

Kaay

NOVEMBER 2014

INSIDE THE
VELVET ROPES OF
LAS VEGAS

KANDYGRAMS!
THE SEXIEST
SELFIE CRAZE

TMZ'S NEWEST DARLING

**ABIGAIL
RATCHFORD**

WHY SOCIAL MEDIA EXISTS

2013 NHRA PSM CHAMPION

MATT SMITH

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL

GUY'S GUIDE TO THANKSGIVING

- + FOOTBALL & PARADE PREDICTIONS
- + PERFECT TURKEY DAY SPIRITS
- + 11 TIPS TO SURVIVE THE DAY
- + LEGENDARY TURKEY SKILLZ
- + SNOW & BEACH GETAWAYS

NOVEMBER KRUSH
COURTNEY MARIE

CAJUN SWEETNESS



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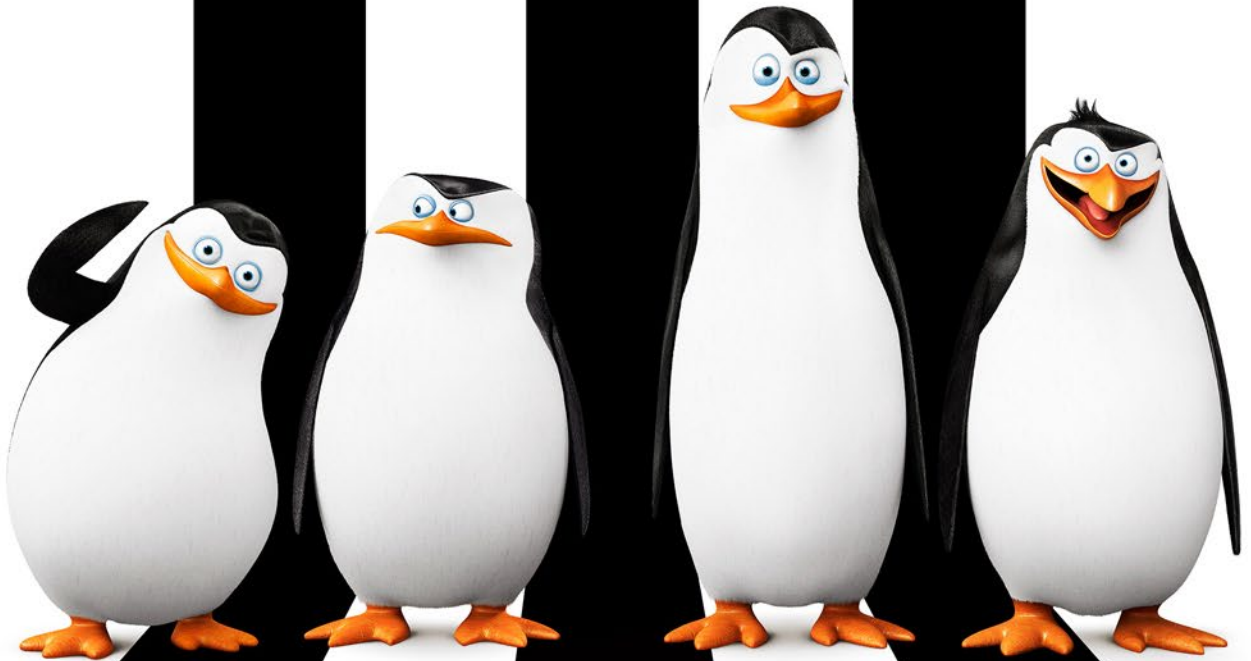


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**WHY SOCIAL
MEDIA EXISTS**

She is the newest TMZ darling and so far it appears to be a win-win relationship



Inside the Velvet Ropes of Las Vegas

We brought the house down at The Sayers Club inside the SLS Las Vegas last month with the first ever Kandy magazine *Heels & Horsepower* gala.

Perfect Turkey Skillz

3 Hints: Don't pass out, defrost the bird, turn on the oven.

Kandy Koncierge

You passed on cooking the dead bird this year so the pressure falls on you to bring the perfect bottle to dinner. The Koncierge has some ideas.

Snow & Beach Getaways

6 Quick trip alternatives to spending the holiday with family or staying at home.

Football & Parades

Sports guy was not happy with this month's assignment. Check out his griping in this month's column.

**November Krush
COURTNEY
MARIE BOUTIN**

Courtney has us craving Cajun Sweetness and you will too after swiping through her pictorial.



Kandygrams

We put together another group of the sexiest selfies for your viewing pleasuring.

11 Tips to Surviving Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a relationship killer. We have some tips to keep it alive, at least until New Years Eve.

Kandystand Sweets

We take a spin around the globe for new sweets in this month's Kandystand.

NHRA Spotlight

He is the defending NHRA PSM champion and holds nothing back in this exclusive Kandy interview. Meet The Champ, Matt Smith.

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BY THE GUN

**NICK WANTED TO BE A MADE MAN
UNTIL HE FOUND A REASON TO GET OUT**

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CASTING BY SUZANNE SMITH JESSICA KELLY AND CAROLYN PICKMAN, CSA COSTUME DESIGNER HONAH LEE MILNE MUSIC BY NATHAN WHITEHEAD EDITED BY BANNER GWIN
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NOVEMBER 21



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HOW TO COOK THE PERFECT

Thanksgiving Turkey



There is a single foolproof way to cook the perfect Turkey. It is so easy to do that there are only a few ways to screw up:

1. You forgot to turn on the oven.
2. You set the wrong oven temperature.
3. You bought a frozen turkey and forgot to let it defrost.
4. You passed out drunk and left the turkey in the oven too long.
5. You stuffed the turkey and did not allow extra time for the stuffing.

Those are about the only ways we can think of that you can screw up this easy way to cook the perfect Thanksgiving turkey. So, what is this foolproof method of cooking the perfect turkey? Well, follow these steps below and we guarantee your friends and /or family will be calling you Iron Chef in no time.

