Storm forces Greek Rush to regroup

Jewish fraternity has conflict with holiday

BEBOE A. DE WEVER
Managing Editor

Though the wind of hurricanes Frances and Charley knocked down trees and damaged campus buildings, it couldn’t stop Greek recruitment.

Scheduled for the week before classes started, sorority rush fell victim to Hurricane Charley four weeks ago. It was rescheduled and completed just an Hurricane Frances made its way toward the Florida coast.

About 600 girls participated, said Katie McDaniel, president of Alpha Delta Pi. The sorority house Alpha Delta Pi had damage due to winds reported yesterday at 140 mph, but is moving steadily west. Weather forecasters predict the storm will pass over Florida.

“During the hurricane, we could see severe damage,” said Junior Karen Chen, a member of Alpha Delta Pi. “The Contractors [said we’d be able to move in within a month or two so weeks].”

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Checking out from afar

Off-campus access to information just got EZ

NASEEM SOWTI
Senior Staff Writer

Off-campus access to UCF Library’s electronic resources just got easier thanks to newly installed software called EZproxy.

Previously, students, faculty and staff who wished to access the library’s database resources had to configure their computers to use the proxy, a somewhat technical and time-consuming process for the average computer user.

“Students had problems with setting up the proxy,” said Athena Hoppen, an electronic resource specialist. “The most common questions from our Ask-A-Librarian service were about setting up the proxy at home.”

In addition, some students were not able to set up the proxy at all.

EZproxy has eliminated all of these problems by allowing off-campus students to access the library’s system.

Once on the UCF Library’s Web site, http://www.library.ucf.edu, click on the “Login for Off-Campus Access” option and enter your UCF user number. “One thing you should be aware of is that your card needs to be activated,” Hoppen said. “If their card is not activated, users can fill out an activation form, which is provided..."
New EZProxy software fixes old security holes

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Drivers wanted:
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Report: CT's regents want grant program expanded

The Associated Press

The mysteries of medicine and the Legislature—boost tuition increases to inflation.

Iowa Board of Regents will be used to specify what index would consider the plan at its regular session.

The results of an autopsy Tuesday were not available. A 21-year-old woman was found dead in her dorm room after her parents called to say that she had not been heard from by her or her boyfriend.

Twelve people were questioned by authorities Monday saying they had not heard from her about 24 hours. Speicher's parents, however, called authorities Monday saying they had not heard from her about 24 hours. Speicher had been home for Easter break and was due to return to West Quad about 7:30 PM Monday.

Iowa residents consider tying tuition inflation to inflation

SIOUX CITY, Iowa—The Iowa Board of Regents will consider offering a grant program to boost higher education funding for Iowa. The board is expected to consider the grant at its regular meeting next week at the University of Iowa. The proposal by its Public Policy Task Force, the regents would ask the Legislature to commit to a $40 million for state institutions, with $8 million per year continuing for three years if funding is available.

In exchange for the funding, the regents say they would require a tuition increase in addition to the rise in inflation, although it is not clear what index would be used.

The purpose of the legislation is to increase funding for community colleges. The Legislature simply approves the funding that the Board of Regents recommends, with the difference that the board will be able to increase the tuition for community colleges for students, as the state says they are finding it too difficult to increase their funding for community colleges.

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A young man dashes through the halls of the chemistry department and disappears into one of the offices. His blue shirt accentuates his dark eyes, and the tie he wears is a perfect match to his wild hair and goatee.

Behind the office, the walls are decorated with a variety of models of molecules, formulas, and a map of the Aztec Empire from a painting. A lava lamp sits on the windowsill, and the phone rings. The young man is Thomas Selby, an assistant professor in the department of chemistry. His blue shirt and tie are the only colors that stand out in the otherwise muted decor of his office, the walls are decorated with drawings and models of proteins, as well as certain types of bacteria.

"Research bug bites," Selby says, as he sips his coffee in the hall. He wears a lab coat and is deeply involved in a project that aims to discover effective treatments for hair loss. He is one of the leaders of cutting-edge research on the Purdue University campus, and he tries to squeeze in a few minutes for a snack.

