Hurricane hits with softer touch

Weathered from Frances, campus 'looking good'

MASEIH SOUTH
Sue Ann Watts

Chains that were enveloped for three days remained today as UCF emerged with the rest of Florida from the weekend fury of Hurricane Frances.

The Hurricane Charley, which tore the roof off the Recreation and Wellness Center and knocked out electricity on Greek Row five weeks earlier, was twice as large but left campus with little damage.

"We're looking pretty good," Tom Evelyn, acting director of UCF News and Information, said.

Frances did a lot of minor water damage, Evelyn said. Buildings harmed by Frances' angry sheets of rain and shingles which included Classroom 1, UCF Arena, the Academic Building and the Library.

The library suffered the most damage, campus officials said. A large hole in the roof allowed the rain to flow down into the building's hallways, rooms and locker rooms.

Many campus trees, weakened by last month's storms, fell from Frances' winds.

Once a Category 4 hurricane with winds of 145 mph, Frances weakened to a Category 1, before entering the Gulf of Mexico as a tropical storm.

Nearly 1,000 people took shelter in the UCF Arena and three other campus buildings over the weekend after UCF officials decided to cancel classes Thursday and Friday.

The Arena opened its doors to area residents as a shelter on Friday. But a leaking ceiling above the main doors forced 900 evacuees to set up camp in the building's hallways, rooms and locker rooms.

Most students residing on campus went home as soon as UCF officials announced Wednesday night two days of canceled classes.

Danielle Liebman, a sophomore and business marketing major and sophomore Matt Byrom decided to stay on campus, since both their families live in West Palm Beach.

"They are going to move a lot more toward the west and cut out the storms," Byrom said of his family's evacuation plans.

UCF Housing announced mandatory evacuation for on-campus residents and residents of Purpose Landing and Purpose Pointe apartments by 8 a.m. Saturday. These students were directed to the Communications Building, Classroom 1, and the Library Commons.

"We don't fear our buildings are unsafe," Christi Hoots, director of Housing and Resident Life said. "However, we prefer to gather those left in the dorms and apartments together." Many students haven't been through this before, she said.

Potential contacts open their door waiting for audits by filling out a five-page application. Some waited three, others lasted five hours.

Dating in prime-time

Big Man auditions attract a big crowd

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Two and half hours before Big Man on Campus auditions were scheduled to begin last week, lib­ rarian studies major Stephen Bald­ ocke, 25, waited patiently outside of the Student Union's Grand Ballroom for his chance.

"The best for exposure, man­" he said. "It's a good way to get out there in front of everybody maybe as a propellant for an acting career."

Salada was one of hundreds of UCF students who showed up seeking a spot on the WB net­ work's new reality dating show. In the series, one UCF male will be expected to pick from among 25 UCF females. Though auditions ran from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sept. 24, the line started forming as early as 7:30 a.m.

From Greeks to geeks, stu­ dents slowly trickled into the Student Union's back hallway, sitting on couches, floors and plants, to fill out applications, confidentiality agreements and release forms.

The applicants' reasons for auditioning were as varied as their personalities.

"I don't know a whole bunch of people on campus," stalling major Leah Simmons, 21, said. "It's hard being a freshmen. It could be a great experience."
Show hopefult eye the competition and see losers

• It's a TV show, so you can't beat the weather. The campus has a great outdoor area.
• I'm angry that reality shows are degrading for both character and politeness. It's a TV show, and it's on the UCF campus. Though he admitted that it would be fun for those who are fans of reality shows, he felt that it's a TV show, not an actual event. He said, "I'm angry that reality shows are degrading for both character and politeness."
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Arizona went up 19 percent, and Cornell increased 29 percent.

Campus thefts increase as high-tech gadgets abound

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Campus police once spent most of their time dealing with stolen bicycles or car abortions. Those are still popular items to steal. But campus police say rising theft rates are mostly attributed to increased popularity in steals computers and other technology equipment like expensive plasma screens or projection TVs - sometimes found in libraries and classrooms.

Some examples from U.S. Department of Education statistics comparing 2000 to 2002: property crime at the University of Arkansas went up 19 percent, Florida A&M saw a 25 percent increase, and South Carolina's technical college systems are well poised for a 30 percent increase next year. The University of Arkansas' graduating high school class faces an overall increase.

More than 6 percent of ACT. About 6 percent of ACT. About 5 percent of ACT. About 5 percent of ACT.

Candidates hit Midwest with Labor Day job messages

COLUMBUS, Ohio - The presidential candidates and their running mates faced off across the Midwest with Labor Day messages for voters in the territory pivotal to winning November's election.

Presidential candidates Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney were heading to three states between this Labor Day and D-Day: Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

Bush on Labor Day campaigns in the states, and Cheney in the day after.

New energy source coming soon

Australian scientists predict they will be able to harness the power of the sun to extract unlimited energy from water without forming ice crystals, according to researchers. This will be the cheapest, cleanest and most abundant energy source ever developed. The Queensland scientists' idea will harvest sunlight and split water to produce hydrogen, a clean energy source,

Scientists believe the new energy source will have a market value of the size of the world's oil and gas combined.

Transplants more available

As a result of a policy issued recently to the Organ Transplant Systems of Chicago, it is now possible for Illinois patients to receive a transplanted organ, regardless of whether they are on a waiting list. According to researchers, this procedure will help prevent patient transplants and diseased mice more effectively and for a longer period of time.

Organs from relative donors are presently stored for short periods of time, according to researchers. However, the new technique has not been possible due to infections of the crystals, which damage deli- cate cells and reduces the viability of the tissue.

Doctors conducted more than 34,000 organ transplants in the United States in 2002, yet someone is added to the donor list every 12 minutes, and in people die each day waiting for an organ transplant.

Probable discovery of new matter

Two physicists from Penn State University have published a theoretical evidence for the existence of a new kind of matter, "super- solid" form of helium-4 with the properties of a superfluid.

Scientists believe they now have strong evidence to support this theory.

Pyschotic mice and schizophrenia

Genetically identical mice that have mutations in two key genes that make them appear to humans may offer insight into diseases such as schizophrenia, according to researchers.

Normally, reared mice will climb over and sniff one another, but the mutant psychotic mice failed to socialize. More than 2 million Americans suffer from schizophrenia.

This study might lead to pinpointing the genetic origin of this disease and eventually finding a cure for it.
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Patrick Biffin, a transfer student from Houston, Texas, was one of them. “This is my first hurricane,” he said while leaning against one of the columns on the Classroom 1 building. Saturday morning, Biffin moved to Orlando two weeks ago. “I’m not scared, cause I don’t know what to expect,” he said with a laugh.

In Orange County, shoe shelters remained open and full during the 25-hour passage of Frances over Orlando. Orange County was prepared to open up to 80 shelters if needed, said Rene Hanschke, executive director of Orange County Office of Emergency Management.

Frances caused the largest evacuation in the state’s history, with 2.6 million residents from 47 counties ordered inland. The storm sent 114,845 people, including 46,000 people who were out of their residences and through an internet-fed web page on the University of Central Florida’s campus.

In Orange County, facilities were considered a success, with residents and tourists to more than 100 shelters, some of which are still housing Hurricane Frances evacuees.

Anticipating the hurricane by late Friday, most Orange County shelters, including UCF Arena, were at full capacity by Saturday morning.

“I think that we had stayed in a house that was a house last night and came here today,” Crystal Welles said. “The senior meteorologist who worked here was amazing. He was so easy to talk to, he was very... he just was very cooperative.”

Welles said the Arena spread thick blankets to the beds by the windows, and food and water were distributed. “They were even packing the food to us,” she said. “We have some friends who are going to be with us the whole time.”

Most families staying in the Arena spread thick blankets to the beds by the windows, and food and water were distributed. “They were even packing the food to us,” she said. “We have some friends who are going to be with us the whole time.”

Radio station braves storm

While most of UCF was watching the news of Hurricane Frances on television sets in the safety of their homes, two student DJs on WCGB were reporting on it—by how loud.

Station Manager Tim Hoffman, a junior radio/TV major, knew he wanted to broadcast the campus radio station WCGB during storm for his fellow students. He ran into a problem when campus closed late Thursday. “I didn’t hit him on as my second,” Hoffman said of his senior Jake Ivey. “I decided against my Boardwalk apartment. The operation was considered a success, with a large number of people and four 4,400 on-line sites, and more than 200 different Internet listeners over the two days.

The station, which normally broadcasts on 91.3 FM and School of Communication, began broadcasting Thursday on Hoffman’s personal computer. “We started broadcasting when we woke up that morning, and that was pretty much all we went to,” he said. Their efforts paid off on the “Web site,” he said. “I was able to communicate with classmates and other students who were in different places.”

“People can’t get breaking news coverage in such a case,” he said. “We’ve been able to get breaking news coverage in such a case.”

