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Previews The week in pay TV

FRIDAY February 10

Stafford Brothers

Fox8, 8.30pm

UGH. Australian DJs the Stafford Brothers seem determined not to endear themselves to the viewer. Matt, in particular. His glamour-model girlfriend, Brooke, has decided to have a go at the DJ caper herself and Matt is dead against it. "It's something I've asked her not to do and she's gone ahead and done it," he complains. He seems to think that failure on her part could somehow damage the Stafford Brothers brand. What's more likely to damage it is Matt being the kind of tool who thinks he has the right to tell his girlfriend what she can and can't do with her life. Tonight, everyone's on the Gold Coast, where Brooke has her first gig. Matt and brother Chris audition singers and dancers for their new song and video clip while their manager, Joey, makes horrible personal comments about the hopefuls.

Norway Massacre: The Killer's Mind

Discovery, 7.30pm

IT'S not clear how much real insight this documentary provides into the mind of Anders Breivik, who in July last year killed 77 people in his bombing and shooting spree in Norway. A British criminologist characterises Breivik as a paranoid, attention-seeking narcissist who didn't kill himself as police closed in because he wanted the political platform a trial might provide. That might be true but the most compelling parts of this program are the witness accounts of his horrific rampage.



KINGS OF SPIN

DJ SUPERDUO THE STAFFORD BROTHERS ARE READY TO STORM LA
LA LAND BUT NOT BEFORE TURNING UP THE HEAT IN CANBERRA

By Dave Ruby Howe

If you believe what you see on reality television then it must be pretty good to be one of the Stafford Brothers right now.

Siblings Matt and Chris have become stars of the small screen in the past year with their reality show *The Stafford Brothers* on pay TV channel Fox8, recording and broadcasting their glitzy and often hectic lives as DJs travelling the world to party with different people every weekend.

Putting their career under the TV spotlight seems to have only intensified the hysteria that surrounds the duo. "It's funny," Matt Stafford

says, "how this has become the 'standard' for us. On Friday we were up here at home [on the Gold Coast] and then it was Sydney and then down to Melbourne for shows.

"We've got to a point where it's four or sometimes five gigs a week and on top of that we've got a heap of stuff going on behind the scenes. It's tough to keep up with ourselves

almost."

It's in the club setting that the Stafford Brothers have mounted their assault on Australian dance music culture, gigging around the country in the past few years and building a reputation that's based on memorable clubber

experiences. That relationship with clubbers saw the duo snatch top honours as the No. 1 DJs in Australia at the inthemix Awards in 2011, a title previously held by The Aston Shuffle, Ajax and tyDi, to name a few.

"We've been doing this for 10 years now and for five of those it's been about just playing as many shows as we can," Matt Stafford says.

"We might've been busy gigging around before but in the last 12 months it's hit another level; the venues are bigger and the crowds are just amazing, they're really into it."

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Staffords spread their wings

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As well as their commendable work ethic, what seems to have kept the Stafford Brothers on a continual career incline is the pair's booming personas behind the decks – and now on screen – which makes for high energy sessions on the dance floor for both clubber and DJ alike. At any given Staffords gig you'll see arms punching the air and bodies moving the booth. Matt Stafford says he also "can't stand still" during a DJ set.

"It's just who we are," he laughs. "We love to put on a show and we try to give more energy to all of the shows we're getting. It's something in our personalities.

"I'd be bored out of my mind if I was just standing up there all night looking at the mixer. You see people get into it and that gets you excited. That's the natural reaction for us."

With the duo's latest tour exploits on show in the second season of their reality show, the Stafford Brothers are moving to shore up their international prospects this year, with a bold relocation to Los Angeles on the cards at the end of summer.

As well as potentially filming a third season of their reality show in the US with departing DJ friends and housemates Timmy Trumpet and Tommy Trash, the move is about establishing some tangible international momentum in what is the most fertile ground for dance music right now.

"The reason we're going to LA is to build a bit of a base there," Stafford says. "We've been touring overseas for a while now and we've always done it in two-month stints going around Europe and then coming back to Australia.

"For us there's no question that we have to go worldwide. It's always been our goal to have a fan base overseas and that's why we're doing this now and trying to have a real go at it."

The brothers' move to the US also coincides with their studio album ambitions.

