



THE COLUMBUS MAGAZINE

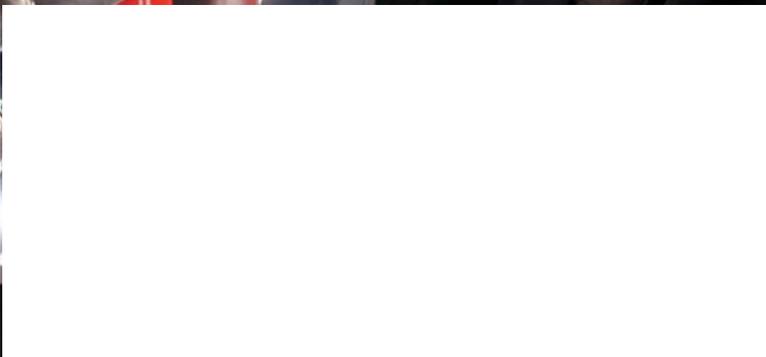
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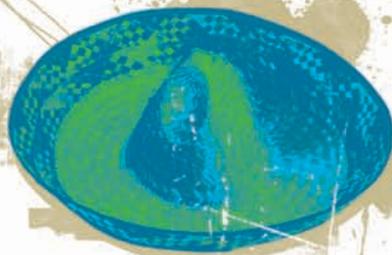
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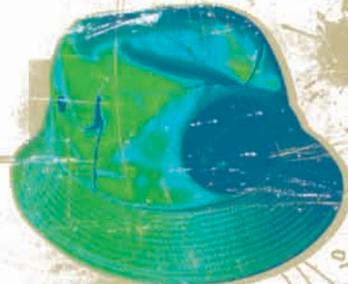
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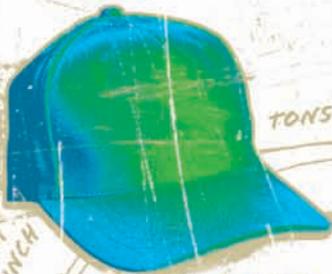
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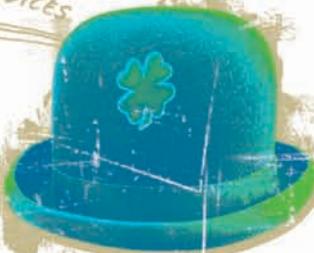
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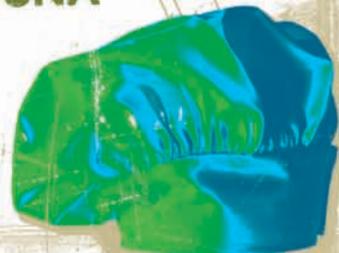
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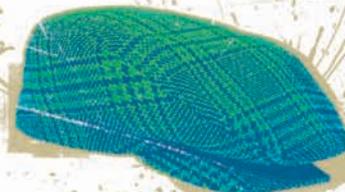
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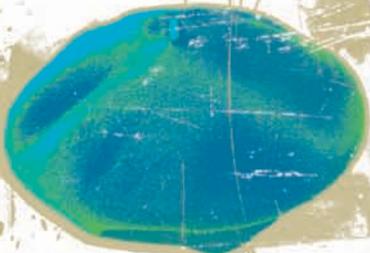


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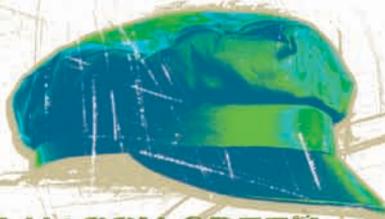
*SATISFY YOUR TASTE BUDS*



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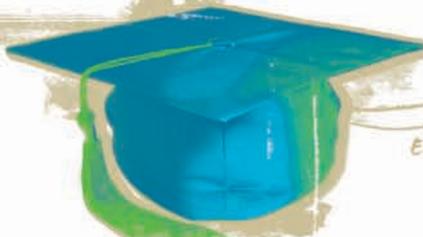
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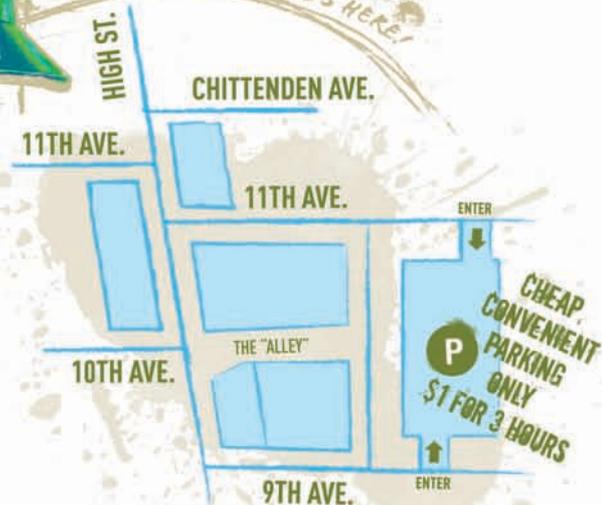
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# THE TICKET

Speed. I love it. Whether pushing the needle in my Mustang GT during college, or now on my motorcycle, I can't give it up. A love of cars and what they represent has stirred in me since I was a child. That love turned to an addiction that's grown ever since.

In this, our first-ever Automotive issue, we continue on our fourth year with Miss Ohio USA (Donald Trump Productions). Pairing this partnership with some of the wickedest cars money can buy in our capital city was a no-brainer. Tony Anders did another excellent job styling hair for our cover shoot, and Kristi Rhodes brought the "sexy" with her make-up magic. Anna was also great to work with, reminding us of the warm-spirited Lauren Kelsey Hall (Miss Ohio 2002).

This month carries a lot of excitement in the city. Aside from the ever-popular Arnold Classic and Columbus Auto Show, the magazine will



Anna Melomud (Miss Ohio USA 2006) and Roopan at Nelson auto group

be holding a limited-seating wine event at the Burgundy Room in the Short North (call our office for details). Additionally, look for more of our C2 events (see below) with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra. For only \$30, you get a happy hour at a downtown restaurant, a ticket to the show and VIP entrance to a downtown club that night.

We've also received a lot of positive feedback on the new design. If you have any suggestions, raves or rants, please send them to us at letters@columbusmag.com. I look forward to your continued feedback so that we may continue to bring you the best feature magazine in Ohio.

Let's break the limit.



Roopan Dey  
Publisher & CEO



PUBLISHER & CEO ROOPAN DEY

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**UPDATES FROM THE LAST ISSUE:**  
PG 8, 40-41: AUTUMN CASHMERE STRIPED SWEATER \$372  
PG 4, 42: ROXYWEAR RED STRIPED TUNIC \$94, HARALD WHITE BLOUSE \$396  
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## loves it what I've been into



### Big Shot

photos by Erica Moore

**Aubrey and Jon Furrow**, myself, **Weston Wolfe** and **Lauren Bigham** tipped a few margaritas at the *C Magazine* / ROJO BIG SHOT Tequila party. If you haven't been to ROJO, I strongly suggest that you check it out. **Doug Stemens** brought out a batch of tequila-soaked red peppers that blew our minds. Meanwhile, our esteemed editor, **Jason Ohlson**, kept the night "in pocket" by grabbing a bottle of Patron Silver and rockin' a round of shots for the crowd.

We met a lot of new people and saw quite a few *C Magazine* regulars. Here's a little "shot" of the party.





