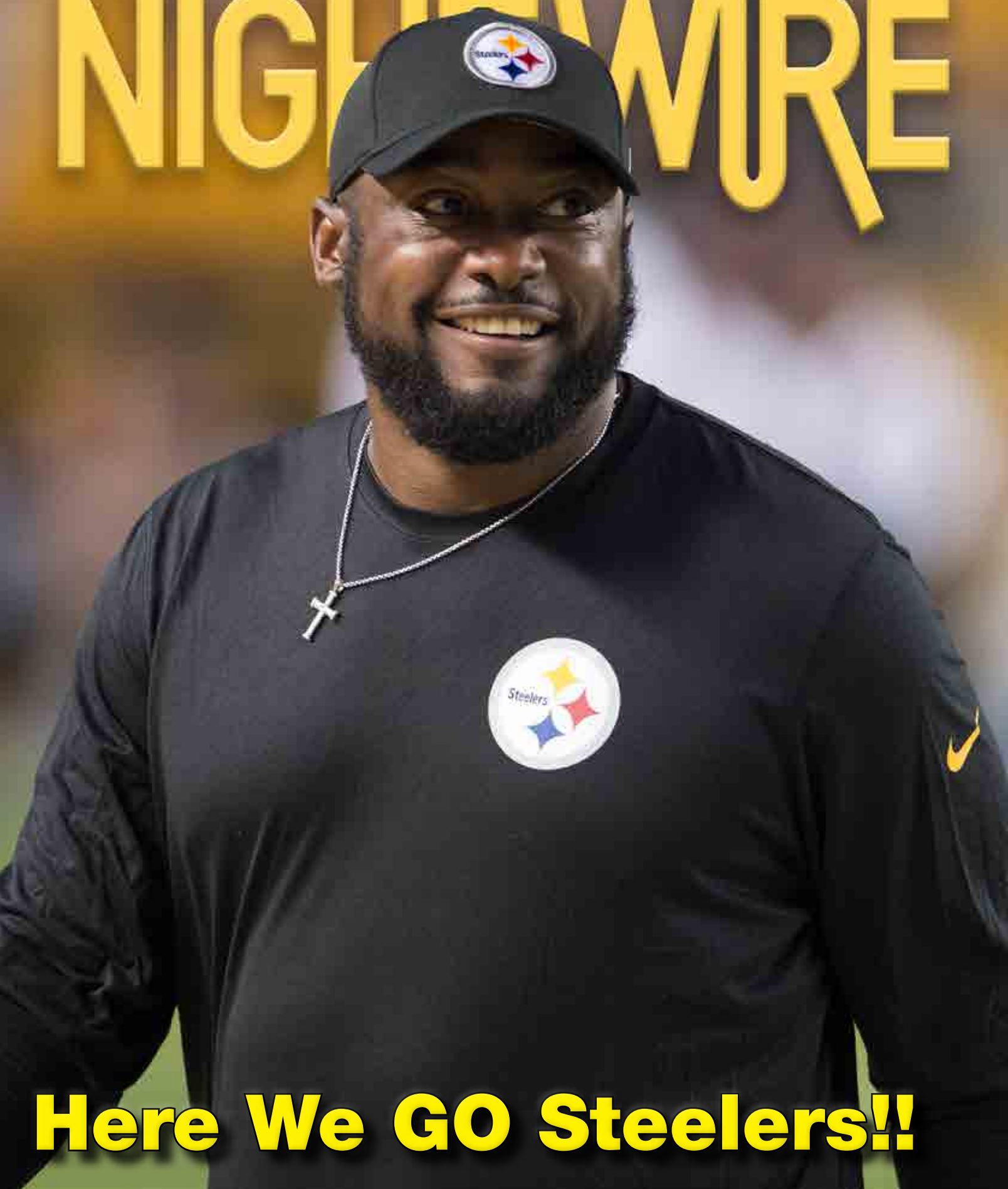


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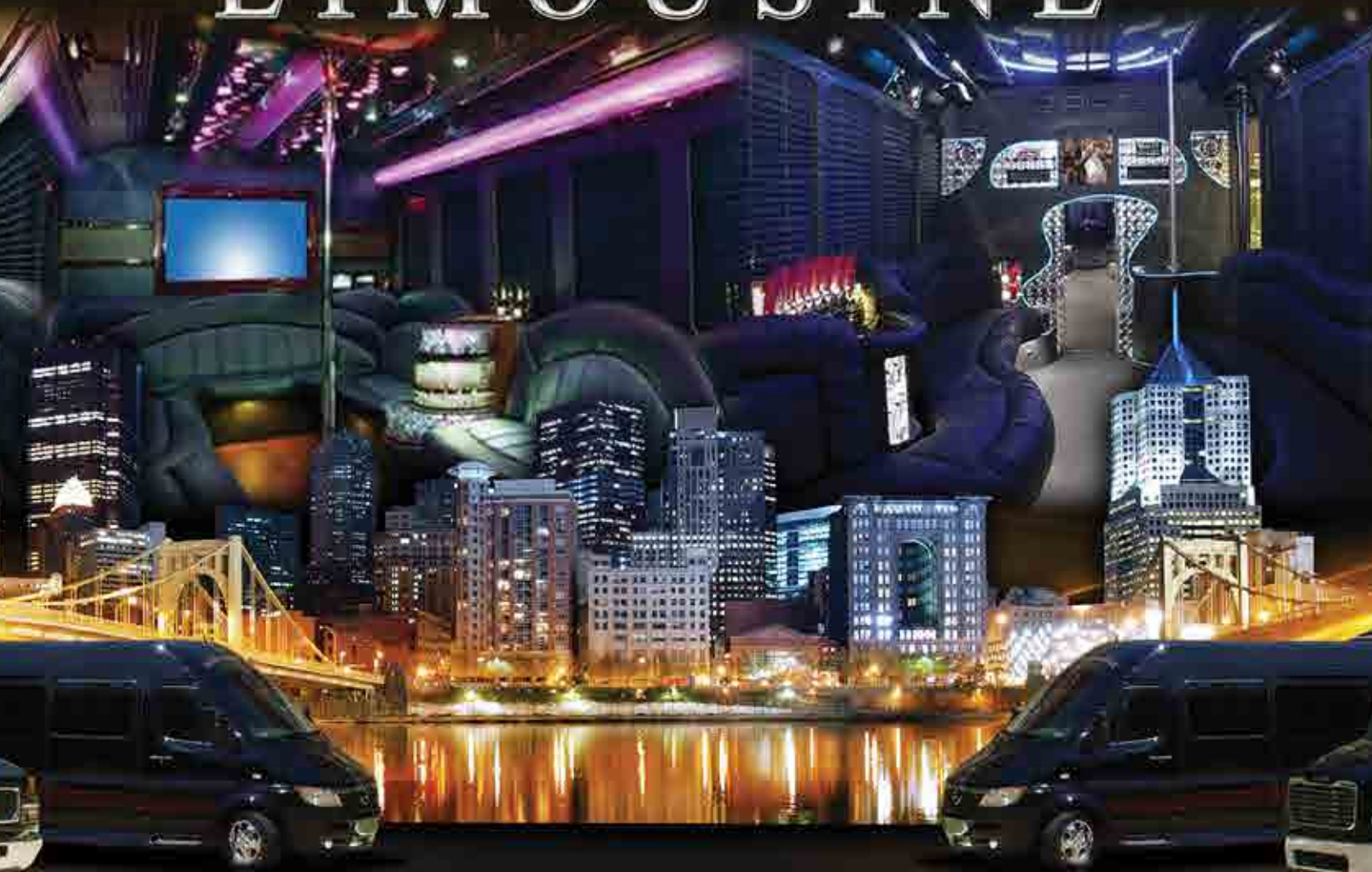
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SPORTS:

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?

by Stacy Kauffman, Sports Editor, Nightwire Magazine
Pittsburgh Steeler Photos ©2016 Pittsburgh Steelers/Karl Roser

It's that time of year again. Break out your football jerseys and beer koozies people, football is taking center stage. Of course baseball season is heading down the homestretch, with the Pirates' playoff push in full labor, but there's nothing like the beginning of the football season. The week by week battle, the living and dying with each game and Monday morning quarterbacking that surrounds the water coolers and social media sites, it's all here for our consumption.

Football is emotional. Long scoring strikes exalt us. Lost fumbles at the goal line crush us. Penalties negating big plays convince us the game is rigged. It's that emotional undercurrent that makes Sundays in the fall an event. Whether tailgating in the parking lots, huddled around the television at home with your family and friends, or in a sports bar where there are no strangers in Steeler Nation, football brings us together.

This year, it certainly seems like the Steelers have it together and are primed for a deep playoff run with an electric offense and an improving defense that just has to hold teams to less than 27 points, since Ben Roethlisberger and company will score 30 a game. Maybe that's exaggerated. But not by much. Last season the offense averaged 26.4 points, fourth best in the NFL. Many of the key cogs from that team, who was a fumble away from the AFC Championship game, are returning and despite losing deep threat Martavis Bryant to a year-long suspension and Le'Veon Bell to a three game suspension, there are guys to step in and

mitigate those losses.

When the season opens on Monday night September 12th in Washington DC, there will be plenty of names you are familiar with, but some you are not. While the roster won't be set at 53 players until after this writing, there's a strong possibility – if not a sure one – that these guys will be on it. Get to know a little more about them.

Linebacker Tyler Matakevich: Filed under the little engine that could, Matakevich was an All-American defensive standout for Temple, winning the Bednarik Award and Bronco Nagurski Award as college football's most outstanding defensive player, despite his small stature and lack of speed. Those measurables turned teams off in the draft, allowing the Steelers to pick him up in the last round. The immeasurables are what the team likes in Matakevich, especially linebackers coach, Jerry Olsavsky, who sees a lot of himself in the rookie. Olsavsky said that it's a speed game, but if you are in the right place at the right time, you can negate below average speed. That's how Tyler is. Sounds like a hard-working, blue collar backer to me. A Steeler.

Wide Receiver Eli Rogers: In his second year, Rogers is taking advantage of the opportunity afforded him by Bryant's suspension, turning heads not just in the return game but on offense as well. The 23-year-old receiver was undrafted out of Louisville in 2015 and spent last season on injured reserve. This year, it looks like Rogers will be the team's slot receiver as



Markus Wheaton moves into WR2 territory. With an uncanny resemblance in build to Antonio Brown, the young pass catcher is making the coaches take notice.

Tight End Xavier Grimsble: With Ladarius Green's status in question, the journeyman out of USC will get a shot. Grimsble was undrafted in 2014 and landed on the Steelers' practice squad last year. He has shown a knack for run blocking and absorbing big hits in the passing game. In the first year of the post Heath Miller era, the team will look for several players to fill his role, and they'll take a gamble on Grimsble. Although he'll probably head

back to the practice squad when Green is healthy.

Cornerback Montell Garner: As was the case with Grimsble, Garner gets a look due to injury. With Senquez Golson having foot surgery and missing at least half the season, the Steelers need depth. They'll turn to Garner to work in the nickel defense. A rookie out of South Alabama, he was signed as an undrafted free agent by the Rams, then cut late, spending last season without a team. His hold on a roster spot is tenuous, however and might be edged out by a veteran signing.

Defensive End L.T. Walton: The team's sixth round pick in the



2015 draft, Walton will provide depth on a shallow defensive line, made even shallower if Captain Cam Heyward can't get on the field after suffering a high ankle sprain in the Steelers' preseason game at New Orleans. A former offensive lineman, Walton is athletic and has good vision. He played in six games as a rookie, but didn't have much impact. We'll see how much difference a year of experience makes when spent next to veterans like Heyward.

The deadline to whittle the roster down from 75 players to the final 53 is September 3rd so much can change, especially with 31 other teams also whittling down, and more players becoming available. No matter who makes the squad, we know this. The Steelers are one of the favorites in the AFC and the season will be an exciting one. So hold onto your hardhats people.

Here we go.

Stacy Kauffman, Sports Feature Writer for Nightwire Magazine can be heard weekends on CBS Sports Radio 93.7 The Fan, has appeared on numerous sports media outlets including Fox Sports Pittsburgh, CBS and ESPN Radio. She can be reached on Twitter @SportsnWhatnot or at sportsnwhatnot@gmail.com



Movie Reviews

NIGHTWIRE - FILM REVIEWS by FIORE



STAR TREK: BEYOND

The original Star Trek franchise is known for its keen, sometimes misshaped, cultural observations and commentaries. Pittsburgh's own Frank Gorshin starred in one of the better episodes, concerning racial prejudice, playing characters who had split black and white faces. But, the overriding social commentary in STAR TREK: BEYOND is nothing more than a watered down cheerleading rant for the Progressive Movement. The rest of the movie is Director Justin Lin pretending he is doing another Fast and Furious movie with starships.

