

New 'Real World' cast deals with Sept. 11, local violence

Allan Johnson
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO (KRT)- "I came into the house on uncertain grounds, and I leave on uncertain grounds," Kyle writes in a letter, oblivious to the cameraman peering over his shoulder.

That scene on the final day of shooting in the Wicker Park location wasn't the only uncertain moment. Shooting "The Real World" in Chicago this past summer and fall was a lesson in uncertainty.

There were protests surrounding the shooting of the MTV reality series as part of opposition to the Wicker Park neighborhood's overall gentrification.

"The protests seemed to be directly related to something that was specifically happening in this

neighborhood," Murray explains, "which was there were a small group of artists who were concerned about gentrification.

Because of the protests and a double slaying that occurred nearby, security was tightened at the loft.

"In the beginning it was the safety issue, and we really dealt with that accordingly, like having a security guard here," says Anthony Dominici, who produced the Chicago filming. He wouldn't say if elements of the protests will be included in the series.

Kyle, in defense of his city, says, "It's important to establish that it's not how the city reacted. It's a very vocal, very small group within this section of the city. Chicago did not reject us. A band of people in the area that we live in tried to ... when

old from Walla Walla, Wash., notes: "I think with everything that happened with Sept. 11, those protests seemed so trivial."

They were especially trivial after the uncertainty brought about by the events of Sept. 11. Murray says he broke with the show's tradition and brought a television into the house to allow roommates to keep up on what was happening to the country after the attacks.

"It's really the first time this generation has had an event like that, that made them think about their mortality, made them realize that their world is not maybe as controllable as they thought it was," he says.

Aneesa, a 20-year-old Philadelphia gay woman whose free spirit promises to be a much-talked-about topic on the series, says that it will be good to have the cameras showing young people "actually feeling and praying and being really in-

we went to other areas in the city we were embraced, people were enthusiastic, people were accommodating."

But Tonya, a 22-year-



Is it 2002? Or '1984' ...

Aneesa, originally from Philadelphia, is one of seven diverse participants in the 11th season of MTV's "The Real World," which takes place in Chicago.

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involved ... just to show that we're all going through something that's really big right now."

Housemate Theo, 20, of Riverside, Calif., adds: "Being taped on Sept. 11 was really the most time I never at all paid attention to the camera. It was more so trying to imagine what people were going through. We see so much stuff on TV. You would be there watching it, (but) it was like it wasn't real ..."

Even though "The Real World" is very much a series with a cast of

characters and continuing story lines, lead director Laura Korkoian says the production very much realizes that these seven young people aren't made up like those on "Dawson's Creek."

"I do see them as real people; they are real people with real experiences," she says. "They all bring a lot of different experiences into this mix. And that's the beauty of this project for me, is that they come from different backgrounds, different life experiences, culture backgrounds."

BIG BROTHER

would you let him watch you:

	% willing	% not willing	% not sure
Being in your pajamas	31	67	2
Kissing	29	70	1
Crying	26	72	2
Having an argument	25	73	2
Being drunk	16	81	3
Eating a rat/insect	10	89	1
Being naked	8	90	2
Having sex	5	92	3

CNN/Time Poll conducted by Yankelovich Partners June 2000. N=1,218 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 2.8. Results published on www.pollingreport.com

The A List

Things to do around town

February

7-10	"Rags," McCrary Theatre, 7 p.m.	12	River City Brass Band, McCrary Theatre, 7:30 p.m.	Artworks by Bina Altera
8	Cake, The Ritz	13	John Mayer, Cat's Cradle, Carrboro	21 Le Tigre, Cat's Cradle
8-9	"Dazzling Arts of Ghana" Alamance Arts Council, Graham	14	Weekend Excursion, Cat's Cradle	22 River North Chicago Dance Company, McCrary Theatre 7:30 p.m.
10-11	"The Vagina Monologues," Yeagar Recital Hall, 7 p.m.	16	Lake Trout, Pour House, Raleigh	22 Ozma, Saves the Day, Weezer, Entertainment Sports Arena, Raleigh
		18	"Spaces of Exclusion:" Digital	

TOP 10 Albums of the Week

1. Bad Religion- "Process of Belief"
2. De La Soul - "Aoi:Bionix"
3. No Doubt- "Rock Steady"
4. Ben Folds- "Rockin' the Suburbs"
5. Something Corporate - "Audioboxer"
6. Get Up Kids - "Eudora"
7. Detachment Kit- "They Raging. Quiet Army"
8. Travis- "The Invisible Band"
9. Incubus - "Morning View"
10. Unwritten Law - "Elva"

TOP 10

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