

Jake Cowley

MAKING A 'START'
WITH A MUSIC
CAREER

INSIDE

NEW TO NETFLIX

WHAT YOU CAN
EXPECT TO SEE
IN APRIL

MOVIE REVIEW

WIL SESSIONS
REVIEWS
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ARE PEOPLE
WATCHING



New to Netflix

all the new movies and TV shows you can expect to see in April.

APRIL 1

- And Now ... Ladies and Gentlemen.. (2002)
- Bandolero (2000)
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- Buffalo Soldiers (2001)
- Down to Earth (2001)
- Leprechaun 3 (1995)
- The Beautician and the Beast (1997)
- The Crocodile Hunter: Collision Course (2002)
- Leprechaun 4: In Space (1997)
- Leprechaun 6: Back 2 tha Hood (2003)
- Suicide Kings (1997)
- Sunset Strip (2000)
- Underworld (2003)
- Whiteboyz (1999)
- Wrong Turn at Tahoe (2009)

APRIL 2

- Life Partners (2014)
- Sinbad: The Fifth Voyage (2014)

APRIL 3

- All Hail King Julien, Season 1 (5 New Episodes)
- Derek: Special
- Starry Eyes (2014)
- The Quiet Ones (2014)

APRIL 7

- Preservation (2014)
- Wilfred, Season 4

APRIL 8

- Halt and Catch Fire, Season 1 (2014)

APRIL 9

- Pioneer (2013)

APRIL 10

- Broken (2013)
- Burning Bridges (2014)
- Confusion Na Wa (2013)
- Finding Mercy (2012)
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- Flower Girl (2013)
- Forgetting June (2013)
- Knocking on Heaven's Door (2014)
- Lagos Cougars (2013)
- Lies Men Tell (2013)
- Mad Couple (2014)
- Marvel's Daredevil, Season 1 (2015) (Series Premiere)
- Mad Couple 2 (2014)
- Matters Arising (2014)
- October 1 (2014)
- Onye Ozi (2013)
- The Awakening (2013)
- Ties That Bind (2011)

APRIL 12

- The Identical (2014)

APRIL 13

- Video Game High School, Season 3

APRIL 14

- The Babadook (2014)
- Goodbye to Language (2014)
- Kink (2013)

APRIL 16

- Hot Fuzz (2007)

APRIL 17

- Baby Daddy, Season 4
- Chris D'Elia: Incurable
- They Came Together (2014)

APRIL 18

- Noah (2014)

APRIL 21

- A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night (2014)

APRIL 25

- Sons of Anarchy, Season 7

APRIL 26

- The Nutty Professor 2: Facing the Fear (2008)

APRIL 27

- National Treasure (2004)



Singer Jake Cowley releases first album

MICHELLE BATES
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He's 17 and with his first album, Jake Cowley (pronounced Cool-ee) offers a variety of genres in The Start.

"There (are) two or three gospel songs on there," he said, "but there's a variety for everyone. We have R&B gospel, country gospel, blues, power ballads and some Southern gospel songs. 'You'll Never Walk Alone' is an adult inspirational song, but it does have the meaning of Jesus in it, because you'll never walk alone with Jesus."

The name of his album, The Start, is indicative of how the First Baptist Church of Minden member got his "start" in music and launching his first album along with his career.

"It's a young and innovative approach to gospel," Cowley's father, Jeff, said. "There's a couple of songs that are very contemporary in nature for younger people – for teenagers. There needs to be appeal to a younger generation, music that communicates to them on their level."

Launching his first album is exciting and nerve-racking, Jake Cowley says.

"I'm glad the good Lord gave me the opportunity to do something like this and carry this with not only the people around me but hopefully all over and bless people in a positive way," he said. "I've been nervous, but it's a lot of fun."

As a young child growing into his teen years, he sang at church and other venues spreading the message of Jesus through song. And when he and his family became members of First Baptist Church of Minden about two years ago, he met a man that would help his music career take off.

Todd DuBose, music minister at FBC Minden, offered Cowley a spot in the church's gospel quartet, Chordsmith. Cowley continues to sing with this group today.

DuBose says Cowley will go far in his career.

"He's amazing," DuBose says. "He's a hard worker; he practices all the time. I've

FUN FACTS ABOUT JAKE

Favorite food: Italian (Japanese runs a close second)

Favorite music: Blues, R&B

Favorite color: Blue

Favorite car: Porsche, Range Rover Sport

Favorite TV show: Andy Griffith; he also likes The Voice, American Idol

had a lot of talented kids come through, but he will take off."

DuBose says he happened upon Cowley when his daughter and Cowley were extras in a movie and, as they say, the rest is history. DuBose introduced him to Gordon Mote, an award-winning pianist who is blind. Jeff Cowley says the opportunity to have the album produced by Mote, through DuBose's connection to him, was a "God thing."

