

Chatter

by Anne Marie Cruz

Idol-ized?

With Randy, Paula and Simon gearing up for *American Idol*'s third season Jan. 19, we asked celebs how they'd stack up against the Kelly and Ruben wannabes



BRANDY

Brandy: "I think about how far I'd go all the time. I'd make it to the Top 10. I might win the whole thing. I'd be like [second-season finalist] Trenyce and have a new look every week."

Queen Latifah: "I don't think I'd get far without butting heads with Simon. I wouldn't stand silently and let him criticize me. I've gotten far by not listening to 'experts' tell me I'm not good enough, skinny enough or perky enough."

Jason Biggs: "I could do a killer 'Endless Love.'"

Ja Rule: "I'm not *American Idol* material. I'm nasty, I smoke weed, and I do a lot of dirty things, so I'd probably be kicked off the first episode."

LeAnn Rimes: "I was contemplating going to the auditions with a wig on

to see if I could make it through."

Jamie Foxx: "I'd make it all the way to the top. The judges would like my suits."

Michelle Branch: "Don't you have to sing something stupid like a Mariah Carey song?"

Andy Roddick: "I suck at singing. I can crack glass with the worst of them."

Matt Damon: "I'd pick something with not a lot of notes in it, and Simon would say, 'What is *this* guy doing on my show?' I'd be an absolute failure."

Christopher Meloni: "I wouldn't get past the screening process. I would show up in latex shorts to sing 'Stinkfist' by Tool. Simon would tell me, 'You should scratch ever using



CHRISTOPHER MELONI

I'd probably sing a Who song—"Don't cry, don't raise your eye, it's only teenage wasteland." Then I'd do the drum solo with my mouth —**Jack Black**

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

the word "talented" to describe yourself."

Tyra Banks: "I'm no Kelly Clarkson, but I carry a very good tune."

Haley Joel Osment: "I'm not bad enough to be funny, and I'm not good enough to be good, so I wouldn't get through a single round."

Lara Flynn Boyle: "I'd absolutely not win because I'm not nice."

Peter Gallagher: "I would sing 'Unchained Melody.' Simon would say, 'You've rewritten the book.'"

Emily Procter: "I would be voted off immediately singing 'Angel of the Morning' by Juice Newton."

Seal: "Terrible. Simon would say I have a halfway

decent voice but I have those weird scars on my face, so I'm never going to make it."

Toni Braxton: "I wouldn't do very well. Simon would tell me my voice was much too husky and that I should have worn high heels."

Sarah Wynter: "I'd win. I've got an Ethel Merman inside me just waiting to come out. I'd be the only person in the history of *American Idol* where every round, the judges would say, 'My God, she's an angel!'"

Mark McGrath: "Remember that guy who sang 'Like a Virgin'? Me and him would be last. In fact, dare I say that guy's voice is better than mine."

