F·R·I·E·N·D·S are forever...and why not?

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HEY there, friends! Hope all of you are doing well, as the new semesters start up in full swing! As the title of this article suggests, this is all about the trendiest and popular TV show called *Friends*! I am pretty sure you watch it, and can't stop loving it. But now that it's over, how about going back to its history?

Friends is a situation-comedy that was originally broadcast from 1994 to 2004. It's about a group of six friends living in the New York City borough of Manhattan. One of the most popular television series of all time, the show has been broadcast in over one hundred countries, and still continues to attract good ratings for its presentation and management of episodes. The final episode of the show remains one of the largest in terms of television audience numbers in the U.S.

Friends, created in 1994 by David Crane and Marta Kauffman, was aimed at young adults who during the early 1990s were identified by their café culture, dating scene and modern independence.

Originally to be named *Across the Hall*, *Six of One*, *Insomnia Cafe*, and *Friends Like Us*, this comedy serial debuted on September 22, 1994, and was considered a must-see comedy in no time. The show was a huge success throughout its ten year run and was a staple of the NBC Thursday night line-up. The final episode aired on May 6, 2004, which was one of the most watched series finale ever, only behind *M*A*S*H*, *Cheers*, and *Seinfeld*.

Cast Members:

Role	Full name	Portrayed By
Rachel Greene	Rachel Karen Greene	Jennifer Aniston
Monica Geller	Monica E. Geller Bing	Courteney Cox Arquette
Phoebe Buffay	Phoebe Buffay-Hannigan	Lisa Kudrow
Joey Tribbiani	Joseph Francis Tribbiani	Matt LeBlanc
Chandler Bing	Chandler Muriel Bing	Matthew Perry
Ross Geller	Dr. Ross Eustace Geller	David Schwimmer

During the show's run, each and every cast achieved household name celebrity status for all justifiable reasons. And this helped them to experience varied degree success in their movie careers. Fir example, Aniston's movie career is predominantly populated with light romcoms. Cox made several lightweight films, though achieved her greatest success with the *Scream* series. Kudrow fared best in low budget indie films - a far cry from the role of Phoebe, most notably *The Opposite of Sex*.

During 1994-2004, four of the cast married. Kudrow was first to marry in 1995 to advertising executive Michel Stern. Next in 1999, Cox married wedding *Scream* co-star David Arquette. Aniston married film star Brad Pitt in 2000 while Le Blanc married long-term girlfriend Melissa McKnight in 2003. Kudrow gave birth to son Julian in 1999 (her pregnancy was incorporated into the show, as explained in the 'Season 5' section). Le Blanc's wife, McKnight, gave birth not long before the end of the show, and Cox gave birth to her long-awaited first child within a month of the final episode of *Friends* being screened. Since the end of *Friends*, both Aniston and Le Blanc's marriages had ended.

