



# NEWSLETTER

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February 7, 2012

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Now in print:—

## Essence and Application, A View from Chiron

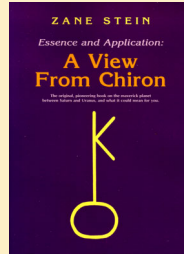
**B**ACK in 1977 when Chiron was first discovered, Zane Stein was just another struggling astrologer trying to make his mark in the world. With the help of the legendary Al Morrison at New York's Chelsea Hotel, he rapidly grabbed on to the new planet/asteroid/comet (call it what you will) and just as rapidly came to grips with it. He was the very first person to do so, and book he wrote as a result, **Essence and Application, A View from Chiron**, is still, today, the best of them all. Trust me on this: I've seen the competition. Most of what they know they got from Zane.

But the path to publication was rocky. Eager to get what was known to astrologers, in the early 1980's Stein wrote a number of preliminary brochures and pamphlets. The

best of those became the monograph, **Interpreting Chiron**, of 1983. Two years later it was followed by the book-length **Essence and Application**, both published by Morrison. Which were subsequently combined in a single volume. Just as the 4th edition was about to be published (complete with leftover 3rd edition covers), Al Morrison died, on May 29, 1995.

Zane's limited distribution thereafter became even more limited: Call Zane and he would print some and send them to you. This persisted until late last year, when Zane went to Australia to fall in love. As that meant the end of the do-it-himself edition, I asked if I could publish. Zane gracefully agreed.

The result is now here. Zane is married and living happily ever after near Perth, Australia, and we are happily ever after with this excellent new printing of his book, complete with restored material from the 1990's. Amazon will have it in a few days, we have it now. Indulge yourself!



### 2012 MAYNARD CALENDARS

Time is running out! [Click here to order.](#)

### ALMANACK

for the week (all times GMT)

07	09:03	♀ ♂ ☉
	14:04	♄ SR
	21:54	☉ 18♋ 32 Full Moon
08	06:01	♀ ♃
	16:43	☾ ✖ ♄ Void
	17:33	☾ ♃
	18:20	♀ ♃ ♃
09	13:15	♀ ♃ ♃
10	02:29	♀ ♂ ♃
	05:12	☾ ♂ ♂ Void
	19:55	☾ ♃
11	11:15	♃ ♃ ♃ Very rare
	12 10:29	☾ △ ☉
	21:10	☾ ♂ ♄ Void
	22:02	☾ ♃
13	16:11	♀ ♃ ☉
	18:44	♀ △ ♄

Extracted & adapted from **AstroAmerica's Daily Ephemeris, 2000-2020**. Get yours!

## ASTRO MED A to Z

FROM C.E.O. CARTER'S ENCYCLOPAEDIA

**Misunderstanding.** Afflictions between Mercury and Jupiter tend to render the native liable to be misunderstood, sometimes owing to no fault of his own and sometimes because Mercury thus afflicted often expresses itself badly. It is probable that Mercury afflicted by Neptune may have a similar effect, but a more profound one, the native being frequently really hard to fathom. Uranus is often misunderstood, owing to his indifference to the opinions of others, and consequently neglect to explain himself.

**Moodiness.** All watery signs tend to produce this, especially if there is a lack of cardinal planets, so that the introspective tendency sets in. Afflictions in Fire also tend to give rise to emotional instability, but in this case the moods are not so settled or profound, and the native is as a rule better able to thrown them off. Attention should be paid to the 6th and the 8th, both of which tend to affect the stratum of the psyche commonly referred to as the moods.

— **Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology**, by C.E. O. Carter.



## STAR OF THE WEEK



**SADALSUUD** beta Aquarii 23♋ 34

**Notes:** A pale yellow star situated on the left shoulder of Aquarius.

From Al Sa'd al Suud, the Luckiest of the Lucky, so called on account of its heliacal rising marking the period of gentle and continuous rain

**Influence:** According to Ptolemy it is of the nature of Saturn and Mercury. It is said to cause trouble and disgrace.

**With Sun:** Occult interests, psychic, wealth through opposite sex involving litigation, domestic harmony

**With Moon:** Reputation through occult matters, respect of friends, favourable for gain, peculiar domestic conditions.

**With Mercury:** Social success, favours from opposite sex but some transitory difficulties, retirement owing to abuse of position.

