

# Xtra!

#vdtextra

## Racing the Presidents

FROM JOE

Many pollsters use detailed data to determine who the next President will be. I figured I'd use an auto racing game. Politics can be a lot like racing, you know. Rick Perry just slammed the turn one wall and is out, for instance.

So I put all the candidates in NASCAR Racing, a 1994 game by Papyrus Racing Games, and plugged them into cars. It was a game I spent more time playing as a kid than any other put together, with the exception of "Doom" and "Doom II."

I was short about 15 or 16 drivers, so I put Valdosta Daily Times coworkers in the remaining cars. That evening, I raced the whole field — 39 cars — at Atlanta Motor Speedway for a 328-lap, 500-mile race.

Who would be the next President? It wasn't going to be George Pataki. He was behind the wall with an engine problem. Stuart Taylor wouldn't find victory on this day either, as his clutch crapped out shy of halfway. Jim Webb's day was ruined, too, as his gear-box failed.

As laps ticked by, I started won-

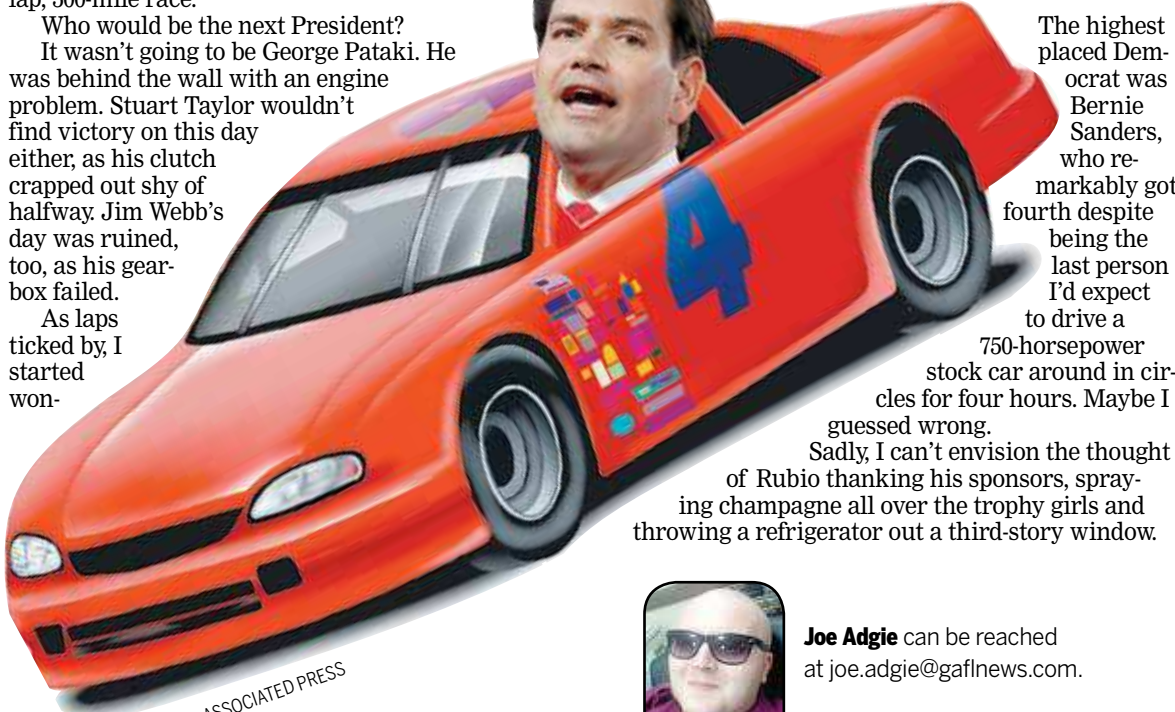


dering how different the world would be if pollsters just ran presidential candidates in simulated motor races in computer games.

That's when Hillary Clinton slapped the wall in turn four, ending her day.