KIRIN ICHiban

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About 1,000 take shelter at UCF Arena

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Dating show creates a bad impression

Our View
The week-long scandal involving a well-known reality dating show has brought to light the potential for such programs to harm their participants and the public. With multiple allegations of unethical behavior, the show has faced criticism for its treatment of its contestants and its impact on the wider community. The show's producers are being held accountable for their actions, and the public is encouraged to support initiatives that promote positive social interactions and ethical behavior on television.
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**MACREAPS**

It was a tough weekend for the Wisconsin volleyball team as the league went 0-6 in conference play, but a career-best match for the team, and a huge turnaround for the team. The Badgers suffered a huge loss at home, but the team fought hard and came back to win.

**ASLEY BURNS**

Saturday's game against the Wisconsin Badgers should have marked a milestone moment in UCF women's soccer history. The Knights have been on the rise, coming into their own. They were a huge improvement over last season, and to play well in the first two rounds of the tournament was unexpected.

**BOB ZEIGLER**

The Knights' host the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee this weekend with a 1-1 record in the MAC. In the first two rounds, the team has played well, drawing even with the Oregon Ducks and routing the Badgers. Expect a tough game, as the Badgers are a strong opponent.

**ASHLEY BURNS**

Bringing it on, Ivan

One soggy weekend can't top 40,000 fans.

It's that time of the year again. Not only is it football season, but it's also the time of the year when hurricanes are a possibility. The state of Florida is always on high alert for any signs of a storm. This year, Hurricane Ivan made landfall, causing widespread damage and leaving many without power. The university was closed for the weekend, but the football team was ready to go.

**ASHLEY BURNS**

Volleyball suffers shothout in the Bayou

LSU takes three from UCF in dropped series

MATT DUNNAN

It was supposed to be the first home game since 2000 with quarterback Aaron Dupont coming to the Drum. A domination of the offense by the Volvik volleyball program has been on the rise, and a glimpse into where the program is going.

A defense of the pass and a pausing of the offense by the former setter seems to be the game plan ready to take the program to the next step.

Hurricanes caused all of this. Instead, the UCF volleyball team packed up early Thursday morning and headed to a 14-hour bus ride ahead of a tough weekend and a tough game.

A weekend that saw the Knights open the season 0-3 for the first time since symp. Two of the three losses were to host LSU ED 30-16, 20-12, 22-25, 2-0, 25-16, 25-20, 25-20. The other was to Rice 25-10, 19-25, 25-0 in the Hurricane Invitational.

"When something that we really couldn't control," Coach Mike Cola said. "That's not an excuse for our performance out there this weekend."

The Knights looked ready to weather the storm the young team opened against LSU on Friday afternoon. LSU took 2015 from game one, but the Tigers finished the game on a 1-2-3 sweep.

LSU carried that momentum into game two, jumping out to an early lead. The Tigers finished the game with a 2-0 victory.

The linebacker Turner Hawkins (77) celebrates after picking up a touchdown.

"I was surprised at the unexpected errors by our outside hitters," Turner Hawkins said.

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Wisconsin offense with its domination, as the Badgers wore down the Knights on offense the entire game, rushing 320 yards on offense, which was as much as the Knights gained just 230 yards on offense, which was as much as the Knights gained just 230 yards on offense, which was as much.

The second half was UCF's turn to shine. The Knights, putting Wisconsin up 17-3, but UCF's defense looked to have an answer. The Badgers were stopped on fourth down, and Jim Leonhard returned Matt Prater's punt.

Wisconsin special teams player of the game: Jim Leonard, punt returner

Leoned returned four punts for 35 yards. The best he had all game was a 31-yard return on a punt that was blocked and returned.

Play of the game: Shuffle 16-yard pass to Prater

The pass came in the second half, and Prater took it to the end zone, giving Wisconsin a commanding lead.

Snap of the game: Shuffle 16-yard pass to Prater

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Tackles committed by the UCF offense

Although the intercalfed screen pass gain was a big one for the Badgers, the UCF defense was able to limit the damage passed by the interception.

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Although the intercalfed screen pass gain was a big one for the Badgers, the UCF defense was able to limit the damage passed by the interception.
Davis leaves game in second quarter after rushing for 78 yards

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Rockets blown out by No. 23 Gophers

Falcons hung tough through the first four quarters.

Watts leads volleyball despite loss to LSU

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for 81 yards and the first Wisconsin score of the game.

While Davis' first-quarter touchdown was the only score the Badgers needed, Wisconsin quarterback John Stocco added two more in the air and one into the end zone him­self.

UCF kicker Matt Potoo provided the only scores of the game for the Knights, as he connected on 39-yard and 33-yard field goals.

Luther Burgess led UCF with 12 carries for 78 yards.

...it was the first time going into the battle as a family, minus one, our head football coach.

...and PRECISELY 1932
"We've gotten better running the ball, sustaining blocks and finishing blocks. And obviously when you get better offensively running the ball, we get better defensively, because you get to see it every day."

— COACH GEORGE O'LEARY

"They're exciting. You can put the ball in their hands, hold your breath, and they can make some things happen."

— OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR TIM SALEM

ON UCF'S RECEIVERS

The wait is finally over.
UCF football is back.

PLAYERS TO WATCH

QB - #5 Steeven Moffatt
A highly mobile dual-threat out of Plains, Me., Moffatt brings the ability to start and finish games, as well as a quick release and strong arm. Moffatt's mobility will be key in the spread offense.

WR - #44 Alex Huggins
Huggins made 46 catches, 137 yards and two touchdowns during fall practice and was the team's top returning receiver. He has the potential to be one of the best receivers in the conference.

WR - #74 Tavon Capers
Capers was a standout at receiver during fall practice and was one of the most consistent receivers on the team. He has the potential to be a big playmaker.

WR - #2 Brandon Marshall
Marshall had a breakout season last year and showed off his talent during the spring game. He has the potential to be a big playmaker and is one of the most dynamic receivers in the conference.

WR - #9 Steven Moffett
Moffett emerged as a pleasant surprise during fall practice and was one of the most consistent receivers on the team. He has the potential to be a big playmaker.

WR - #81 Brandon Marshall
Marshall had a breakout season last year and showed off his talent during the spring game. He has the potential to be a big playmaker and is one of the most dynamic receivers in the conference.

RB - #22 Gerren Bray
Bray had 26 receptions for 375 yards and two touchdowns during fall practice and was one of the most consistent receivers on the team. He has the potential to be a big playmaker.

LB - #24 Atari Bigby
Bigby emerged as a key player on defense during fall practice and was one of the most consistent players on the team. He has the potential to be a big playmaker.

SS - #24 Nasir Bigby
Bigby led the Knights in tackles in 2003, which is a statistic that he is very proud of. He is a great athlete and is one of the best players on the team. He has the potential to be a big playmaker.

PK - #36 Matt Prater
Prater emerged as a key player on special teams during fall practice and was one of the most consistent players on the team. He has the potential to be a big playmaker.

OL - #71 Justin Frye
Frye is a talented and athletic player who has the potential to be a big playmaker.

UCF football is back.
"We’ve gotta a couple of kids that haven’t started shining yet, and they’re playing on the offensive line." — TIM SALEM

“We’re gonna have to really count on guys like Carrington, Nelson and Jordan to provide some depth, make some plays for us, and hopefully provide some leadership.” — DEFENSIVE COORDINATOR LANDON THOMPSON ON THE DEFENSIVE LINE

“I think that we’ll get better with each week, and we have to continue to recruit the right players. I think that coaching is a part of the game, and I think that good players win big games. We have to get more big time players here to get that done.” — COACH GEORGE O’LEARY

SCHEDULE BREAKDOWN

W. Virginia Sept. 11 — Toledo

Last season: West Virginia finished 30-6, 10-5 in the Big East, WVU defeated UCF 30-14.

Key losses: WVU returns all five key members of their defensive backfield with the graduation of Lanne, Frasier and Bilal King, Frasier and King combined for 11 interceptions in 2003.

Returning studs: Quarterback Rusty Mitchell and tailback Ray Curry return with an offense that should put WVU near the top of the Big East with the departure of Miami and Virginia tech.

UCF will face another of WCU’s Hard hat toughies when the Knights have the last of the Mountaineer big three at home.

At Penn State Sept. 18 — Temple University

Last season: Penn State finished 2003 with a 5-7 overall record and 2-4 in the Big Ten.

Key losses: Rob Wilson is the only real loss for the Nittany Lions this season. Wilson was first team All-American.

Returning studs: Quarterback Anthony Petruzzi will return a team that was third in the Big East with 17 interceptions.

Last season: The Huskies closed out 2003 with a 2-6 overall record and 2-4 in conference.

Last season: The Huskies finished with an 8-5 overall record and 4-2 in the MAC.

Key losses: Running back Michael Webster was one of the best in the nation last year, and now the Huskies will have to live without his dominance.

Returning studs: Quarterback Josh Hill will have to face new challenges in replacing last season’s big man.

X-Factor: This is a very strong team on the offensive line. They can get it together.

Ohio Sept. 25 — Marshall

Last season: The Zips finished with a 7-5 overall record and a MAC record of 5-3.

Key losses: The Zips lose running back Zack Martin, their leading rusher from 2003.

Returning studs: Josh Cribbs is probably the best player in the MAC this year.

X-Factor: The Zips have to find timing and plays down and tear apart Ohio’s defense.