— **From Fixed Stars**, by Vivian Robson

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Ivy M. Goldstein-Jacobson  
1893-1990



# IVY'S GEM OF THE WEEK

## The Nature of an Event

**T**HE EVENT will be of the nature of the house the Sun is in, and based on something ruled by the house where Leo is found. The ACTIVITY IN THE EVENT is of the nature of the house the Moon is in, and based on something ruled by the house where Cancer is found. Leo, the Moon and Cancer must confirm the Sun's event.

Each house is a department of many possibilities from which we are to eliminate all but the probable one. To do this we select from the matters ruled by the house the Sun is in the main possibility which is supported by the other signifiers as to house.

For instance, the Sun in the INVESTMENT-2nd tells us to try MONEY first and select the money-rulership of the houses holding Leo, the Moon and Cancer. Leo on the 6th house is on the money-2nd for children, and the Moon in the 9th is in the money-by-INSURANCE-2nd for the death-8th. Cancer on both the 4th and 5th is on the INHERITANCE-4th and also the father's money-2nd. We therefore say this event is the INVESTMENT of money in an INSURANCE policy, belonging to a child who INHERITED money from the father. All four points concur. — [Here and There in Astrology](#), 1961

### February 12:

- 1733—James Oglethorpe founds Georgia
- 1832—Ecuador annexes the Galápagos
- 1912—Last emperor of China abdicates
- 1974—Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn exiled
- 1994—The Scream stolen
- 2004—Gays can marry in San Francisco

# Madonna

**M**ADONNA, Queen of Super Bowl 46, was born on August 16, 1958, at 7:05 am, in **Bay City, Michigan**. Her chart is not all that hard to read.

Virgo rising, ruling planet Mercury in Virgo, Moon in Virgo, Pluto in Virgo, **Madonna Louise Ciccone** is exactly what she appears to be: Obsessed with details, to the exclusion of most everything else. All four angles mutable, her life is a chaotic whirlwind, ever changing, never really under her control.

The four mutable signs have but two rulers: Jupiter and Mercury. Interestingly enough, these four signs, Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces, have the same two planets in detriment: Jupiter and Mercury. As such, in charts with mutables on the angles, there is a great emphasis on these two planets alone. Mercury at 5 Virgo, retrograde, and Jupiter at 26 Libra, their angular separation is 51 degrees. Which is a septile, a weak aspect.

In Madonna's chart, Mercury rules the ascendant, Virgo, and the midheaven, Gemini. It is powerfully placed in Virgo and very near the ascendant itself. Jupiter rules the descendant, Pisces, and the 4th house, Sagittarius. We find Jupiter obscurely placed at the end of Libra and at the very end of the 2nd house, with 0° Scorpio, not Libra, on the 3rd house cusp. Jupiter is not only remotely placed by house, he is also on the weak end of a weak aspect, because Mercury, reinforced in its own sign and very near the ascendant, is senior in the septile. Jupiter, conjunct the north node at the end of an otherwise empty second house, is stranded.

Given that a weakly placed planet will not rule its signs very well, we find that instead of Jupiter ruling the 4th and 7th from strength, Mercury in Virgo rules, but in a negative way. Mercury is debilitated in Pisces and Sagittarius, which accounts, in part, for Madonna's failures in marriage (7th house), as well as her inability to stay in one place very long (4th house).

In Madonna's chart, Mercury is in the 12th, three degrees from the ascendant, and in a sign that it rules. It is retrograde and so, "walking away" from the angle. I've made

*continued, pg. 4*

Secrets  
From A,  
Stargazer's  
Notebook

DEBBI KEMPTON-SMITH

# Neptune

**S**HOW me the house where Neptune is in your chart, and I'll show you what makes you high. Drag out a chart where the subject has a "hard angle" (square, opposition, conjunction) of their Sun or Moon or Venus with Neptune, and I'll show you an everyday saint, an artist, or a con artist.

Yes, a con artist. They reverse the usual Neptune process of wanting to see the best in others, so they exploit the noble human urge to trust. Most con victims see what they want to see, and the confidence trickster knows this. Neptune rules get-rich-quick schemes, deception and trickery.

