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# KC confidential

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## Glazer: Going Up? Local Funny Guy AJ Finney's Career Achieving Liftoff

Craig Glazer  
 Mar 27, 2012

*As much as any KC comic in recent years, **A.J. Finney** has moved into the "making it" group...*

AJ was just signed by **Parallel Management** in Los Angeles. It's a top notch management team that reps **Larry The Cable Guy**, **Jeff Foxworthy** and **Lisa Lampanelli**. It's a tough agency to get into and they only have a few clients, most of whom are stars in the industry. Lisa for example was at the **Uptown** last weekend.

And all of the above names have been **Stanford's** regulars over the years.

AJ started with Stanford's doing open mic work in the early 2000's. He moved up the food chain quickly. He was also the comedy morning guy with **Max, Tanna and Moffitt** on **KY** for a couple years before they were taken off the air.

AJ's career took off a couple years back when he won an HBO national contest, called **HBO 21** in Las Vegas. He also placed in the **San Francisco Comedy Fest** (where **Robin Williams** got his break) and landed a national CD deal. The new CD is often played on comedy radio today, and landed in the iTunes Top 10. The CD is titled "My Brain Ain't Workin." And AJ was kind enough to give Stanford's and my brother and I a nice write up inside the CD jacket. Loyal guy.

Finney is moving out to LA so he can attack more options and continue advancing his career. Finney worked this past weekend at Stanford's and was a joy to work with, a pro, and one of the kindest people I've had the pleasure to see move to the top of his game.

It's always an inner joy to see one of your guys careers take off. It doesn't happen often, trust me. Even **Johnny Dare** has become a fan and we did his show last week.

*Sadly, I didn't get to work with AJ after late last week because I was in Las Vegas. I was in the air when KU thumped NC State. Damn it.*

My trip was both business and believe it or not a slight rest. I'm in Vegas often so I don't really gamble too much. I work out, hit the pool and catch some sun. Nice thing is I will be a guest of **Kevin Hart's** at Mandalay Bay Theater. Kevin also started early on with Stanford's.

Hart worked our Westport club several times on his way up and has since become THE guy of black performers in comedy. Hart was recently in KC for a sold out theater show. The room he has in Vegas seats 8,000 and is sold out. Kevin is best known for his many films, like Soul Plane and his ABC TV series The Big House. He has replaced **Katt Williams** as the new No. 1 comedy man of color.

It's also nice to see out-of-town comics you helped on the way to the top, like Kevin. Hart, like AJ, was a pleasure to work with back in the early 2000's. He hasn't let money and fame change him much. And yes, I will drop in on old pals **Jimmy Walker** and maybe **David Brenner**. Both live in Vegas.



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money and stardom.

I really hope it all continues to come his way. I have so many young comics tell me, "I'm ready to headline, Craig!" This after about two years as an opener or feature act. As with AJ it usually takes 8-10 years to find your voice in this tough game.

AJ is a thinking man's comic. You should check him out.

**P.S. Yes I am taking the OVER on the Kansas City Royals.**

As of yesterday that number was 78 1/2 games. Meaning I am betting they win more than that number. So yes - once again - I'm believing in our local team. If you win you have to wait until October to get paid - baseball is a long season.

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## COMMENTS

### KEVIN HART IS STARK RAVING HILARIOUS....

paulwilsonkc 11:29:28 AM - Tue. Mar 27. 2012

On the other hand, I dont get Lisa L. A little of her goes a long, long way....

### AND IF YOURE TALKING ABOUT JP WILLIAMS COMPANY,

paulwilsonkc 01:00:21 PM - Tue. Mar 27. 2012

and Im sure you are, its Parallel Entertainment. He's an old WV boy who done good!

### YES SAME GUY..SAME COMPANY

Craig Glazer 01:41:06 PM - Tue. Mar 27. 2012

Yes I said Parallel I believe, yeah...he and I go way back to when he sigend Larry...met him a few times, we even bet on a Super Bowl together and won...tough agent...has done very well..I like him..

