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# The Examiner

EXAMINER.COM WASHINGTON

SPORTS



## KNOWING WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN

Wizards general manager Ernie Grunfeld has replaced nearly the entire roster since coming on in 2003, rebuilding the team into a real postseason threat » PAGE 41

NIGHT OUT



## NEXT-GEN

The Young Playwrights' Theater may be the future of the American stage » PAGE 24

» **WORLD:** Bombs kill 8 U.S. soldiers in Iraq » PAGE 15

» **BUSINESS:** Magazine for bloggers, podcasters debuts » PAGE 22



## STANDING ROOM ONLY

« **Buck Gooter** are a "two-piece noiz-rock freek out!" from Harrisonburg, Va. With Don Zientara. 9 p.m. Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW. \$8. Info: 202-667-7960, www.blackcatdc.com.

## AROUND TOWN

### EXHIBIT



**Dana Buchman: A Fashionable Life, 7 p.m. at The Corcoran Gallery**

In this scintillating evening of fashion, designer Dana Buchman describes, with images, today's new approach to dressing, making fashion more fun than ever. \$15 members; \$20 nonmembers. Reservations are required; visit [corcoran.org](http://corcoran.org) for additional info or to purchase tickets.

### DINING OUT

**Jaleo & Cowgirl Creamery Host Spanish Wine & Cheese Festival, 6 p.m. at metro-area Jaleos**

Free cheese happy hours will take place at all three Jaleo metro-area locations May 1 to 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday to sample cheese like Cabrales, Nevat, Manchego and more. All ages are welcome to the events; however, you must be 21 to enjoy the wines. No reservations required. For more information, contact Jaleo's Crystal City location at 703-413-8181 or visit [jaleo.com](http://jaleo.com).

### THEATER

**"Saving Aimee" at Signature Theatre**

Written by Kathie Lee Gifford, A world-premiere event, based on the true story of a young girl's humble upbringing in a Salvation Army family and her ascension as founder of the Four Gospel Church. Purchase one tickets at full price and get the second free for one child, ages 5 to 17. Visit [lowt.org](http://lowt.org) or call 202-820-9771 for more information.

— [www.washington.org](http://www.washington.org)

## ARTS IN BRIEF

### 'The Matrix' tops mag's sci-fi list

The best science-fiction movie or TV show of the past 25 years?

As a classic episode of "The Twilight Zone" once so memorably underscored, beauty is in the eye of the beholder — so the answer is surely endlessly debatable.

But, according to a list compiled by the editors of Entertainment Weekly, it's "The Matrix."

The 1999 movie, starring Keanu Reeves and Laurence Fishburne, is No. 1 on the Entertainment Weekly's top-25 list, in the issue hitting newsstands today.

"The Matrix" is followed by the Sci Fi Channel series "Battlestar Galactica," 1982's "Blade Runner," the cult TV hit "The X-Files" and — another 1982 production — "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan." — AP



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## ON STAGE » YOUNG PLAYWRIGHT'S THEATER EXPRESS TOUR

# The next generation of American playwrights

By Emily Cary  
Special to The Examiner

David Snider, producing artistic director of the Young Playwright's Theater since 2005, believes that many future playwrights are currently students in Greater Washington schools and participants in the YPT In-School and After-School programs, the Summer Playwriting Series and the Playwrights in Residence program.

"We're the only professional theater in the D.C. area dedicated to arts education," he says. "Every penny goes into the classroom to teach students how to express themselves. Our In-School programs are six months long and focus on character creation through monologues and themes.

"Currently we work every Wednesday with the entire 11th grade at Bell Multicultural High School in Columbia Heights and integrate our program with the English arts curriculum. At the end of the season, we look at all the plays written, take the six best, and produce them the following season."

The YPT 2007 Express Tour consists of the best five plays written over the past two years. The tour will also visit many local classrooms to show youngsters from elementary through high school how their peers have translated personal thoughts and experiences into meaningful literature

The plays by the five budding playwrights reveal diverse writing styles. "Magnet Dude," by Kyrtham Franco, a sixth grader at Capitol City Public Charter School, explores a superhero's weakness through humor. "True Friends," by Clare Mari Rock, a sixth grader at Francis Scott Key, Elementary in Washington, is a lesson in learning to get along with others.