At Florida Oct. 2 — Buffalo, N.Y.

Last season: The Bulls finished with a 6-5 over all record and a 4-4 MAC record. The Bulls were dubbed as the worst team in college football by ESPN.

Key losses: Tight end Audrey Nelson returns for the first season as quarterback for the Elektra. Mike Stoltenberg and Andre Hawkins return with a ton of experience and will be able to get the offense to where it needs to be.

Returning studs: Quarterback Mike Reiman and running back Bizzy Betts return with a ton of experience and will be able to get the offense to where it needs to be.

Last season: The Golden Flashes finished with an 8-5 overall record and second in the MAC East with a 5-3 record.

Key losses: Turn around tight end Josh Betts for 2003.

X-Factor: The Knights will have to throw the ball down and make us throw the ball too.

At Eastern Michigan L, 19-13

Last season: Marshall finished with an 8-5 overall record and 4-2 in the MAC.

Key losses: Running back Michael Webster was one of the best in the nation last year, and now the Huskies will have to live without his dominance.

Returning studs: Quarterback Josh Hill will have to face new challenges in replacing last season’s big man.

X-Factor: This is a very strong team on the offensive line. They can get it together.

At Michigan State L, 21-7

Last season: The Cardinals finished with a 6-6 overall record and 4-2 in the Big East.

Key losses: Running back Josh Betts for 2003.

X-Factor: The Knights will have to throw the ball down and make us throw the ball too.


Last season: Marshall finished with an 8-5 overall record and second in the MAC East with a 5-3 record.

Key losses: Turn around tight end Josh Betts for 2003.

X-Factor: The Knights will have to throw the ball down and make us throw the ball too.

At Marquardt Nov. 13 — Miami

Last season: The Hurricanes finished with a 7-5 overall record and a MAC record of 5-3.

Key losses: Running back Michael Webster was one of the best in the nation last year, and now the Huskies will have to live without his dominance.

Returning studs: Quarterback Josh Hill will have to face new challenges in replacing last season’s big man.

X-Factor: This is a very strong team on the offensive line. They can get it together.

At Virginia Nov. 20 — Blacksburg, Va.

Last season: The Hokies finished with an 8-5 overall record and second in the Big East with a 5-3 record.

Key losses: Tight end Audrey Nelson returns for the first season as quarterback for the Elektra. Mike Stoltenberg and Andre Hawkins return with a ton of experience and will be able to get the offense to where it needs to be.

Returning studs: Quarterback Mike Reiman and running back Bizzy Betts return with a ton of experience and will be able to get the offense to where it needs to be.

Last season: The Golden Flashes finished with an 8-5 overall record and second in the MAC East with a 5-3 record.

Key losses: Turn around tight end Josh Betts for 2003.

X-Factor: The Knights will have to throw the ball down and make us throw the ball too.

At Ohio Nov. 27 — Athens, Ohio

Last season: The Bobcats finished with a 6-6 overall record and 4-2 in the MAC.

Key losses: Running back Josh Betts for 2003.

X-Factor: The Knights will have to throw the ball down and make us throw the ball too.
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Jet Li storms into theaters with a thoughtful action flick. What?! — PAGE 6

Weird Al's coming to freak us out — PAGE 2
Heather Friedman rocks our socks — PAGE 9
Alcohol without liquid really sucks — PAGE 11

Vol. V, No. 2, Sept. 2 - Sept. 8, 2004

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COURTESY OF RUMA
HAPPENINGS

Break out the accordions, here comes Al

The parody and polka king brings mirth to Orlando

JOE ANDERSON
Staff Writer

You know him, you've heard his songs, you might possibly think he's the most annoying entertainer on the planet. But like it or not, Weird Al Yankovic is coming Sunday to Orlando for a concert at the House of Blues.

With 11 albums and 3 Grammy awards to his name, Weird Al has been putting out parody albums for more than 20 years. From his first album, 1983's 'Weird Al Yankovic,' featuring "Ricky," "My Bologna," and "Another One Rides the Bus," to his newest release, a 2003 venture titled 'Poodle Hat,' Weird Al has always been the man with his finger on the pulse of pop culture - Americana.

Not only does Weird Al write his own songs, he also plays accordion on virtually all his tracks. Forced to take accordion lessons by his parents at about age 7, Weird Al has become very proficient on the odd-sounding and increasingly rare instrument. For proof, check out the accordion solo on "Syndicated, Inc." from the 1996 release 'Bad Hair Day.' The song is a parody of Soul Asylum's hit "Misery."

Backed by very competent musicians Steve Jay, Ruben Veliz, Jim West and Jon "Bermuda" Schwartz, Weird Al is able to recreate any song from any genre with almost scary precision.

A Weird Al concert is like no other concert you have ever seen. For starters, there is a longer-than-normal break between songs because Al has to open his concert with his finger on the accordion. Secondly, there is a longer-than-normal break between songs because Al has to leave the stage to change costumes. The second thing that's different about a Weird Al concert is the audience. From old timer Pac-Man Atari geeks to less-than-sober college students who have never seen a concert before, everyone in the audience of a Weird Al show looks like they belong in the audience of a Weird Al show.

So for all of you out there looking for something to do on Sunday night, head out to the House of Blues and check out the funniest concert you will ever see.

WEIRD AL
Poodle Hat Tour

When: 6:30 p.m. Sunday
Where: House of Blues
Price: $27.50 to $29.50

The parody and polka king brings mirth to Orlando

THE INDIE
Central Florida Future
3361 Bonne Road, Suite 200, Orlando, FL 32817

IN THE ISSUE Vol. V, No. 2, Sept. 2 - Sept. 8, 2004

Who would have thought advertising without sex would actually work? Maybe we just shouldn't use editor John Thomson as bait (remember the "Win a date with John Thomson!" contest? We had maybe five entries. And that was about as sexy as we get).

At any rate, we have a bevy of new writers thanks to the sexy plain-text ad we ran last week. They stormed the office, demanding to work.

Hopefully they'll stick around; they turned out some good stuff. I look forward to seeing more, and I hope you do too. They're not working for much, so if you liked what they wrote and you know who they are, tell them.

We still don't mind new faces. If you want in e-mail editor@theindie.com.

BRANDON HARDIN
HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR

CAMPUS
Secretary Hood election discussion
Sept. 2, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., free
Student Union, Key West Room 216CD
407-823-4095

How to be a Working Actor
Sept. 2, 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., free
UCF Theatre
407-823-4471

Free Trade in the America
Sept. 2, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., free
Student Union Cape Florida Room 316
407-823-0935

Legacy of the Spirit lecture
Sept. 3, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., free
UCF Library
407-823-2576

I love the '90s Shabbat
Sept. 3, 7 p.m., free
UCF Academic Village Hercules Activity Center
407-362-3317

SGA football viewing party
Sept. 4, 10 a.m., free cover with UCF ID
Pounder's
10028 University Blvd.
407-823-6356

Teaching academy
Sept. 7, 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., free
Student Union Key West Room 218
407-823-0026

Comedian Megan Mooney
Sept. 7, 8 p.m., free
Student Union - Wackadoo's
407-823-6471

Film and Forum
Sept. 8, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., free
Student Union Cape Florida Room 316CD
407-823-6471

SHOWS
Hanson, Ingram Hill, Michael Tolcher (pop)
Sept. 2, 6:30 p.m., $19.50-$22.50
House of Blues, Downtown Disney West Side
407-994-2483

Casiopeia, Vip Vip, Another Hindenburg (electronic)
Sept. 2, 7 p.m., $5
Wills Pub, 1850 N. Mills Ave.
407-896-5370

Down to Earth Approach, The New Transit Direction (rock)
Sept. 2, 5:30 p.m., $8
Screemers, 360 State Line
407-244-0099

Starring Contest, Music Versus the Heart, Second Track, The Finals (rock)
Sept. 2, 10 p.m., $5
Screemers, 360 State Line
407-244-0099

Pop Suicide (rock)
Sept. 2, 7 p.m., free
Alpha Bar 102 N. Orange Ave.
407-841-6544

OZZFest (Black Sabbath, Judas Priest, Slayer, Slipknot, Hatebreed, etc)
Sept. 2, 9 a.m., $49.75-$75.75
Ford Amphitheater at the Florida Fairgrounds
813-740-2446

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HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR

From lp
Distance, Fireflight, Julington, Capital Speedwayway (rock)
397-9575
Back 40, 397-9575

Chiny (hip-hop)
Sept 2, 7 p.m., $13
Hard Rock Live, CityWalk at Universal Orlando
407-351-5480

Terri Binion and the Longhaulers, Skinny McGee and his Mayhem
Marketers (Americana)
Sept 3, 9 p.m., S-5-7
WB Pub, 1900 N Mills Ave.
407-898-5070

Darkest Hour, Hurous
Breakdown, Hearts Over Rome, I Don't Die Young (hard rock)
Sept 3, 5:30 p.m., 58
Screemers, 360 State St.
407-244-8922