I can imagine she blamed the vast right-wing conspiracy, claiming the scandals (Benghazi, Inboxghazi, to name a couple) distracted her. In other news, "ghazi" has replaced "gate" as the go-to suffix for all scandals.

Marco Rubio ended up winning. Donald Trump was a non-factor, finishing two laps down in 15th. I could inevitably see him protesting to virtually everyone in authority, claiming everyone else was cheating, particularly Rubio, who ran a car at least 150 pounds too light, Trump would undeniably claim.



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The highest placed Democrat was Bernie Sanders, who remarkably got fourth despite being the last person I'd expect to drive a

750-horsepower stock car around in circles for four hours. Maybe I guessed wrong.

Sadly, I can't envision the thought of Rubio thanking his sponsors, spraying champagne all over the trophy girls and throwing a refrigerator out a third-story window.



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## Finally, a good M. Night Shyamalan movie

FROM STUART

It is with joy most resembling relief that I say something I haven't been able to say in almost a decade: I don't regret spending money on an M. Night Shyamalan film.

His latest, "The Visit," takes the found-footage route and combines it with Blumhouse Productions ("Oculus," "Sinister," "Insidious," "Unfriended") horror strategy of setting a movie in a singular location.

The titular visit sends siblings Becca (Olivia DeJonge), 15, and Tyler (Ed Oxenbould), 13, off to their grandparents' house for a week.

Their mom ran away from home before either were born, fleeing with the older substitute teacher she had fallen in love with, and she never went back.

The teacher ended up leaving about four years before the movie starts.

Both Becca and Tyler are still reeling from the divorce in their own ways. Their mom is still reeling from having left her parents.

Becca, an amateur documentary filmmaker is convinced that

making a doc about their trip will give her mom healing and catharsis and she enlists her brother in her efforts.

The conceit goes a long way to explaining why Becca and Tyler are always filming and why they continue to as things start to go wrong.

Of course, this being a horror movie, things quickly go wrong.

Or do they?

Their grandparents, Nana (Deanna Dunagan) and Pop Pop (Peter McRobbie), are weird, definitely — Pop Pop is hiding things in a shed out back and warns the kids not to go into the basement, always a horror movie red flag; Nana gets really weird as soon as the sun goes down — but, as every character in the film says repeatedly, they're old.

In this, the film is as much a meditation on how painful it is to watch someone you love slip into dementia.

The film settles into a familiar rhythm — the nights are strange and frightening, but the next day brings clarity and explanation — but quickly eschews the trope as the days

become as strange as the night.

It's also surprisingly funny, intentionally funny, with most of the humor coming from Tyler, a 12-year-old white kid who's favorite rapper is Tyler the Creator and who is convinced his next mixtape will be a hit (in interviews, Shyamalan has said he made three cuts of the movie: one pure comedy, one pure horror and the one that went to theaters).

The white kid who thinks he's a rapper is a tired stereotype and one that could have fell flat on its face, taking the movie with it.

The same could

be said of Becca, the angst-ridden teen who wants to be a capital-A Artist, or the grandparents, who could have come down on the side of either too silly to be scary or too menacing to be believable.

But to the actors' credit, they all come across as actual people instead of horror/comedy stereotypes.

If you're seeing it, see it with people. Fear, like laughter, is contagious and "The" Visit brings both in equal measure.



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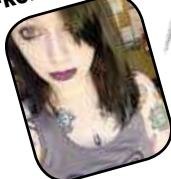
### Ashley Street Station

**Monday-Friday:** Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m. (\$2 wells, \$5 pitchers, \$1.50 Rolling Rock, Natty Lt, PBR, High Life, or Schlitz)  
**Tuesday:** \$2 PBR Tallboy and High Life  
**Wednesday:** \$2 off all Whiskey

### Bleu Cafe

**Everyday:** Happy hour from 5-7 p.m. (\$3 craft drafts, \$3 well liquors, \$3 house wines).  
**Sunday:** Happy hour all day.

FROM DESIREE



Desiree Carver can be reached at desiree.carver@gafnews.com.