"His mentors have made a huge impact," Jeff Cowley said, "allowing him to grow and develop and introducing him to the right people that provided a path for him to continue to get this album done."

The title song, The Start, was written by DuBose, and Cowley says he doesn't want to choose a favorite from his album, because the 12 songs on it are the top choices out of hundreds of songs. However, he seemed most excited about You'll Never Walk Alone because it resonates with him spiritually. Jeff Cowley called the song an "old soul" song, and it's the only song on the album that is not original. The rest are new, fresh songs.

"I cannot have a favorite, because they're all good songs," he said. "Picking all the songs was hard, but I feel like with each song not only did I have a connection, but people who would listen to them had a connection. I personally enjoyed each and

every one of them because they had a special meaning behind each song."

Cowley has been singing since he was just 2 years old. His father put him on top of the pulpit with microphone in hand, and he sang Jesus Loves Me – on key, on pitch throughout the entire song. Jeff Cowley says that's when he and his wife Denise realized their youngest son had been given a gift.

"He got most of his talent from his mom," Jeff Cowley said, laughing. "Neecy (Denise) has had a lot of influence on him from the time he was a baby in his musical taste and just his love for music in general, because she loves music. We were involved in church work and music and we did that for a number of years. We had the opportunity to provide an environment where he could learn to sing."

He says his son's gift of song is a God-given talent. He and his family believe that no matter what God blesses a person with, that person should use the talents God bestows, he says.

"I've always sang," Jake Cowley said, "and at about age 8 or 9, I was singing at Evangel, my church, and I think after I sang Amazing Grace there, that was the first time I knew that's what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I was saved when I was 6 years old, and I was in my room sitting with my mom and dad. We'd just finished Bible study, and we were talking about dying. So, I asked if I die, what happens? I realized then that I wanted to become a Christian and be saved. With that, I think that's when gospel music really took a different turn for me."

Cowley will be in concert at 6 p.m. Sunday, April 12, at FBC Minden. The concert will also feature Gordon Mote, Angela Primm, Gayle Mayes and Chip Davis as well as the First Baptist Minden Celebration Choir and Orchestra.

For more information, call the church at 377-4434.

The concert is free.

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Review: Chappie has stunning visuals

BY WIL SESSIONS
Guest Columnist

Chappie is the newest film by writer/director Neill Blomkamp, and it has the same familiar problems as his other well known hit District 9, and it all has to do with it's lack of originality.

The movie, centered around a robot with artificial intelligence, is basically a retread of older, better Sci-fi movies like Short Circuit, Robocop, and Artificial Intelligence, but with none of the joy, depth, or ambition involved.

It's strengths(what few there are) lie within it's visual style and cast. Chappie's visuals are absolutely stunning, with CGI characters that look as though you can actually reach out and touch them, and sets that are bleak and dark but help the bright visuals of the explosions and characters stand out.

The film's cast is also unique with

many very talented actors and actresses like Hugh Jackman(sporting a mullet that would make Billy-Ray Cyrus blush), Sigourney Weaver, Dev Patel and Sharlto Copley, who stars as the voice of Chappie.

However most of the talent is cast aside for rave-rap artists Ninja, Yolandi, and America who serve as Chappie's "family" alongside Patel who plays Chappie's creator. Jackman and Copley are the standouts who both deliver great performances that actually bring a hint of depth to their characters, but are dragged down by the underwhelming script.

Chappie is essentially a joyless, bland experience that really offers nothing new from Blomkamp when it comes to the film's uninspired story, but has enough visual spectacle to at least keep you entertained.

Wil Sessions is a senior at Benton High School. To submit your reviews, email bruce@the318mix.com.



40 is the new 26 in TV Land's new series 'Younger'

NEW YORK — Sutton Foster doesn't turn back time on her new TV series, "Younger," she just lies about her age.

The TV Land series premieres Tuesday with two episodes, beginning at 10 p.m. EDT.

Created and produced by Darren Starr (behind "Sex and the City"), "Younger" stars Sutton Foster as a 40-year-old named Liza, who is divorced and finds she cannot get an entry-level job in publishing because she's considered too old. So, with the help of a friend (Debi Mazar), she pretends to be 26 years old.

The lie snowballs and Liza finds herself not just pretending at work (with a deliciously over-the-top boss played by Miriam Shor), but also creating a social life as a 26-year-old. Liza gets a younger boyfriend who thinks they're the same age and a new BFF (Hilary Duff). Sometimes she forgets the lie isn't real, like when she cracks up over a "suicide

pact" she makes with Duff's character to enforce when they get "old." Other times it takes her a few beats to catch up, like when she tries to decipher texting acronyms.

There are shades of "Sex and the City" in "Younger." The series was shot in Manhattan and Brooklyn, and Patricia Field is the wardrobe consultant. While the premise is about age, the heart of the show is the friendships among the women.

Cast members talked about the series in recent interviews, with their answers edited for length and clarity.

