



princeton's leading lady

by Lindzi Scharf

LAURA BRECKENRIDGE stars on The WB's "Related" (Wednesdays, 9 p.m. EST) as Rose Sorelli, a 19-year-old college student who switches her major from pre-med to experimental theater. Turns out, Laura and Rose share an interest in academics.

CB Teen: I understand you're a college student at Princeton University (Princeton, NJ). How do you balance school with acting?

Laura: It gets busy. At the beginning of the school year, for each class, I copy down [the times for] every study session. So if I get double booked, I'll approach the professor. Princeton has been good to me. The university encourages individuality. I've chosen acting as a career and they've been supportive. I took time off last year to work. I went back for a year, but I have to take time off again for the show.

CB Teen: When will you be returning to Princeton?

Laura: I've come to the realization that I fell in love with academics. I know I'm a dork, but I love school. So I know that I'll go back. I want to write my thesis and graduate. I'll get back there; it's just a matter of when. I'm OK if I graduate when I'm 30.

CB Teen: What's your key to success?

Laura: Time management. It's just about being on top of your schedule, knowing your craft, and being able to stay organized. My schedule's different every week. I'm always juggling. Even when I'm in school, I'm going into the city for auditions. But I have a great team that helps me decide what auditions to go in for and which meetings are worth going to.

CB Teen: What's your major?

Laura: I'm majoring in classical studies and with certificate in theatre dance. At Princeton, you don't choose your major until your sophomore year. I got there thinking I was going to do anything from physics to English or psychology. I stumbled upon classics and fell in love with it. I'm really interested in Western theatrical literary tradition and the arts' place in society.

CB Teen: How have your studies helped you with acting?

Laura: College helps any actress because it's a great place for growth, exploration, and meeting a variety of people. Classical studies allows me to study tons of different literature. Seeing how other people have dealt with their characters helps me approach my character in any project.

CB Teen: What do your friends from school think of all this?

Laura: We watched The WB in college. They keep seeing commercials and calling me. We're excited. My closest friends aren't in the arts or in the business. It's nice to have that. I'm excited they all have great summer internships and they're experiencing new things themselves. It's exciting to see any career take off right out of college; all those stepping stones are exciting. 