbon

I don't really have a summer drink—I only have one drink. I come from Kentucky, so I love my bourbon. A Knob Creek and ginger on

the rocks, that's my drink. Winter, spring, summer or fall.

CATCH JOSH AS PRINCE CHARMING ON ABC'S ONCE UPON A TIME.

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A WELCOME INTRODUCTION

MISSY PEREGRYM ONLY PLAYS A COP ON TV, BUT SHE COULD STILL KICK OUR ASS

BY WILLIAM REED

WHERE YOU'VE SEEN HER

On *Heroes* back when it was a thing, or on the CW's *Reaper*, where she played the main character's main squeeze, a beautiful girl named Andi.

WHERE YOU WILL SEE HER

Playing a headstrong, but beautiful cop on the third season of Global's *Rookie Blue* (also named Andy, as luck would have it).

WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH ALL THE ANDY/I'S?

Getting saddled with the same character name repeatedly is a problem usually shouldered by actors playing Sanjay or Ahmed. But Missy understands the pain. "Why can't they see me as a Rachel, or Michelle? Why can't I be a Becky," she jokes, "If I died my hair blonde, would I be a Becky? Probably."

AND SPEAKING OF TV, SHE DOESN'T WATCH IT.

Despite, you know, being on a hit show. "I used to think that was so ironic. But now it's been over 10 years." she says. "But when you see me laughing by myself at the dinner table, that's what I'm laughing about. I'm like, 'Crazy, the irony!"

AND SPEAKING OF LAUGHING, AND ALSO TV, THIS CHARMING STORY:

"I walked out of my first audition I ever did," she says. It was for a sci-fi show filming in Vancouver. And it was, unsurprisingly, full of nerdy techno-babble. "I couldn't stop laughing because I didn't know what I was saying. It was all madeup words, so there was no way to know. I said I was so sorry for wasting their time, and saw myself out. I did not get that part." It turns out she's much better at speaking like a cop. Sorry, nerds.

AND SPEAKING OF COPS, SHE CAN TALK A LITTLE ROUGH.

Consider this quotation, taken only slightly out of context: "I've never beaten anyone up in my life. But...do you want me to try? You want me to verbally abuse you over the phone?"

YES...NO, WAIT. KIND OF?

→ VISIT SHARPFORMEN.COM For more pictures of missy peregrym



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GUIDE CULTURE

A STRANGER ON THE GREEN

A NEW BOOK REVEALS MOE **NORMAN** AS PROFESSIONAL **GOLF'S GREATEST OUTSIDER**

BY ROHAN JOSEPH

ll sports highlights, sound bites and screw-ups sound humdrum after they're fed into the never-ending Sportsnet cycle. That's why when an unpredicted success like your Tim Tebow or Jeremy Lin arrives, the story blows up. We pay attention.

Moe Norman, an autistic native of Kitchener, Ontario, struck golf balls with such a unique, and uniquely effective, swing that even Tiger Woods bowed in admiration. He was one of these rare anomalies. Unlike Lin and Tebow, Norman was never a media sensation; he was shy and shrouded, relating better to children than to the other golfers who watched his accuracy with awe. Despite his difficulties surviving the publicity and bullying he faced on tour, Norman became a cult figure for his uncanny talent. This month, Canada's preeminent golf scribe Lorne Rubenstein relays his close relationship with the mysterious Norman in the memoir Moe and Me (\$20, ECW), a passionate and personal account of one of sport's great strangers.

WHEN AND HOW DID YOU FIRST MEET MOF NORMAN?

I met Moe when I was 13 years old, at a driving range in Toronto. My father took me to a driving range called the Havelind and Moe was there, working part time and hitting golf balls. I was captivated by how he hit the ball, because it was different.

WAS MOE INITIALLY RECEPTIVE TO YOU WRITING ABOUT HIM?

I had a very good relationship with Moe. He knew that I had a great deal of empathy for him. I never laughed at the guy, which a lot of people did. He was very shy and introverted. There were some people who made life difficult for him but he knew I was just interested in the human being.



WAS IT DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO SEPARATE **YOURSELF FROM THE SUBJECT?**

The difficult part about writing the book was that Moe was really all about golf. There weren't other things in his life, so how do you write a story about somebody for whom one thing was so important? He didn't have a family life, was never married, didn't have kids; he was all about hitting the golf ball as accurately as he could—that was all that motivated him. He was an artist in that way.

HOW DO YOU DESCRIBE MOE'S SWING IN THE BOOK?

It was so extreme and different. I see his golf swing and his personality as inextricably connected. I write in the book that I don't think he would have played the game the same way if he wasn't so shy. He never took a practice swing in his life.

DO YOU THINK THAT. IN THIS ERA OF DETAILED **GOLF TUTORING, THERE COULD BE ANOTHER MOE?**

It might be difficult. People ask me all the time, and I say, 'You have to be Moe.' I think he was really a oneoff. There was a system called Natural Golf based on his swing, and some people claim they swing like him, but nobody has taken it to the level that he took it: how stable he was over the ball, how long he kept the club extended through the ball. In a way, you also have to not care about how people look at you.

FIVE CLASSIC SPORTS BOOKS YOU SHOULD READ (EVEN IF YOU DON'T CARE FOR SPORTS)

SYDAVID

Breaks of the Game David Halberstam Halberstam shadowed the Portland

Trailblazers for the entire 1976-77 season. Thirty years later, no writer has done it better.



Forty Million **Dollar Slaves:** The Rise, Fall and Redemption of the Black Athlete

William C. Rhoden Not even Michael Jordan escapes Rhoden's searing plantation metaphor.



The Game Ken Drvden Dryden finished a law degree at Cornell before taking

the ice as Montreal's goaltender. His perspective on Canada's game is unique.



Ball Four! lim Bouton The aging knuckleballer exposes the raunchy world of baseball

locker rooms to innocent readers; includes drinking, womanizing, and a palpable love for the game.



aper Lion Paper Lion George Plimpton **Essential for** any shmuck who thinks he

could go pro. - RJ



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GUIDE

C U L T 🌽

THE SAME BUT DIFFERENT

ON THE OCCASION OF A NEW WES ANDERSON MOVIE, WE REVIEW WHAT THE INDIE AUTEUR IS ACTUALLY SAYING

BY ADAM NAYMAN

f you were an overachieving high school nerd with a crush on an unattainable woman in the late 1990s—and they were all unattainable back then- it's more than likely your cinematic hero was Wes Anderson. The Texas-born writerdirector was a wünderkind making witty, assured movies about young characters who weren't much younger than himself. His breakthrough film Rushmore (1998) was a treasure trove for aspiring hipsters, from its jangly '60s soundtrack to its proto-Family Guy cutaway gags. It also reintroduced Bill Murray to a generation of teenaged viewers who may have only dimly remembered him as one of the Ghostbusters.

The film had so many good points that Anderson's neat-freak compositions struggled to contain them; the problems, meanwhile, lurked outside the frame.

Rushmore's critical and commercial success spawned a merciless cycle of imitators trying to replicate its super-quirky charms. Making matters worse was that the main offender was Anderson himself. While

2001's charming family saga *The Royal Tenenbaums* was Rushmore's equal, *The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou* (2004) and *The Darjeeling Limited* (2007) may as well have been parodies of his style: nattily dressed ciphers moping about exquisitely art-directed vacuums. It was as if Anderson, who burst onto the scene at age 25, had finally caught up with the talent of those early features and followed it right into a rut.

But *Fantastic Mr. Fox* (2009) was a turning point. Since Anderson's impeccably crafted films already resembled (human) puppet shows, stop-motion animation was a logical next step. The question is whether this month's *Moonrise Kingdom* will be the next step in a new winning streak or another in a series of holding patterns. Anderson isn't exactly breaking new ground. He's assembled an amazing cast—Bruce Willis, Edward Norton, Tilda Swinton—ironically to hunt a pair of young, unknown actors (Jared Gillman and Kara Hayward).

The story sounds like the ultimate Anderson plot: two 12-year-old puppy-lovers who run away from their coastal New England town. All of his films are in some way about the clash between the security of childhood and the responsibilities of the adult world. The paradox is that Anderson's own filmmaking seems as resistant to growing up as his characters, which is both a source of his charm and one of his limitations.

Make no mistake: Anderson is too big a talent to be reduced to an I-Heart-the-'90s entry alongside other alt-geek icons like Weezer, but as he ages along with his fans, it might be time to abandon his private celluloid moonrise kingdom for the real world.

A FEW WORDS ON THE RETURN OF MR. SCOTT SPEEDMAN

According to the recent chatter amongst the blogerati, Scott Speedman is having a comeback. Both The *Daily Beast* and *The Atlantic Wire* have proclaimed the former *Felicity* heartthrob's Hollywood resurgence thanks to his roles in *The Vow* and the upcoming ABC pilot *Last Resort*. But Speedman can't be considered a hasbeen. Because he never was.

"I've never thought of myself as a public figure that needed a comeback," says the 36-year-old Canadian. "I've never really stepped up to the plate, anyway."

He was poised for A-list stardom when *Felicity* wrapped up in 2002 (or so we, ahem, heard) but opted for quarter-life slackerdom instead. "You get to Hollywood, have a modicum of luck and you get a career going before you're ready to deal with it," explains Speedman, who was discovered on Toronto's *Speaker's Corner* demanding to be cast as Robin in *Batman Forever*.

Today, however, Speedman's all grown up and serious. His gripping lead performance in *Citizen Gangster*, in which he plays infamous Canadian WWII-era bank robber Edwin Boyd, earned him a Genie nomination for best actor.

"I probably wasn't ready to take on something like this a few years back," he says of the film, which premiered at TIFF in 2011 and is now getting a wide release stateside. "It came along when I was finally ready to take a hold of my career."

Last Resort, in which Speedman plays an officer on a US nuclear sub gone rogue, is set to premiere next fall. After that, what about a dark, gritty Robin reboot? – ANG



CHROME AZZARO

Live to inspire

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ROCKSTAR SLASH Father Slash Businessman

THE GUY YOU USED TO AIR GUITAR TO HAS QUIT PARTYING AND GROWN UP

BY ALEX NINO GHECIU

Iash wants you to know that he's no rock star. "I always get uncomfortable around that term," says the lionized guitarist, picking invisible dirt off his jeans in his suite at the Fairmont Royal York in Toronto. "To me, rock stars are overly excessive personalities that are very vain and selfaware and putting on these airs all the time. I'm not necessarily that guy."

Of course, he still looks an awful lot like that guy: the shades, the hat, the mop of curls and a black t-shirt that reads "Buenos Fucking Aires." Isn't this the same heroin-addled axe-slinger from Guns N' Roses, those '80s glam-metal scalawags known for having more strippers backstage than road crew? After all, *Apocalyptic Love*, the title of his new record is about "having that orgy you've always wanted to experience on the eve of the apocalypse." Talk about excess.

But there is one Slash trope missing here: the cigarette perpetually dangling from his lips. July will mark the seventh year he's been completely substance-free. At 46, he's a sensible, soft-spoken family man, with his days in the jungle far behind him.

"After doing so much excessive partying, it just wasn't fun anymore," explains the father of two. "I don't want to get into a whole fucking drug and alcohol lesson, but, eventually, it becomes a responsibility that takes over every aspect of your life. I've been on my own for a while, so I need to be able to take care of my own shit."

He's referring to his solo career, which hasn't been half bad. Slash's eponymous 2010 debut charted at number three on the Billboard 200, and featured vocals from legends like Ozzy Osbourne, Iggy Pop and Lemmy Kilmister. For his sophomore effort, however, the shredder's bestowed all microphone duties on Alter

Bridge's Myles Kennedy, who he says has restored his tarnished faith in frontmen. That's no small feat, considering his publicist bans journalists from even mentioning Axl Rose around him.

"I've had a long history of [being on] a quest for singers," he admits. "I think singing is the hardest thing to do well. The most important thing I look for is that it's real, which, oddly enough, is the hardest thing to find."

Another reason Slash needs to keep his wits about him: he's the CEO of his own imprint, Dik Hayd International. Too many shoddy record deals have taught Slash to always be in control of his own musical destiny. It's a lesson he could have learned in his *Appetite for Destruction* days with Geffen Records, had he been remotely sober. Until *Appetite* really hit, Geffen had been looking for ways to dump the group of rabble-rousers.

Years later, in true William Blake fashion, Slash's road of excess has led to the palace of wisdom. Does he regret the groupies, trashed hotels and shattered whiskey bottles it took to get him there?

"Not at all," he says wistfully. "Those days are like an old girlfriend who was always cool." SLASH DEGREES OF SEPARATION IF YOU LIKED THIS SLASH BAND, YOU'LL LOVE THIS TANGENTIALLY-RELATED NON-SLASH BAND.

LIKE: CLASSIC GUNS N' ROSES



SEE: **STEEL PANTHER** These mock hair-rockers parody the glitter-andleather era so well that Axl had them open for G N' R 3.0 last year.

LIKE: SLASH'S SNAKEPIT



SEE: BLACK LABEL SOCIETY

Before the Snakepit's Brian Tichy and James Lomenzo joined Slash, they were in Pride and Glory with Zack Wylde, now a guitar rock goliath with BLS.

LIKE: VELVET REVOLVER



SEE: **LOADED** This band, fronted by Velvet/G N' R bassist Duff McKagan, is quickly dispelling the notion that guys who play the fat strings are just failed guitarists.



BACKSEAT DRIVER PROOFED.

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TEST DRIVE

GUIDE SPORT



HOW TO APPRECIATE MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

(BECAUSE, YES, IT DESERVES TO BE APPRECIATED)

BY GREG HUDSON

MA, an aggressive cocktail of boxing, jiu jitsu and wrestling (among other forms of combat) can seem, by turns, barbaric, slow-moving and—one can't help but notice-a tad homoerotic. Those sweaty, muscled, half naked men sure seem fond of rolling around together, no? That's fine in itself, but appears at odds with the image of the sport's ultra-macho, energy drink-quaffing fan base (not to mention that it's kind of like making fun of a linebacker for wearing spandex tights). Mixed martial arts is as full of these sorts of paradoxes and intricacies as any other major-league sport—only it requires a higher level of athletic prowess. We went to the mat with Canadian UFC featherweight contender Mark Hominick (not really. What are we, crazy?) to cover the basics.

WHO'S FIGHTING?

Yes, every sport is made up of individuals with their own narratives-it's why you hate Tim Tebow—but with a combat sport like MMA, knowing each fighter's background will help you know what's going on. In the early days, the UFC used to pit wildly mismatched fighters (boxers vs. ninjas!) against each other, and even five years ago, fighters would have predominant styles. Now, styles have evened out, says Hominick. Still, a kid with a wrestling background is going to fight differently than someone coming from kickboxing. Plus, the more familiar you are with fighters, the more you care who gets bloodied. Want proof? Look no further than last year's tragically underrated MMA flick Warrior.

2 WHAT'S HAPPENING WHEN THE FIGHTERS ARE ON THEIR FEET (EVEN IF THEY AREN'T PUNCHING?)

"There is a lot more at play," says Hominick. "If you think you're going to see a boxing fight or a kickboxing bout, there are a lot more threats." Yes, a good striker will be looking to throw a knockout punch, but it's just as likely a fighter is looking for an opening to take his opponent to the ground. And when they do clinch up, the action hasn't stopped. "In other sports like boxing, they'll go up in the clinch and take a break," he says. "But in a clinch, there's a lot of work to be done. There are opportunities in every area of the bout."

S WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE GROUND?

At about the time when the fight goes to ground is when a lot of MMA newbies lose interest. It's all so much messy roughhousing until one brute gets on top of the other and pummels him into submission (this, incidentally, is referred to as the "Ground and Pound"). But it's more nuanced than that. "Even the guy on the bottom has opportunities. There are submissions that both guys can be going for. They are both being offensive and defensive at the same time," says Hominick. Look for fighters reaching for arms, legs, and of, course, necks. And if the bottom's legs are around the top's torso. he's got more control than you'd think.

O FROM A POETIC STAND POINT

Even if, after understanding what's happening, you don't care for the violence, it's still worth appreciating MMA for the sheer poetic physicality of the sport. Athletes from hockey to football line up to train with MMA fighters, because they are the toughest SOBs around. You can't help but appreciate people who, better than most of us, have pushed their bodies to perfection. It's a window into why humanity climbed to the top of the food chain.

ESSENTIAL MMA VOCABULARY

TERMS TO KNOW WHEN DISCUSSING THE NEXT "BIG FIGHT." SOME SOUND LIKE SEX POSITIONS, OTHERS DO NOT.

ARM BAR: A common s



A common submission where an opponent's arm is straightened out between the instigator's thighs, before being hyper-extended at the elbow until the poor sap taps out. **Possible sex position factor:** 1

REAR NAKED CHOKE:

A choke applied when an attacker secures the back of his opponent. In order to finish the choke, the attacker will sometimes wrap his legs around his opponent's to apply more pressure and reduce the chance of losing position. **Possible sex position factor:** 5

GUARD:

A Brazilian jiu jitsu position that requires a fighter to lie flat on his back and wrap his legs around his opponent, thus controlling his movement and position.

Possible sex position factor: (In conversation) 1, (In practice) 4

SIDE CONTROL:

A grappling position that has the attacker on top of his opponent's torso and perpendicular to him on his back. **Possible sex position factor:** 3.5

FULL MOUNT:

A dominant grappling position wherein the attacker straddles his opponent's torso from the top and gains control.

Possible sex position factor: 5



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GUIDE TECHNOLOGY

THE EARLY Adopter's Dilemma

BUY NOW, OR WAIT FOR VERSION 2.0?

BY CHRIS VANDERGAAG

any of the new tech toys unveiled this year seem ready for the big time, but savvier tech-heads are apt to question the market readiness of such things. They've been burned before (see sidebar). Should one wait for the technology to improve and benefit from price drops or become an early adopter and skate along the leading edge? We put a handful of new products on trial.

ULTRABOOKS

In the tablet-era laptops are a harder sell. And while bulk is out, sometimes a guy needs a full-featured computer. Apple's solution was the ultra-thin Macbook Air. Its success inspired Intel to throw its hat in the ring with the Ultrabook, a Windows machine half the thickness and weight of traditional laptops. without moving parts. Dell, HP and Samsung all showed models at the last Consumer Electronics Show (CES). VERDICT: Adopt. WHY: With competitive pres-

sure from the tablet market, Ultrabooks offer a good priceperformance ratio, and after using one it's hard to imagine buying a "fat" laptop again.



ASUS MEMO 370T TABLET The most attractive tablet proposition this side of iPad may be the Asus MeMo 370T, a 7" unit that houses a quadcore processor and will cost only \$249. It features an 8MP camera and Android's newest OS, 4.0 Ice Cream Sandwich. VERDICT: Adopt.

WHY: The MeMo 370T will easily offer the best value in this crowded market, with more horsepower and half the price tag of the iPad.

SCULPTED EERS

Audiophiles may gush about "Custom in-ear monitors," but they have a point. Snuglysealed earphones are the only way to get great sound with deep, resonant bass from a pair of earbuds. The most comfortable in-ear tips are those made specifically for your ear canals. Previously, custom jobs required a trip to an audiologist, piles of money, gunk in your ears and weeks of waiting. Sculpted Eers are a DIY, custom earbud injection mold device that comes with a set of highquality monitors in one package. It sounds gimmicky, but Sculpted Eers work. VERDICT: Hung.

WHY: Unless you're seduced by the novelty, we expect a small revision later in the year that will push us safely into the sculpted camp.



OLED TELEVISIONS

Organic LED televisions easily made the biggest splash at this year's CES. If you recall the great leap forward that was high-definition TV, you'll appreciate how jaw dropping OLED is in action. Samsung and LG will have 55" OLED models available soon. Mark our words—an OLED TV is in your future. VERDICT: Wait.

WHY: Price. Expect Samsung and LG's initial OLED offerings to debut at \$6,000 to \$8,000. Prices will become saner in time for Christmas 2013.

WHEN EARLY ADOPTING GOES WRONG: WOULD-BE TECH THAT NEVER WAS

They were expected to take the world by storm, but within a few months they were just taking up space in your garage.

1977—Betamax: Still the gold standard of failed tech

punchlines.



1978—LaserDisc: The lovechild of a CD and a vinyl record—that got into showbiz.



1983—"Lisa" home computer: It was a marvelous machine,

but consumers weren't willing to pay \$10,000 for the pleasure of her company.

now, right?



1995—Pippin: What happened when Apple partnered with Bandai to try its luck in the console-gaming market? Well, you're just hearing about it

2006—Zune MP3 Player: Microsoft propositioned the

world with an iPod alternative that was clunkier to use and rented music instead of selling it. The world politely declined.





2007—HD DVD: Sony led the charge on Blu-ray against the Microsoft-backed HD DVD. It won, largely by Trojan horseing its technology via the PS3. - MATT CURRIE



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GUIDE STYLE

PUMPED UP KICKS

GET YOUR WORKOUT MOVING WITH THESE SLICK RUNNERS

pair of blindingly bright trainers isn't going to make you run any faster, but they may make you run more often. Here are five pairs of reasons to start training for that marathon.



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GUIDE STYLE

THE WELL-Dressed man

YOUR STYLE QUESTIONS ANSWERED



Q: I FEEL LIKE BOAT SHOES AND LOAF-ERS MAKE ME LOOK LIKE A SENIOR CITIZEN. CAN YOU RECOMMEND A PAIR FOR A YOUNGER DEMOGRAPHIC?

A: The appeal that comes with the boat shoe or loafer is that they've remained dependable classics throughout the years, with minimal change. However, if you're craving a little flavour, you most certainly have options. Boat shoe purveyor Sperry Topsider makes a pair that's all business on the top and party on the bottom. SPERRY TOPSIDER. \$90.

Q: I'VE NOTICED THAT MY WHITES ARE STARTING TO LOOK A LITTLE DULL THESE DAYS, BUT I DISLIKE USING HARSH BLEACHES. HOW DO I BRING THEM BACK TO LIFE?

A: There are few things worse than seeing a tired-looking Oxford. Boil a pot of water mixed with a cup of white vinegar (you'd be surprised at how many different applications this magical solution has) and soak your shirts in them over night. Afterwards, throw them into their normal wash cycle to restore them back to their pearly youth.

Q: A CANADIAN SPRING MEANS WARMER WEATHER, BUT NOT NECESSARILY WARM WEATHER. WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO WEAR A CARDIGAN UNDER-NEATH A BLAZER?

A: Layering is the Canadian man's trusted technique. When it comes to layering



I've noticed more men are carrying totes rather than the standard backpack or messenger. Is this acceptable? A: Men, are taking more risks and going past the standard male uniform—call it an interview for the standard male uniform.

emancipation of sorts. Totes are great when you have to carry a multitude of items (camera, laptop, lunch, scarf, etc.), be it while running errands around town or on a short trip to the lake. Look for totes made in rugged fabrics and finishes for an easy, casual look. FILSON CANVAS TOTE, \$105.

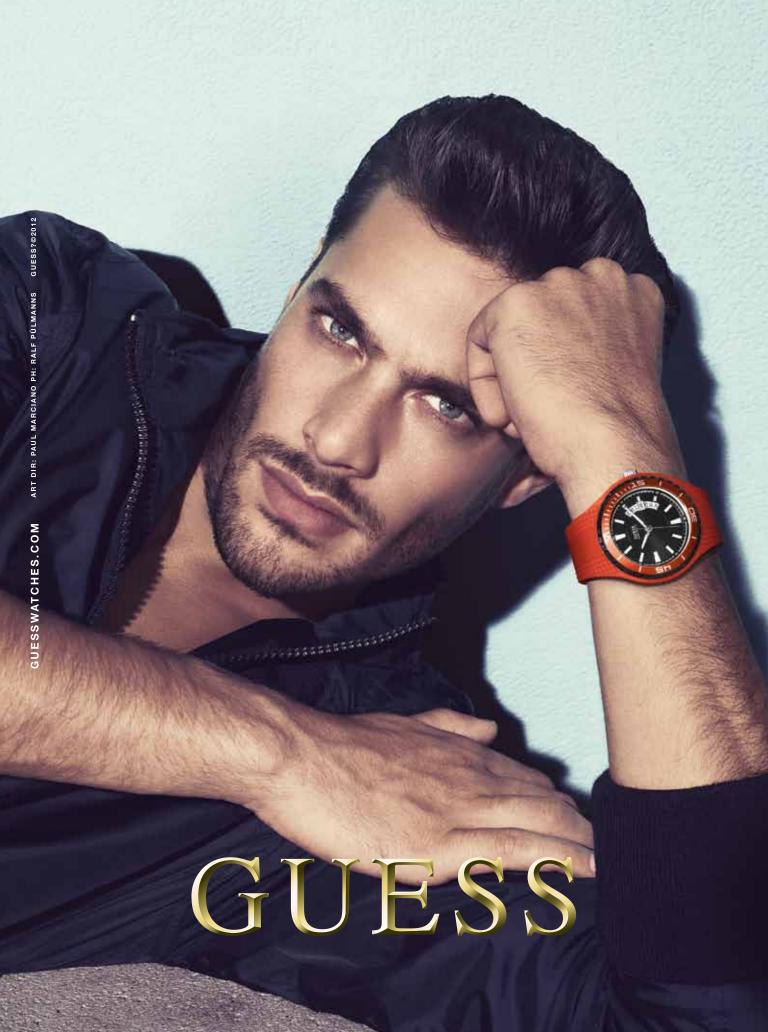
underneath a blazer, make sure that your sweater or cardigan is thin and hugs the body. Not only will this keep you warmer, but it'll prevent unwanted bulkiness. This red cardigan from Canadian label Wings + Horns will add a nice pop of colour to your look.





Q: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A BROGUE AND WINGTIP? I'VE HEARD THEM BEING USED IN DIFFERENT INSTANCES AND AM NOW QUITE CONFUSED.

A: We'll settle this once and for all. The perforations that you see in a brogue were made for practical reasons, as they allowed water to drain from shoes as men treaded through the watery marshes of Scotland and Ireland. As such, a brogue is any shoe that has these perforations punched into them (now purely for aesthetic reasons, unless you're partial to a stroll through the wetlands). A wingtip, on the other hand, is any shoe with the W shape (like a pair of wings) on the toe cap, and come in a variety of different "wingspans."



<mark>GUIDE</mark> STYLE



KLAXON HOWL'S **MATTHEW ROBINSON** MAKES CLOTHES THAT REALLY WORK

BY ALEX HAMLYN

andering into Klaxon Howl, you easily spot the sort of treasures typically found after hours of sorting through the mothballs and mildew of second-hand stores: plaid chore jackets, well-worn workboots, chambray shirts with practical pockets and reinforced stitching. The stuff isn't old, but it exudes an old-world quality. Given the aesthetic, you'd be forgiven for thinking this shop was a vintage workwear mecca. And while there is some preenjoyed stuff on offer, most of these clothes aren't curated; they're created. Klaxon Howl, a resident of Toronto's would-be menswear strip along west Queen West, sprang from the encyclopedic mind of owner and creator Matthew Robinson.

Raised not far from where he now keeps shop, Robinson designs clothes inspired by a youth spent with his grandfather, a veteran of WWII, and teen years at a military boarding school. As a result, the Klaxon Howl line is rugged, without being cartoonish: no overzealous detailing, no camo where it doesn't belong. Robinson modernizes and tweaks the look of vintage workwear and military clothing; never replicating, but certainly paying homage to the clothes his grandfather wore. A recent runway show, for example, was split between "on leave" and "in the field" looks, complete with dramatic lighting and music cues inspired by the 20thcentury conflicts in Korea and Vietnam.

Klaxon Howl, the brand, began in 2005. Back then it was a side project to Robinson's Delphic, a shop that carried both high-end designer clothing and furniture. While Klaxon Howl took over the storefront last fall, it's clear that design and architecture still fascinate him. He has a designer's eye for functionality, clean lines and structure. He prides himself on the fact that, while most of his customers are more likely to log hours in front of their MacBook than do physical labour a day, the clothes he makes would survive if they did. The clothes, at least, are authentic.

"It's a point of pride for us that we make everything in Toronto, and we have no intention of doing it any other way," says Robinson. As the line has gained notice, he's been approached by cheaper, international clothes-makers, but he isn't budging.

The battle plan for Robinson moving forward is to consolidate the success of Klaxon Howl, while expanding its presence. Opening a store in New York City could very well be the next major step.

"Menswear is really having a boom at the moment. Men just have a different approach to shopping now. They're looking for quality and things that will last. Things that fit well and are made of good fabrics. Clothing that has a bit of a backstory," says Robinson.

Backstory in place, Klaxon Howl's story continues.

KLAXON HOWL'S MUST-HAVES FOR SPRING *as chosen by matthew robinson*



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MALAY SHORTS \$225



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HARD CASES

TOUGH TIMEPIECES FOR ADVENTURE SEASON

BY CAROL BESLER

hether you're diving in Shark Bay, climbing Kilimanjaro or backyard barbecuing, summer requires a timepiece that can take a few knocks.

The LINDE WERDELIN SPIDOSPEED

用

SZ

BLACK chronograph features brightorange subdials for high readability. Crown, push-buttons and caseback are DLC coated over a stainless-steel case. It is water-resistant to 100 metres. \$14,900



Functions on the six-handed TIMEX INTELLIGENT QUARTZ ADVENTURE SERIES TEMP TIDE

= MS

(TIQASTT for short, natch) include a tide tracker, temperature sensor and electronic compass. It is water-resistant to 100 metres. \$240

GRAHAM SWORDFISH BOOSTER BLACK, "lefty" chronograph with automatic movement, Incabloc shock absorber and black PVD case. It is water-resistant to 100 metres. \$11,535

The 2012 updated ROLEX

YACHTMASTER improves on the original 1992 model with a 120-position bezel made of platinum, blue-glowing Chromalight hour markers and a shock- and temperature-resistant parachrom hairspring. (PRICE TBA)

> The 44 mm case of the **PANERAL LUMINOR MARINA CERAMIC** is made of a ceramic composite that is scratch- and corrosion-resistant. The strap is a sporty, top-stitched distressed leather. \$12,800



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ULTRAMATTE

GUIDE GROOMING

THE HAIRCUTS TO CONSIDER THIS SUMMER

ALTHOUGH WE DON'T RECOMMEND GETTING ALL THREE

BY NICHOLAS MIZERA

n the name of keeping (and, yes, looking) cool, it's time for your hairstyle to get its own seasonal style edit. Our guy, Jon Roth, owner of Toronto's Crow's Nest Barber Shop, is here to help you out.