STEP 1: Remove the turkey from the freezer or refrigerator. If the turkey is frozen follow the instructions on the package to defrost; remember to allow enough time for it to defrost. If you own animals, i.e. cats or dogs,

make sure the turkey is out of harm's way or you will be enjoying KFC on Thanksgiving.

STEP 2: Remove the neck, giblets and heart from the chest cavity of the turkey. Remember to take a peek inside the bird's rear too as those sneaky turkey farmers like to tuck a special package back there.

STEP 3: Rinse and pat dry the turkey.

STEP 4 (OPTIONAL): Stuff the bird with your family stuffing recipe or your favorite flavor of Stove Top.

STEP 5 (MOST IMPORTANT): Place the turkey inside a Reynolds Oven Bag or some other brand. Before you place the bird inside the bag, place a tablespoon of flour inside the bag and shake it so as to prevent the dead animal from sticking to the bag.

STEP 6: Make six 1-inch slits in the bag.

STEP 7: Place the turkey in the pre-heated oven and set the timer for the allowed time.

STEP 8: Don't pass out and remember to remove the turkey from the oven after the allowed time.

STEP 9: Remove the turkey from the bag and allow it rest 15 to 20 minutes before carving, breast side down.

STEP 10: Flip the turkey breast side up and carve the most perfect, moist turkey you have ever prepared.

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IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

11 Tips to Survive

THANKSGIVING

THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO SURVIVAL

What is it about Thanksgiving that places a tremendous amount of strain on relationships? Thanksgiving kicks off the holiday season which means unrealistic gift expectations and tremendous pressure to meet those expectations. Here are 11 tips to get you through Thanksgiving.

1. Don't fly anywhere. It is the busiest travel time of the year. Why put yourself through long security lines, screaming babies, and bratty kids. Stay home.

2. Home field advantage. You took our advice from tip 1. Now, up the ante and insist on having Thanksgiving at your residence. Have the family or friends come to you. You set the itinerary and on a day full of football that is key.

3. Follow our Perfect Thanksgiving Turkey suggestions in the Food column.

4. Follow our Perfect Turkey Day Spirits

guide in the Kandy Koncierge column.

5. Cede all television time to your girl pre-kickoff of the first game. Do you really need to listen to Howie, Jimmy, and Terry yap away? Let your girl watch her parades while you go outside and throw the pigskin around with your buddies.

6. Stretch. Did we forget to mention in tip 5 to stretch before you go outside for a game of football? Don't spend your day in the ER because you forgot to stretch out.

7. Referee. If you are over 40 don't fool yourself. You are too old to be out there with the guy's in their 20's and 30's, so offer to referee.

8. Remember to do all the shopping either the Sunday or the Monday before Thanksgiving. If you are single the local market or grocery store will be a singles paradise. Play your cards right and you might chat up the right baby to spend Turkey day with you. {Yes, we borrowed a word from Swingers.}

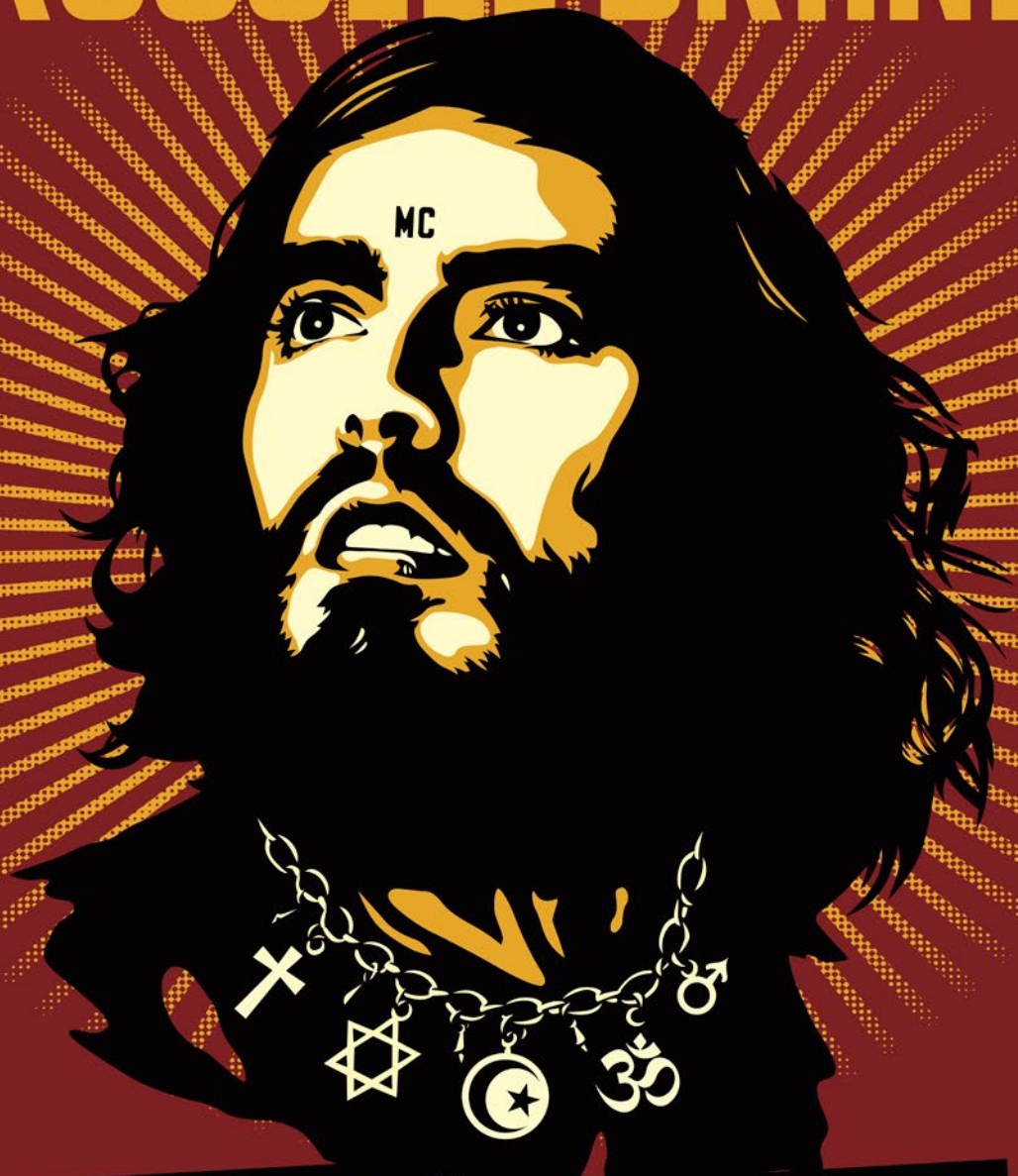
9. Got kids? Plan ahead and chat up the neighbor who has kids and lay the groundwork for your kids to play with their kids at the neighbors. Remember to invite the neighbors over for a post-meal piece of pumpkin pie and a cocktail.

