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TV, film star Campbell revels in Shakespeare's 'Much Ado'

By Pam Kragen - Staff Writer MIDNIGHT AUG. 27, 2003

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







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"The process (of theater) is more fun and rewarding because you can work on something for a long time, he said. It's a living thing that breathes and changes, unlike film that is shot out of sequence and



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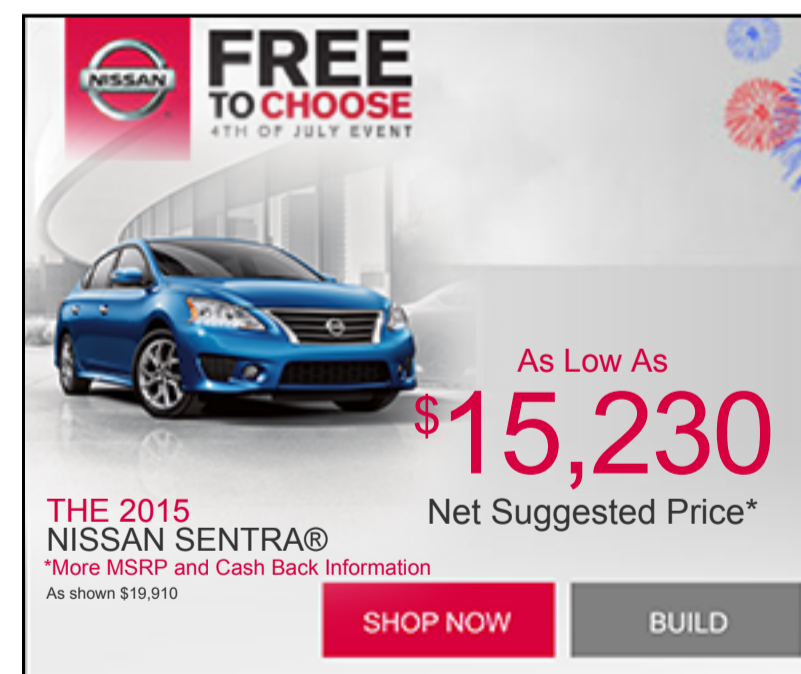
Born and raised in Charlottesville, Va., Campbell's parents divorced when he was a toddler. He spent summers in Chicago with his real estate investor father and eventually moved to the Windy City after high school to study commercial art at the American Academy of Art. Then at 23, a friend encouraged Campbell to give acting a try and he dropped out of college to study acting full time. Living off a small family inheritance (he's an heir to the Champion spark plug fortune), Campbell spent a year-and-a-half in a Chicago acting studio and performing in local theaters.



1 COMMENTS

The following year, he followed a girl to Los Angeles and quickly made his mark in television, with roles in "Family Ties," "Hotel," "Dynasty," "Crime Story" and other series. In 1990, he landed the lead role in "The Rocketeer" and kept busy through the '90s with films ("Bram Stoker's Dracula," "Gettysburg," "Lover's Knot") and miniseries ("Tales of the City") and a three-year stint (1999-2001) in the ABC series "Once and Again" as a divorced dad finding new love (with Sela Ward). Although the series brought him wide exposure (he was named to People magazine's "50 Most Beautiful People" list in 2000), Campbell didn't care much for his soft-spined character or the tediousness and long hours of series television.

With the series' cancellation, Campbell was able to pursue his dream of crewing on a tall ship, and he has spent the past three summers at sea (he's already signed up for next summer's voyage). He's also an avid

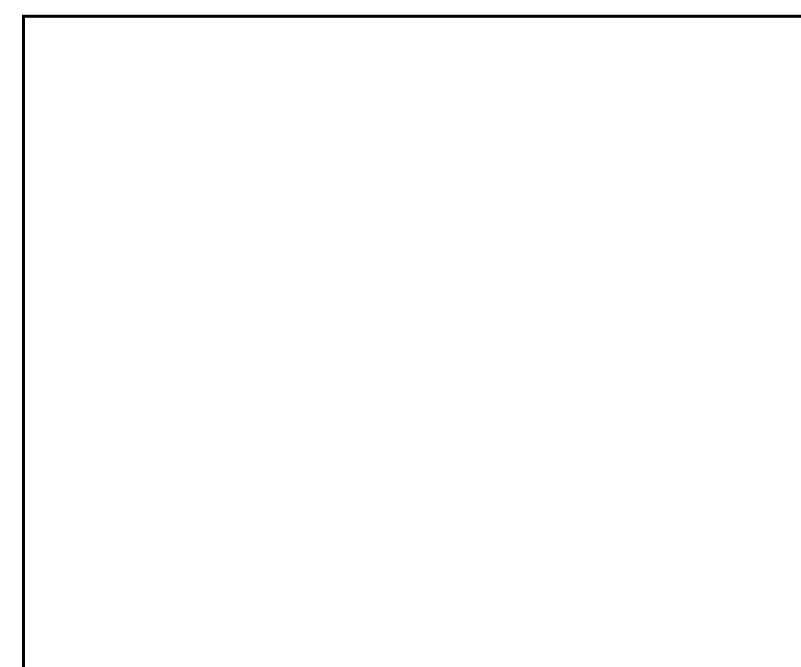


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rugby player and a veteran traveler.

After finishing up in "Much Ado," Campbell said he'll scout some more film roles (he starred last year as Jennifer Lopez's abusive husband in "Enough") and is hoping to avoid tying himself down to another series. Ideally, he'd like to land a couple more lucrative films so he can afford to take a break from Hollywood for a few years.

"I've been doing this for 20 years. I'm ready to try something new," he said. "I don't have a family yet, I've got itchy feet, and there's so much of the world I haven't seen."

