

Just a dropful of Vitamin A helps the wrinkles go down

Applying Toronto-based dermatologist Dr. Lisa Kellert's new Clear Clinical Vitamin A Booster (\$250 for 15 mL, at dkonavenue.com and clearclinical.com) is a bit like playing *CSI* lab tech. Just add a drop to boost a favourite moisturizer or eye cream. The Vitamin A booster contains a whopping 1% retinol (to most regular products' .25%), which is the highest over-the-counter

COUNTER CULTURE

certified pharmaceutical grade of the active wrinkle-reducing, anti-aging ingredient allowed. For ingredient stability and quality control, batches can only be micro-produced 30 bottles at a time, and must be kept refrigerated to maintain optimal efficacy: The bottles are even

shipped to consumers in a jaunty metal pail, wrapped in a cold pack. *Nathalie Atkinson, National Post*



Rockin' in a Blu-ray world

Neil Young sees end to tyranny of inferior sound

By **BRANDON BAILEY**

SAN FRANCISCO • Neil Young hates the sound of compact discs. So the rock legend waited 15 years for a different technology, which he says will allow him to share his life's work the way he wants his fans to enjoy it.

Starting this fall, Young plans to release a comprehensive archive of music, videos and other material dating back to 1963 on a series of interactive Blu-ray discs, which he demonstrated last week for several thousand software developers and tech enthusiasts at Sun Microsystems' JavaOne conference in San Francisco.

"It's the history of a creative process, the development of my music and actually of my life," Young said after the demo. "It's interactive and online, and it will grow."

The project could signal a broader use of the high-definition technology known as Blu-ray, which was developed with Sun's Java programming language.

It's unclear how many fans will have the equipment, and the time, to enjoy such a comprehensive archive. Young said he hopes fans will spend hours exploring an interactive timeline, playing classic hits and unreleased tracks, while examining contemporaneous films, photos, recording notes and other documents.

With up to 50 gigabytes of storage, Blu-ray discs have five to 10 times the capacity of DVDs, which in turn can hold far more material than CDs. Young, who lives on a ranch in San Mateo County, Calif., is planning a series of five volumes, each consisting of 10 discs. He promised that fans will be able to download additional material from the internet as it becomes available.

At least as important, Young said, the collection will represent an alternative to what he characterized as the tyranny of inferior sound. Blu-ray developers say their technology provides far superior audio quality as well as high-definition video.

"CD quality is very low resolution, maybe a step above MP3s. It was a crime to make that the standard for so many years," he said, complaining that music fans were forced to accept CDs because they were marketed as an inevitable and necessary new format.

"It was the Patriot Act of music," he said, drawing laughs.

He did not rule out the possibility that the songs, dating back to his early days in a Canadian band called the Squires, might be released in other formats. "I'm not interested in making MP3s, but I'm not going to say to Apple: 'No, I'm not going to let you issue MP3s.'"

Reminded that many music fans these days download and play songs on portable MP3 players, Young said: "My heart goes out to them."

McClatchy-Tribune

BOOK EXCERPT

Third of three parts



If only the white guy concentrated as much on his outfit as his swing.

RETRODISK

DRESSING LIKE BUTT

In the last of three excerpts from the new book *The White Guy: A Field Guide*, we learn about this odd specimen's ridiculous plumage.

By **STEPHEN HUNT**

The white guy may be universally recognized for his penchant for hogging all the good jobs, being in charge and living a commitment to excellence, but he is also acknowledged to be a fashion disaster.

"You can walk around, dressed like butt, and nobody cares," Melanee says one day, in the one-bedroom apartment where we lived in Santa Monica for nine years. "I have to get dressed up before I go out, or people in this rich, pseudo-liberal neighbourhood think I'm some kind of crazy homeless chick."

I never heard the term "dressed like butt" before Melanee used it, but it has the ring of truth to it.

Why do white guys dress like butt?

That's complicated. Perhaps we should make like a good homicide cop, and analyze our motivation. Once you understand motivation, all the fashion atrocities white guys commit fall neatly into place.

Let us review then, a few of the fatal psychological errors white guys make when deciding what to wear every single

day all over the world:

1. There's another year left in this suit. (There isn't. There hasn't been for half a decade.)
2. No one cares what you wear on Saturdays. (We do.)
3. There's no need to wear a suit on opening night. I'll just wear this colourful (read: awful) sweater instead. It goes with every pair of pants I own. (It goes with nothing.)
4. I'm driving after work, so I need to wear something comfortable. (After work is your business. We have to look at you dressed like a homeless person until 5:30.)
5. This is my good luck shirt. (From 1977.)
6. The team has good luck whenever I wear this jersey. (Okay. Maybe there's something to that.)
7. The layered look works on me. (You're a man, not a cake.)
8. You can't see the stain on these pants. (Yes, you can see the stain.)
9. I hardly did anything when I wore this stuff yesterday. I can squeeze another day out of them. (Guilty.)
10. I'm always online. Who cares what I'm wearing? (You make baristas want to scream.)

