



THE COLUMBUS MAGAZINE

**9 GO-TO LUNCHES
FOR \$9 OR LESS**



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BARBARA WAYMAN**

**MUSIC FROM
BONNEVILLE**

**INTELLIGENT DESIGN
KEVIN KNIGHT**

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CLASSIC CLASS**

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AKAI HANA**

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& NBA STAR EVAN TURNER**

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9 FOR \$9
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BEYOND 270
CARY SMITH

FINAL WORD
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DROP POINT
ALLYSON McCARLEY
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COVER STORY
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INTRODUCTION: GABE BAIN
PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDREW NICHOLSON



EVAN TURNER OWNS THIS MONTH'S COVER. THOUGH THIS BUCKEYE B-BALL ICON IS LIVING THE LIFE IN PHILLY, HE WILL FOREVER KEEP THE CBUS CLOSE TO HIS HEART. READ OUR EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW TO SEE WHAT THIS BALLER HAS UP HIS SLEEVE THIS SEASON.

special thanks:

C MAGAZINE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF OUR SPONSORS, ADVERTISERS AND SUPPORTERS FOR THEIR MUCH APPRECIATED TIME AND ATTENTION OVER THE LAST ELEVEN YEARS. AS ALWAYS, WE WILL CONTINUE TO BRING YOU THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO ENJOY COLUMBUS IN FULL AND THE EXCLUSIVE FEATURES WE'RE CERTAIN YOU WON'T FIND ANYWHERE ELSE.

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**"BRILLIANT
ONE OF THE MOST AUDACIOUS MOVIES OF 2012"**
- Jesse Hawthorne, *San Francisco Bay Guardian*

**"SIGNIFICANT
CEMENTS CRAIG ZOBEL'S PLACE AS A SERIOUS
FILMMAKER WITH AN IMPORTANT VOICE."**
- Drew McWeeny, *Hitfix*

COMPLIANCE

**"DEEPLY, VISCERALLY UNNERVING
THE CAST HERE IS SO TERRIFIC"**
- Nathan Rabin, *The Onion AV Club*

**"GRADE A.
UTTERLY CAPTIVATING."**
- Britt Hayes, *Gordon and the Whale*

**Don't miss what's being called the
MOST DISTURBING movie of the year...**

C Magazine and Gateway Film Center present a VIP screening with producer Tyler Davidson (TAKE SHELTER).
Meet and greet with Davidson at 6 PM. After-party with cash bar and Pizza Rustica to follow film.

September 20th at 8 PM

Send complimentary ticket requests
to editor@columbusmag.com



FROM THE EDITOR
editor@columbusmag.com



Jason Ohlson with Evan Turner at Byers Imports

DEEP THOUGHTS

The collegiate experience is a golden stitch in the fabric of the American Dream. Those lucky enough to earn it through scholarships, family support, government aid or loans are afforded the rare opportunity to learn the world and its key systems and processes through the dedicated and wise eyes of academia's ambassadors. University professors are mediating variables between society's emerging creative youth and the practical world in which we all live.

Students pay tens of thousands of dollars for a chance to promote their intelligence through mentored trial and tribulation. And through these challenges, students become tested thinkers, ready and willing to initiate continued discussions on how to improve the human experience. For it is only a matter of time until their children knock on the same solid doors of education, awaiting their own warm welcome.

But sometimes these doors produce a hollowed sound, one that is void of lesson and vision. Behind these doors, there is only the echo of greatness, for that which was great has been starved and forgotten. Behind these doors, there are only lost souls that have let the world pass them by. Such is the end of the collegiate dream when teachers no longer teach, and universities no longer value the experience over the name on the diploma.

In the wake of the Penn State scandal and the seemingly endless list of previous scandals, this haunting end shines through. Coaches are nothing more than glorified teachers. Their role is to teach. If they are not teaching life lessons and are not dedicated to the promotion of the human experience, then they are worthless. There are no shortcuts to the top of the mountain, no tricks to achieving greatness. Life is what it is as it is.

And so, with all of my heart, I wish today's students a more inspired day and a tomorrow they are proud to call their own.

Jason E. Ohlson

BACK TO CAMPUS 2012



EVAN TURNER

9 | SUITLESS: BUSINESS

Meet three Columbus movers and shakers in this month's Suitless. Barbara Wayman is a marketing guru and founder of Blue Tree Media; Jason Baker revitalizes damaged buildings as a project manager at Belfor; and Diane Sater and Helen Yee are cofounders of the American Institute of Alternative Medicine.

14 | 9 FOR \$9: LUNCH EATS

What's for lunch today? Here's a hefty helping of lunchtime spots, new and old. Who cares what kind of fare? There are always interesting eateries popping up and we sample them all for you. The best part about them – they're all less than \$9.

18 | COVER: EXCLUSIVE

Evan Turner always knew he was destined for greatness, "When I was a little kid, I always used to tell my friends, 'I can't wait to get older because something special is going to happen.'" The former Buckeye was drafted second overall in the 2010 draft to the Philadelphia 76ers. No, he's not psychic, but having faith in his talents is one of his greatest virtues. Check out our Q&A to learn more about the wise-beyond-his-23-years pro baller.

26 | THE FARE: DINING

Considered by many to be Columbus' best sushi joint, longtime residents of the city probably remember Akai Hana better under its former name, Restaurant Japan. Whether you're a sushi aficionado or a sushi novice, welcome to paradise. The sushi chefs at Akai Hana serve all of the traditional rolls, but have also created originals for the city of Columbus, like the Buckeye Roll.

29 | DROP POINT: EVENTS

Here's looking at you Columbus. Each month, *C Magazine* hits the streets to get all up in your business. Wherever you may be, we're keeping our eyes open for you, so you better be on your best behavior.