TRUTHS OF GROOMING

#24

Any man who claims that "it's only a haircut" has never had a truly bad one.

#25 There's very little a bad barber can do that a good barber can't undo.



THE UNDERCUT

This prohibition-era hairdo made a comeback last year and hasn't stopped. Done right, an undercut strikes a balance between practical and cool, thanks to its sharply contrasting lengths. The idea is keeping a low profile on the sides with a closer-thanusual shave, but leaving a lot up top to be styled. But Roth says getting the Jimmy Darmody look (you've been watching Boardwalk Empire, right?) doesn't take too much effort: "The whole thing's easy to maintain and easy to understand how to style. All you have to do is put product in and slick it straight back."



THE MODERN POMPADOUR

The calling card of the well-groomed rebel, it's less cut than style: have your guy thin out the sides and back with scissors—a little longer than the above and leave the front and top long. Then comb through a good dose of pomade until you form the pomp's iconic swoosh-a part will help make it pop up until you've got practice. Says Roth: "I wouldn't go higher than two or three inches off the head, or else you start looking like a cartoon character. There are classic and classy ways of doing it, like how Johnny Cash wore it. It's not very loud, but compared to what other people are doing these days, it'll still stand out."

NECKLINE

A tapered neckline

gradually thins out

as it goes down.

neat horizontal

creates.

as opposed to the

line that blocking



THE BUZZ

It's not exactly new, but the buzz cut has been man's spring go-to since the invention of electric clippers. It's clean, masculine, and looks best when the sides and back are trimmed slightly shorter than the top. Your hair should also be neatly blended together between the top and sides to give the illusion of uniformity. It's not as simple as it looks—ask your barber whether your neck should be blocked off or tapered for your specific hairline. Done wrong—i.e., by a thoughtful wife—and a buzz starts looking uneven as new hair grows in. This isn't boot camp.

ON BREAKING UP WITH YOUR BARBER

"IF YOU'RE WORRIED WHAT YOUR BARBER IS GOING TO SAY, OR IF THEY'RE GOING TO BE PISSED, THEN YOU'RE GOING TO THE WRONG GUY IN THE FIRST PLACE," ROTH SAYS.



HOW TO TALK TO YOUR BARBER because "just a little off the top" never works.

If you don't know what you want, be willing to have a conversation. A good barber knows how to talk a style out of you, but can't help if your only words are "I don't know."

TEXTURE

Creating the illusion of volume by stacking even layers is called layering, while a choppy look is achieved by cutting small lengths of hair at a 45-degree angle. ARCH That neat curve around your ear is called the arch: a natural arch simply thins out approaching the lobe, while a high arch is a clean gap around it.

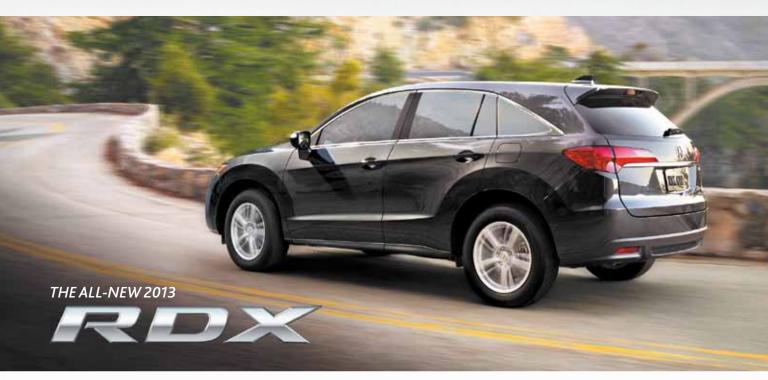
Forget that the name and packaging hew too closely to the kind of masculine kitsch favoured by people who hang dice on their rearview mirrors, this is the go-to stuff to achieve the slick, classic look you're going for. It's versatile, washes out easily, and it doesn't slack off on the job. It's like a good friend: there when you need it, gone when you don't. Plus, it's cheap (which,

actually, isn't a quality you'd want in a friend). \$15

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GUIDE VICES



GENTLEMEN, THE PERFECT NEGRONI

THE KEY TO A DAMN GOOD GIN COCKTAIL IS A DAMN GOOD GIN

BY STEPHEN BEAUMONT

s a cocktail, the Negroni—a bittersweet combination of gin, sweet vermouth and Campari—is about as close to simple perfection as is possible. It has three ingredients, portioned in equal measures, yet it's complex enough in flavour to be served neat or on the rocks. After all, when it's warm out, you don't want to be fussing with too many ingredients.

It was invented when Count Negroni of Florence, desiring a potation more potent than his Americano, asked that the soda spritz in his drink be replaced by gin. The good Count was on to something, but he also inadvertently created a conundrum: which gin is best?

While popular perception has it that gins are interchangeable, that's not the case. Or shouldn't be. London Dry gins like Beefeater

and Tanqueray, for instance, are fundamentally different from the modern trend of less juniper-forward gins like Bombay Sapphire and Hendrick's, while recent arrivals like French Citadelle and Canada's own Victoria Gin fall somewhere in the middle.

To sort it out, I arranged a blind tasting of nine juniper-flavoured beauties, and then used each in a Negroni.

As a gin aficionado, I had no problem sipping from any of the assorted bottles, appreciating the oily and intensely juniper-forward No. 3 London Dry as much as the tropically scented Beefeater 24 and the roseperfumed Hendrick's. Each would affect the character of a Negroni—or any cocktail, for that matter—differently.

Juniper is, of course, what defines a gin, and for those who love the faintly medicinal characteristic of the berry, the No. 3 and the herbaceous Tanqueray are your best bets. The juniper-phobic, on the other hand, will fare best with Bombay Sapphire and Hendrick's.

In between lie all manner of gin flavours, from the overtly peppery Citadelle, one of the most unusual gins I have yet tasted, to the new, small batch arrival from London, Sipsmith, with its citrusy character

> and borderline minty finish. The classic Plymouth Gin is likely the best for middleof-the-roaders, and it is one of the most versatile cocktail gins on the market. The sweetness of Victoria Gin will endear it to brown spirits fans, while Beefeater 24 (an updated version of Beefeater) boasts a freshness that softens the juniper character of the London original.

> In a Negroni, the lighter gins are mostly lost, while the powerful No. 3 and spicy Citadelle prove too strong for the mix. In the end, the best performance in the glass is demonstrated by gins with healthy, but not overwhelming juniper profiles: Tanqueray, Victoria and Sipsmith.



MIXING A NEGRONI

While some bartenders would have you believe a Negroni is made with just a splash of red vermouth, or even watered down with soda, the reality is it's a cocktail that benefits from a simplified approach. Build yours in a tall, slender glass over ice, add 1 to 11/2 ounces each of sweet vermouth, Campari and gin, and stir gently. Garnish with a slice of blood orange to better complement the Campari.-SB



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GUIDE FOOD

MAN UP AND Make a ceviche

APPETIZER DUTY SOLVED

he basic elements are simple: raw fish—usually chunks of sea bass or another firm-textured fish (ask your fish guy for suggestions)—marinated (for at least three hours) in freshly squeezed lime juice, onion, chili, salt and pepper. Add diced tomatoes. Garnish with chopped fresh cilantro.

Of course, that's just a starting point. Tom Thai, owner of Foxley in Toronto, makes his Thai style—a rendition we heartily endorse. Give it a try at your next barbecue.



INGREDIENTS:

- \bullet 1/2 shallot, peeled and sliced into rings
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 pound sea bream, deboned and sliced into inch-long strips
- ¼ cucumber, diced
- \bullet 1/2 green mango, peeled and diced
- 1/4 Vidalia onion, diced
- \bullet 1/2 green Thai chili, deseeded and thinly sliced
- 1 red Thai chili, deseeded and thinly sliced
- 1 clove of garlic, peeled and minced
- Coarse salt (about 1 tsp)
- Sugar (about ¹/₂ tsp)
- 1 tsp fish sauce
- 6 basil leaves, torn
- 6 mint leaves, roughly chopped
- 6 sawtooth leaves (long leafed herb you'll find in Chinatown) or cilantro, roughly chopped
- 2 limes (smooth-skinned—avoid the bumpy ones, which have less juice and more pulp)

HOW TO PREPARE:

• Feel free to substitute snapper, fluke, grouper, tuna or halibut. Let denser fish like grouper or halibut—sit in the citrus juice an extra minute or two. You'll want the freshest, sushi-ready piece of fish possible.

2 Fill a small pot with at least an inch of vegetable oil. Heat to medium. When the oil is hot but not smoking, fry the shallots in batches. Remove them with a slotted spoon and set to dry on a paper towel. Sprinkle with salt.

Combine fish, cucumber, mango, onion, chilies, garlic, salt, sugar and fish sauce in a mixing bowl. Squeeze lime juice over top and mix. Let sit for one minute. Add herbs and crispy shallots. Mix, season to taste. Serve with rice to cut the heat.

THE BEST CEVICHE IN VANCOUVER baru latino's ecuadorian ceviche



INGREDIENTS:

- 2 oz scallops
- 2 oz shrimp
- 2 oz octopus
- Juice from 2 limes
- Canned chipotle peppers in
- adobo sauce to taste
- Dash of chili oil
- 1 tbsp chipotle salsa
 Red onion to taste, finely chopped
- Cilantro to taste
- Salt
 - Pepper
 - 1 tsp Dijon mustard
 - Unripe plantains

HOW TO PREPARE:

• Pre-cook octopus by boiling in salted water until skin can be peeled.

2 Marinate all seafood in lime juice for two hours.

3 Cut plantains into two-inch sections and deep fry until soft.

• Combine all ingredients (except plantain) and mix.

9 Put plantains on a flat surface and use a flat plate to squash into round discs.

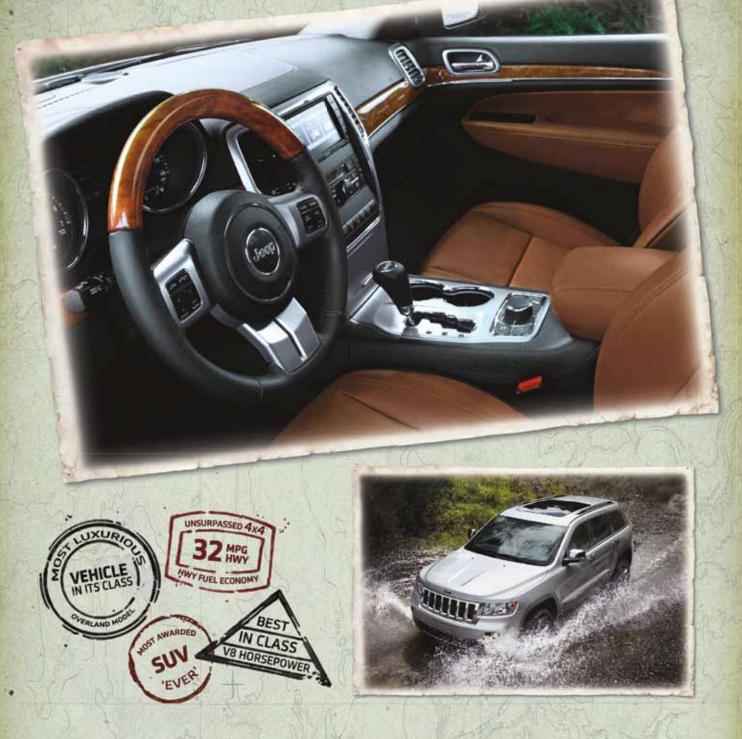
Refry plantains to heat before serving on the side.

Add a dash of sea salt.

CILANTRO, A REASONED COUNTER-ARGUMENT

Cilantro tastes like a defiled mix of mint, basil, soap and bleeding gums. It is a cancer that infects and ruins every dish every countertop—it touches. Had I the power, I would wage global herbicide against it. Man, fuck cilantro. — GREG HUDSON

YET ANOTHER AWE-INSPIRING VIEW FROM JEEP.



JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE. The new Jeep Grand Cherokee's handcrafted interior comes standard with more premium materials and refinements than ever before. Amenities like available heated and ventilated front seats and a heated steering wheel offer unexpected comfort. And comfort is important when you can drive up to 1000 kilometres on a single tank of gas. Not surprisingly, it was the most awarded SUV ever. So get in and take a look at the new Jeep Grand Cherokee for yourself. The breathtaking views start long before the engine does.

2012 Jeep Grand Cherokee Overland model shown in bright silver with new saddle interior. Most luxurious vehicle in its class (Overland model), unsurpassed 4x4 highway fuel economy, and best in class V8 horsepower claims based on *Ward*'s 2011 middle sport utility vehicle segmentation. Most awarded SUV ever based on automotive awards for SUVs 1974-2011.



GUIDE THE TRAVELING MAN

STAY **1** *the raleigh*

This South Beach stalwart stands as one of the few buildings that seamlessly blends the iconoclastic Art Deco style of 1940s Miami with contemporary amenities and details. Tucked away along pulsing Collins Avenue, The Raleigh sits confidently among its peers, providing immaculately maintained rooms, a pristine beachfront and a classic cocktail bar. Its pool alone is a monument to golden-age Miami cool. RALEIGHHOTEL.COM



MIANI

IT TURNS OUT MIAMI'S NOT NEARLY AS DOUCHEY AS WE THOUGHT. QUITE THE OPPOSITE, IN FACT

BY JOHN MARTIN MACDONALD

he city that has enticed senior citizens, Cuban refugees, and 1990s-era Will Smith is enjoying a cultural resurgence. Here's what to do when you hit the sunny streets of Miami.





EAT 2 THE DUTCH

Chef Andrew Carmellini has expanded his acclaimed SoHo bistro to the W South Beach hotel, while impressively maintaining its local food focus and maritime Americana vibe. The Collins Platter— a three-tiered marvel of the Atlantic Ocean's greatest hits (including the legendary local stone crab)— is mandatory. Follow with a filet of crispy, linecaught Florida pompano and sweet rock shrimp, complemented by a glass of crisp Vouvray from their impressive wine list. THEDUTCHMIAMI.COM

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GUIDE THE TRAVELING MAN





LEADING MIAMI'S CULINARY NEW WAVE

PUBBELLY

Open for just over a year, this Asian-tinged gastropub has quickly become the hottest seat in town, and for good reason. Chef Jose Mendin's collection of rich and exotic small plates, combined with a raucous atmosphere, feel like a revelation compared to the stuffy supper clubs that surround it. Must-haves include the red snapper salad, Korean fried chicken lettuce wraps, and pastrami and sauerkraut dumplings.









DE RODRIGUEZ CUBA

The undeniable leader in Cuban-American cuisine, the newest outpost in Chef Douglas Rodriguez's empire is the epitome of Miami chic. Sitting at the bottom of picturesque Ocean Drive, De Rodriguez Cuba takes ceviche into the realm of transcendence with innovative flavours and textures, such as ahi tuna, kumquat, and compressed watermelon. The smoked marlin tacos may be the best thing we've ever eaten. DRODRIGUEZCUBA.COM

DRINK broken shaker

Miami mixology duo Elad Zvi and Gabriel Orta have changed the game in the local cocktail scene with the introduction of Broken Shaker, a six month popup in the Indian Creek Hotel. Replete with cleverly curated décor and a killer poolside terrace, the cocktails are undoubtedly the best in the city. Get there while you still can.