10. If you are doing a couples Turkey day, plan ahead and start working the phone or text messaging now and invite a couple of your buddies who have girlfriends. You don't want to be stranded on Thanksgiving with no familiar faces.

11. We saved the best tip for last. Find out, if you don't know already, what your girl's favorite brand of lingerie happens to be and pick up the sexiest items you can find. On Thanksgiving morning, wake up early so you can surprise her with a thoughtful, unexpected present. You are guaranteed to immediately see her appreciation and she'll permit you to be KING of your castle, at least for the day.

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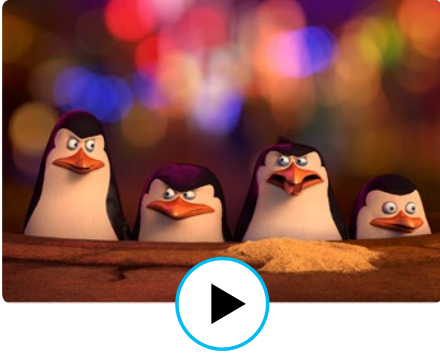
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Penguins of Madagascar

Release: November 26, 2014

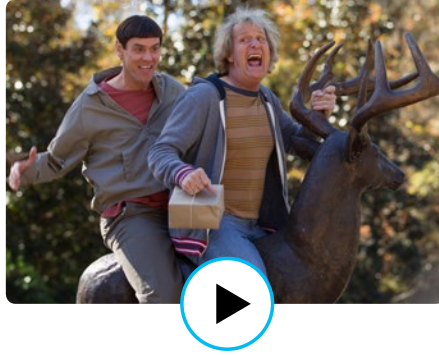
Cast: Tom McGrath, Chris Miller, Christopher Knights, Benedict Cumberbatch, Ken Jeong, Annet Mahendru, Peter Stormare and John Malkovich

Rating: PG

Genre: Animation

Studio: Dreamworks Animation

Who doesn't love Penguins? The stars of the previous Madagascar movies finally get their own stage. Skipper, Kowalski, Rico and Private are on a mission to save the world. Who knew the fate of mankind laid at the flippers of penguins? Here's hoping the monkeys aka Thumbs make an appearance or we may be doomed.



Dumb and Dumber To

Release: November 14, 2014

Cast: Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels, Kathleen Turner, Laurie Holden, Rob Riggle, Rachel Melvin, Steve Tom

Rating: PG-13

Genre: Comedy

Studio: Universal Pictures

Has it really been 20 years since Dumb and Dumber was released? It seems like it was just a few years ago. In the sequel, Lloyd and Harry take a road trip to find a child Harry never knew he had and the responsibility neither should ever, ever be given. When the new-kidney-needing Harry learns that he has a daughter out there, he must snap Lloyd out of the "comatose" state he's been in since Mary's rejection and hit the road to request her help. Crisscrossing the country in transportation means only the Farrelly brothers could dream, Lloyd and Harry's journey to find Harry's daughter will take them from a mental institution—where they belong—to a summit that is playing host ... to the world's most bril-

TAP HERE TO READ
THE FULL MOVIE REVIEW



The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 1

Release: November 21, 2014

Cast: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Woody Harrelson, Elizabeth Banks, Julianne Moore, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Jeffrey Wright, Sam Claflin, Jena Malone, with Stanley Tucci and Donald Sutherland

Rating: PG-13

Genre: Action

Studio: Lionsgate

Our favorite leather-clad hero is back, Jennifer Lawrence. Sorry, Kate Beckinsale you've been replaced with a younger, more firm model. The story begins again as Katniss has just been rescued from the destruction of the Quarter Quell. She awakens in a shocking world she didn't even know existed: the deep, dark underground of supposedly annihilated District 13. She quickly learns of the devastating reality she must face: District 12 has been turned to rubble; and Peeta is being held, manipulated and brainwashed by President Snow in The Capitol. At the ...

TAP HERE TO READ
THE FULL MOVIE REVIEW

Perfect Turkey Day Spirits

No such thing you say?! Well, we will just have to agree to disagree on that. In our opinion, the tip to presenting Perfect Turkey Day Spirits is understanding your gathering. What does that mean exactly? If you are a single guy hanging out with your single buddies, then champagne is probably not the best call. If you are married with kids and visiting the in-laws a twelve pack of Coors Light is probably also not the right call. So, what is the right call for these scenarios? Let's take a look at a few and see what Kandy recommends.



The Bachelor Thanksgiving

It's just you and five of your best, single guy friends hanging out watching Thanksgiving football and possibly partaking in a little game of pigskin yourself. You may or may not go through the effort of cooking a bird and if you do it will mostly be cooked in some deep fryer of sorts. What is the beverage of choice to wash down that deep fried bird? Beer of course! Ah, but what sort of beer? IPA's and microbrews are all the rage right now so why not choose any of the following: Karl Strauss's 25th Anniversary Doppelbock, brewed for twelve whole months in American oak Bourbon barrels or Samuel Adams Honey Queen, a lighter microbrew with a harmonious blend of mead and beer, known as a Braggot, that takes you back to medieval times and as far back as one of your previous lives in the 12th century when you dined on mutton.