Captain James Kirk, played again by Chris Pine, is in the third year of the U.S.S. Enterprise's five-year mission, and he's bored with all the scientific gathering and analysis. He is so lackadaisical since stopping the genetically enhanced madman Kahn, that he is considering a promotion to a desk job.

While he and the crew are on shore leave at the Yorktown, a deep space "snow globe ready to burst", a ship arrives with a frantic SOS. The ship's captain claims her research vessel is in distress and her crew injured, on the opposite side of a nebula, in deep space. Before vetting the claim, the crew of the Enterprise is dispatched to help those in need.

Undaunted, the Enterprise embarks on its rescue mission only to discover it's all a ruse by yet another madman, Krall, played by Idris Elba, determined to rule the universe. His main malfunction is his lack of belief in the Progressive Movement. He wants the status quo, filled with conflict and war. It's not long before the Enterprise is reduced to rubble and the crew is left to its own innovativeness to save the day. For a spaceship

as famous as The Millennium Falcon, The Nostromo, and The Botany Bay, Paramount producers seem all too eager to blow the Enterprise up.

Returning are: Pine; Karl Urban, as Dr. McCoy; Simon Pegg, as Montgomery Scott; Zoe Saldana as Uhura; Pittsburgh's Zachary Quinto as Spock; the late Anton Yelchin as Chekov. Joining the cast this time around are: Elba; Sofia Boutella as Jaylah; and Joe Taslim as Manas.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. **Transportation of Bones and Spock**
2. **The toast between Bones and Kirk**
3. **Filtering the scanners for Vulcan metals**

STAR TREK: BEYOND is SFX eye candy. Interspersed with the action is an acceptable, though stogy story. The studio, initially was not impressed with the script. They asked Pegg to lend his talents as part of the writing team. In the film's final credits, he is listed as the prime screenwriter. His influence is noticeable, since STAR TREK: BEYOND is infused with myriad humorous moments. This is a good thing, since the rest of the plot is rather mundane.

Of all the new Star Trek characters, Pegg's version of Montgomery Scott and Karl Urban's of Dr. Leonard McCoy are the best. In fact, at the risk of upsetting Trekkers everywhere, I'll go as far to say Urban's portrayal of Bones surpasses DeForrest Kelley. Fortunately, these two characters dominate the screen and have some of the best scenes. Pegg even gives a well-deserved nod to screenwriter Nicholas Myers. Myers wrote the two best scripts in the original Star Trek film series, STAR TREK II: THE WRATH OF KAHN, and STAR TREK VI: THE



UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY. In both, he quoted classic literary works, including Shakespeare. There is a dramatic scene where Spock quotes the Bard, and not coincidentally, it's Bones who makes the observation.

The sequences are cut too quickly and too many shots are close-ups, giving a disjointed sense to the scene. Kirk and Scotty's escape from the saucer section, the penetration into the Yorktown and the gravity swirls in the ventilation tower are all a blur of colors and shapes, suitable for small children. Part of the problem is the shot options of Cinematographer Stephen F. Windon, and the other part is allowing a posse to edit the film. A keener sense of linear continuity is always achieved with one editor.

STAR TREK: BEYOND is fun, primarily for Pegg and Urban. And certainly no one would ever expect Rhianna and Public Enemy to play an integral role in the salvation of mankind. So, there are a few surprises. Despite convoluted race scenes with space ships, a watered down social commentary surrounding unity and an antagonist with no creativity, STAR TREK: BEYOND fits into this new timeline, though it does come in third place. It's certainly not as good as STAR TREK: INTO THE DARKNESS, but then, it's tough to beat Benedict Cumberbatch.

THE GRADE FOR STAR TREK: BEYOND = B

SUICIDE SQUAD

Ah, the joy of being totally surprised by a film. It is truly one of the highlights of being a film critic. I must admit, I held no hope at all for SUICIDE SQUAD. Most of the characters are second rate, at best and it just seemed to be a ploy to capitalize on the superhero craze in movies with minor characters. When the troupe was introduced on ARROW, they were appropriate for TV and for a B-class hero. I wasn't convinced they were worthy enough for the big screen treatment.

Trailers for the film revealed Margot Robbie as Harley Quinn, flaunting her curves, but lacking the high cackling heavily accented New York voice generally associated with the character. Despite the missing trademark, she actually pulls the part off rather well. As does Jared Leto who interpreted The Joker as a tattooed, grill-grinning joke (pardon the pun); but he too, serves



the part with aplomb.

All told, Director and Writer David Ayer has put together the best popcorn picture of this summer. Combined with the efforts of Editor John Gilroy, who moves this film with the best pace in recent viewing history, Ayers presents a rousing superhero film that will quickly let viewers and DC fans forget the lackluster BATMAN V. SUPERMAN.

The star of SUICIDE SQUAD is, without question, Jerome Chen. He is the Visual Effects Supervisor and he gives the film a classy and eloquent visage. From the sewers of Midland to the doomsday device of the Enchantress, SUICIDE SQUAD is top-notch alternating from gritty Crime Alley type darkness to other world STAR TREK destructiveness.

The concept is one prevalent in films since THE DIRTY DOZEN; utilize a group of criminal misfits to band together for the common good, and of course, saving the world. In the film's only weakness, the participants of the SUICIDE SQUAD are introduced rather quickly in the film's beginning. The introductions are so fast, they give the opening reels a hurried, rushed aura.

The squad is comprised of Harley Quinn (Robbie), the looney-tune psychiatrist from Arkham Asylum, who disastrously falls in love with the Joker. While Robbie dominates many of the scenes, and of course the film's trailers, she is over-shadowed by Cara Delevingne. Delevingne plays two roles, Dr. June Moone and her evil counterpart, The Enchantress. Her performance is easily the best in the film.

Will Smith plays Deadshot. Originally, Deadshot is a mutilated, cold-blooded assassin. But, because this is Will Smith, the character is restructured for him to be a kind-hearted family man assassin. It doesn't fit the character, and I'm sure true Deadshot fans will be appalled, but remember this is Will Smith and it says in his contract, he can play a bad guy, but he can never be a true antagonist.

The rest of the Squad includes: Jai Courtney, as Boomerang (he comes from a land down under); Jay Hernandez as Diablo, DC's

answer to the Human Torch; and Adewle Akinuoye-Agbaie as Killer Croc. Ezra Miller makes a cameo as The Flash and Ben Affleck has a minor part as Batman, though his appearance and performance are uncredited.

Characters noteworthy, but not in the squad are Joel Kinnaman as Col. Rick Flagg, Leto and Viola Davis as Amanda Waller. Davis is brutal. As head of ARGOS, she is nastier than the members of SUICIDE SQUAD. This is a great deviation for Davis who has been toiling in benevolent roles for too long. She shines by going over to the dark side and should be given Best Supporting Actress consideration.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. **The bar scene.**
2. **The Joker's wedding**
3. **The End Credits scene.**

SUICIDE SQUAD is filled with action. The action and fight supervisor is Richard Norton. Norton is an Australian martial artist who is very close friends with Chuck Norris. He starred in most of Norris' action films and even made appearances on WALKER, TEXAS RANGER. He is probably best remembered as the masked assassin who battled Norris in THE OCTAGON. He puts together action sequences that make JASON BOURNE look like a fifth grade video project.

SUICIDE SQUAD is tremendous fun. I entered the press screening with much trepidation and ended up totally enjoying the experience. I could easily watch this film again, and would definitely make it part of my home video collection. It is the epitome of excellence in film entertainment, and as such wins the coveted FIST OF FIORE AWARD for 2016. You're going to like this one; be sure to see it on the big screen.

THE GRADE FOR SUICIDE SQUAD = A
FIST OF FIORE AWARD WINNER.

JASON BOURNE

The troubles that plagued the previous Jason Bourne films, also hinder this latest endeavor from Director and Screenwriter Paul Greengrass, except this time, all of those cinematic ills are on steroids.

Our story begins when Nicky Parsons, played by Julia Stiles, one of Jason Bourne's comrades, hacks into the CIA server and downloads all of the agency's black ops material. She contacts Bourne because the material reveals even more secrets about his past. Here, the script turns sour.

All through the Bourne series, Jason is trekking to self-discovery. Batman and Spider-Man didn't go through this much angst. Greengrass demonstrates lack of creativity in resorting to the same plot lines and same antagonists as the previous films. Any reader of the Robert Ludlum novels knows there is more to the character than these one dimensional premises contain.

So, well into movie number four, Bourne is still trying to discern new elements of his past. This causes CIA Director Robert



Dewey, played by Tommy Lee Jones, a bit of consternation because he doesn't want the black ops made public. He enlists two associates, Heather Lee, played by Alicia Vikander and "The Asset" played by Vincent Cassel.

Jones has little more than a cameo role, in which he displays all the manic foibles Greengrass wants associated with the CIA. Vikander, who burst on the cinematic scene in *EX MACHINA*, offers a rather mundane performance. Cassel is great. I do not recall ever seeing this man in a bad performance. He holds the entire mishmash together and is the only reason I didn't walk out on this debacle.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. The end credits.

This film is an absolute nightmare to watch. Greengrass combines with Cinematographer Barry Ackroyd and Editor Christopher Rouse to create a hodgepodge of nonsensical visual elements.

The film's action sequences consistently cross the 180-degree line. In addition, when the cross is made, the shot is slightly out of focus and then quickly adjusts. Ackroyd uses, almost exclusively, tight close-up shots, which totally ruin all the fine work by Fight Choreographer Roger Yuan. Yuan knows how to stage fight scenes. He has worked on *BLADE*, with Wesley Snipes; *SPAWN*, with Michael Jai White; and on this year's *WARCRAFT*, which is one of the year's better films.

In addition, Simon Crane serves as Second Unit Director, and he is known throughout the industry for his stunt work and fight choreography. The combination of Yuan and Crane should be dynamic. Not content with ruining their work, Ackroyd then incorporates WWE zooms on the action. Rouse then takes the close-up shots and quick cuts all of them. The results are action



sequences that flash and blur, like a child's cartoon, but cannot be deciphered in any aspect of reality.

With the combination of anti-American sentiment, horrible cinematography and editing, *JASON BOURNE* is a celluloid disaster.

THE GRADE FOR JASON BOURNE = D.



HELL OR HIGH WATER

Westerns are one genre of film simply not made often enough. I'm not sure what alienated Hollywood producers from Westerns. Not many are produced and it's a shame because as a film genre, they are generally quite entertaining. This is why I had so much fun with *HELL OR HIGH WATER*. It is, essentially, a modern day Western. It features the stogy, die-hard lawman in the vein of Wyatt Earp, the citizen popular criminals reminiscent of Jesse James, and of course the ultimate antagonists, the large banks and their unscrupulous barons. Combine these elements with incredibly fine performances by Jeff Bridges, Chris Pine and Ben Foster and *HELL OR HIGH WATER* proves to be an adult film worth watching.

Pine and Foster are the Howard brothers. Upon the death of their mother, the leeches from the bank move in to foreclose on her farm, offering a mere pittance of its value. Toby is a ranch hand who has no marketable skills off the farm, while Tanner is fresh from prison, where he served a ten-year sentence for murder.

Pine elevates his thespian skills to an adult level, not having to worry about aggressive phaser fire or warp drive engines. Foster is in top form and could be considered for supporting actor considerations. Relegated mostly to secondary roles, Foster never fails to deliver stunning performances, whether it is an adult drama, like *HELL OR HIGH WATER*, or a cheesy sci-fi yarn with space zombies. The man has talent.

Not happy about the muscling of the Midland Texas Bank, the



boys opt to begin a series of bank robberies to halt the farm's foreclosure. This catches the eye of Texas Ranger Marcus Hamilton, played by Bridges. With his partner Alberto Parker, played by Gil Birmingham, he seeks to stop the boys and return law and order to this small part of Texas. Though he has a small part, Birmingham offers his best, making his character most endearing.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. **THE DINER**
2. **THE POV SHOT AROUND THE S-CURVE**
3. **THE FINAL CONVERSATION**

At the heart of HELL OR HIGH WATER is a simple tale everyone can relate to: a small, insignificant man seeking justice in a system rigged for the wealthy and powerful. The underdog battling and beating the system. The cast is in top form. Cinematographer Giles Nuttgens offers yeoman, but effective shots and screenwriter Taylor Sheridan delivers a script intended for adults in an industry that caters to the Millennials.

THE GRADE FOR HELL OR HIGH WATER = B

HANDS OF STONE

HANDS OF STONE is another in a continuing stream of boxing films Hollywood is determined to produce. While other sports films are periodic, boxing is enjoying a massive entrenchment in the Hollywood staples. CREED, SOUTHPAW, HANDS OF STONE and WE BLEED FOR THIS will all be released within 11 months of each other. No other sport enjoys that type of celluloid celebrity.