This is the cheap-and-easy side of Neptune, and a pretty sight it isn't. Herein lies the realm of lies, betrayal, treachery, self-deception, escapism, masochism, refried confusion, "I don't know what I want," and all the myriad forms of self-defeating behavior.

If Neptune aspects a planet harshly in your chart, you'll have a struggle to see clearly about some aspect of your behavior. You'll have to resist acting sneaky, cheap, and weak on the one hand and avoid being an unappreciated doormat on the other. Side-step both extremes and you're a candidate for not merely a happy life, but *bliss*, that caviar of human emotions.

It's hard to keep friends when your pals hate each other's guts. If Mercury aspects Neptune, you may be inclined to feel compassion for both parties, but you don't keep a friend by being two-faced. You can keep both, sometimes, with love.

It's hard to say your husband is your best friend and go out and cheat on him. That's what often happens when Neptune aspects Venus, and the cheater only confuses herself the more.

Down with confusion! Slay the dragons of Neptune and get hip to the trip of consciousness! If Neptune is strong in your chart you can achieve Nirvana *now* if you're willing to pay the price.

© *Debbi Kempton-Smith*, 1999

This is a serialization of Vivian Robson's masterpiece, *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*. It is now in print.

Part 78:

# Comparison of Horoscopes

The likelihood of friendship or enmity between particular individuals is best judged by comparing their horoscopes and noting the aspects formed between planets in the one and those in the other.

Draw two columns side by side on a sheet of paper and head them with the names of the natives. Take the Sun in one map and observe if it forms any conjunctions, parallels or aspects to the planets and angles in the other map. Write down the Sun's symbol in the column of the native whose Sun it is, and the aspect and aspected planet in the other column. Having completed the aspects formed by the Sun do the same with the Moon, then Mercury, then Venus, and so on, finishing up with the Ascendant and MC. This gives in convenient form all the aspects between the maps, and the amount of attraction and repulsion is to be judged by the nature and strength of these aspects and of the planets involved.

The strongest sign of affinity is when the luminaries in the two maps are in conjunction or good aspect, as this indicates radical harmony. In cases of marriage the best possible link is when the Sun in the woman's horoscope is in conjunction or good aspect to the Moon in the man's. If a malefic in one map falls on or afflicts one of the luminaries in the other there will be enmity, and the native whose luminary is so afflicted will be the one to suffer most. A benefic falling on a luminary is correspondingly favourable, and the owner of the luminary will be the one to receive most benefit. — *A Student's Text-Book of Astrology*, by Vivian Robson.

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Martha Lang Wescott's

# ASTEROID OF THE MONTH



## Terpsichore

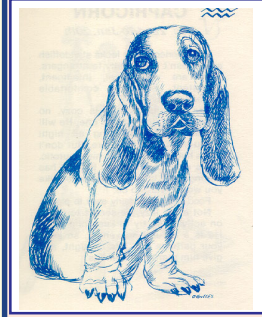
**A**S the glyph illustrates, Terpsichore addresses grace, balance and coordination. In practice, the Muse of Dance governs not only dance but any physical training, discipline or specialized activity. It is mobility, grace, and coordination (and the sports that require it). Runners, joggers and folks into aerobics have Terpsichore prominently placed in their charts. In stressful aspect, Terpsichore shows the use of the body as a point of conflict and as a need to use physical experience to gain objectivity. Think of Terpsichore too as body language and gestures—those non-verbal “signals”—and their incredible ability to convey complex meanings.

Terpsichore placement (Sign, House and Aspects) is very useful in examining various physical conditions involving the muscular system or affecting balance and coordination. Use it also to develop a characterization of *body language* or *carriage*. It is the “body image”—the identification with the “body in motion” as the self—*the ego as experienced through the body*. Movement is also a resource for the brain, establishing spatial and motion relationships. Any change in the mobility of the body requires the mind to reconstruct (from the new information) its “meaning” of the body in relationship to itself and its environment. Thus changes in mobility are never simply physical events.

The impact of movement and carriage is very strong. This can be seen when one imitates the physiology of another—the psychological correlative is immediate.

— from *Mechanics of the Future Asteroids*, © 1988, 1991

## DOG OF THE MONTH



Aquarius dogs do an awful lot of barking. Very excitable and jealous if you give obvious preference to any other animals in the house.