## What school failed to teach me

- How to buy a car.
- How to file taxes.
- What taxes even are.
- Anything about health insurance.
- How to not waste money.
- Anything about the perils of pregnancy.
- Anything about not getting pregnant.
- Anything about mental health.
- Student loans.
- Dealing with debt (typically from student loans).
- That the majority of those with a college degree will NOT immediately get a career in their field of study.
- The majority of college graduates won't even use their degree.
- How to buy/rent a house/apartment.
- What a lease even means.

## Drink

### Mulligans

**Tuesday:** \$2 Tuesday (except top shelf and Redbull)  
**Wednesday:** \$2 bottles, Jaeger Bombs and Fireball, \$8 liquor pitchers  
**Thursday:** \$2 wells and bottles  
**Friday:** 8 dollar buckets, 2 dollar well.  
**Saturday:** \$3.50 Mid shelf, \$2 bottles



## Specials

### Bleu Pub

**Everyday:** Happy Hour from 5-7 p.m. and midnight to 2 a.m. (\$1 PBR, \$2 wells, \$4 craft drafts)  
**Monday:** Happy Hour all night  
**Tuesday:** \$2 wells all night  
**Wednesday:** \$1 PBR Tallboys all night  
**Thursday:** \$3 craft drafts all night

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Band Profile:

# Brian Davis

FROM DESIREE

Bluewater welcomed country singer-songwriter Brian Davis Sept. 12.

He is best known as co-writer of Brantley Gilbert's recent number one hit, "One Hell of an Amen." and has worked on four other cuts on Gilbert's latest album.

From Bilboa, N.C., Davis grew up hitting local honky-tonks and learning the way of the country world.

"We are just so like minded," said Davis of Gilbert. "It was just effortless. We've done several tours together and he's just an all-around good dude."

While his sound may lean toward the country side of things, that does not mean those are his only influences.

"My iPod is full of everything from reggae to rock," said Davis. "I, of course, love Hank (Williams Jr.) and all those guys, but I also feel bands like Matchbox 20 and Counting Crows influenced me as well."

On his current tour, he has hit 60 to 70 cities so far. While he has toured with Gilbert on several occasions, the tour is getting him back into the smaller rooms of local bars, paying homage to his roots.

His love of the coast has led to him playing many cities near the sea. Davis feels that the coast has served as a sort of inspiration for much of his work.