BARDOT

Part speakeasy, part cabaret, this Design District haunt is the only venue in town whose weekly live acts cross the spectrum from International DJs to up-and-coming indie bands. Open until 5am, you'll leave just in time to catch one of Miami's famous sunrises. BARDOTMIAMI.COM

SHOP

3 THE WEBSTER

Spread over three floors of a painstakingly restored pastel landmark, the Webster's collection ranges from beachwear to bespoke with a singular focus on avant-garde design. Oh, and did we mention the rooftop patio bar? THEWEBSTERMIAMI.COM

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CAN YOUR Snowmobile Do this?

2013 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF R

BY MATT BUBBERS

fter traveling for nearly 48 hours on various planes, trains and buses, I find myself hurtling across a frozen lake somewhere near the Arctic Circle in a place called Arjeplog, Sweden (main industries: reindeer and wood, in that order). The speedometer on my snowmobile reads 100 km/h. The wind noise almost drowns out the sound of the engine. The sun is shining. The sky is a deep blue. My life is in peril, but I'm wide awake. Short of wrestling a rabid shark, this is the most dangerous way I can think of to get an adrenaline fix. The man on the snowmobile in front suddenly does something strange, a sort of leaping motion, up into the air. It doesn't register—not until there is daylight between my snowsuit-covered arse and the seat—what happened is the man in front hit a snowdrift and I had better brace for impact before...too late. The only point of contact between me and this death machine are my mammoth mittens clinging onto the handlebars. When you're hanging on for dear life, is it still a death grip? Must be less gravity this far north or something. Feels like we're on the moon.

The next morning, after a breakfast which includes some putty-like Swedish industrial caviar spread on scrambled eggs (not recommended), my fellow writers and I head out onto the ice for thrills of a less life-threatening variety. We will be driving the new, limited-edition Volkswagen Golf R. It has all the mod-cons: roof, seatbelts, doors, heater. For the first time, VW is offering up its ultimate Golf in Canada. Unlike the Golf GTI, this one is all-wheel-drive, and it makes all the difference. As with previous versions of the R, it's a wolf in sheep's clothing

The third major industry in Arjeplog is winter testing. Most major automakers have proving grounds here. VW has its own frozen lake near the town, and we intend to put it to good use ruining a few new Golf Rs.

It doesn't take long for one of the hacks to shunt a car wheels-deep into a snow bank. Not even the myriad electronics and the trick all-wheel-drive system can save us from ourselves. That same fender-bender on a snowmobile and that guy would be writing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 60 🕨



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GUIDE AUTOMOBILES



from a hospital bed for a very long time. The instructors don't care. The company has a new set of front and rear bumpers ready to bolt onto the cars once we leave. Crash as much as you like!

It's not the 256-horsepower, turbocharged engine or the throaty exhaust note that's best about the R. No, it's the handbrake working in combination with that AWD system. Turn the steering, wait for the studded tires to grip the ice, let off the throttle, pull the handbrake to lock the rear wheels, let the car skew sideways, watch out the side window, flatten the throttle, and you're off again. A perfect sideways, 90-degree turn on ice. It's laughably easy and frighteningly addictive. Must resist temptation to try this at home.

By the time the sun goes down, I'm still wide awake, adrenaline from the drive eliminating any remnants of jet lag. At \$40,000 the Golf R might just be the most practical way to get your speed fix. Plus, it'll take the kids to school and carry home a load of IKEA flatpack. I'd like see a snowmobile do that.

WHEN MAIN-STREAMERS GO MANIC THE GOLF R IS JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF A FRUMPY PEDESTRIAN CAR SUCCESSFULLY TRANSFORMED INTO A PIN-UP. HERE ARE A FEW MORE:



MITSUBISHI LANCER EVOLUTION MR The lowdown: The archnemesis of the Subaru STI. The MR deletes the Lancer's fanboy-racer rear wing but adds a dual-clutch gearbox and even more dialed-in handling. PRICE: \$51.798



MAZDASPEED3 The lowdown: It's the plain old Mazda3, except turbocharged to the mean tune of 263 hp, better looking, faster and more high-tech. Did we mention it's much, much faster? PRICE: \$29,795



JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE SRT8 The lowdown: Physics says this should not be possible. The work of the devil this is, then—all 465 maniacal horsepower of it. Mmm... sacrilicious. PRICE: \$55.095



SUBARU WRX STI The lowdown: Ever watch Subarus rally racing on YouTube? A bunch of highspeed competition tech is bolted in here, from AWD to a 305-horsepower turbo engine. PRICE: \$42.695

AND COMING SOON...



FORD FOCUS ST The lowdown: Ford's global compact car morphs into its first global performance car. Europe has been enjoying performance-tweaked Ford hatches for years—it's about time, we say. PRICE: \$35.000 (EST.) – BH



A THRONE FIT FOR AN EMPEROR The 2013 lexus gs takes seating to the next level

His is the most sensitive ass in all of Japan. Plucked from a remote village on the slopes of Mount Fuji, he was raised crafting thrones for emperors and trained in the ways of Eames and van der Rohe.

We'd like to believe this is the CV for a man at Lexus we've never met: picture him aged, bespectacled, soft-spoken. He was in charge of designing the optional front seats in the fully redone 2013 GS sedan. They have no less than 18 ways of adjusting, which took five-and-a-half years to get right. There have been two Olympiads, a pair of federal elections and a Kardashian wedding—and divorce—in that time. The seats, thus, are exceedingly comfortable, though a tad fanatical.

Such is the theme with the new, third generation GS. There are myriad other examples: "specially designed thumb rests" on the steering wheel for maximum, well, thumb comfort; light from a single LED efficiently channeled to illuminate both hands of the onboard clock; and the S-Flow climate control system that decides how to cool the cabin autonomously based on how many people are aboard. Even the new F Sport trim brings hints of agility to the sedan's seat-of-your-pants feel. In V6 gas or hybrid trim, on road or racetrack, there are signs of life here.

Finally. Lexus has long been the Maytag of luxury automobiles, something you bought with your head, not heart. But if Canadians are as impressed by its finely fettled seats (and other accoutrements) as we were, that may be about to change. – BH



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WINNERS

GUIDE FATHERHOOD

DAD MAN RUNNING

IF YOUR LEGS WORK, BUT YOU CAN'T RUN, REALLY RUN, FOR HALF AN HOUR, THEN YOU'RE NOT FIT TO BE A DAD.

BY SHAUGHNESSY BISHOP-STALL ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL BLOW

hen my father was the age I am now, he ran his first marathon. He came in last. But he did so spectacularly. We've both told the story a hundred times. It tends to go like this:

At 21 miles my dad hits the wall. His legs lock. He's doing that robot fandango, and the reaper is coming. That's the rule: four hours and you're done; they open up the streets again. They've already picked off a couple hundred laggers behind him.

At 23 miles, a paramedic walks up, slows down, in fact, to say his piece: "The course is closed now, sir. Would you like to ride with us?"

But my dad, crashed and burning, barely breathing, tells the man to just fuck off. "I...," he growls, "am going to finish!"

And for whatever reason the guy takes it. He calls it in on his handset: "Number 453: last official finisher."

So my dad has saved his race, and that of those ahead. But can he teach his legs to run again?

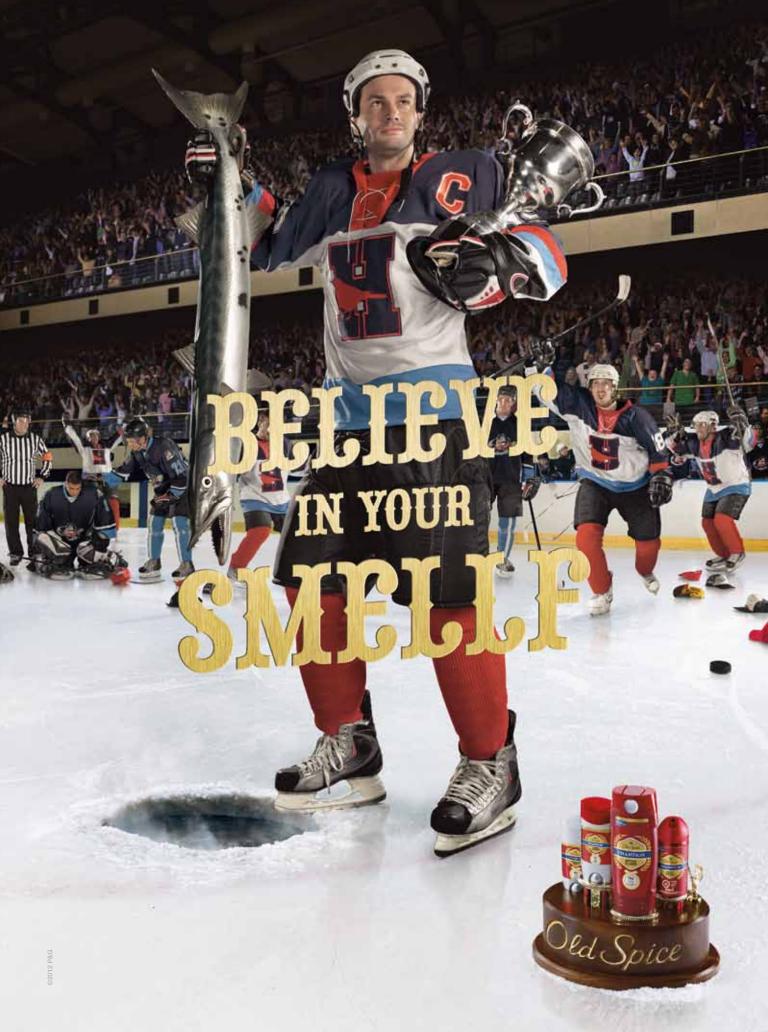
It's 25 miles and he stumbles onto

Hornby Street. The cops are there on motorcycles, called from every station, waiting for his number. He shuffles past and they form a V behind—sirens, flashing lights. Hordes still line the streets. It's been a while since they had anything to cheer for, and they start to howl. His legs unlock. And now he's flying...

Next morning it's the front page of the newspaper: 20 cops on motorcycle, my dad hitting the finish line: "I'm kind of proud," said Bob Stall, last-place finisher in the Vancouver Marathon. "It's the longest I've ever gone without a cigarette."

Here's the thing: for the sake of my son, my salvation, and this ongoing column, I've embarked on a mission: to learn, as fast as I can, everything I should have already learned, so I can teach it to my son. Running is the starting point.

Not only is it the one thing left over from my dad's skill-set that I never let him teach me. It is fundamental. If I'm going to learn



GUIDE FATHERHOOD

hockey and hunting—never mind chasing after a toddler all day—I need to be fit. Running is the baseline for real fitness. If you have legs that function properly, but you can't run at a good clip for half an hour, then you're not really fit.

Nor can you do what any able-bodied parent should be able to do: chase down a kidnapper, outrun a dingo, escape a tsunami. Adrenaline's good, but training will keep you going until the waters recede. So this one's a lesson about lessons, if only I can learn it: Keep the kid out of danger just long enough to teach him something. And remember how to learn from my dad.

My dad started running when we moved to Vancouver. I was five and we went on Run Rides: me on my bike, him panting alongside, down the beach and forest trails that bracketed our new neighbourhood. Even out west, runners were still an oddity and dudes were always yelling at us: "Hey, man, where's the fire?" But my dad shrugged them off with a laugh or a growl.

Although he'd "quit," there was always some hollow tree along the way, with cigarettes and matches in a zip-lock bag. I'd speed ahead while he took his drags, then he'd run like mad to catch up.

My dad made jogging seem like an adventure—pounding the roads and trails, hungover, bare-chested, even when it snowed. And yet I still didn't go for it. To me, real sports, and in fact most enjoyable endeavours, were about adrenaline, competition and reflexes. Running seemed sorely bereft of all three. Also, it made me sore.

My hips (and therefore my legs and feet) turn outward. Good for a frog kick, certain dance moves and riding a horse. Bad for jogging. It's the opposite of streamlining: the faster I go, the more my legs turn outward, until my hips are a windsock and my feet are running away from each other.

I stuck to that story. And, anyway, running was for preening dullards: there's something Zen about it. Something meditative. This further confused me about my dad. He has even less patience than I do, particularly for things like meditation. What the hell had he been doing out there all this time? Other than MY DAD MADE JOGGING SEEM LIKE AN ADVENTURE— POUNDING THE ROADS AND TRAILS, HUNGOVER, BARE-CHESTED, EVEN WHEN IT SNOWED. AND YET I STILL DIDN'T GO FOR IT. TO ME, REAL SPORT, AND IN FACT MOST ENJOYABLE ENDEAVOURS, WAS ABOUT ADRENALINE, COMPETITION AND REFLEXES. RUNNING SEEMED SORELY BEREFT OF ALL THREE. ALSO, IT MADE ME SORE.

sneaking smokes? It made no sense at all... And then things happened.

I had a baby, turned 37, lost 20 lb—as well as a bit of equilibrium—then tore through a tendon in my right arm. I couldn't play the sports I loved. I was fit but injured; a little unbalanced and raring to go. In the past I'd have moped, drunk, gotten into a fight—then swum, hiked or just gotten fat.

But this time I was a dad, the same age as mine when he began to run. I didn't realize that at the time, I just woke up one morning and decided to go for a jog: out the front door and into downtown Toronto.

And I tell you, man, I burned it up—dodging through the intersections, adrenaline kicking in—cabs and strollers smouldering behind me. I ran like after a thief, like from a tornado, like a bomb was going to blow and only I could stop it... and then I got a cramp.

Later, I phoned my dad:

"Here's the thing. People say running is boring." By "people" he meant me. "But that's a euphemism for difficult and tiring. The fact is you've got to get through the first six weeks. Just keep putting one foot in front of the other, again and again and again. And in six weeks it's not going to feel that bad."

"That sounds fun," I said.

"I never said it was fun."

In truth, my dad never said it was anything. He taught me a bunch of stuff but never tried to get me to run. I have ideas about that now.

For my dad it was never a life skill, but

rather a lifesaver, suddenly, almost subconsciously, necessary to him. He loves eating and drinking and smoking a lot. And when he felt how much smoking was really damaging him, he took up running to counteract it. He ran eight marathons and finished seven. Like anything my dad does, he went all out... until he finally quit smoking for real. Then he stopped running. A few years later he had a double bypass.

It's been more than six weeks now. I can run about four miles in half an hour, and every other day I do this sick thing where you sprint full-out 30 seconds then walk a minute, five times in a row. If that doesn't sound too bad, you've never tried to do it.

There are a hundred fitness and health magazines that will help you become a runner: with increments and percentages and boring things like that. Here are a few things I've learned, that I'll pass on to my son:

1) Don't run to lose weight. It's overly painful and nearly impossible. Lose weight to run; ingest fewer calories than you burn in a day, for however long it takes.

2) As with anything else, use rock 'n' roll. Start with tailored playlists, then move to random shuffle; it's as close to Zen as you need.