The Boyfriend Thanksgiving

Of all the Thanksgivings this is the trickiest. Is it a couples Thanksgiving where it is you, your girl and three other couples, all chosen by your girlfriend or is it the Thanksgiving where you have to trek halfway across the country to meet her family? Right now, you are wishing you were enjoying The Bachelor Thanksgiving. So, what beverage do you bring to either scenario? If it is couples Thanksgiving we recommend a bottle champagne and if it is girlfriend's family Thanksgiving we suggest a bottle of wine. For the couples, splurge a little bit and make the other guys at the table look like schleps and pick up a bottle of '95 Clicquot Rose, it will set you back \$75 to \$100 but the ladies will love it. And, for that dreaded visit to your girlfriends' relatives, we recommend skipping the expected Chardonnay and mix it up and bring a bottle of 2013 Amici Sauvignon Blanc Napa Valley, consisting of 50% Sauvignon Musque clone and 50% Sauvignon Blanc; a reasonable selection at \$25.

The Married Guy Thanksgiving

If you are reading Kandy for advice on what to bring to Thanksgiving dinner we're afraid our dear married reader you are lost. But kudos to you, for either keeping this fine publication hidden from your wife or, better yet, if she knows you read Kandy we are overly impressed and should be taking advice from you. In either case, we recommend you bring whatever you desire drinking as this day is as much about satisfying your own caveman needs, as it is about meeting the needs of your woman. Cheers!



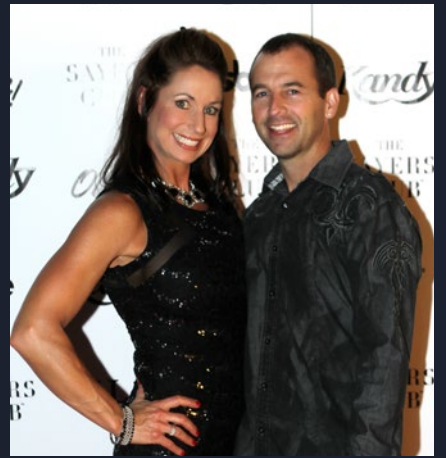
HEELS & HORSEPOWER

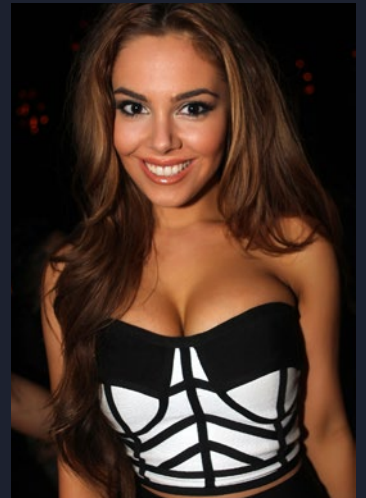
THE SAYERS CLUB INSIDE SLS LAS VEGAS

Photos by Mike Prado and Aaron Riveroll

On Oct. 30th we held our first Heels and Horsepower party in The Sayers Club inside the SLS LAS VEGAS. It was night where we celebrated the women of Kandy and the horsepower of the NHRA. The evening was headlined by co-hosts Jessica Hall, Emily Sears and Angie Smith. The ladies were joined on the red carpet by fellow Kandy girls Laurie Young, Morgan Scott, Lucy Miller, Elise Natalie, Marissa Everhart and April Cheryse. Various stars and executives from the NHRA were on hand as well taking in the sights and sounds of the evening.

[Check out more Photos from the Event](#) ➤





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KANDY COVER MODEL

ABIGAIL

☆☆ **RATCHFORD** ☆☆

WHY SOCIAL MEDIA EXISTS

The girl from Scranton, Pennsylvania, who studied ballet, tap, and jazz dancing growing up now calls Los Angeles home. The 5'8", green-eyed beauty's face has hung above Sunset Boulevard on various billboards and recently appeared on the hit NBC show "Parks and Recreation."

If there was no social media we may never have known about Abigail and that would have had made us very sad.

66 It's going to be hard to top the Lil' Kim outfit.



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A QUICK Q & A WITH ABIGAIL

Let's talk TMZ. You are their newest darling. Fun or awkward?

I love the guys at TMZ! They have given me so much exposure these past few months . It's not awkward at all. We all have fun and joke around and they have given me a whole new audience of fans.

Do you recall the day you decided to do your first photo shoot? Excited or nervous?

The first photoshoot I did was in Philadelphia and I was so nervous! I was so afraid to stand in front of a camera in my lingerie and swimsuits haha. Now. it's so normal for me that I don't even think twice about it.

How do you top this year's Lil Kim inspired Halloween costume next year?

It's going to be hard to top the Lil' Kim outfit. I had that custom made and waited weeks for it! I'm going to really have to start planning next years outfit asap ! Haha

Final question, Instagram, Twitter or Facebook – which is best to keep up with your sexiness?

Definitely Instagram. I post the most pictures there. Most are of myself but I also post funny videos I find and some other cool stuff, so definitely Instagram. AbigailRatchford is my name on there! Xo



“ I love the guys
from TMZ!





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Kandy
Presents

Courtney
Marie Bouffin
Krush of the Month

★ November 2014 ★



We go deep into Cajun country this month to bring you the newest Krush of the Month. When we received this set of photos from Beansfotos we knew immediately we had found the newest Kandy Krush. Courtney is our very first Krush from Louisiana and also the youngest. Gentlemen, start counting down to 2016 when you can expect to see Courtney at any number of Kandy events. Until then, enjoy these amazing photos courtesy of Beansfotos.

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“... a man who has that certain level of confidence to sweep me off of my feet.”

“I love a little
SPICE with my
SWEET ...



