



great scott!

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**PARKS AND REC'S ADAM SCOTT
HEATS UP OUR SUMMER IN
OUR IDIOT BROTHER**

"C'MON," ADAM SCOTT says to me with an extremely skeptical look on his face, his head tilted and an eyebrow cocked. "Really?" I'm pretty sure I've just embarrassed the hell out of the ridiculously humble *Parks and Recreation* star by breaking the news that discerning *BUST* readers all over the country think he's pretty damn crushworthy—a sex symbol for the thinking girl, if you will. "Well, I guess that's better than the dumb girl's sex symbol," the low-key 38-year-old says before breaking into a self-effacing laugh. »

"I do notice that those who come up to say hello always tend to be smart, cool people who I would like to hang out with. They seem like they would be friends of mine," he continues before reconsidering with a shake of his head. "The way I just said that made it sound like I'm fucking cool and all of my friends better be fucking cool or I'm not going to be friends with them. That is not what I meant."

It's this kind of humility that is a big part of Scott's appeal, which is in full effect in his new movie *Our Idiot Brother* (opening August 26). The sweet and hilarious film stars Scott's real-life pal Paul Rudd as a down-on-his-luck slacker, and Zoey Deschanel, Elizabeth Banks, and Emily Mortimer as the three sisters whose lives he uproots. The release of *Our Idiot Brother* comes at a time when Scott, who plays Elizabeth Banks' flirty neighbor, is just starting to enjoy some serious Hollywood cachet. Although he's been in the acting biz for years, it was his role as the sarcastic star of the short-lived cult hit TV series *Party Down* in 2009 and 2010, coupled with his current gig as Leslie Knope's forbidden love interest Ben Wyatt on *Parks and Recreation*, that finally garnered him the attention he deserves. "I always thought that, if it ever happened to me, it would feel like a warm embrace from the public," he says about becoming a recognizable actor. "But weirdly, when I really started [getting recognized], all it felt like was that I had a disease on my face."

Starring on *Parks* has also given him the opportunity to work with some of comedy's coolest women, including Amy Poehler. "Working with her is super fun," he says. "She's just a really warm, mellow, great person, so it really is a joy. I'm lucky I get to be on the show, but I'm also lucky I get to do a lot of my stuff with her." As far as working with awesome ladies goes, Scott's on a roll. His next project, Jennifer Westfeldt's *Friends With Kids* (slated for release early next year), is the all-too-rare movie written and directed by a woman, something he'd like to see more of. "That's hopefully changing," he says, regarding the dearth of female directors in Hollywood. "But the business is primarily run by men, as many businesses are, and they have an unfair advantage. Women have a totally different perspective on life. They should be able to express it with as much frequency as men do."

[LISA BUTTERWORTH]



Dolly Joseph, aka the Schoolmarm, takes on Reagan Greenfield, aka Tragedy Ann, at a CLAW bout

lean on me

THE CHARLOTTESVILLE LADY ARM WRESTLERS ANSWER A CALL TO ARMS

CHEERING, SHOUTING, AND elbowing for space under a tent in a Charlottesville, VA, parking lot, 700 spectators are trying to keep their eyes on the match. But this isn't your average sporting event—it's a Charlottesville Lady Arm Wrestlers bout, and these fans are supporting women's charities while urging their fave competitors on.

It all started at a bar one night in the fall of 2007, when pals Jennifer Hoyt Tidwell, 39, and Jodie Plaisance, 41, decided to arm wrestle. Tidwell claims she "crushed [Plaisance] easily," and Plaisance demanded a rematch. Their friends soon wanted to get in on the action, too, so a few months later the Charlottesville Lady Arm Wrestlers (CLAW) hosted its first match. In the four years since, CLAW has grown to include 75 women who all adopt menacing pseudonyms and DIY costumes in much the same way roller derby girls do. At their quarterly matches, wrestlers with names like the Morton Assault Girl, Stiletto Southpaw, the Homewrecker, and Tragedy Ann arrive with costumed entourages who encourage onlookers to purchase "CLAWbucks" (one CLAWbuck for one dollar) to "bet" on the match. Then all the money raised—including cover charges, ringside seats, and T-shirt sales—goes to local women's organizations such as Books Behind Bars (which provides books to women's prisons) and SARA (The Sexual Assault Resource Agency).

To date, CLAW has raised over \$30,000, and with new chapters cropping up in New Orleans; Taos, NM; Chicago; Hudson Valley, NY; and San Francisco, that number is only expected to grow. "We're raising money to support women and that's what it's all about," says Plaisance. "It was just a silly idea, but it has made such a difference in our community, and now hopefully the nation." For more info, visit clawville.org. [CELIA SHATZMAN]