

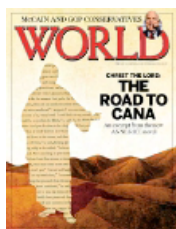
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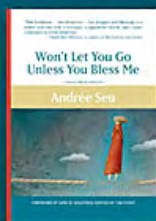
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# Looking ahead

**LOOKING AHEAD:** News to watch in the weeks to come

## 80TH ACADEMY AWARDS

**February 24:** The show must go on. And with a deal in place between the Writers Guild of America and major studio chiefs, the annual Oscars show appears to be saved. Comedy Central's Jon Stewart will host a night where the greatest tension should not be between writers and producers, but between acclaimed films No Country for Old Men and There Will Be Blood as they jostle for honors.

## ARGUMENTS IN EXXON V. BAKER

**February 27:** The Supreme Court will hear arguments in one of the longest-running punitive damage cases to date. Nearly 20 years ago, the Exxon Valdez spilled 10.8 million gallons of oil into the waters off the coast of Alaska after running aground on a reef. The resulting class-action lawsuit pegged Exxon with a \$5 billion bill for punitive damages. Through a series of appeals, Exxon managed to cut the charges in half, but now hopes to find a Supreme Court more favorable to decreasing what at the time was the largest punitive award ever administered.

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