35 | RIDE 23: AUTOMOTIVE

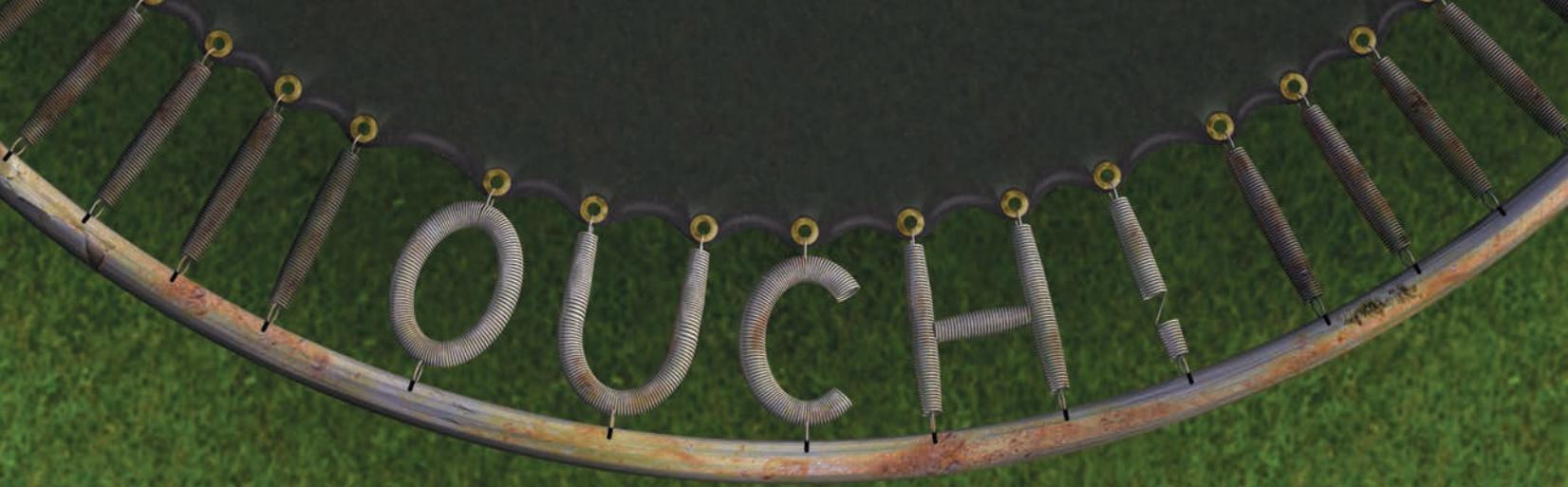
The owner of this vintage ride found it online and immediately bought it sight-unseen. Wanting the Corvette to evoke the nature of vintage racing, he stripped it down and built it back up, modeling the car after the late 50s and early 60s Sebring Corvettes using period correct parts. Modifications were made to make it race-ready, "a racecar for the gentleman racer of the era," the owner says.

37 | BEYOND 270: MUSIC

From playing Led Zeppelin covers in the basements of Kettering, to the big stage of the 20th Century Theater in Cincinnati opening for a national act like Walk the Moon, the engine of pure enthusiasm and command of the crowd that Columbus' own guitar pop darlings Bonnevill exude drives them closer to breaking out and beyond the Columbus skyline, show by show.

38 | FINAL WORD: WHO'S WHO

Kevin Knight doesn't just construct houses; he combines the art of creating with the science of building to create homes. Taking on projects with the client's objectives in mind, each custom-built home is accomplished with the objective to reinvent the house as a retreat. We sat down with the owner of Kevin Knight & Co. to learn more.



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- Rebounding heals and promotes weight loss. Bouncing on trampoline accelerates metabolism to burn calories for weight control.
- Jumping strengthens muscles, tendons and ligaments around the joint, improves movement and reduces risk for developing arthritis.
- Rebounding strengthens your heart, stabilizes the nervous systems while exercising, and helps maintain equilibrium after stepping off.
- U.S. Surgeon Generals # 1 goal is physical activity. Trampolines are a great way to exercise while having fun.
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- Bouncing greatly stimulates your lymphatic system, a major component of your immune system. Rebounding gives your immune system a boost and improves your overall health.



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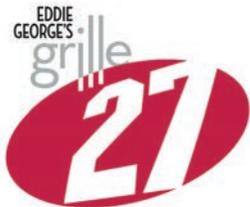


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SAFE AND SOUND JASON BAKER

Charred floorboards and singed support beams are commonplace in Jason Baker's current line of work. Whether through an act of God, electronic malfunction or just pure incompetence, buildings are going to catch fire and basements are going to flood. As a project manager at Belfor, it's Baker's job to come in post-mortem and breath life back into buildings, gauging the damage like an ace structural detective. Every day is different, and every case makes him appreciate renter's insurance a little more.

Coming from a family that had a passion for real estate in Wooster, Ohio, Baker noted the "apple doesn't fall far from the tree." He graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in economics and started selling new houses for M/I Homes almost immediately. Through chance and the changing real estate market, a former coworker recruited Baker to work for Belfor, a property restoration and disaster recovery company.

"I love to learn new things. If you put something in front of me, I'm going to take it all in," Baker says. "I already had some knowledge of construction, but looked at this

as an opportunity to learn more about something that goes hand-in-hand with real estate."

Coming from a world where he sold brand new houses to one in which he restores those tarnished by unexpected accidents, Baker recognizes the benefits of various extra precautions like a well-placed firewall that others might not notice. Some view a preventative measure like that as unnecessary overhead, but he sees it as a selling point to averting disaster.

Baker keeps himself connected by networking with the like-minded and always looking for a new idea on which to put his stamp. His entrepreneurial spirit tugs his mind in every direction, but he can't escape the allure of his initial career. "I'm not going to lie; my heart is really still in real estate," Baker says. "I have some ideas of what I'd like to eventually do. It's just something that I'm passionate about and can't see myself staying out of for too long."

For more information, visit www.belfor.com.