"Much Ado About Nothing"

When: Opens Aug. 30 and runs through Oct. 12; show times, 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays

Where: Lowell Davies Festival Theatre, Old Globe Theatre complex, Balboa Park, San Diego

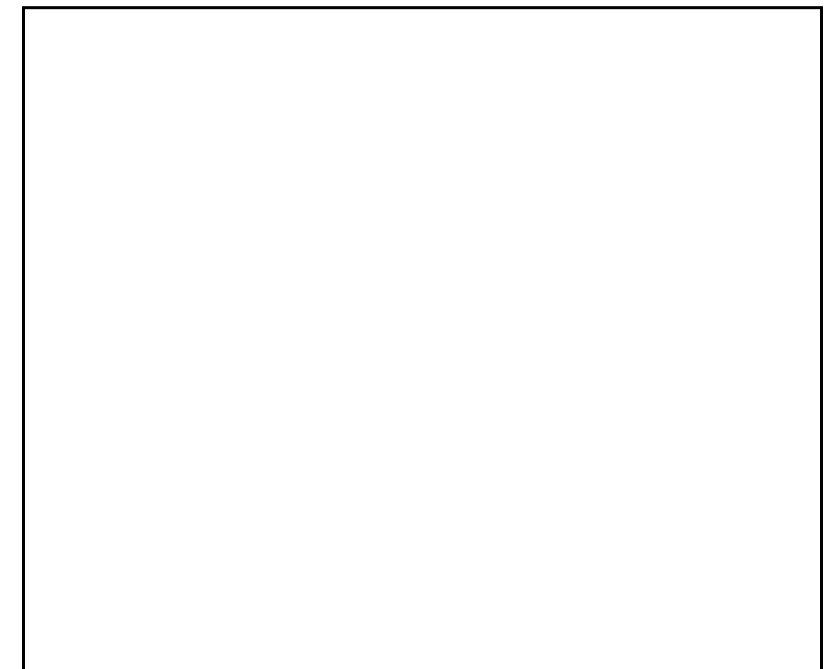
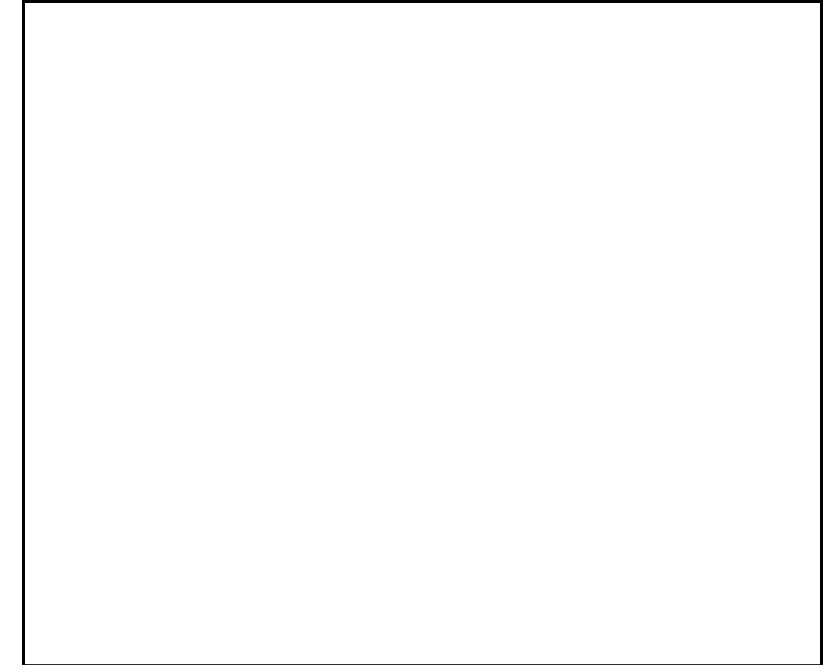
Tickets: \$19-\$50

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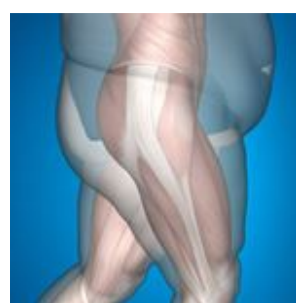
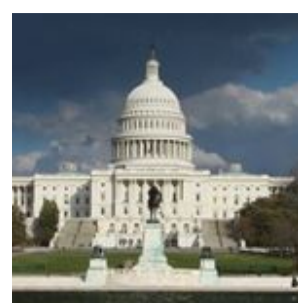
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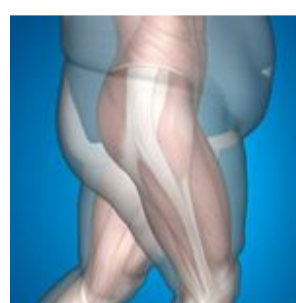
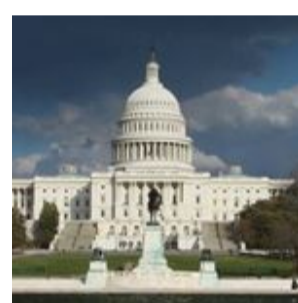
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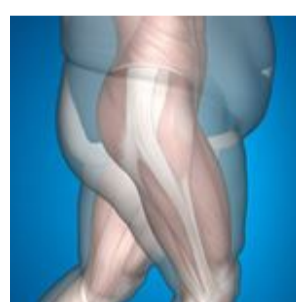
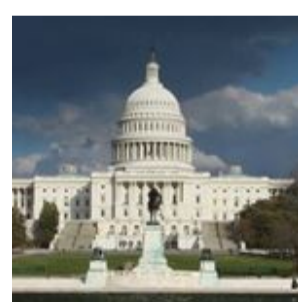
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