HANDS OF STONE is about Robert Duran, for that was his moniker in the ring. But Scriptwriter and Director Jonathan Jakubowicz actually approaches the story from the aspect of Duran's trainer, Ray Arcel, played by Robert DeNiro. HANDS

OF STONE is really his story; how he trained over 20 champion fighters in his career, how he fell in disfavor with the mob over televising boxing, and how he made a triumphant return to the sport when he discovered Duran. But no one knows Arcel; they do know Duran. So Jakubowicz spends script pages bouncing from one character to another, never really giving Arcel the main spotlight and diminishing the relationship between the two men.

Edgar Ramirez plays Duran and does a credible job. Unfortunately, he shares a lot of screen time with DeNiro and Rueben Blades, who plays Carlos Eleta, Duran's shady, greedy manager. Blades is solid and presents Eleta in a fashion that makes viewers want Duran to punch him out instead of Sugar Ray Leonard. Leonard, by the way, is played by Usher, the only pop singer to date to rhyme the words floor and blow in his hit "Yeah". As an actor, Usher is a pretty good singer. He plays Leonard like a black Howdy Doody, constantly grinning and bobbing his head. He does, however have a love scene with Janelle Davidson, so I guess all is well in the end.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. **The bar smackdown**
2. **The talk in the corner**
3. **The fight with Moore**

Neither Ramirez or Usher can fight. I'm sure they went through hours of arduous training, but it is not Leonard-Duran caliber. Cinematographer Miguel Ioann Littin Menz (see, this name is ridiculous - two names and done) covers the faux pas by utilizing close-up shots and quick editing. Though not as confusing as the camera work in JASON BOURNE, it is still obvious there is no real boxing going on in the ring. Gylenhaal's rounds and all of Stallone's were considerably better, and those





guys couldn't fight either.

HANDS OF STONE is edited sporadically. While Arcel and Duran supposedly have this intense relationship, it is not presented well. More emphasis is placed on the two fights with Leonard. As a result, when the film's final reels are displayed it is difficult to comprehend the emotional bond between the two. It is understandable why Editor Ethan Maniquis approached the film in this manner. In order to pace the film well, a lot of the byplay and bonding is short-circuited and the audience is forced to do a lot of reading between the scenes.

One advantage of having both Usher and Blades in the film is both are accomplished musicians. They perform individually and together on a majority of the film's soundtrack. Its good music.

It may sound odd to say about a boxing film, but personally I would like to have seen more scenes on the development of the relationship between Arcel and Duran, and less of the family and political scenarios used to set the stage. HANDS OF STONE is an average film, but one that had so much more potential, especially with DeNiro on set.

THE GRADE FOR HANDS OF STONE = C

DON'T BREATHE

As a film critic, there are certain signposts that signal a film's worthiness. For example, if a film is made through the Asylum production studio, you can bank on cheesy effects, a substandard plot and a formulaic tale with an ending worthy of a groan. The same can be said of Ghost House Pictures and Stage 6. So when DON'T BREATHE, the latest thriller to hit the screens opened as a co-production of Stage 6 and Ghost House, I immediately changed my outlook for the film and was not disappointed when it unfolded. Unfortunately, my guests at the screening had no clue what was coming, and did not have an enjoyable evening.

DON'T BREATHE has a plethora of problems, however one of them is not star Steven Lang. Lang holds the film together and his performance as The Blind Man is commendable. Lang, who has been playing bit parts for decades, made a bit of a wave as Increase Mather, the infamous witch hunter and puritan on WGN's original series SALEM. Lang's character portrayal was so good, they brought him back in season two, even though he died in season one. You can do that when you're dealing with the supernatural. He is proving to be the spotlight of the second season as well. So it is probably no great surprise he dominates the screen in DON'T BREATHE. Though he has limited dialogue, his mere presence, and some creative make-up for his eyes, help provide most of the thrills in the film.

Where the film goes south is in the script. Writer and Director Fede Alvarez gives the audience no one to like. It concerns three youths who make a living by robbing houses tied to a certain security outfit. The trio is made up of the nerd, Alex, who has all the security company connections, played by Dylan Minnette; the gangster wannabe, Money, played by Daniel Zovatto; and the tramp love interest, Rocky, played by Jane Levy. The storyline prompts the audience to empathize with Rocky, but she is just not a likable character. Alvarez tries to win over the audience by making her a single mother concerned about her child, and presenting her as the product of an abusive drug slut mom, but none of these social concerns make her any more likeable. Through most of the film you want The Blind Man to kill everyone. By the end of the movie, you would rather all these characters die.

KEY SCENES TO LOOK FOR:

1. **The cracked window**
2. **The dog in the car**

As I watched DON'T BREATHE I kept thinking of Jason Statham in THE TRANSPORTER. Rule number one – never look in the package. Rule number two – never change the deal. Our pitiful trio have a great system working and then decide to break all their established rules for one possible big score. Their entire plan is so flawed it reeks of stupidity. Who decides to search a house while the owner is in it? Really?

Just when you think you have a handle on this film, Alvarez turns it down another dead end. Each turn proves disastrous. By the time the insemination scene occurs, there is nothing left, save for a few standard jump ploys.

All told, DON'T BREATHE is a decent thriller, but one more worthy of Netflix than a theatre ticket price. It is, however, a great date movie, especially if you're looking to have someone special clinging on to you for dear life. In that case, it is worth the price of admission, and could make for an interesting evening.

THE GRADE FOR DON'T BREATHE = C

Fall Beers for Every Taste

While we hate to see summer make its yearly exit, it means that fall is on its way and with it comes the amazing variety of fall beers. As the leaves start to change as it seems do our tastes in beers. The bright, refreshing beers that call summer their home don't leave us entirely, but they definitely make way for some bolder and more robust beers. Darker, stronger, and even spicier beers dominate the fall season and for good reason. The nights are starting to get cooler and the days shorter, meaning we all need a little something extra to make the transition into fall go a little more smoothly.

While autumnal beers seem to be known primarily as full of pumpkin and spice, that's not all the beers of fall have to offer. You'll find stouts, porters, brown ales, the quintessential pumpkin ales, Oktoberfest style beers, and even some pretty great IPAs and other beers you probably wouldn't align with the fall.

We've done the hard work for you and rounded up some of our favorite fall beers that run the gamut of flavors, alcohol content, color, and style. Check out our list of fall beers for every taste and find your new favorite beer for this autumn.



to find one that's more universally loved that Bell's Brewery Best Brown Ale. With hints of caramel and cocoa, this well-balanced beer has a deep malt body that's balanced out nicely by the generous use of American hops. 5.8% ABV

Anderson Valley Brewing Company - Fall Hornin':

With a brilliant, deep copper hue and creamy beige-colored head, our Fall Hornin' Pumpkin Ale has inviting aromas of caramelized malt and baking bread with highlights of cinnamon, nutmeg, pumpkin and seasonal spices. The pleasantly creamy mouthfeel and silky body embrace the sweet caramel flavors and tang of spices with just hint of hops that ends with a smooth, round finish. 6% ABV

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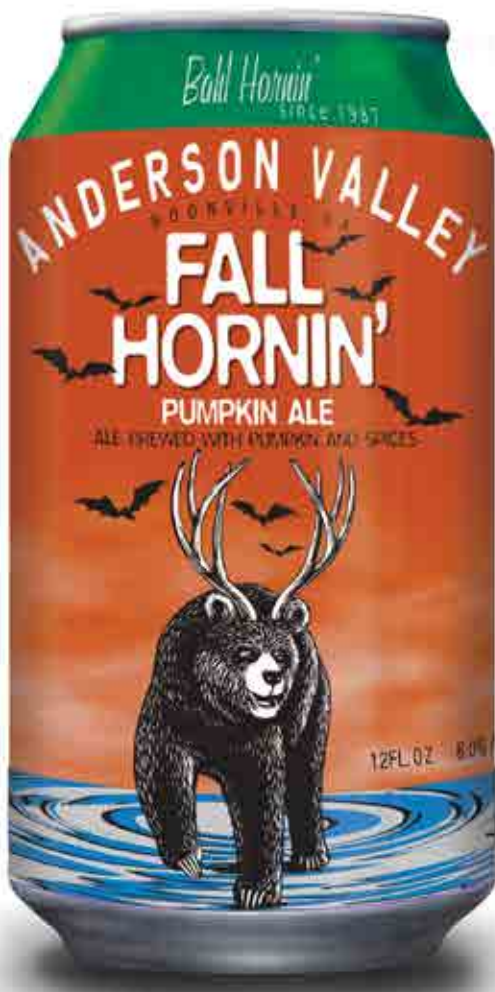
When it comes to fall beers it's hard

Buffalo Bill's Brewery - Pumpkin: America's Original Pumpkin Ale was first brewed in 1985. Made with real pumpkin, it has a golden amber color, and the sweet aroma of pumpkin pie. This brew is perfect for Fall, Halloween, and Thanksgiving. Pumpkin Ale is available from August through November. 6% ABV

Dogfish Head Craft Brewery - Punkin' Ale: A full-bodied brown ale with smooth hints of pumpkin and brown sugar. Dogfish Head brews Punkin Ale with pumpkin meat, brown sugar and spices. As the season cools, this is the perfect beer to warm up with. 7% ABV

Dogfish Head Craft Brewery - Seaquenchale: A beer doesn't have to be dark and spicy to be a fall beer, and this is shown best with the newest beer in Dogfish Head's seasonal lineup: Seaquenchale. This beer is classified as a sour session ale that features lime juice, lime peel, salt, black limes, and coriander. A closer look at Seaquenchale will show a mix between a Kolsch, Berliner Weisse, and a Gose that is perfectly mated to give a refreshing sour taste that's not overly sour while being exactly what we need to send summer off in style. 4.9% ABV

Dogfish Head Craft Brewery - Red and White: Originally released in 2006, Dogfish Head's Red and White is a big Belgian-style witbier that's brewed with coriander and orange peel, then fermented with pinot noir grape juice. Think of Red and White as a refreshing mix of the ideas behind both beer and wine while staying safely on the side of beer. 10% ABV



East End Brewing Company - Big Hop Harvest: There's fresh, then there's Big Hop Harvest fresh. This IPA starts its life just like any other batch of East End Brewing's Big Hop IPA and gets so much better from there. Big Hop Harvest gets more malt, more hops, and more ABV. Hops are driven from the farm they're grown on and added to the beer the same day they're picked, making Big Hop Harvest just about the freshest beer you'll get all year.

Erie Brewing Company - Johnny Rails Pumpkin: A blonde based ale. It is a fruit beer with delicious flavor, a great nose, and the perfect poise of pumpkin and spice. This flavorful brew is sure to get you in the fall spirit. 6.5% ABV

Hacker-Pschorr Brewery - Oktoberfest: When you're having an Oktoberfest-style beer, you might as well make it a true Oktoberfest brew, which Hacker-Pschorr's version definitely is. This beer is brewed in Munich for the annual Oktoberfest celebration and features a malt body that's complimented by a slight hoppy note in the finish. 5.8% ABV

Heavy Seas Beer - Greater Pumpkin: In the most worthy of pumpkin patches and during the silence of the midnight hour, the Greater Pumpkin rises up and pours a rich deep and orange color. Heady aromas of bourbon, cinnamon, ginger, allspice and clove linger over the thick white head of this giant brew. Its love at first sip as the full malt body, dominated by British crystal malt, brown sugar and pumpkin, slowly washes over your tongue. Bourbon barrel aging rounds out the flavors with notes of oak, vanilla, and bourbon. 10% ABV

Lancaster Brewing Company - Baked Pumpkin: Have your pie and drink it too! Bold flavor with a deep amber color, our big Baked Pumpkin Ale is sure to remind you of Grandma's homemade pumpkin pie. 7.3% ABV

Lancaster Brewing Company - Oktoberfest: Oktoberfest uses seven different malts and three varieties of imported and domestic hops, as well as authentic Bavarian lager yeast. Light in copper color, this beer is full-bodied with a nice malt sweetness. 5.5% ABV

North Country Brewing Company - Late Night Pumpkin: For the fall season, North Country brews their Late Night Pumpkin with a healthy dose of pumpkin, spice, and of course this is all done late at night, when the pumpkins taste their best. Coming in at 6.1% ABV with a gold color and a nice spiced character, Late Night Pumpkin is a canned beer you definitely need to try. 6.1% ABV

Otter Creek Brewing Company - Overgrown Ale: Dripping with dank, American hop flavors and aromas, Overgrown is balanced by a subtle, sweet malt backbone that takes a back seat to the bountiful hop additions. A celebration of the hop-growing season, this one will tangle up your taste buds. 5.5% ABV



