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Michael Giltz

Freelance writer and raconteur
Posted: March 17, 2010 10:41 PM

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Idol: Judges Refuse To Save Lacey Brown; Top 11 Back Tuesday

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Lacey Brown was the first contestant to be dumped from the Top 12 on *American Idol*. Though her reviews for performing "Ruby Tuesday" on Rolling Stones night were okay, Lacey found herself in the bottom three, along with Paige Miles (who was still fighting laryngitis) and the pin up-able but lambasted Tim Urban. A stunned Urban was the first to be told he was safe. It came down to Paige and Lacey and Lacey was the one with the lowest vote total. If Urban can stay out of the bottom two with his universally

derided reggae spin on "Under My Thumb," his looks should keep him safe for a few weeks.

Paige and Lacey were left to face off. The judges can use one "save" per season, giving the person with the lowest votes one more chance. (The following week, two people will be sent packing and the save is only good until the show reaches the Top 5.) Simon Cowell and Randy Jackson confirmed one of them was worth saving but apparently it was the under the weather Paige and not Lacey.

The show began with former Idol winner David Cook performing a solid version of "Jumping Jack Flash," talking up an album in the works and his upcoming trip to Africa for Idol Gives Back. Later performances included Orianthi doing her new single "According To You" (then delivering a thoroughly unremarkable anecdote about auditioning for Michael Jackson) and Ke\$ha's Gaga-like "Blah Blah Blah."

Do you agree it was Lacey's time to go or should the judges have used their save?

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LCDTV 08:06 PM on 3/18/2010

30 Fans

i was taken back that lacy and page were in the bottom 2. page has a good voice and energy, so i was worry that she might be voted off. lacy is one dimensional. if she was not voted off last night she would've been gone next week. so, it is not a big deal that tim urban escaped the grim reaper this week, because he will be gone within 2 weeks. im tired of his saucer eyes.
Didi is one contestant that im shocked that the judges like her. her voice is so weak. none of her songs i find enjoyable.

i like casey james, but i do not think he will win. his head must be swimming from the judges comments. they told him he should not be standing still playing his guitar; however, that is what crystal does. im annoyed with the labels they put on him--blues guitar and hendrix. he does not play a blues guitar and he does not play like hendrix. i thought he had the best song choice (the song not heard on the radio but a strong song) and i liked the sound.

i was shocked that siobhan did "paint it balck". i did not think anybody would do that song. she did a very good job. which leads to my top 3 siobhan, lynche, and crystal.

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Michael Giltz 01:02 PM on 3/23/2010
59 Fans



Thanks for reading and offering your analysis. If the top three is all women, you will certainly be in line with the judges who say it's the year for them.

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1question 03:48 PM on 3/18/2010

52 Fans

Michael Giltz:

I do appreciate reading your other responses and reply(s) to reader comments. I do wish other bloggers would follow your lead.

I will continue to look forward to your future posts. Thanx...

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz 01:02 PM on 3/23/2010



Fall

Comments (5,628)

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59 Fans



Great! Thx.

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anonimost 02:01 PM on 3/18/2010

6 Fans

okay for lacey to go - though liked her closing save-me performance

urban has been putting on that what me? shock face for too long. lots of bloggers on other sites seem to swoon for him. he has weakest voice

i hope paige has a break out moment. she does have a power voice

michael lynche annoys me - something insincere about him i can't put my finger on.

aaron was great with angie but my gut favorite is lee dewyze.

michael - did you already clarify if it is the top 10 that goes on tour rather than the top 12?

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Burnsey 06:02 PM on 3/18/2010

14 Fans

I'm not Michael, but historically it is only the top 10 that goes on tour, next weeks show will be about who gets to go on the tour. They do the same build up so they can start selling the tickets. And I agree with your take on Lynche. Something phony there. But I admittedly, liked the Urban version of Under my Thumb. I never liked the song before, but I enjoyed the fact that he tried something new. And I think that shocked look is genuine. After the ripping to shreds he got by the judges, I think he expected to go home. I think the over pagenty Amber Tamblin look a like is the one with the worst voice. She has hit her peak as a singer and has nowhere to go but down.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz 01:04 PM on 3/23/2010

59 Fans



Yikes! Wrong again about the tour. I absolutely believe Urban's stunned reaction to not being cut. If it's fake, he's a much better actor than singer. And since the judges have given him loads of criticism (except for Hallelujah), he had every reason to believe he could be cut. Thanks guys for the tour correction.

