

ENTERTAINMENT

Word Of The Week:

Floccinaucinihilipilification (flok-suh-naw-suh-nahy-hil-uh-pil-uh-fi-key-shuhn) -the estimation of something as valueless

The floccinaucinihilipilification of the word floccinaucinihilipilification is regarded by many to be floccinaucinihilipilificatious.

Led Zeppelin plans reunion concert this November

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"They are the last great rock gods that remain to be seen," by this new generation of fans, announces promoter Harvey Goldsmith. "This is going to be the largest demand for one show in history."

Goldsmith references the reunion concert of rock legends, Led Zeppelin, playing in their first show together in over fifteen years. This show is to benefit the Ahmet Ertegun Education Fund, which provides scholarships for schools in the U.S, UK and Turkey. The last time they were all together was in May of 1988 when they played a "one-off" reunion at an Atlantic Records 40th Anniversary concert in New York. The upcoming concert will be their third time together in 27 years, since the band's drummer John Bonham died of a heart attack in 1980.

The concert is said to be a one-night-only event. The band will play yet another "one-off" show at London's 22,000-capacity O2 arena on Nov. 26th.

Ahmet Ertegun, Atlantic Records co-founder and chairman, died last December. Led Zeppelin stated that they play for the foundation in his name, and in honor of Ertegun.

The British band members came together in Sept. 1968. Comprised of singer Robert Plant, six-string wizard Jimmy Page, bassist John Paul Jones and drum legend Bonham, Led Zeppelin broke all the rules and boundaries that '60s rock and roll had to offer and are regarded as one of the first heavy metal bands. They redefined rock music with a sound saturated by sexuality, mythology, psychedelic funk and a dark aura of mystery. The band has sold more than 300 mil-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Led Zeppelin has been one of the most successful rock bands in music history.

lion albums worldwide, including 110 million in the U.S.

One account of the band's naming, which has become almost legendary, has it that Keith Moon and John Entwistle suggested that a possible supergroup containing themselves, Page, and Jeff Beck would go down like a lead balloon, a term Entwistle used to describe a bad gig. The group deliberately dropped the 'a' in lead at the suggestion of their manager, Peter Grant, to prevent "thick Americans" from pronouncing it as "leed."

Their first album, *Led Zeppelin I* was released in 1969 and was torn apart by critics but adored by rock fans. This album is considered a crucial piece

in classic rock history. Plant commented, "it's unfair for people to typecast the band as heavy metal, since about a third of our music is acoustic." Ironically, Eva von Zeppelin, a relative of the namesake creator of the Zeppelin aircraft, threatened to pull their show after seeing their logo, the *Hindenburg*, crashing in flames. Unfortunately, Led Zeppelin disbanded in 1980, after Bonham's death, swearing never again to congregate under the name Led Zeppelin.

Goldsmith also downplayed prospects of a larger Led Zeppelin reunion. "The band members are getting along really well at the moment, but there's no talk of them making a new record off the back of this," he stated. For the concert, the members will break that vow once more and play together "one last time," says Page. The drummer for the evening's concert will be Jason Bonham, son of the band's original drummer. The concert will follow the release of a new Atlantic "best-of" Zeppelin set, titled *Mothership*, which is due in the U.S. on Nov. 13th.



Celebrity Mugshots: Paris Hilton, Vince Vaughn, OJ Simpson, Tim Allen, Mel Gibson, Michael Jackson

OJ Simpson arrested for burglary, assault

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O.J. seems to have gotten himself into the middle of another legal dispute, and this time even Johnny Cochran can't help him. Orenthal James "O.J." Simpson and five other men allegedly barged into a hotel room in a casino in Las Vegas on Sept. 13, 2007 and proceeded to rob the room's inhabitants at gunpoint. The targets of the theft were pieces of memorabilia seized during the proceedings of Simpson's legal dealings in 1995 when he faced murder charges. It is well known that Simpson had an unbelievable victory in that instance, but this time he might not have the same luck.

