

# Eye on Entertainment

## Fall TV Preview

By Andrew Shaner - Lion's Eye Staff Writer - ads5249@psu.edu

This fall's lineup of new and continuing TV series is sure to please water cooler circles, reality fanatics and entertainment buffs alike. Among ABC's leaders for primetime TV includes the new series "Modern Family", a quirky mockumentary showcasing, as its title suggests, the "typical" American family of today. Also headlining ABC's primetime series is the network's revival of the classic 80's science fiction mini-series "V." This newest iteration is far less campy than the original and is rumored to be just as mysterious and discussion-worthy as "Lost." ABC's other puzzler for the fall is "FlashForward," a show about a two-minute worldwide blackout, not of electricity, but of every one of its inhabitants. The story follows investigators solving the puzzle of what exactly happened and why. Also returning to ABC are the critically loved "Castle," "Desperate Housewives," "Grey's Anatomy" and the viewer favorite "Ugly Betty." As always the network's ace in the hole is the ever-popular "Dancing with the Stars" returning this season with such notable celebrities as Aaron Carter, Kelly Osbourne, and Melissa Joan Hart.

Fox's latest hit is the newly premiered "Glee," a high school dramedy (dramatic comedy) with a musical twist. Not only has the show been praised for its unique characterizations of typically clichéd teenage stereotypes, but it is hailed also as a truly fun experience. Continuing series include "House," "Bones," and the Joss Whedon penned "Dollhouse." Also continuing is the hit series "Fringe" which will include a guest appearance by legendary "Star Trek" actor Leonard Nimoy.

Highlights from NBC include Emmy award-winning comedies "30 Rock," "Parks and Recreation,"

and "The Office." Comedy seems to be at the forefront in fact, as the network's latest series "Community" will be helmed by funnyman Joel McHale of E!'s "The Soup." The show follows a group of community college losers making their way (or not) through their education. NBC's "Heroes" returns along with its dreamy star Zachary Quinto for another season that's sure to bring up some intense super-hero fueled debate among fans.

The CW is emerging as a real competitor with other network giants returning with hits like "Smallville," "Supernatural," "One Tree Hill," and "America's Next Top Model." "Gossip Girl" makes its return after last season's charming finale. Starting (somewhat) new are shows "Melrose Place" and yet another vampire drama "The Vampire Diaries." Both have fallen short on the critical radar, but nevertheless look promising in terms of ratings.

Finally, CBS returns this fall with its sleeper comedy series "The Big Bang Theory," as well as Neil Patrick Harris' vehicle "How I Met Your Mother." The "CSI" franchise makes its return in the form of the original Las Vegas-based series as well as continuations in both "Miami" and "New York." Actually, crime investigation in all its forms seem to be the big deal on

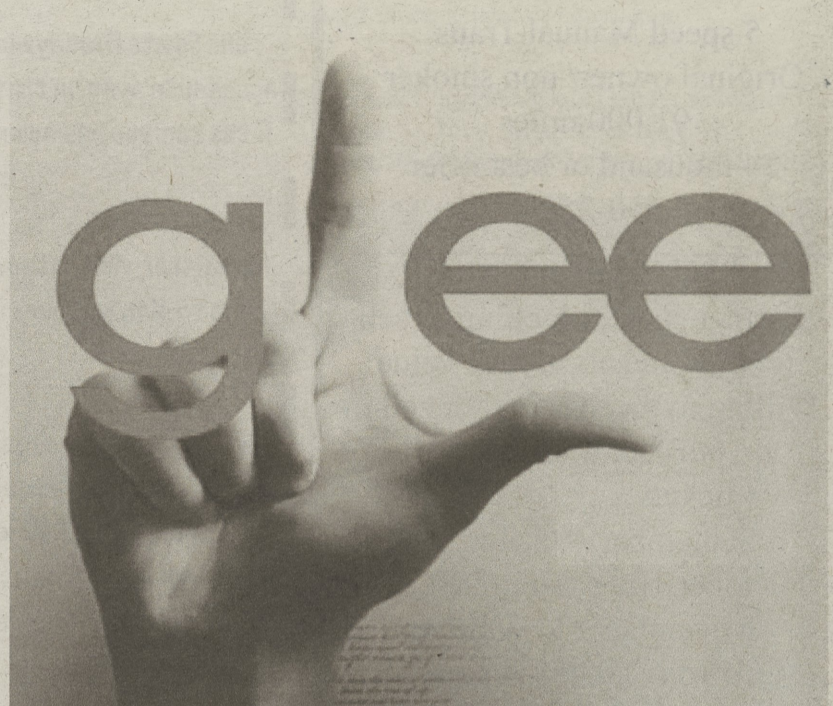


Photo courtesy of www.broadwayworld.com

CBS as other continuing shows include "NCIS," "Cold Case," "The Mentalist," "Numb3rs," "Criminal Minds," and "Medium."

This fall is sure to leave us all talking about one show or another, and is even surer to leave us all wanting more.

