

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21, 2006

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Living



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INSIDE TODAY

A warm, fuzzy tale

Arthritis and near blindness haven't stopped Bea Ingram from making blankets for sick or needy babies. **E4**

ON AJC.COM

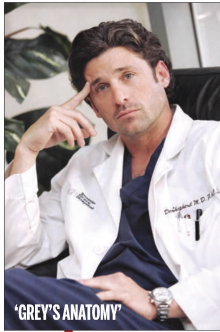
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MITCHELL HAASETH / NBC



ROBERT VOETS / CBS



VIVIAN ZINK / ABC



BOB DAMICO / ABC

Thursday

Networks go all-out as advertisers pursue viewers ready for weekend

It's a weekday on most people's calendars, but for broadcast TV networks, Thursday is party time. Why? It's all about the dollars. Networks can charge a premium Thursday nights because advertisers such as movie studios want to show off their wares right before folks embark on their weekend plans. For more than 20 years, NBC ruled the Thursday night roost with a succession of

sitcom classics, from "The Cosby Show" and "Cheers" in the '80s to "Seinfeld" and "Friends" in the '90s. "ER" has been the big 10 p.m. anchor since 1994. But as those shows aged and replacements were found wanting, CBS swooped in with "Survivor" and "CSI," wresting away the lead two years ago. Now ABC is trying to cash in with its new buzz-worthy show "Ugly Betty" and by moving its hottest show,

"Grey's Anatomy," opposite "CSI" in a ratings-monster showdown. NBC itself is hoping to get back on course with its sitcoms "My Name Is Earl" and "The Office." But big question marks remain with yet another edition of "Deal or No Deal" at 9 p.m. and now-geriatric "ER" at 10 p.m. Nonetheless, get your DVRs set. There's plenty of good TV going on tonight. — Rodney Ho

Ratings rivals
A look at returning series and new shows the networks are offering on Thursday nights. **E5**

Woods adds bite to justice in 'Shark'

By JILL VEJNOSKA
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It's probably a slight exaggeration to say that James Woods wants the last word on every subject. But in the case of "Shark" — the extra-caffeinated legal drama debuting tonight in the plummy post-"CSI" time slot — he insisted on the first word. The two-time Oscar-nominated actor asked series creator Ian Biederman to rewrite the opening sequence of tonight's show so that the first word

his character says is ... "justice." "Because it's really what it's about," said Woods, who stars as the subtle-as-a-hammerhead defense attorney-turned-prosecutor. "I don't care who you are, no matter how jaded or sick of what you are doing ... on some fundamental level, there was a time in your life when you believed being a lawyer was about justice." Whatever you say, James. James Woods, Sebastian "Shark" Stark. It's kind of hard knowing where the one leaves off and other begins. Not that it really matters. If you're a James Woods fan — and if you don't know if you are, you likely will after just a few episodes — this definitely is

the right show for you. It's definitely the right show for him. "Our story will be about a man with overwhelming narcissism and ego, who has [been] knocked down so many pegs from where he started and finds his way back by believing in justice," said Woods, adding with a good-natured chuckle, "The overwhelming narcissism and ego part is pretty easy. But playing the guy who has been chastised by circumstance, that's actually not so easy and not so difficult either." Huh? Oh, who cares. The point



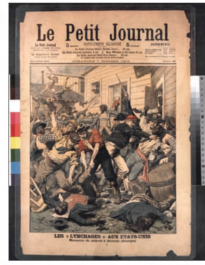
ROBERT VOETS / CBS
Sebastian "Shark" Stark (James Woods) brings his cutthroat tactics to the prosecutor's office after an epiphany.

AT ACCESSATLANTA.COM TODAY: VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE NEW SHOWS, AND READ WHAT THE CHANNEL SERF SAYS ABOUT THE "CSI"-"GREY'S ANATOMY" FACE-OFF. COME BACK FRIDAY FOR THE LATEST RATINGS.

Rise in ASO ticket sales may signal rebound

By PIERRE RUHE
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The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra continues to inch toward its \$300 million Symphony Center, with only a third of the money raised and no opening date in sight. But there are signs that a 10-year decline in box office may be coming to an end. The ASO, which opens its season tonight with a sold-out concert of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, has announced that last season's classical-series ticket sales were up 6 percent. The current season looks even



Atlanta History Center
The Atlanta Race Riot of 1906 made international news, including the cover of this French magazine.