Simpson grew up in San Francisco, California, and throughout his whole life it was clear that he was very gifted athletically. After playing football at City College of San Francisco, where he was the star on both offense and defense, he was named to the Junior College All-American Team as a running back. His achievements in Junior College earned him an athletic scholarship to the football powerhouse, University of Southern California, USC.

His first year playing for the USC Trojans was 1967, and during that year he led the nation in rushing with 1,451 yards and 11 touchdowns and was a candidate for the Heisman trophy. He was also the star of the 1967 USC vs. UCLA game, where in the fourth quarter he ran for a game-winning 64-yard touchdown, and that game went down as one of

the best in college football history. The following year, Simpson rushed for 1,709 yards and 22 touchdowns, earning himself the Heisman Trophy, the Maxwell Award, and the Walter Camp Award, and he still holds the record for the largest margin of victory in Heisman Trophy voting with a margin of 1,750 votes.

Simpson's remarkable college career being over, he entered the NFL draft and was picked up as the first selection by the Buffalo Bills. It took Simpson a few years to get his "Juice" flowing, but once he did it was clear that he was one of the best. In 1973, he was the first person in NFL history to rush for over 2,000 yards in one season. At the end of his career, Simpson had been player of the year twice, made it to six Pro Bowls, and was a first ballot inductee to the NFL Hall of Fame.

Following his athletic career Simpson had a successful career as an actor and appeared in such films as *Roots* and *The Naked Gun Trilogy*, he also had a lot of work in advertising for companies such as Hertz Rentals and Pioneer Chicken. His career as an

actor was followed by his very public trial for the murders of his wife Nicole Brown Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. Though he was cleared legally of the charges, a civil court in 1997 found Simpson guilty of wrongful death of Ronald Goldman, battery of Goldman, and battery of Nicole

Brown. Simpson was ordered to pay damages of 33.5 million dollars, which bankrupted the former star and left him with almost none of his possessions.

Of those possessions seized were Simpson's Heisman Trophy, numerous autographed balls and jerseys, and many of the other awards Simpson received over the years. Some of that memorabilia was the main cause of his recent crimes in Las Vegas. All of the six men involved in the robbery are in custody now and it seems like Simpson is getting charged with the worst of it. His charges include kidnapping, armed robbery, assault with a deadly weapon, and one count of felony coercion. The evidence seems to be stacked against Simpson once again, and it is pretty apparent that he won't be getting out of this one without spending some serious time behind bars.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
O.J. Simpson's reputation has been tarnished by various legal problems.

Better Know an Artist: Michael Jackson

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"People like Michael [Jackson] come along once in history," stated Teddy Pandegress on the VHI Special Greatest Artists of Rock and Roll. "He's a bona fide superstar."

Jackson is and always will be "The King of Pop." Despite the scandalous stories and the constant judgments by the press, credit has to be given for the success of this great artist. In his prime his unstoppable record sales, distinctive voice, and unbelievable dance moves labeled him unquestionably the biggest pop star of the 80's. He will remain for years as one of the greatest pop artists of all time.

Michael Joseph Jackson was born August 29th, 1958 in Gary, Indiana. He was the fifth son of a steelworker, Joe Jackson. His father provided a start to his musical career early in life when Michael's talent for music and dance became obvious. In 1962, Michael and his four older brothers began a family musical group called the Jackson 5 and signed with Motown in 1968. They issued their first single the following year. Right from the start Michael was breaking records; the Jackson 5 became the first group in pop history to have their first four singles jump to the top of the charts.

In 1977, Jackson started his solo career and paired up with Quincy Jones to produce his first solo album, *Off the Wall*. This album produced four top singles, sending Jackson's fame sky rocketing. Five years later in 1982, Jackson produced the notorious *Thriller* album. *Thriller* quickly became the best selling album in music history. *Thriller* sold over fifty million copies and produced seven top ten singles.

"The *Thriller* music video has to be one of the greatest achievements in music video history," says Jackson fan Mikhail Cooperberg. *Thriller* featured special effects and Jackson's distinctive dance style. His music video for the song "Billie Jean" became the first video by a black artist to be aired on MTV, opening a world of opportunities for future artists and making him an inspiration to many top artists today.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Michael Jackson, pictured above early in his career, is considered by many as the "King of Pop."