Smuttynose Brewing Company - Pumpkin Ale: This beer is a homage to the craft and heritage of America's brewers. Recipes calling for the use of pumpkins in beer date back to early colonial times, when brewers sought to extend their supply of costly imported malt with locally grown ingredients, such as squash and "pompions." in that spirit, Smuttynose brews this ale with the addition of pumpkin to the mash, along with traditional spices to create a delicious American original. 6.35% ABV

Spring House Brewing Company - Braaiins Pumpkin: Available this year for the first time in cans, the "pumpkin ale for Zombies" is brewed with generous amounts of pumpkin added right to the mash, giving the beer a subtle pumpkin flavor that's accentuated by traditional autumn spices that has a bold malt body and a nice, crisp finish. 8.5% ABV

Stoudt's Brewery - Oktoberfest: This medium-bodied amber beer elegantly combines a touch of malty sweetness with a pleasingly subtle aromatic hop character. 5% ABV



Tröegs Independent Brewery - Hop Knife: Hop Knife Harvest Ale recognizes the meticulous, time-honored tradition of hand-harvesting hops at the peak of maturity. Troegs HopCyclone process creates an inward spiral of hop dispersal during fermentation, releasing a bounty of citrus, resin and tropical aromas. 6.2% ABV

Tröegs Independent Brewery - Master of Pumpkins: Pulling the strings of great beer and smashing some pumpkins in the process is a pretty amazing beer from The Troegs brothers out of Hershey, PA. Master of Pumpkin is brewed with native Pennsylvania neck pumpkins that're harvested just a few miles away from the brewery, and is combined with traditional pie spices that's so good it's almost blinding. 7.5% ABV

Victory Brewing Company - Festbier: Highly aromatic and full-bodied, this novel pale ale delivers a fresh hop flavor like no other. Its secret? Fresh hops piled into the boiling kettle just hours after their harvest. With many more of their essential oils intact, these 'wet' hops add glorious middle notes of juicy, fruit and tea-like bite to play off of its lightly toasted malt character deliciously. 5.8% ABV

Victory Brewing Company - Moonglow: Weizenbocks are an amazing style of beer. Originating in Germany, these beers use German hops and wheat beer yeast. This gives Moonglow distinct flavors of clove, vanilla, and honey along with a light hop character. Much like our favorite doctor's box, this beer is definitely bigger on the inside. 8.7% ABV



Weyerbacher Brewing Company - Mellow Monks: Belgian-style beers have a surprisingly complex character that's hard to beat. Reminiscent of Weyerbacher's Merry Monks beer, this mellow sibling is much more sessionable and features notes of apple, pear, and banana. 4.5% ABV

Weyerbacher Brewing Company - Imperial Pumpkin: This high gravity pumpkin ale is the mother of all pumpkin ales. It is heartier, spicier, and more "caramelly" and "pumpkiny" than its faint brethren! Anderson Valley added lots of pumpkin along with cinnamon, nutmeg and a touch of cardamom and clove giving this beer a spicy, full-bodied flavor. This truly is an Imperial Pumpkin Ale. 8% ABV

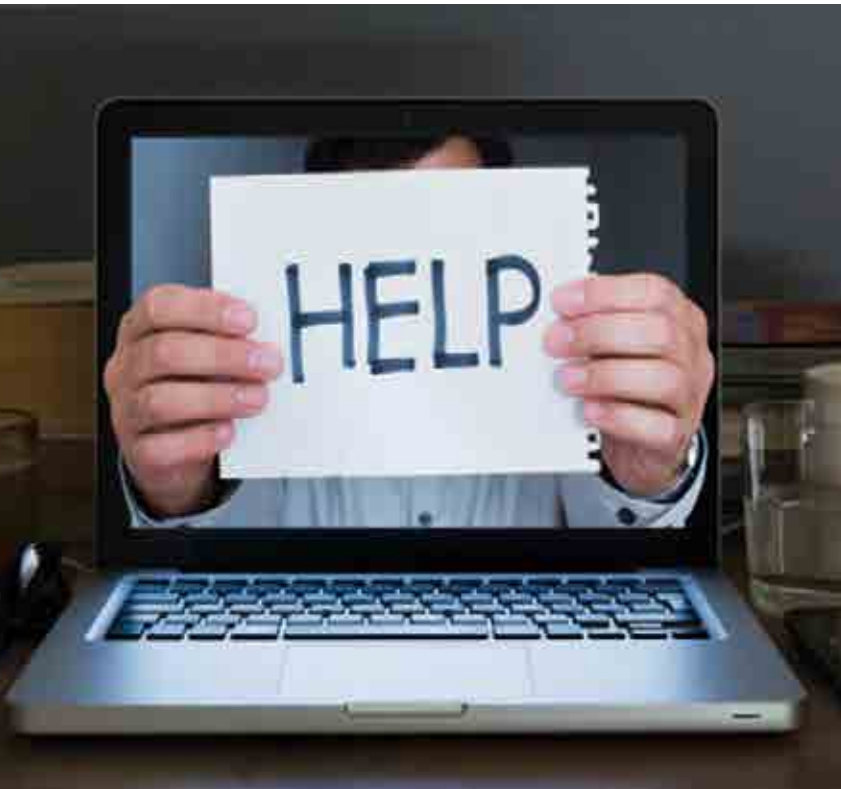


Weyerbacher Brewing Company - Sunday Morning Stout: Sometimes you want a light golden ale or a bright, hoppy pale ale, but it's hard to argue that sometimes a big, strong stout is exactly what you need, and Weyerbacher is happy to help. Weyerbacher's Sunday Morning Stout features aromas of roasted coffee and bourbon that pair perfectly with flavors of chocolate, roasted malt, vanilla, and caramel, and at 11.3% ABV, it'll make your Sunday morning pretty great. 11.3% ABV

Each of these beers can be found in and around the Pittsburgh area by Vecenie Distributing



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QA with Cyndi Lauper (Music & Lyrics for Kinky Boots)

Reprint permitted.

Q – Is it true that Rodgers and Hammerstein were your initial influences?

CL – Yeah. Them, and Leonard Bernstein and Peter in the Wolf and Debussy and Tchaikovsky and things that my mother played. And a lot of opera!

Q – So, how did this musical come about?

CL – Well, it came to me from Harvey.

Q – And how do you know Harvey?

CL – Well, I'm a huge fan of Harvey and I know him because he's a very strong leader in the [LGBT] community that I'm a friend and family member of. And then, one time he wanted me to come and sing for him. He was getting an award. And it was really a lovely award; for the work that he did and recognizing and what he did. He wanted me to come and sing and I just got to know him more and more then. And I also sought him out to work on a project that I wanted to do about my relationship with my grandmother and the women in my family.

And we were talking – just the way he looks at things, just the way he views a story, the way he tells a story. And if you're watching Kinky Boots, you can see what a wonderful storyteller he is. And, much to my luck, I was brought into this by him and he's basically put me under his wing. He tells me this, he tells me that. Or even Jerry Mitchell [the director] tells me "I want this, I want that" and I go away and try and do what they want, because I feel that they're great at their craft. And I'm so honored to be working with them – don't tell them, I wouldn't want them to get a big head! No, I'm kidding. I really think they're brilliant.

Q – When you're writing a pop song, you don't have to worry about what some character named Charlie who has inherited a factory is thinking. Or a drag queen...

CL – No, no, no, no, no! Whatever story you ARE doing, you have to worry about. In a pop song you have to be very economical with words. And you have to have your story – a beginning, middle and end – because if the song goes nowhere, well, what are you talking about?

Everybody asks the question about pop songs and theater songs. I just think that, in some ways, they're very similar and in other ways, they're not. You need to be economical, you have to say something simply. I believe you still can have poetry. Now, Harvey believes it has to be in the most stupid, simple terms, but I think he believes in poetry! Me, I've been writing poetry all my life, so I kinda like poetry.

It's the biggest collaboration I've ever experienced. How many people are in the band? How many people are onstage? How many people are doing sound? Who's Charlie? Who's Lola? It's a

big, big thing. There's an orchestrator. There's everything!

Q – Obviously, the story spoke to you.

CL – It's a story about an outsider. You know, I have a kid and I have a husband. And I've watched their relationship now for fifteen years. When you're a parent, after a while, you start to see; you start to see when they imitate the father's walk. And you see the two of them walking away and you see the kid walking exactly like his dad. And then you see the year where they don't even want to talk to their dad; it's not cool. It's funny, I made "Girls Just Want to Be Fun" very famous. Now, I see the other side of the coin. When this came along, the biggest draw was that every parent goes through this and every kid goes through this, and the disappointment for a kid to feel like they failed their parents is so huge, whether you're gay or straight. And the fact that the guy's a drag queen, to me, is inconsequential – except for the fact that he's so different from this factory bloke; that they can come together, overcome their differences, outside and in, for the greater good. And it's based on a true story.

It almost seems like a perfect storm, the three of us coming together at this time, doing this project and all the people who came and worked along with us on this. And I know that Daryl (Roth) called Harvey and Jerry Mitchell to do this and Harvey's brother suggested me. And it seemed like the perfect time.

Q – Which were the first songs you wrote?

CL – "The Most Beautiful Thing in the World" and "Sex is in the Heel." "The Most Beautiful Thing" is the first thing I embarked on doing. And that I did in the craziest way. In the beginning, I wanted to be by myself. I knew I'd have to bring in a musician, eventually. But I went to some guy with Pro Tools and I started mixing. I studied. I listened, a lot, a lot, a lot. And I took all the things I loved the best and put them together. I loved My Fair Lady, I loved the father. I liked the dance hall feel. That's why I have, "you can tell about a fella from his shoes," because you can! You can tell how they walk, you can tell their style, or that isn't their style.

And I could relate to the story. So I started writing the father first and then after the father I wrote – I don't have my phone on me, but I must still have Nicola's (sings) "to new beginnings" on my iPhone.

Q – I do want to talk about one song. "I'm Not My Father's Son," which, I think, is one of the most beautiful songs you've ever written.

CL – Thank you.

Q – And it's such a moving moment. I just wonder if you can talk

a little bit about that.

CL – Well, they sent Stephen Oremus (music director) to play the chorus for me. And I collaborated with him on it, but I had written the chorus and I was trying to figure out how to play it for him. And I told you, I was walking around the gym, ‘cuz I wanted to be alone. And I just started singing (she sings) “I’m not my father’s son.” And I thought that was so sad. And I thought, “I’m not the image of what he dreamed of.” You know? “With the strength of Sparta,” ‘cuz I kept watching these little boys in hockey and they looked like little Spartans! “And the patience of Job,” because my husband has the patience of Job. And then, I thought, “still couldn’t be the one/to echo what he’d done/and mirror what was not in me.” I didn’t know anything yet, except I was lost in my own world. And then I thought it’d be nice if there was just water dripping or a clock ticking, and him say, “When I was just a kid/everything I did was to be like him/under my skin,” ‘cuz that’s what little boys are like, right?

Q – It seems to me that this song is really the crux of what this show is all about.

CL – Well, they loved it!

Q – In Kinky Boots, you’re dealing with working class people.

CL – And I am working class. And I understand them. I think the working class people that I grew up watching were very Shakespearean. And I think that all the people in my neighborhood inspired me, because they were should-coulda-woulda people.

Q – And you get that in this show. Every person who works in that factory, you sort of get a sense of...

CL – Yeah, of who they are! They’re great actors – that’s one thing. They’re great and they’re funny, but they’re human. And they very much look like they could work in a factory. And you should credit Jerry Mitchell for that.

Q – Yeah. You know, what’s beautiful about this piece is it is a Broadway musical – it’s got that uplift and joy. The end of the first act and second act just bring you to this happy place. But, it’s also intimate.

CL – But the end of the first act, Lola is converting the factory. They’re going to church!

Because we’re all different, we brought in what we know in and we all worked together to make it right – to make you laugh and cry. And Harvey is such a good storyteller and so is Jerry. One minute you’re bawling your eyes out and the next minute, it’s hilarious. So, I think it’s a perfect storm and I think I’m just so lucky. And I feel so blessed to be walked through by the Lion, the Scarecrow and the Tin Man! They have a lot of heart and they’re great storytellers and I feel very blessed to be among them.

Q – Well, thank you and best of luck.

CL – Thank you.

Designing the boots for Kinky Boots

In a show called Kinky Boots, “you’ve gotta get the boots right,” says Gregg Barnes, costume and footwear designer for the Tony Award-winning musical. The show, based on a real story and independent film, about a failing English shoe factory which turned its fortunes around by niche-marketing sturdy boots for drag artists, has become a sold-out Broadway phenomenon. With a book by Harvey Fierstein and a Tony winning score by pop icon Cyndi Lauper, Kinky Boots relies heavily on its visual designs, and, of course, those boots by Barnes. The designer says it was quite a challenge to create those thigh-high boots, with six inch stiletto heels. “What’s really funny about our experience with Kinky Boots is that my team, and the cobblers who made the boots, we had the exact same story as in the musical,” explains Barnes. “Everything they talk about in terms of reinforcing the heel and all of that stuff, we had the same learning curve!”