■ Cary Smith



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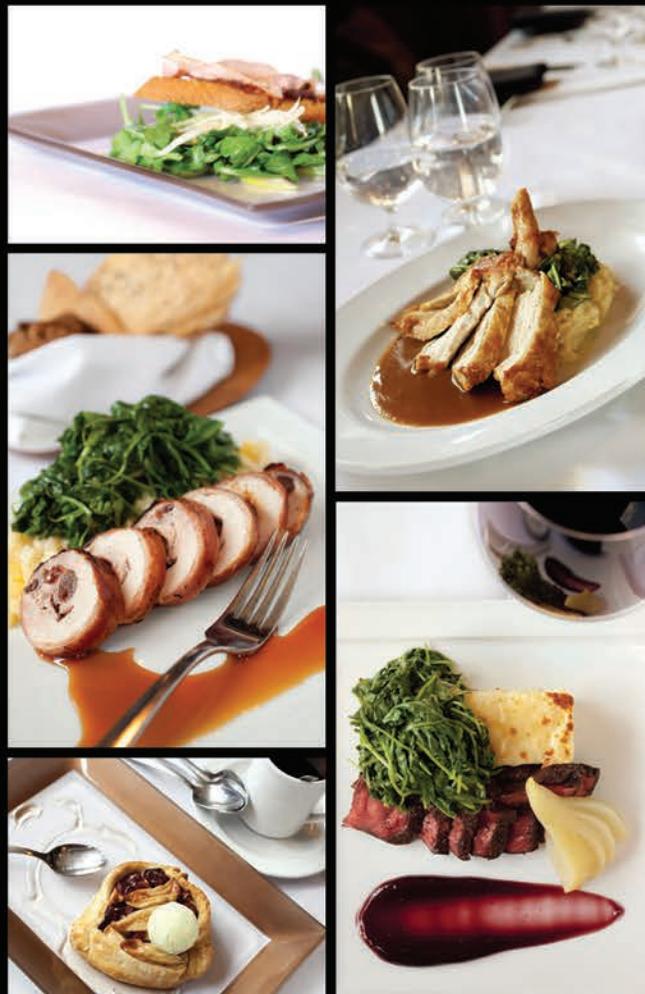
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Buckeye Basics



Here are a few things that makes this school different than other schools in the country.

1. Academics

Ohio State is ranked number one in academics for all Ohio public schools, ranked second among U.S. universities in industry-sponsored research, and is also a top 25 public university in the country.

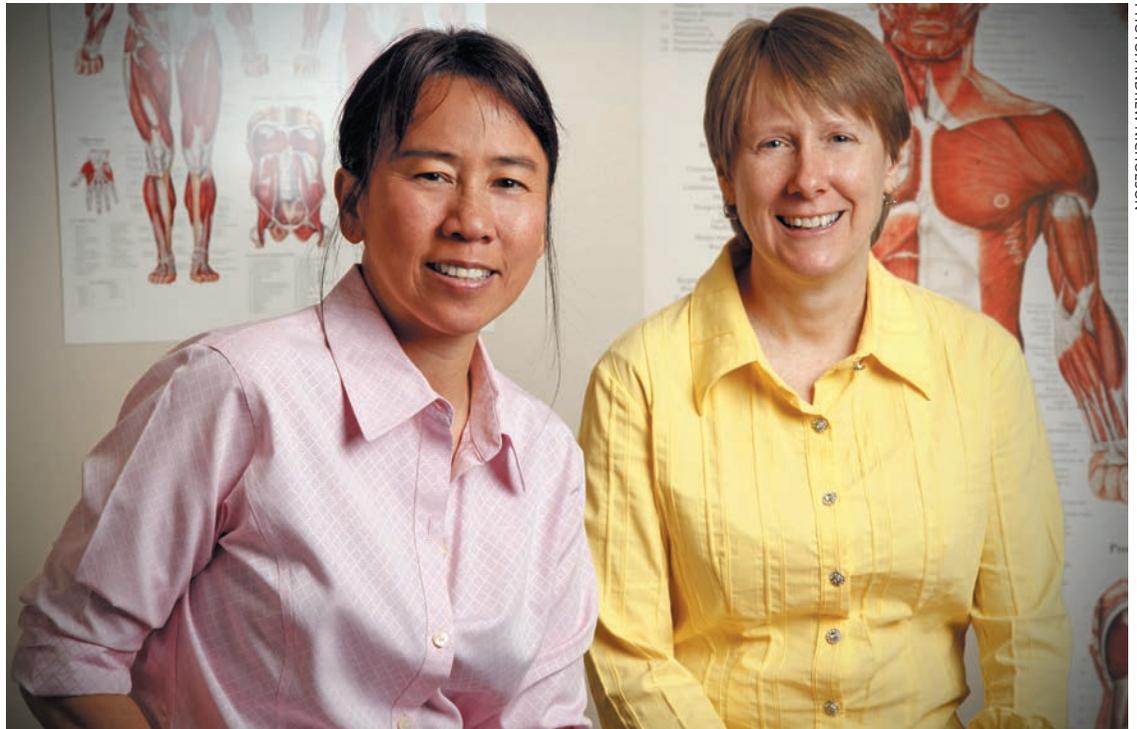
2. Facilities

Love to have fun and work out? Ohio State offers one of the best fitness facilities in the nation, with state-of-the-art recreational facility centers. Campus is also a short distance from entertainment places such as the South Gateway, Arena District and the Short North.

3. The Oval

Looking for a romantic evening with that special person? Take a nice walk through the Oval. There is a myth saying that if you walk hand-in-hand with that person from one side to the other, your love will last.

Ohio State offers amazing academics, entertainment, lovely scenery & much more.



TOTAL TREATMENT DIANE SATER & HELEN YEE

When you first walk the halls of The American Institute of Alternative Medicine (AIAM), the communal vibe is immediate. Students greet each other in the cafeteria between classes; a faculty member is spotted helping another student in the library; and even AIAM's cofounders and executive team are overheard cheerfully greeting students by name as they pass in the hallway. This is a school where you are more than just a student ID number; you are a member of a unique and diverse educational community.

What started as a way to share the holistic knowledge and benefits of massage and acupuncture that cofounders Diane Sater and Helen Yee learned as part of their martial arts background has grown into a full-fledged school that also focuses on nursing and medical assistance. Twenty years later, AIAM remains one of the longest standing, locally-owned, higher education institutes in the city.

"Diane and I wanted to share the knowledge that made us successful in the healing arts by providing educational programs that offered an additional layer of alternative

medicine philosophies," Helen says. "There are not many schools that offer that to their students, even though it continues to be a growing trend and is highly accepted in the medical field."

Alternative medicine philosophies or holistic methods originate from centuries of different cultures' history. The philosophies encompass the idea of treating the mind, body and spirit of a person. AIAM's programs embrace this rich diversity of healing models and incorporate it into the coursework and necessary instruction to best prepare its students for their health care careers.

"Our school started with only 20 students, and now we have over 200 students enrolled at any given time," Diane explains. "We revel in the fact that we've been afforded the ability to grow our school and curriculum, but still maintain small class sizes in order to provide personalized attention to students' needs."

For more information visit www.aiam.edu.

■ Carson McBride



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As an incoming freshmen to Ohio State, one of the worst hassles in that first week of school, besides not getting lost on campus and signing up for classes on time, is getting your school supplies and textbooks.