# Style In Bloom

The freshest looks for Spring are at:

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Jason Ohlson in an orange Gallardo (featured on FX's hit show *Nip/Tuck*) at Lamborghini Ohio

from the editor  
**Hold Tight**

*C Magazine's* first-ever Automotive issue

In our "Ride 23" section each month, we've always brought you the hottest whips in this city, owned by some of the most ardent automotive enthusiasts. We've never cared to shine a light on exaggerated lease owners; we have, however, been climbing a referral ladder that leads directly to passionate, often private, auto freaks who truly love their rides. These individuals removed the governors from their thrill-seeking engines long ago. The toys they crave to own and customize are insanely cool, and we couldn't help but become their biggest fan.

May this March issue begin a *C Magazine* tradition, a yearly tradition of offering the auto industry in Columbus a super-salient outlet to toot their own horns and spread the word on what is currently hot and what'll be even hotter in the future. Our special advertising pages are sharp and informative, and our features and interviews get in the fast lane with some of Columbus' biggest auto names. From Byers to Mid-Ohio to Germain to Ricart to Lamborghini Ohio to Jeg's, we got 'em covered.

This month also marks our fourth year featuring Miss Ohio USA on our cover. We've combined our exclusive cover story and fashion pages to create one wicked fashion spread that marries the sleek and smooth esthetics of various automotive lines with the classy-cool vibe surrounding Donald Trump's Miss Ohio USA. Shot at Lamborghini Ohio's notorious dealership, this shoot took off. Now go. Start reading.

Jason E. Ohlson  
Executive Editor

# MARCH 07

## 25

### Miss Ohio USA Exclusive

We lobbied to have some of Columbus' finest auto dealers participate in the joy of our yearly Miss Ohio USA fashion and feature shoot, as this year marked our first ever "Automotive" issue. Where did we shoot the story? Lamborghini Ohio. Who featured cars in the shoot? Volvo, Jeep, Chrysler, Lamborghini and Dodge. Who won Miss Ohio USA 2006? Read on.



## 20 Big Bang for \$9 Bucks

As always, we've knocked out nine lunches that won't pull an entire Hamilton out of your pocket. Save that change for Happy Hour.



## 56 Final Word

This month, the last word belongs to auto magnate Steve Germain. Read on to find out how many Ferraris he's collected and the first law he'd change if he could.



## 35 BoMA

The buzz around it is loud, sometimes numbing. The stereotypes and misconceptions of it are abundant. To define it can be a chore. All we know is that it kicks ass and makes sure to take your name.



## 56 Carlyles Watch

Its construction is adding to the fusion of old and new on one of Columbus' most historic streets. CW's contribution of interest and integrity to the transformation of our downtown is inspiring, to say the least.



## 53 Ride 23

Meet Dave Wiggins' nutty truck. Lottery winners couldn't even keep up with his upgrades. Dear god!

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# All in the Family

## Blaine Byers

Story by Jason E. Ohlson  
Photography by Eric Wagner

Few family names in Columbus carry as much undeniable clout and respect as the Byers name. With a family business dating back over 100 years, that's just the way it goes. Such presence, however, comes with an amazingly challenging set of micro and macro responsibilities, for great support demands even greater service.

Blaine Byers, the current fourth generation Vice President of George Byers Sons, Inc., which has grown into a near empire of eight dealerships and 14 manufacturers at eight separate locations, knows the weight of greatness all too well. "Our company started in 1897 selling horses and buggies," says Blaine. "Four generations later, and I now have a son who could potentially be the fifth generation car dealer. The company is still all run by family members, and I hope to continue that for a couple more generations."

Blaine began working in the family biz washing cars, selling parts at

the parts counter, driving the shuttle bus and answering any call that came. To this day, it's not unheard of that he would wash a client's car, if need be. Making clients happy has become second nature for Blaine; finding a way to work day in and day out with family, though, remains the true Rubik's Cube.

"Family business is a rough way to go," says Blaine. "We have different people in my family with different talents and we just have to find the right places for them. You just have to find the places that they fit in best and continue to be able to sit down at a dinner table and speak to each other. One of our assets is that our family members all get along pretty well—at least this generation does. Who knows about the next."

For more information regarding Blaine and the history of Byers, visit [www.byersauto.com](http://www.byersauto.com).

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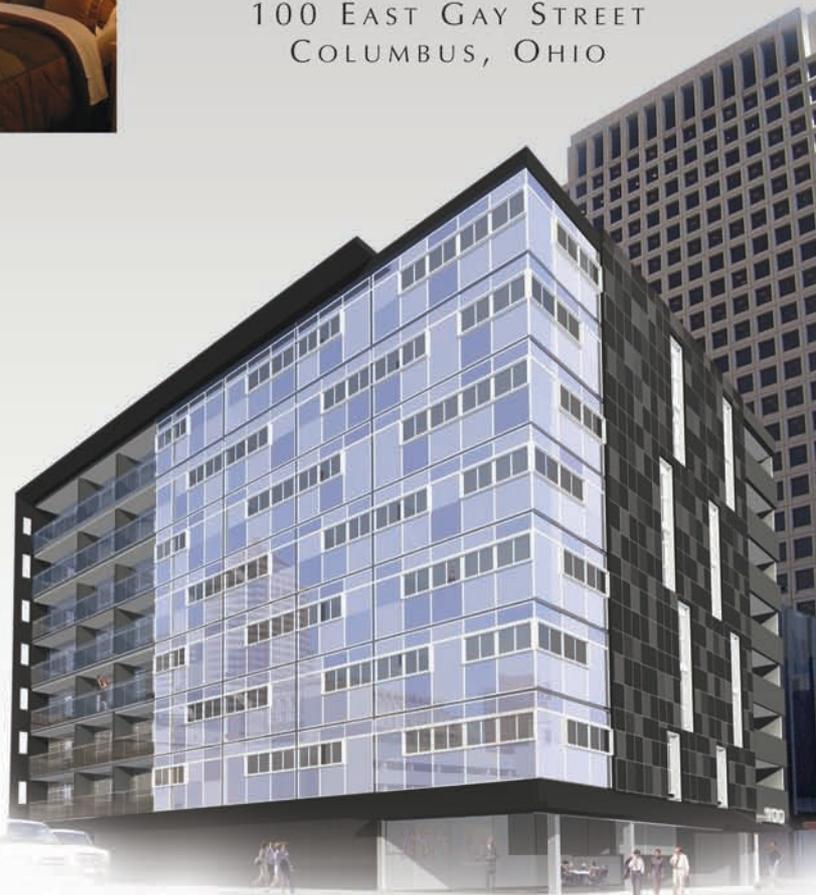
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# A Course in Life

**Brian Till**

Story by Kristen M. Foley  
Photography by Eric Wagner

**B**rian Till raced cars in the Indy 500 and the SCCA Trans-Am Championship; he was the 1990 Toyota Atlantic East Champion and Rookie of the Year; and currently, he commentates during professional races on Speedtv, ESPN and CBS. Yet, it's his role as an instructor at The Mid-Ohio School, which is based at Mid-Ohio's Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio, that he considers the true constant in his multi-faceted racing career.

"You find yourself in motor sports teaching when you don't have the opportunity to drive and are looking for a ride," says Till. "For me, I taught a little bit early on in my racing career, and by the time I started at Mid-Ohio, I was driving Indy cars, so it was really at the pinnacle of my career."

Though the majority of his time is spent broadcasting from pit lane, Till's made it a priority to lend his extensive driving and teaching experience to Mid-Ohio students, thus providing them an insider's

view on what it takes to drive like a pro, both on and off the race track. "To me, teaching is fun and it allows you to give you back," he says.