KRUSH OF THE MONTH

KANDY MAGAZINE





KRUSH OF THE MONTH

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“ *... my birthday suit because nothing in the world is more comfortable.* ”

KRUSH OF THE MONTH

KANDY MAGAZINE



“ ... *I'm the best you'll ever get.* ”



KRUSH OF THE MONTH

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“ Compared to me,
she's a 2



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Kandy Krush Ingredients

Name: Courtney Marie Boutin

Birthday: February 2, 1985

Hometown: Scott, Louisiana

Measurements: 32 - 24 - 34

Height: 5'5" **Weight:** 110 lbs

Hair: Dirty Blonde **Eyes:** Brown

Social Media: twitter @boutin707 instagram @courtney_boutin

Ambitions: My ambitions in life are to be very successful, one day marry the man of my dreams and adopt a child in need of a loving home. I just want to be happy and want to create a strong loving family and give someone with such innocence the chance to be a part of it all.

Turn Ons: My biggest turn on is a man with confidence. I am quite the sucker for all the SWEET romance and having gentle arms that caress me while kissing my neck and, like any other woman, I love being treated like a princess. BUT..... just like any Louisiana Cajun, I love a little SPICE with my SWEET, and to me the perfect spice is a man who has that certain level of confidence to sweep me off of my feet.

Turn Offs: The absolute worst thing a guy can possibly do is bring up a woman from the past. If you are with me DO NOT bring up or talk to your previous flings or ex's. Compared to me, she's a 2 anyway and I'm the best you'll ever get. :-)

Best First Date: My best first date was with a total loser. The highlight of the evening was when his friend, who was a complete stranger to me, walked through the door. That was the very first time that I met the future love of my life. Who knew a first date could be so bad and yet turn out so great all at the same time!! LOL.

First Job: My very first job was working for the District Attorney's Office. It wasn't the most exciting of all jobs but the upside was when I was watching a really rude cop fill out my first speeding ticket; his face was priceless when I told him I worked for the traffic prosecutor. #WINNING!!!

Guilty Pleasure: On days that I am home alone I sometimes choose to wear my birthday suit because nothing in the world is more comfortable. I totally get why nudists choose that lifestyle.

Favorite Indoor Activity: My favorite indoor activity is sleeping and bed activities. ;-) There is nothing else that I find enjoyable about being indoors. To me a house is much like a box and I don't plan on being stuck in one until I'm dead.

Ultimate Life Experience: One of the best things that have happened to me so far is my decision to finally give modeling a try. I've debated on it for such a long time before actually giving it a shot. Since starting, it has been a completely amazing experience. Getting the opportunity to work with some of the people I have, be a part of some of the projects that I have and, most of all, getting a chance to be a part of and featured in Kandy Magazine, all with being so new to this all. It has been truly amazing and I feel blessed. The journey has just begun and I know it will take a lot of hard work, but nothing worth having is ever usually easy to get right????!! Thank you Kandy Magazine and to everyone that's come out to help and support me.





SNOW AND BEACH THANKSGIVING WEEKEND GETAWAYS

One of the most memorable Thanksgivings I ever had was when I was in college and a group of us decided to drive to Beaver Creek Resort in Colorado. The snow was ideal and the trip only a little over a couple hours.

This Thanksgiving, instead of traveling to see the family or staying home, check out a few of these suggestions below for alternative Thanksgiving weekends.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS

Explore the majesty of southern California and spend the weekend at any of southern California beach communities. For our money, we say check out Mission Beach in San Diego, Huntington Beach in Orange County, and Manhattan/Hermosa Beaches in Los Angeles. There is plenty of eye candy to keep your head on a swivel during the day and the packed bars at night provide plenty of targets for a single guy.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS

Lake Tahoe tops our list of recommended places. Whether you decide to visit North Lake Tahoe or South Lake Tahoe the weekend should be memorable. If you are lucky, an early storm may provide the slopes with powder. If you venture out at night, venture into any of the casinos in South Lake Tahoe or one of the many bars in North Lake Tahoe in the ski communities of Truckee, Incline Village or Crystal Bay.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RESIDENTS

If you have the coin, for our money, nothing tops Aspen, Colorado. The snowboarding or skiing, if you are old school, is first rate and the snow bunnies are unmatched anywhere in the world. Celebrities and runway models love the jet set lifestyle of Aspen. If you are a bachelor, bring the AMEX card and walk the talk.

SOUTHEAST RESIDENTS

Key West. Let's get straight to the point. Key West is a great getaway any day of the year. It is more of an adult playground than Las Vegas. Duval Street is full of bars where letting go of one's inhibitions is encouraged. There may not be any gambling or fist pumping EDM, but there is plenty of bumping and grinding and flashing of the breasts by the female population. Next time you are planning a weekend away and hoping to score seriously consider Key West.

TEXAS AND LOUISIANA RESIDENTS

Galveston. Maybe not as exciting as some of the other locations on our list but if you live in Texas or Louisiana and want to spend Thanksgiving at the beach we recommend Galveston. You should enjoy good weather with plenty of social activity options. Oh, did we forget to mention that Galveston is a port for cruise ships? Did Galveston just shoot to the top of your list? Maybe, if you enjoy 72 hours of non-stop island hopping, gambling and nightlife entertainment. Rest up young man before you head to Galveston and jump on one of those cruise ships.

NORTHEAST RESIDENTS

For the best skiing option over Thanksgiving weekend head up to Sugarloaf in Maine. It may be a trek for many of you but it provides you with the best odds of decent skiing so early in the season. For nightlife, stay at the resort and check out 45 North, The Shipyard Brewhaus or The Widower Lounge.

Do you have a Thanksgiving snow or beach getaway that did not make our list? Send it to us at travel@kandymag.com.