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STORYTELLER BARBARA WAYMAN

Whether it's through a national marketing campaign for an iconic product like Cracker Jack, or in the pages of a magazine highlighting the hotspots in a locale like Jackson Hole, Wyoming, telling stories via any outlet that presents itself to her has always been something that Barbara Wayman has enjoyed. It's led her through the doors of large corporations, to running her own business, to being in front of the camera.

"I think I just have a lot of curiosity, and I'm genuinely interested in things, people and stories, and I'm a really good listener," Wayman says, "So when people share something with me, I actually hear it and am able to kind of pick out what would be the most interesting or appealing to other people."

These skills became apparent to Wayman after a creative writing class in high school opened her eyes to the possibility of journalism as a career path. She then went on to The Ohio State University's journalism school, graduating with a masters in journalism and a bachelor's degree in communications. Wayman parlayed her education into a public relations career out of the gate with Borden, keeping her in Columbus.

This allowed Wayman to work with national brands like Creamettes Pasta, Classico Pasta Sauce and Cracker Jack

and put together award-winning campaigns for the ultra-recognizable products. After leaving Borden and working at other agencies in town, Wayman went out on her own and launched Blue Tree Media in 2001, eventually compiling a client list that includes local companies like Wendy's, Ohio Health, Riverside Hospital and AAA. Wayman concedes that in the time span she has been active in public relations, a lot has changed, but also stayed the same.

"The most important is storytelling: It will always be about the stories we share with people, and finding those stories, and capturing them in a way that engages the people," Wayman says. "What has changed a lot is the delivery of the story and who we tell it to."

On top of her work in the Columbus area, Wayman has been a travel writer for AAA magazine for 10 years, taking her from San Francisco to Germany and other places around the globe in an effort to help travelers know where to go and why. This has nourished the world traveler in Wayman and taken her to places she never would have set foot otherwise.

For more information go to www.bluetreemedia.com.

■ Cary Smith

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Fajitas al Gusto (\$7.50)

Los Jalapenos

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All the fiendish fans of guacamole out there will be happy to know that Los Jalapenos brings a mortar and pestle table side to make the ultimate dip to their specifications. Pico de gallo and salsa can also be made to order for dipping with festive red, green and yellow chips. A stone mortar also acts as the trestle for steak, chicken, pork chop, chorizo and shrimp on the impressive Moclajete entree. For a more sensible appetite, though, we loved the perfectly seasoned chicken of the **Fajitas al Gusto** (\$7.50).

Loops

1629 Northwest Blvd. (614) 670-8808 - GRANDVIEW

From the black-and-white décor to the Greek-tinged pita sandwiches, Loops has worked hard to live up to its namesake, the famous Chicago "Loop." This local establishment pays tribute to the windy city by reintroducing Columbus to the world of the Chicago-style Hot Dog, Italian Beef, and Gyro. All of the ingredients in the **Chopped Salad with Gyro** (\$6.95) are fresh and straight from Chi-town, a perfect meal when paired with the delightful, lightly-seasoned **Loop's Fries** (\$1.85).



Chopped Salad with Gyro (\$6.95) & Loop's Fries (\$1.85)

P.S. Thai Tai

1577 King Ave. (614) 488-3369 - GRANDVIEW

P.S. Thai Tai is a quick spot for lunch without losing the high quality in the Asian and Thai cuisine. The unique and flavorful assortment of dishes is sure to please anyone who enters this fun atmosphere. One dish to be sure to try is the **Thai Fried Rice and Khov Pad** (\$6.95) which offers steamed broccoli, carrots, bean sprouts, egg, pineapple, tomato, and chicken or beef. If that's not enough to entice you, the Pad Lard Na Shrimp, featuring shrimp, onion, carrots, wide noodles and a creamy white garlic sauce, will be sure to win you over.



Thai Fried Rice and Khov Pad (\$6.95)

Boston's Pizza

199 W. Nationwide Blvd. Columbus, OH (614) 229-4275 - DOWNTOWN

Boston is an all-American hotbed for baseball, the Ivy League and cream pie, so it's no debate to employ the city as inspiration for this crowd-pleasing concept. The Arena District location is fittingly personalized with Blue Jackets regalia and generously stationed flat screens. Every taste and appetite is satisfied when you have a menu that spans from the robust Jambalaya Fettuccine to individual 8-inch pizza to intriguing bites like Cactus cuts. Great anytime for sharing or as a meal is the **Tostada Nachos** (\$8.79).



Boston Nachos (\$8.79)

Gooneyz

1554 North High St. Columbus, OH (614) 824-1731 - CAMPUS

Gooneyz is a locally owned grilled-cheese joint located at the South Campus Gateway. The spot claims its gourmet grilled cheeses are better than your mom's (but don't tell her). Owned by Ohio State alums, the restaurant has inexpensive food, live music, a full bar and stays open late. We tried the **O'ahuie Gooneyz Hawaiianz and fresh-cut fries** (\$7.24). With ham, grilled pineapple, mozzarella, and pizza sauce, this grilled cheese beats any we have ever tasted. Sorry Mom!



O'ahuie Gooney Hawaiianz and fresh cut fries (\$7.24)



The Dagwood (\$7.25)

Planks

888 S. High St. (614) 443-4570 - GERMAN VILLAGE

With iconic authentic restaurants nearby, this beer garden's claim to fame is a menu that boasts perhaps the best **Dagwood** (\$7.25) (we recommend the corned beef and swiss) in town and truly famous pizza that will have your taste buds begging for more. Plank's is smack dab in the middle of German Village but the great irony in this is that it possesses a mostly American menu. Once you're finished with this illustrious meal, wash it down with an ice-cold pint of brew that's as pleasing as the friendly service of the staff.



Prosciutto & Mozzarella Panini Sandwich (\$6.95)

Pizza Rustica

1558 N. High St. (614) 824-1909 - CAMPUS

This Roman-style eatery offers authentic, mouth-watering toppings on slices of pizza so big and addictive that it could be considered a full-fledged meal. However, we can't help but to swear by the eatery's best-kept secret: the **Prosciutto & Mozzarella Panini Sandwich** (\$6.95). Toasted on homemade Rustica bread, this sandwich is an artful blend of imported prosciutto de Parma, crisp arugula, fresh diced tomatoes, and buffalo mozzarella cheese. If that isn't enough, they offer slices of the **Buckeye Pizza** (\$1.50), a dangerous combination of creamy chocolate hazelnut Nutella and melted peanut butter. Hungry yet?