3) If you don't like to run, don't worry: sharpen those reflexes, eat and drink (but maybe don't smoke) and wait till you turn 37.

4) Put one foot in front of the other, again and again and again.



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A PERONI WITH

JORDIN AND TAMARA MIMRAN AT THE BOWERY IN TORONTO

Sharp presents a multi-part series of interviews with Canadian tastemakers, over a bottle of Peroni at their favourite venues. In this issue, we sit down with MOON designers Jordin and Tamara Mimran at The Bowery in Toronto to discuss the family business, the state of Canadian fashion and some essential items that every guy needs in his wardrobe this summer.

YOU BOTH GREW UP AROUND FASHION. WAS JOINING THE FAMILY BUSINESS ALWAYS PART OF THE PLAN?

Jordin: It wasn't always the plan. But we grew up in the business, and we have an innate understanding of the fashion industry and of our mentor Alfred Sung's clean, modern style. We learned a lot from him. I studied industrial design in school and Tamara studied busi-

ness—and together we have a nice dynamic that complements each other.

WHAT WAS YOUR VISION FOR MOON WHEN YOU CONCEIVED THE BRAND?

Tamara: The vision for MOON was always about dressing that modern, urban, young, creative professional. We always saw MOON as being not

a casual line, not a super contemporary line, but something that's a little more polished; something you can wear to work, but you can still wear out in the evening. We also wanted to make sure that MOON was price-sensitive. That was a big aspect of our development in the brand.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ON THE STATE OF CANADIAN FASHION RIGHT NOW?

Tamara: What I love about Canadian fashion is our middle ground between really stuffy American looks, and the über chic European looks. The way Canadians find a way to marry those two different styles is really unique.

Jordin: A lot of young Canadian guys are really into fashion these days.

They are warming up to a lot of the old, more tailored looks that maybe our grandfathers would have worn at one point.

WHAT ARE SOME SUMMER STAPLES YOU THINK EVERY MAN SHOULD HAVE IN HIS WARDROBE?

Jordin: A shawl-collar cardigan. It's like the new jacket for

guys. You can throw it over top of a t-shirt like I have on, or a shirt. It's sort of a more casual way to work in a jacket in the

spring or summer. *Tamara:* A slub cotton polo. It's a slim polo fit

that's just something different from the normal piqué or jersey that everyone is wearing.



"WHAT I LOVE ABOUT CANADIAN FASHION IS OUR MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN REALLY STUFFY AMERICAN LOOKS AND THE ÜBER CHIC EUROPEAN LOOKS." – TAMARA MIMRAN

Visit Sharpformen.com/peroni for a video of the full interview, plus looks from MOON's Spring/Summer 2012 collection.



BY GREG HUDSON • PHOTOS BY BENNI VALSSON

66 SHARP 5:12



For behold, it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Paris that because of the grace of him who did bring Sexy Back, we would see Justin face to face, and speak with him as a man speaketh to another. And it came to pass that we did go down, even unto New York, to see the man of whom Givenchy did speak. And, lo, it was good.

THE BOOK OF TIMBERLAKE 1:3-4

JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE IS NO ORDINARY MAN

Justin Timberlake is no ordinary human. I know, for I have met him. And yet, having done so, I can also say that Justin Timberlake is entirely ordinary. He is a man, and nothing more. It's a paradox of almost religious proportions. And it's the mystery behind one of the biggest pop-cultural miracles of our time: Justin Timberlake has stayed relevant years longer than he had any right to. He has changed the genetic makeup of his fans. Girls into men, water into wine. Like the loaves and fishes. Worlds without end.

But how was it done?

When the Gospel writers tackled the life of Jesus, they dropped the narrative thread after little Jesus chatted up some rabbis when he was 12 years old. They picked it up again when JC was in his thirties. That didn't happen for Justin Timberlake; we saw every step he took, from boy to man.

Yet, Timberlake has moved so far beyond any other personality he came up with—his *NSYNC bandmates, other boy bands, even Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera—that it feels sacrilegious to discuss him in that context. He's made real music. He's done real acting, real comedy, and, it would seem from his brand extensions, he's become the kind of man other men want to be associated with.

But the point is, like everyone else in my generation, I witnessed each step of his transformation. And yet, it's been so complete, so authentic, so subtle that it's hard to square the Justin of today, whom I admire for his talent, success, charisma and impending marriage to Jessica Biel, with the curlicued pop dreamboat of old. So, when the opportunity came to meet him, I vowed to investigate this miracle.

THE HOUR I FIRST BELIEVED

Some background: As a man coming of age during the late nineties—the boom time for boy bands—it was impossible for me

to have anything but disdain for Timberlake and the men with whom he was perpetually in sync. It wasn't until later that I became a believer.

In 2002, he co-wrote and sang lead on "Gone," a soul-aching ballad that made the other dudes in the band seem like little more than session singers, while JT sounded like the heir to Michael Jackson. Timberlake was always the standout in the group, but after "Gone" it was clear that he would one day eclipse them all.

A year after that, while I was under a religiously imposed two-year sabbatical from secular music, I heard he was making a solo record. My brother-in-law happened to be a VP of marketing at Sony at the time. He told me the record was the most exciting thing he'd ever worked on. (He didn't say the same thing about the offering from Justin's Backstreet counterpart, Nick Carter).

After two years of nothing but hymns and sermons, *Justified* was the first bit of music I bought. It changed my life. I was converted, whole-heartedly.

THE PILGRIMAGE

B chold, should you not praise them who did carry you unto Justin? For did you not fly on the wings of their generosity and marketing savvy, unto New York? Yea, and did they not give you all manner of things? Yea, did they not feed you, even wine and meats, and give you shelter in SoHo? Did they not give you scented waters, infused with amyris wood and citrus, yea, even Givenchy Play Sport? And what is more, was not Justin seated before you? And did you not speak unto him?

THE BOOK OF TIMBERLAKE 3:12

In case the above wasn't clear: I get to talk to Justin Timberlake because he is the face of Givenchy's new fragrance Play Sport, and Givenchy (understandably) wants people to know this. They paid for me to go to New York, put me up in a very fancy hotel, and set up a throne room for Timberlake in the hotel's penthouse suite. But I consider all that serendipity—a capitalistic miracle that will allow me, a Timberlake proselyte, to finally understand the Mystery of Justin.



Once, as it happens, I sat in the same chair that Justin sat in the week before. Stupid as it was, I felt the frisson of theoretical proximity. That was more than four years ago, when Timberlake was mostly just a pop star. The depth of Timberlake's transformation has only deepened since then. He's not only a dude who's album I had made out to (tell me you haven't), he's become one of those charming, omnipresent personalities you'd hate out of jealousy, if you didn't respect him so much. You can imagine the nervousness I felt knowing I was about to shake his hand.

He looks like he could be a young rabbi. His usually manicured facial scruff has grown into a full beard, and he's wearing a black fedora and dark-framed eyeglasses. I'm completely underdressed in my blazer, tie and jeans. He's wearing a three-piece suit. His tie is blue. I sit down across from him. He's leafing through a coffee table book someone has given him about the best golf courses in the world—it's a passion of his (golf, not the coffee table book). He runs a celebrity golf tournament, owns a course. Nearby, a publicist starts a stopwatch. It's a blessing to talk with him one on one, but that blessing has a time limit.

I ask about the book. "I probably golf more than I should," he says, then clarifies, seeing an opportunity for charm, "I should be better than I am, for as much as I golf. And in that respect, I golf more than I should."

A confession: unfairly hoping for special treatment—more time with Timberlake, or more honesty—the first few minutes with Timberlake are wasted trying to create a personal six degrees of separation with him, via my brother-in-law at Sony. It doesn't work. A diligent seeker would have dived right into the Mystery of Justin, but I had personal questions that only he could settle.

Then: I ask him the secret, the Mystery—How has he stayed relevant? He answers: "Sexual favours, probably."

We both acknowledge the joke in that way men do. Then he continues, "I would say, honestly, man, when I was young, I don't think I ever really wanted to be one thing. I find that with a lot of people from our generation; I think it's even more so with the generation behind us, and the one behind that."

He says, for instance, that when he was young he was sure he was going to be a sitcom actor, or a cast member on *SNL*. "The irony is I had to become a musician to become funny in people's eyes. You never know where things are going to go. I think the fact that I've never wanted to be one thing, that I always went in thinking I'm going to evolve and change has helped."

"And to be honest with you," he continues, "I've been pretty lucky. I would attribute a lot of luck to it. Probably sheer ignorance as well."

Ah, I think. Mystery solved.

HE WHO HAS EARS, LET HIM HEAR

nd whatsoever ye shall ask, if it be relevant, and if it be according to the prearranged details which thou has discussed with my publicist, behold, I shall answer thee. And behold, there is not a question that I have not received, nor are there answers to all questions. Nevertheless, thou shalt ponder the answers I shall give thee.

THE BOOK OF TIMBERLAKE 4:23

Only, the mystery isn't solved, is it? He sounds down to earth, humbled by his opportunity and good fortune. He's normal, except he's not.

Ponder: Like a regular person, he has more than one talent and interest. And the degree with which his talent affects his profession changes with his focus and opportunity. But unlike a regular person, Timberlake has an incredible amount of luck audiences are willing to embrace nearly everything he does (a few straight-to-DVD releases notwithstanding).

On the other hand, a regular person might have many interests, but only excel at one—and even then, it's qualified. No so for Timberlake. He seems to have copious talent in every field he's interested in (music especially, but he was damn good in *The Social Network*, and charming as hell in *Friends With Benefits*, wasn't he?) So much so that it calls into question the role of luck.

So, what does that mean for those who want to understand Justin Timberlake, or who want to walk in his footsteps? Do they work to increase their talent, or their luck? We return to the paradox. He's a regular man, and he's more.

"It really is crazy and weird, and like I said, my ignorance has a lot to do with it, because, honestly, I'm not the most confident person in the world. If I had to look back on the things that I tried, I probably wouldn't have the balls to try them now."

"Like what?" I ask him.

"Look, I'm glad I did it, but the first two times I hosted *SNL*, I was the host and the musical guest, because I was like, why not? There are things that you try on the show because you just don't know any better. You have to have the level of comfort where you are willing to try things in front of people. I'm a firm believer that moments happen because there was a clash of extenuating circumstances."

"But, to answer your question, I have no idea."

That brings up something, doesn't it? If he's being honest—and I think he is, to the extent that any person can be honest with the fifth or sixth stranger they have been forced to talk to in the last two hours—he doesn't quite know how he's maintained his success. Ignorance like that could either fuel the kind of careerkilling overconfidence seen by any number of personalities looking to add a "slash" to their job title, or it could cause some serious anxiety when undertaking a new project.

"I wouldn't call it fear, but there is always a level of excitement and nervousness because you are trying something new," he says. He's feeling it right now. He's making a film with the Coen Brothers, playing a folk singer in the 1960s. "It's the first time that I'm doing real, not joking, music in a movie." A blending of his

70 SHARP 5:12 talents, sure, but it doesn't guarantee success. Just as his first solo album wasn't necessarily going to be a sure thing (remember that Nick Carter album?), and just like his first forays into movies weren't universally praised (remember 2005's *Edison*?).

Knowing your luck and knowing your skill doesn't grant you special knowledge of your future.

IN THE NAME OF JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE...

For, lo, I am Timberlake, and there is nothing that I cannot do.

BOOK OF TIMBERLAKE 5:4

I don't know what I was expecting him to say. Asking to know how someone has stayed relevant is like asking an artist where they get their ideas—it's impossible to answer accurately. "I more closely fit society's definition of attractiveness," he could have said. Or, "I have artistic sensibilities that preternaturally conform with the tastes of a greater number of people," and, "Also, I'm just more likeable than most of my contemporaries." But even those responses wouldn't have answered the question.

But still, after the interview, I traveled back down to my hotel room disappointed. I wanted more, even if I didn't know what exactly it was.

Which, if you want to know, is where this whole religious element comes in. There's an entitlement to journalists—and their readers—that mirrors the entitlement of the religious seeker. "Ask, and it shall be given," God apparently said. And so,

the believer asks and asks and asks, waiting for wisdom and blessings and who knows what else. But it turns out there's a difference between a star and a deity. In so many ways, we worship Justin Timberlake, singer, actor, men's fragrance



pitchperson, but he doesn't have to answer just because I knocked, especially since Justin Timberlake, regular person, might not know the answer. It turns out that the Mystery of Justin is a mystery even to Justin.



BROOKLYN BEASONS TO

SEVERAL (NON-VISUAL) REASONS TO APPRECIATE THE FORMER MODEL. AND MAYBE EVEN SEE HER MOVIES.

BY GREG HUDSON

You've heard it before about countless

celebrities, but I'm serious: Brooklyn Decker is real. After interviewing Brooklyn Decker, the first thing you want to do is talk with her. You want her to be your friend, dammit.

But, of course, she's not my friend. She's the woman who graced the pages (and covers) of *Sports Illustrated* before she launched her full-time acting career. This month, she has two movies, *Battleship* and *What to Expect When You're Expecting* opening on the same day (May 18).

I know, you've seen dozens of famous people try this career change (some more effectively than others), and you've read just as many fawning articles about how these entitled beauties deserve not only your attention, but the benefit of the doubt. And, here I am, another writer, telling you that a professionally beautiful woman is more complex than she appears. Of course you're cynical.

So, let me lay it out for you simply.

FIVE EXAMPLES OF BROOKLYN DECKER'S TOUCHING HONESTY AND SELF-AWARENESS THAT DEFIES CYNICISM AND JUSTIFIES HER CAREER



SHE WORRIES THAT SHE RAMBLES IN INTERVIEWS. AND THEN IN THIS INWTERVIEW, SHE RAMBLES.

"I'm very candid, almost to a fault," she says "I'll say things and wonder why I said them. Or I tell people too much information, or I ramble. I'm definitely concerned

with how I come off." She'll reference that fear at least two more times. This is important because rambling doesn't feel like rambling when you're doing it. It feels like talking. Which is why most people who ramble don't worry about it. Either Brooklyn's people informed her

of her rambling, or she's noticed it on her own. And while that self-awareness hasn't necessarily inspired a change in her speech, it's still self-awareness.



SHE IS AWARE OF HOW ATTRACTIVE SHE IS AND, PLEASANTLY, IS NOT COY ABOUT IT.

I ask her what crossover skills there are between acting and modeling, besides

being attractive. It is, in retrospect, kind of a snarky question. I expect to get a pretentious answer about how modeling *is* acting, only static. Or something about how beauty is relative. Or something.

Instead, this: "If you look at interviews with Charlize Theron or Halle Berry they talk about how the biggest obstacle is being attractive. It has its own pitfalls. Not that I'm complaining; it is obviously the reason I had a modeling career." Which, as simple as it is, is refreshing. Yes, I was a model because I am more attractive than most people.

And then, "Honestly, there isn't much crossover between the two. Modeling is incredibly posed, you're selling a product, you know every movement of your body. With acting, it has to be spontaneous and natural and not feel forced or posed at all."

I TELL PEOPLE TOO MUCH INFORMATION, OR I RAMBLE. I'M DEFINITELY CONCERNED WITH HOW I COME OFF.