Voices, images tell story of race riot 100 years ago

By JIM AUCHMUTEY
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Exhibition preview
"Red Was the Midnight: The 1906 Atlanta Race Riot"
Through Aug. 31, 2007, at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site, 450 Auburn Ave. N.E., Atlanta. Free. 404-331-5190. www.nps.gov/malu.

You pick up the receiver and hear a voice that sounds like a kindly Southern granny — the sort of voice you expect to share a cake recipe. But this voice wants to share a horrible memory. "I woke up somewhere around midnight and could feel tension in the room," the woman says. "My mother and sister were kneeling in front of the window looking out into the street. And I got up and said, 'What is it?' They said, 'Go back to bed.' But I knew something was going on and I came to the window and knelt down between them, and there I saw a man strung up to a light pole. Men and boys on the street below were shooting at him till they riddled his body with bullets. I will never forget it as long as I live. And that was the beginning of the race riot in Atlanta."

The 1906 Atlanta Race Riot happened so long ago in a city that seems so different. Simply making that time and place come

Thursday

ACCESSATLANTA CALENDAR • PEACH BUZZ • DEAR ABBY



Class act

At 80, Tony Bennett remains vibrant and still outshines much younger singers. In Arts & Books

COMING SUNDAY

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JEANNE PHILLIPS
DEAR ABBY

Flag flown over Capitol is special gift

DEAR ABBY: Your advice to "Proud of My Friend" to give their friends who have just become U.S. citizens an American flag was great. To make the gift even special, "Proud" could have the flag flown over the U.S. Capitol, then sent it with a certificate stating the day it was flown.

All congressional offices provide this service for constituents, charging only for the cost of the flag and shipping. (Flags can be purchased for as little as \$15.) Please encourage these folks and any others who would like to mark a special occasion, memorial or honor to contact their congressional representative. If they are not sure who their representatives are, visit www.house.gov and enter their ZIP code. Most representatives have forms and information on their sites.

FORMER STAFFER
DEAR FORMER STAFFER: Thank you for providing so much information about how to order these special keepsakes. While many readers agreed that an American flag is an appropriate gift, I also received other worthwhile suggestions. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: While your idea was a good one, a more appropriate gift than a flag might be a copy of the Declaration of Independence or the Bill of Rights. These can be ordered as posters or found on the Web. If one is handy with Print Shop, it can be produced on his or her own PC.

I believe that people tend to forget that it's not the flag that they pledged to uphold when we swear in for public office, military duty or as new U.S. citizens, but the Constitution. While the flag is a common symbol, it is not truly what America is all about.

DUTY TO THE CONSTITUTION

DEAR ABBY: I would consider it a nice gesture if someone went to make a scrapbook containing "American mementos" (images of American or pictures with historical significance) sprinkled with a few traditions or family cooking and baking recipes. Romanians have a deep appreciation for the culinary arts, so one could never go wrong with giving them an all-American cookbook, or better yet, an all-American dessert cookbook!

RIGHT HAND RAISED

DEAR ABBY: "Proud of My Friend" asked about a suitable gift. The oak is our national tree, so if they have the space, perhaps an oak tree for their yard would be a lasting reminder of their new country.

LINDA
DEAR ABBY: I loved your idea about giving an American flag. The family can hang it proudly or buy a triangular display case; the cases are advertised in catalogs and are very handsome.

DONNA A.

DEAR ABBY: I was recently invited to a birthday party for one of my friends. Although I had a gift, I had not considered buying a card. My mother said it is rude to give gifts without a card. What do you think?

DANA

DEAR DANA: It isn't rude to give a gift without including a card or note with it; it is impractical to do so without identifying the giver. How else will the recipient know whom to thank?

Dear Abby is written by Jeanne Phillips, also known as Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.dearabby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

PEACH BUZZ / RICHARD L. ELDRIDGE, reldredge@ajc.com



From left, Shondria Smith, 22, Atlanta; Maxine Murray, 26, Atlanta; Chantal Raymond, 20, Miramar, Fla.; Ta Anthony, 22, Alpharetta; Jasmin Dickerson, 19, Atlanta; and Ashley Pryon, 19, Atlanta, attend tryouts for 'America's Next Top Model.'

Aspiring models share burdens of casting call

While Buzz didn't precisely fit the necessary qualifications of being female, between the ages of 18 and 27 and being more than 5-foot-7-inches tall, we still managed to successfully infiltrate the local casting call Wednesday for the fifth season of model **Tyra Banks'** reality television offering, "America's Next Top Model."