Those boots need to be durable, to support the six-foot tall dancers doing elaborate and joyous dance routines. Says Barnes: “We’re asking them to do slam splits and quick changes, being carted up and down stairs in baskets. And we have to make them look as if they’re brand new every night, but survive eight shows a week.” Barnes adds that, after months of experimentation and broken heels, they ultimately came up with designs that are so reliable, they’ve barely had to replace any boots in the musical’s Broadway run of over a year.

And Barnes says he never tires of experiencing the enthusiasm audiences have shown for both his kinky boots and the show itself. “You know, it’s amazing,” says Barnes. “You can feel it walking into that theater. I think the audience comes so primed to have this joyous experience and it always rewards that.”



“Rockin” Little Rock

By Suzanne Ferrara

Little Rock is far from little, and no one knows that more than the locals who will repeatedly tell you it's a “big-little city”. Little Rock may have gotten its name from French explorers who identified the area by a small rock formation they called “La Petite Roche” on the Arkansas River in 1799, but those early settlers would not recognize the land they discovered so long ago. This city, a mini-metropolis, has developed by leaps and bounds over the last 20 years, and offers visitors more than ever before.

One thing is for sure, Little Rock is chockfull of political lure; it's a city from where governmental deals and national historical events have rocked the nation. Add to its lengthy repertoires a myriad of award-winning restaurants, entertainment venues, museums and outdoor adventure, and you've got a prime vacation destination.

Once you arrive, make a bee-line straight to the historic luxury Capitol Hotel, which opened in 1873, and is ironically known as the “Front Porch of Little Rock.” Attention to detail is an understatement in this refined oasis which has a quiet grace about it. The Capitol Hotel's grand staircase is said to be a “sweet spot” for political hopefuls announcing their candidacies. (Tip: The Capitol Hotel's Chuck Magill and Stefan Piraux, the chief concierge, exude Little Rock hospitality and are full of knowledge about both the hotel and the city).

With its marble columns, grand hallways, towering ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows in every room, you can't help but feel the history in the Capitol Hotel. The elevator is so large that, according to legend, it was constructed to easily accommodate President Grant and his horse. By the way, the historic State Capitol, the oldest state capitol building west of the Mississippi River and the location of President Clinton's election night celebration in 1992, is just down the block.

Before you head out to explore the highlights of Little Rock, make a stop at the hotel's Capitol Bar and Grill, a place where political deals have been struck for more than a century. Here you can sip a legendary cocktail and tempt your taste buds with award-winning provincial comfort dishes. (Recommended: The Best Spiced Pecans and Pimento Cheese appetizers, followed by the one of the best hamburgers in Little Rock, and finished off with some amazing house-made banana pudding). The



cocktail menu, meanwhile, is full of historical libations like The Seersucker and hand-crafted cocktails with a new twist like the Crop Duster.

Who needs the White House? The Clinton Presidential Center, which is the presidential library of Bill Clinton, showcases fascinating artifacts from his presidency including full-scale replicas of the Clinton-era Oval Office and Cabinet Room. Here you can find out how it feels to sit in the Commander in Chief's chair (be sure to take a photo).

There are 79,000 artifacts, 80 million documents, and Bill Clinton's

Presidential limousine is on display. There's even a heart-warming letter from Mother Teresa (canonized a saint September 4th) addressed to the first lady. An array of awe-inspiring and one-of-a-kind gifts given to President Clinton are on display; however, for those objects not on exhibit, museum visitors can get a sneak peek inside the vaults to see more phenomenal possessions.



Capitol Bar and Grill's Seesucker and Crop Duster cocktail

President Clinton's story unfolds before your eyes from his campaigns to his inaugurations to his notable policy-making, and it's all revealed through a myriad of items, photographs and videos that are sure to capture your attention. While the exhibit really brings to life President Clinton's presidency, it also intimately shows visitors a real example of how the US President lives while leading the country.

Who needs to go to the Olympic Games? You can see some of the most inspiring artifacts used in the Olympics up close and personal at the Clinton Presidential Center. The temporary exhibit called, *American Champions: The Quest for Olympic Glory*, includes memorabilia featuring dozens of American Olympic athletes including a U.S. Olympic Hockey Team hockey stick and puck used to win the Silver medal (also on display) in the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games. You can also experience what it feels like to sit inside the 4-man bobsled piloted by Steven Holcom at the 2010 Games in Vancouver; this bobsled is a replica of the *Night Train* which was used to win the first gold medal for an American bobsledding team since 1948.

The *Quest for Olympic Glory* also includes artifacts dating back nearly three-quarters of a century. The Silver medal and Team USA sweater and track jersey worn by Clyde Scott in the

1948 Olympic Games in London, Peggy Fleming's figure skating costume from the 1968 Winter Olympic Games in Grenoble, France, and the 1936 Western Union Telegram to President Franklin D. Roosevelt on the selection of Jesse Owens as the head of the American Olympic 'welcome home parade' are also part of the exhibit. This display showing the strength of the human spirit through the Olympics is sure to inspire everyone. You can easily spend an entire day at the Clinton Center, so be sure to carve out a lot of time to enjoy this unmatched experience, highlighted by both permanent and temporary exhibits.

While at the Clinton Center, be sure to check out the 30-acre Clinton Presidential Park surrounding the museum on the riverfront. The site was once part of the rundown warehouse district and has been revitalized with pathways and gardens thanks to President Clinton's vision. Be sure to cross the historic 1899 Rock Island Railroad Bridge, which was converted into a pedestrian bridge crossing and offers scenic views of the historic Arkansas River.

Little Rock has come a long way since the days of European settlers who tried to limit Quapaw Indians' alcohol consumption and the era of destroying whiskey distilleries. In fact, just a few



Oval Office, President Clinton Center



Olympic Tribute, President Clinton Center

blocks away from the Clinton Presidential Park, the whiskey is overflowing. Here lies the Rock Town Distillery, Arkansas' first legal distillery since prohibition! In fact, in a complete paradox, while half of Arkansas' 75 counties are dry, Little Rock is pouring out its spirits and promoting its locally produced libations with a tasting tour.

Rock Town, which was named one of the ten best Southern Distillery Tours by USA Today, is one of several stops on Greater Little Rock's Locally Labeled Spirits Passport Tour. This artisan craft distillery is where you will find the coveted award-winning 2015 American Micro Whiskey of the Year, awarded in the revered Jim Murry's Whiskey Bible.

Arkansas native Phil Brandon is the founder of Rock Town, and he offers award-winning distillery tours seven days a week, and by tour's end, you'll taste all of Rock Town's award winning spirits. Phil will take you through the whole process of making spirits from grain to glass, and uncovers the genesis of bourbon, vodka and gin. But the Locally Labeled spirit tour extends beyond the Rock Town Distillery stop; it includes nearly a dozen homegrown craft breweries and wineries all of which feature beverages that are sure to please.

One of the most fascinating and unusual stops in Little Rock is the ESSE Purse Museum, the only purse museum in America

and one of only three in the world. This private museum takes an intimate look at the evolution of purses and its personal contents from American women for more than a century. Viewing the development of handbag styles and the intimate items women carried in their purses during each extraordinary decade gives one a true testament and perspective of how different eras affected women's lives. This is a 'don't miss', one-of-a-kind experience, and it's all in Little Rock!

The ESSE purse museum unveils how purses evolved from an accessory primarily designed to hold ladies' coins to an essential carrier of necessary contents reflective of a woman's core. The ESSE purse museum also reveals how purses became a fashion statement, showpieces to costly labeled designer bags. The myriad of styles, kaleidoscope of colors and materials on stage are truly an eye-full.

While the museum is a 20th century gallery, for a contemporary exhibit of the purses various women carry today and their contents the ESSE Purse Project blog continues this intriguing show online. The project encourages women to send in photos of their handbags, their contents, their age and occupations, and to share it all with the world via the internet.

While you can't buy a purse from the museum exhibit, you can purchase a handbag at the museum's store. You can choose from their collection of vintage handbags to handmade originals made of leathers, canvass and metals.

For a moving historical experience, about a mile away from the ESSE Purse Museum, you can walk up the same steps as the "Little Rock Nine" did at Central High School in 1957. The national historic landmark and proposed world heritage site also has an extensive visitor center across the street which offers interactive exhibits and details on the Little Rock Nine's place in civil rights history. (Time tip: You will need a couple hours to



Olympic Tribute, President Clinton Center



Phil Brandon, Rock Town Distillery

really enjoy the depths of the visitor center's exhibit.)

In case you didn't know, Little Rock is a secret foodie town with a plethora of award-winning tasty dining options. In addition to the Capitol Hotel's Capitol Bar and Grill, be sure to enjoy the array of culinary offerings in Little Rock's South Main District. This must-experience of an up-and -coming neighborhood boasts unmatched restaurants and shops that make sustainability and locally-sourced products a top priority.

A visit to Little Rock is incomplete without a visit to The Root Café, a local favorite which uses local meats, eggs, bread, produce, cheese and nuts. The Root has an award-winning breakfast and lunch and its homey atmosphere exudes character with antiques and collectables. Nearly every Saturday morning you will find Little Rock Mayor Mark Stodola, who like the plethora of locals, enjoys the quality savory dishes.

Another award-winning must visit (and a popular spot for local food critics) is the South on Main which is both a restaurant and entertainment venue. Chef Matthew Bell serves innovative dishes with a southern flare which reign at South on Main. In

addition to creating savory, unforgettable dishes, Chef Bell strives to make sure all employees are like family, and this relationship is evident by the up-beat team spirit displayed at one of Little Rock's most popular restaurants. Grab a table and enjoy a delectable dinner as you enjoy some culturally-rich entertainment born from content associated the Oxford American magazine. Trotters with Creamed Greens, Pumpkin Seeds & South on Main Grape Jelly, and Pork Ribs with Twice Baked Potato serve as memorable starters and main dishes.

Anytime is the perfect time to step back in time at the Loblolly Creamery also located in the South Main District. Once you open its street-cornered door, you instantly realize you are in a special place. Grab a seat at the marble counter of this neighborhood soda fountain and ice cream bar located inside The Green Corner Store & Soda Fountain. There's nothing like the mouthwatering taste of a freshly churned scoop of ice cream and baked goods made with farm-fresh dairy products



Pork Ribs with Twice Baked Potato, South on Main

and local quality ingredients. Loblolly Creamery serves a plethora of unique, mouthwatering flavored homemade ice creams with flavors like Lemon Berry Ice Box Pie and Little Rock-y Road, and refreshing soda fountain phosphate sodas, like the old fashioned concoctions created in the late 1800's, are also served. Need a gift? The Green Corner Store and Soda Fountain has several specialty and locally made items. You will find it hard to turn yourself away from this place which oozes old time atmosphere.

Rest assured, you won't see all that Little Rock has to offer in one visit;

For more information go to: www.littlerock.com



ESSE Purse Museum

TWELVE WHISKEY BARBECUE

In early 2014 in an effort to help revitalize the lower blocks of the South Side, Andrew Balint Jr. opened a new bar offering a fun, safe and entertaining environment to have an adult libation with your friends. With the addition of a full sized commercial kitchen Twelve Whiskey Barbecue was born.

South Side's newest whiskey bar, barbecue and burger restaurant on the South Side opened just over a month ago and has already earned great accolades for its BBQ and won awards for its burgers. In this year's Pittsburgh's Fifth Annual Pittsburgher Competition, Twelve Whiskey Barbecue captured "First Place" AND "The People's Choice Award". Their hamburgers are quite literally award winning and their BBQ is nothing short of excellent!

Twelve Whiskey Barbecue is a family owned and operated business; operated by Chef Andy Balint, son Andrew Balint Jr. Aka Dj Endless and youngest brother Chef Alex Balint. Chef Andy is an official Kansas City Society BBQ judge and travels around the world sampling and perfecting his BBQ craft along with his son, Chef Alex. Chef Andy and son Chef Alex both graduated from the same culinary school. Chef Alex and Chef Andy have worked together ever since Alex was a young child, travelling with his father around the world sampling, practicing and working in the culinary scene side by side with his dad. Chef Andy has also taught a Culinary Arts program at CCAC.

