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URBANtrendz WHAT'S ON TV

*645. Friday Oct. 22 - Thursday Oct. 28, 2010

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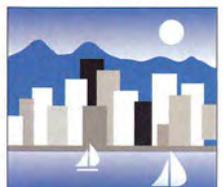
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On TV



**JULIA BENSON
AS LT. JAMES**

JULIA BENSON RETURNS TO STARGATE

Julia Benson is reprising her role as 2nd Lt. Vanessa James on 'SGU: Stargate Universe', on the show's second season. Julia recently won the 2010 Leo Award for Best Supporting Performance by a Female in a Dramatic Series.

Julia's character as Lt. Vanessa James is versatile and engaging - a tough fighting broad with an inner vulnerability.

'Stargate Universe' follows a band of soldiers, scientists and civilians, who fend for themselves after their base comes under attack. The survivors emerge aboard an ancient ship, locked on an unknown course, unable to return to Earth. The danger, adventure and hope they find on board reveals the heroes and villains among them. Benson has recently been cast as the female lead in 'Earth's Final Hours,' to be directed by David Hogan for the SyFy Channel.

Julia's character is Chloe Edwards, a no-nonsense professional who works with the Science Division of the Defense Administration and is assigned to investigate a baffling anomaly.

Julia's TV credits include roles on 'Harper's Island,' 'Reaper,' 'Supernatural,' 'Smallville,' 'Whisper' and 'Masters of Horror.'

Film credits include 'Mr. Troop Mom,' 'Blonde and Blonder,' and 'Lying to Be Perfect.' Julia has just finished co-creating and producing a half hour, single-camera comedy pilot for City TV, with hubby Peter Benson.

CANADA'S WORST DRIVER RETURNS

Last Fall - gripped by grinding gears, shocked by speeders, and offended by fender-benders - viewers nationwide left their cars in the driveway, stayed home and tuned in to Canada's Worst Driver. And now it's back, returning to Discovery Channel on Monday, October 25 at 10pm. Buckle up! Season 6 promises to be the bumpiest ride yet!

The series returns with host Andrew Youngusband and features new drivers, new challenges and countless cringe-inducing moments, plus exclusive online content at Worstdriver.ca

CWD 6 follows eight disastrous drivers from across the country - each nominated by a friend, family member or colleague - as they're put through their paces in a controlled driving environment and evaluated by a panel of driving experts. Can their bad behind-the-wheel behaviours be curbed at Driver Rehab with expert coaching and a little cajoling? Week by week, one driver will earn the right to merge back onto Canada's roadways, until there is only one unlucky driver left at the side of the road, owing the dubious title of Canada's Worst Driver.

Since its debut in 2005, almost 50 drivers have undergone CWD's unique brand of intensive rehab. And yet, there is no shortage of delin-

quent drivers still terrorizing Canadian roadways!

Each episode through the series features some tried-and-tested challenges - and unique to Season 6, some "lessons from the racetrack" in speed performance fundamentals - to push the drivers to their limits and teach them crucial safe driving skills.

To the secure the safety of unwitting drivers and pedestrians everywhere, CWD assembled a panel of driving experts who put these driving menaces through tests designed to improve their motor skills. After first confiscating their licenses, the experts corral these driving menaces and enrol them in a "crash course" at the Driver Rehabilitation Centre. Once there, the participants meet the team of experts, including: Cam Woolley, traffic expert and former OPP sergeant, returning for a sixth season; Philippe Létoirneau, a professional high-performance driving instructor, back for a third season; and Peter Mellor, an instructor with the Advanced Motoring Bureau (AMB) who joins the panel for a second season. And new to Season 6, psychotherapist Dr. Lauren Kennedy-Smith will examine some of the issues behind the drivers' horrible habits.

Before rehab, these devastating drivers were marked by everything from multiple driver's licence exam failure and seven-time driving suspensions, to paralyzing fear of reversing, hills and parallel parking. The experts have their work cut out for them!

GOING FROM EX TO SEXY

There have been a lot of cruel reality shows, but this is right up there. So it's something of a surprise to see that "Re-Vamped" is back for another season Mondays on Slice. If you haven't seen this, or just forgot, the series, hosted by Andrea Bain, involves eight women who have been jilted by their boyfriends or husbands and are undergoing a sort of sexual rejuvenation. The eight, ranging in age from 21 to 46, are taken away to a mansion, where they are put on diets and an exercise regimen and taught how to be exotic dancers.

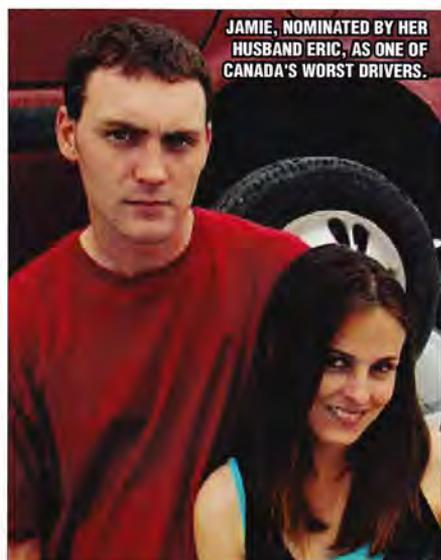
At the end of the "boot camp," they will put on a burlesque show for their exes. The women are trained by a variety of experts, including a burlesque dancer, a fitness expert who treats them as if they're Marine recruits, and an "expert in sexuality and relationships" who puts them through role-playing games. As if that weren't sadistic enough, the show is a mon-

tage of lessons and the usual backstage squabbling and maneuvering, as well as frequent commentaries from the women on how they were dumped. One found her husband, 24 years her senior, in Florida with a younger woman. Another got a text message, at work, from a boyfriend who "just couldn't do it anymore." Another came in with her little boy and found her husband in bed with his girlfriend.

To rub it in, the subtitles that appear when each woman talks describe her in terms of the demise of her relationship: "Jennifer, 21, dumped by text message." Often it seems as if they were chosen for the most vile breakup experiences. At its heart, the show is about women who have been treated badly by men refashioning themselves for men.



**RE-VAMPED CO-HOST
& CHOREOGRAPHER,
KAITLYN REGEHR**



**JAMIE, NOMINATED BY HER
HUSBAND ERIC, AS ONE OF
CANADA'S WORST DRIVERS.**

URBANtrendz WHAT'S ON TV

Established in 1994, URBANtrendz WHAT'S ON is a FREE weekly publication delivered to Vancouver's core communities: Yaletown, West End, Downtown, Coal Harbour, False Creek North, False Creek South, City Gate, and International Village.

We provide NOVUS and SHAW TV and movie listings, plus community event information exclusive to the area of distribution.

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We welcome letters, ideas and suggestions.

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