(meta)
Sept 3, 9 p.m., $5
The Haven, 6100 Mains AVE.
407-675-2712

Doug E. Fresh, Slick Rick (hip-hop)
Sept 4, 9 p.m., $26-$25
House of Blues, Downtown Disney West Side
407-999-2411

Josh Martiner, Sleep Are the Chacarones, There of Me, Cracker
Jackson, Escher, Science Non-fiction (hip-hop)
Sept 4, 9 p.m., S7
Will's Pub, 1830 N Mills Ave.
407-898-5070

Alicia Keys, Anita Baker, Chingy,
O'ryan, Omarion, Future, Big Boi,
New Edition, Monica, Hammer
(various)
Sept 4, 9 p.m., $60
Disney MGM Studios, Walt Disney World Resort
407-224-4527

Finned Pilot, Cider (rock)
Sept. 4, 8 p.m., $350
Rock and Roll Beach Club, Downtown Disney Pleasure Island
407-939-4800

Indorphine (metal)
Sept. 4, 9 p.m., $35
A1A Lexington, 687 Pine St.
407-819-3907

Franchise, Detective Sandy
Vagina (rock)
Sept. 5, 2 p.m., free
Starbuck Video and Coffee, 1842 E. Winter Park Blvd
407-623-3393

Weird Al Yankovic, Gary Menke
(pop)
Sept. 5, 6:30 p.m., $7.50-$8.50
House of Blues, Downtown Disney West Side
407-999-2411

MU330 (ska)
Sept. 5, 8 p.m., $7
The Social, 547 N Orange Ave.
407-839-3707

Lil Wayne (hip-hop)
Sept. 6, 10 p.m., $25
The Club at Osceola, 578 N Orange Ave.
407-839-3707

After Bridge, Submersed (rock)
Sept. 6, 8:30 p.m., $25
House of Blues, Downtown Disney West Side
407-999-2411

Nebula, Messinne, Asphalt, Deadspot (hard rock)
Sept. 6, 8:30 p.m., $7
WB Pub, 1830 N Mills Ave.
407-898-5070

Crush Shadows, Butterfly Messiah, DJ Ex (Industrial)
Sept. 6, 9 p.m., $30
Screemers, 360 State St.
407-244-4527

ART
First Thursday
Sept. 2, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., $5 to $50
Orlando Museum of Art
407-896-2000

Transitions (opening reception)
Sept. 3, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., free
donations
37 S. Magnolia Ave.
407-592-1200

Structural Realities (opening reception)
Sept. 3, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., free
Arts on Douglas
123 Douglas St.
New Smyrna Beach
386-428-1133

Terri Cook (artist reception)
Sept. 5, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., free
Orlando Museum of Art
2416 N Mills Ave.
407-896-4231

UPCOMING
30 Years of Grateful Dead
Sept. 9, 6:30 p.m., $14.95
Hard Rock Cafe
8437 International Drive
407-293-7625

Kerryoke
Sept. 9, 7:30 p.m., $5
Don's Pub
37 S. Magnolia Ave.
407-992-1200

Finding Nemo on Ice
Sept. 10 to Sept. 20, various times, $15.50 to $35
110 Waterhouse Centre
680 NW Waterhouse Ln.
407-849-2020

Pepcom Ricks: King Kong
Sept. 16, 8 p.m., free
Central Park, Winter Park
North Park Avenue and West Morse Boulevard
407-627-1933

HIGHLIGHTS

PLOTKIN ON WPRK
Starting at 9 a.m. Monday, Dave Plotkin, former editor of your very own The Independent Journal, will be going on the radio for 110 hours straight. In an effort to raise money for Winter Park’s college radio station WPRK 91.5, Plotkin is trying to break the Guinness Book of World Records tally for longest radio broadcast by a single DJ. While Plotkin will be on the air from 6 a.m. Monday to 11 p.m. Friday, he’ll have countless special guests to help fill the time, as well as more than 40 live bands performing in the cramped WPRK studio, including Dodge, Unicornopia, Gestalt, Supervillains, Hurrah and Watch Me Disappear. Doctors, nurses, delivery runners and timekeepers will be on site to monitor Plotkin’s progress, in accordance with Guinness law.

1ST THURSDAYS
It’s the first Thursday of the month, and that means it’s time to get some culture at the Orlando Museum of Art.

Each month, the museum features local artists, live music and all the art you can handle during an event simply called 1st Thursdays. You can wine and dine on guided tours, oogling priceless pieces of art while chugging down some ale from Shipyard Brewing Co.

This month’s title is “Seasonal Allegory,” where artists express their impressions of a place, time of day or weather condition.

You can find 1st Thursday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. today at the Orlando Museum of Art, 2416 N Mills Ave. Call 407-896-4231 for more information.

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Maria Full of Grace is a film full of brilliance

Harrowing drama does a lot more than shed light on seedy drug transport

JOHN THOMASON

Povere, immigration and drug smuggling can make for pretty compelling cinema, but they can also be turned into sentimental melodrama. If for nothing else, Maria Full of Grace deserves credit for never lapsing into the obvious and the overdone.

Even in the film's first reel, which sets up Maria's numerous trials and tribulations, the naturalism of the performances and the authenticity of the dialogue keep the drama aloft. After the first half-hour, the picture really soars, as writer/director Joshua Marston turns an ordinary sob story into one of the year's most emotionally exhausting and unforgettable films.

Maria's life isn't so hot. She just quit her dead-end job, her boyfriend is a dick, her family is dirt-poor and she has to spend all her money to support her sister's baby while carrying one of her own.

In a lesser movie, such perpetual suffering could be seen as laying it on too thick, but Maria's multitude of predicaments are necessary to provide the levity of her possibly life-saving decision: to smuggle drugs inside her stomach in return for more money than she could dream of.

A tagline for Maria Full of Grace reads, "Based on 1,000 true stories," a quote that serves two purposes. It confirms the film's universality (this movie may happen to be about Maria, but it could just as easily center on the many other teenage girls bound for the States with drugs in their tummies, in it for the same reasons) and makes known the tragic reality of the situation.

In addition to the compelling drama, Marston's film is an indictment of poverty-stricken Latin America, shedding provocative light on Colombia's exploitive working conditions, and, of course, the seedy underground culture that allows such drug runs. With its authentic location shooting and use of nonprofessional actors, Maria Full of Grace sheds a naturalistic light on the characters' plight.

A better comparison is to Jean-Luc Godard's My Life to Live, another heart-rending film that sets up a woman's predicament, then reduces her to an object. When the object is used up, so is the woman, and nothing remains.

With the same clinical stoicism that intro-
**Hero is a brainy action movie**

**Film is surprisingly not a remake of Dustin Hoffman flick**

BRETT RYAN BONOWIC Staff Writer

**A**fter an opening-weekend gross of $83 million and an initial theater presence on more than 4,000 screens, Jet Li's movie *Hero* proves itself to be the exception and not the rule to both action and foreign films.

*Hero* begins with the introduction of Nameless, played by Jet Li. Nameless walks amongst thousands of citizens of Qin on his way to see the king, and in the process it is felt the magnitude of what must have transpired. Nameless has killed three assassins and is granted unprecedented access to the king, who is the frequent recipient of death threats. But what are his motivations to get close to the king?

*Hero* is about the role of the individual in society, Nameless's quest is juxtaposed against the King's plan for pre-unified China. *Hero* raises many intelligent questions throughout its rather brisk running time of 96 minutes. Is one man's revenge worth the destruction of unity? Can one man impact the outcome of history? What is the cost of freedom?

Heavily influenced by *Rashomon* and *Memento* alike, *Hero* is an action film with a brain firmly attached to its skeletal structure. *Hero* deals with a very small chamber of characters, each intelligent and sympathetic to the price of their lives and the cost of the plan at hand. Rarely does a puzzle structure work, but in *Hero* it causes the viewer to think like Nameless, to measure the weight in thoughts. Many of the fights take place seemingly in the minds of the fighters, with much of the fight already transcribed in the mind like a well thought out chess match. The choreography in the film will surprise many, especially those who have been programmed by interminably boring Matrix Revolutions-type fighting. *Hero* is fresh and fun; coupled with good storytelling the film is leaps and bounds ahead of many Hollywood films.

*Hero* is brought to an even higher plane thanks to Tiengxiao Hsu and Zhaozhou Yi's lavish production design that is one of the finest three-way collaborations in recent memory between the cinematographer, director and production designer. Cinematographer Christopher Doyle has done some beautiful work in Asian cinema previously (Chungking Express, In the Mood for Love) but never has he done something with the breathtaking scope of *Hero*. Director Yimou Zhang has done what any good director should do, bring the best out of his cast and crew.

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Released in 2002 in other countries, Miramax left *Hero* on the shelf for almost two years before releasing it with a "Quentin Tarantino Presents" card. But the film's age doesn't show. It's magnificently well thought out and without and timeless.

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**Double-dipping no longer just for chips**

BRETT RYAN BONOWIC Staff Writer

**D**ds usually hit the shelves on a Tuesday. Occasionally there will be a Friday release, but for the most part you can bank on your favorite movie coming out on a Tuesday. More and more in the recent months though, studios are indulging in what DVD nerds call "double dipping." Double dipping is the act of the studio releasing multiple versions of the same film in order to exploit its audience for more cash.