✕

JESSICA
ANDRADE

Hometown: Miami, FL

Age: 28

Measurements: 36C 24 35

Height: 5' 4"

Weight: 122 lbs

Hair color: Dark Brown

Eye color: Brown



Wendy's.net

KANDYSTAND SWEETS

KANDY MAGAZINE







CATHERINE
ELIZABETH

Hometown: London, England

Age: 29

Measurements: 32B 25 36

Height: 5' 7"

Weight: 125 lbs

Hair color: Brown

Eye color: Blue











LEAH
MAREE

Hometown: Brisbane, QLD, Aus

Age: 23

Measurements: 36DD

Height: 5' 7"

Weight: 123 lbs

Hair color: Dark Brown

Eye color: Brown







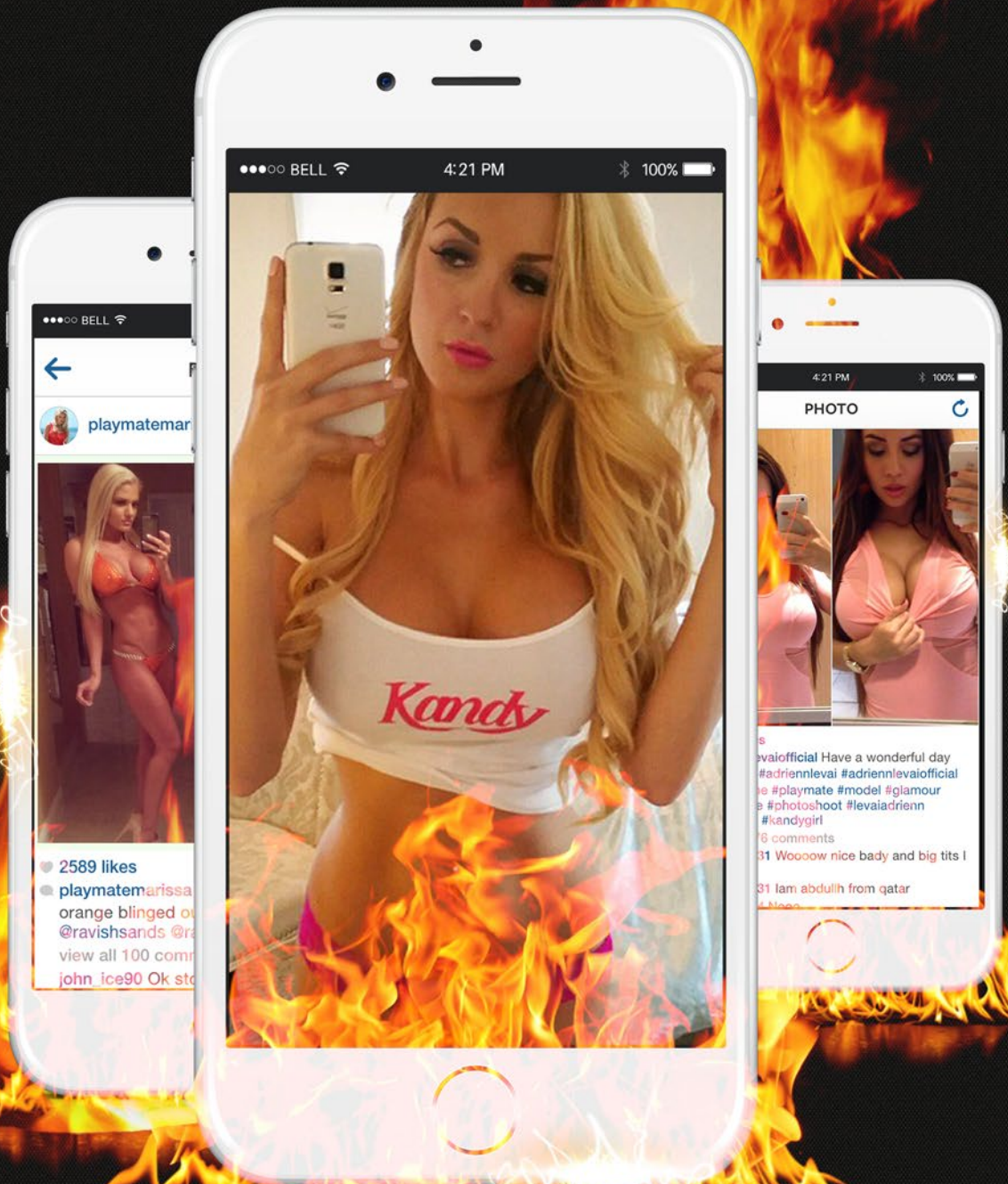
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NARRATED BY
PATRICK STEWART

DISCOVER
THE LEGEND

THE FIFTH VOYAGE
SINBAD

NOVEMBER'S SEXIEST

#KANDYGRAM #SEXYSELFIES



WHOSE SELFIES WERE CHOSEN AS THE SEXIEST?





Shannyn Alyssa

 [shannyn_alysa](#)

Hometown: Las Vegas, NV

Age: 21



Christie Long

 [christielong19](#)

Hometown: Nova Scotia, Canada

Age: 27



Darrian Dallas

 [darriandallas](#)