3

HER THOUGHTS ON MODELING, GENERALLY:

"I loved who I worked with, and I loved the traveling that I got to do through modeling, but the job wasn't that fulfilling for me. The job

itself wasn't that demanding. I really haven't done any modeling for two years. I mean if all else fails, and I don't have any money coming in, I guess I'll fall back on it. But I don't plan on modeling anymore. That sounded horrible."

Isn't this exactly what a normal person wants a model to say about modeling? We assume models are vapid because their job requires, primarily, looking pretty and not saying much. Isn't it refreshing to have someone famous for modeling agree with that characterization?

And not only that, but to go even further: "For five years I was taking my clothes off for pictures. I was in bathing suits and underwear all the time. So I can only imagine what people must think of me."

Her honesty is such that when she says that the preconceived notions people have about models are unfair, you believe her. It's not a sheltered defense. It sounds

like someone talking about an old relationship, someone who knows.

HER THOUGHTS ON HER CAREER:

It's not that men dig vulnerability in women. It's not vulnerability, and it has nothing to do with gender. Humans like other humans who possess humility. Especially when the humility is surprising.

I mentioned how famous she became as a model:

"You're a guy, so you knew *Sports Illustrated*. If you look at my modeling career I had one client that was very powerful and very influential. I was lucky to have them, but if you look at my overall modeling career, I wasn't that successful. I mean, I never walked a runway in my life. I never did a photo shoot for *Vogue*. I never did a high-fashion campaign. There was a lot that I never really achieved. Let's be honest, if you ask a 13-year-old boy or a 30-year-old woman, I think the 13-year-old would know my name over the woman."

Self-deprecation often gets mistaken for humility. They are different: one is subjective, and very likely insincere, the other is a clear-eyed understand-

ing of one's importance. You can know you're beautiful, talented, charismatic and still be humble.



HOW SHE FELT WHEN SHE SAW THE *BATTLESHIP* TRAILER:

"I hadn't seen it in the theatres yet, and I got teary eyed, and I started shaking, and I was excited, and I felt guilty and I was scared. Every emotion you could feel." That's understandable. Except maybe the guilt. Why the guilt, I ask her.

"Because I don't really deserve to be in two movies coming out on the same day. I don't deserve to be in two movies at all. I feel like I haven't paid my dues yet, which is why I think I'm studying so hard and kicking my own ass, because I'm trying to play catch-up. But, it's very scary. It's exciting. It's humbling. Truly, I can't... this is the first time I've been at a loss for words in this entire conversation."

I'll be honest: even though I'm a dude, I'm not that excited by the explosive spectacle of *Battleship*. And even though I have a young wife, I'm not thrilled about the ensemble rom-com-ery of *What to Expect When You're Expecting*. But, I can't help but want to see Brooklyn Decker in those movies. Because, dammit, that's what friends do. Plus, she's not bad looking, either.





THE SHARP 2012

A Three-part Exhibit

or generations, men have been trying in vain to understand and properly express the mysterious allure of golf. What is it about chasing a little white ball around that confounds and consumes so many? We don't know, either, but we know what we like about it. There's the thrill of watching a kid like Rory McIlroy (*exhibit 1, page 84*) push the game's limits, for one. There's the satisfaction of spending a couple of days with friends in the scenic splendor of a place like Cape Breton's Cabot Links (*exhibit 3, page 96*). There's the fraternity of competition, the luck of the game, the serenity of a well-groomed course, the excuse to smoke cigars and, of course, there are all of those cool toys (*exhibit 2, page 88*). Who could possibly need more of an explanation than that?



THE SHARP 2012 **EXHIBIT I**

With a handful of titles to his name, Northern Irish Golf phenom Rory McIlroy is only a few trophies away from Tiger status. And he's only 23.

BY CRAIG DOLCH

R

ory McIlroy's arm shot up in an instant. Could you blame him? His girlfriend, tennis star Caroline Wozniacki, had just watched Maria Sharapova dance with a man from the stands during a tennis exhibition at New York's Madison Square Garden.

"Are there any hot guys that want to dance with me?" Wozniacki teased the crowd, some of whom immediately started pointing at McIlroy, seated near the court, his left arm already skyward.

But instead of taking Rory's arm, Wozniacki handed



McIlroy her racquet and gestured for him to go on the court and play Sharapova. For an instant, McIlroy looked like a golfer who discovered his perfect drive had landed in a divot. He held out both hands as if to say, "What do I do with this?" Still, he walked to the baseline, pretended to tee the tennis ball up for a golf shot and then hit an underhanded serve to start a rally.

"I've never been so nervous in my life," McIlroy said. "I can hit a golf shot in front of a million people, but getting up there...I wanted to hit a serve, but I was thinking, if I frame this into the crowd, it's going to look so bad."

Sharapova played along, hitting a couple of soft returns before her lob landed wide, allowing McIlroy to "win" the point for his lady.

It could have been worse. "Thank God she didn't ask me to dance," McIlroy said, smiling. "I was much happier hitting a tennis shot."

Such is life for McIlroy these days. Barely 24 hours before his tennis exhibition, McIlroy held off a hard-charging Tiger Woods to win the Honda Classic at PGA National and ascend to the No. 1 world ranking in golf.

That would be a cool enough accomplishment for most 22-yearolds, but not when you're Rory McIlroy. He had already arranged to fly on Sunday night in his personal jet from West Palm Beach to New York City so he could spend the day with his girlfriend—they've been dubbed "Wozilroy"—and watch her match with Sharapova. By 2 p.m. the following day, he was back in South Florida, landing in Miami to prepare for another big tournament. He eventually finished third in the WGC-Cadillac Championship at Doral to ensure he would remain No. 1 in the world for a while longer.

In a sport where the winners are getting younger and younger—players in their twenties won half of the first 10 events this year on the PGA Tour—McIlroy is clearly this youth movement's poster child. Before his 23rd birthday on May 4, he had already 1) won a major and six professional events; 2) become just the 16th golfer to take over the No. 1 world ranking; 3) dated a worldclass athlete and 4) was on the verge of becoming the third-highest-earning golfer, behind only Woods and Phil Mickelson.

How many young men out there wouldn't want to trade places with McIlroy? While the beauty of golf is that players can win tournaments in their fifties, McIlroy is proof that golf remains a young man's game. It is why Woods, at 36 and with four surgeries on his left knee, already seems much closer to his retirement than his greatness.

"When you're 21, it's pretty easy to fly around the world nonstop and just go play and do everything you want to do, but it's different when you're 31," said pro golfer Adam Scott, who also dates a tennis star (Serbian Ana Ivanovic). "So it catches up with you a little bit. Watching Rory play golf now is inspiring."



t's not as if this is surprising. Just like Woods will forever be remembered for appearing on the *Mike Douglas Show* when he was 2 years old, McIlroy was also a child prodigy growing up in Holywood in Northern Ireland. By 2, he was able to hit 40-yard drives. By 6, he could hit draws or fades, and he called himself "Rory Nick Faldo McIlroy." By 8, he

was allowed to join Holywood Golf Club.

"You could already tell he was going to be something special," said Michael Bannon, McIlroy's long time swing coach and Holywood Golf Club's former head pro.

When he was 9, McIlroy appeared on a Northern Ireland TV show and hit balls into the opening of a front-loading washing machine—just like he used to do at home. While McIlroy's game appeared golden, he grew up in a blue-collar setting. His father, Gerry, worked three jobs and his mom, Rose, worked extra shifts at the local 3M plant to help support their only child's golf expenses. This background explains why McIlroy has remained unchanged, despite the number of trophies he has accumulated.

"My mom and dad are very grounded people," he said. "The friends I have are the same friends that I've had growing up my whole life. They knew me when I was just going to school and playing junior golf and

amateur golf. I don't feel like I've changed in any way. They can still give me grief and it's fine."

McIlroy's first international victory came in 1998 when he won the age 8-9 bracket of the Doral Junior Classic at Doral Resort & Spa. In 2005, he became the youngest winner of both the West of Ireland Championship and the Irish Close Championship. Soon after, he left Sullivan Upper School, and it was obvious that his career was headed in one direction: golf.

But his life is not all about the game. He's like most 23-year-olds; he enjoys music, cars and soccer. But he's not like most 23-yearolds in that he has a scaled-down soccer pitch built in his backyard and exchanges congratulatory texts with members of the famed Manchester United soccer team when he wins a big tournament.

"Yeah, got one from Fergie [Manchester United coach Sir Alan Ferguson], Wayne Rooney, Rio Ferdinand, a few of the United boys," McIlroy casually mentioned at Doral. "Greg Norman left me a voicemail and a message. He said some very complimentary things. It's a nice position to be in."

Those people were also there for McIlroy when he went through last year's Masters meltdown, losing a four-shot lead on the final day when it appeared he was about to win his first major title. Instead, he shot 80 and faded to 15th place. It says plenty about McIlroy's sportsmanship that he kept his commitment to playing the week after the Masters at an event in Malaysia. McIlroy even had to make the red-eye flight with Masters champion Charl Schwartzel (they used to share the same agent). Instead of throwing himself a pity party, McIlroy asked Schwartzel to get the green jacket out of his luggage so they could take a picture of it together.



"I think the way he handled it was really spectacular," Schwartzel said. "He must have been obviously hurting. For him to suggest that takes some courage."

Perhaps it was coincidence, but the week after his trip to earthquake-ravaged Haiti—where he toured the country as UNICEF's Northern Irish Ambassador—McIlroy showed he had more than recovered from his Masters hangover by winning the US Open by an eye-popping eight shots at Congressional Country Club. People who knew little about golf were openly rooting for McIlroy because of the exemplary way he accepted defeat and his determination to make sure it didn't happen again.

But for those who have known McIlroy all these years in Holywood, they don't get the fuss. The rest of the world is finding out what they have known for a long time.

"He's been groomed for this," said Irish pro golfer Padraig Harrington, who has won three major titles. "This is something that's been a natural progression. You have to realize Rory has been doing interviews since he was 13 or 14. He's used to being the big fish, no matter if the pond is a lot bigger these days."

McIlroy doesn't try to generate headlines, but he's not shy about making history, either. It would be easy for him, for example, to date a woman who doesn't also play professional sports and deal with the usual paparazzi. But he has never hidden his relationship with Wozniacki, seeming to enjoy the stir they created after he stopped dating childhood sweetheart Holly Sweeney last year. With his endorsement deal to wear Oakley clothing apparel, he has no problem standing out on the fairways, either.

"I feel like I do thrive in the spotlight, and I like the attention," McIlroy said. "Not saying that I'm an attention seeker, but you know you're doing something right when you're in the spotlight. I'd love to keep myself here for a while."

McIlroy says he has become a better athlete since he started dating Wozniacki. Not only can they share insights into their similar lifestyles, he became committed to getting in better shape after watching the effort Wozniacki puts into her sport.

"You see how hard they work, and I'm there hitting golf balls," he said, smiling. "It's not a hardship, really. Obviously, everyone can put a little more work in if they want to."

"This is what I've always wanted to do...this is what I've always wanted to be. I still feel like I've got a long way to go to achieve what I want to. I don't feel like I have to live that much differently.... The day where I don't have the attention, or I don't have the scrutiny is the day that I know something's wrong."

EXHIBIT 2

Five types of golfers and the best gear for each of them.

WORDS BY: SCOTT KRAMER PHOTOS BY: VINCENT LIONS AND ADRIAN ARMSTRONG



YOUNG GUN (fortunus-beginnerus)

1

THE SHARP 2012

Modern, flashy and hip, you're relatively new to the game. You want to use the top name brands, as long as they help you improve your game. But, hey, anything is going to be an upgrade, right?

Michael Kors shirt, \$95; Nike pants, \$110; Nike hat, \$30; Canterbury Golf belt, \$60. All from Golf Town.



1 TAYLORMADE ROCKETBALLZ

Looking for instant distance and forgiveness? Each iron in this set feels solid, thanks to a urethane dampener and hollow clubhead. \$900

2 NIKE DUNK NG

Several top golf shoes now resemble court shoes—none more so than these. Made with full-grain, waterproof leather and a rubber cupsole, these come with two sets of contrasting shoelaces for different looks. \$160

IN THE BAG

3 OAKLEY RADARLOCK

Golf sunglasses need to look good, let you clearly read greens and fairway contours, and protect your eyes from the sun. These lightweight wonders do all that, plus allow you to swap out lenses quickly. \$300 with polarized lens, \$220 with nonpolarized lens

TOUR EDGE EXOTICS XCG-5

With just 11.5 degrees of loft on its 185 cc clubhead, this 3+ wood plays more like an easy-to-hit driver. You'll get loads of distance and trajectory. Collectively, a titanium clubhead and tungsten sole plate help you find the fairway. \$300

4 SRIXON *Q*-STAR

This soft-feeling ball for mid-to high-handicappers bears an eye-catching yellow cover, but stands apart on the inside, too. Its large and resilient core, thin cover and advanced aerodynamics collectively get you tee-shot distance and short-game spin. \$25 per dozen

5 EXPRESSO SATELLITE NAVIGATION WR62

Off the course, this GPS watch displays the time. On the links, it shows distances, hazard information and shot tracking. Its powerful 62-channel satellite receiver is simple to operate out of the box. \$180 Guess Sport watch, \$135; Lamy Pico Pen, \$75 at Laywine's; Victorinox Tomo White Knife, \$25 at Laywine's; Victorinox Tomo Case, \$14 at Laywine's; Titleist Player's Flex Glove, \$25 at Golf Town; Tateossian Bracelet, \$495 at Harry Rosen; iPhone 4S; Wedge Tees, \$3 at Golf Town.



You've been around golf for a while. You're aware of your potential on the course, but you also know your limits—both in scoring and style. You like things more reserved and classic.

Hugo Boss shirt, \$95; Hugo Boss sweater, \$195; Micheal Kors shorts, \$145; Adidas shoes, \$130. All from Golf Town.

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1 CALLAWAY RAZR FIT

Phil Mickelson bested the Tour at Pebble Beach after switching to this driver, which sports aerodynamic contours that minimize energy loss from air drag during the downswing. That translates to revved-up impact speed and distance. \$400

2 ADIDAS ADISTREET

These casual, spikeless shoes get plenty of traction on the course and in the parking lot, thanks to the soft outsole bearing 124 traction lugs. An abrasion-resistant toecap adds durability. \$90

IN THE BAG

COBRA AMP

These versatile, steel-headed irons are thicker where most golfers strike the ball, and thinner where they don't—resulting in loads of distance. A full-cavity vibration dampener softens feel, while a new high-bounce sole is useful from all lies.

