The Leading Man

DB WOODSIDE, 38

HOME BASES: New York and Los Angeles

PROFESSION: Actor

DOING RIGHT: This Yale School of Drama alum played chief of staff and president on *24*. Raised by his pro-Malcolm dad and pro-Martin mom, Woodside demonstrates his social conscience through his affiliation with the fifth graders at C.S. 61 in the South Bronx. "I want to inspire kids to be active in their communities and dream bigger," he says. "If our children can imagine beyond their circumstances, there's no stopping them."

MOST ROMANTIC MOVE: "When I was a broke college student, I covered my girlfriend's apartment with lilies, her favorite flower, poured some champagne, and tied myself with a bow—then she 'unwrapped' me." ▷

Contact him: dorightdb@essence.com

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HARRIS: LEATHER JACKET, SCHOTT; T-SHIRT, CALVIN KLEIN; JEANS, LEVI'S; SNEAKERS, NIKE; JUSTICE: LEATHER JACKET, SCHOTT; T-SHIRT, CALVIN KLEIN; JEANS, MYNK; SNEAKERS, NIKE; NEON JACK, SIMMONS; GRAVELY: SHIRT JACKET AND JEANS, GAP; T-SHIRT, CALVIN KLEIN; SNEAKERS, NIKE; WATCH, SEIKO; EYEWEAR, HIS OWN; GROOMING (RACING TEAM), MELANIE HARRIS/OLIVER ARO AND JESSICA TARAZ/VERITAS MGMT; WOODSIDE: SHIRT AND JEANS, ARMANI; BELT, STYLIST'S OWN; GROOMING, STEPHEN SAYLERS FOR KIEHL'S.

Photographed in Santa Monica, California