

# Eye on Entertainment

## Gossip Girl!: Hollywood Recap

By Kionna Lipscomb - Lion's Eye Entertainment Editor - kzl122@psu.edu

She is no Georgina Chapman! The proverbial train wreck that is Lindsay Lohan, 23, was bashed by the media for her failed attempt to showcase designs from her first collection of designer rags—literally, for Emanuel Ungaro in Paris. The response from the audience was less than enthusiastic. What should have been a triumphant moment for LiLo turned into a designer dud. LiLo partnered with Estrella Archs, designer, and signed on as the house's artistic advisor this past summer. According to Star Magazine, The Washington Post criticized her foray into fashion as an attempt "to spread her hooker Barbie aesthetic."

Two months and you are out! Limp Bizkit front-man Fred Durst and his new bride, Esther Nazarov, have ended their two-month marriage. Fred announced their engagement back in April, and the couple exchanged vows in Las Vegas this past July. Esther was presented with a Neil Lane diamond ring worth \$50,000. Although it seems like back luck for the rocker—Fred has been linked to a few bevy of beauties in his day, such as: Paris Hilton, Krista Salvatore and Alyssa Milano, don't think the he will be down for long.

Pieces of her. Looks like someone is dipping her feet in someone else's love nest. Pop singer and actress Ashlee Simpson-Wentz may have her eyes on another fellow: Colin Egglesfield, co-star

on Melrose Place. Reports claim that the two are spending too much time in front and behind the scenes. And to make matters worse, reports say the affair have been going on while Simpson-Wentz's husband, Fall Out Boy front-man Pete Wentz, was on tour. Insiders say Pete is jealous about the whole ordeal.

A bun in the oven, that's ready for cooking. Padma Lakshmi, Top Chef Host, is expecting her first roast. The host has been struggling with Endometriosis, a condition that occurs when tissue that is used to line the uterus grows outside. Lakshmi is shocked by the news and is anticipating her new arrival. The father-to-be of Lakshmi's baby is unknown.

Gosselin vs. Gosselin in the fight to the finish. Jon & Kate Plus 8 stars are at it again, but this time it is over money. Kate claims Jon, her soon-to-be ex-husband, cleaned out their joint bank account of \$230,000, leaving Kate with barely enough to care for their bundle of eight. Kate told her side of the story on the Today show in an interview with Meredith Vieira. According to Star Magazine, the couple's separation agreement forbids either Kate or Jon to touch any money without the other's consent. A court trial is in progress for the restoration of the funds.

