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STARR REPORT

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It's fitting that Greg Grunberg, the go-to guy in several J.J. Abrams shows ("Felicity," "Lost," "Alias"), is starring in NBC's new fall show, "Heroes." Grunberg's oldest son, 10-year-old Jake, suffers from epilepsy - and if there's a hero in Greg's life, it's this brave young man.

"He handles himself with such dignity, and we try the best we can not to limit anything he does," says Grunberg.

"He swims, rides a bike and plays for a championship baseball team." Jake suffered his first seizure before he turned 7 and, since then, Grunberg has been a tireless advocate in raising money to find a cure for the disease.

"The message I really want people to be aware of is that there's no reason that someone who suffers from epilepsy should not be able to live a normal life," he says.

Part of Grunberg's moneyraising efforts includes his celebrity band, Battle of the Network Stars, which features Grunberg (drums), "House" star Hugh Laurie (keyboards), James Denton ("Desperate Housewives") on guitar and Bonnie Somerville and David Anders ("Alias") on vocals.

"We charge an incredible amount of money to play corporate events," Grunberg says.

"And we're playing the TV Guide post-Emmys party, which will give us close to \$200,000." One-third of that will go to the pediatric epilepsy project at UCLA, the rest to charities supported by Denton and Laurie.

As for treating Jake's illness, Grunberg says he and wife Elizabeth-whom he calls "the rock in this relationship" -have discovered a medication called Diastat that's worked wonders. Jake also has a pacemaker-type device implanted under his skin to help control his seizures.

As for "Heroes," premiering this fall, Grunberg says he has high hopes for the show, which revolves around a group of people who discover they have other-worldly powers. "If we can keep up the quality of the pilot, it's a show a lot of people will love," he says.

Last, but not least:

* Congrats to "Nightline" EP James Goldston and wife Laura on the arrival of Benjamin William.

* OK, so Taylor Hicks is all over TV in his very own car ad after winning "Idol." Now, the answer to the question: Where's Fantasia (right)? The answer: on the BET awards show tomorrow night. Singing again, thank God.

[Illustration]

-Greg Grunberg -Fantasia.

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