These sorts of psychological presumptions have produced

generation after generation of sartorial disasters, often committed by highly successful guys, the leaders of the free world.

Result:

TEN WHITE GUYS WHO DRESS LIKE BUTT

10. Nick Nolte, actor. Perhaps Nick's problem is that he keeps getting arrested on his worst-dressed days. Just a guess.
9. Stephen Harper, Canadian prime minister. Has mastered the look that says, "I'm the doughy little brother who always sucked at sports but did really good at school and now I'm the Canadian prime minister with a hot wife! Hand me that leather vest!"
8. Craig Sager, TNT sports analyst. Worst suits ever. His personal style icon: The Joker.
7. Don Imus, American radio personality. They say some are born with a face for radio (check). How about a wardrobe that looks like a Cody, Wyoming, wax museum come to life?
6. (tie) Kevin Smith, film director and Michael Moore, documentary film maker. Comic book geek and indie film icon; overweight Jersey guy. Left-wing man-of-the-people with a fondness for flannel that should have died the day Kurt Cobain did. Someone needs to do a reality show about these two get-

ting dressed in the morning.

5. Sporty, West Coast Athletic White Guy. During the week, you're stuck in a suit. On the weekend, you put on your cycling/kayaking/jogging/rock climbing/skiing/mountaineering/parasailing/hiking gear, which involves most of the United Colors of Benetton, all at the same time in a skin-tight, waterproof superhero outfit. Who decided this was okay? I want a recount!
4. Don Cherry, *Hockey Night in Canada* icon. Something has gone very, very wrong with this man's wardrobe.
3. Bill Belichick, head coach, New England Patriots. Someone take that hooded sweatshirt out back and shoot it.
2. Bill Gates. Our finest living testament to Geek Classicism.
1. Stephen King, novelist, Red Sox fan. I have two words: eyebrow trimmer.

From the book *The White Guy: A Field Guide* © 2008, by Stephen Hunt. Reprinted with permission of the publisher, Douglas & McIntyre. *White Guy* author Stephen Hunt will be at the downtown library in Calgary today at 7:30 p.m., and in Winnipeg on May 22 at McNally Robinson Booksellers at 8 p.m.



National Post

A NETWORK OF FRIENDS

FRY AND LAURIE

British comics may yet reunite on U.S. TV

By **KATE O'HARE**

British actors, comedians and writers Hugh Laurie and Stephen Fry have been friends and colleagues for many years. As the comedy team of Fry and Laurie, they appeared in the British TV shows *A Bit of Fry and Laurie* and *Jeeves and Wooster*.

So when Laurie came to America to star as misanthropic diagnostician Dr. Gregory House in the Fox medical drama *House*, it seemed only a matter of time before Fry followed.

And so he did, playing the character of psychiatrist Dr. Gordon Wyatt in three 2007 episodes of a Fox drama — only it wasn't *House*, it was the forensic procedural *Bones*.

Both shows shoot on the 20th Century Fox lot (although *House* is not a Fox Studios production, but instead comes from NBC Universal) and currently air back-to-back on Monday night.

Both shows also have their season finales on May 19. *House's* is a two-parter and started on May 12.

"Yes, very strange," says Laurie of Fry's *Bones* guest shot. "Not only on the same network, but the same lot. We were shooting 100 yards away from each other. It was very strange."

So, how did this happen? *Bones* executive producer Hart Hanson says that he wrote the character first then needed an actor of sufficient presence and stature to "go toe to toe with David Boreanaz," who plays FBI Special Agent Seeley Booth.

Already a fan of Fry's novels, Hanson says, "It was on a lark. We thought, 'Hey, Hugh Laurie's doing a TV show, maybe Stephen Fry would like to come over and see his friend.' In essence, that's how it happened."

"And we checked into it, and lo and behold, he did come over."

Due in part to his busy schedule, Fry hasn't returned to *Bones*. Neither has he yet appeared on *House*. But it's not like *House* executive producer David Shore hasn't thought about it.

"*Bones* scooped us on that," says Shore. "It's one of those things that there is so much excitement built up around it, without it even happening, that I always want to make sure I've got the right role for somebody before I bring them in."

"But it's doubly true with Stephen. I don't want to just do that, but I want it to be right. And we don't have the right idea to do it yet."

"God, I hope it happens, but we've got to figure out a story that makes it work."

So, conceivably, Fry's Dr. Wyatt could somehow meet up with Laurie's Dr. House.

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Look for an exclusive **SEX AND THE CITY** wrap in tomorrow's National Post, and find out how you could **WIN** a trip for 4 to NYC for the red carpet premiere.

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