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DaveinNorthridge 01:44 PM on 3/18/2010

2 Fans

I don't really watch the show, but I heard Lacey's "Ruby Tuesday" on a morning news show, and I think she proves that what the endless auditioning process Idol uses is looking for is decidedly NOT talent. Yes, she deserved to be sent home.

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filmex 12:32 PM on 3/18/2010

43 Fans

Paige is overrated, whether she has laryngitis or not, so it's not surprising she's in the Bottom 3. Her rendition of Chaplin's "Smile" (when she was healthy) was cringe-worthy, and it's hard to tell if that odd vibrato in her voice is the result of nerves or bad technique.

Urban's rendition of Under My Thumb" wasn't nearly as bad as everyone made out. Jason Castro went far doing that exact kind of thing, and Sting has made a career of it. yet it's spooky he may parlay the teen idol thing past where he should go.

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Lacey should have gone, should have gone before Lilly as far as that goes. Wonder why she was overpraised for doing "The Story" initially when what makes that song amazing was Brandi Carlisle's ability to be fragile at first, then break into full-throated rocker in the same high key, something Lacey avoided altogether.

It was like listening to someone cover "Stairway To Heaven" while doing the soft ballad at the beginning, and then totally omitting the rocking second part. But at least now they're letting them choose their one-for-the-road song, rather than forcing them to sing the song that got them booted off, which seemed like cruel and unusual punishment.

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Michael Giltz 12:45 PM on 3/18/2010
59 Fans



It's hard sometimes for the band to have multiple versions ready to perform for every contestant. But since the band had already worked up an arrangement for The Story, I agree that they let the contestant choose, rather than forcing them to sing the song that put them in danger. Plus, I'm glad they perform while the judges talk rather than after getting booted (a change I suggested in seasons past) because it let's them sing to stay, rather than warble during the pain of knowing they're gone.

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filmex 12:48 PM on 3/18/2010

43 Fans

BTW, Michael is spot on regarding Ke\$ha. It's hard to believe the producers of AI are so hard up for filler material that they turn over their platform to that wannabe. Her performance was so ridiculous, it was a wonder that half the contestants didn't depart in the middle of it, having suddenly decided they no longer wanted to be in show business.

Forget waterboarding. Just play Ke\$ha and Heidi Montag songs back to back and the CIA will get all the confessions they can handle. Knew she was a no-talent when she was trashing Britney Spears earlier this month, instantly making Britney sympathetic for the first time in ages. But, did she really have to remove all doubt in front of millions and millions?

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zacmap 12:51 AM on 3/21/2010

1 Fans

This is the first time I have heard Keisha sing I thought at first it was the judges idea to have her and then after she finished they would judger her and send her home and keep all the kids and say that is not what we ever want to see any of you do!

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JohnKevari 11:39 AM on 3/18/2010

2 Fans

What was interesting about last night's show was how Crystal Bowersox was given the opportunity to explain herself.

Obviously the Judges are doing everything in their power to try to position her as the winner.

But again..... She acts like a frumpy old woman who keeps an 8x10 glossy of Tyrone Power on her bedroom wall.

Paige Miles is a great singer despite the fact that the Judges have decided she will not go far.

Concerning Michael Lynche:..... Am I the only one who thinks it's inappropriate for a large-sized man to dance and act like he's a skinny, teenage kid?

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Michael Giltz 12:47 PM on 3/18/2010
59 Fans



Tyrone Power? Funny, but I don't get a granny vibe from a chick with dreadlocks singing the Stones. And you're wrong about the judges and Paige: they said that they would use the save on one of the bottom two. Since they didn't use it for Lacey, clearly they would have used it to save Paige this week. It may just have been her illness and they won't necessarily use it for her down the road, but at least they agreed with you that last night was too soon for her to go home.

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JohnKevari 01:20 PM on 3/18/2010

2 Fans

Let's be honest, five years from now when someone brings up the name of Crystal Bowersox it will be followed by the question; "She owns how many cats?"

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Linda Casey 02:31 PM on 3/18/2010

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Actually I'm glad that Crystal got to say something because EVERY season Simon et al pick a frontrunner and ram them down our throats and at times that can backfire (remember the Daughtry fiasco?). What Simon said the other night about Crystal's performance, then went on to say that she can't feel she has this in her pocket was just wrong, so I'm glad that Ryan let her say something about that.

Wow, did I just say something nice about Ryan? Will wonders never cease.

Anyway, I actually like Crystal but I think that Siobhan is the better singer/performer for the girls and I hope she does well. She won't need to win to have a career, but it would be nice to see her go far in this competition.