Chef Alex is three time Pittsburgher Competition Champ. He grew up helping his father in their family food business, Balint Market established in 1949. From these roots and following in his father's footsteps he went on to further his culinary quest to become a second generation graduate from the Prestigious American Culinary Federation, B.C.A. Culinary. Chef Alex strives to add culinary elements from his European experiences that provide menu choices which are truly authentic. Older brother, Andrew Balint Jr. Aka Dj Edless has been a Dj in Pittsburgh since he was young and has also worked in the food industry his entire life, together with their nightlife and culinary skills this dynamic



trio makes for two truly successful award winning restaurants: Doce Taqueria, an authentic Mexican taco shop located next door to Twelve on the South Side and now their newest venture Twelve Whiskey Barbecue. Their award winning combination is only further complimented by a faithful and tight staff combined with a growing following, making these two restaurants a huge success and a fantastic place to dine.

Twelve Whiskey BBQ is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11am till 2:30pm offering a special Brunch Menu only, regular menu available after 2:30 pm on both Saturday and Sunday. For starters Twelve features the very best Bloody Mary you will ever have; a huge 32oz. Big Azz Bloody Mary (Absolut or Absolut pepper topped with a slider, grilled cheese and a chicken strip) \$15. Here is a sampling of some of the special brunch menu items: Brisket Hash (fried shredded potatoes, sautéed bell peppers and onions, smoked brisket, fried egg and cilantro)





\$12. Chicken and waffles, (Belgium waffle, fried chicken, PA maple syrup) \$12. Churro Stuffed French Toast (French Texas toast stuffed with a mascarpone churro filling topped with a vanilla icing) \$10. Southern style biscuits & gravy \$10, a Brunch burger \$12 or Classic burger \$10, Crispy chicken strips \$6 and a complete Al a cart menu with eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes and fresh fruit.

Twelve Whiskey BBQ's regular menu includes lots of appetizers to choose from plus great BBQ choices like, Smoked chicken leg, smoked pulled pork, brisket and slow smoked, fall of the bone ribs, ½ or full racks available served with the very best BBQ sauce on the planet. All BBQ is served with bread and

your choice of two sides. Their sides include Kansas City cheesy corn, oh my, one of my favorites or southern baked beans, the best you've ever tasted, waffle fries, cold salad of the day, side salad, fresh house made Cole slaw, fresh vegetable of the day (they even on occasion have Evans City farm fresh roasted corn) asparagus and waffle fries, served in a mini fry basket and pickle on a stick! Did we mention everything is made in house and with only the freshest ingredients? Plus they have wings available in full or ½ dozen served with celery, ranch, or blue cheese. You can choose from 12 different sauces including their Award Winning Whiskey BBQ, Mild, Hot, Bee stinger, Garlic parmesan, Teriyaki, Merlin's magic maple mustard, Rasta jerk, Mr. Bill's Revenge XXX, Golden Q, Carson Street Cajun and South Side sweet chili.

And award winning Burgers..... the Twelve Whiskey BBQ Burger, The Yinzer, Doce Burger, Bufflo Blue, Grilled Vegetarian black bean burger to the Classic burger which are all fresh, locally sourced, all natural made with a special blend served on a Bread Works butter toasted brioche bun with fries and you can always "have it your way!"

Open daily Monday through Friday 4pm – 2am, Saturday and Sunday 11am – 2am. Kitchen open daily till midnight except on Saturday, kitchen closes at 11pm. Twelve Whiskey Barbecue is located on the South Side at 1222 East Carson St Pittsburgh, PA 15203 .. (412) 742-4024





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Sex After Death

A couple made a deal that whoever died first would come
back and Inform the other if there is sex after death. Their
biggest fear was that there was no after life at all. After a long
life together, the husband was the first to die.

True to his word, he made the first contact:

"Marion ... Marion " "Is that you, Bob?"

"Yes, I've come back like we agreed."

"That's wonderful! What's it like?"

"Well, I get up in the morning, I have sex. I have breakfast and
then it's off to the golf course. I have sex again, bathe in the
warm sun and then have sex a couple of more times. Then I
have lunch (you'd be proud - lots of greens). Another romp
Around the golf course, then pretty much have sex the rest
of the Afternoon. After supper, it's back to golf course again.

Then it's more sex until late at night. I catch some much
needed sleep and then the next day it starts all over again"

"Oh, Bob are you in Heaven?" "No.....I'm a rabbit in
Arizona

Why States are Broke

**California: The Governor of California is jogging with his dog
along a nature trail. A coyote jumps out, bites the Governor
and attacks his dog.**

1. The Governor starts to intervene, but reflects upon the
movie "Bambi" and then realizes he should stop; the coyote is
only doing what is natural.
2. He calls animal control. Animal Control captures coyote
and bills the State \$200 testing it for diseases and \$500 for
relocating it.
3. He calls a veterinarian. The vet collects the dead dog and
bills the State \$200 testing it for diseases.
4. The Governor goes to hospital and spends \$3,500 getting
checked for diseases from the coyote and on getting his bite
wound bandaged.
5. The running trail gets shut down for 6 months while Fish &
Game conducts a \$100,000 survey to make sure the area is
free of dangerous animals.

6. The Governor spends \$50,000 in state funds implementing a "coyote awareness" program for residents of the area.

7. The State Legislature spends \$2 million to study how to better treat rabies and how to permanently eradicate the disease throughout the world.

8. The Governor's security agent is fired for not stopping the attack somehow and for letting the Governor attempt to intervene.

9. Additional cost to State of California: \$75,000 to hire and train a new security agent with additional special training re: the nature of coyotes.

10. PETA protests the coyote's relocation and files suit against the State.

Arizona: The Governor of Arizona is jogging with her dog along a nature trail. A Coyote jumps out and attacks her dog.

1. The Governor shoots the coyote with her State-issued pistol and keeps jogging. The Governor has spent \$0.50 on a .45 ACP hollow point cartridge.

2. The Buzzards eat the dead coyote.
And that, boys and girls, is why California is broke

Ok let's test to see how good you are at solving riddles...

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires
The second is full of assassins with loaded guns
The third is full of lions that hasn't eaten in 3 years
Which room is safest for him?

2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and gray when you throw it away?

4. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Wednesday, Friday, or Sunday?

5. This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious as to just how



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quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so ordinary and plain that you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it. It is highly unusual though. Study it and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out. Try to do so without any coaching!

THE ANSWERS TO ALL FIVE OF THE RIDDLES ARE BELOW:

1. The third room. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead. That one was easy, right?
2. The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry (shot; held under water; and hung).
3. Charcoal, as it is used in barbecuing.
4. Sure you can name three consecutive days, yesterday, today, and tomorrow!
5. The letter e, which is the most common letter used in the English language, does not appear even once in the paragraph.

Brain Quiz:

1. How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator?
The correct answer is: Open the refrigerator, put in the giraffe, and close the door. This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way.
2. How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?
Did you say, 'Open the refrigerator, put in the elephant, and close the refrigerator'? Wrong answer.
Correct answer: Open the refrigerator, take out the giraffe, put in the elephant and close the door. This tests your ability to think through the repercussions of your previous actions.
3. The Lion King is hosting an animal conference. All the animals attend except one. Which animal does not attend?
Correct answer: The Elephant. The elephant is in the refrigerator. You just put him in there! This tests your memory. Okay, even if you did not answer the first three questions correctly, you still have one more chance to show your true abilities.



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4. There is a river you must cross but it is used by crocodiles and you do not have a boat. How do you manage it?

Correct answer: You jump into the river and swim across. Have you not been listening? All the crocodiles are attending the Animal Conference. This tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes. According to Anderson Consulting Worldwide, around 90% of the professionals they tested got all questions wrong, but many preschoolers got several correct answers. Anderson Consulting says this conclusively proves the theory that most professionals do not have the brains of a four-year-old.

Catholic Parrots

A lady goes to her priest one day and tells him. "Father I have a problem. I have 2 female parrots, but they only know how to say one thing. "What do they say?" the priest asks "They say Hi, were hookers! Do you want to have some fun?" That's obscene! The priest exclaimed. Then he thought for a moment. "You know," he said "I have a solution to your problem. I have two male talking parrots, which I have taught to pray and read the bible. Bring your 2 parrots over to my house, and we'll put them in together with Francis and Peter. My parrots can teach your parrots to pray, read the Bible and worship." "Thank you," the woman responded "This may very well be the solution". The next day, she brought her female parrots to the priest's house. As he ushered her in, she saw that his two male parrots were inside their cage holding rosary beads and praying. Impressed, she walked over and placed her 2 parrots in with them. After a few minutes, the female parrots cried out in unison "Hi were hookers' do you want to have some fun"? There was a stunned silence. Shocked, one male parrot looked over at the other male parrot and said....."Put the beads away frank our prayers have been answered!!!"

Senior Church Moment

A Preacher was explaining that he must move on to a larger congregation that will pay him more. There is a hush within the congregation---no one wanted him to leave. Joe Smith, who owns several car dealerships in the City stands up and proclaims, 'If the Preacher stays, I will provide him with a new Cadillac every year, and his wife with a Honda mini-van to transport their children!' The congregation sighs in relief, and applauds. Sam Brown, a successful entrepreneur and investor, stands and says, 'If the Preacher will stay on here, I'll personally double his salary, and also establish a foundation to guarantee the college



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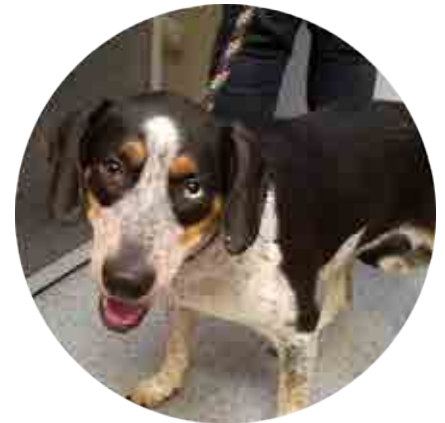
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Humor

education of all his children!

More sighs and loud applause. Sadie Jones, age 88, stands and announces with a smile, 'If the Preacher stays, I will give him sex!' There is total silence. The Preacher, blushing, asks her, 'Mrs. Jones, whatever possessed you to say that?' Sadie's 90 year old husband Jake is now trying to hide, holding his forehead with the palm of his hand, and shaking his head from side to side, while his wife replies, 'Well, I just asked my husband how we could help, and he said,.....'Screw him!' Isn't senility wonderful?

JOKE DU JOUR - QUICKIE

Tillie - Maude - Gertrude, three old ladies and their dogs were sitting on a park bench having a quiet conversation when a flasher approached. The flasher came up to the ladies, stood right in front of them and opened his trench coat. Gertrude immediately had a stroke. Then Maude also had a stroke. Tillie, being older and more feeble, couldn't reach that far.

Choosing a Spouse

A man wanted to get married. He was having trouble choosing among three likely candidates. He gives each woman a present of \$5,000 and watches to see what they do with the money. The first does a total makeover. She goes to a fancy beauty salon, gets her hair done, new makeup; buys several new outfits and dresses up very nicely for the man. She tells him that she has done this to be more attractive for him because she loves him so much. The man was impressed. The second goes shopping to buy the man gifts. She gets him a new set of golf clubs, some new gizmos for his computer, and some expensive clothes. As she presents these gifts, she tells him that she has spent all the money on him because she loves him so much. Again, the man is impressed. The third invests the money in the stock market. She earns several times the \$5,000. She gives him back his \$5,000 and reinvests the remainder in a joint account. She tells him that she wants to save for their future because she loves him so much. Obviously, the man was impressed. The man thought for a long time about what each woman had done with the money he'd given her. Then he married the one with the biggest boobs. Men are like that, you know.



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The Perfect Solution to Senior Health Care

While discussing the upcoming Medicare Health Care Program with my sister-in-law the other day, I think we have found the solution. I am sure you have heard the ideas that if you're a senior you need to suck it up and give up the idea that you need any health care. A new hip? Unheard of. We simply can't afford to take care of you anymore. You don't need any medications for your high blood pressure, diabetes, heart problems, etc. Let's take care of the young people.. After all, they will be ruling the world very soon. So here is the solution. When you turn 70, you get a gun and 4 bullets. You are allowed to shoot 2 senators and 2 representatives. Of course, you will be sent to prison where you will get 3 meals a day, a roof over your head and all the health care you need!!! New teeth, great!!! Need glasses, no problem. New hip, knee, kidney, lung, heart? Well bring it on. And who will be paying for all of this. The same government that just told you that you are too old for affordable health care. And, since you are a prisoner, you don't have to pay any income tax. I really think we have found the Perfect Solution!!!

Operating Humor

Five surgeons from big cities are discussing who makes the best patients to operate on, The 1st surgeon, from New York, says, "I like to see accountants on my operating table because when you open them up, everything inside is numbered." The 2nd, from Chicago, responds, "Yeah, but you should try electricians! Everything inside them is color coded." The 3rd surgeon, from Dallas, says, "No, I really think librarians are the best, everything inside them is in alphabetical order." The 4th surgeon, from Los Angeles chimes in, "You know, I like construction workers, those guys always understand when you have a few parts left over." But the 5th surgeon, from Washington D.C., shut them all up when he observed, "You're all wrong, politicians are the easiest to operate on. There's no guts, no heart, no brains and no spine. Plus their head and butts are interchangeable."