This summer no less than five films offered "Movie Cash" inside the box, so you could see the sequel to said product for free. In theory this is a win-win for both the consumer and the studio. What they've done with movie cash is essentially released the same product for a second time, as Universal did with *Pitch Black* and *The Bourne Identity*, then given you a check to see their newest product. By giving you this said check, the studio to beems up its numbers on opening weekends, showing video chains that they have good product to sell and exploit in the DVD market. What they've done is tantamount to cooking their own books. Granted, it's a genius way of involving the consumer in these practices. But when the logic of it all is really examined, practices like these should be illegal.

Essentially just part of the cog in the wheel now, theatrical releases of a film is something more than a commercial for the DVD. No longer does it feel like the experience it once did when many would go to the theatre to see their favorite film a multitude of times during the theatrical release. Now if they just have the patience to wait a month, as is the case with *Fahrenheit 9/11*, they can just purchase the DVD. But looking at Michael Moore, I think he is a man very familiar with the concept of double dipping.

The multiple releases haven't stopped at more special features either. Why is it unacceptable to release an NC-17 or unrated film on DVD, but it's A-OK to throw an unrated director's cut on the shelves at Best Buy? I'm glad there is a market for these products, but why can't the consumer be rewarded the first time instead of having to invest so much cash in the franchise before getting to the real meat of the film? Studios have made the release of a film into a true three-course meal.

The next time you run to the store to buy the latest cinematic gem, think about how much you really want the disc. Does the film have a sequel coming out soon? You know another edition is just going to come out soon. Don't buy it. Is the release void of special features even though it was a big hit at the box office? In matter of months another edition will white with a fun name like "Deluxe Edition" or "Ultimate Edition." This isn't to say that I don't buy everything in sight but please, everything in moderation.

Thanks to all who entered last week. This week I am giving away a poster of one of my favorite films of the year, *The Girl Next Door*. Please e-mail Bret@theindie.com with the answer to receive thy prize. The character Ell in *The Girl Next Door* is primarily based on what writer/director.
Thrill-less thriller
Suspect Zero is no Seven

The only thing suspect is film's derivative storyline

JENNIFER GONZALEZ
Staff Writer

B lame Seven. It's the only explanation for Suspect Zero and all the countless other cop/serial killer/psychological thriller-type movies that have followed. You know the kind, with its checklist recipe of ingredients: there's the eerie pacing (check), the dusty lone back roads and interstates (check), the rain-drenched alleyways (check) and yes, there's that scene in which the brilliant young cop has pictures of victims and crime scenes collaged onto a wall and is desperate to find the whereabouts of a highly disturbed killer (check). That checklist alone has probably led your mind to recount half a dozen movies.

The latest edition to the genre is Suspect Zero, directed by E. Elias Merhige (Shadow of a Vampire), who should have known better. His attempt to create a mood-driven film with disjointed shots and extreme close-ups is admirable for such a stylistically predictable genre but doesn't hold up under the heavy-handed plot.

Written by Zak Penn (Behind Enemy Lines) and Billy Ray (Shattered Glass), the film begins with Agent Mackelway (played by Aaron Eckhart, who was so likable in Erin Brockovich but is stuck in serious FBI agent mode here) being transferred to an office in Albuquerque, N.M. Mackelway is predictably fresh off a six-month suspension for loose cannon behavior, in which he bypassed procedure in order to catch a serial rapist. Bodies soon start appearing with lidless eyes, and faxes personally addressed to Mackelway indicate the killer has taken a personal interest in him.

One thing leads to another and along with his ex-lover of a partner (Carrie-Anne Moss, trapped in a thankless role of love interest), Mackelway discovers Benjamin O'Ryan (played by Sir Ben Kingsley). O'Ryan is an ex-FBI secret agent who used to work for a now-defunct program in which compatible agents were trained to see and draw crimes scenes using nothing but their minds.

Kingsley is a killer of killers, tracking down a mythic entity he has created called suspect zero, based on the idea of the perfect serial killer. The only problem is that he can't 'turn off' the ability to see and is haunted by the victims he couldn't save.

While not unbearable, Suspect Zero is simply tired and ineffective. Whereas in previous successful thrillers like Silence of the Lambs or Seven, the tension within them is a palpable force, established early on and increased with every scene. Zero fails to build and as a result teeters on dullness.

Some action in the third act seems promising but leads to a familiar ending instead. Similarities like this to other films prevent the film from distinguishing itself as anything besides a clone, and with a cast of actors who have proven they can do better, that's unfortunate.
MOVIES

Indeed, new period piece is fair

Depth of Witherspoon’s character a strong point in Vanity Fair

GENO MEHALIK
Staff Writer

Period pieces like Mira Nair’s Vanity Fair (an adaptation of the William Makepeace Thackeray 900-page novel) are seldom a total disappointment. For instance, Cher’s Bullock’s quiet and sub-rosa role in Tea With Mussolini or Sandra Bullock’s quiet and sub-rosa role in In Love and War were both picturesque and accurate portrayals of a historical climate.

And because although you may encounter fast-paced introductions, unmotivated character actions and that one lovesick creature that mimics the romantic architecture of the time nearly precisely, you still almost have to try to hate a period piece after the barrage of imagery you are presented with. Broken castles, ageless battles, faraway places, teas, spices, feathers and cloudless weather are among some of the culprits.

In Vanity Fair, Reese Witherspoon is a stone-broke artist’s daughter in 1800s London. After one of the film’s first scenes, where Witherspoon’s Becky baggages with well-heeled Gabriel Byrne over a portrait of her mother, the protagonist’s age accelerates quickly and dizzyly. Along the way the audience is introduced to a lot of relatively torn but well-meaning characters like Bend It Like Beckham’s Jonathan Rhys Meyers (steely, but off) and Romola Garai (Becky’s light-headed). Becky is definitely a climber, character motivation is still very apparent.

Becky may have her penchant for showmanship is personified in her almost formulaic pairing with the silver-tongued gambler, charitably played by James Purefoy. Purefoy’s Rawdon archly in solidifying one of the film’s principle themes: social elevation. But Becky, intent on defying her character resonances to offer Becky a chance at a new level of social scholarship, Rawdon’s pride interferes.

But Becky, intent on defying the caste system of 19th century England — littered with lords, ladies, duchesses and street rats — she ultimately overlooks the one thing that made her feel high, bringing a shocking amount of honesty to her character that might have been tragically omitted. However, it is this honesty, amidst the deep purples and bright gold-encrusted costume jewelry, that makes Vanity Fair not just another period piece but something worthwhile.

And yes, she keeps the accent the whole way through.
Heather Friedman brings jazzy class to rock scene

EMILY JANE SCOTT  
Staff Writer

"I think I was probably born singing," Heather Friedman makes this statement almost laughingly, but as sincerely as can be. This statement does not come as a surprise, either, for anyone who has ever heard her sing. She is an all-around performer – the 20-year-old UCF senior is a Bachelor of Arts music major, sings classically in the music department here, is in musical theatre and has her own band, aptly named the Friedman band. While this seems like a lot on her plate, she feels like she’s prepared for any opportunity that may come her way. And between talent like hers and a vehicle like her band, it’s hard to imagine that she would be denied any opportunity to perform.

Her forays into popular music come from a combination of her love for expressive writings, poetry, journals, etc., and her natural love for music. She says she didn’t start writing songs until her sophomore year of college. Heather formed her band this past January, which was comprised of guitarist Phil Swasey, bassist John Friskies and percussionists Ramon Lopez on drums and Justin Steger on congas, vibraphone and other auxiliary percussion. Together, they create an ensemble sound with a jazzy feel that goes down easy but grabs a listener’s attention. She says that she didn’t go on a huge search for these musicians, but that they all just sort of ended up playing together. "I don’t think we’d organically come together and be five friends – it’s the music that brings us together." It doesn’t hurt to be in classes that are chock-a-block full of music students, either.

"I just asked people in my music classes if they knew anyone who played certain instruments. Phil was in my music theory class. He said he played guitar, but he said I’m not gonna play in your band or anything, ‘at first.’"

Heather started booking shows around town, fully prepared to play solo, hoping that a band would come along. Lopez was the first to come on board after he heard a demo that Heather had done. John came on after he heard the original ensemble play. "I was so thankful that I had four other people interested in my music other than my best friends," says Friedman.

The lineup of the band is in flux, however. This summer they lost Steger to grad school in Pennsylvania. Heather says that he still records tracks on vibes and continues to collaborate with the rest of the band this way. Unfortunately, Lopez is also on the way out – he will be spending the next year making big bucks playing full time at Disneyworld Tokyo. Free ride over and room included. While the band will miss him, Heather insists that they will only seek a replacement for the time that Lopez is gone.

This lineup is so important, again, as anyone who has seen them live knows, because one would be hard pressed to find a better ensemble of young musicians playing “rock” music in Orlando. Lopez has been described as being the best thing to hit Japan since technology. Heather also describes all of her fellow bandmembers as artists who will be willing to go out on a limb when it comes to creating each song.