Hometown: Detroit, MI

Age: 21

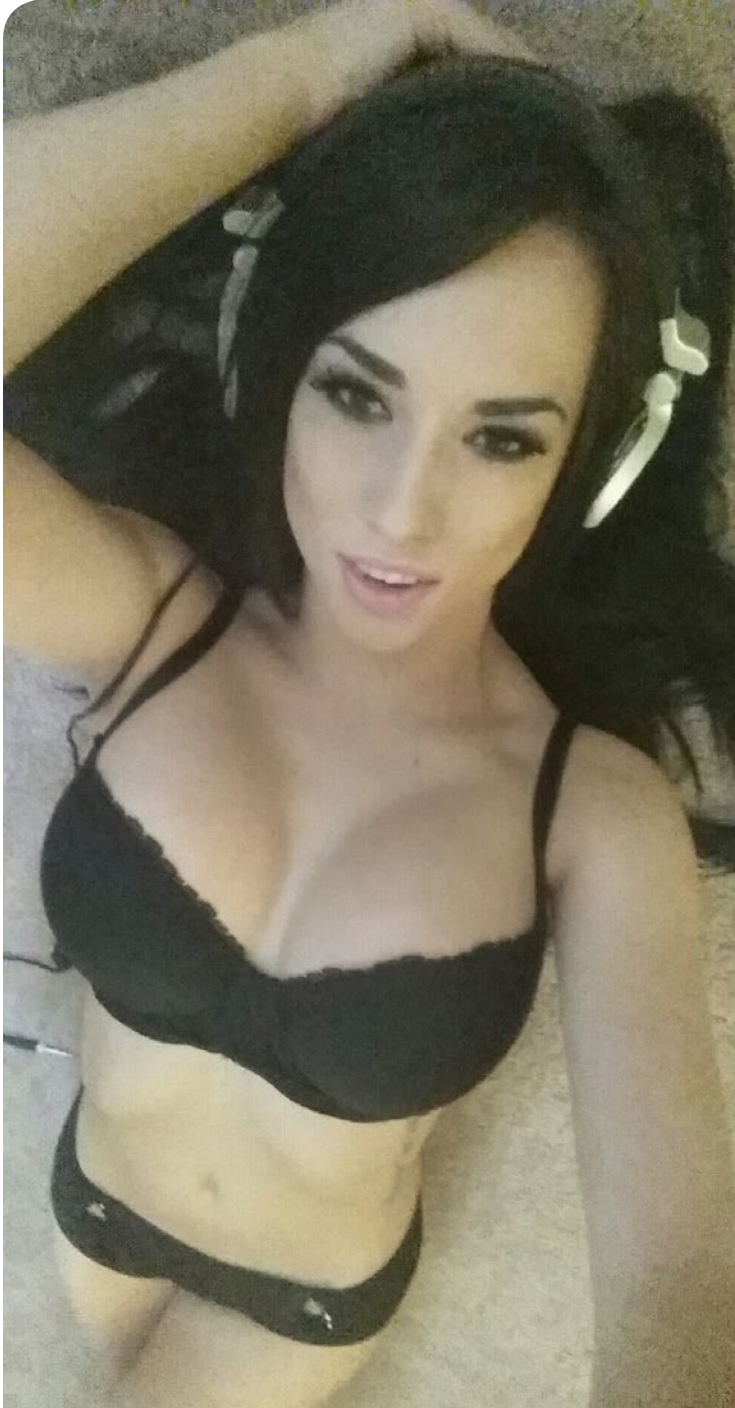


Cambria Joy

 cambria_joy

Hometown: Cambria, Ca

Age: 21



DJ Mëw



deejaymew

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Age: 22



Ashley Heinrichs

 missashley9299

Hometown: Smithers BC, Canada

Age: 22



Jenna Marshall

 jennmarshall87

Hometown: Kelowna, Canada

Age: 27

NHRA SPOTLIGHT

MATT SMITH aka THE CHAMP

By Angie Smith



Honey, I can't believe that here we are in November and people are still talking about our race in Epping. Once and for all, please tell everyone what happened, beside the fact that I beat your butt.

I was excited to be racing you in the final. It was your first ever final. Basically, what happened was I had a better reaction time than you. I put my bike in fifth gear and the motor went to one cylinder. When that happened, I looked over and didn't see

you but could hear you. I stayed in the throttle a bit longer and I put it in sixth gear and you passed me. I got out of the throttle. I had to save parts because we were on a three race swing so it wasn't worth blowing the motor completely up just to win. We broke a push rod on that run so it was simply a parts failure.

It has been a tough season for you. Do you think you bit off more than you can chew with four bikes?

I don't think my season has

been that bad. I'm trying to look at the positives in this. We have three bikes in our class that have leapfrogged the whole class because of NHRA rules. The two Harleys got new rules ... no one else is allowed to run these bikes. So, with that happening, we automatically got pushed to third place. Not only did that happen, but Vance and Hines put fuel injection on Jerry Savoie's bike and made it really fast as well. So, that put us down to fourth place. I don't really think I have bit off



more than I can chew because I am sitting in fifth place right now. I can get to third place by the season end. The most satisfying of this is that we got all four bikes in the Countdown to the Championship this year and that's a huge accomplishment. Considering the rules that the NHRA gave our class, I am happy with my results.

I'm sure everyone wants to know your plans for 2015. Are you going to field four bikes again?

I don't know what MSR plans are for the 2015 season yet. I have a desire to drive a Pro Mod car or a Nitro car. I am not sure how many bikes I am going to run yet. I am still in negotiations with riders and sponsors trying to figure it out at this time. When we know we will put press releases out at that time letting them know the team's status. If I don't drive a car, I will definitely be riding a bike. That's what I do and how I run my business.

Would you sit out and be a crew chief?

For the right amount of money I would sit out and be a crew chief. It would take a certain amount of money for me to do that and not get the pleasure of competing. If someone threw the money there and wanted that, then yes I would do it.

Michael Ray leasing one of your engines started a ton of rumors. Is he coming back to MSR in 2015?

We haven't talked anything about him coming back to race for us in 2015. There have been a couple of people talk to me about doing the motor leasing program and up to this point I have declined all offers. Michael and I sat down and

came up with a plan and decided to do this on a trial basis. I will see if it works. If we have a good plan, then it might be something I will have available for other people that have their own bike and want to do an engine program with me. I have to do what's best for MSR and give people a chance of winning races.



Photo by Teresa Long

Those Harleys were tough this year. Is there a plan in place to knock them off the top perch in 2015?

That's really up to NHRA's tech department. We can't get back to the top unless NHRA decides that we need some parity in our class. The class was very equal in 2013. I think we had seven different winners in 2013 and that's when it is fun to go to the racetrack. If you look at all four of my bikes, the Star bikes, and the Lucas bikes we are pretty much evenly matched. So, hopefully NHRA will look over it during the winter and make some changes to the rule package for the Harley Davidson bikes so it is more evenly matched. The only other way we could get back on top, with the same rules package, is if someone brought about \$500,000 to do a lot of research and development with some new parts.

Let's talk about one of the most controversial moments of 2014, the first race in the Countdown to the Championship in Charlotte. After V. Gaines crashed, the PSM teams got together for a meeting to discuss racing if the NHRA declared the track safe. Things got very heated between the different PSM teams. Why?