With classes that cover high-performance driving skills ranging from high-speed cornering and lapping drills on one of the most competitive tracks in the U.S., to how to maneuver in various weather conditions, it's interesting to learn that Till's favorite class to teach is actually the Honda Teen Defensive Driving Program. "I like to think that we are giving these kids more tools in their tool box so they can be better, safer drivers," reflects Till. "The better the instruction you have in anything and the longer you do it, the better you are going to get at it." He admits it is not the most glamorous of the school's selections; however, in his mind, it is the one that makes the biggest difference.

Visit [www.mid-ohio.com](http://www.mid-ohio.com) for more info on their various classes.

# Love at First Sip

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# Fixing Fixes

## Mark Nelson

Story by Dustin Smith  
Photography by Eric Wagner

Being surrounded by exotic models with sexy curves and gorgeous bodies is all in a day's work for Mark Nelson. He's the Service Manager of Lamborghini Ohio, the largest Lamborghini dealership in the United States. "At first, I used to get all revved up," remembers Nelson. "I think my kids get more excited about it than I do. Don't get me wrong; they're special, but I'm around them all the time and I know I'm coming back to see them."

Nelson's international beauties are handled with the finest of care 30-minutes northwest of Columbus in a 24,500 square-foot showroom dedicated exclusively to Lambos and other luxury performance vehicles. Whether it's a custom ride for clients like 50 Cent, Nicholas Cage or John Mellencamp, or a high-power, high-performance upgrade for any of the nation's owners of exotic vehicles, Nelson is the go-to cat.

Depending on your options, Lamborghini prices range from around \$200k for a Lamborghini Gallardo to \$350k for the new Lamborghini Murciélago LP640. A gas cap alone costs around \$438! "I'm in the people business, man," says Nelson. "The biggest thing is being straightforward, being honest and not hiding anything. As long as I'm being honest, I don't feel bad about the price of things."

With certified technician magicians Parker Moffett and Eric Hargett by his side, Nelson, who is also a former military tank mechanic, is prepared to service all things Lamborghini and more. "I have a Porsche owner who also brings me his Daewoo, because he likes our guys," says Nelson. "I think you'll find most of us are family people."

For more info visit [lamborghiniohio.com](http://lamborghiniohio.com)



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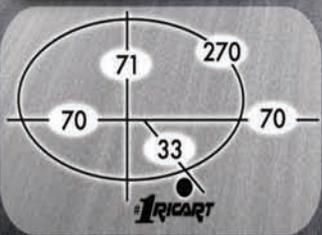


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The cover  
c exclusive

# Limited Edition

4th Annual Miss Ohio USA C Magazine Cover Shoot  
Story: Kristen M. Foley & Jason E. Ohlson | Photography: Eric Wagner | Hair: Tony Anders | Make-up: Kristi Rhodes | Style: Tiffani Neilson | Product Support: Jeffrey Thomas, Au Moda, Le Luxe, Oxley Clothiers & Jeffersonville Prime Outlets



Chrysler 300, available at Nelson Auto Group; 346 Suit Jacket, Skirt and Shirt, available at Brooks Brothers; Pima Donna Collection Shoes, available at Le Luxe.; Chaos Necklace, available at Oxley Clothiers

**A**nna Melomud is not your typical Miss Ohio. She was born and raised in the Ukraine until she was 10 years old; she's bilingual; and for kicks, she digs reading organic chemistry. All this is pretty fitting, considering she's just shy of earning Biology and Premed degrees from Kent State University. In a few more years, the 22-year-old Melomud may just be known as Dr. Miss Ohio.

But before we get too far ahead of ourselves, lets focus on the now.

The "now" marks Melomud's reign as the 2006 Miss Ohio and *C Magazine's* fourth year featuring a Miss Ohio on our cover. We've combined the looks (and brains) of our blond, blue-eyed pageant winner with some of the boldest, most innovative and eye-catching wheels on the market. It's a sleek and classy combination this city's never seen, with elements of corporate glam, urban chic and rugged cool coming together, while our state's newest lady models front and center.

Not only did we get the scoop from Melomud on what drives a premed pageant winner through

her quest for the ultimate crown; we explored the necessary drive to continue onward once the race and reign are over.

## Driven

*C Magazine:* What made you want to participate in pageants and ultimately the Miss Ohio Pageant?

**Melomud:** I think it's been a dream of mine for a long time, but I never really thought I'd be competing in pageants when I was older. But the older I got, the more I wanted to. To become Miss Ohio is something every little girl wants. I've tried out before and this was my year.

*C Magazine:* What is the biggest cliché about pageant participants that you want to squash?

**Melomud:** I think a lot of people look at pageant girls as not necessarily the brightest people in the world. I think that is definitely cliché. I have applied to medical school, and I want to be a physician.

*C Magazine:* How do you prepare for Miss USA? What are the steps you go through?

**Melomud:** There is a lot of mental preparation that goes along with it. You have to keep yourself focused. Miss USA is, of course, the ultimate final goal. Working out is



Black and Gray Viper, available at Lamborghini Ohio; Nicole Miller Dress, available at Jeffrey Thomas; D&G Sunglasses, available at Sunglass Hut; DKNY Watch, available at Sunglass Hut; Diamond Earrings, available at IDG Jewelers; Chinese Laundry Shoes, available at Le Luxe

also a big part of it, so I'm doing Pilates three days a week.

**C Magazine:** Given the recent backlash to the Miss USA organization, is there anything that you are more cautious about?

**Melomud:** I think it's very important to be aware of your actions at all times, whether you are Miss Ohio, Miss USA or not. Because of what is happening with Miss USA, the people are looking at all pageant girls a little more cautiously. I think it's very important to be careful of what you say and what you do, no matter if you are a titleholder or not.

**C Magazine:** Where do you plan to go to Medical School?

**Melomud:** I want to stay in Ohio. I applied to a few of them, but I think I want to stay in my home state instead of going out.

**C Magazine:** Was it something you've wanted to do since you were a child?

**Melomud:** Absolutely. I think it was my 8th or 9th birthday and I think I asked my parents for an encyclopedia, and that's not something a little girl asks for. I've always wanted to learn, and I was always very curious.

**C Magazine:** Why family practice?

**Melomud:** One of the priorities of a physician is to get to know the patient on a personal level, and I think family medicine allows them to do so. Not only do you get to know the patient, but the whole family altogether. I think when a physician has that connection with their patients, it allows them to provide better care.

**C Magazine:** If you win Miss USA, that means putting off school for another year. Are you prepared to do that?

**Melomud:** I am. I think Miss USA is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. School is very important, but this is a dream of mine, and it comes once in a lifetime. I think it's very important to go with the flow, and I could only be so lucky.

**C Magazine:** What has been more intense so far – premed or Miss Ohio?

**Melomud:** Oh geez. I don't know. I believe they are both pretty unique and great in their own sense. Miss Ohio USA has been a great opportunity and so has premed, even though premed has been a little more work and staying up late and studying. I haven't had to study for anything for Miss Ohio yet.

**C Magazine:** Are you looking forward to meeting Donald Trump?

**Melomud:** Absolutely. I think he's so much fun, and I think it will be

## ■ THE COVER

great to see him in person, instead of on TV all the time.

**C Magazine:** What keeps you so motivated—professionally and personally?

**Melomud:** Staying focused on the most important aspects of my life—my career and family.

**C Magazine:** Whom do you consider a mentor or inspiration?

**Melomud:** My grandmother was diagnosed six years ago with breast cancer. She has since beaten this terrible illness, and I consider her an inspiration to all women.