By the looks of things on the sizzling line outside Center Stage in Midtown, Tyra's stock of requisite stylin' stiletto heels must have been seriously depleted. The ubiquitous footwear graded the feet of many of the nearly 800 hopefuls in line.

"Top Model" hopeful **Quina Jones** (No. 26) was just off the Greyhound bus from Houston. Attending her fifth casting call for this season's show, she said she chose her sparkling black strapless dress "because it made me feel like a princess."

Timecia Riley (No. 19), a recent graduate in chemistry and chemical engineering from Georgia Tech and Spelman, said that she didn't have time to eat Wednesday morning, but she was reminiscing about the double cheeseburger she had the previous night.

"ANTM" assistant casting director **List Albert** told Buzz that she was looking for something a little "chic" in the potential models. "We want someone who is a little out there," Albert said.

If you ask us, the 72-question application was, well, a little more illuminating. And since we know you'd want a sampling of the questions, we politely pinched a copy of the form. Among our faves?

Question 30: "Do you smoke? If so, what do you smoke?" Or Question 52: "When was the last time you hit, punched, kicked or threw something in anger? Please provide details." Or perhaps Questions 38-42 inquiring of "favorite TV shows, movies, music and magazines."

Oddly enough, "ANTM" reps didn't appear curious about fireworks, which we're really hoping isn't held against **Joslyn Mure** (No. 498).

There in the midst of the Seventeen haunts, text messaging cell phones and vacant stares, the tall willowy brunette with a single hairnet was passing the time reading **Shane Claiborne's** "The Freestill Revolution: Living as an Ordinary Radical," which has garnered — gasp — starred reviews from book critics.

Marsalis at Morton's

On Oct. 6 and 7, Morton's Steakhouse in Buckhead will be adding an intriguing side dish to its menu: A live private concert by nine-time Grammy winner **Wynton Marsalis** will be beamed into selected Morton's locations across the country. For jazz fans, the evening includes a private table, cocktails, a four-course signature dinner and a limited-edition DVD signed by the trumpeter. Diners will

also score a gift bag at the end of the evening. Price tag: \$250 per person.

The steak restaurant has partnered with Velocity Box Office, whose high-definition visuals and Dolby sound technology should ensure an intimate evening with Marsalis. Well, as intimate as it can get when the musician is physically in another city. The concert and dinner begins at 8 p.m. each night. Call for reservations: 1-800-891-2440.

Usher extends 'Chicago' run

Alpharetta's very own Broadway star, **Usher**, is now set to continue his Great White Way debut for an additional two weeks.

The R&B singer, who made his Broadway bow in the revival of "Chicago," will now stay in the show through Oct. 14. He originally was set to leave the musical Oct. 1.

The show has done boffo business since Usher joined the cast Aug. 2, playing convincing lawyer Billy Flynn.

Shaping Whitney's comeback

The carefully crafted reintroduction of **Whitney Houston** to mainstream America after her extended hiatus to Grammytown continues. **Clive Davis**, the man credited with discovering the singer and charting her early career in the 1980s, tells the New York Post that he and Houston continue to work on her comeback in Los Angeles, with an eye on releasing a new studio project next year. "We are reviewing material right now," Davis told the Post's Page Six column.

Davis conceded that the singer is not, as initially rumored, ready to go solo at next month's Carousell Ball of Hope in Beverly Hills, but she "would accompany me." Davis is hoping to relaunch the singer's comeback at his prestigious Grammy party next year.

"It's too early to say if Whitney is going to perform, but I would hope she would be in the running," says Davis. "She looks radiant and is clearly together."

And of those pesky rumors that Houston has suffered the loss of some of her magnificent vocal range, Davis said, "She is talking enthusiastically and is articulate. We are going to make a great album."

This month, Houston filed for separation in Orange County, Calif., from Atlanta hubby **Bobby Brown**.

Celebrity birthdays

Actor **Larry Hagman** is 75. Poet-singer **Leonard Cohen** is 72. Author-comedian **Fannie Flagg** is 62. Author **Stephen King** is 59. Actor **Bill Murray** is 56. Actor **Rob Morrow** ("Numbers") is 44. Country singer **Faith Hill** is 39. Actor **Luke Wilson** is 35. TV personality **Nicole Richie** ("The Simple Life") is 25. Actress **Maggie Grace** ("Lost") is 23.