## From the Vintage Bin

### My Bloody Valentine: Loveless

By Caitlin Olszewski - Lion's Eye Staff Writer - coo5024@psu.edu

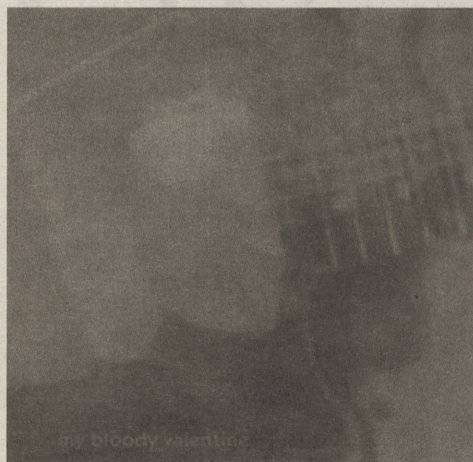


Photo courtesy of www.last.fm

If you have not yet been introduced to the alternative sub-genre shoegaze, I suggest you start with this clichéd but amazing album by My Bloody Valentine. This sophomore album, released in 1991 brought shoegaze into the mainstream later to have bands like M83 and Asobi Seksu follow in their footsteps (pun intended).

So let me break this down for you; the term "shoegaze" is derived from the fact that pioneer bands such as My Bloody Valentine, Slowdive, and The Jesus and Mary Chain would gaze or stare at their

shoes in a dream-like trance whilst performing. Like all good things, shoegaze originated in the United Kingdom sometime around the late 1980's. A melting pot of guitar feedback, undistinguishable lyrics, underwater riffs, and an overall lucid ambience, shoegaze is the tasty nectar of gods.

The album starts with the addictive song "Only Shallow." Beginning with a drum count-off the song progresses into guitar shrills and feedback fuzz. With dream pop lyrics, the introduction slowly picks up into a harder almost unidentifiable arrangement of distorted notes and beats. The soft slightly indecipherable vocals of Bilinda Butcher create a harmonious marriage to the gnarled instrumentation.

A familiar song, "Sometimes" was set to a Tokyo montage to complement Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansen's budding friendship in Lost in

Translation. Entering the realm of a dream state, the lulling song can be easily considered the best on the album. Kevin Shields pounds away on-nickel-wound strings as his muffled vocals melt in and out of the mix to compose the perfect ambient theme.

I think that Loveless is the only album I have ever discovered where the last track was completely fitting for its goodbye wave. "Soon" is seven minutes of a musical rollercoaster. The song starts with a thick bass line accompanied by Kevin Shields' steady guitar chords. Suddenly, a riff of eight high notes repeated creates the perfect melodic uplift, which is sparsely scattered throughout the song. The melody is then countered by Shields' vocal slurs to lead the melody to bring the song back up again.

The album as a whole is so innovative it is the definition of musical originality. Being on my own High Fidelity inspired "Top 5," I highly urge everyone to try this album (preferably on vinyl). Just look for the dark pink amorphous album cover in your local record store.

## Gossip Girl: Hot Topics

By Kionna Lipscomb

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Divo-antics! Never too late for sorry, Mr. West. Country singer Taylor Swift accepted Kanye West's apology after his infamous VMA incident during Swift's acceptance speech for winning best female video. According to US magazine, the rapper appeared on The Late Night Show with Conan O'Brien to apologize for his bizarre behavior.

Re-U-Knighted Again? Coupled and back in the love nest. According to theybf.com, Mr. & Mrs.

Jones (Nas and Kelis) may have put their differences aside for a moment of QT. The on-and-off again couple was spotted hanging out in a NYC night club. The re-union is just weeks after surviving a nasty divorce and custody battle, Kelis was awarded hefty sums in both child and spousal support. The couple welcomed a baby boy named Knight Jones this past July.

A new "view" and a new "do" for Kate Gosselin. Gosselin, known for her asym-

metrical bob, strutted a new look, trimmed with blond highlights, while sitting in as guest co-host on "The View". Gosselin, Jon & Kate Plus 8 reality star, has been thrashed in the media regarding her recent split with husband Jon. Dog-nap! Pop icon Jessica Simpson's beloved caramel colored

multi-poo, Daisy, who is so often seen snuggled in various designer carry-on bags, was snatched by a coyote according to Us magazine.

The beloved pooch was a gift from ex-hubby Nick Lachey and was named after the role she

played in The Dukes of Hazzard. Simpson offered a reward via Twitter for the pooch's safe zval.

No EAGLES! According to Us magazine, Hank Baskett, Philadelphia Eagles receiver, was recently released to create room on the roster for newcomer Michael Vick. This seems like a bad time for the Basketts. Hank and his wife, E! Star and former playmate, Kendra Wilkinson, wed in July and are expecting their first child in December.

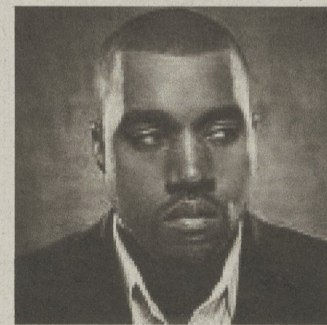


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