**C Magazine:** Did your grandmother's diagnoses intensify your desire to pursue a medical profession?

**Melomud:** Yes. I think medicine has come such a long way from where it was, and I want to contribute to making medicine better.

## On The Road

**C Magazine:** This is an actual Ohio Driver's Ed question, see if you get it right. If someone has consumed alcoholic drinks, what will help the person overcome the influence of those drinks? A. Tomato juice and lime B. Hot coffee C. Fresh air or D. Time

**Melomud:** It's gotta be D. Time.

**C Magazine:** What is a V-8?

**Melomud:** An engine with 8 cylinders in the shape of a letter "V".

**C Magazine:** Name three songs with automotive or driving references in their titles?

**Melomud:** "Life is a Highway" -Tom Petty, "Born to be Wild" -Steppenwolf, "Drive" - Incubus.

**C Magazine:** What's your dream car?

**Melomud:** I think it would have to be a convertible of some kind. I don't have one, but I would love one, especially in the summer time.

**C Magazine:** What was your first car?

**Melomud:** A Mazda Protégé.

**C Magazine:** Explain an appropriate outfit for a woman whose cruising in a:

**Lamborghini:** a sundress and sunglasses.

**Fully-loaded Hummer:** jeans, heels and a fun tank.

**Mini Cooper:** dress pants and blouse.

**Topless Jeep Wrangler:** jeans, sandals and a vintage T.

**Chromed-out Chrysler 300 with 20-inch rims:** a knee-length skirt and a top.

**Brand new Yugo:** sweats and a T-shirt.

**Feiro** - worn-in, comfortable jeans.

**C Magazine:** 5 CDs you'd take on

Jeep 4-Door Wrangler, available at Nelson Auto Group; Jacket, Pants, Sandals and Mini Duffie, available at Under Armor; Ray Ban Sunglasses, available at Sunglass Hut





Silver Volvo S80, available at Byers Volvo; BCBG Girls Jacket, available at Au Moda; D&G Sunglasses, available at Sunglass Hut; Glaze Boots, available at Le Luxe

a cross-country trip?

**Melomud:** A Michael Jackson CD, for sure, because I love Michael Jackson. I've loved him since I was a little girl. I would probably take a Country and Rock and Roll CD, and probably an R&B CD, and a CD that I could dance or workout to.

## Off Roding

**C Magazine:** Have you ever thought of parlaying your title into a career in show business?

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**C Magazine:** Have you ever thought about being an actress?

**Melomud:** No, I have never had the urge to pursue acting.

**C Magazine:** What's the most ornery thing you've ever done?  
**Melomud:** Spend too much time and energy on school work and not spend enough time with my loved ones.

**C Magazine:** What are three things you consider must-haves for pageant competitors?

**Melomud:** Comfortable heels (if there is such a thing!), pictures of my loved ones, and my favorite

beauty products.

**C Magazine:** Ever been a part of or witnessed a fight backstage?

**Melomud:** Fortunately, I have not.

**C Magazine:** But that's where the pillow fights are, right?

**Melomud:** Absolutely!

**C Magazine:** Should Miss USA introduce a talent section in the competition, name three things you could do?

**Melomud:** Sing, dance, and play the piano.

**C Magazine:** Which Barbie would you be?

**Melomud:** Doctor Barbie.

**C Magazine:** If you were only allowed to use one cosmetic for the rest of your life, what would it be?

**Melomud:** Moisturizer! Healthy skin is extremely important, so I make it a priority to have it with me at all times.

**C Magazine:** How many times do you think a contestant should be allowed to say the word "like" before being disqualified?

**Melomud:** Preferably, no more than can be counted on one hand.

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### the specs

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## the specs

Base Price: \$18,995  
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 Horses: 173/235  
 0-60: 7.7 seconds  
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1992 Diablo - Red w/ Tan, 5-spd.....\$117,900

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#### BMW

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2005 645 Ci Convertible - Silver w/Grey, Auto.....\$61,900  
2004 530i 4 dr. - Black w/Tan, 6-spd.....\$34,900  
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2003 330i - Silver w/Black Leather, 6-spd.....\$24,900

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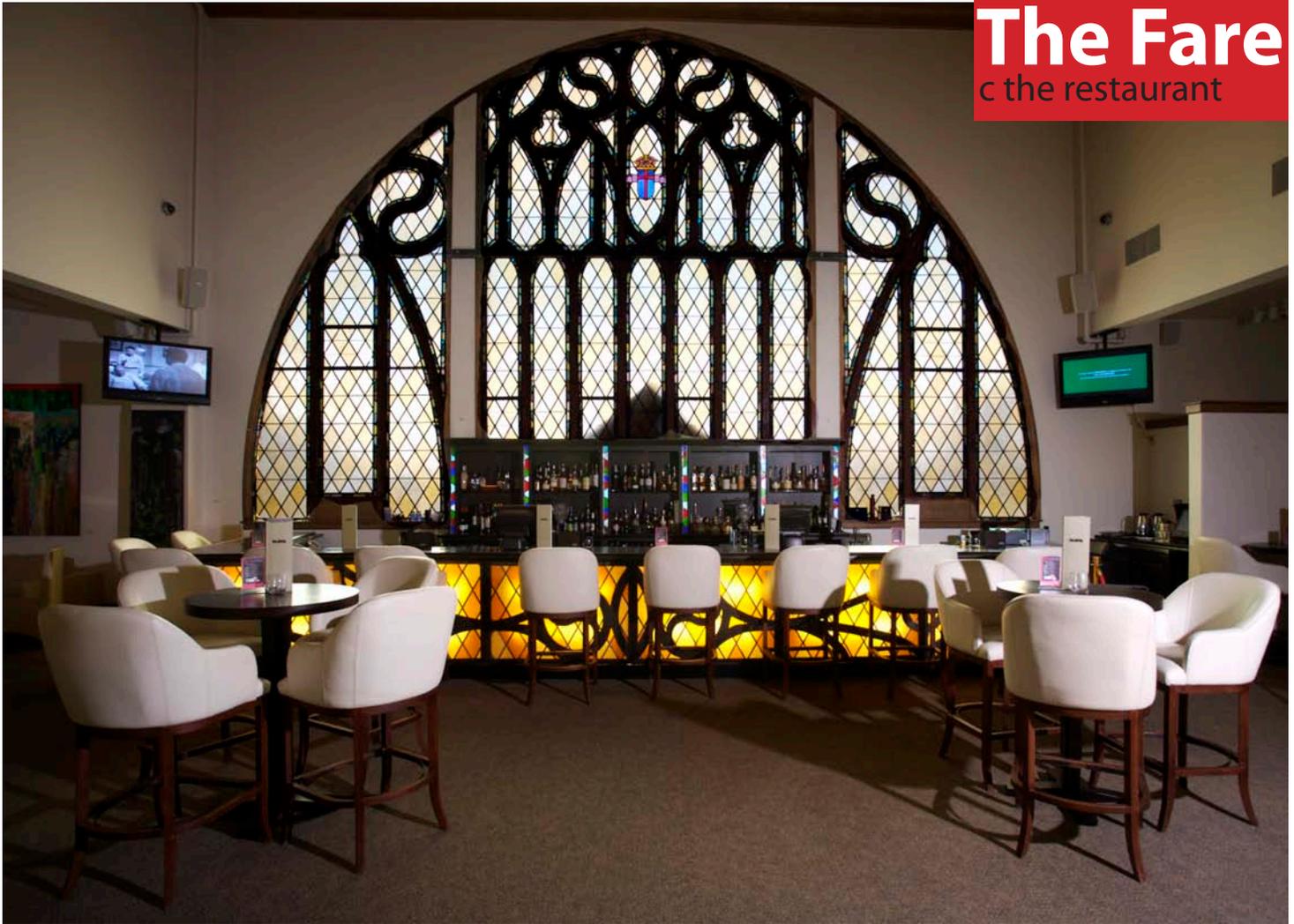
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If the measuring stick of a city's growth lies within its cultural depth, then Columbus has just been placed on the fast track towards tackling the big boys. Just off I-71 downtown on East Broad Street rests the city's newest difference maker – a church transformed into one of the hottest multi-purpose venues with a well-deserving, holier-than-thou attitude. Allow us to introduce BoMA: the Bar of Modern Art.