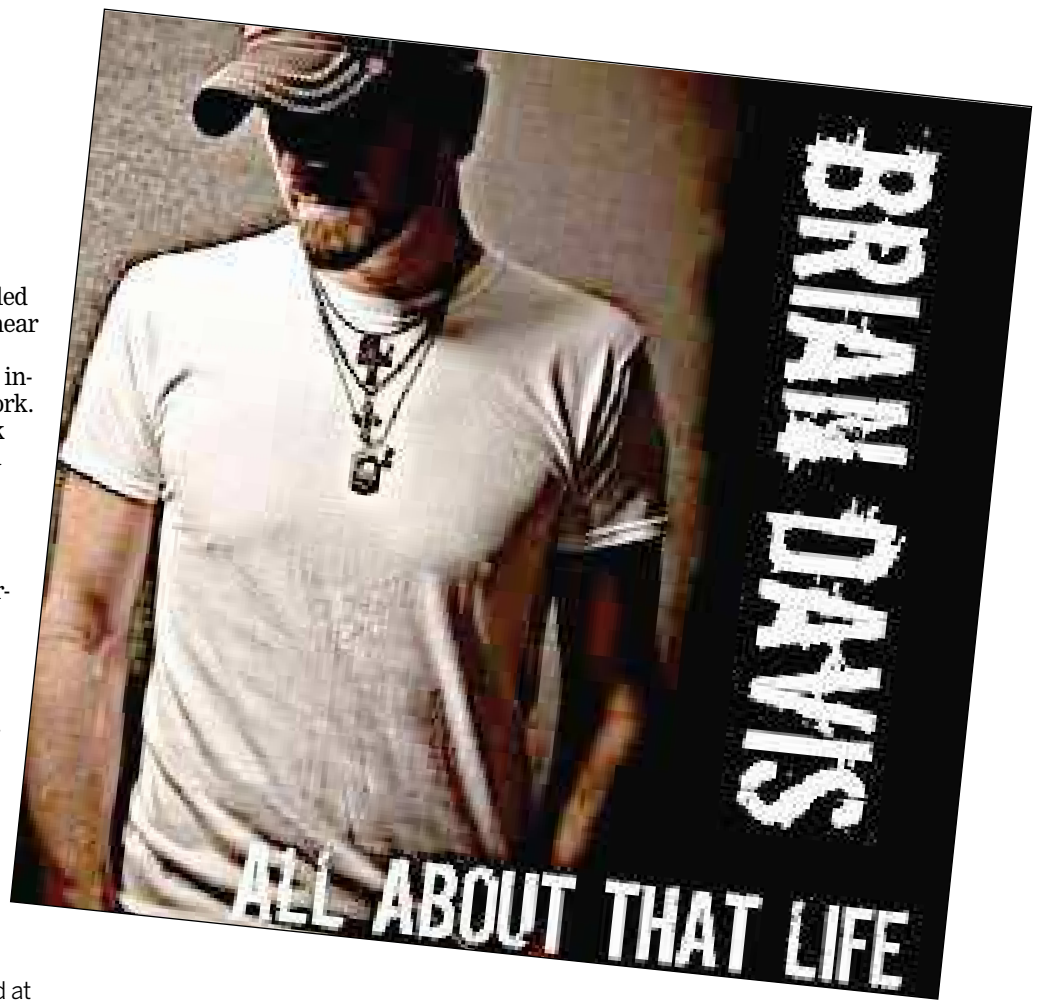
For those hoping to break into the business, Davis said the most important part of being an artist is writing songs.

"It all starts with a song every time," said Davis. "Perspective on life made all the difference. Writing songs is where it's at."

Davis has seven albums that can be found on iTunes. For more information about Davis and his upcoming tours, visit [www.briandavislive.com](http://www.briandavislive.com).



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SUBMITTED PHOTO

## EVENTS

What's happening around town?

### Ashley Street Station

Thursday: Live Acoustic @ 10 p.m.

Friday: Adam Hood Band w/ West Virginia Slims and Jarrod Brogdon @ 10 p.m.

Saturday: Dead Flowers @ 10 p.m.

Sunday: Karaoke Night @ 9 p.m.

Monday: Metal Monday w/ Synapse Defect, Invert the Idols, The Seduction, Scowl Brow, Hashtaghollygrail and Dead Southern Bishop @ 8 p.m.

### Bleu Pub

Wednesday: Trivia @ 9 p.m.

### Bleu Cafe

Friday: Rick Rambling @ 7 p.m.

### Grassroots Coffee

Friday: Kyle Keller & The Romans

### Mulligan's

Thursday: Keith Michaels @ 10:30 p.m.

Friday: Luke Ferguson @ 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Karaoke @ 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Trivia @ 10 p.m.

### Salty Snapper

Thursday: Mark & Mark @ 6-9 p.m.

Friday: The Remedy @ 7-11 p.m. (Patio); John Sutton Band (Main Stage)

Saturday: Jarrod Brogdon @ 7-11 p.m. (Patio); Kevin & Leah @ 8-11 p.m. (Main Stage)

Sunday: Lineage @ 6-9 p.m.

Wednesday: Cosmic Voice @ 6-9 p.m.

## Superbad: Where are they now?

FROM DERRICK

I was scrolling through the TV guide a few weeks ago when I came across a title that I hadn't seen in years but to this day ranks in my top three all-time favorite comedies. However, just before pressing select on Comedy Central, I noticed a "2007" within a set of parentheses set next to the word "Superbad," and my god ... It's been over eight years since the release of "Superbad."

After a few moments of quiet reflection on the fact that some of the people I cover for a living were 10 years old or younger when perhaps my favorite raunchy comedy ever came out, I began thinking about how much has changed in the lives of the actors and actresses that played the adolescent characters in one of the many Judd Apatow-produced hits.