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- Mar 20, 2012 - Glazer: Woe Be to the Chiefs - Manning to Vault Denver to Atop AFC West
- Mar 20, 2012 - Sounds Good: Yonder Mountain@Liberty Hall, Andrew Bird@Uptown, Kinetiks@Jackpot
- Mar 19, 2012 - Glazer: Bill Self Sets Stage for Revenge Battle Against North Carolina @ Benedict Day



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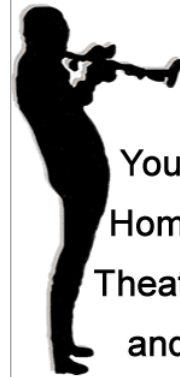
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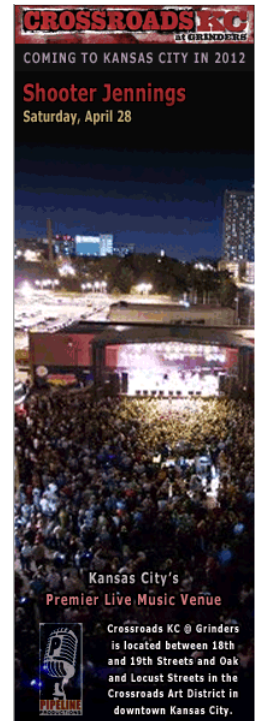
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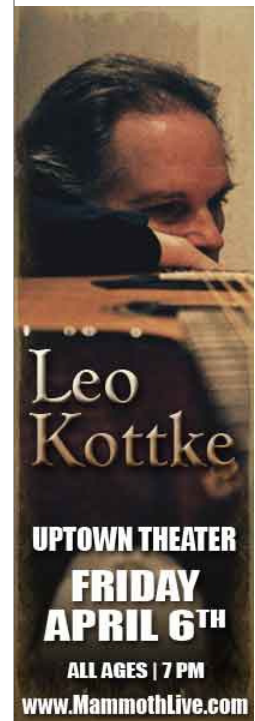
Mar 18, 2012 - New Jack City: Lame, Annoying Phrases We All Could Live Without  
 Mar 18, 2012 - McPansy: Jane's Addiction at the Uptown Theater, March 16, 2012  
 Mar 18, 2012 - Glazer: Westport Flexes Its Party Muscles, Claims High Ground on St. Paddy's  
 Mar 18, 2012 - Hearne: MU Blue; Don't Play it Again, Sam, Kleenex is for Crybabies  
 Mar 18, 2012 - Whinery: Taking Tony to Task on the True Meaning of Hate Crimes  
 Mar 17, 2012 - Hearne: KC Export Erich Mancow Muller Defends Rush, Debuts New TV Show  
 Mar 17, 2012 - Glazer: Chelsea Lately Unleashes PR Schmooze on Scribe & Stanford's  
 Mar 16, 2012 - Glazer: Missouri Chokes, Leaves Once in a Lifetime Season in Ruins  
 Mar 15, 2012 - Leftridge: Tournament Kicks Off, Work Production Plummets, Your Wife Doesn't Get "What the Big Deal is"  
 Mar 15, 2012 - Jack Goes Confidential: Jonah Hill, Channing Tatum, Graduated Losers Heading Back To '21 JUMP STREET'  
 Mar 15, 2012 - Starbeams: TIPS Line Goes American Idol & Prez Salutes KC Afrikan Nerds  
 Mar 15, 2012 - Glazer: World's Nicest Guy, KC Export Rob Riggle Plays Bad Guy in 21 Jump Street  
 Mar 14, 2012 - Sounds Good: Galactic@Liberty Hall, Jane's Addiction@Uptown, Kepi@Replay, Elders@Uptown St. Pats, We Were Promised Jetpacks@Riot Room  
 Mar 14, 2012 - Hearne: Vivien Jennings & Rainy Day Books Battle to Save Local Bookstores  
 Mar 13, 2012 - Glazer: KC Confidential Sign of the Apocalypse - Scribe Pens a Fiat Story  
 Mar 13, 2012 - Donnelly: Ava Luna & Night Moves at the Jackpot in Lawrence, March 9, 2012  
 Mar 13, 2012 - Glazer: Scribe Tries to Make Sense of Senseless Killings in Afghanistan, My Lai  
 Mar 13, 2012 - Starbeams: Mitt's Mop Makes Liberty. Model T Makes Liberty Memorial, Big Bang Theory  
 Mar 12, 2012 - New Jack City: Jack Wrestles With The Selling of The Great American Hard On  
 Mar 12, 2012 - Glazer: The Somewhat Obvious Reasons KU & MU Didn't Make the Cut as No. 1 Seeds  
 Mar 12, 2012 - Hearne: City Fathers Turn 'Fake St. Patty's' in Manhattan from Wilding into Snoozefest  
 Mar 12, 2012 - Glazer: Peyton Manning Disses Chiefs, Threatens KC Chances for Division Title  
 Mar 11, 2012 - Donnelly: Sapong Stunner Earns Sporting 3 Points in Season Debut  
 Mar 11, 2012 - Hearne: An Invitation to Come Swim with the Sharks @ KC Confidential  
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