As the name suggests, BoMA is certainly a bar. But it's not just any bar. It's got seven of 'em, to be exact, each with its own special ingredient to contribute to the joy of your experience. BoMA also serves as an intimate and contemporary art gallery. Intrigued yet? What if we added to their portfolio of offerings one of the most awe-inspiring dining rooms in the

country and a menu prepared by local favorite, Chef Alex Rodriguez, whose fine fare creations double as works of art themselves? We should also note that when dining is done, BoMA sea-changes into one of the hottest nightclubs in town. By now, we should be dancing on your fancy.

Yes, Columbus is ready for this degree of chic sophistication and dead sexy style. We've been screaming for it—sometimes out of both sides of our mouths. *IT* is here, and *IT* deserves some credit.

The best way to enjoy this place is to first break all your other plans and commit yourself to a real evening out. Start in The Great Room where the martini list, scotch selections and champagne cocktails are as endless as they are creative. Investigate such liquid wonders

as the Pop Rocks Martini: a fusion of watermelon and sparkling wine flavors with real pop rocks lining the rim of the glass that start crackling even before your lips touch the rim. Candy martinis not your thing? Just nestle into one of their leather couches in this two-story lounge and chew on the Dirty Mary, and when we say chew, we mean literally. The peppered vodka with a splash of Mary Mix would be great on its own, but BoMA slaps a jumbo shrimp on your rim to get your attention. The martinis are large and priced fairly, with a great Wednesday through Friday Happy Hour from 4-7 p.m.

On to dining... Though the instant charm and grandeur of BoMA's main dining room steals the thunder of most restaurants with its monstrous 20-foot stained glass windows and gigantic movie

screen that plays movie classics (we watched as Bogey tried to win over Hepburn in *The African Queen*), it becomes oddly approachable once you've been sat. By the time the menus hit the table, you'll likely find that you have slipped effortlessly into a comfortable spell.

Before we could even open a menu, Chef Rodriguez swung by to greet us and delivered a mouth-watering amuse: a pineapple and mango salsa wrapped in a bite-size taco chip with fresh lime. It was a cool, refreshing little package of flavor, teasing our taste buds as we dove headfirst into the menu. He also took the time to suggest the BoMA Trio: a Raw Bar combo of delectable tuna tartar, fresh salmon and the featured ceviche laid out in three individual dishes for easy sharing. Share we did. Our server,



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Pictured Clockwise from left - Mahi-Mahi, Chocolate Raspberry Creme Brulee Bomb, Tuna, Short Rib and Salmon Appetizers

Nick Cicco, suggested we also try the Lobster Appetizer, which features Maine lobster raviolis lightly bathed in a gruyere-chardonnay sauce and topped with a sun-dried tomato-cucumber relish. This app proved to be incredibly tasty when paired with the bubbly apple and oak flavors of Veuve Clicquot “Yellow Label” Brut.

One thing we’ve learned throughout our dining adventures is to appreciate the staff’s recommendations, for they are usually spot-on. When Nick suggested the BoMA Salad, it was not an arm-twisting decision to comply. Their mixed greens kept fantastic company with Granny Smith apples, dates, candied pecans and boulders of Gorgonzola; the champagne-honey vinaigrette provided a translucent blanket to keep all the love together. Another delightful item was the Trio of Soups that featured lobster bisque (finally made from scratch), a savory-sweet butternut squash and the chef’s nightly creation, which, lucky for us, was the sweet potato soup. This Trio was also served in three easy-to-share compartments, and the results were miles beyond perfect.

As we perused the wine list and menu simultaneously, trying to decide what our entrées would be, we did what anyone should when dining in a place like this—we asked! Look, Nick is a professional, and his excitement towards the Lamb was almost a command—one that

*IT is here, and IT deserves some credit.*

was not about to be disobeyed. Fortunately, our party agreed to disagree on our selections, and we opted for four distinct dishes. The Lamb was a perfectly seared set of loin chops encrusted in pistachios, with a roasted plum-cassis sauce gently hand-painted on top. We told you this was a gallery as well, and Chef Alex “Picasso” Rodriguez had his wares on display. All the way across the table sat the Sea Bass. The Chilean Bass was grilled on a sugarcane skewer (how cool is that!), with fluffy pillows of black bean ravioli and a smoked

tomato-corn broth as its supporting cast. Flanking the Lamb and Sea Bass were the staples of American dining—the Chicken and the Filet. Imagine an organic chicken breast grilled to perfection, with Moroccan spices, apricot-ginger chutney and a beet couscous pyramid. The tableside descriptive word was “illegal”. The Filet was delicately wrapped with pancetta and served atop black trumpet mushroom risotto, with a dark rum-vanilla sauce hugging it all over.

Because of the variety of dishes on the table, we selected a bold yet smooth meritage. Once allowed to breathe for several minutes, the Chateau St. Michelle’s “Artist Series” sipped exceptionally well. This is easily the finest wine Chateau St. Michelle has produced, rivaling the likes of other Washington greats like Col Solare and Northstar. Abundant notes of honey and allspice guide you towards a rush of flavors including black cherry, chocolate and blackberry. In a classic Bordeaux-style blend, you might not find a better wine in its class for the money. BoMA’s wine list is full of similar, well-priced hits.

You simply must save room for dessert, whether you drink it or eat it. We first “punished” ourselves with Fire & Ice: a pyramid of spicy chocolate ganache (yeah, that’s the fire), smoothed out by a passion fruit sorbet. Not to be outdone was the Chocolate Raspberry Crème Brulee Bomb that allowed a fresh blood peach coulis to co-star. May we challenge any restaurant in Columbus to match this? The last thing that touched our lips was a kiss from a 100-year anniversary Grand Marnier Cuvee du Centenaire. Better served warm, Nick had our resting in another cognac glass of steaming hot water—quite the touch, but that’s to be expected here at BoMA.

With San Francisco-like dining and a club fit for Manhattan, BoMA’s sophistication brings to Columbus a kind blend of class and style. Yes, you can get in, just as long as you dress like you care. So retire your predictable, bland plans and step into something altogether new and exciting. Step into BoMA and enter a world where beauty rules. From the bar to the table to the dance floor, your smile will grow.



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ITALIAN VILLAGE



Carlyles Watch mixes the old with the new on the corner of Gay & 3rd.

# Contemporary Urban Flair

Story by J.S. Baker  
Photography by Eric Wagner

Carlyles Watch brings spectacular loft-style condominium living to downtown's historic Gay Street

Columbus' Gay Street District is seeing a fusion of the old and the new. Years of historic tradition are being blended into what is now one of Columbus' most dynamic destinations for contemporary entertainment, dining and urban living. At the heart of this hip epicenter resides Carlyles Watch, the District's hottest high-rise condominium community.