The pair of socially awkward high school seniors who come up with a half-baked plan to impress their classmates by purchasing booze for a party are played by Michael Cera and Jonah Hill, the former of which became universally recognized as the trope of "awkward teen who can't talk to girls" from his work in "Juno," "Youth in Revolt," and "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World," and the latter of which has been nominated for two Academy Awards as the best supporting actor in "Moneyball" and "The Wolf of Wall Street" since penning pictures of the male anatomy in 2007.

Although Cera and Hill's careers soared to new heights after "Superbad," neither actor was a complete unknown beforehand. Cera spent three seasons as the Charlie Brownesque George-Michael Bluth on the cult-classic television series "Arrested Development," and Hill was coming off of building a fake university in the movie "Accepted" before taking



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a role in "Superbad."

But unlike Cera and Hill, their "Superbad" costars Emma Stone and Christopher Mintz-Plasse didn't boast much of a resume before filling their respective roles as Jules and the immortal "McLovin."

Stone has had maybe more success than any member of the "Superbad" cast since throwing the party that becomes Hill's mission to supply with alcohol. In fact, after playing major roles in "The House Bunny" and "Zombieland," and starring in "Easy A," "Crazy, Stupid, Love" and "The Amazing Spiderman," Stone has become a member of the next generation of A-list celebrities.

Mintz-Plasse hasn't found quite the on-screen success as the rest of his former cast members, but to this day the man with the name inspired by an Irish R&B singer is still the most memorable character in "Superbad" after getting socked in the face while trying to buy alcohol, going

on a joyride with a two of the worst police officers in the world (played by Bill Hader and Seth Rogan), and eventually becoming the only one of the triumvirate himself, Cera, and Hill to successfully lose his virginity. Still, Mintz-Plasse has found some quality roles since "Superbad" in "Role Models," "Kick-Ass," and voice work in "How to Train Your Dragon."

As I sat on the couch watching Cera, Hill, Stone, and Mintz-Plasse spout off poorly used, and generally unnecessary curse words on the same screen I couldn't help but think, have I matured as much as the careers of my favorite movie's cast? Then I snickered as Hill's character reminds Cera that the best foods are phallic-shaped. Probably not.



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## The magic you were looking for

FROM ADAM

No matter how much you liked or disliked the 2013 horror movie "You're Next," I am confident you walked away from the movie dying to know who sings that song. If you've seen the movie, you know exactly what I'm talking about.

"You're Next" opens and closes with "Looking for the Magic" by the Dwight Twilley Band. The song is on continuous repeat throughout the entire film but only heard a few times as an interlude to the movie's "Home Alone"-style violent hijinks. The song book-ends a

rather decent slasher film that is almost entirely eclipsed by an amazing and obscure song choice.

When I first heard the song, I automatically assumed it was from a new indie band that I needed to become acquainted with, or maybe it was Spoon.

"Is that Spoon?" I asked my date during the movie. "I don't think so. Maybe. I don't know. Stop talking. That girl just died," she said.

When I got home, I quickly learned "Looking for the Magic" is from a 1977 album that had so far eluded my classic-rock knowledge and collection thanks to label politics.