Contributing: Elizabeth Cobb and news services. If you have a tip, call 404-526-2749. Or fax 404-526-8509. Or e-mail: reldredge@ajc.com.

accessAtlanta

TODAY
North Georgia State Fair. Includes live music concerts, beauty pageants, baby contests, bike stunt show, carnival rides, petting zoo, marketplace, fish fries, car shows. Opens Sept. 21, 4-11 p.m. Mondays-Thursdays; 4 p.m.-midnight Fridays; 10 a.m.-midnight Saturdays; 12-30 p.m. Sundays. Through Oct. 1, 85-82 ages: 7-18; ages 6 and younger free; \$2 parking. Jim E. Miller Park, 2245 Callaway Road, Marietta, 770-423-1330. www.northgeorgiastatefair.com.

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Music director Robert Spano and the ASO Chorus fire up the season with a symphonic summit in Beethoven's Ninth and music by Jennifer Higdon. 8 p.m. Sept. 21, 23 and 24. 316-588. Atlanta Symphony Hall, 1280 Peachtree St. N.E., Atlanta, 404-733-9003. www.atlantiasymphony.org.

Bill Dwyer. A finalist from the most recent season of NBC's "Last Comic Standing." Call for times. Sept. 21, 23, 30, 31, 5:30. Furry Farm Comedy Club, 608 Holcomb Bridge Road, Roswell, 770-527-4242. www.furryfarmcomedyclub.com.

"Honky Tonk Highway." Musical with songs rooted in 1950s mountain folk tunes. Presented by Main Street Players. Opens Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays; 3 p.m. Sundays. Through Oct. 1, 5:38. \$10 senior citizens; \$10 students with I.D. Main Street Players, 115 N. Hill St., Griffin, 770-229-9956. www.mainstreetplayers.org.

Novelle Vegas. New wave tunes from the '80s are given a Brazilian pop twist. The Submarines open. 8:30 p.m. Sept. 21, 23, 25, 27, 30. Variety Playhouse, 1099 Euclid Ave. N.E., Atlanta, 404-521-7765. www.variety-playhouse.com.

"Off the Wall: Pop Show and Sale." A noncurated show open to all Georgia artists. 6-7 p.m. preview/fair; 7-9 p.m. sale/event auction Sept. 21. Free. Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia Midtown, 1447 Peachtree St. N.E., Atlanta, 404-881-1099. www.mocag.org.

Paste Rock 'n' Reel Festival with Peleander 2, Superstition Zombi. 9-30 p.m. Sept. 21, 31. 10. The R&R, 485 Flat Shoals Ave., Atlanta, 404-522-9950; 1-800-824-4499. www.bazaar.com.

Jason Stuart. Gay performer appears as part of his "Looking For My Right" comedy tour. Stuart has been on the TV series "My Wife and Kids" and "1st Actress." Call for times. Sept. 21, 24, 31. 5:30-8:30. Punchline, 280 Hildebrand Drive N.E., Sandy Springs, 404-252-8233. www.punchline.com.

FRIDAY

Covered Bridge Festival. An 1886 covered bridge is the centerpiece of this Bartow County festival, with entertainment, food, children's rides, arts and crafts and a Civil War encampment re-enactment. 3-8 p.m. Sept. 22; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sept. 23; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sept. 24. \$3 daily parking fee; \$6 three-day pass. Osborne Park, Covered Bridge Road, Euclid, 770-383-2286. www.euclidarts.com.

Kevin Hamilton. Piano concert in Stillwell Theatre. 8 p.m. Sept. 22. Free. Kennesaw State University, 1000 Chastain Road, Kennesaw, 770-423-6650. www.kennesaw.edu/arts.

"The Impact of Being Earnest." Presented by Pamphlets Players. 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays Sept. 22-Oct. 6. Also, 3 p.m. Sept. 24. Legion Theatre, 114 W. Main St., Cartersville, 770-382-2810. www.pamphletsplayers.com.

Ledyard. 9 p.m. Sept. 22, 5:30-8:15 a.m. Sept. 23. 15 advance. Variety Playhouse, 1099 Euclid Ave. N.E., Atlanta, 404-521-7766. www.variety-playhouse.com.

ALSO TODAY / IN ACCESSATLANTA



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Brad Paisley delivers good looks and good sounds.

