ABC News ePrep Writing Samples

MOVIE GOSSIP

October 7, 2008

Scottish hunk GERARD BUTLER came down with a case of the flu while filming his latest flick *RocknRolla*. His co-star THANDIE NEWTON said, "I know we have a love scene today, but you're not putting that tongue in my mouth." Material mom MADONNA came to the rescue. Her hubby GUY RITCHIE is the film's writer and director.

She remedied the ailment with vitamin pills and a B-12 shot. Butler told Parade.com, quote, "She pulled out a hypodermic and said, 'I'm going to give you a B-12 shot in your butt.' I mean Guy was standing right there watching and I was laughing like a kid. She said, 'Ok, you've got to take this seriously.' I'm like, 'I'm trying to, but you're Madonna and you're giving me a B-12 shot in my butt.'"

The unlikely Mary Poppins may have had the cure after all. Butler was up and running in no time, taking part in a very long chasing scene. Butler said, quote, "I was jumping over fences, running down alleys...I just thought it was a hoot." *RocknRolla* opens in limited release today and across the country on October 31.

LISTS

September 17, 2008

One week after looking ahead at the trends to come during New York Fashion Week, *People* magazine looks back on the last year of Hollywood fashion hits and misses. It releases its annual "Best and Worst Dressed" issue tomorrow. Fashion has undoubtedly seeped its way into the presidential campaign. SARAH PALIN's Kazuo Kawasaki rimless eye-glass frame have been selling like crazy. The vice-presidential candidate's hairstylist says Palin prefers to, quote, "play down her looks because she wants people to hear what she has to say." MICHELLE OBAMA's signature style has also been making headlines. Following the potential first lady's co-hosting gig on *The View*, her black and white dress quickly sold out. She said, quote, "My dress from White House/Black Market seemed to really make a splash."

The honor of "Best Dressed Show" goes to, O-M-G, no surprise here, *Gossip Girl*. The show's costume designer says, quote, "They [the cast] know their closets inside and out, and sometimes they'll ask to borrow stuff."

On the other side of the fashion spectrum, PAULA ABDUL, LUCY LIU, MARIAH CAREY and PATRICIA ARQUETTE are scolded by the fashion police. LINDSAY LOHAN's mink coat mishap get rehashed, along with KATIE HOLMES' rolled jeans, as some of the "Most Memorable Style Moments."

Paige Mara Feigenbaum

- "The Top 10 Best Dressed Women of 2008":
- -FERGIE...Refined Rocker
- -ANNE HATHAWAY...Young and Glam
- -KATE HUDSON...Effortless Taste
- -HEIDI KLUM...Modern Chic
- -EVA MENDES...Pretty and Polished
- -Michelle Obama...Classic and Confident
- -GWYNETH PALTROW...Better Than Ever
- -SARAH JESSICA PARKER...Expert Eclectic
- -RIHANNA...Sugar and Spice
- -CHARLIZE THERON...Bold and Beautiful

ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE

September 15, 2008

It may already be Tuesday, but people are still buzzing about this past Saturday's *SNL* opening skit featuring TINA FEY as her look-alike, vice-presidential candidate SARAH PALIN. The camps of both Republicans on the presidential ticket are weighing in on the performance. Palin watched the show's season premiere with her press corps on the campaign plane en route from Reno to Denver. The Alaskan governor's spokesperson, TRACEY SCHMITT, told CBS News, quote, "She thought it was quite funny, particularly because she once dressed up as Tina Fey for Halloween."

In the skit, Palin's Fey debated against AMY POEHLER as HILLARY CLINTON. JOHN MCCAIN'S advisor CARLY FIORINA told MSNBC, quote, "The portrait was very dismissive of the substance of Sarah Palin, and so in that sense, they were defining Hillary Clinton as very substantive, and Sarah Palin as totally superficial."

This guest appearance marked the third for Fey since she left the *SNL* cast in 2006. It is unclear whether she plans to reprise performance as Palin in future episodes.