While the technical capabilities of the band’s players are a huge draw for fans, Heather says that creating these tremendous arrangements is a special sort of process. Even through spectacular instrumental solos, you can hear a very personal meaning in all of Heather’s songs. “It all started with writing in journals when I was young.” The dichotomy between her personal songs and the flourishing performance arrangements, however, doesn’t seem to phase her. “I will write text, a rough song, chorus, verses and then I’ll have an idea of the world in which it should be.”

Once she and the band create these “worlds,” Heather’s personal stories are then expressed in a multitude of ways. She says about using music expressively versus using words expressively, “What I really love about a lot of what we do is that it appeals to people who think very textually, and then we can appeal to people who think creatively and express the words in a completely different way.”

Great musicianship aside, she feels that her music relates to people on a very personal level. "Some guy at Back Booth once said to me, ‘I really needed your music tonight.’ I was having a rough day too, so I guess I really needed him.” She says that this is the reason she performs music with her band as such – “If it’s not to touch other people, then it’s just for artists’ validation.” Said validation is, as many will agree, a pretty lame reason to be making music.

While the drummer situation is less than ideal for Heather and her band, their future looks bright.
Censorship killed the awards star
With no host or theatrics, Video Music Awards hit new nadir

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

Years from now the 2004 MTV Video Music Awards will be seen as the historic event that it was, three hours of television that set an alarming precedent. The days of the sporadic, exciting awards show are dead. And in its place we are left with a sterilized, sterilized production that offers nothing remotely stimulating or entertaining. Viacom, wary of the Nipplegate scandal, has taken no chances, expanding the length of the on-air audio delay and adding a video delay as well. No notorious lesbian kisses or Fastman costumes this time. The biggest surprise of any kind was Stevie Wonder appearing as the special guest slated to perform with Alicia Keys, and even that moment was utterly predictable. Much has changed since the awards first began airing in 1984. Moving from Thursday to the more family-friendly Sunday, the awards took place in Miami, in an arena of all places, which does not fit awards shows well. Fans filled the floor of the arena, where celebrities sat in upper sections. And there was no host this year either, a presence sorely missed. The lack of a host and the legions of screaming fans made the awards disjointed and uncomfortable to watch. Maybe it’s the traditionalist in me, but I don’t think these changes bode well.

Even the nominees and winners were unbelievably safe. I can’t complain about Outkast winning, but with the frantic nature of MTV’s programming and how quickly one star is processed and consumed after another, the video seems like it aired eons ago, not the actual 10 months. Other winners included Usher for “Best Male Video,” Beyonce with “Best Female Video” and Linkin Park for “Viewer’s Choice,” making me lose even more faith in democracy. God was thanked many times, but was unavailable to appear due his current litigation battles with the producers of Exorcist: The Beginning for using his name without permission.

Perhaps the best part of the night was watching the audience royally piss on the daughters of John Kerry and George Bush with a shower of harsh boos. The charismatic-less daughters were there in support of Rock the Vote, telling viewers to get politically involved. Other celebrities preached this message as well, but to keep in tow with the banality of the night, they remained non-partisan and made no opinionated comments.

Jay-Z was also there to announce his retirement, much to the sadness of three white kids in Des Moines. Perhaps MTV should follow suit, and resign from having award shows if they continue in this PG, corporate-controlled fashion.
MISCELLANEOUS

Alcohol now sucks thanks to invention

New Alcohol Without Liquid device provides hangover-free consumption

SHARON PARE
Staff Writer

What would you do if you knew you could ingest alcohol without experiencing the effects of hangovers the next morning? Believe it or not, this is not in reference to the infamous hangover-cure pill Pharb, but the Alcohol Without Liquid machine, also known as AWOL. Think of it as an alcoholic bong.

The simplest way to describe how this machine works is that it vaporizes any bottle of your favorite liquor poured into it. The vaporized alcohol then mixes with pressurized oxygen, hence the name Alcohol Without Liquid. Aside from decreasing the effects of hangovers, the next day, AWOL also claims to have no calories and no carbohydrates. If you know what an oxygen bar is, you can think of this machine as being like that. Or an emphysema patient’s oxygen tank. Or a hookah. Anyhow, you and your friends basically suck the living hell out of a tube (or two or four) hooked up to a machine with the now-vaporized mixture of alcohol and oxygen.

According to AWOL, you must only breathe normally when using the AWOL machine. The primary reason AWOL consumers skip hangover effects because the vaporized form of alcohol absorbs directly into the bloodstream, instead of heading straight to the stomach as the liquid would. You also get a quicker “high” since the oxygen is mixed with the alcohol and goes straight to the brain. The effects will also supposedly hit you 10 times quicker.

“I think there are pros and cons,” graduate student Audra Campagna said. “No-carbs, no hangovers! And I usually don’t prefer the taste of alcohol. The bad thing is that the oxygen kills brain cells and it would probably be easier to become an alcoholic.” Each session lasts about 20 minutes, and it is advised that you do not exceed a one-hour session in one day. The average pricing is $10 for every 20-minute session. Now, if the average shot (let’s say Sauza tequila) costs you $4 dollars, how does it make sense when the equivalency of a session is.


DVD REVIEW

I am vengeance, I am the night!
The best comic book adaptation is finally out on DVD

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

After the huge success of Tim Burton’s Batman, Warner Bros. Animation decided to create an animated series with the same moodiness and atmosphere that won audiences over with the movie. Not only did they capture it, they surpassed it. It’s often frustrating to see millions of dollars of studio money wasted on movies and TV series that just don’t get comic adaptations right. Either the characters aren’t the same, the themes are missing or the casting is bad.

The harsh truth is, all comic-book movies and TV shows should be held up to the same standards as Batman: The Animated Series, the show that did it right, on every single level. And instead of releasing episodes on DVD at a paltry four or five at a time, Warner is getting it right too, collecting the first twenty-eight episodes on Batman: The Animated Series Volume I.

The great thing about the first episodes was that they were more psychological and generally more story-driven than later episodes, with the sole emphasis being on Batman and his rogue’s gallery, easily the best group of villains in all of comicdom. No Batgirl here, and only two episodes with Robin. This was the writers at their best, capturing the core of the character and what makes him great, combining the grittiness of Frank Miller and Dennis O’Neil’s interpretations with some of the zaniness from the Bill Finger/Bob Kane/Dick Sprang era where the Batman mythos was first molded. The Joker is creepy; Two-Face is well.

NOT JUST SEX

Psychology of sexuality

With these tips, anyone can emanate sexuality

DANA DELAPI
Staff Writer

I wish everyone could have the weekend I just had. It was fabulous. The drinks were flowing. The guys were hot and willing to buy me any drink I wanted. Just a few great nights with friends and friendly prospects.

And I was truly in rare form. My friend Christine told me I was in total "Dana Mode." Now I ask you, what the hell is that? Apparently I created my very own mode of operation that has captivated people far and wide. I guess that can’t be all that bad.

While I prefer to believe that Dana Mode is one of supreme sex appeal complete with rock-star qualities and charismatic charm, I still wonder what exactly makes a person sexy? Everyone is sexy in her own right — short, tall, blonde or brunette. But what is that one essential bit that separates the sex kittens from the ordinary housecats?

Scientists always speak about the emission of pheromones, which attract potential mates around crucial periods when reproduction will be successful. Blah, blah, blah. This science mumbo jumbo means nothing to me. There has to be something in the character of a perpetually sexy person that can be pointed to help all the lonely housecats learning to unleash their inner tigers.

Well after extensive research of these uber-sexy creatures in their natural habitats — namely bars, clubs and parties — I have come up with a few universal truths about sexiness. Here it goes.

First, sexiness is defined by confidence. You could be wearing a burlap sack and still be sexy as long as you have the confidence and self-assurance to do it. Guys and girls who express confidence also exude sexiness. It doesn’t matter what you’re wearing or how your hair looks, because confidence comes from within. If you don’t have that, you won’t pull off the sexy approach even on your best night.

Confidence allows you to do things that normally may sound extreme. For example, being able to hop on the bar in your jeans next to girls in tiny mini-skirts screams confidence. This tells the world that you are hot, and that is sexy.

Then there is also a comfort level
MISCELLANEOUS

SOFTWARE REVIEW

Note to self: It's time to buy new note-taking software

Microsoft OneNote an affordable alternative to hand-written notes

CHRISTOPHER SCHWARZ
Staff Writer

Laptops are slowly creeping into classrooms everywhere. Most are brought so the student can goof off under the guise of “taking notes.” Still, the studious crowd may bring them along for actually paying attention. Without these brave souls, the rest of us would never have an excuse in the first place. For them, there’s now Microsoft Office OneNote 2003. It includes everything you could want in such a program — if you’re the type to want it in the first place.

OneNote is primarily aimed at owners of tablet PCs, a breed of laptops with screens you can lay flat and write on. Most run Windows XP Tablet Edition, which comes with Microsoft Journal. They do the same thing, but comparing Journal to OneNote is like comparing MS-Paint to Adobe Photoshop. There’s just no contest. Still, Microsoft didn’t get rich by being stupid. The program is aimed at people with normal laptops too. They just can’t write directly on the screen. Their keyboard replaces writing and doodles must be done with the mouse instead.