"The Enemy Attacks!" by Margrit Winkler, a fifth grader at Francis Scott Key, analyzes the inner feel-



Young Playwright's Theater participants perform "The Enemy Attacks!" — Courtesy photo

### YOUNG PLAYWRIGHT'S THEATER EXPRESS TOUR

» **Venue:** Kennedy Center Millennium Stage

» **Time:** 6 p.m. today

» **Tickets:** Free

» **Venue:** THEARC

» **Time:** 8 p.m. May 23

» **Tickets:** Free

### 'AMERICAN RICE'

The YPT original play for the Smithsonian's Discovery Theatre, celebrates Asian Pacific Heritage Month

» **Venue:** Round House Theatre, Silver Spring

» **Times:** 10:15 and 11:30 a.m. May 8 to 10

» **Tickets:** \$5 children, \$6 adults, \$4 resident members at 202-357-3030, or visit online at [www.ResidentAssociates.org](http://www.ResidentAssociates.org)

ings of broccoli. "All's Fair in Love and War" by Irene Wu, a junior at Wilson High School, proves that a woman can do a man's job. "Who's the Big Bad Wolf?" by Christian Blanco, a junior at Bell Multicultural High School, is a fantasy about a

step-dad who becomes a werewolf when angry.

All the plays are performed by members of the YPT resident acting company. During the year, the actors assist in the classrooms and discuss the process of playwriting with the students. Once a play is selected, the student playwrights attend rehearsals and give the director and actors feedback.

In addition to the five Express Tour plays, YPT is currently performing "American Rice," its third commission from the Smithsonian's Discovery Theatre.

"It was undertaken in partnership with the Asian-American League and developed over a period of six or seven months at Wilson High School," Snider says. "The goal was to get input from Indian and Asian-American students about the issues they face. Patrick Crowley, area playwright/actor/director, created the narrative from scenes and monologues written by students.

"As they progress in our programs, the students put things they care about into their manuscripts. When they read them aloud, classmates will often recognize a feeling or situation they've experienced and realize that they aren't alone."

## HAPPY RETURNS

The Examiner helps you map out your happy hour itinerary:

### MONDAY

#### O'Sullivan's Irish Pub

3209 Washington Blvd., Arlington 703-812-0939

» **4 to 7 p.m.:** \$1 off all drafts; half-price burgers

#### Brion's Grille

10621 Braddock Road, Fairfax 703-352-7272

» **4 to 7 p.m.:** Half-price pitchers

### TUESDAY

#### Duffy's Irish Restaurant & Pub

2106 Vermont Ave. NW 202-265-3413

» **Until 7 p.m.:** \$2 bottles of Stella, Harp, Corona, Red Stripe, Heineken, Bud, Miller Lite; \$4 Pilsner Urquell drafts

#### Alero U Street

1301 U St., NW #113 202-462-2322

» **3:30 to 7 p.m.:** \$3.95 margaritas and premium rail drinks; \$3.50 Mexican beers; appetizers under \$5

### WEDNESDAY

#### Stetsons

1610 U St. NW 202-667-6295

» **4:30 to 8 p.m.:** \$2.50 rail drinks and Miller drafts; additional drinks specials; half-price turkeys

#### Chevy's Fresh Mex — Ballston

4238 Wilson Blvd. Ste. 1132, Arlington 703-516-9020

» **4 to 7 p.m.:** \$1 off margaritas and domestic draft beers; Half-off appetizers

### THURSDAY

#### Madam's Organ

2461 18th St. NW 202-667-5370

» **5 to 8 p.m.:** \$1 off all drinks. \$1 from every food and drink item goes to a nonprofit

#### Felix

2406 18th St. NW 202-483-3549

» **5 to 10 p.m.:** \$3 rail drinks and Coronas; \$5 Cosmos and Appletinis

### FRIDAY

#### Chadwicks Old Town

203 The Strand, Alexandria 703-836-4442

» **4 to 7 p.m.:** \$2 domestic bottle beer and rail drinks; \$3 house wine and selected appetizers

#### Pour House

319 Pennsylvania Ave. SE 202-546-1001

» **4 to 7 p.m.:** \$2.50 Pour House Ambers, \$3 Rails