

# ENTERTAINMENT

**Word Of The Week:**

**piste - n. - a trail, especially a downhill ski trail.**

*Tom and his two sons took a wrong turn at Peek'n Peak and soon found themselves very piste off.*

Entertainment News in Brief  
2/22 - 2/28

**Final Harry Potter book to be split into two films**

The seventh and final Harry Potter book, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, will be transmuted into two separate movies, say producers. "It was born out of purely creative reasons," said David Heyman, the series' producer to the Times. "Unlike every other book, you cannot remove elements of this book." The first movie will be released in Nov. 2010, and the second part will follow in May 2011.

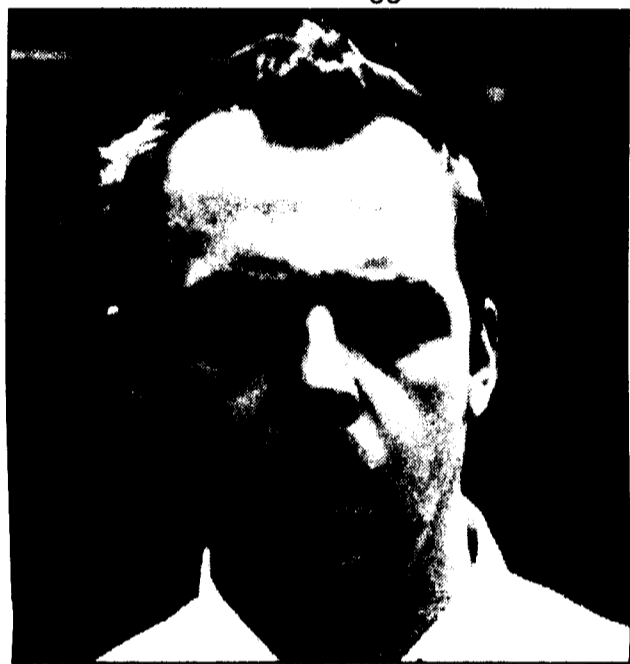
**Miley Cyrus to change her name to... Miley Cyrus**

Miley Cyrus, originally named Destiny Hope Cyrus by her parents, has filed the paperwork in Los Angeles to change her legal name to Miley Ray Cyrus. Her father, Billy Ray Cyrus, says the request was to "make her commonly used name the same as her legal name." The father and daughter will host the Country Music Television Awards together in Nashville on April 14.

**McCartney's ex-wife awarded \$50 million**

Heather Mills, Paul McCartney's ex-wife, announced Monday that she received approx. £25 million (\$50 million) from divorce proceedings. Mills said that the \$70,000 she will receive each year in child support is "not enough for school tuition, private security, or first-class airfare." Source: CNN.com

**Beacon Entertainer of the Week**  
Simon Pegg



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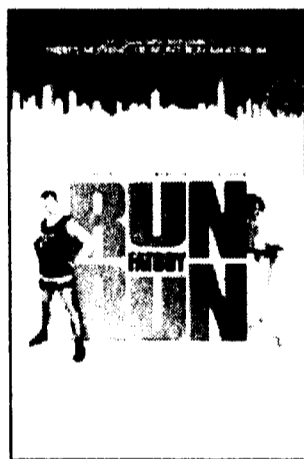
Upcoming releases:  
**Movies**

**Run, Fat Boy, Run**

~March 28~

Simon Pegg (*Shawn of the Dead*, *Hot Fuzz*) plays Dennis, a slightly overweight average guy trying to get back his true love.

Rating: PG-13



**21**

~March 28~

A genius M.I.T. student, played by Jim Sturgess (*The Other Boleyn Girl*, *Across the Universe*), resorts to counting cards in blackjack to pay his \$300,000 tuition.

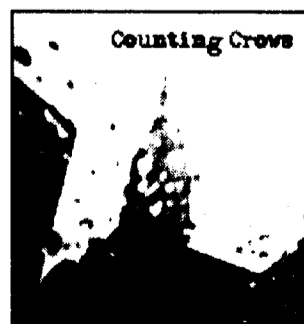
Rating: PG-13

**Music**

**Counting Crows**

~March 25~

*Saturday Nights & Sunday Mornings*



**The B-52s**

~March 25~

*Funplex*

## Idol once again dominating TV of all genres

*Two shows in one week double viewers of any other show*

By Connor Sattely  
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All genres of TV, from news to entertainment, has lately been bowing down to the ratings deity that is *American Idol*. After consistently owning the top spot of the ratings over its years of production, *Idol* is still in the number one slot.

From March 10 through 16, the popular talent search show held the top two spots. Its Tuesday show, which featured Beatles music, had just under 30 million viewers. The next show, on Wednesday, rolled in with over 27 million viewers. The third spot on the Nielson Media research viewership numbers was *Survivor: Micronesia*, at 13.2 million viewers, less than half of *Idol's* less successful Wednesday show.

CBS's *60 Minutes*, the most watched news show of the week, arrived in ninth place, with just over 11 million viewers. It was beaten by both *Idol* shows, *Survivor: Lost*, *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*, *Idol* favorite David Archuleta, *Law & Order: Two and a Half Men* and *Deal or No Deal*.

ABC's *Dancing With the Stars*, fixture hosts.

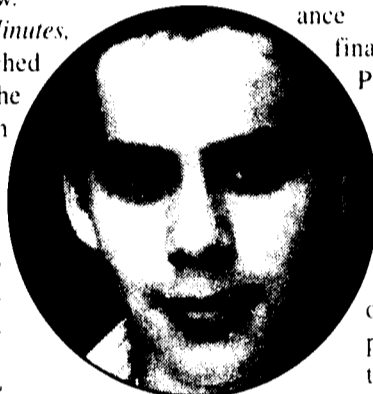


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Above, from left: Simon Cowell, Ryan Seacrest, Paula Abdul, and Randy Jackson, the four *Idol* hosts.

not included with this week's ratings, returned Monday to the audience of 20 million viewers.