I actually like Mike's voice, though not a fan of the dance moves. He has talent and will likely go much further than most of the guys, along with Lee. Aaron will get the tween/teen vote, as will Tim Urban, though he isn't as good as Alex Lambert who didn't even make the top 12.

I thought David Cook gave a very good performance, but I wasn't crazy about Orianthi's vocals, though her guitar playing was stellar and she can really shred. I could have done without Keisha altogether and I hope that future results shows don't repeat this week's.

Looking forward to next week. Any idea what the genre/format will be?

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Michael Giltz 01:07 PM on 3/23/2010

59 Fans



No idea about the genre. I wish they'd tell us every week and let us peek at the playlist of song choices.

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MiraMcB 03:04 AM on 3/18/2010

164 Fans



Ewww.. sorry for the misspellings, etc. It's late. I'm tired and you can't edit the darn thing, I guess. :-0

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MiraMcB 03:02 AM on 3/18/2010

164 Fans



Definitely time for poor Lacey to go. She shouldn't have been in the Top 12 to begin with, jmho. Great look, good song choice, nice arrangement, but can't carry a tune to save her life and all the

"quirkiness" in the world couldn't cover that up.

Nice to see David Cook. Finally someone to do justice to a Stones theme week. Oriante is a very good guitarist, but I'm not sure her trying to piggyback a vocal on that is working. Ke\$ha a GaGa wannabe? Maybe so, but not even close. The was crude, grating, amateurish and I don't think even SHE believes it.

But, OHHHZZZZ... the dramazzz this week of Simon and Ryan. Could it possibly get more contrived? Maybe I'm just getting to old to watch this show any longer. I'd love to be a fly on the wall in a producer's meeting. Just sayin'

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Michael Giltz 12:49 PM on 3/18/2010
59 Fans



I agree with your comments about the pro performers. David Cook was good but the other two were dull. Ryan and Simon's face-off is just a joke of course and not a very good one. The average age of the viewers of Idol is creeping up into the 30s....

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AmandaRuth 11:17 PM on 3/17/2010

33 Fans

Well my last comment didn't make it through moderation. Let me try this.....I am on the west coast. AI has not yet aired. If you must spoil, could you please be a little considerate and keep it out of the headline? Or wait an hour, please.

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MiraMcB 02:52 AM on 3/18/2010

164 Fans



I sympathize, but I've learned to avoid cruising the internet when I haven't yet viewed the results. That way Michael gets to finish his work before bedtime and we won't get a spoiler, so everyone's happy.

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Michael Giltz 12:58 PM on 3/18/2010
59 Fans



AmandaRuth, I'm sorry to have spoiled the show for you by posting the results. Unfortunately, I'm not the only one. If you go onto any news website, they will have the results in a headline or a ticker of breaking news. On Huffington, they often also post the AP story on the results with photos of who was sent packing. Generic headlines (like "Idol Results Announced") just don't cut it with editors and readers, I'm afraid. If I delayed posting the results, people who wanted to know would just go to other websites, defeating the purpose of providing coverage on HuffPo in the first place. Plus, if I delayed an hour, someone would ask for it to be delayed two hours till they got home from work. (I used to have this problem with "24," when the show was so hot the plot twists would be discussed the next morning. Now I can wait and watch two weeks at once without fear of stumbling on a spoiler.) As with the Olympics and the Oscars and sports all live events, I'm afraid you just have to avoid going online to news sites. The same thing happens to me: some weeks, when I'm late watching the results on DVR, I forget and go online to check my email and spot the FOX press release in my inbox with the name of who got cut in the header. Arghh!

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ukstevePSCA 05:00 PM on 3/18/2010

5 Fans

Michael

I certainly appreciate your being on top of it - and trying to make it into something vaguely interesting.
But don't you agree that this really is the most lamentable season in AI history??!
Somewhere along the line they decided that a singing competition was NOT a

singing competition but one that was all about 'discovering an artist'
Consequently there are no singers, no rockers, no belters and no entertainers

Dull Dull Dull

Paula's looking like the clever one right now

Steve

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Burnsey 06:09 PM on 3/18/2010

14 Fans

If you held off, yes, they might go to other sites to read who won, but they would always come back to you because you actually talk about it in an honest and compelling way. You don't get snide about anything, except maybe Crystals teeth-but I can forgive that, and you sometimes reply to those who are following you. I don't read the other posts here about the show because they are always bitter sounding. Keep up the good work, and I'll keep coming back.

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