Carlyles Watch has enjoyed unprecedented success, with 25 of the 54 condominiums sold to date. The community is attracting young professionals and active adults who love a relaxed lifestyle close to the amenities of downtown. According to Re/Max Associates agent Jason Davis, Carlyles Watch offers a very contemporary, open design in one and two-bedroom loft-style condominiums.

A dramatic wall of windows overlooking the Gay Street streetscape and downtown skyline accents each home. Residents may also enjoy the city view from the one-of-a-kind, fully enclosed rooftop sky lounge and garden. It is an "all-season" amenity for all owners to enjoy 365 days a year.

Frank Packard, the famous local architect who is known for his distinct brick designs that blend artistic frontages with abundant windows and more,

designed many of the buildings on Gay Street. Those buildings, with the addition of Carlyles Watch and an upcoming face-lift to the Gay Street corridor, will transform and

preserve one of downtown's most picturesque streets.

According to Carlyles Watch co-developer Andrew Burgess, millions of dollars are being invested

into preserving many of these historically significant buildings, creating a dynamic living environment for urban dwellers. In doing so, history kindly blends

with the present, while inspiring the future.

"A new multi-million dollar Residence Inn Guest Suites is being created in the historic Buckeye Savings and Loan Building," says Burgess. "The Marriott Renaissance Hotel next door has undergone a multi-million dollar facelift, giving it a more modern feel. Gay Street itself is undergoing a major improvement project that will recreate its classic historic feel."

The construction of Carlyles Watch not only adds modernism to this historic area; it also preserves and honors the previous structure and Columbus native, respectively. The development is located on the site of the old Personal Insurance Building and is named after Carlyle Perry Sr., mentor of Carlyles



A Picturesque view of Carlyles Watch's model bedroom



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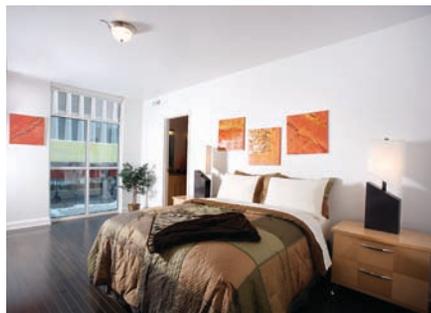
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A Picturesque view of Carlyles Watch's model bedroom

# MICHAEL CASEY PROPERTIES

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## CARLYLES WATCH



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3RD FLR APARTMENT, STAINED GLASS, FRPLC, GOURMET KITCHEN LOWERED \$25,000. \$359,000

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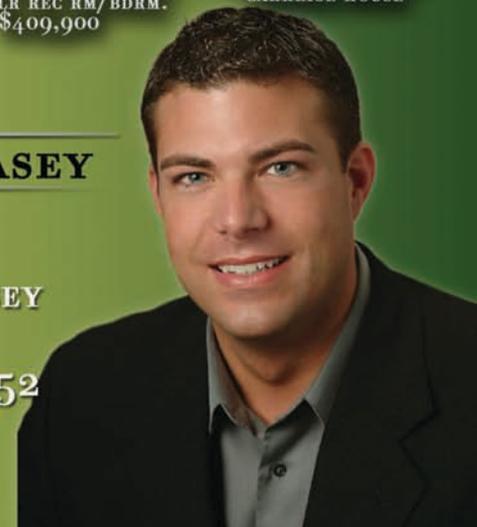
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Exotic bamboo wood flooring, nine-foot ceilings and window walls capture the airy, free-flowing energy of the living room

Watch developer Tom Fortin. “Carlyle Perry was instrumental in creating the overall concept for Carlyles Watch,” says Fortin. “Just prior to ground breaking, Carlyle passed away. The new structure was named in his honor and the ‘Watch’ portion was added to differentiate it from the historic Carlyle Building.”

Inside Carlyles Watch, this featured two-bedroom unit demonstrates how buyers receive so much more than a desirable location. Contem-

porary design and architecture craft the homes in Carlyles Watch into unique living spaces.

All condominiums showcase soaring nine-foot ceilings; granite countertops; a kitchen island with accent lighting; designer cabinetry; GE stainless appliances; Kohler Kitchen and Bath Fixtures; custom wood trim finishes; and exotic bamboo hardwood, ceramic tile or carpet flooring.

Carlyles Watch also features an

on-site, secured, indoor-parking system new to downtown condos: The European Klaus Car Parking Systems’ Parking Automat. This hydraulic and mechanical parking system vertically stacks vehicles, reduces the space needed for parking and expands capacity. The parking system is an amenity not seen in recent construction, be it residential or commercial.

For potential buyers, Carlyles Watch is currently offering great buying incentives like low or no

down payment financing options; 10-year tax abatements; \$11,000 in pre-construction incentives, including one percent of the purchase price contributed toward the buyer’s closing costs or buy-down option through Fifth Third Bank.

For more information or a tour of the model, call (614) 222-1827. Carlyles Watch is located at 100 E. Gay St. Visit the showroom or model on the second floor, or enjoy a virtual, full-color tour of floor plans at [www.carlyleswatch.com](http://www.carlyleswatch.com).

All bathrooms and kitchens feature such amenities as granite countertops; kitchen island with accent lighting; designer cabinetry; GE stainless appliances; and Kohler Kitchen and Bath fixtures.





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## Scott Page Book Signing

On February 21st, individuals from a variety of backgrounds gathered at Ohio State's Faculty Club for a presentation from and book signing with Scott Page, professor of complex systems, political science and economics at the University of Michigan and author of the landmark book *The Difference: How the Power of Diversity Creates Better Groups, Firms, Schools and Societies*.



## Scott Page Go Oscar

OSCAR NIGHT® COLUMBUS, which benefits the Columbus AIDS Task Force, made sure their red carpet walkers were getting the star treatment on February 25th at the Drexel Gateway Theatre. Guests were encouraged to come dressed as a nominee or any movie star to be eligible for prizes, but all were treated to a gala celebration that included complimentary hors d'oeuvres from some of Columbus' finest restaurants, a Hollywood inspired glamorous lobby, and a silent auction featuring celebrity and movie memorabilia packages.



## Scotch Pairing Dinner at Latitude

Presented by C Magazine friend and consummate food god, Executive Chef Tony Miller, Latitude 41's first ever Scotch Tasting Dinner on February 21st was a smashing success. Master of Whiskey Robert Sickler provided an informative presentation and Latitude's kitchen provided a world-class meal. Don't be foolish and get your party's names on the list for round two. We'll look for you in March.



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## Jay Xing Opening Reception

On February 23rd, Gallery On High hosted an opening reception for Jay Xing, an expressionistic artist who deserves the attention and time of anyone drawn to the therapeutic voice of beauty. Born in Tianjin, China, Xing studied in his home country and Germany before moving to New York and then Columbus. See his work on display through March 31st.

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## 2006 Dodge Ram 3500 Megacab 4x4 Dually Laramie 6-Speed

**Dave Wiggins**

Story by Jason Ohlson  
Photography by Eric Wagner

Since we're in our final month of winter, we thought a truck feature would be tight. When we found this truck, we nearly fainted. The full specs on this insane truck are so lengthy that they took up four typed pages. Here's the winzip version.