CELEBRITY HAPPENINGS

September 14, 2008

JENNIFER LOPEZ traded in her stilettos for running shoes. Lopez was a front-row fixture at several runway shows at New York's Fashion Week last week. This weekend, Jenny from the block was doing the running. *E! Online* reports the singer and actress participated in her first triathlon, finishing in 2 hours, 23 minutes and 28 seconds, raising \$125,000 for the Children's Hospital Los Angeles. The new mom of twins trained with GUNNAR PETERSON and *Self* magazine editor-in-chief LUCY DANZIGER to get into shape for the Nautica Malibu Triathlon, held at Zuma Beach. Husband MARC ANTHONY and adoring fans were on hand to offer their support. MATTHEW

MCCONAUGHEY, FELICITY HUFFMAN, WILLIAM H. MACY, SCOTT FOLEY, AND ANNA KOURNIKOVA were among the other celebrity participants.

Lopez had been slated to guest-judge the season finale of *Project Runway* on Friday, but cancelled last minute. The top six designers displayed their creations at Fashion Week. According to OK! Magazine, the series' host HEIDI KLUM announced to the audience, quote, "Jennifer Lopez was going to be our guest judge, [but she] cancelled due to a foot injury." However, the tri-athlete's trainer told the magazine, quote, "No injuries, all good." TIM GUNN, a mentor to the budding designers, was called in as her replacement. The finale of season five of *Project Runway* airs on October 15.

BOX OFFICE

June 13, 2008

Jennifer Aniston may find box office revenge over Angelina Jolie

JENNIFER ANISTON and nemesis ANGELINA JOLIE will be battling it out at the box office this fall. Both actresses have movies being released on October 24. Jolie may have won the man, BRAD PITT, but Aniston has an edge in ticket sales on opening weekend.

Though Jolie has already stirred up some Oscar buzz for her role in the flick *Changeling*, it will only be in limited release that weekend. She plays a single mom in this true-life tale, in which she faces a battle with the L.A. police over where they went wrong in their investigation of finding her missing son. Aniston with join a cast featuring BEN AFFLECK, SCARLETT JOHANSSON, DREW BARRYMORE, and JENNIFER CONNELLY in a romantic comedy titled *He's Just Not That Into You*. This movie centers on the mixed signals men and women send in relationships.

LEGAL MATTERS

June 13, 2008

STP Members Sued By Record Label

Atlantic Records filed a lawsuit in New York City yesterday against SCOTT WEILAND and his STONE TEMPLE PILOTS bandmate, drummer ERIC KRETZ, accusing them of attempting to end their record contract before it expires. Atlantic allges that Weiland and Kretz have threatened to abstain from performing under the current contract. The lawsuit also states that the musicians have expressed a desire to terminate the contract unless significant changes are made to the deal.

Atlantic Records says it would like for the reunited STP to record a seventh studio album and possibly two additional albums. When they announced their tour plans earlier this year, the band hinted that they would like to record new music.

The contract in question was written to abide by New York laws, but Weiland and Kretz are trying to use California laws to terminate the agreement. Atlantic said this dispute has,

Paige Mara Feigenbaum

quote, "given rise to a definite, real and substantial controversy between the parties that threatens to harm Atlantic's business." The label is looking to obtain a court declaration of its rights, and also seeks reimbursement for its legal fees and any other relief the court deems appropriate.

AWARDS SEASON

June 12, 2008

Katherine Heigl withdraws from Emmy Award consideration

KATHERINE HEIGL is not on the path to collecting Emmys as she did bridemaid's dresses. The *Grey's Anatomy* and *27 Dresses* star has decided to withdraw her name from consideration for an Emmy Award nomination this year, while seemingly taking a veiled swipe at her own show.

She said in a statement, quote, "I did not feel that I was given the material this season to warrant an Emmy nomination and in an effort to maintain the integrity of the academy organization, I withdrew my name from contention. In addition, I did not want to potentially take away an opportunity from an actress who was given such materials."

Heigl was blown away by her first Emmy win last year, taking home the award for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama. For those still in the running, nominations for the 60th Annual Emmy Awards will be announced July 17th. The awards ceremony will take place September 21st, live from the Staples Center in Los Angeles.