



NOW IN CHICAGO

STAR

SCENE STEALER

By Jim McFarlin

Yolonda Ross had practically no exposure to Chicago before relocating here last year to star in the new Showtime series *The Chi*, which premieres Jan. 7. And the few experiences she can recall were all too typical.

"Outside of getting stuck in the airports, I had never been in Chicago," says Ross, who plays Jada in the raw inner-city drama shot on location on the South and West Sides. "I've been held over three times because of weather. At Midway, they set up a tent city for us with cots, blankets and even little travel packs. They were very accommodating."

The Omaha native, who was seen in *Antwone Fisher* and *Whitney* and who has a recurring role in *How to Get Away With Murder*, views Jada as "a strong-willed woman, but compassionate. She's like plenty of single mothers I know who are working hard, taking care of their children and just keeping their head down and grinding. I think this will be a nice bonding piece for me because I'll be in front of [viewers] on a regular basis."

And more frequently spotted in Chicago, we suspect. "I am ready for you!" she enthuses. "Blue Door Kitchen. Nico Osteria. And 3 Arts Club Cafe at Restoration Hardware—they have a scramble there that is out... of... this... world. I woke up this morning thinking about it. No joke."

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ON WATCH

Game Time

Since its founding in 1905, Chicago's Horween Leather Company has become synonymous with top-quality leather while becoming an American icon in its own right (just look at the countless Rawlings baseball gloves and Spalding NBA basketballs that have gotten their start at the intersection of Elston and Ashland avenues). Now, Swiss watchmaker **Mido** (shopmido.com) has teamed up with the locally grown label for the Multifort Escape Horween special-edition timepiece. Featuring a 44 mm stainless steel case with aged and sandblasted black PVD treatment, the watch—Mido's largest three-hand model yet—comes equipped with the Caliber 80 (an automatic movement with no less than 80 hours of power reserve) plus two easily interchangeable Horween leather straps. Each is genuine calfskin, with the brown Essex style featuring a patina that will develop with age, while the black American-football style boasts the same texture that Horween reserves for the gridiron. Both straps are handsome options that blend fashion and function, allowing this timepiece to really bring its A-game. —Meg Mathis



YOLONDA ROSS PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER LOGAN, MAKEUP BY FRANK GUYTON, HAIR BY JESSI DEAN, STYLING BY ADTREA EDMUNDSON, DRESS BY IDRIE BISHWEKA