ATS Twin Turbos, Fire Ring Head Gasket, Head Studs, Arctic Flow  
AFE Stage 2 Intake  
F1 Diesel Helix 2 Cam  
900 HP in the rear  
F1 Diesel Flux 3.3 Injectors  
Floor-It Stage 2 CP3 Pump  
Glacier Diesel Power (GDP) 392 Competition Fuel Pump

Water/Methanol Injection  
South Bend Clutch 3850 Dual Disc Sprung Hub  
TST CR-49 Programmer  
SMARTY CR Downloader  
MRBP 5" Turbo-Back Exhaust  
PacBrake  
22.5" Alcoa Wheels  
Sumitomo 255/70R22.5 Tires  
Road Armor Bumpers

What's next: A lift to heaven, new wheels and tires, 6" black exhaust stacks, an illegal sound system and nitrous.



# The Pursuit of Happy

## Chichester

Story by Dustin Smith  
Photography by Eric Wagner

A musical aura that can't be stifled by corporate labels surrounds Columbus musician Harold "Happy" Chichester. From Rock to Punk to Folk to Funk, Chichester is a true indie guru. He's a multi-instrumentalist singer-songwriter who left Columbia Records to record on the budding independent label, PopFly.

Best known as Howlin' Maggie front man or bass player for the funky Royal Crescent Mob, Happy's comparisons include such artists as Bjork, Tom Waits and Prince. MTV and VH1 played his songs, and the indie film *Tied Up* features his music, too. Things are moving along nicely, to say the least.

"I perform songs with acoustic guitar and piano (not at the same time)," says Chichester of his live performances. "I focus on my own songs, and that sometimes includes songs from Howlin' Maggie and Royal Crescent Mob, as well as plenty of new and unreleased ones. I stopped writing set lists a couple years back in order to focus

more on the audience and what they might want to hear."

When Happy's not recording, writing or touring with Afghan Whigs, Twilight Singers, Shawn Smith or New Bomb Turks, he's in the studio or practicing. Chichester is the melodic sultan of side-projects. He's played jazz drums for the Columbus Met and Umar Bin Hassen (the Last Poets), and he scored the short film *Zoe's Day* with NYC's sexiest psychedelic folk rockers, The Pierces.

Chichester will promote his first solo CD, *Lovers Come Back*, with U.S., Canadian and European tours as an opener for and backup to Hip-Hop phenomenon RJD2. The tour kicks off March 9th at the Wexner Center. Don't miss it.

For more Happiness go to [myspace.com/happychichester](http://myspace.com/happychichester) or [howlinmaggie.net](http://howlinmaggie.net)

# Cruise Control

## Steve Germain

Story by Jason E. Ohlson  
Photography by Eric Wagner

Once a month, *C Magazine* sits down with a prominent Columbus figure to discuss how they spend their time out of the office and between paychecks. This month, we met with Columbus automotive magnate and consummate family man, Steve Germain.

*C Magazine:* First car you bought? The last?

**Steve Germain:** A Legends racecar for my oldest son, Zach, and a '69 Camaro for my son, Austin, to restore.

*C Magazine:* What is one thing that few people know about you?

**Germain:** I don't own expensive cars.

*C Magazine:* What's your favorite after-work drink?

**Germain:** Bacardi Limon and Diet Coke.

*C Magazine:* What was your wedding song?

**Germain:** "Just the Way You Are" by Billy Joel.

*C Magazine:* Whom in history do you most admire?

**Germain:** Henry Ford.

*C Magazine:* What inspires you?

**Germain:** My wife.

*C Magazine:* What's the most expensive thing you've purchased? Was it worth it?

**Germain:** A painting for my wife. Yes, she loved it.

*C Magazine:* You get to choose the next law to pass. What is it?

**Germain:** I'd raise the driving age to 18.

*C Magazine:* What CD is in your car stereo right now?

**Germain:** A country CD my son burned for me.

*C Magazine:* Which actor would you like to see portray you if your life were turned into a movie?

**Germain:** Clint Eastwood.

*C Magazine:* Your father taught you to (?) and not to (?).

**Germain:** To work hard and not to spend any money.

*C Magazine:* Do you cut your own lawn?

**Germain:** No. My wife won't let me.

*C Magazine:* Favorite cereal?

**Germain:** Cheerios.

*C Magazine:* You're a sucker for (?).

**Germain:** My daughter.

*C Magazine:* What really pisses you off?

**Germain:** Getting the wrong order in the Taco Bell drive-through.

*C Magazine:* Free association: Yugo, Fiero, Corver?

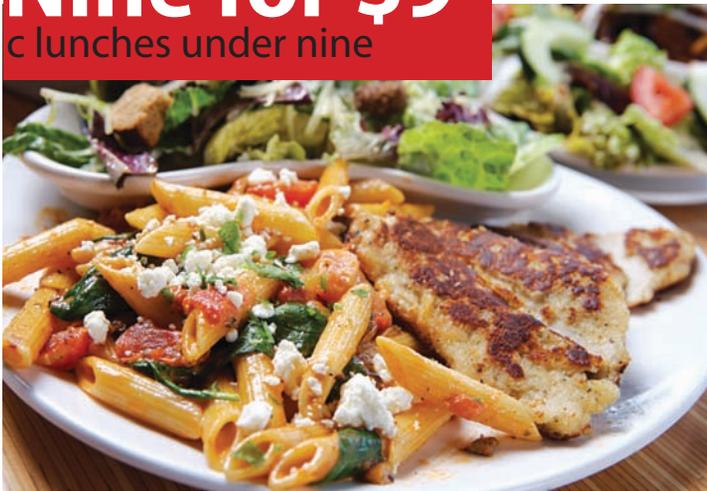
**Germain:** Glad I passed, and I don't pass on much.

*C Magazine:* Best car ever made?

**Germain:** Whatever I sold the most of today.

# Nine for \$9

c lunches under nine



TRIO Meal (\$6.95) from Noodles & Company

## Noodles & Company

1390 W. 5th Ave. (614) 487-8253

This eclectic restaurant, founded by a former brand manager for Pepsi, has successfully brought some of the most recognizable noodle and pasta dishes from around the globe together on one menu. Asian, Mediterranean and American culinary traditions inspire most of the offerings, which are prepared fresh daily using specially selected ingredients from around the world. During our visit, we tried a **TRIO Meal (\$6.95)** that included Penne Rosa (spinach, mushrooms and penne pasta sautéed in a spicy tomato cream and topped with feta) Parmesan Crusted Chicken Breast and a Caesar Side Salad. For an in-and-out restaurant, Noodles' really puts out some super-consistent, super-tasty fare. Check 'em out. They're no joke.

## Finer Diner

4989 Cleveland Ave. (614) 794-0180

Should your lunch schedule demand a meal on the go, Finer Diner offers a thorough menu of home-cooked meals that are made fresh daily and can be ordered for dine-in or drive-thru. Though their prices are all very low, the flavor of their food is through the roof. Since every true diner should offer **Meatloaf (\$7)**, we wasted no time trying theirs first, and thankfully we did, because not only would it smack the smile off your mama's face, it's a titanic meal once you add in your two sides and a piece of combread. The Thai Salad and Corn Chowder also stood out, but the star of the menu was an illegally yummy Cocomustard Cream Pie.



Meatloaf (\$7) from Finer Diner

## Wolfgang Puck Express

1625 W. Lane Ave. (614) 481-9653

Wolfgang Puck Express perfectly illustrates the fact that food served quickly does not automatically become "fast food". The "Express" in their name doubles in meaning to relay the ideas that, yes, your meal will be served in no time, but the choices set before you will also be boundless. From signature personal pizzas (the Spicy Chicken is a parade of flavors) to creative yet recognizable pasta dishes like **(Linguini with Shrimp Scampi (\$8.95))** could easily stand in on 90% of the dinner menus in this city) to handcrafted sandwiches, WPE's menu covers all possible cravings and tastes at an unheard of price point.