After narrowing down the field to ten contestants, the ratings are sure to rise as the competition reaches the finale. Wednesday's show, which featured a performance by season-five finalist Kellie Pickler, saw the elimination of Indiana native Amanda Overmyer.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Idol favorite David Archuleta

"It's been a run... number 11 out of all them people is more than I could expect," she told Ryan Seacrest, one of the show's

critical judge, is also at it again.

most specifically narrowing his latest criticism at Kristy Lee Cook, one of the singers expected to soon be eliminated from the competition.

"You're like musical wallpaper, inasmuch as you notice it, but you can't remember it," CNN reports Cowell as saying. "And that's what you're doing week

**Archuleta's poor performance will probably only make the ratings improve.**

after week: making no impact."

A poll by TV Guide places singer David Archuleta first, with 63 percent of votes, among the favorites to win the competition. Carly Smithson and Brooke White are virtually deadlocked in the poll for second place, while Michael Johns came in fourth.

However, Archuleta's per-

formance in Wednesday's show elicited a largely negative response from many reviewers.

"One doesn't need experience in nuclear energy to know a melt-down when one sees it," says point-spreads.com, a site which tracks odds for who will win. "And indeed, David Archuleta's performance of the Beatles' classic *We Can Work It Out* was a melt-down."

Archuleta, previously thought to be the obvious front-runner in the race, now faces his opposition as they narrow his lead.

Fox, the network which produces the show, is likely happy to see him slow his momentum, as the show will once again be able to excite fans with a memorable run to the finale. Other shows will have to sit on their hands as they will continue to get slammed by *Idol* in the ratings.

## Return of Friday Night Lights secured

*Popular TV show faces doubts on post-writer strike 2008 return*

By Connor Sattely  
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Last year, fans of *Friday Night Lights* were left with a suspenseful preparation for the Dillon Tigers' playoff run.

When the Writers Guild of America went on strike last year, the show had to put on hold the final seven of 22 shows which it had scheduled to air in the viewing season.

However, according to an article on Nikki Finke's *Deadline Hollywood*, the show is set to take the field for a third season. NBC, in coordination with DirecTV, will be airing *FNL* in the fall. "It's an innovative deal where NBC found a partner who will share costs and exhibition windows," reads the article.

When news broke that the football based show may be one show with its head on the chop-

ping block for the changing schedule in fall, viewers responded in outrage. Faithfuls of the show created a website dedicated to saving the show and mass mailed NBC's Ben Silverman with support to continue the show in fall. They also mailed hundreds of miniature plastic footballs to NBC's executives.

The show was based around a Texas town where high school football is the main event. If the show is continued, it will be its third season. Filming will begin as early as July. Executives considered cutting

**Fans of the show mailed NBC's executives hundreds of plastic footballs.**

the show because despite positive reviews, it flopped in ratings and never generated as much of an audience as shows such as *Lost*.

One possibility that appeared earlier this year, says TV Squad,

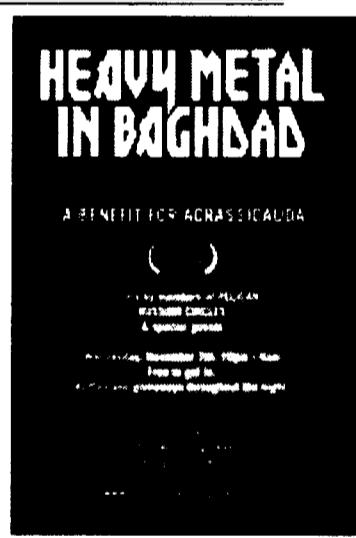
an entertainment website, was the possibility of a dual broadcast.

The idea was that the show would be broadcast on NBC, its owner station, and re-broadcasted on another network, such as CW or TNT. The same thing happened for NBC's *Heroes*, which broadcasted both on NBC and Sci-Fi in its opening season.

However, with the advent of the DirecTV deal, such a dual broadcast idea is extremely unlikely to happen. Some viewers are worried as to whether they will be able to view the show.

One comment on *Deadline Hollywood's* article worries about the deal. "Will *FNL* be exclusive content of DirecTV under this deal? I would hate to lose it because I have TimeWarner."

"I can't say whether the fans' campaign to save the show by sending all those mini-football to NBC bigwigs worked the magic," says Finke. "But I do know the execs got them."



**Documentary features an Iraqi heavy metal band**

By Connor Sattely  
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*Heavy Metal in Baghdad*, which premiered at the Berlin Film Festival this year, chronicles the rocking of a band which calls itself "Iraq's only heavy metal band."

Acarrassicauda, named after a deadly desert scorpion, is known around Iraq as one of the only hard hands in the country.

The documentary, directed by Eddy Moretti and Suroosh Alvi, follows the struggle of musicians in Iraq. The feelings of Iraqis are reflected in their music, says drummer Marwan. "You feel like there's chains all around you," he says.

The documentary, originally aimed at being a small feature piece about the band, turned into a full length piece detailing the lives of average Iraqis in a turbulent time.

The band had to leave the country and travel to Turkey, where they can follow their dream of making music.

The band is currently residing in Turkey, according to their website. For more information about the band, visit their website at <http://acarrassicauda.s5.com>.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

*Friday Night Lights*, which created an enthusiastic fanbase amongst viewers, is supposed to return in fall.