



Kimberly Williams-Paisley's balancing act

How does the busy actress find time for her husband (country-music star Brad Paisley), their son, Huck, and a budding writing career? She multitasks.

BY JENNIFER GRAHAM KIZER

“The best advice I got about how to manage as a working mom came from **Annette Bening**. She said, ‘People say you can’t do it all. But you can. Just take your kids everywhere with you.’ I haven’t figured out how to make it all work yet, but I take Huck [now 16 months old] with me. And I find projects I can do at home, like writing a children’s book, *Henry and the Hidden Veggie Garden*.”

>>> She makes work work.

“It’s hard to commute from our home in Tennessee to L.A. with a baby, so I told the producers of *According to Jim* that I want to do only 10 episodes [out of roughly 22] this season. And they’re willing to work with me.”

>>> Mascara—a busy woman’s best friend.

“If I don’t have time for makeup, I reach for an eyelash curler and **Bobbi Brown Everything Mascara** (\$22; www.bobbibrowncosmetics.com).”



>>> How she and her husband stay in sync.

“Brad and I recently started using Apple’s iCal and unified our calendars. Now, any event that’s put on Brad’s calendar by his manager goes on mine, too.”

>>> Chicken soup is her favorite fast food.

“I do the cooking, so I have a lot of simple recipes. For soup, I buy a rotisserie chicken, put it in broth, and boil it until the meat’s falling off the bones. Then I add chopped garlic, onion, red potato, celery, and cook it for an hour. It makes the house smell great!”

>>> Me Time is a must.

“If I consider something a priority, like exercising or getting a massage, I put it on my schedule. Once it’s there, I know it will happen.”

>>> When I need to get away from it all ...

“Reading is one of my favorite ways to unwind. On my bedside table now is a book my sister recommended, *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* by Jonathan Safran Foer. It’s so good.”



Left photo: Nee Dewitt/Corbis Outliner; Product photos: Francesco Mosto