If a big dog he is like an overgrown teddy bear, especially when he wants to be petted. The smaller dogs in this sign tend to be harder to understand as they feel they should be a bigger dog, so consequently they want to eat more than they should. Instead of giving them more, pet them as often as possible and talk to them.

Once they have marked their territory out, they feel that without their consent no one should enter into it. Basically they feel protective towards all members of the family because they feel that you're not smart enough to take care of yourselves.

© Marian Futterman, 1976, *Your Dog and Astrology*, \$3.00. Yes, Marian, we still have copies. Some of the best sun-sign writing I ever came across.

## The New Newsletter

**M**ost people, most astrologers, even, have no idea how rich, how varied, astrology really is. I'm lucky. For the last eighteen years, I've lived in what amounts to a world-class astrological library, which I've been passing off as **AstroAmerica**. Every week I will serve up a slice for your amusement.

'Til next week — **Dave**

**February 12:**  
1809—Charles Darwin born  
1809—Abraham Lincoln born  
1884—Alice Roosevelt Longworth born



much of the angles being “walls,” so are Madonna’s Mercury and Pluto in the 1st or 12th?

While I could be sloppy and say of course Madonna’s Mercury and Pluto are in the 1st, it is not clear that they are. Madonna has never been known for her ability to communicate. Not even, Mercury retrograde, communicate thoughtfully. Right from the start, Madonna was about spectacle, Madonna was about shock.

Thinking about this carefully, shock is what we would get if we took 12th house secrets and smeared them across the ascendant. The 12th house is like what’s in the bottom of the drain in your kitchen sink. The sink looks so innocent, it looks so clean and sweet, so much like, I dunno, a *virgin*, but when it clogs and stops up, you get a plunger and out the junk comes. And it *stinks!* But you never knew.

In Madonna’s case, Pluto in the first degree of Virgo (making her of the Virgo generation), in the 12th house draws up raw, nasty, disgusting, repulsive things. Pluto in Virgo, Mercury owns him, and as Mercury is also in Virgo, Mercury takes on everything Pluto churns up. Mercury also owning the ascendant, he can dump it there for all the world to see.

The 12th house is the house of secrets, and while Madonna has Leo on the cusp, Pluto in Virgo is working a different mine, one full of nasty details. The 12th house has to do with the past, and also about institutions. In other words, institutions with a secret past. There is no bigger, no older, no more secretive institution on the planet than the Church. You will say, isn’t the Church the 9th house? Yes, so far as beliefs and rituals are concerned, it is.

But so far as a bureaucracy, made up of a vast group of people all under one command, the Church is 12th. Astrology is neither simplistic nor monolithic. Belief in the Trinity of God is 9th house. Go to church every Sunday and do what the preacher tells you, be a cog in the wheel, and you are in the 12th. Astrological symbolism changes when your point of view changes. When your question changes.

Add Virgo to the mix and you will get sexual hangups. Do you know why religions, which is to say, the *9th house*, despise sex? Because religion is about liberation of souls *from* the earth, whereas sex is a *mechanical function* that brings souls *to* the earth. Sex is a one-way street that *brings you here*. Religion is a one-way street that *takes you away* from here. Put more crudely still, sex is the

