

# ROAR TV: All in a day's network

## In and Out

By Hal Koss  
Contributor

The tone of "In and Out" is quickly established in the show's introduction, with funky electronic music blaring and three guys donning fake mustaches playing leap-frog down a hallway. Tom Groneman (executive producer) and his pals compose the infectiously funny ensemble on this new quirky comedy show.

The program's concept is familiar—each episode contains a handful of short sketches, in the vein of "Chappelle's Show." Groneman and company consistently find themselves in amusing situations, ranging from a debacle on a never-ending escalator to a college freshman that is reluctantly paired with a 72-year-

old roommate.

What stands out is the connection between the characters; how comfortably they play off of each other. It seems that even off screen, the actors on the show are all friends. When they are in front of the camera, it's obvious to the audience that they are all having a great time. In keeping the tone of the show at all times, "In and Out's" goofy humor is enough to keep viewers satisfied.

Although there are some genuinely funny sketches featured, the program lacks laugh-out-loud moments. The humor tends to be a bit too in-your-face, as the creative team sometimes forgets the power of subtlety in comedy.

With four episodes under its belt, "In and Out" shows enough promise to have people expecting more good things to come.



## Convo @ Convo

By Jason Scott  
Staff Writer

Mike Leach, the executive producer and host of "Convo @ Convo," walks around campus interviewing students about everything ranging from politics to embarrassing secrets you'd never want out. The show, which has aired every several weeks since last year, showcases student opinions in a frank

and open discussion far away from the classroom. ROAR Network employees have said that the show's feel is taken from many documentary shows and news outlets that are easily accessible. Similar to Michael Moore, sophomore Mike Leach goes out into the world and explores public opinion. Leach humorously commentates on student responses while exposing what students really think.

"Convo @ Convo" is one of the few original television shows on ROAR and,

as such, is a hallmark of the ROAR lineup. According to the show's description, it aims to take you on an adventure to discover your peers. Freshman Greg Griffin, a recently interviewed student on "Convo at Convo," remarked that Leach randomly approached him while on campus and asked him questions. While at first taken aback by Leach's request, Griffin found his host's style funny and accessible when answering. Be sure to check out this amusing and interesting show on ROAR Network.

## Makeover Diaries

By Margo Jasukaitis  
Contributor

Ah, the makeover show. A staple on cable networks since seemingly forever, the duty of transforming an unsuspecting style failure into a standard issue fashionista has been the inspiration for many a television series. Imani LaFlora's "Makeover Diaries" follows the traditional structure for such a show. Each episode starts by

surprising the individual who needs to be transformed and features hosts Camille Smith and MJ Bermudez proceeding to go through the individual's closet testing out various looks and ultimately revealing the participant's new style to a group of friends (a ritual peppered with obligatory exclamations of "you look so good!"). While it is clear both executive producer LaFlora and the two hosts take fashion very seriously, the blooper reel at the end of each episode illustrates that the girls don't take themselves too seriously, an endearing

fact which comes across in the witty, high energy banter present throughout the show. Bermudez does a particularly good job of engaging with the students being made over, ensuring the segments are both easy and fun to watch. While the fashion tips provided on the show aren't anything an interested individual couldn't find out for themselves, the way in which they are presented proves to be informative and inspiring, making good style seem considerably more accessible than a typical issue of Vogue would indicate.



## HackCollege

By Jason Scott  
Staff Writer

ROAR network features a self-described lifehacking guide for college students aptly called "HackCollege." The show is executive produced by Kelly Sutton and features students Chris Lesinski as a co-host.

"HackCollege" operates under the motto "work smarter, not harder." To



this end, the creative team behind the show offers tech-savvy tips that allow students to spend less time working and more time playing. Especially important to the show's contributors is rendering techno-babble in everyday language so that more students can take advantage of new and emerging software.

"HackCollege" is notable for its unique and honest approach to changing education around the campus. According to their Web site, if they

change the way 1 percent of students and faculty view education, they've done their job. Not only has the show reached popularity among LMU students, but it has extended to a British Web site headed by two college students in the United Kingdom. It is no wonder that "HackCollege" has done so well due to its entertaining, yet informative down-to-earth discussion style. Many rank it as one of the best of ROAR Network's offerings. Be sure to check out "HackCollege" on ROAR Network.