"Basically we've got to be there to do it," Stafford says. "You look at what David Guetta's been doing with all the guests on his albums and we want to do the same thing and work with a lot of people and you just can't do that from the other side of the world. This way we can get in front of people and show them the product and get them on board.

"We've got a lot of contacts lined up and we'll be working with producers and writers which is really exciting for us. We've been banking up all these ideas and productions for the last 12 months and now it looks like they're finally going to see the light of day. We have had some contractual things tying us up, which was frustrating, but in the end it pushed us along to really look at making our album and getting some great music out there."

With the big move abroad on the horizon, the brothers are making some final stops around the country to be sent off in style, including a return to Canberra's Academy on February 24 and then as a part of the touring Future Music Festival, which Stafford calls "a personal high".

This won't be the last Australian clubbers will see of the duo though, with Stafford confirming that unless they find a reason otherwise, they will be back in the country at the end of the year to do it all over again.

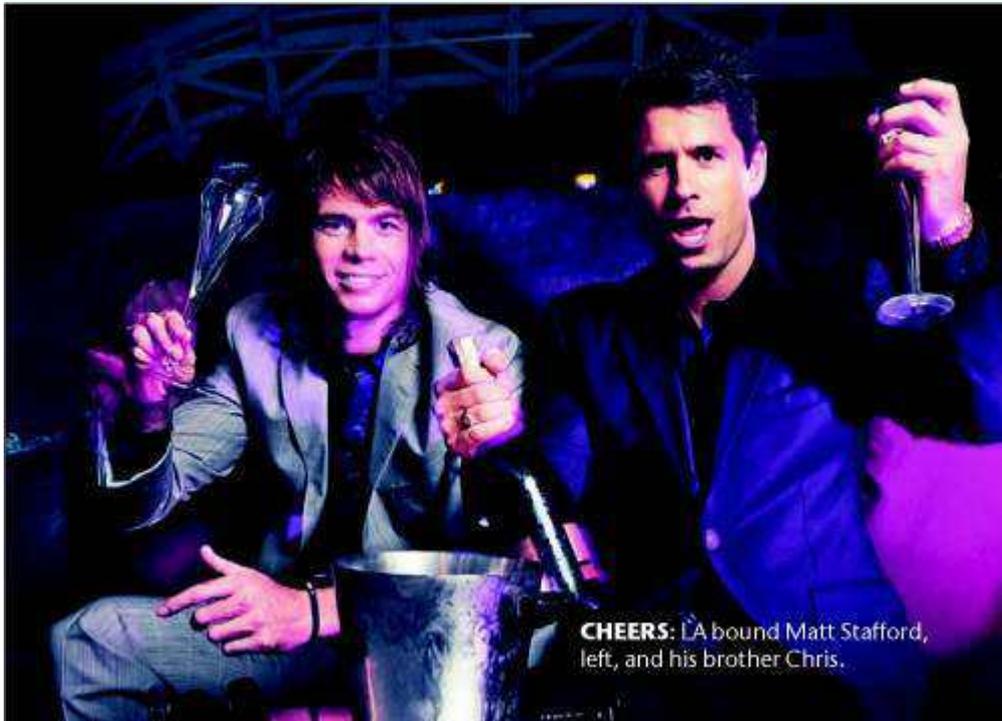
"At this stage we'll be gone for six or so months just to get things going and rolling over there," he says. "Don't worry, we're not gone forever. I think I'd miss it too much – the beach, my mum's cooking and my girlfriend."

Stafford Brothers

WHERE: Academy, Canberra City

WHEN: February 24. Doors open at 9pm

TICKETS: Moshtix, \$10 + BF





You could hang out with Stafford Bros

NOT only are the Stafford Brothers playing at the South Grafton Ex-Servicemen's Club before hitting the Future Music Festival; you will have the chance to meet the

boys and have a couple of drinks with them on February 18. The Daily Examiner has two of these hot tickets to give away. Simply fill in the coupon below, giving the first names of the brothers and drop it into The

Daily Examiner office in Grafton or Yamba. Each ticket gives the winner and a friend the opportunity to chat to the Stafford Brothers for half an hour before the show.



HEADING NORTH: Check out the Stafford Brothers on February 18.