## Madonna Louise Ciccone

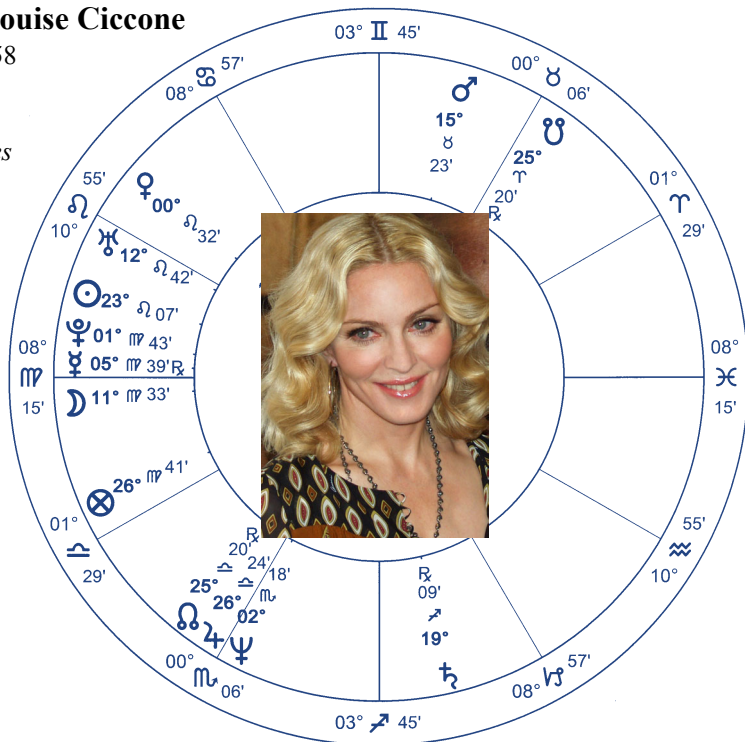
August 16, 1958

7:05 am

Bay City, MI

Placidus houses

Mean node



“religion” of the young. Religion is the “sex” of the elderly.

But long ago people forgot that. Instead, power-mad clerics imposed one rule for all: Sex is bad. Bad for you, bad for me, bad for the young, bad for the old. Bad, bad, bad. In other words, a logical philosophy (sex goes this way, religion goes that way) got taken out of where it belongs — the 9th — and was transported to a bureaucratic, repressive, imprisoning 12th. Where it remains to this day. Madonna’s chart makes her uniquely qualified to expose this fraud, to bring all its gory details to light. Which she has done. No surprise the Church screamed in agony.

If Madonna’s Mercury was actually on the ascendant, she would be known for communication, for intelligence, for detail, for precision, for purely Mercurial traits. Instead she is known for Pluto, and for Pluto alone, which means Mercury’s role has been reduced to that of a mere messenger, a go-between, between Pluto and the ascendant. This can only happen if Mercury is in fact in the 12th.

Mercury’s retrograde condition reinforces it. Madonna’s retrograde Mercury repeats itself. Which is a Gemini trait. In Madonna’s case, she repeats the same shocks.

On the other side of the ascendant, in the first house proper, the Moon in Virgo looks on with indifference. What have you brought me? Oh. I see. Clean it up and make nice.

For its part, the Sun, in the 12th but in Leo, knows nothing of this Pluto-Virgo mess

and so repudiates it. Result: Madonna’s own statements that she has just been horsing around. Not promoting promiscuity. Not blaspheming the Church. That’s not Madonna’s image of herself. Moon in the first house in Virgo, she thinks she really is sweet and innocent. Conclusion: The ascendant is just as much a wall as the mid-heaven.

**D**OES a heavy Virgo emphasis sound like a life in music to you? You would be surprised. Opening **Carter** to pgs. 130-1, I read that Virgo is the commonest ascendant for a musician. Carter says that 16 Taurus/Scorpio is important. Madonna has her Mars at 15 Taurus. Carter says musicians have the ends of Leo-Aquarius and the beginnings of Virgo-Pisces prominent. Madonna has her Sun at 23 Leo, Pluto at 1 Virgo, Mercury at 5 Virgo, and the ascendant at 8 Virgo. Her Moon at 11 Virgo is not quite at the beginning of the sign.

Carter says 24 degrees of cardinals is important in musical charts. Madonna has her nodes at 25 of Libra-Aries, and Jupiter at 26 Libra. With Carter’s degree positions we must sometimes give him a degree or two of leeway.

A musical life in Virgo will be about detail, precision, and perfection. With Pluto there, with a great deal of raw power and energy. With Mercury retrograde, with thought and contemplation, even if it doesn’t appear to be part of the final package. Which means there are no accidents in Madonna’s

work. Moon in Virgo, there is personal satisfaction in getting the details are right. With Pluto, Mercury and the Moon near the ascendant, with the overall chart ruler among them, when Madonna does gets it right, people respond positively, and when they do, she feels personally rewarded, which is what it means to have the Moon on the ascendant.

With all of this split between the 12th and the ascendant, incorporating (with Uranus) a total of six planets, Madonna is essentially a one-trick pony, 12th and 1st.