Mellow Mushroom

2170 Polaris Pkwy. (614) 885-6355 POLARIS

Mellow Mushroom succeeds to be one of Columbus' most unique, eccentric pizza joints as it combines '70s inspired art décor with a laid-back vibe that is welcoming to young families and college students alike. In addition to their daring specialty pizzas (The Thai Dye Pie and The Caesar! are at the top of our list), also offered is an eclectic mix of appetizers, including our favorite, the **Stuffed Portobello** (\$7.75). This giant mushroom cap is basted with garlic butter and stuffed with artichoke hearts, sun-dried tomatoes, spinach and feta cheese.



Stuffed Portobello (\$7.75)

Johnny Buccelli's

830 Bethel Road. (614) 442-6500 COLUMBUS

Buccelli's bakery invented the cheesesteak bun and there you'll get huge sandwiches, homemade frozen custard, hand-shaken lemonade (strawberry and traditional lemon), mountainous salads and hot, hearty soups. The **Two For You** (\$7.75) has you choose two items from a retinue of soups, half salads, half sandwiches and baked potatoes. Uncle Vito's Cheesesteak, covered with bacon, mushrooms, onion straws and blue cheese dressing, with an Italian Chopped salad should do you right, no matter your hunger or taste.



Two For You (\$7.75)



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Think you have what it takes to be the next **Greg Horn**, **Tyler Kirkham** or **Alan Davis**? Now aspiring artists in Ohio & beyond will have the opportunity to show their best work and even win an Artist Alley table at the Wizard World Ohio Comic Con Art Contest. Submissions will be accepted through noon ET on 9-17-12.



Wizard World Ohio Comic Con will bring together thousands of fans of all ages to celebrate the best in pop-fi, pop culture, movies, graphic novels, comics, toys, video gaming, television, sci-fi, gaming, original art, collectibles, contests & more.

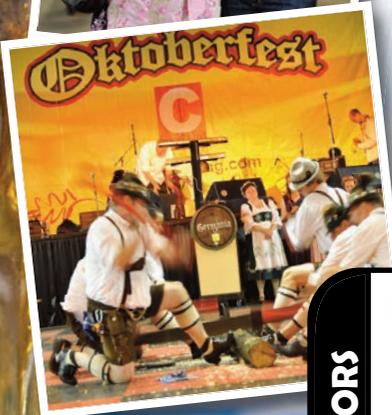


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EVAN TURNER SCHOOLED YOU

INTERVIEW : JASON OHLSON
INTRODUCTION : GABE BAIN
PHOTOGRAPHY : ANDREW NICHOLSON



Humility and confidence are stained all over him. He is able to hold onto his core values and live his dream, a feat many of us wish we could accomplish. Former Ohio State basketball star and winner of the Naismith College Player of the Year award, Evan Turner, is a hero among OSU fanatics. Now a member of the Philadelphia 76ers, all of the hard work and countless hours hooping in the gym seem to have finally paid off. Turner's road to the NBA wasn't like many other stars that have graced the hardwood of the world's top basketball league. He wasn't expected to be this good, yet those around the former Buckeye knew something about him that many others didn't.

Turner grew up in Chicago and faced more than a few difficulties as a child. From having a learning disability to living with a speech impediment, he didn't let any of it get in the way of reaching his dream. And he owes it all to his mom, who he said is his hero. "[Late nights] she would come home from work to make sure I could keep up in class," Turner says in our interview. Family has always been important to him, and his brother, Darius, was his main competitor growing up, teaching him his relentless work ethic. This work ethic is what took him to new heights as he gained national attention during his sophomore year at OSU, then won the Naismith award his junior year, being recognized as the best college basketball player in the country. Another great achievement was on the horizon: Turner entered the 2010 NBA draft during his junior year and was drafted number two overall by the 76ers.

Although he resides in Philadelphia, Columbus will always have a place in his heart. "I grew up and became a man in Columbus," he says. Now this man from Columbus is a levelheaded, hard working starter for one of the better teams in the Eastern Conference of the NBA. Along the journey from his humble beginnings in Chicago to the NBA life in Philadelphia, Turner has never forgotten what is most important. His family and values stick close to him as he puts them ahead of basketball—something he describes as "just a game." Learn much more about the well-spoken and humble Evan Turner in our exclusive Q&A with the former Buckeye.

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that if the ship's going down, they still don't believe it. They feel like they can survive through anything.

Who is your favorite player of all time and why? My favorite player of all time is obviously Michael Jordan. His work ethic, his intensity, his class on the court. He revolutionized the game in nearly every way.

If you were given an elephant, where would you hide it? In a zoo.

Got a favorite movie? I'd say *Ali* or *8 Mile*.

What is your favorite childhood tradition that you hope to pass on to your kids? My family and I used to meet up every Sunday and eat dinner. I want to do that. I felt like that set the foundation for how close our family is supposed to be.

Got a celebrity crush? I'd say Mila Kunis.

What animal would you be? A hawk.

Who is your hero? My mom. She had to take me to speech therapy sessions and sit at the table with me late at night when she came home from work to make sure I could keep up in class. She found my opportunities to play basketball and everything.

What is your guilty pleasure? Two and a half months ago I quit drinking soda. I like Pepsi and Orange Soda. Most people relax with beer, so if I had a rough night, I'd have a soda. In my house in Philadelphia, there's no soda allowed because I'll start to twitch for it [laughs].

What is your favorite sport to watch on TV? In person? I like watching women's basketball in person. On TV, boxing.

What was your first job? I used to walk one of my neighbor's dogs. That's probably my only real job. I had to walk the dog before school in winter, and winters in Chicago are horrible. I made \$5 a week—after a while she stopped paying me!

Do you have any hobbies? I just read, to tell you the truth. I didn't finish college, so I try not to get dumber.

Out of everything you have accomplished, what can you say is your biggest achievement to date? I always wanted to be a big basketball player and the greatest player I could be, but the cool thing that I thought, and I told my family this on vacation, I wanted to set out and make sure my mom didn't have any "wants" or anything. So I got her a house and an Escalade and everything. People will say, "I want to get my mom a house and I want to do this and do that," and my biggest accomplishment is doing what I say I want to do.

What are your most notable characteristics? I'm really competitive and really impatient.