Netherworld Haunted House. Three walk-through attractions, with live actors, special effects and monsters. 7-11 p.m. Sept. 22-23, Sept. 29-30 and Saturdays-Thursdays Oct. 1-30. 7 a.m.-midnight Fridays-Saturdays Oct. 6-28 and Oct. 31. One attraction \$15; two attractions \$20; three attractions \$25. Georgia ArtLink & Design Center, 6224 Dawson Blvd., Norcross, 404-608-2484. www.nwworld.com.

Brad Paisley. With guest Carrie Underwood. 8 p.m. Sept. 22, 5:45-7:15. Philips Arena, 1 Philips Drive N.W., Atlanta, 404-878-3000; 404-249-6400. www.philipsarena.com.

Tony Petty and the Heartbreakers. 8 p.m. Sept. 22, 25, 27, 30, 31. 575. HFJ Buys Amphitheatre, 2032 Lakewood Way, Atlanta, 404-443-5090, 404-249-6400. www.hfj.com/venues/concerts/hfjbuys.

"Reel Madness! The Hit Music!" Party tunes spiral into moral corruption, and mutants sink into a rotten end of evil. An evening of singing and comedy. Opens Sept. 22, 8 p.m. Oct. 1, 29, 31. 8:30-10:30. 591 students on Thursdays, pay what you can Oct. 2. Dad's Garage Theatre, 281 Elizabeth St. N.E., Atlanta, 404-523-3341. www.dads.com.

REO Speedwagon. Classic rock walk-in. 8 p.m. Sept. 22, 23, 31. 534-550. Frederick Brown Jr. Amphitheater, 210 McIntosh Trail, Peachtree City, 770-531-0630. www.amphitheater.org.

Roswell Visual Arts Center and Gallery. 19th Annual Roswell Photographic Society open joint competition and exhibition. Color, black-and-white and alternative photography. Opens Sept. 22, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays-Fridays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays-Through Oct. 31. Free. 10495 594-6122. www.roswellartcenter.org/Attractions4.html.

Southeastern Stamp Show. A meeting of dealers and collectors. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sept. 22, 24. Free. Cobb County Civic Center, 548 S. Marietta Parkway, Marietta, 770-528-8450. www.cobbcounty.org.

Styx and Forester. 7 p.m. Sept. 22, 8:30-10:30. Chastain Park Amphitheatre, 1489 Stella Drive N.W., Atlanta, 404-249-6400. www.atlantainconcerts.com.

Trent Tomlinson. 10:30 p.m. Sept. 22, 5:30-8:00. Cobb County Civic Center, 548 S. Marietta Parkway, Marietta, 770-528-8450. www.cobbcounty.org.

Riot: Exhibition examines painful time in city's past

Continued from E1

to life was the biggest challenge facing planners of an exhibition about the riot. The show opens today at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historical Site.

It helped that they had an oral history from Evelyn Witherspoon, an Atlanta schoolteacher who was 10 when the riot broke out. There are other riot accounts in the show, all written and in some cases read. But Witherspoon's recollections, recorded in 1979 for WRFG's "Living Atlanta" radio series, is the only testimony heard in the

voice of an eyewitness. The exhibition, presented by the National Park Service's King Site and the Atlanta History Center, begins four days of events commemorating the riot centennial this week (see box). The violence began in downtown Atlanta on the night of Sept. 22, 1906, and lasted four days, claiming the lives of at least two dozen people — almost all of them black.

"It's a story that runs counter to Atlanta's image of itself," says co-curator Andy Ambrose.

The show places the emphasis on understanding how such a

thing could have happened and how it changed Atlanta.

The riot itself takes up only half of the limited gallery space. Much of the narrative is told in text panels and blown-up news coverage. That's because so few tangible reminders remain. There are no known photos of the disorders taking place, and almost no artifacts have surfaced.

One of the few objects on display is a single-barrel shotgun purchased for \$5 in 1906 by Bud Woody, a white farmer in Gilmer County. According to the story passed down in his family, the

gun had been part of a shipment of weapons hidden in caskets on a train bound for Atlanta "during the time of the troubles with the Negroes."

For weeks before the riot, blacks in Atlanta had been secretly arming to defend themselves.

"They knew something was coming," says co-curator Clarissa Merrick-Harris. "Riots like this had been happening all over the country."

If there's any doubt those guns were needed, a panel lists the riot's confirmed fatalities: 23