

LIFE

AMERICA'S WEEKEND MAGAZINE

MARCH MADNESS

FOR 1.5 MILLION
TEENS,
NOTHING BEATS
THE BAND



Bandmates
Kellie Evans and
Matthew Waldschmitt
of Iowa's
Ankeny High School

YOUR WEEKEND



Of his post-*Idol* success, Daughtry, 27, says "I'm just grateful I didn't wait for something to fall in my lap. I took advantage of the opportunity."

NOW PLAYING . . .

Chris Daughtry

With his debut album, *Daughtry*, hitting the top of the charts, the singer successfully settles into life after *American Idol*

- **You're on a U.S. tour with your band. What can't you leave home without?** A picture of my wife [Deanna], my computer, razors for my head, a Bible . . . and I obviously have to get the clothes right.
- **Do you have any preshow rituals?** Normally I do push-ups. I've been told that when you get the blood flowing through your body, you have more energy to sing better.
- **How many push-ups can you do?** I don't know. I just do three or four sets of 30. Who knows, it may even make me look better onstage.
- **What made a rocker like you want to get married at age 20?** I felt like I didn't need to look anymore, that this was the person I was supposed to be with. If you know that, then you just go with it.
- **Do your kids [Hannah, 10, and Griffin, 8] like to rock out?** Absolutely. My daughter loves Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood.
- **Then surely you could introduce her.** There are so many singers my daughter wants to use me for—Hilary Duff, everybody in *High School Musical*, Hannah Montana. You name it, she's all over it. —ANYA STRZEMIEŃ

PURSUIITS

Orchid Fever

Flower shows are in season across the country, with orchids, once again, commanding attention. Here, three ways to get an early sniff of spring.

TO BUY Your local nursery is sure to carry a standard-issue phalaenopsis. But you'll find more unusual blooms at www.hoosierorchid.com. Or head to Washington, D.C., for the National Capital Orchid Society's auction at the United States National Arboretum,

on March 3. Rare orchids will be up for grabs, with starting bids at around \$10. For more info, go to www.ncos.us.

TO LEARN At the New York Botanical Garden's annual Orchid Show (www.nybg.org), the flowers wind

around tree trunks and branches (just as they do in the wild), and terrariums allow you to see two-millimeter-wide miniatures up close. Take the audio tour, also available on the Web site, for fun tidbits, including the mythology of the slipper orchid. Through April 8.

TO BROWSE Prefer your blooms on your coffee table rather than your windowsill? Pick up Harold Feinstein's *Orchidelirium* (Bulfinch Press). The master flower photographer focuses on some 100 orchids, including those above. Just beautiful. —MEETA AGRAWAL