3 BRIDGESTONE B330-RX

Think of its dual-dimple cover as a plane during takeoff and landing: the inner dimple revs up thrust and speed at launch, while the outer dimple helps the ball land shallower, for distance. \$55 per dozen

4 ADIDAS GOLF ADIVISTA LARGE

Thanks to ergonomically shaped temples with traction grips and double-snap nose pads, these sunglasses are seriously comfortable. A vent system eliminates fogging, while the advanced lenses let you see all of the course terrain without distortion. \$160

COBRA BIG TRUSTY RUSTY

You'll enjoy the satisfying feel of this forgiving, oversized wedge. Its extra-wide, rounded tri-bounce sole is resourceful from any lie. \$119

WILSON STAFF FYBRID RS

The deep clubhead of these hybrids combines with low-and-back weight, as well as a flatter crown to set up nicely behind the ball, for visual confidence. The rounded rocker sole helps you easily adjust to any lie. \$150 each

YES! GOLF PIPPI 12

This 400-gram, slightly oversized putter is straight centre-shafted with no offset, a slight toe hang, and heel-toe weighting. Its face features the company's "C" grooves that improve feel and mishits. \$250 Bulova Accutron Curaçao watch, \$1,395; FootJoy Weather Soft glove, \$13 at Golf Town; L'Agenda Modern pen case, \$33 at Laywine's; Softspike divot tool, \$6 at Golf Town; Charing Cross jot pad, \$55 at Laywine's; PTS Step tees, \$7 at Golf Town; Monte Verde One Touch stylus, \$35 at Laywine's; Golf Log, \$5 at Golf Town; Gunmetal cufflinks, \$65 at GotStyle; Nokia Lumia 710 Phone.



(CLUBBUS-REGULARUS)

More focused on style than performance, you're a country clubber who knows how to look good. You can drop names and cash with the best of them, but not your handicap.

24

Lacoste vest, \$150; Puma shirt, \$80; Perfect Swing pants, \$95. All from Golf Town.

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1 MERCEDES AMG CLUBS

Cutting-edge aerodynamics help these new stainless steel, oversized cavitybacks perform. The sole width, camber bounce radii and offset are progressive, while a carbon fibre badge in the cavity has vibration-dampening material. \$1,000 per set.

2 LOUIS VUITTON VINTAGE BAG

This elegant and sturdy golf bag holds a full set of clubs with six interior compartments and a highly water-resistant base with draining eyelet zippered pockets and ample storage. Includes personal monogram. \$11,400

3 ALLEN EDMONDS DOUBLE EAGLE

Sporting the suave Gene Sarazen look, these crème de la crème shoes are statements on their own. The perforated wingtip is timeless, and built-in technology is timely—specifically the comfortable cork footbed, breathable calfskin/mesh upper, and rubber welted sole for lateral stability during your swing. \$345





4 SKYCADDIE SGXW

This GPS handheld unit allows you on-the-go access to the latest, most accurate and updated course maps and distances. It's pre-loaded with basic green distances for 30,000 courses, but uses available Wi-Fi to retrieve up-to-the-minute accuracy. \$400

5 TITLEIST PRO VI

There's nothing new, constructionwise, on golf's top ball—it's still the same awesome-feeling and- performing product that was available last year. What's new about it, though, is that you can get it with custom double-digit play numbers. \$58 per dozen plus customizing up-charge

SCOTTY CAMERON FASTBACK

Titleint

Perhaps the only putter finer than a "Scotty" is a version personalized to your specs and colour fills directly from Scotty's Custom Shop. This modified Newport-style mid mallet has a smaller head from heel-to-toe, rounded back flange and three sight lines. \$375

Breitling Chronomat GMT watch, \$8,570; Prada wallet, \$370 at Harry Rosen; Tateossian money clip, \$195 at Harry Rosen; FootJoy glove, \$20 at Sporting Life; Tateossian gold flakes cufflinks, \$195 at Harry Rosen; Tateossian bracelet, \$395 at Harry Rosen; JC Perfecto cigar case with humidifier, \$85 at B. Sleuth & Statesman; YOL Deco 34 ball point pen, \$375 at Laywine's; Black Label El Presidente flat back \$150 at B. Sleuth & Statesman; Colibri Mocha Limited Edition. \$150 at B. Sleuth & Statesman; Epoch tees, \$9 at Golf Town: Callaway sunglasses, \$125.

ASPIRING TOUR PRO (tigeris-catcherus)

You aren't playing golf for a living—yet. If you can get the proper tools for the job, you just might. Your taste is as conservative and savvy as your shot-making choices.

Nike shirt, \$80; Nike pants, \$100; Canterbury Golf belt, \$60; TaylorMade visor, \$25. All from Golf Town.

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1 TAYLORMADE R11S

This adjustable driver has a larger 460 cc clubhead than the previous 440 cc model, fiveposition soleplate, and reshaped clubhead that improves aerodynamics. The hosel sleeve now can be set to add 1.5 degrees of loft. Overall, it offers 80 ball flight combinations. \$500

2 CLEVELAND 588 FORGED

These latest wedges in the familiar 588 series have forged carbon steel that softens impact feel. Tour Zip grooves and laser milling unleash that check backspin action you crave. \$140

3 ODYSSEY PROTYPE TOUR 3

This putter's milled face, thin and round top line, rake sole and soft cavity yield great roll and feel. Its rearward hosel opens the sight line so you can visualize your putt sinking before it actually does. \$270

4 MIZUNO MP-59

Want that muscle-back look in your irons, but with a cavityback's performance? A 12-gram titanium insert is forged directly into the rear, which helps get you forgiveness. It also enhances feel and helps you launch the ball higher. \$1,000 per set

GOGIO RECOIL

A carry bag that won't distress your shoulders and back is a great thing. Which is why this model's a winner. The strap system eases shoulder pain by evenly balancing all of the club weight. Aircraft-grade aluminum legs with anti-sink footpads help the bag stand solidly. \$275

6 FOOTJOY XPS-1

Comfortable membrane-free leather makes these shoes feel heavenly while keeping your feet dry and cool. There's plenty of underfoot comfort and heel support, too. And their traction is outstanding. \$250



IN THE BAG

• NEWSPIN GOLF'S SWINGSMART

One of the coolest new golf items, it revolutionizes how you see your swing. The sensor clips to your club shaft and instantly relays an animation of your swing with all pertinent swing data, to the screen of your iPad or iPhone. \$300

8 CALLAWAY HEX BLACK TOUR

For suck-back action, this five-piece ball helps players with 100+ mph swing speeds generate lots of spin on short shots, and little on long shots. Basically, tee shots should travel toward the next province. \$45 per dozen.

9 SUNDOG BRAVO

No wonder Mike Weir endorses these open-frame sunglasses. The lenses provide protection and clarity—without any colour distortion. That makes it easy to read breaks on greens. \$90 Bell & Ross BR03-92 ceramic watch, \$4,500; Power Balance bracelet, \$40 at Sporting Life; golf cufflinks, \$195 at B. Sleuth & Statesman; Victorinox golf tool, \$70; Kaweco Sport ball pen, \$26 at Laywine's; Ferragamo bracelet, \$180 at Harry Rosen; Ferragamo card holder, \$170 at Harry Rosen; Samsung Galaxy Note, \$200 at Future Shop; Pride Pro Length tees, \$7 at Golf Town.

SEASONED VETERAN (CLASSICUS-SWINGERIUM)

Your game is set, as is your more traditional taste and style. Finding the fairway isn't as much an issue as gaining distance, which is what you're looking for in golf clubs.

Lacoste shirt, \$95; Puma pants, \$130; Canterbury Golf belt, \$45; Tommy Bahama hat, \$150. All from Golf Town.

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1 SEEMORE BELLY SI3 NICKEL BELLY

The proprietary and simple "RifleScope" alignment system in this belly putter helps you zero in on the cup. This small mallet's thermoplastic face insert produces a soft feel to boot. \$180

2 CLEVELAND CG CLASSIC

Nothing on the market looks cooler than this retro-style driver bearing a throwback persimmon finish replete with painted brass faceplate and sole. And its performance is even smoother—the 460 cc all-titanium driver hits the ball forever, partly thanks to the ultralight graphite shaft. \$300

3 ADAMS SPEEDLINE FAST 12

Touted as Adams' longest, mostforgiving woods ever, these bear slots on the crown and in the sole, which collectively boost carry and overall distance when you strike the ball anywhere near the center of the clubface. \$300 each

4 PING I20

These multiple-metal irons have a progressive set design—the long irons are larger, more forgiving and have more offset, while the short irons provide more shot control with less offset. A thicker hitting area and stabilizing bars in the cavity translate to phenomenal feel. \$1,100 per set with graphite shafts.

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5 BAG BOY REVOLVER XL

As this cart bag sits securely strapped to the cart, its 360-degree rotating top helps you quickly grab the club you need. Clips in the slots secure your clubs in place, so there's no annoying clanging as you drive. \$220

6 ECCO BIOM HYBRID

This shoe is made for shock absorption. Soft and smooth yak leather uppers are weather protected, keeping your feet dry and cozy. Instead of cleats, the sole's traction bars add comfort. \$190

IN THE BAG

D BIONIC RELAXGRIP

Designed by an orthopedic hand surgeon, this glove has strategically placed pads helping you improve grip strength without squeezing – all while eliminating blisters and calluses. \$20

3 TIFOSI TEMPT

For your own health, golf-specific sunglasses are vital to your eyes and the skin around them. This featherweight model has a fully adjustable, non-slip rubber nose pad and temples, for a customized fit. \$90 Raymond Weil Nabucco Steel watch, \$4,695; Davidoff Corona croc print cigar holder, \$175 at B. Sleuth & Statesman; Légère black titanium money clip, \$145 at B. Sleuth & Statesman; Tateossian cufflinks, \$360 at Harry Rosen; Colibri Beam Sensor gold lighter, \$175 at B. Sleuth & Statesman; L'Agenda Moderne ostrich pen case, \$60 at Laywine's; JC Kalixta carbon fibre cigar punch, \$50 at B. Sleuth & Statesman: Graphic Image mini journal, \$29 at Laywine's; Parker sterling silver cisele ball point pen, \$215 at Laywine's; Bionic relaxed-grip glove, \$20; Titleist Velocity ball \$35; Tifosi sunglasses \$90.

On Model: Styling – Donovan Whyte/Judy Inc; Hair and Makeup – Dee Daly/Judy Inc using TRESemmé. Off Model: Styling – Jeanie Lee





BY ROBERT THOMPSON



here aren't many entrepreneurs who capture as much attention as Mike Keiser. At least not in the golf world. And unlike, say, Donald Trump, who has snapped up mediocre courses across the US, the interest in Keiser is based on his business successes—not his outlandish hair.

Keiser, a Chicago businessman, created Bandon Dunes, a remote Oregon golf complex that recently bested places like Pebble Beach to earn the title of best golf resort in North America. Now, all eyes are on him again as he takes the Bandon model—no carts on a Scotland-like links near the ocean-to the east coast of Canada.

Cabot Links is located on Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia. It opened 10 holes for preview play last year, while all 18 open at the end of June. For those who have visited, seen pictures or heard the course's trailer narrated by actor Donald Sutherland (yes, a trailer for a golf course), it isn't hard to see why Cabot is gobbling up attention. With its outstanding mix of thoughtfully designed holes and breathtaking oceanside scenery all open to the public, there are few golf courses like it this side of the Atlantic.

Keiser, who became an investor in the project in 2008 alongside Canadian managing partner Ben Cowan-Dewar, says he's thrilled by how the course has worked out.

"Maybe I'm more impressed by it because of its origins as a coal mine," he says. "But it is fun to play. The total experience hole-byhole is that I want to see the next one. I want to play another 18 as soon as I'm done."

But the golf world isn't just paying attention to Cabot Links because it is one of the only courses under construction in North America. It is because of Keiser's reputation for constructing near perfect courses (three of Bandon's four courses are in the Top 100 in the world) and because of Cabot's location—hard by the sea, with firm ground that allows for golfing creativity not often found in North America. And then, of course, there's the fact that Keiser has never done things in a typical way—that kind of track record draws attention.

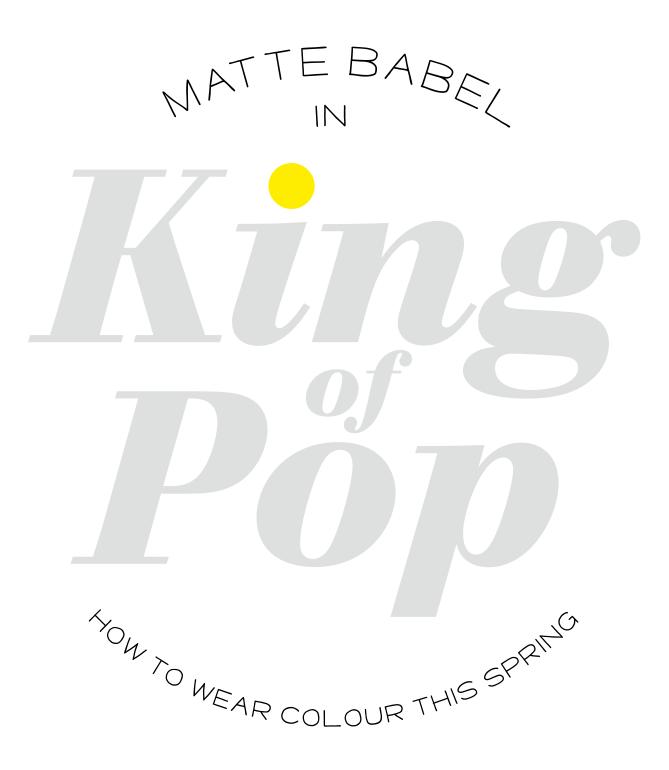
Keiser never planned to be the leading golf course innovator. Until 2000 his principal business success came with a greeting card company he started with a college roommate in 1971. Called Recycled Paper Greetings Inc., the company battled with multinational competitors by offering cheeky greeting cards on recycled paper. The operation grew over the ensuing years and Keiser developed a reputation as a maverick. He discarded titles, sometimes jokingly calling himself the company's "baron." But his success was unquestionable, and the card company soon became the third largest in the US, with sales of more than \$100 million annually. Now in his mid-60s, he has since sold his interest in the company to focus on golf.

In the late 1990s, he invested \$2.5 million in land on the Pacific Ocean in rural Oregon, with the aspiration to build a seaside golf course on the sandy property. Despite telling friends who showed up at the course launch in 1999 that the project could well be called "Mike's folly," Bandon Dunes was immediately heralded as one of the best courses in the world. He followed it with Pacific Dunes, which won even more accolades, adding three more courses, with the latest set to open this year.

The golf intelligentsia wants to see if Keiser's vision can translate from the west coast of the US to Canada's east. Keiser recognizes there's more scrutiny given his track record: "There's pressure to deliver. But it is a fair expectation considering we're building a course on the ocean. We need to deliver."

Though some see eschewing golf carts and embracing old world golf as contrary to the typical golf development, Keiser doesn't see himself as a renegade. "I'm a traditionalist," he says. "If I told you ten years ago that people would build links courses and they would be successful, it would have seemed radical. But, now, it seems obvious. My business plan was to build old-style links courses and people would like them. Should we be surprised? No."







PHOTOS: MATT BARNES WORDS: FRASER ABE AND NICHOLAS MIZERA







The key to mixing patterns is combining colours that complement each other and using different-sized prints. Mashing up two patterns is bold—three is pop art. Keep the pants simple and functional: raw denim always works.

PRADA JACKET, \$2,280; SATURDAY SURF Shirt, \$118; Zegna Jeans, \$320; hugo Boss orange shoes, \$350.

Music is a part of Matte Babel's soul.

Asking the former MuchMusic VJ about his favourite song is like asking him to tear his soul apart (his words). Dramatic? Yes. But growing up, music influenced his personality more than anything else. Albums are tied to some of his strongest memories. Hell, he even has specific songs for seducing specific kinds of women. Now, as LA's most musicobsessed Canadian, he's hosting the second season of *Canada Sings* when he's not corresponding for *ET Canada*. And like his playlist, his style is constantly on shuffle.