Associated Press: Aging is something many women worry about but Sutton, let's be real, you're not old.

Sutton Foster: I just turned 40 so I don't feel old. I still feel very relevant and ... hip to ... whatever's goin' on. (Laughs.) But I do sort of understand. ... Even as I'm sort of navigating my own life and my own career you see like this legion of young peo-

ple comin' down the pike and you're like, 'Oh, wow!' There are roles that I'm gonna no longer be able to play because it's a reality.'

Debi Mazar: It's a current conversation. My friend Madonna is sort of like the cheerleader, the ringleader of this discussion of ageism to a degree. She falls off the stage, she gets back up. Her tours have sold out already like across the world practically, and I mean she's 56. I find her really inspiring. I think that this discussion is something women have.

AP: "Younger" tapes in New York and Brooklyn. Hilary, was it a difficult decision to relocate from Los Angeles?

Hilary Duff: I read the pilot and I'm like, 'Oh, such a good one.' ... Then I get on the phone with (Darren Starr) and my agent and they're like, 'OK, we're shooting in New York in September,' and I was like, 'Wait, what? I can't do that. My son just started school. I'm in the middle of making my record. I'm separated from

my husband.' (She's since filed for divorce from former pro hockey player Mike Comrie.) I mean there was a lot — it was a big year for me, so it was a big chance and a big risk and I'm so glad I did it. I think the change of scenery was good for me.

AP: What is the wardrobe for the show?

Miriam Shor: My character, Diana Trout, can push some boundaries. It helps you create the character. She has the audacity to put on a necklace that Flava Flav would be like, 'Mmm, I don't think we can rock that.' She'd be like, 'Yes we can!' She pulls it off.

AP: Nico, you're the only male in the cast (playing Liza's tattoo artist, Brooklyn hipster boyfriend, Josh). What's that like?

Nico Tortorella: Fantastic! I wish every job was like this. (Laughs.) I wouldn't trade it for anything. Are you kidding? It's amazing.

Hot on TV: Zombies, basketball and Jesus

Zombies, basketball and Jesus Christ have been hot television properties during the past week.

The Nielsen company said that AMC's fifth season finale for "The Walking Dead" on Sunday was seen by 15.8 million viewers. That's the third biggest audience ever for the hit drama and its best for a season finale. Its largest live audience, of 17.3 million, was for the first episode of this season.

"It's tough enough in today's competitive environment to command attention, and even harder to hold on to it," said Charlie Collier, AMC president, expressing pleasure in the show's growth through five seasons.

"The Walking Dead" didn't quite match the numbers for Fox's new sensation, "Empire," which drew 17.6 million for the finale of its first season earlier in March.

But the AMC finale reached 10.4 million viewers aged 18-to-49, the key demographic for advertising sales, and "Empire" had 8.8 million in that age group, Nielsen said.

Given how television is watched, however, those numbers are like reporting the score of a baseball game during the seventh inning stretch. Both shows are expected to gain millions more viewers when people who watch through on demand services or DVRs are added in during the coming weeks.

The TBS network reached the biggest audience in its history with Saturday night's thrilling NCAA men's basketball regional final between undefeated Kentucky and upset-minded Notre Dame. The game was seen by an average of 14.8 million people, peaking at just under 20 million during the tense ending. Another network, the National Geographic Channel, reached its biggest audience ever during the weekend. "Killing Jesus," its story on the crucifixion of Christ based on the book by Martin Dugard and Fox News Channel's Bill O'Reilly, was seen by 3.7 million people on Sunday, Nielsen said.

CBS won the week in prime-time, averaging 8.8 million viewers. ABC had 6.1 million, NBC had 5.8 million, Fox had 3.7 million, Univision had 2.9 million, Telemundo had 1.5 million, the CW had 1.4 million and ION Television had 1.1 million.

TBS was the week's most popular cable network, averaging 4.65 million viewers in prime time. AMC had 2.17 million, USA had 1.75 million, Fox News Channel had 1.68 million and the Disney Channel had 1.49 million.

NBC's "Nightly News" topped the evening newscasts with an average of 8.7 million viewers. ABC's "World News" was second with 8.6 million and the "CBS Evening News" had 6.7 mil

For the week of March 23-29, the top 10 shows, their networks and viewerships: "NCIS," CBS, 16.23 million; "The Walking Dead," AMC, 15.78 million; NCAA Men's Basketball: Notre Dame vs. Kentucky, TBS, 14.75 million; "NCIS: New Orleans," CBS, 14.42 million; "Dancing With the Stars," ABC, 13.85 million; "60 Minutes," CBS, 13.83 million; "The Voice" (Monday), NBC, 12.2 million; "The Voice" (Tuesday), NBC, 11.62 million; "Madam Secretary," CBS, 11.47 million; "NCAA Studio Show" (Saturday), TBS, 10.83 million.

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