

ENTERTAINMENT

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ROCKETTES KICK OFF CHRISTMAS

RADIO CITY DANCERS TO PERFORM IN TORONTO NEXT WEEK



By SANDY CAETANO

As a girl in a pink tutu and tap shoes, Julie Tomaino dreamt of some day becoming a professional dancer.

Today, the Vancouver native is part of the world's most famous precision dance troupe, the Radio City Rockettes, who are set to perform at the Air Canada Centre Nov. 16-18.

"My mom was my dance teacher, and she introduced me to the Rockettes when I was very young," she says.

When she moved to New York more than 10 years ago and saw the Radio City Christmas Spectacular, she knew she had to be a part of it. But becoming part of this

dance squad isn't easy.

Thousands of dancers audition each year, but perhaps only 10 make the cut.

You must be between five-foot-six and five-foot-10 1/2 inches tall, at least 18 years old, and have a great resume in ballet, tap and jazz.

"So most of us have danced our entire lives. ... I absolutely had to (be a Rockette) and I did everything I could to make that happen."

One of her favourite numbers is New York at Christmas, in which they dance "on a double decker bus with an LCD screen that stretches across the back of the stage and takes the audience on a tour of New York."

PILOT TAVERN MARKS 65 YEARS

When The Pilot Tavern opened its original location on Yonge Street in November 1944, its name was chosen as a tribute to the heroic flyers of World War II.

Nowadays, the club, which moved over to 22 Cumberland St. a few decades ago, only features regular live jazz music Saturday afternoons. Over the years, most of the city's jazz elite have performed there at one time or another.

The bar celebrates its 65th anniversary tomorrow night with a bash featuring keyboard whiz Tyler Yarema fronting a big band delivering 40s-era boogie-woogie swing tunes. No cover, it begins at 5 p.m., and it goes until who knows when!

ALSO RECOMMENDED:

- Tonight: Christopher Plock & The Maisies hold their Swing Spectacular at Lula Lounge (1585 Dundas St. W., \$12): Double Juno-winning



Rockette Julie Tomaino.

"I got the job five years ago and it's been awesome," Tomaino says. "So many great opportunities have come from it. It really is an honour to be a part of this legacy."



jazz saxist Plock teams up with swing-bebop band The Maisies for a night of Lindy hopping and bopping. Gary 17 publishes and edits Toronto Moon magazine. For an e-mail subscription, gary17@sympatico.ca

PRIMETIME LINEUP

8PM	Global: Survivor: Samoa (N) CTV: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (N) CityTV: Community (N)
9PM	Global: The Office (N) CTV: Grey's Anatomy (N) A: Fringe (N)
10PM	Global: 90210 (N) CTV: The Mentalist (N) A: Private Practice (N)

THIS WEEK'S NEW DVD RELEASES

Up	Summer's Moon
The Ugly Truth	Hurt
In the Loop	Baseline Killer
The Line	The Tudors (Season 3)

Eating Out: All You Can Eat

REALITY CHECK

SURVIVOR: SAMOA: One castaway kills a rat to provide for her tribe; the eighth contestant is eliminated.

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE: NEWS: Tapper Bianca Revels wants to be the next Halle Berry.

NEWS: Idol judge Simon Cowell auctioned off an hour of his time for \$30,000

LATE-NIGHT GUESTS

Jay Leno	Penelope Cruz
The Hour	Morgan Freeman
Jon Stewart	Dr. Jane Goodall
Stephen Colbert	Woody Harrelson
Conan O'Brien	Al Gore
David Letterman	Amanda Peet
Jimmy Kimmel	Danny Devito
Jimmy Fallon	Kate Walsh
Craig Ferguson	Nick Griffin