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A Little Biblical Humor

Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?

A. German Shepherds.

Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?

A. Noah He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?

A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q.. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

A. Samson. He brought the house down.

Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?

A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?

A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.

Q. Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?

A. The area around Jordan The banks were always overflowing.

Q. Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible

A. David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.

Q. Which Bible character had no parents?

A. Joshua, son of Nun.

Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark ?

A. Because Noah was standing on the deck.

PS. Did you know it's a sin for a woman to make coffee?

Yup, it's in the Bible. It says ... 'He-brews'

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The Broken Lawn Mower

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the truck, the car, playing golf always something more important to me. Finally, she thought of a clever way to make her point. When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. I said, 'When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway.' The doctors said I might walk again, but I will always have a limp.

I Want to Buy That

A blonde goes into a nearby store and asks a clerk if she can buy the TV in the corner. The clerk looks at her and says that he doesn't serve blondes, so she goes back home and dyes her hair black. The next day she returns to the store and asks the same thing, and again, the clerk said he doesn't serve blondes. Frustrated, the blonde goes home and dyes her hair yet again, to a shade of red. Sure that a clerk would sell her the TV this time, she returns and asks a different clerk this time. To her astonishment, this clerk also says that she doesn't serve blondes. The blonde asks the clerk, "How in the world do you know I am a blonde?" The clerk looks at her disgustedly and says, "That's not a TV -- it's a microwave!"

Blonde Car Accident

One day, while a blonde was out driving her car, she ran into a truck. The truck's driver made her pull over into a parking lot and get out of the car. He took a piece of chalk and drew a circle on

the pavement. He told her to stand in the middle and not leave the circle. Furious, he went over to her car and slashed the tires. The blonde started laughing. This made the man angrier so he smashed her windshield. This time the blonde laughed even harder. Livid, the man broke all her windows and keyed her car. The blonde is now laughing hysterically, so the truck driver asks her what's so funny. The blonde giggles and replies, "When you weren't looking, I stepped out of the circle three times!"

Rowing Your Boat

Two blondes were driving along a road by a wheat field when they saw a blonde in the middle of the field rowing a row boat. The driver blonde turned to her friend and said "You know - it's blondes like that that give us a bad name!" To this, the other blonde replies "I know it, and if I knew how to swim, I'd go out there and drown her."

Question and Answer Blonde Jokes

Q: How do blonde brain cells die?

A: Alone.

Q: How do you change a blonde's mind?

A: Blow in her ear.

Q: How do you measure a blonde's intelligence?

A: Stick a tire pressure gauge in her ear!

Q: How does a blonde kill a fish?

A: She drowns it.

Q: A blond going to London on a plane, how can you steal her window seat?



A: Tell her the seats that are going to London are all in the middle row.

Q: How do you amuse a blonde for hours?

A: Write 'Please turn over' on both sides of a piece of paper

Boat Troubles

During late spring one year, a blonde was trying out her new boat. She was unable to have her boat perform, travel through water, or do any maneuvers whatsoever no matter how hard she tried. After trying for over three days to make it work properly, she decided to seek help. She putted the boat over to the local marina in hopes that someone there could identify her problem. Workers determined that everything from the engine to the out drive was working perfectly on the topside of the boat. So, a puzzled marina employee jumped into the water to check underneath the boat for problems. Because he was laughing so hard, he came up choking on water and gasping for air. Under the boat, still strapped in place securely, was the trailer.

Do You Know Where You Were Going?

A policeman pulled a blonde over after he/she'd been driving the wrong way on a one-way street.

Cop: Do you know where you were going? Blonde: No, but wherever it is, it must be bad because all the cars were leaving.

Trouble Sleeping

The woman seated herself in the psychiatrist's office. "What seems to be the problem?" the doctor asked. "Well, I, uh," she stammered. "I think I, uh, might be a nymphomaniac." "I see," he said. "I can help you, but I must advise you that my fee is \$80 an hour." "That's not bad," she replied. "How much for all night?"

Low Self-Esteem

A guy had been feeling down for so long that he finally decided to seek the aid of a psychiatrist. He went there, lay on the couch, spilled his guts then waited for the profound wisdom of the psychiatrist to make him feel better. The psychiatrist asked me a few questions, took some notes then sat thinking in silence for a few minutes with a puzzled look on his face. Suddenly, he looked up with an expression of delight and said, "Um, I think your problem is low self-esteem. It is very common among losers."

Loud, Mad, or Sad

The psychology instructor had just finished a lecture on mental health and was giving an oral test. Speaking specifically about manic depression, she asked, "How would you diagnose a



patient who walks back and forth screaming at the top of his lungs one minute, then sits in a chair weeping uncontrollably the next?" A young man in the rear raised his hand and answered, "A basketball coach?"

You Are a Chicken

A man runs to the doctor and says, "Doctor, you've got to help me. My wife thinks she's a chicken!" The doctor asks, "How long has she had this condition?" "Two years," says the man. "Then why did it take you so long to come and see me?" asked the shrink. The man shrugs his shoulders and replies, "We needed the eggs."

Feel Better Now

Mary was having a tough day and had stretched herself out on the couch to do a bit of what she thought to be well-deserved complaining and self-pitying. She moaned to her mom and brother, "Nobody loves me ... the whole world hates me!" Her brother, busily occupied playing a game, hardly looked up at her and passed on this encouraging word: "That's not true, Mary. Some people don't even know you."


I Didn't Get Any Money This Time

A man in a bar sees a friend at a table, drinking by himself. Approaching the friend he comments, "You look terrible. What's the problem?" "My mother died in August," he said, "and left me \$25,000." "Gee, that's tough," he replied. "Then in September," the friend continued, "My father died, leaving me \$90,000." "Wow... two parents gone in two months. No wonder you're depressed." "And last month my aunt died, and left me \$15,000." "Three close family members lost in three months? How sad?" "Then this month," continued, the friend, "absolutely nothing!"

Reasons To Allow Drinking at Work

The below are valid reasons as to why drinking should be allowed at work. If you use them wisely, you may even be able to convince your boss into allowing alcohol.

1. It's an incentive to show up.
2. It reduces stress.
3. It leads to more honest communications.
4. It reduces complaints about low pay.
5. It cuts down on time off because you can work with a hangover.
6. Employees tell management what they think, not what management wants to hear.



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7. It helps save on heating costs in the winter.
8. It encourages carpooling.
9. Increases job satisfaction because if you have a bad job you don't care.
10. It eliminates vacations because people would rather come to work.
11. It makes fellow employees look better.
12. It makes the cafeteria food taste better.
13. Bosses are more likely to hand out raises when they are wasted.
14. Salary negotiations are a lot more profitable.
15. If something does something stupid on the job, it will be quickly forgotten.

He Is a Very Fast Drinker

A man goes into a bar and seats himself on a stool. The bartender looks at him and says, "What'll it be buddy?" The man says, "Set me up with seven whiskey shots and make them doubles." The bartender does this and watches the man slug one down, then the next, then the next, and so on until all seven are gone almost as quickly as they were served. Staring in disbelief, the bartender asks why he's doing all this drinking. "You'd drink them this fast too if you had what I have." The bartender hastily asks, "What do you have pal?" The man quickly replies, "I have a dollar."

You Can't Bring That Dog in This Bar

A man goes to a bar with his dog. He goes up to the bar and asks for a drink. The bartender says "You can't bring that dog in here!" The guy, without missing a beat, says "This is my seeing-eye dog." "Oh man," the bartender says, "I'm sorry, here, the first one's on me." The man takes his drink and goes to a table near the door. Another guy walks in the bar with a Chihuahua. The first guy sees him, stops him and says "You can't bring that dog in here unless you tell him it's a seeing-eye dog." The second man graciously thanks the first man and continues to the bar. He asks for a drink. The bartender says "Hey, you can't bring that dog in here!" The second man replies "This is my seeing-eye dog." The bartender says, "No, I don't think so. They do not have Chihuahuas as seeing-eye dogs." The man pauses for a half-second and replies "What?!? They gave me a Chihuahua?!?"

The Story of a Very Short Man

A man walks into a bar and says, "Bartender, give me two shots." Bartender says, "You want them both now or one at a time?" The guy says, "Oh, I want them both now. One's for me and one's for this little guy here," and he pulls a tiny three inch man out of his pocket. The bartender asks "He can drink?" "Oh, sure. He can

drink." So the bartender pours the shots and sure enough, the little guy drinks it all up. "That's amazing" says the bartender. "What else can he do, can he walk?" The man flicks a quarter down to the end of the bar and says, "Hey, Jake. Go get that." The little guy runs down to the end of the bar and picks up the quarter. Then he runs back down and gives it to the man. The bartender is in total shock. "That's amazing" he says, "what else can he do? Does he talk?" The man says "Sure he talks, hey, Jake, tell him about that time we were in Africa and you made fun of that witch doctor's powers!"

Top Ten Signs That You Are Too Drunk

10. You have to hold onto the lawn to keep from falling off the Earth.
9. Mosquitoes catch a buzz after attacking you.
8. The back of your head keeps getting hit by the toilet seat.
7. Your idea of cutting back is less salt.
6. You can focus better with one eye closed.
5. You fall off the floor.
5. The whole bar greets you when you come in.
4. You haven't had a driver's license in such a long time that you have forgotten what one looks like.
3. Roseanne looks good.

2. You don't recognize your wife/husband unless seen through bottom of glass.

1. You spent more time on the floor than you do standing up.

How Drunk are You? Official Drinking Test

This simple five question test will help determine how drunk you really are. Begin by answering each of the five questions below truthfully. Then determine your score based on question answer values provided. Lastly, compare your score to the results for a final answer.

1. Think about your wife. In your mind, is she: (a) the most beautiful woman alive; (b) a beautiful woman; (c) attractive; (d) ugly as sin.
2. Think about your job. In your mind, is it: (a) the best job on the planet; (b) a good job; (c) a decent job; (d) the most annoying job ever.
3. Try walking. What happened? Did you: (a) find it impossible to stand up; (b) fall after standing up; (c) walk fifty feet before falling flat on your face; (d) walk one thousand feet without falling.



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4. How did you get to the bar? I got here in: (a) my brand new chauffer-driven limo; (b) a brand new car; (c) a used car; (d) a rented, rusted, and damaged 1950 import.

5. What do you think of your strength? I am: (a) invincible; (b) stronger than anyone in the bar; (c) as strong as the average man; (d) a weak and pathetic being.

Question answer values

For every question answered with an A, add ten points.

For every question answered with a B, add five points.

For every question answered with a C, do not change the score.

For every question answered with a D, subtract five points.

For every question answered with an E, add one hundred points.

Results

For scores ranging from fifty to 135, congratulations. You're over and above the normal drunk. Generally, at least they are able to select a valid option. An e option does not even exist on this test. You should probably check yourself into a hospital for alcohol poisoning.

For scores ranging from thirty-five to fifty, you had ten too many beers. If you plan on driving home, make out a will first--that is, if you can even remember your own name. Lastly, don't even think about standing up.

For scores ranging from fifteen to thirty-five, you have had one too many beers. Don't drive unless you want a higher insurance rate. Standing up will probably result in injury.

For scores ranging from zero to fifteen, you may want to stop drinking now. You have probably had enough beers but don't drive unless you want a ticket. If you choose to ignore the tip to stop drinking, it is not a problem; you probably still have the ability to stand up.

For scores ranging from negative twenty-five to zero, you must just be getting started! I bet you don't even have one beer in you. In terms of driving, you are probably just getting out of the car and are walking to the bar this very moment.

Office Jokes

Letters Of Recommendation

Have to write a letter of recommendation for that fired employee?

Here are a few suggested phrases:

For the chronically absent:

"A man like him is hard to find." "It seemed her career was just taking off."

For the office drunk:

"I feel his real talent is wasted here." "We generally found him loaded with work to do." "Every hour with him was a happy hour."

For an employee with no ambition:

"He could not care less about the number of hours he had to put in." "You would indeed be fortunate to get this person to work for you."

For an employee who is so unproductive that the job is better left unfilled:

"I can assure you that no person would be better for the job."

For an employee who is not worth further consideration as a job candidate:

"I would urge you to waste no time in making this candidate an offer of employment." "All in all, I cannot say enough good things about this candidate or recommend him too highly."

For a stupid employee:

"There is nothing you can teach a man like him." "I most enthusiastically recommend this candidate with no qualifications whatsoever."

For a dishonest employee:

"Her true ability was deceiving." "He's an unbelievable worker."