"Clothing is an expression of how you're feeling," Babel says. "It's really hard to put 'style' into a box. Because I just feel like I might wake up one day and feel like wearing something on one side of the continuum, and the next day I want to wear something completely on the other side."



How do you wear colour?

I love the idea of having on a pretty classic outfit with pretty standard colours, and then a splash of colour in your shoes. And on that note, I think a lot of guys are uncomfortable wearing bright colours.

Where's a good place for the average guy to start adding a bit of colour, then?

Shoes. I always say it's good to dress in layers. I find that you can wear little things that people slowly get to see as you unveil your outfit.

We know how you'll be dressing this spring, but how does your soundtrack change when the warm weather hits?

As the summer hits, the music becomes a little more upbeat, a little more festive. It's just inherent because you're not hibernating. I also know that BPM's go up. I think subconsciously you just listen to faster music because the pace is faster, you're going out more and there's more to do.

Okay, lightening round. Favourite song for working out? Meek Millz, "I'm a Boss."

Partying?

Anything by Drake. Just Drake, period.

Thinking deep thoughts?

Automatically, Paul Simon's "Graceland" is my song for being introspective just because I used to listen to that album with my dad when I was a kid. There's a lot of African preludes and people humming.

What's your no-fail song to get her in the mood?

Depends on the girl. Depends on what she's into. I have a foolproof song for every genre. If she's into R&B—H-Town, "Knocking Boots." If she's into indie music—maybe Bic Runga, "When You Smile."





If you've ever experienced the excruciating heat of a summer wedding in an un-air conditioned building, you know the value of a lightweight cotton or wool suit. The lighter-gauge fabric will breathe better, keeping you cool in the pews. The same is true for outdoor events.

HUGO SUIT, \$1.295; SAND SHIRT, \$225; VINTAGE ALFA ROMEO SUN GLASSES, \$495.



We get it, floral shirts are a tough sell, but we ask you, who is going to get noticed: the 20th guy in the white shirt or the one in the bold print? This shirt is attention- getting enough make sure you pair it with something simple, like a beige suit.

Note the two-inch cuff on these pants-that's not something most tailors will do without being told. Be persistent when you get your suit altered; come ready with images of how you'd like the finished product to look. Showing ankle in the summer is great, but those sweaty, odorous clodhoppers? Not so much. Invest in a few pairs of no-show socks for days when you've got to do more than pose on a stool.

ZEGNA SUIT; SAND SHIRT, \$195; PAUL Smith Shoes, \$495; hugo boss for Carrera glasses, \$475.







Unmanned drones aren't the future of international warfare. They are its deadly present.

BY MURRAY BREWSTER

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t's cliché to say it felt like being in a movie. But there's really no other point of reference for the experience of being on the edge of a drone strike in Afghanistan. It was the middle of the night and I was in the desert, about 35 kilometres southwest of Kandahar, lying in a trench with members of the 1st Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry. I say on the edge because being any closer clearly invites disaster and dismemberment.

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It was late March 2010. It was quiet, save for the open-mouth snoring of a couple of exhausted soldiers a few metres away. Tucked under a Ranger blanket, trying to fight off a predawn chill, I was in that awkward grey zone, not quite awake or asleep, when I heard it.

The split-second incoming of the Hellfire missile had a deep, disembodied, industrial sound, almost like the overload of a giant electrical transformer. That's what I saw in my mind; a huge lightning bolt arching out of a dark, scallop-clouded sky. My eyes snapped open. Having been rocketed and mortared enough times by the Taliban, your senses become acutely tuned to the whistle and rush of air that precedes those plunging rounds. This was different. More frightening.

The explosion had none of the throbbing, slow-motion percussion of Hollywood. It was more like a sharp, bone-grinding crack, cutting through the vacuum of the wide-open desert. It didn't linger. It was short and businesslike. I sat upright and peered above the crusted trench line just in time to catch the glow and thud of a secondary blast directly to the East of us. But like its predecessor, the second concussion was gone in the same ephemeral way. A hollow silence returned to the wasted landscape around us, as though it had never happened at all. Holding my breath, I looked at the slumbering heap of soldiers laying in two perfect rows on either side of me. No one moved. Some of them cocked up their heads and wondered silently what I was concerned about. These guys knew intuitively when they were being shot at and since the fury of the heavens hadn't been aimed at them it was not worth losing precious sleep.

With enough time, one can become accustomed and even desensitized to the randomness of war; the capricious way life and death are dispensed in a place like Afghanistan. Ambushes, roadside bombs, booby traps hanging in trees to decapitate the unsuspecting, unguided rockets and mortar rounds; those are things you learn to live with. Death from the deep silence of the night was different and still a bit of a novelty, even for the battle-hardened.

"Was that your first one?" One of the guys asked me in the morning with a glee usually reserved for those who'd lost their virginity. "Cool, eh? Reaper strikes, man. It's like witnessing the wrath of God Almighty."

Before we lined up to march into the milky desert sunrise that day, we discovered the missile had hit a Taliban compound about four kilometres to the east and flattened the place. It had been a command node and bomb-making warehouse, hence the follow-on explosion.

When you read about them, in the paper or online, they're called drone strikes. That's so antiseptic. It's also a bit of misnomer, which drives air force-types crazy. Drone implies there's no human in the chain and that the machine is rampaging all on its own, like something from *The Terminator*. There are men and women at the control sticks flying these things, but in some cases when they push the button on the Hellfire, they can be half a world away, tucked inside a cubicle. It is death by remote control.

The mystique surrounding UAVs, unmanned aerial vehicles (or uninhabited aerial vehicles, if we're being technical), has grown exponentially in the last five years. It has been the Obama Administration's weapon of choice in waging war against al-Qaeda and the Taliban in the remote sanctuaries of northern Pakistan's lawless, federally administered tribal areas.

There have been some high-profile misfires, notably the crash of a stealth drone in Iran and the friendly fire death of a pair of U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan a few years ago. Despite that, they are rapidly taking the world of warfare by storm.

Since 2004, there have been 289 drone strikes on Pakistan alone, most of them in the last four years, according to figures compiled by Bill Roggio and Alexander Mayer, of the site The Long War Journal. Their statistical analysis claims that 2,223 Taliban and Al-Qaeda leaders have perished, along with an additional 138 civilians. The figures are disputed elsewhere, notably by the U.S.-based, non-profit Brookings Institution, which claimed in 2009 that the ratio of civilians to militants is 10-to-one. The strikes have been led by the CIA, although the U.S. government does not officially acknowledge the program. Among the high-profile hits was Baitullah Mehsud, who led the Taliban movement in Pakistan.

Figures for Afghanistan are harder to come by, but we do know 23,000 surveillance missions were flown over the country last year. The U.S. Air Force acknowledged nearly 250 drone attacks in Afghanistan in 2010.

But it was the bombardment in Pakistan, especially in 2010, that has been relentless and controversial. Critics and opponents

"Was that your first one?" One of the guys asked me in the morning with a glee usually reserved for those who'd lost their virginity. "Cool, eh? Reaper strikes, man. It's like witnessing the wrath of God Almighty."

describe the precise killings, and occasional misfires, as assasinations. On March 12, 2012 human rights lawyers sued Britain's foreign secretary, alleging that spy services in that country helped provide targeting information to the U.S. that resulted in the death of an innocent tribal elder named Noor Khan. Although tacitly sanctioned at the highest levels of the Pakistani military, the drone strikes have been high-test fuel for the anti-American fires in that troubled country.

The combat ability of remote-controlled vehicles is a burgeoning area of research, not only in the air, but under the sea and on land. Taking its cue from the life-saving exercise of bomb-disposal drones, the rush is on to develop all sorts of technology that some suggest might even replace tanks and soldiers on the battlefield. Since 1993, the U.S. marines have been trying to perfect a remote-controlled vehicle called a "Gladiator"—a squat, all-terrain vehicle with tank-like tracks and a machine gun.

Research being conducted at Canadian Research Development Canada, at CFB Valcartier, Que., is looking to unlock what some scientists consider the Holy Grail of drone experimentation by introducing a limited form of artificial intelligence. When you talk to people at the forefront of such cutting edge technology, they're quick to douse the Terminator Skynet comparisons. The research is currently focused on land vehicles that can conduct surveillance, not combat.

"That's a very important capability that we're looking for," said Franklin Wong, who headed the research project.

Whether or not such thinking systems—be they on land, at sea, or in the air—should be armed is an ethical debate that should take place eventually, he said.

Regardless of qualifiers, the drive to erase fiction from science fiction is well underway. Imaginations run wild. And so, too, with all the buzz there comes a false idea of what today's drones are capable of doing.

When Stephen Harper's Conservatives waffled on the number of the F-35 stealth fighters they wanted to buy early this year, there was speculation—both in the media and the halls of power—that combat drones could make up the difference in whatever shortfall there was in manned aircraft. The men in uniform cringed. The technology allowing for air-to-air combat is still years away. If you talk to air force types, the raw technological ingredients are there. The biggest concern seems to be about whether the link between the plane and the ground station can be jammed and what that would mean in the split-second world of dogfights.

"Right now, the only tool that's fully effective across the spectrum of air control is a fighter...a manned fighter," explained

Lt.-Gen. Andre Deschamps, head of the Royal Canadian Air Force, in a December 2011 interview in his office at National Defence headquarters. "UAVs are good at doing the dull, dirty and dangerous stuff. UAVs are optimized for that mission."

That dull, dirty and dangerous stuff is made up mostly of surveillance. Actually, in military lingo it's properly called Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR). It is the capability to keep constant watch on what your enemy is doing, or anybody else for that matter. Where satellites with bionic eyes were once cool and cutting edge, the drone is now king. Unlike satellites, they hover, mostly silently, above the battlefield and peer down day and night with High-Def quality video and infrared eyes. They are big and small. Some even come in micro size and can be deployed from backpacks, like the Raven mini-UAVs, which first saw action in Iraq in 2005. At one point last summer, the skies over Kandahar were so packed with UAVs that clearing the way for other planes to do bombing runs became an exercise in choreography. Air traffic controllers call it deconfliction. The term has been around for a long time, but you're going to hear it a lot in the future as the airspace above North American cities becomes more crowded. Companies that have raced to meet military needs for persistent surveillance are turning their attention towards the commercial market. Law enforcement agencies are lining up for a crack at these new airborne toys.

Some are already hovering over U.S. cities, and Washington was asked late last year to begin clearing airspace for their further use. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had 285 UAV permit requests for it last fall from not only the police, but public agencies such as universities. The U.S. is already using drones for over-watch of both the Canadian and Mexican borders.

But to get a scope on its implications, imagine yourself, in the not too-distant future, booting down a stretch of road with no cops or traffic cameras in sight. You're doing 130 kilometres an hour in an 80 zone. What you don't realize is that a UAV overhead has tracked you, zoomed in, maybe gotten your licence plate, and either dispatched a car to pull you over or an electronic summons. For law enforcement, the possible applications for this technology are eye-watering: track a robbery suspect; search for a missing child in the forest; keep tabs on persons of interest. Experts say drones outperform what helicopters can do and provide better visual fidelity than stationary cameras, thanks to the ability to stay airborne for hours and stick it out through rough weather. We are all becoming accustomed to a surveillance-oriented society, whether it's the U.S. National Security Administration pulling cell phone calls out of the sky or the Harper government's proposed



Internet monitoring bill watching our every online move. But drones fire Big Brother straight into the stratosphere—literally.

Libertarians and legal scholars are just starting to wrap their heads around the implications of persistent surveillance and that's without the ethical debate of whether civilian drones can, or should be armed. While you might not expect a Hellfire missile to rain down on you for a traffic offence, experts suggest other less powerful weapons could be strapped to whatever platform law enforcement agencies choose.

It was those sorts of possibilities and considerations that ran through my mind as I stood in an army command post last summer. The dank, sweat-juiced, chipped concrete room could've been the setting of any war over the past century and a half. But this one was lined with giant flat screen TVs that flipped back and forth between high-definition colour and the smoky grey of infrared, luminescent computer monitors and checker-boarded satellite maps. Computers and printers sat atop makeshift plywood tables and cans of Red Bull. The room was full of soldiers, Canadian and American. Yet it was almost silent, save for the hum of a strained air conditioner fan. All of us had our eyes nailed to the monitors where the ghostly image of a Taliban fighter was bent over a blanket while a boy of about eight-yearsold watched over him. The seasoned guerrilla's hands moved swiftly over some metal object. It was a machine gun. The fact became obvious after a moment or two. You could tell what it was by the handle grips and long belt of ammunition wrapped around it. He lovingly wrapped the weapon and its tripod in the blanket, stood up and motioned for the boy to take hold of it. They were in a compound only a few kilometres away and felt safe in the assumption that the high mud walls hid them from view. The boy carted the concealed weapon for the bearded fighter and walked out through the makeshift steel gate. If things went bad he knew he could leave the kid holding the bag because Western troops wouldn't shoot kids.

The camera followed them as they walked briskly down the rutted dirt road. The screen flipped to an image of Kevlar-weighted shoulders a few hundred metres away. The disembodied voice of the patrol leader punctured the silence. The company's executive officer steered them towards the pair in a matter-of-fact tone as though he was giving traffic directions.

It was surreal TV, the sort of drama that sucked you in and didn't let you go. The closer the patrol came, the quicker the Afghans seemed to walk. The fighter was no fool. His sixth sense told him that somehow the soldiers had "eyes on" them. Before their paths intersected, the fighter and the boy ducked into a nearby compound. No problem. The patrol was nudged in their direction in what was the most breath-taking game of cat and mouse I'd ever witnessed.

I thought to myself: "Cool. This is the future." But then I realized I didn't have to wait for it. **S**

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OUR EVER-CHANGING RANKING OF WHAT Should and Shouldn't be influencing US.

MAD MEN

RR P

We thought we were over you. We are not.

ALLISON BRIE

And speaking of *Mad Men*. How does one actress score roles on the two best shows on television at the same time. Damn you, Allison Brie, you funny/beautiful vixen. Please return our calls.





THE JAYS This year's lineup has the potential to be one of the strongest ever (seriously). Just

like every other failed

season.



JESSE THORN

The kingpin of a mini media empire based on smart interviews, insightful cultural recommendations, and getting men to dress better. You can change your podcast's name from *The Sound of Young America* to *Bullseye*, but you'll always be America's radio sweetheart to us.



WOMEN IN SHORTS

Some things never, ever get old. MORE MEN IN SHORTS Let's keep them above the knee, shall we?



LESS

THE MYSTERIOUS APPEAL OF ADRIEN BRODY

The Academy Award-winner hasn't made a good movie in almost 10 years and yet he remains every marketing director's first choice. That dude is everywhere.

THE PENNY Good riddance. Why didn't this happen 20 years ago?





TRAILERS FOR TRAILERS

To build hype for event movies, we are now being subjected to these exercises in anti-climax. An advertisement for an advertisement sounds like something from Orwell. Still, we're excited for *Prometheus*.



MAN-PINTEREST

Manterest. Gentlemint. Adding a manly prefix doesn't do it for us we'll stick to Tumblr.