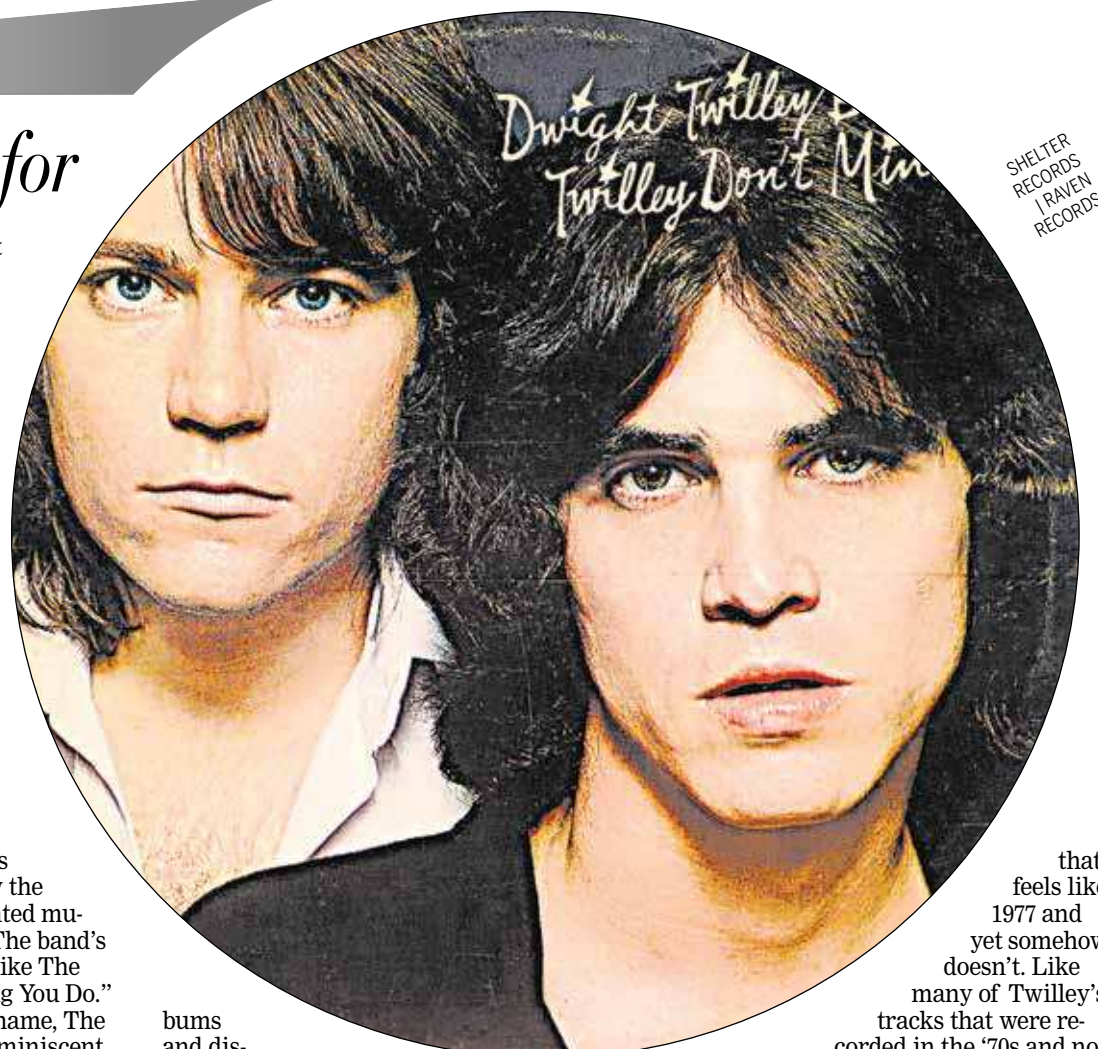
The Dwight Twilley Band is a too common example of how the music industry can stifle talented musicians and derail success. The band's history almost plays out like The Wonders in "That Thing You Do." The band's original name, The Oisters, is even reminiscent of The One-ders.

Dwight Twilley still makes music; his most recent album was released in 2014, but his early career is littered with unreleased al-

bums and disappointing sales despite critical raves.

"Looking for the Magic" is the second track on the album "Twilley Don't Mind." Twilley's close friend, Tom Petty, plays guitar on the song, and its infectious groove and pleasant, echoing vocals manage to still seem fresh in 2015.

The rest of the album isn't bad either. "Trying to Find My Baby" and the title track are a few standouts. It's an album



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that feels like 1977 and yet somehow doesn't. Like many of Twilley's tracks that were recorded in the '70s and not released until the early '90s, "Twilley Don't Mind" seems like an album out of time. You can find the album in on Spotify and Google Play.



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