Tablet users can draw or write wherever they like. Handwriting recognition automatically kicks in to convert it to normal text or leave it hand-written, but allows for spell-checking and searching features either way. Keyboardists skip the conversion and use their mouse to click wherever and start typing. Both are free to use their own notation style without hassle from angry formatting-minded paper clips.

When the professor is giving seLne and gives things terribly out of order. Need to write something in between stuff already written? With the “insert extra writing space” or “move, text, get out da way” tool, you can slide the existing notes on down and write in the new space. Freedom to move things around willy-nilly even saves money on whiteout. What can’t technology do?

Microsoft really went the extra mile to think of everything. OneNote organizes and stores your notes in a neat, organized fashion that could trump the legendary Trapper Keeper. Search lets you find old knowledge instantly, and special bullet points separate important information from questions and “to-do” checkboxes, all with a clean, slick interface.

Integration was a high priority at Microsoft. Recording lets you insert from a microphone or webcam, assuming the teacher doesn’t notice and freak out. Pictures paste in quickly and easily. You can even insert the contents of your Outlook appointments or Word/PowerPoint documents and write all over them. Of course, it only works with Word/PowerPoint 2003 installed. My documents from Word 2000 are worthless in OneNote. Students are poor. Would it have killed them to add backward-compatibility for people who can’t afford to upgrade every year?

Luckily, the pricing of OneNote itself isn’t bad. It’s supposed to debut at $49 after academic discounts. If you already bring a tablet or traditional laptop to class and you’re using it to take notes instead of “take notes,” OneNote is useful enough to be worth $49. Everyone else, keep playing Counterstrike.

Antidotes to sequels

Two games a fresh respite from summer sequels

IVAN VELEZ
Staff Writer

Check out a release schedule for video games this month and you may find a lot of familiar names. After years of teasing gamers, id Software finally unleashed the newest chapter of the Doom series to rabid fans earlier this month. Even with an above-average retail price of $55, nothing seems to be able to stop the sales of John Carmack’s monster franchise.

Local developer EA Tiburon studios also recently released the latest installment in their perennial money train, the Madden series. While not accompanied by nearly as much fanfare as Doom 3, more than 15 past Madden games seem to be enough credentials for most gamers to pick up the latest update to their favorite NFL video game series. With guaranteed blockbuster money-makers like these, what incentive do game developers have in taking risks with pushing new, untested franchises?

Then again, not all gamers share the same enthusiasm developers have for sequels. For those craving something drastically different, a few new releases may satisfy your hunger for something new.

Vewifull Joe (PS2)
Developer: Capcom

Vewifull Joe looks like one of those trendy Japanese cartoons that use 3D animation to depict folks with oddly compact proportions kicking the crap out of each other. Joe, however, is no cartoon but a fast-paced side-scrolling beat-em-up offering a challenge more reminiscent of the old days of merciless 8-bit NES games rather than the namby-pamby hand-holding of today’s games.

Players take the reigns as the main character Joe, who fights an army using abilities such as slowing down and speeding up time while pummeling bad guys with crazy martial arts moves. Oh, and he’s a superhero. With a pink cape.

Originally released for the GameCube nearly a year ago, Joe received much critical acclaim, including Editor’s Choice awards by both GameSpot.com and IGN.com. Unfortunately, Joe suffers the curse of being a game that may be just too off-the-wall...
Bartender: Be like Clinton, don’t inhale

From 111

less than half a shot? You pay more, but get less.

So, what is the catch in terms of what they are promoting about this product? How can vaporized alcohol be more beneficial to your body when alcohol is not advised in plentiful servings?

To the health-conscious, the no-carb and no-calorie tactic works, and the no-hangover promise is tempting to heavy drinkers.

Perhaps it was too good to be true. Even when calling the main number more than once to get in contact with the head honcho, no calls were ever returned. Once. Twice. Thrice. Nothing.

The observation here, and this is certainly no crap Sherlock, is that everyone builds a certain tolerance to alcohol. But, putting those memories aside, how high are the risks of alcohol poisoning? This goes back to the catch: Legislation is in fact trying to ban the use and sale of any machine that vaporizes alcohol for fear that alcohol abuse will increase.

Some students, bar managers and club managers believe that the AWOL machine can take away many of the good aspects of the typical happy hour.

“I would be very skeptical, as it would seem like a non-social way to get a buzz,” senior and early childhood major Andrea Matlin said.

“Options like this may lead to further problems with alcohol addiction. I personally am not keen on the idea of sucking in air from a tube full of germs. I’d rather sip a margarita.”

The majority of people interviewed were interested in hearing more about this new product, but had many opinions as to why this may not be the best idea.

“This is a liability issue, and there is certainly an insurance risk,” said Liquid Cellar manager Brian Pearson. “On the business side, no, it wouldn’t be a good idea. On the fun side, it could be a great idea.”

Some, however, were much more direct in their opinion on the product.

“It’s retarded! Dangerous! For homeless guys on the street,” said Jodi G., a manager at The Social.

“I wouldn’t put it in my bar,” said Uno’s manager John Kain. “It eliminates the personal aspect of a bartender. I want people to enjoy the atmosphere. It would hurt sales since there is no personal side to it at all. I’d rather have people sit at my bar for two, three hours and socialize, not stagger out 15-20 minutes later.”

The concern continues: “We’re not selling just alcohol. We’re selling drinks. Recipe drinks!” Bennigan’s bar manager Kevin Ruscitti said. “People aren’t coming here to buy ground beef; they’re here to buy the whole hamburger. The enjoyment of drinking alcohol is the flavor. Inhaling it through some machine is the same thing as putting it through a hypodermic needle and injecting it through the bloodstream.”

Since the AWOL machine is currently still legal, you can get one with two tubes for $2,995 and one with four tubes $3,695. For more information, see http://www.awol-machine.com.

Ruscitti advises, “Just don’t inhale. I’m sticking with Bill Clinton.”

Fun extra features in Batman box set

From 112

developed and former third-stringers like Clayface and Clock King are vastly improved upon from the comics.

Yes, they changed things, but it actually works. Not every episode has supervillains in it, such as “POX” and “Appointment in Crime Alley”, but most of these work, because these stories show who Batman is and what he means to the people around him. The only two exceptions are the awful “Underdwellers” and forgettable “Forgotten”, but even these clunkers are better and more accurate than crap like The Punisher.

As far as special features go, you get a “making of” featurette, creator commentaries for two episodes and the original animated sequence used to pitch the show. It’s in full-screen, which is acceptable being it was originally aired as such on television, and has French and Spanish audio options, which are actually really interesting. In fact, listening to Mr. Freeze’s solemn soliloquy in French in the episode “Heart of Ice” is worth the price alone.

Fable a smart, realistic RPG

For a mainstream audience.

Available now for only 30 bucks, Viewtiful Joe provides a silly, colorful romp at a price that won’t bleed your wallet dry.

Fable (X-Box)
Developer: Big Blue Box

Not just another cookie-cutter role-playing game about saving the world, perhaps what grabs the gaming world’s attention the most about Fable is Peter Molyneux’s involvement. Molyneux earned his game developing stripes by defining the genre of “god games” with hits such as Populous and Black and White.

Player characters in Fable will develop in ways far more tangible than earning experience and finding items. Depending on the actions you take, your character can grow flabby or into a muscular hulk. Close battles can leave you with permanent scars. Stay out in the sun and your character will sport a spiffy tan. Or you can represent yourself a bit more accurately by becoming a skinny, frail wizard whose most loathsome foe is sunlight.

With no traditional RPGs under his belt, Molyneux’s focus on character development rather than epic storytelling guarantees that Fable will not be just another RPG when it’s released next month.
RAMBLINGS

GEEK LIFE

Beam me up, Jesus
Exploring the curious similarities between Christians and Trekkies

ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

I must admit—I've had discussions over who the better Star Trek captain is. I stand by my choices. I think Jean-Luc Picard wins in the all-around category. He combines cunning with that damn sophistication I love so much. He is a gentleman's captain, pure of heart and intention. He always thinks about things very deeply, and he is so sweet to Data, which always wins him points with me.

However, there is always the adorable, intense, passionate Commander Benjamin Sisko. For gods' sake, he was the emissary to the gods! That always blew my mind. Plus, he was so much more of a badass. And he always had all those wars to deal with. Sure, Picard had the Borg, but he never got kicked off his ship by an invading force of conquerors or transported away from this universal plane to a nether region created by the gods of a wormhole. All in all, I think Sisko had a much more interesting life, though he lacked the raw charm of Picard.

Of course, this discussion goes on and on in forums and chat rooms and the never-ending parade of conventions. This is because Star Trek is a religion, and it may one day overtake the dreaded Christianity as the religion of the western masses. Not that there is anything wrong with Christianity, of course. It's just that worshiping a show set in the future where people fly through the stars and practice a fascist ideology with a severe communist bent and a tendency towards collectivism seems so much more logical. That was fascism, for those who didn't get it.