Passing a Football

A jumbo-sized freshman went to try out for the football team. The coach asked him if he could tackle and he said, "Hell yah, get a load of this!" And with that knocked over a telephone pole as if it were made of balsa wood. The coach was dumbfounded and asked if the boy could run, to which the boy replied, "Hell yah!" and he sprinted from end zone to end zone like lightning. The coach stood there with his mouth agape to see such a huge boy run so fast. He finally composed

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himself and said, "But can you pass a football?" The freshman stopped to think for a few seconds, then said, "Hell yah, if I can swallow it, I can surely pass it!"

Jock vs. Nerd

- Michael Jordan having "retired," with \$40 million in endorsements, makes \$178,100 a day, working or not.
- If he sleeps 7 hours a night, he makes \$52,000 every night while visions of sugarplums dance in his head.
- If he goes to see a movie it'll cost him \$7.00, but he'll make \$18,550 while he's there.
- If he decides to have a 5 minute egg, he'll make \$618 while boiling it.
- He makes \$7,415/hr more than minimum wage.
- He'll make \$3,710 while watching each episode of Friends.
- If he wanted to save up for a new Acura NSX (\$90,000) it would take him a whole 12 hours.
- If someone were to hand him his salary and endorsement money, they would have to do it at the rate of \$2.00 every second.
- He'll probably pay around \$200 for a nice round of golf, but will be reimbursed \$33,390 for that round.
- Assuming he puts the federal maximum of 15% of his income into a tax account (401k), his contributions will hit the federal cap of \$9500 at 8:30 a.m. on January 1st.
- If you were given a penny for every 10 dollars made, you 'd be living comfortably at \$65,000 a year.
- He'll make about \$19.60 while watching the 100 meter dash in the Olympics, and about \$15,600 during the Boston Marathon.
- While the common person is spending about \$20 for a meal in his trendy Chicago restaurant, he'll pull in about \$5600.
- This year, he'll make more than twice as much as all U.S. past presidents for all of their terms combined.
- Amazing isn't it? However...
- If Jordan saves 100% of his income for the next 450 years, he'll still have less than Bill Gates has today.
- Game over. Nerd wins.

Top 10 Reasons You Know That You're In A Cheap HMO

10. Annual breast exam conducted at Hooters.
9. Directions to your doctor's office include, "take a left when you enter the trailer park."
8. Tongue depressors taste faintly of fudgesicle.
7. Only proctologist in the plan is "Gus" from Roto-Rooter.
6. Only item listed under Preventive Care feature of coverage is "an apple a day".



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5. Your "primary care physician" is wearing the pants you gave to Goodwill last month.
4. "Patient responsible for 200% of out-of-network charges" is not a typo.
3. The only expense covered 100% is embalming.
2. With your last HMO, your Viagra pills didn't come in different colors with little "M"'s on them.
1. You ask for Viagra. You get a popsicle stick and duct tape.

Things You Don't Want To Hear During Surgery

- "Better save that. We'll need it for the autopsy."
- "Someone call the janitor - we're going to need a mop."
- "Accept this sacrifice, O Great Lord of Darkness"
- "No! Bo! Come back with that! Bad Dog!"
- "Wait a minute, if this is his spleen, then what's that?"
- "Hand me that...uh...that uh.....thingie."
- "Oh no! I just lost my Rolex."
- "Oops! Hey, has anyone ever survived 500ml of this stuff before?"
- "Damn, there go the lights again...."
- "Ya know, there's big money in kidneys. Hell, the guy's got two of them."

- "What do you mean you want a divorce?"

Psychological Window Into A Man's Sexual Problem

A guy went to a psychiatrist because he was having severe problems with his sex life. The psychiatrist asked him a lot of questions, but didn't seem to be getting a clear picture of the problems. Finally, he asked, "Do you ever watch your girlfriend's face while you're having sex?" "Well, yes, I did once." "Well, how did she look?" "Oh boy, she looked VERY angry!" At this point the psychiatrist felt that he was really getting somewhere and he said, "Well that's very interesting, we must look into this further. Now tell me, you say that you have only seen your girlfriend's face once during sex; that seems somewhat unusual. How did it occur that you saw her face that time?" "She was watching us through the window."

Little Johnny and Raw Materials

In school one day the teacher decided that in science class she would teach about materials; So she stood in the front of the class and said, "Children, if you could have one raw material in the world what would it be?" Little Stevie raised his hand and said



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"I would want gold, because gold is worth a lot of money and I could buy a Porsche." The teacher nodded and called on little Susie. Little Susie said, "I would want platinum because platinum is worth more than gold and I could buy a Corvette". The teacher smiled and then called on Little Johnny. Little Johnny stood up and said, "I would want silicon." The teacher said, "Why Johnny?" He responded by saying, "Because my mom has two bags of it and you should see all the sports cars outside our house!!"

Little Johnny and Class Trivia

It was the end of the school year. The teacher had turned in her grades; there was nothing really for the class to do. All the kids were restless and it was near the end of the day. So the teacher thought of an activity. She said, "The first ones to answer correctly the questions I ask may leave early today." Little Johnny said to himself, "Good, I'm smart and I want to get outta here." The teacher asked, "Who said 'Four Score and Seven Years Ago?'" Before Johnny could open his mouth, Susie said, "Abraham Lincoln." The teacher said, "That's right Susie. You may go." Johnny was really mad that Susie had answered first. The teacher asked, "Who said 'I Have a Dream?'" But before Johnny could open his mouth, Mary said, "Martin Luther King!" The teacher said, "That's right, Mary. You may go." Johnny was even

madder than before because Mary had answered first. Then the teacher asked, "Who said 'Ask not what your country can do for you?'" Before Johnny could open his mouth, Nancy piped, "John Kennedy!" and the teacher said, "That's right, Nancy. you may go." Now Johnny was furious! The teacher turned her back, and Johnny muttered, "I wish these bitches would keep their mouths shut!" The teacher spun around. "who said that?" Johnny said, "Bill Clinton. Can I go now?"

Top ten reasons to become a nurse

- 1) Pays better than fast food, though the hours aren't as good.
- 2) Fashionable shoes and sexy white uniforms.
- 3) Needles: "Tis better to give than receive"
- 4) Reassure your patients that all bleeding stops...eventually.
- 5) Expose yourself to rare, exciting and new diseases.
- 6) Interesting aromas.
- 7) Courteous and infallible doctors who always leave clear orders in perfectly legible handwriting.
- 8) Do enough charting to navigate around the world.
- 9) Celebrate all the holidays with your friends - at work.
- 10) Take comfort that most of your patients survive no matter what you do to them.



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- You believe every patient needs TLC: Thorazine, Lorazepam and Compazine.
- You would like to meet the inventor of the call light in a dark alley one night.
- You believe not all patients are annoying ... some are unconscious.
- Your sense of humor seems to get more "warped" each year.
- You know the phone numbers of every late night food delivery place in town by heart.
- You can only tell time with a 24 hour clock.
- Almost everything can seem humorous ... eventually.
- When asked, "What color is the patient's diarrhea?", you show them your shoes.
- Every time you walk, you make a rattling noise because of all the scissors and clamps in your pockets.
- You can tell the pharmacist more about the medicines he is dispensing than he can.
- You carry "spare" meds in your pocket rather than wait for pharmacy to deliver.
- You refuse to watch ER because it's too much like the real thing and triggers "flash backs."
- You check the caller ID when the phone rings on your day off to see if someone from the hospital is trying to call to ask you to work.
- You've been telling stories in a restaurant and had someone at another table throw up.
- You notice that you use more four letter words now than before you became a nurse.
- Every time someone asks you for a pen, you can find at least three of them on you.
- You can intubate your friends at parties.
- You don't get excited about blood loss ... unless it's your own.
- You live by the motto, "To be right is only half the battle, to convince the physician is more difficult."
- You've basted your Thanksgiving turkey with a Toomey syringe.
- You've told a confused patient your name was that of your coworker and to holler if they need help.
- Eating microwave popcorn out a clean bedpan is perfectly natural.
- Your bladder can expand to the same size as a Winnebago's water tank.
- When checking the level of orientation of a patient, you aren't sure of the answer.



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- You find yourself checking out other customer's arm veins in grocery waiting lines.
- You can sleep soundly at the hospital cafeteria table during dinner break, sitting up and not be embarrassed when you wake up.
- You avoid unhealthy looking shoppers in the mall for fear that they'll drop near you and you'll have to do CPR on your day off.
- You've sworn you're going to have "No Code" tattooed on your chest.

Wal-Mart Has Everything

One day, in line at the company cafeteria, Joe says to Mike behind him, "My elbow hurts like heck. I guess I'd better see a doctor." "Listen, you don't have to spend that kind of money," Mike replies. "There's a diagnostic computer down at Wal-Mart. Just give it a urine sample and the computer will tell you what's wrong and what to do about it. It takes ten seconds and costs ten dollars. A lot cheaper than a doctor." So, Joe deposits a urine sample in a small jar and takes it to Wal-Mart. He deposits ten dollars, and the computer lights up and asks for the urine sample. He pours the sample into the slot and waits. Ten seconds later, the computer ejects a printout: "You have tennis elbow. Soak your arm in warm water and avoid heavy activity. It will improve in two weeks. Thank you for shopping @ Wal-Mart." That evening, while thinking how amazing this new technology was, Joe began wondering if the computer could be fooled. He mixed some tap water, a stool sample from his dog, urine samples from his wife and daughter, and a sperm sample for good measure. Joe hurries back to Wal-Mart, eager to check the results. He deposits ten dollars, pours in his concoction, and awaits the results. The computer prints the following:

1. Your tap water is too hard. Get a water softener. (Aisle 9)
2. Your dog has ringworm. Bathe him with anti-fungal shampoo. (Aisle 7)
3. Your daughter has a cocaine habit. Get her into rehab.
4. Your wife is pregnant. Twins. They aren't yours. Get a lawyer.
5. If you don't stop playing with yourself, your elbow will never get better! Thank you for shopping @ Wal-Mart

An Actual Letter to the Passport Office

Dear Sirs:

I'm in the process of renewing my passport, and still cannot believe this.. How is it that Radio Shack has my address and telephone number and knows that I bought a TV cable from them back in 1987, and yet, the Federal Government is still asking me where I was born, and on what date. For pity sakes, do you guys do this by hand? My birth date you have on my social security card, and it is on all the income tax forms I've filed for the past

30 years. It is on my health insurance card, my driver's license, on the last eight damn passports I've had, on all those stupid customs declaration forms I've had to fill out before being allowed off the planes over the last 30 years, and all those insufferable census forms that are done at election times. Would somebody please take note, for the last time, that my late mother's name was Maryann, my late father's name was Robert, and I'd be absolutely astounded if that ever will change between now and when I die! I apologize; I'm really stressed out this morning. Between you and me, I've had enough of this bullshit! You send the application to my house, then you ask me for my freaking address. What is going on? Do you have a gang of Neanderthal working there! Look at my damn picture. Do I look like Osama Bin Laden? I don't want to dig up Yasser Arafat. I just want to go and park my sorry old ass on a sandy beach. And, would someone please tell me why would you give a crap whether I plan on visiting a farm in the next 15 days? If I ever got the urge to do something weird to a chicken or a goat, believe you me, I'd sure as hell not want to tell anyone! Well, I have to go now, 'cause I have to go to the other end of the city and get another freaking copy of my birth certificate, to the tune of \$60. Would it be so complicated to have all the services in the same spot to assist in the issuance of a new passport the same day?? Nooooo, that'd be to easy and maybe makes sense. You'd rather have us running all over the freaking place like chickens with our heads cut off, then find some a-hole to confirm that it's really me on the damn picture - you know, the one where we're not allowed to smile?! Hey, you know why we can't smile? Because we're totally ticked off!

Signed - An Irate Citizen.

P.S. Remember what I said above about the picture and getting someone to confirm that it's me? Well, my family has been in this country since 1776 I have served in the military for something over 30 years and have had security clearances up the ying-yang. Sincerely, You Sure In The Hell Should Know Who.

First Grade Teacher

A first-grade teacher explains to her class that she is a Cleveland Browns fan. She asks her students to raise their hands if they are Browns fans too. Not really knowing what a Browns fan was, but wanting to be liked by their teacher, their hands fly into the air. There is, however, one exception. Kelly has not gone along with the crowd. The teacher asks her why she has decided to be different. "Because I'm not a Browns fan" she reports. "Then," asks the teacher, "What are you?" "I'm a Pittsburgh Steelers fan," boasts the little girl. The teacher asks Susie why she is a Steeler fan. "Well, my Dad and Mom are Steelers fans, so I'm a Steelers fan too," she responds. "That's no reason," the teacher says. "What if your mom was a moron, and your dad was an idiot. What would you be then?" Kelly smiles and says, "Then I'd be a Browns

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