Linguini with Shrimp Scampi (\$8.95) from Wolfgang Puck Express

## Papa Paninis

2882 E. Main St. (614) 235-1833

Though their menu suggests an Italian propensity, Papa Paninis in Bexley offers a standby all-American menu. Yes, they have paninis (all of which are pretty killer, especially the **Italian (\$6.95)**), but they also serve fish sandwiches, hamburgers (all 1/3-pounders), ribs, wings, chicken, salads and even 14 oz. New York Strips (only on Friday nights). Many a restaurant have failed in the place Papa Paninis now calls home. The fact that Papa's feels like a home will be the very reason why they break the spell.



Italian Panini (\$6.95) from Papa Panini

## Mohawk

819 Mohawk Street (614) 444-7204

Mohawk, located on the German Village street that shares its name, knows by simply observing their impressive stock of return clientele each day that they are indeed a community favorite. Much of Mohawk's success is due to their reliable staff. They seem to like coming to work and always remember to check their problems at the door—a habit most diners happily pick up. The rest of the credit goes to Mohawk's menu. Their one-of-a-kind Turtle Soup slays with a pint of Guinness, as does their signature Adobo Pork Salad, and their all-you-can-eat "specialty nites" leave no diner hungry. During our last visit, we dove straight into their insanely tasty **Bratwurst Sandwich (\$7.99)**.



Bratwurst Sandwich (\$7.99) from Mohawk

# Get Some

Art Events you have to hit this month



Good ol' St. Patrick's Day in Columbus. Thousands look forward to this yearly tradition in mid-March, where every bar from Dublin (Ohio) to the German Village pours green beer, serves up corned beef sandwiches, and hands out flashing-green shamrocks to hell-bent "pub crawlers" determined to stop by every bar they can between Downtown and the Short North.

Believe it or not, though, Columbus actually offers a more traditional and culturally relevant experience on March 17th. On the morning of March 17th, one of the largest and oldest Irish organizations in Central Ohio, The Shamrock Club of Columbus, begins their traditional St. Patrick's Day ritual in the heart of downtown, and they've been organizing it since 1936!

The morning begins with a procession to Mass, a

Mass at Holy Cross Church on Rich Street and ends with the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The parade incorporates every Irish organization in Central Ohio and sets off from the front doors of Holy Cross Church. With bagpipes, floats and Irish dancers galore, the parade travels through the heart of downtown for all to see—come rain or shine. Ending at Veteran's Memorial, the parade then turns into *The Irish Family Reunion* for a daylong celebration.

*The Irish Family Reunion* is a gathering of Irish families and friends to commemorate Irish traditions, Saint Patrick (the patron saint of the Irish) and, of course, Irish food and music. And best of all, you don't have to be Irish to attend! Tickets at the door cost \$10 for adults and \$3 for children.

Dublin, Columbus' "Irish" neighbor to the northwest, celebrates its own St. Patrick's Day festi-



Pulled Pork Sandwiches (\$9) from Flatiron Bar and Diner

## Flatiron Bar and Diner

129 E. Nationwide Blvd. (614) 461-0033

Ask anyone in the service industry who works tough late hours downtown where to go for a cold beer and a killer sandwich and there's a great chance he or she will tell you Flatiron Bar and Diner. Why? Because they care more about sit-down-easy comfort and a good meal than they do fancy décor and lighting. On your next day off or after work, stop by Flatiron, grab a seat at the bar and order up a pint of your favorite beer and one of their **Pulled Pork Sandwiches (\$9)**. This entirely homemade sandwich is loaded with coleslaw and pulled pork dredged in a North Carolina style barbeque sauce. What more could you want?

Stir-Fried Chicken and Vegetables (\$9) from Cam's On Campus



## J. Alexander's

7550 Vantage Drive (614) 847-1166

The buzz around restaurants is that great service can redeem a bad meal, but a great meal cannot redeem bad service. At J. Alexander's, every guest is pampered with kindness, timely service and incredible food. On your next visit to the Crosswoods, stop by J. Alexander's and treat yourself to their **Smoked Salmon Appetizer (\$7.95)**. Citrus cured for two hours in an orange zest and red pepper marinade, this little ditty, which comes with toast points and homemade remoulade, will turn any lunch into an affair. The salmon melts in your mouth so easily that in order to rate it, you would have to reinvent the "ten scale".



Smoked Salmon Appetizer (\$7.95) from J. Alexander's

## Cotter's

200 West Nationwide Boulevard (614) 221-9060

Boasting a new and delicious lunch menu, Cotter's provides ample reasons to visit one of Columbus' coolest neighborhoods. The Seared Ahi Tuna alone would make it worth the trip, but Cotter's has figured out ways to augment that allure that seem to imply "you're crazy if you don't". The **Caprese Salad (\$7)** has all the creamy magic of fresh mozzarella, the tart freshness of chilled tomatoes, and the zesty garden zing of whole basil, but, unlike the more traditional Caprese salads, Cotter's take on the classic involves crunchy, flash-poached green beans and the piquant sharpness of an inspired red-wine vinegar and Gorgonzola dressing.



The Caprese Salad (\$7)

## Cam's On Campus

1871 N. High St. (614) 292-2233

Enjoying the newest exhibit at The Wexner Center for the Arts just became a little more refreshing, or fulfilling, depending on your appetite. Cam's On Campus, a creative partnership between the Wex and Cameron Mitchell Restaurants, is the long-awaited new café inside the center. Now visitors will actually know the name of the "place inside", and they can be perfectly pleased with the service and offerings. Open for breakfast and lunch, the menu ranges from soups and salads to sandwiches, wraps and flatbreads. The BBQ Chicken wrap really tempted us, but we opted for the hearty dish of **Stir-Fried Chicken and Vegetables (\$9)**.

# DON'T SEE YOUR FAVORITE PLACE?

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ties all day on March 17th. A 5K Run, parade and annual *Blarney Bash*, featuring traditional and modern Irish entertainment, will conclude at 9 p.m. with The Prodigals. The Prodigals combine brilliant original lyrics and melody with a genuine passion for the traditional music of Ireland and a funky energy that is all New York.

So, if green beer drinkin' seems passé this St. Patty's Day, check out these culturally rich events to "get a little green in ya". For more information about the festivities in Columbus or Dublin, visit [www.dublin.oh.us](http://www.dublin.oh.us) or [www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com](http://www.shamrockclubofcolumbus.com).

For more information about this and other arts-related events, go to [ColumbusArts.com](http://ColumbusArts.com).



### ERIN GO BRAGH

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day early this year with Cherish the Ladies, the first all-female Celtic band. CAPA brings this music sensation to Columbus for one night only on March 11th at the Southern Theatre.



### SPRING ART

For 96 years, the Ohio Art League has juried a spring exhibit featuring new works by many talented Ohio Artists. William D. Barnes, Professor of Art at The College of William and Mary, will juror this year's exhibit, which is on display at the Fort Hayes Shot Tower Gallery starting March 23rd.



### CELLULOID CELEBRATION

Featuring six days of gripping cinema, the 3rd annual *Columbus Jewish Film Festival* takes place March 10th - 15th at The Wexner Center, Drexel Theatres and Columbus JCC. Cutting-edge international films reflecting a myriad of Jewish experiences will highlight the event.



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