

**BEST MALE ATHLETE**

George McNeill, pro golfer

Fort Myers' own PGA player averages a seven-figure salary from a game that just drives most of us nuts. The former FSU Seminole has whittled his average score to under 71, and has made the cut 47 times since turning pro in 1998. With an average drive of 290 yards, McNeill is 6 feet of cool under pressure. Ladies, in case you're wondering, he's a Libra.

BEST ESSAYIST

Amy Bennett Williams

Whether Amy Williams is discussing the smell of overly ripe fruit, the sound of chickens in the morning, or the sight of thick Spanish moss dripping gray-green from local oaks, she makes our senses come alive and brings a quiet sense of wonder and appreciation to the smallest of experiences. Whether you're reading her work in *The News-Press* or listening to her read it on WUCU-FM, Ms. Williams' words bring forth a richer, more saturated world that has been there the whole time, but that somehow most of us have missed.



Alter Ego.

COURTESY PHOTO

BEST LOCAL BAND

Alter Ego

There's more than one reason this huge band has such a loyal local following: a) They're all great musicians; b) they play R&B, funk, pop, rock, country; and c) they all have professions by day, so they play gigs for FUN. Who knew these dance-inspiring dudes include a dermatologist, a federal prosecutor, a CPA and an insurance broker among them? Look for them at Skeeter B's or The Sandy Parrot; a full list of gigs is online.

Details: www.alteregoband.net**BEST OPEN MIC**

Nita's Sweet Bean Café

Nita's hosts a remarkably eclectic mixture of seasoned, local musicians and newcomers who want to try their hand at public performance. According to one local participant, the thing that makes this event stand out above all other open mic nights is Nita's fantastic P.A. system. Players need only to bring their instrument and plug in. No schlepping, no setup delays. There's a sign-up sheet when you get there, and the handy dandy P.A. guy. The environment is an unexpected urban treat; stop by and be surprised.

BEST LOCAL MUSICIAN

Cliff Williams of AC/DC

This Southwest Florida-based Brit has lived the life most teenage boys (and more than a few of their dads) dream of living. Bassist Cliff Williams might be the guy who occasionally frequents your favorite sushi bar, but he's also a longtime member of AC/DC, one of the top five best-selling bands of all time in America, and Sony BMG's No. 1 best-selling musical act worldwide. The band responsible for head-banging hits like "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap," "Back in Black" and "Highway to Hell" has been nominated for five Grammys, immortalized in the Hollywood Walk of Fame and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Need WINDOW TREATMENTS?



Beautiful Plantation Shutters on SALE NOW

ALL AMERICAN MADE!!!

Wood, Poly Clad or Vinyl

Call for our FREE Shop-at-Home Service

Visit Our Showroom for Helpful Design Ideas!

Over 100 Window Treatments on Display

- Solar Shades • Faux Wood • Verticals • Woven Woods
- Draperies • Shutters • Cornices & More
- **FREE Installation** (on most orders)*
- Verticals in **ONE DAY!** (selected patterns) • **Motorization Available**

* Minimum purchase required - call store for details. Expires 9/30/09

Designer Look Without Designer Prices

10% OFF* Our most Popular Blinds
Vertical Blinds and Faux Woods*

FREE FINANCING
on all Blinds, Draperies & Shutters
NO PAYMENTS • NO INTEREST
UP TO 12 MONTHS





Winner of "The Best" Award 15 Years in a Row!

AAA VERTICAL BLIND FACTORY & SHOWROOM
"WE ARE THE FACTORY"

10996 Metro Pkwy., Ft. Myers • Open Mon. - Sat.
www.aaavbf.com • 239-939-5388



METRO-BLINDS
Draperies and Shutters