## L.A. Eats

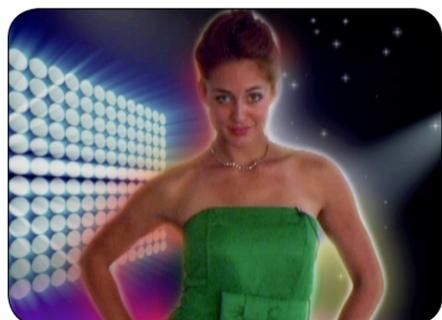
By Margo Jasukaitis  
Contributor

"L.A. Eats" is the brainchild of senior film production major Eva Kosmas. The first half of each episode features reviews of restaurants like The Shack and Ayara Thai located near LMU. After exploring some of Los Angeles' most intriguing eateries, Kosmas prepares various recipes inspired by the

cuisine of the restaurant reviewed earlier in the show. Essentially, "L.A. Eats" is the love child of Rachel Ray's "\$40 a Day" and "30 Minute Meals": an informative, engaging exploration of Los Angeles' restaurant scene coupled with demonstrations of dorm-friendly recipes for the culinarily-inclined to try out for themselves. Kosmas clearly possesses both a passion for and extensive knowledge of food, something she maintains is a direct result of being raised in a family which owned and operated a



Greek deli and restaurant in her hometown of Portland, Ore. In addition to episodes airing on the ROAR network, posts detailed with information about both the featured eateries and recipes can be found on the ROAR Network Web site. With its charming and enlightening reviews, "L.A. Eats" inspires a desire to explore dining options other than the Lair and encourages the truly motivated to prepare their own meals, something both one's wallet and palate can benefit from.



## LMU's Next Top Ridiculously Good-Looking Person

By Emily Rome  
Staff Writer

Nicole Exposito's spoof of the reality show "America's Next Top Model" brings together various scripted personalities in a competition to find the best-looking person on campus.

The show certainly succeeds in jabbing fun at reality competition shows, by put-

ting its potential models in amusingly ridiculous outfits each week. This season has featured photo shoots of the characters as clowns, in period dress and wearing trash that an intern dug up from garbage cans.

Episodes drag on longer than they should with personalities that are all overdone stereotypes, making the show uninteresting and with comedy that falls flat.

In the later episodes, "Ridiculously Good-Looking" begins to show promise, however. In episode three, part one, a scene in which the contestants are getting their make-up

done for the trash photo shoot, the camera-work succeeds to capture the actors' performances in a more subtle and natural way.

The new character, Sean, who is a professional model, but disapproves of the entire fashion industry, brings something fresh to the show. The scene in which he attempts to talk to Jenna, a contestant, between photo-takes also worked well. With more scenes like these and faster-paced episodes, "Ridiculously Good-Looking" could be a worthy candidate for ROAR network's next top spoof.



All screenshots courtesy of ROAR Network

## Mane Squeeze

By Hal Koss  
Contributor

"How's my cleavage?" These are the first words uttered in the debut episode of "Mane Squeeze," a bold new show that provides the shot in the arm that the ROAR Network has long been craving. The program, helmed by graduate film student Tomer Shechori along with a litany of collaborators, refuses to play it safe, and the results are worth the

risk.

The show is comprised of mini-films, all random and unaffiliated with each other. Each sequence offers cleverly timed offbeat humor driven by sharp, realistic dialogue.

The quality of the production is what sets "Mane" apart from other ROAR Network programs. The camera work, lighting, and sound are carefully crafted and definitely impressive. These professional qualities are attributed by the amount of effort and skill applied by the minds behind the scenes.

As for the characters within the frame, their performances are equally as notable, if not more so, than the production. It's obvious that the actors who appear in the show are experienced, displaying biting wit and skillful comedic timing in their theatrics. Along with the talent, the actors in the show are well cast, as the roles in each episode feel just right.

While the most recent episodes don't quite stack up against the inaugural one, look for "Mane" to be admired and imitated in the foreseeable future.