Vince Vaughn or Will Ferrell? Vince Vaughn.

Richard Pryor or Eddie Murphy? Eddie Murphy.

What were you like when you were a 13-year-old? I was really goofy and friendly, but I was really driven. I was always so competitive, and I think I've been the same way since

I was younger until now, but obviously I've matured a lot and learned a lot. I always had that competitive nature.

What three words would you use to describe yourself? Intense, caring and relentless.

What three words would your mother use to describe you? Sweet, hard-headed & impatient.

Why is Columbus so special to you? Besides the great weather, I think people in the Midwest are super nice, and Columbus always treated me well. I love just coming back here and the genuine people.

What is your favorite book? I like the book *Lone Survivor* by Marcus Luttrell.

Oatmeal and a banana or steak and eggs? Steak and eggs, no doubt.

It's raining and you have a day off. What are you going to do with your day? Sit inside and watch movies.

What is your most favorite nighttime city? There's no place like Chicago.

If you were President, what would be your first order of business? Education.

How do you want to be remembered? As a selfless person. I feel like when you do for others, you're all good.

Which position do you prefer? Point guard.

What part of your game do you feel a lot of people overlook? I feel like people overlook how good of a ball handler I am. When I was five years old, I started dribbling

EVAN TURNER SCHOOLED YOU

EVAN TURNER SCHOOLED YOU

every day because my brother told me I was going to be tall. There's not a situation that I can't get out of with a ball.

What are your pre-game rituals? I always just pray before a game—make sure I'm able to compete at a high level and that nobody gets hurt.

What was the first thing you bought with your first paycheck? I bought a Range Rover. Gray. All my cars are gray.

What ex-Buckeye do you most admire and why? I'm a big fan of Scoonie Penn. He's a real positive person. Ever since I met him, he's always been like a big brother to me. He's always talked to me about stuff, he's always opened up his house to me, tries to help and be in the community. I admire Scoonie a lot.

How old were you when you first dunked? Man, I was 16-years-old. Most kids dunk at 13 or 14. I'm a horrible jumper, so I was 16. I think it was a day after my sixteenth birthday.

You're from Chicago. What made you pick OSU? I used to visit here every summer when I was nine or ten. My dad used to live in Reynoldsburg, so I would go to the Ohio State camps and everything. When I had the opportunity, you know my mom really liked Wisconsin, and my AAU coach had opportunities at Illinois. And being a high school rebel, I chose Ohio State.

Got a pet peeve? When people eat off my plate. I can't stand that. And repeating myself, I can't stand when people do not listen. Like you'll

tell somebody something, and they'll say, "What?" and you'll tell them three more times. I hate when I have to raise my voice for you to hear what I have to say.

Which designer owns the most real estate in your closet? Honestly, I like Astor & Black suits, but if I were shopping at the stores, I like the casual, classy look of Burberry. A lot of people say Burberry is played out, but that stuff is sophisticated. I like to be the James Bond type—classy and refined. My friends and I dress nice and clean.

What fires you up? Pisses you off? Makes you cry? Competition fires me up. People who cheat piss me off, and people who lie. There's no reason to cheat or lie. And sometimes when you look back and see everything I've accomplished, that brings a tear to my eye, like, "Man, I really did it."

Fondest memory growing up? My mom would take us to Wisconsin Dells, and it would be fun — my mom, my brother and I.

You're swept up by an F4 tornado and dropped in a little village with munchkins and a yellow brick road. What do you ask the wizard for? A basketball.

What talent would you most like to have? Flying, but that's kind of like a superhero talent. As far as a real talent, I really want to play guitar. I'm a big John Mayer fan.

What would be your last meal? Pepperoni pizza, watermelon, fried chicken and orange soda.

What was the most important resolution you ever made? I think the most important thing is waking up and reading The Bible. I try to start my day with the right frame of mind.

Eminem or Lil Wayne? I'll never put anyone above Eminem simply because of the fact of how he helped me develop during my life. There were times when I had the roughest day and I felt like no one understood except for Eminem. He tells great stories of overcoming. He was an underdog, and his whole life was overcoming.

If the best offense is a good defense, what is the best defense? The best defense is to intimidate the other team.

What one condiment should you never put on a hot dog? I like all of my food plain. I feel like condiments are overrated.

If you could invent a candy bar, what would it be and what would it be called? Probably something similar to Reese's Peanut Butter Cups, and it would be called ET.

The measure of a man is his ability to ... ? His ability to overcome adversity.

When was the last time you felt intimidated by a player? The only person I ever felt intimidated by was my older brother Darius. I always thought, "If I can beat my brother, I can beat anybody."

What do you love most about playing on a team? The brotherhood. When you're playing on a real team, you start to enjoy the work.



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PHOTOS: ERIC WAGNER

A spread of sushi rolls, with the one-of-a-kind Harvest Roll in the foreground.

ROLLING SUCCESS AKAI HANA

1173 Old Henderson Rd. 614-451-5411 www.akaihanaohio.com

WHAT:

Considered by many to be Columbus' best sushi joint, longtime residents of the city probably remember Akai Hana better under its former name, Restaurant Japan. The restaurant typifies a gathering place for families—Asian, American or otherwise—and has something for everybody. The service is welcoming, hardly intimidating, and if raw fish just isn't your thing, that won't be a problem because Akai Hana caters to all preferences. But if you are indeed a sushi lover, welcome to paradise: The sushi chefs at Akai Hana serve all of the traditional rolls, but have also created originals for the city of Columbus, like the Buckeye Roll, which you won't find anywhere else.

WHO:

Owner Takashi "Tony" Takenaka opened the restaurant in 1986 and owns several other shops in the area, including the Asian grocery store that faces the restaurant. The sushi chefs are highly skilled and professionally trained with decades of experience under their belts. It's easy to tell the staff has been working together for years—personable and attentive, you can't help but feel you're in good hands.

WHERE:

Located a mere five miles from The Ohio State University's main campus, Akai Hana is a gem on Old Henderson Rd. You'll know you've found the right place as the aroma of Japanese food

greet you while walking through the parking lot. The soft lighting and elegance of the demure architecture give you the impression of being a little bit closer to Japan—even though you haven't left Ohio. The restaurant's main entrance faces Tensuke Market, a Japanese grocery store that carries fresh fish, produce and other Asian goods.