**F**OR Madonna's view of the Church proper, we look at her 9th house. It has 0 degrees of Taurus on the cusp. Taurus is ruled by Venus in Leo in the 12th. Venus says Madonna secretly (12th) likes (Taurus) the Church (9th).

On the other hand, Mars in Taurus in the 9th does not. He prefers a blunt, head-to-head battle. Like a raging bull.

Mars in Taurus trines up with the stellium in Virgo and makes Madonna's attacks blatant and tacky: Mars wrecking the placid beauty of Taurus. The squares to Uranus and the Sun, both in Leo, provoke and energizes Mars further. This is a case of a planet in debility which doesn't want to be in the house opposite. Mars in Taurus in 9 is having too much fun. And it might just be that Madonna Louise Ciccone is a crude woman.

Madonna wants to change the Church, not destroy it. Madonna's conversion to Judaism can be viewed as a rejection of the dead Jesus and his dead religion, and a return to the source, the religion of the living Jesus. If it was good enough for Jesus, then it's good enough for the material girl. Which makes Jesus her goal and Judaism her means. Women inherently sexualize the Church.

**S**O what about sex? Glad you asked. Madonna doesn't get any, or at any rate, she doesn't get very much, and it drives her crazy. What would you think of a

person, man or woman, with a Virgo cluster on the ascendant, Capricorn on the 5th and Aries on the 8th? Sexy? No, I don't think so. Repressed? Most likely. So she acts out.

Capricorn on the 5th, the ability to express herself sexually would be delayed, as Saturn slows everything. Saturn in Sagittarius and retrograde, religion would be a reason. To the Church, Saturn represents Satan. Capricorn's co-ruler Mars, in Taurus in the 9th, emphasizes the struggle with religion and sex. Mars in the 9th is also why Madonna would aggressively use mass communications (9th house) in her struggle.

Moving to the 8th house, Aries is on the cusp. Ruled by Mars, this is an aggressive, bold placement that bodes ill for the tranquility of lasting marriage.

Mercury and Pluto account for the loss of her mother at age 5, the most devastating event of her life. Mercury rules the 10th house, which is mother. Using solar arcs, Pluto landed on top of Mercury at age 4. Pluto's subsequent transit of Madonna's Moon signaled the death of her mother.

I am wondering what to do with retrograde planets and solar arcs. Is it possible the arc of a retrograde planet should be run backwards? I.e., converse? If we do this to Mercury, its solar arc ends up on top of natal Pluto at the same time that solar arc Pluto ends up on top of natal Mercury.

**N**OTE that when you change the sign on the ascendant, you also change the planet ruling it. Since the overall tenor and quality of the native is determined by the *house* and *sign* of the *ruling planet*, changing the ascendant brings some other planet, some other sign, some other house, into play. If you have a chart where the time is dubious, where the ascendant could be this sign or that one, look to the planets that rule each of those signs, and then look to the houses and the signs they are in.

ONE house-sign combo will be WHO and WHAT that person is. The other one will be miles off. The choice will be easy.

Madonna is a good example. With Virgo rising, we get Mercury, we get virgin, we get the Church, we get music. We do not get the Sun, since the Sun is hiding in Leo in the 12th.

Change Madonna's time of birth to put the Sun in Leo in the first, and now, instead of a virgin, instead of playing with Church imagery, we get a queen who is proud. Regal. Demanding. Virgo on the second house, the cluster of Pluto-Mercury-Moon will make her a craftsman instead of a sexual extrovert.

It is when you work with planets and signs and houses dynamically that astrology becomes not only easy, but literal as well.

**B**ACK in the 1990's, Madonna's life and work were the subject of numerous Ph.D. studies. Might have had something to do with a coffee table book of nude pictures she released about that time. Male academics are addicted to porn just like the rest of us.

Looking at her nude work in my research (I cover all bases), Madonna is one of the least sexy nudes I have ever seen. Moon in Virgo, Mars in Taurus, Capricorn on the 5th, it would be hard to make Madonna a sex symbol. Which might be why academic interest in her eventually faded. For Superbowl 46, she provided halftime entertainment. I've never watched a superbowl as I find football boring, so I missed her show. I presume it was a mixture of well-crafted new material, along with some of the best of her past stuff, and presumably G or PG rated. The gridiron boys are fussy about that. There were no wardrobe failures.

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