I am going to be blunt with my answer. There was one idiot in the meeting that

said his bikes could race down a dirt road. I said more power to you. Your bikes can be the first down the track then and they didn't want to do that. The rest of the group had decided that the track wasn't safe and agreed not to race. That's when it got heated. Safety should be a priority with all these teams and NHRA definitely made it a priority when they decided to cancel the race. Not only is safety my top priority but I also have several hundreds of thousands of dollars invested into my program and I didn't want any of my riders and equipment in jeopardy.

Enough of the serious questions! How did the Kandy girls do in their first season as cheerleaders?

I think the Kandy girls did a fabulous job promoting this year. I really like Laurie. She brings so much positive energy and excitement to the team. I really like her being at the races. You don't have any idea how many times I was asked where the Kandy girls were at the races they did not attend. The fans LOVE the Kandy girls. I can't tell you one guy that come by our pit and didn't want a pic' with the Kandy girls. I think it's great and I think the Kandy girls need to be at every race. It is great for our team to get that coverage and publicity

with the Kandy girls.

What do you think if I talk Laurie into letting me borrow one of their outfits one night?

That's fine. I wouldn't care a bit. Ang' can wear whatever she wants. Their outfits are very classy and I like them so whenever Laurie lets her borrow one then that's good for me. Haha.

Last question, besides our home track in Charlotte, where is your favorite track to race? Why?

I think I would have to say St. Louis. I have always liked St. Louis. It got off our schedule for awhile because they changed management. I was happy to see it come back. I have always done well there. It's a fast track and safe. It has a long shut-down area. To top it off, it has a go-kart track beside the track so if we want to get away from drag racing then we can jump over to the other side and race go-karts. It's good to unwind after a long day of racing or qualifying at the racetrack. I also get to race the guys that work for me and some of the other guys on the other teams. I am a very competitive person and I like to win at everything I do. I would challenge anyone in the NHRA series to a go-kart match any day of the week.

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TURKEY DAY FOOTBALL GAMES & PARADES PREDICTIONS

As the resident sports guy for Kandy magazine I was given a very odd assignment, Thanksgiving football and parades. My initial reaction to our all-knowing editor was, “is this a joke? What do I know about parades?” Needless, to say, it was not a very compelling argument.

Here is what I know about parades. There are two parades every year, one on Thanksgiving with a lot of hot air balloons or helium or some sort of gas keeping them afloat that rise above the streets of New York City and another parade on January 1st, consisting of floats made of roses, crawling through the streets of Pasadena, California. Hold on a second, I just remembered a third parade, St. Patrick's Day parade which, if memory

serves me correct, has no floats or balloons. Only a bunch of drunken Irishmen walking the streets of NYC. But, isn't that what we call a Friday night in New York? Back to my assignment on Thanksgiving parades predictions. Here we go. We have established the fact that I am only aware of a single Thanksgiving parade so that just makes my job that much easier. I wonder if Vegas would take odds on these predictions. Here are my odds of these events occurring:

- ❖ Balloons Fail to Take Flight Due to Too Much Wind: 3 - 1
- ❖ Snoopy Breaks Loose From His Leash and Plows Into Miss Kitty: 10 - 1 (There are a few Kandy girls who are Miss Kitty fans I wouldn't mind plowing into. Was I not supposed to say that out loud? Only stating what you dear reader is thinking.)
- ❖ High School Marching Band Takes A Wrong Turn ala Animal House: 25 - 1
- ❖ Santa 's Sleigh Gets A Flat Before Making It To Macy's: 30 - 1

Next year throw the Thanksgiving parades assignment over to the travel desk. Now onto the better part of the assignment, Thanksgiving football games. It looks like a good slate of games with the Bears vs. Lions, Seahawks vs. 49ers, and Eagles vs. Cowboys. Did anyone else notice that besides the fact they are all intra-division games that they are all teams from the NFC? How did the AFC get screwed out of Thanksgiving coverage? This may be the first time, to our recollection, that a game featuring both teams from the NFC is broadcast on CBS. You old-timers will surely point out to us the NFC was broadcast on CBS before FOX bought their way into the big leagues. We also have to point out then that back in

those days Tom Brookshier and Pat Summerall were the announcers. John Madden replaced Brookshier towards the end of the CBS broadcast days. Yes, our fellow gamers. John Madden is not only the namesake of Madden NFL but he is an actual person who was a NFL announcer. And, before he made his way into the broadcast booth, he was the head coach of the Oakland Raiders and led them to a Super Bowl championship, until his fear of flying got in the way.

On to my predictions, parlay the games and the points over/under, and send me one-half the winnings or hashtag #iwonkandy sportsguy. Just feed my ego.



GAME 1 BEARS VS. LIONS

A battle of NFC central teams featuring quarterbacks who, despite bazooka arms, never lived up to expectations. Will it be Stafford and Megatron or Cutler and Marshall who prevail? In a game devoid of defense,

we predict the Silver and Blue of Detroit to outgun the Orange and Black of Chicago 45 – 28.

GAME 2 EAGLES VS. COWBOYS

It looks like the Eagles will be going into this battle without their stud QB Nick Foles and will be relying on the erratic play of ex-Jet Mark Sanchez who didn't play like a Jet in his first action of the season. The Cowboys, on the other hand, also have questions at QB as Tony Romo has a back issue that makes him questionable week to week. If there is no Romo, the Cowboys will have to rely on Brandon Weeden. In a battle of backups leading high-powered offenses, we predict a low scoring game 14 – 10 in favor of the Eagles.

GAME 3 SEAHAWKS VS. 49ERS

In the final NFL game of the day, the night-cap so to speak, it is a repeat of the NFC championship featuring two NFL West powerhouses, the defending Super Bowl champions Seattle Seahawks versus their archrival the San Francisco 49ers. This game will be the most entertaining game of the day. Whatever you do make sure you do not over indulge on Turkey or libations. This is a Must-Watch game. It will be hard hitting and high scoring. The defenses of the two teams are not playing at a level of last year's teams but they are still hard hitting. The difference in the end will come down to home field and we predict, unlike in the NFC championship game last year, Colin Kaepernick hooks up with Vernon Davis in the closing seconds to pull out a 31 – 30 win for the 49ers.

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