WHEN:

Expect the freshest ingredients any day of the week—fish is flown in from New York City or Baltimore every other day. In fact, the head kitchen chef claims it is the freshest fish in Columbus. With seven days of service a week, there are few excuses as to why you can't drop by Akai Hana. But if you happen to stop

by when they're closed between lunch and dinner, stroll across the sidewalk to Tensuke Market or the other Asian shops in the area.

THE TEST:

Akaihana's chefs had our full attention as they gave us a culinary performance. Korean dishes and sushi platters had us reaching across the table and eating family style, enjoying everything as if it were a mad rush. That's exactly how the management wants it to be—a family restaurant that mitigates the intimidation factor of raw fish by providing a little something for every taste, all in a comfortable environment.

We began our meal with two plates

BE AN EXPERT

These equations will strengthen your vocabulary.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{刺身} & & \text{鰻} & & \text{寿司} & & \text{握り} \\
 \text{SASHIMI} & + & \text{SUSHI} & = & \text{NIGIRIZUSHI} & & \\
 \text{sliced, raw fish} & & \text{vinegar rice} & & & &
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \text{刺身} & & \text{刺身} & & \text{鰻} & & \text{巻き} \\
 \text{SASHIMI} & + & \text{SASHIMI} & + & \text{SUSHI} & = & \text{MAKIZUSHI} \\
 \text{sliced, raw fish} & & \text{sliced, raw fish} & & \text{vinegar rice} & &
 \end{array}$$



The interior of Akai Hana seats up to 130 guests. A private room is available for parties of up to 30.

of tempura: vegetable and shrimp. Akai Hana's tempura is as quality tempura should be: lightly battered and exceptionally crisp. A delicious plate of sautéed scallops and a dish of Negima Yaki, sautéed beef wrapped around scallions, two well-paired flavors, completed our sample of the appetizers.

Next, we moved on to a series of entrées, starting with the Seafood Stone Bibim Bap, one of eight Korean dishes on the menu. The Bibim Bap is cooked and served in a large iron pot brimming with various Asian mountain vegetables, bean sprouts, cucumbers, noodles, and seafood, served with rice and a spicy sauce. The Suki Yaki was also served to us in an iron pot, containing beef ribeye, vegetables, tofu and noodles. These two traditional dishes lend themselves to sharing—so even though you might want to, don't hog it all. We sampled the warm and comforting Sansai Soba: buckwheat

noodles cooked in broth, topped with spinach, mushrooms, scallions and other Japanese vegetables.

And then began our conquest of Akai Hana's sushi menu that we had been anticipating all day. We warmed up with the Harvest Roll, which is wrapped in a soybean based sheet, rather than nori. It's filled with fall flavors; like sweet potato, Japanese pumpkin and tofu; and topped with a miso dressing, but the creativity didn't stop at choice of ingredients—the sushi chef arranged the roll in the shape of a dragon's face. Next was the Buckeye Roll, filled with sweet potato and cream cheese, topped with barbequed eel and lightly drizzled with sweet BBQ sauce.

We later dug into the Sushi and Sashimi Combo a platter consisting of nigiri, various sashimi, and a tuna roll. The Green Hornet Roll followed, filled with spicy tuna and covered with flying fish

roe and fresh sliced jalapenos. After a 15-minute breather, we were digging into the Spider Roll, soft shell crab with spicy mayonnaise. The Power Up Roll was next, also an original creation that exemplified the sushi chef's amazing talent. Filled with asparagus, tempura, eel, avocado and flying fish roe, don't let this roll intimidate you—it's a definite must-have.

We filled up on two spicy rolls before calling it a day. The Dynamite Roll is filled with soft shell crab and calamari and is doused in explosively spicy mayonnaise. The Spicy Scallop Roll consists of scallops, also tossed in spicy mayonnaise, then baked with chili peppers. Akai Hana has certainly captured the attention of their guests with this roll, which is the most popular ordered.

■ Annie Beecham

THREE TO TRY:

Akai Hana's menu is stacked with over 100 Japanese and Korean items. Keep this triple-header in mind if you're feeling a bit overwhelmed: start with the Shrimp Tempura as a light appetizer; then take on the Seafood Bibim Bap, a Korean dish; and top it off with the Power Up Roll, an Akai Hana original.



BEHIND THE NAME

■ While it is still under the same ownership, the name was changed from Restaurant Japan to Akai Hana in preparation for possible expansion into an area chain. If growth occurs, Akai Hana, "Red Flower" in Japanese, would expand to other restaurants maintaining "Hana" (flower) but choosing a different color for each new venue.



KONNICHIWA

Lunch 11:30-2:00, Mon-Sat.
Dinner 5:00-10:00, Mon-Sat.
Sunday 5:00-9:00

■ Akai Hana is open for lunch every day of the week, except Sundays, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Reopening for dinner at 5:00 p.m. gives the chefs ample time to prepare the freshest entrées, until it's time to close at 10:00 p.m. Sunday's hours are 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

NOW YOU KNOW: ☯

■ Most are familiar with Yin and Yang, but few know the origins of this universal philosophy, which comes from the *Book of Change*. The book presented two polar energies that were simply called "light" and "dark." Only later did they come to be referred to as Yin and Yang.



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NEW REGIONAL TOP ALCOHOL DRAGSTER AND FUNNY CAR TEAM TROPHY



Renowned artist and sculpturer Dan Dreisbach was hired by executives at JEGS Mail Order to create a special trophy for the winning Regional Top Alcohol Dragster & Funny Car team at next year's JEGS Allstars event in Chicago.

When NHRA announced that Top Alcohol competition would be divided among four regions rather than the traditional seven divisions, JEGS personnel immediately began devising a plan to keep the popular racecars as part of the prestigious Allstars format.

"The team portion of the JEGS Allstars race has been such a popular and unifying element and we didn't want to lose that with the Top Alcohol racers," said Jeg Coughlin Jr.

The end result is very similar to the long-running Allstars race, with invitations extended to the top two competitors from each category in each region. Once they get to Chicago, the best-of-the-best will once again be able to race for individual and team titles.

The team that wins it all will take home Dreisbach's unforgettable handmade creation.



Owned by: Scott Hollander



1958 CORVETTE

I open the door, strap in the harness—check. I put on my helmet, goggles and gloves—check. I turn on the fuel and ignition, pump the gas peddle twice. No turning back now. I push the starter button and all 500 horses fire to life! This is not the car you choose to sneak around in at night. This is my racecar for the road, a 1958 Corvette.