Thriller won a record eight Grammys in one night and received the largest endorsement deal ever as a spokesperson for Pepsi. Jackson's signature move occurred when he displayed the "moonwalk" dance step May 16th, 1983 on Motown's 25th anniversary special.

His next album, *'Bad'*, became another No. 1 album in 1987 with an equal amount of publicity. With five top hits, Jackson toured the world to perform this album. It quickly became the highest grossing tour of all time. His next album did not come out until 1991. Although *'Dangerous'* was another top hit, it never received the acclaim that his other albums did due to controversy over its first music video. Many thought it included inappropriate violence and worried about the message it might send to his younger fans.

During the early '90s, wild rumors about Jackson's private life began to appear: his preferred company of children over adults, his fantasies similar to Peter Pan, and his drastically changing appearance. Speculation about Jackson trying to medically change his skin color angered many people who thought he was trying to escape his African American heritage. He later revealed that he had a skin disorder called vitiligo, in which pigment changes color in the skin leaving behind blotches, making direct sunlight on the skin dangerous. In 1993 he was accused of molesting a 13-year-old boy who had been a guest at Jackson's residence, "The Neverland Ranch." Predictably the media had a field day and he was dubbed with the name "Wacko Jacko" and perceived by many as a weirdo. In the end the boy's family ended up with 18-20 million dollars and no criminal charges were ever filed.

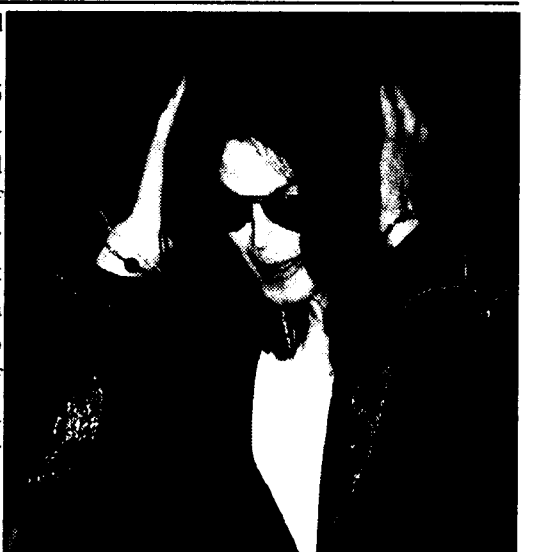
In an attempt to return the focus back on his music, Jackson came out with an album titled *'History'* in 1995 including his greatest hits and a disc of new material. However, the album was a disappointment. A few years later Jackson tried to come back yet again with the album *'Invincible'* that did not do much better than its predecessor. People

were too focused on his eccentric appearance (his nose had now caved in due to excessive plastic surgery), his controversial behavior, and new allegations of child

molestation leveled against him.

In January 2005 his child molestation trial began and he was acquitted of all accounts by May. His most recent work was a charity single to benefit victims of Hurricane Katrina but it was never released.

Jackson has received a total of 18 Grammys among countless other awards throughout his musical career. His total album sales worldwide are estimated to be well over 300 million dollars, and despite all of the controversies over Jackson's actions over the years it is undeniable that he is one of the greatest artists of all time.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Later in his life, Michael Jackson's public image was ruined by legal problems.

Know of an artist that you think needs to be showcased? Email us at emk5110@psu.edu and we'll put your idol in the spotlight.

Michael Jackson Hits in the U.S. and U.K.

Year	Song title	US chart	UK chart
1972	Ben	1	7
1979	Don't Stop Till You Get Enough	1	3
1980	Rock With You	1	7
1983	Billie Jean	1	1
1983	Beat It	1	3
1983	Say Say Say (with Paul McCartney)	1	2
1987	I Just Can't Stop Loving You	1	1
1987	Bad	1	3
1987	The Way You Make Me Feel	1	3
1988	Man In The Mirror	1	21
1988	Dirty Diana	1	4
1991	Black Or White	1	1
1995	You Are Not Alone	1	1