



IT'S A HIT



Couldn't be in L.A. when *The Sopranos* won three Emmys for Outstanding Drama Series, Outstanding Directing for a Drama Series and Outstanding Writing for a Drama Series? Fuggedabouddit! Experience the next best thing with a four-hour *Sopranos* bus tour through New Jersey. (No, we're not kidding.) Die-hard *Sopranos* fans flock to tour over 40 real-life sites featured on the hit HBO mob drama—and even make a stop at the Satin Dolls strip club in Lodi, known to viewers as the Bada Bing nightclub. Manhattan-based On Location Tours was founded in 1999 by Georgette Blau, a 1996 Skidmore College grad. Her mission was and is to create tours that enable TV fans to straddle fiction and reality, feeling as though they're part of the show. The tour, which draws more men than women, promises to include *Sopranos* trivia and behind-the-scenes production notes. Tickets are selling like fresh cannolis at \$40 a seat. Log on to www.zerve.com/OnLocation/Sopranos to get yours.



Used by almost every major and minor league baseball organization for the past 70 years, "official" baseball mud comes from a top-secret New Jersey mudhole in the Delaware River Basin. (The few visitors who have seen the mudhole were blindfolded!) It was discovered in 1938 by Lena Blackburne, third-base coach for the Philadelphia Athletics. Lena Blackburne Baseball Rubbing Mud has grown into a two-person global organization that sells about 1,500 pounds of the tried-and-true goop to ball clubs every year. Before each game, team equipment managers faithfully rub the mud on all factory-fresh baseballs to improve the pitcher's grip. Other types of natural and factory-replicated gunk have been tried over the years, but they can't outperform genuine New Jersey mud—not too smooth, not too gritty, just right. This stuff is so famous it's displayed in Cooperstown. Get your very own tub of Jersey-grown baseball mud from baserubbingmud.com.

What's up at the airport?



One of New Jersey's most intriguing see-and-be-seen sites is the unassuming Teterboro Airport, where VIPs regularly arrive and depart in their G5s. Port Authority officials won't share the names of regulars, but the list reads like a who's who of Hollywood celebrities, professional sports teams and corporate executives. The Bergen County airport also plays a key role in emergency medical transportation and even transports bank couriers to Wall Street. Teterboro has only about 50 residents but receives \$13,000 a year from the Port Authority in lieu of taxes. Thanks to the airport, the local economy is flying high. The airport employs 1,600 people and generates \$496 million in local business.