This is not just a car to me but the culmination of years of passion for cars and racing. After months of hard work, blood and sweat building this car, my first race took place in late June at the Mid-Ohio Vintage Grand Prix where I was able to shave 10 seconds off my best lap time of the weekend and placed second in my group.

I found the car online having vintage race history by a well-known former owner. After a few days of emails and phone calls, I bought it sight unseen and it was delivered to me on a cold, early March Saturday afternoon. With cold race tires and two jackets, we took it for a brief and scary ride down public roads outside Dublin.

My goal was to not only have a racecar legal for the road, but something that would truly evoke the nature of vintage racing. When I got the car, nothing about it besides the body was correct for the period the car was to represent. I stripped it down and built it back up as if this were 1958, and I had just rolled this car out of the dealer paying a meager \$3,800.

I modeled the car after the late 50s and early 60s Sebring Corvettes using period correct parts such as Stewart Warner Gauges, original steel wheels, and a full original interior under the un-restored hardtop. Modifications for racing were necessary including a custom roll bar, fire suppression system and a five-point safety harness, but were all chosen and installed in such a manner as to blend in with the old. This car was built to be a racecar for the gentlemen racer of the era, a style we emphasize and live everyday at Putsch Racing.

■ Scott Hollander

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Tablet Versus eReader

Do you want to buy a device whose singular purpose is reading, or would you rather purchase something that'll let you spend a fair amount of time browsing, playing music and games, watching videos and, oh yeah, reading?



In a nutshell, that's the difference between dedicated readers — such as Kindle, Sony Reader and Nook — and the iPad and other tablets. Of course, there are trade-offs that come with the extra flexibility of a fully featured tablet, starting with the price. The entry-level iPad costs \$499, compared to just \$139 for the entry-level Kindle.

Barnes & Noble is marketing Nook Color as a hybrid between dedicated reader and tablet. It's still about reading first. But Barnes & Noble launched the \$249 device with eight apps, including Pandora Internet radio, Crossword, Sudoku, Chess, a music player, gallery (for images and video) and contacts. Nook Color is based on the Android operating system; more Nook apps are promised early next year. Among the "social" features is the ability to highlight text in a book you're reading and share the passage on Twitter or Facebook.

Digital reading may not yet feel as "normal" as reading a paperback, but it's far from the end of the story.



CATCHY BONNEVILLE

An ocean of hands reaches out to the stage, clapping in unison to the drumbeat and repeating back the catchy "na na na" pop gibberish. An ascot-wearing front man leads them to a crescendo and roars out lyrics fading away from the mic. Then, a guitar hook, wrapped around a bass and drum marriage that inspires foot taps like a Baptist preacher does "amens," rolls the song back to its chorus. The engine of pure enthusiasm and command of the crowd that Columbus' own guitar pop darlings Bonneville exude drives them closer to breaking out and beyond the Columbus skyline, show by show.

Playing Columbus for nearly six years now, it wasn't until recently when the confluence of a new album and tight sets threw a spotlight on the group locally. Pitts, along with lead guitarist David Miklos, bassist Kevin Sanders and Drummer Nick Frye, have been winning people over for more than a decade. From playing Led Zeppelin covers in the basements of Kettering to the big stage of the 20th Century Theater in Cincinnati opening for a national act like Walk the Moon, they have always written what they knew.

"I feel like we kind of all write from our perspective and it makes for a very different catalogue of songs," Pitts says. "Songs can do things in different ways: You can tell a story, you can spill your guts lyrically or you can just be abstract and you can make something that makes absolutely no sense and just sounds cool like John Lennon."

Following up their latest album, *Amy's House*, the band recently released the single "Feel it." A departure from their piano laced, guitar driven past to a new era of synthesizer-backed rock n roll that makes you want to move a little. The track has spent some time on the airwaves of CD101 and serves as a preview of things to come for the upcoming Bonneville album in the very near future.

"We are really trying to craft good pop songs that people will remember," Miklos says. "Songs that people will want to sing along to and dance to. The kind of songs that will stick in your head and be hard to shake."

For more information visit www.bonnevilleband.com.

■ Cary Smith

INFLUENCED BY ...



Tom Petty



Wilco



The Beatles

SOUNDS LIKE ...



Spoon



Portugal the Man



The Shins

PHOTO: ANDREW NICHOLSON



SWEAT EQUITY KEVIN KNIGHT

Once a month, *C Magazine* interviews a prominent Columbus figure to discuss what makes them tick. This month, we caught up with celebrated builder and designer Kevin Knight. His mindful vision and attention to detail inspire living spaces that are nearly alive in their finished state.

Great architecture must have ____ and never cater to ____.

Great architecture must have passion and never cater to trends.

Power is ... Best when it is achieved with a gentle hand.

What's the most dangerous thing you've ever done? Hang gliding, especially after I crashed.

How old were you when you realized that you would be a designer by trade?

Can you remember the moment? Probably around eighth or ninth grade. When I got bored listening to the nuns, I would daydream about how to rearrange the classrooms.

What is the greatest thing anyone can donate? Time. We never have enough of it.

What is more important: knowledge or vision? Vision.

What is your favorite holiday and why? Christmas—spending

time with my grandkids, watching the magic.

Who or what is your muse? Leonardo Di Vinci, the ultimate Renaissance man.

Describe your worst mistake to date. Unfortunately, I have made many.

Define beauty. All that is created by God in nature.

What building would you love to see blown out of Columbus existence? The

Convention Center. When it was built, they destroyed the most beautiful building the city has ever had.

What is your Death Row dinner? Either fried bologna or scotch and a cigar.

Reflect on your fondest memory growing up. Sailing with my dad on his sailboat.

If you could change one thing about Columbus, what would it be? All major roads should be tree-lined boulevards!

What is your dream car? 1962 VW Euro van with all the ports and removable canvas top.

What infuriates you? Mediocrity.

What makes you get out of bed? The desire to create.

The measure of a great builder is ... Passion to build the best and create the best.

Happiness is ... Spending time with my grandchildren, especially on the water.

What is your go-to restaurant in Columbus and why? Handke's was. We miss Hartmut!

So when you're conceptualizing for a client, how do you know how far to extend your vision, while keeping their living needs in focus? Always listen. The ultimate solution is always in there. We push hard to further their vision.

■ Jason Ohlson



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