## VHAT YOU'RE DYING TO KNOW ABOUT



financial incentive has spawned more paparazzi than ever. Insiders estimate that there are more than 100 paparazzi in L.A. alone, roughly triple the number that existed a few years ago.

With so much competition and money at stake, photographers will do whatever it takes to get the most coveted shots (hot new couples, A-list offspring, and celeb weddings)—including putting stars under constant surveillance. "There are many ways of finding

cell phone and would call photographers when he saw a celebrity," he says. "The photographer would show up, give him \$20, and then shoot the guy asking the star for money."

Being followed around all day can take a frightening turn for the worse when photographers resort to high-speed car chases. "It looks like the Indianapolis 500 sometimes," admits photographer Randy Bauer of Bauer-Griffin. "If we're following a star who's trying to evade us by running red lights and crossing double yellows, you can just see accidents waiting to happen." And accidents do happen. Cosman knows of a photographer who was pursuing Jennifer Aniston so intently that he unintentionally crashed into her car (Aniston was not hurt).

Surprisingly, the red carpet can be as dangerous as the road. Celebs feel threatened when photographers invade their personal space while jockeying for position. "That's what happened to Prince Harry in England last fall," ex-

Matt Damon gets hounded for

autographs.

Even fans these days are making it hard for stars to maintain any level of privacy. Stalkers break the law by threatening harm and breaking into celebs' homes (see sidebar), but well-intentioned fans can go too far as well. Kevin Bacon recently told Cosmo that, at times, fans seem to forget that celebs are real people with real feelings. "They feel entitled to come right up to me and say 'Your hair looks weird.' Can you imagine going up to a complete stranger and saying Your hair looks weird?" And according to Leonardo DiCaprio, fans are inescapable. While in Brazil, thousands of miles from any city, he met the chief of a tribe and his son, both of whom spoke no English. The son said through an interpreter, 'Leonardo Di-Caprio, Titanic, right?"

Perhaps one of the most disturbing discoveries a celeb can make is when they've been



## 'Rumors of infidelity can tear celebrity couples apart by causing them to be distrustful of each other."

out where stars are going to be, but we usually do stakeouts," says Scott Cosman, a paparazzo with Flynet Pictures. "We wait down the street from where they live until they come out—and then we tail them all day."

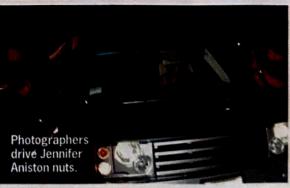
If a star somehow escapes their watch, it's no sweat—they have plenty of spies. Frank Griffin, co-owner of Bauer-Griffin, a celeb photo agency, has admitted he gets tipped off by everyone from hotel, restaurant, and airport employees to cops—all of whom are more than willing to provide info in exchange for a crisp \$20 or two. Cosman heard of an even more unlikely source. "There was this homeless guy who somehow got a

plains Cosman. "Someone hit him in the face with a lens while trying to outmuscle the other photographers."

## Loss of Privacy... and Trust

All this media intrusion isn't just disruptive (and often haz-

ardous). It destroys any sense of real privacy in a celebrity's life. If you're a big star, you can't go to the bathroom at a gas station (Britney) or kiss your boyfriend on a beach in Hawaii (Cameron) or walk outside in sweats (every star in Hollywood) without being photographed, reported on, and criticized.



betrayed by someone close to them. Though confidentiality contracts safe-guard against loose lips (stars can sue if an employee with a contract blabs), stars have these agreements only with people who are officially employed by them. People like hairstylists and close pals can feel free to backstab. Jennifer

top to bottom, from left) www.bauer-griffin.com; Henry Lamb/Photowire/BEI ame Pictures: Ren/Kondilis/www.bauer-griffin.com