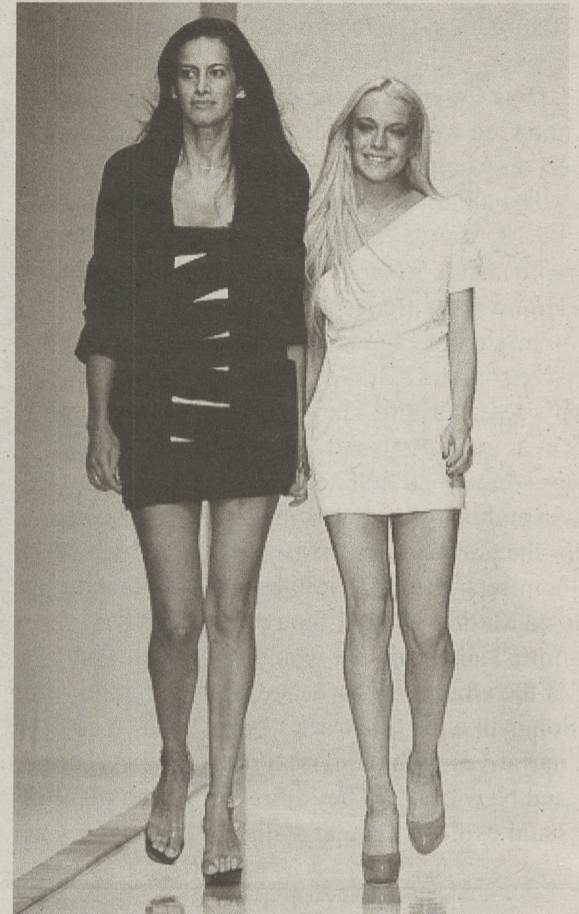


Photo courtesy of Us Magazine

## Digging a Hole: The Informant Movie Review

By Adrienne Showalter - Lion's Eye Entertainment Editor - aus206@psu.edu

The Informant has been somewhat of a sleeper hit. The drawing power of Matt Damon is slightly lessened by the obvious weight he's gained and the large glasses he dons in this new movie. The movie is directed by Steven Soderbergh and bears the typical trademarks of his movies. The lighting is as bright as always, the characters are quirky and realistic amidst the strange circumstances.

Still, despite the odd look of the film, the story is amazing in how it begins innocuously and begins to build up into a convoluted web of issues for the main character.

It would be hard to argue that Matt Damon's character Mark Whitacre is a protagonist. In the beginning of the film, it is assumed that

he simply wishes to out his company's bad behavior to the FBI. He confesses that his company and several others were involved in a price-fixing scam. What begins as a confession story, mixed with the interesting feature of Mark Whitacre (Damon) amusingly recording and taping conversations with other members of the company, rapidly turns into a free-for-all of lies that Whitacre keeps telling to the FBI investigators, to his family and even himself.



Photo courtesy of takeapart.com

Without giving the entirety of the plot away, Whitacre's lies and manipulations continue to come to light while simultaneously endearing him to the audience through humorous and barely on topic voice-overs throughout the movie. The movie's supporting actors also add to the quirky, laughable quality of the story and make the movie less of a white-collar crime story and more of a comedy. In particular, Scott Bakula's performance as the sensitive FBI Special Agent Brian Shepard is endearing and amusing. Counter to the popular view of law enforcement, Shepard wants to see the best in Whitacre; he feels so strongly that the audience is left genuinely feeling bad when his hopes

prove wrong. The story bears some similarities to A Beautiful Mind in that the central character appears to be an average, run-of-the-mill man but interestingly the events around him spiral out of control. It is unexpected, particularly for the first time watcher. It packs a number of unpredictable events into one odd movie effectively and with grace. It will not be hailed as the best movie of the season, but it certainly stands strong and works to counter the more typical, cookie-cutter Hollywood movies.

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## Book Review: Ishmael

By Kelly Guinan - Lion's Eye Staff Writer - kag5178@psu.edu

"TEACHER seeks pupil. Must have an earnest desire to save the world. Apply in person." Intriguing ad to find in a newspaper, right? Well, tack on the fact that this "teacher" is a half ton silverback, telepathic gorilla and is searching for a student and this sounds like a great set-up for a cheesy science fiction novel. Instead it is the opening chapter of a thought-provoking novel that explores our own history, that of humankind, from an outsider's perspective. And who (what) better than a gorilla to ask man the most important question we face: How to save the world from ourselves?

In *Ishmael* by Daniel Quinn, the "story" is explored between our protagonist and gorilla. Humans are divided into two groups, the Bible is analyzed from a non-religious perspective, and the tyranny of humankind is objectively studied all within the story. And yet this book fails at every turn to lecture us, which only adds to its overall effect on the audience. Though we stand to be admonished, *Ishmael* fails to do so. All our guide through history asks is for our desire to save the world, our desire to learn.

This book is neither text-book boring nor Harry Potter exciting, but it is an enthralling novel revealing mysteries within our own lives. As soon as I allowed the back cover to meet with the rest of the pages, putting the book down upon finishing it, I knew I had enjoyed it too much to ignore all the ideas the book contained. At a time in our lives where we set the stage for our futures, it is a novel that can grace our minds with the beauty of knowing that we really can change the world.