While it is true that the philosophy surrounding both Star Trek and Christianity seems to involve obedience and loyalty, in one universe, devotees follow a strict code of rational thought and bordering atheism, while the other involves faith and an acceptance of the unexplainable whims of a great, judgmental god. They both have their pros and cons.

On the pro side for the Christians, God will carry them through times of sorrow as that Footsteps poem. Plus there's heaven, with all the constant hymns and worship for eternity. And I think everything is supposed to be made of gold, I'm not sure. I haven't read the book of Revelations in a few years. I remember something about streets paved with gold and oceans of diamonds. Or was that the ideal of the United States in the minds of immigrants? Either way, heaven sounds like a cool place.

But does it really compare to flying through the stars on a faster-than-light spaceship? I mean, I know most of your food comes from replicators and you have to live in close quarters and obey your captain in a military-style organization, but I'm sure the occasional visits to pleasure planets populated by sexy girls, as Kirk himself came to learn again and again.

All in all, I think I would choose the Trekker religion over Christianity, but only if I meant I could actually live life like they do on Deep Space Nine. I would visit the promenade, watch the ships fly in and out of the mystic wormhole, and end every other night with a visit to Quark's bar so I can hit on Dr. Julian Bashir. That sounds like my idea of heaven.

Our money needs a pop-culture revamp
Fonz enhances penny's cred

DIANNA ZISMAN
Staff Writer

There's been a lot of talk about putting Ronald Reagan's likeness on our currency to commemorate his service to the country. Interesting idea, but it's run into a few snags. Namely, some people don't want to see Reagan placed at the dime or Andrew Jackson from the 20 bill, both of which have been proposed. So debate has raged over how to properly honor the former president. By "raged" I mean, of course, that a few people have casually discussed it on C-SPAN, but that's neither here nor there. The point is, this situation got me thinking about other important Americans who aren't currently on any currency.

John Adams, Eugene Debs, Theodore Roosevelt, James Madison, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Frederick Douglass, Harry S. Truman, Eleanor Roosevelt, Douglas Macarthur and Martin Luther King, Jr. to name a few.

You couldn't suggest any of these people without argument. All of them have their detractors, especially the Socialist I threw in there to see if you were paying attention. They had strong points of view, and anyone with a strong point of view is going to upset someone who doesn't agree with him. Because, as we all know, having an opposing viewpoint means that you're criminal, unapathetic, mentally incompetent or a combination of the three.

So, how do you honor important Americans without pissing off half of the country? I humbly offer up a couple of potential solutions.

The first possibility is to change it up. I know, I know. The thought of changing our money causes many Americans to develop a sudden case of irritable bowel syndrome, but calm down, take a Tums, and give it a listen. Every five or six years, we can change the faces on our money, ensuring that all great Americans get a turn. Even the ones we don't like. Take a gander at the above list once more. Is it fair that Truman is left out? Is it fair to...
Spoofs on the loose: more trick domains

Domains that Make it more difficult not to find pornography on the Internet

CHRISTOPHER SCHWARZ
Staff Writer

Domain squatting has so many examples that I just couldn’t fit them into one week. In addition to last week’s porn-filled http://whitehouse.com, http://hotmale.com, and http://google.com, enjoy more of my favorite misleading domains intended to mess with unsuspecting users.

Ya-hooka
http://www.yahooka.com

This slight Yahoo variation brings you a search engine: “The Guide to Marijuana on the Internet.” It even bears quite a similarity to Yahoo’s original layout. Still, Yahoo does not own the trademark to “ya-hooka,” and it’s not going to be a common typo. Ya-Hooka lives on courtesy of one line at the bottom of tiny text that says, “Ya-Hooka is in no way associated with Yahoo.” You can even get your own @yahooka.com e-mail address. What are you waiting for?

Craiglist
http://www.craiglist.com/

The real Craigslist.com is one of the Internet’s most popular destinations for classified ads and finding out what’s going on in major cities. Forget the S and you’ll find THE ONE AND ONLY WORLD OF 100% FREE SEX ON THE NET. In addition to links to other porn sites, this one has a personal message signed by its founder “Bob” arguing for the value of pornography.

One part reads, “Human beings are animals, and animals possess a natural urge for procreation and, yes, even auto-eroticism. Who are we to impose our own puritanical hang-ups on nature? Are our morals really so rooted in truth? To be ashamed of sex is to be ashamed of being human, indeed, to be ashamed of being yourself.”

How his arguments justify giving porn to people who got there by accident remains a mystery.

Download.0R6asm
http://www.download.orgasm

If you fail to realize that download.com is not a non-profit organization, you’ll land instead at Download.orgasm. It’s yet another site of links to pornography! For all the porn on the Internet, there’s twice as many links to it. It’s crazy how many of these porn sites do not have porn, but only links to other porn sites, which probably are more links to more links to porn sites. Given the creativity of the site name, there should have been something more unique here, though the ads for movies of girls sleeping at “sleepy girlz” come close.

Ebay
http://www.ebay.com

Looking for eBay? Trying http://www.ebay.com brings you to “nowhere” with only the text “this domain is not in use.” Another variation, ebays.com brings you to a disclaimer that the site may contain porn and you must be 18 to enter. Clicking to enter brings you not to hardcore pornography (surprise!) but to a few banner ads and links to sites where you can buy saunas and hardwood floors. It’s definitely not the type of “hard” that people were looking for. How often does the Internet fail to deliver pornography? It must be slipping in its old age. Disgusting!

Just slip ’em a Janet Jackson boob and you’ll be set

From 114

have that cherry-tree-chopping, wooden-teeth-wearing freak Washington hogging not one but two valuable slots on American money? He’s had the monopoly on the quarter and dollar for, like, a million years now.

Serious. Early Nanderthals had his face on their bills and had no idea why. So please, George, give up at least the quarter and let Debi have a shot. Andrew Jackson in this scenario would quickly be replaced by Ronald Reagan, but don’t worry, he’ll be on the quarter once Governor Schwarzenegger’s turn is up.

Some people, at this point, may well be thinking, “This gives everyone a chance at currency glory, sure, but changing the bills around every few years is madness, madness I say!” All right, all right. I’ll admit that plan’s a bit risky. The other option may be easier to handle. Instead of putting important Americans with great accomplishments on our money, let’s use the likenesses of beloved figures that offend no one:

Penny:The Frog
Nineteen: Kermit the Frog
Quarter: The thimble from Monopoly
Half-dollar: Barbie
One-dollar bill: Shaggy and Scooby-Doo
Five-dollar bill: A bowl of vanilla ice cream with chocolate sprinkles
Ten-dollar bill: A penguin
Twenty-dollar bill: President Josiah Bartlett
Fifty-dollar bill: Janet Jackson’s left breast
Hundred-dollar bill: The Wal-Mart smiley face

Who, in their right mind, could dispute the power of this currency? No need to learn any exchange rates, because American money would be accepted the world over. Planning a trip to the frozen Siberian tundra? Slip the tour guide a Shaggy and everything in that land is yours for the taking. No questions asked, no problems.

Granted, this would give Americans the blandest currency in the world, but what does that matter? Who wants to see great, albeit somewhat controversial Americans when they can have a bowl of vanilla ice cream? Mmm, it’s delicious. It can buy you a latte AND it lacks strong opinions of any kind. Say goodbye to your stuffy old currency and welcome in a new era. Show me the money.

Urkel can’t save Step by Step

From 114

4. Urkel on Step by Step

Who can’t forget some of the great TV crossover moments: The Jetsons meeting the Flinstones, Homicide joining in on a case with Law and Order, Urkel hanging out with the Lamby clan and touching their lives! After appearing in an episode of Full House, America’s favorite black nerd decided to crash in on another T.G.I.F. show to boost its ratings. Urkel helps Mark out with his science project, councils Frank and Carol through a marital problems, takes Al to her dance and teaches everyone to do the dance sensation of 1991, “The Urkel.”

3. Marvel vs. DC

Neither company wants to have its characters lose credibility by losing a fight, so Marvel and DC placed the fights contested in this mini-series in the hands of voters. We got great bouts like: Spider-Man vs. Superman, Wolverine vs. Loboff, Gee, I wonder who won that one. The storyline centered on some mucky muck cosmic plot that served no other purpose than to set up the lame fights in the first place. And how does it all end? By throwing the heroes together to form the Amalgam Universe.

2. Natalie and Nat King Cole

Unforgettable! More like unforgivable. This was a crossover in the crossing over sense. Less-talented daughter digitally creates duet with her much-talented and much-dead father to record a track, proving how desperate some people are to get a hit. Luckily, neither Nat King Cole nor Natalie Cole’s careers have been resurrected since.

1. Archie meets The Punisher

Before you complain that I focused too much on comics, look at most of my reviews! No, really, please do — I’m not sure anyone does. Anywho, this right here is the Maltese Falcon of the bargain bins, a crossover so awful in its basic idea and even worse in its execution that it makes one want to go back in time and assassinate everyone involved in this project. I mean, who thought the bitter crock-killing Frank Castle should stumble into Riverdale High chasing after a drug dealer who looks just like Archie?
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