"We got out of the lab today," Selby says with a smile. "I'm really excited about the new project we're working on." He graduated with a bachelors degree in chemistry and a minor in physics, but he quickly realized he didn't like it. He decided to go in a different direction, and he started working on research in the highly-regarded Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA, where he worked with some of the leaders of cutting-edge science. He began applying for graduate positions at different universities.

Now, 70 applicants and a few job offers later, he decided to join UCF's chemistry department.

"We don't do all work together," Selby explains, as he sits in his office, explaining his project. "I'm really happy at where you work," he adds. "I got a job that I really enjoy, because you're doing it for the rest of your life."
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Cleanup could take months

Seven rooms were destroyed from the water damage, displacing 14 members into a Holiday Inn. "Worst-case scenario puts them there for two months, but it could be as little as two weeks," he said. Currently, the bathrooms, electricity and the Internet are all functioning.

"Our house and roof is actually going to be a lot better," Ruiz said, "we were in need of some repairs, and now they're getting done.

Ruiz added that the members hope to have at least the bottom floor of the house accessible for fraternity rush, which starts next Wednesday.

Frances did "a lot of minor water damage," Evelyn said, "to a variety of buildings on campus.

Buildings harmed by Frances' angry sheets of rain and shrieking winds included Classroom Building I, the Arena, the Academy for Teaching and the Library.

The Library suffered the most damage, campus officials said. A leak in the roof caused water to seep into the building's fifth floor. Campus employees quickly covered bookshelves with tarps.

Twenty dehumidifiers and an assortment of fans were brought in, too. The thought was that the moisture in the air could affect the books, Evelyn said.

Physical Plant employees have already patched the leak.

Though Charley's rains rusted most of the 73 electrical workout machines and 18,000 pounds of free weights when the roof ripped off the Recreation and Wellness Center on Aug. 13, Frances caused no additional damage to the building.

Some local apartment complexes, including Pegasus Landing and Pegasus Pointe apartments, did not have Internet or telephone services during the storm. Many report that these utilities are now working.

The UCF Cocoa, Melbourne and Palm Bay branch campuses will re-open for faculty and students on Monday. Plans to resume classes on Monday at the Daytona Beach and Deland campuses have not been finalized. Students, faculty and staff needing updates for those campuses can call 407-823-5334 for more information.

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Sports Marketing hopes threat of Ivan won't deter football fans

"I would love to have $10,000 students come out to this game," said Gert Gerter, director of Sports Marketing. "It's a free event featuring a lot outside of the stadium."

The pep rally was a joint effort between Student Government Association and Sports Marketing. For the second year in a row, Sports Marketing is also hosting "Fan FAire," a free event featuring food, music, games and vendors.

This year's lineup of vendors include a "little tailgating, a little painting of the face," the 20-year-old said with a laugh.

During the game, Sports Marketing hopes threat of Hurricane Ivan isn't enough to keep some fans off the field. Twenty-year-old Brandon Purcell is even hopeful about the Knights' chances. "I'm expecting it to be close," he said.

During the game, Sports Marketing is teaming up with Disney to provide a halftime show. Vegetarians, firefighters and police can receive two free tickets to see the show. Nine Disney characters will stroll on the field with the band while a fly-by occurs overhead, Gerter said.

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Kay Jay Harris leads a steep West Virginia Mountaineer offense

ASHLEY BURNS
Staff Writer

Last week, West Virginia running back Kay Jay Harris ran for 117 yards and four touchdowns against East Carolina as the Mountaineers scored the Pirates 56-23.

The Golden Knights defense is in for a long Saturday. But in UCF's defense, Harris did run all over one of last season's worst teams in Division I-A football. The Pirates finished 2003 with a 4-7 overall record, and their only win came against a plodding Army squad that finished the 2003 season 1-11.

Regardless of opposition, Harris leads the No. 13 Mountaineers to a 10-0-2 record against the Pirates.

The game marks the first home game of George O'Leary's term as coach at UCF (0-3). The former national "Coach of the Year" is aware that stopping Harris and the Mountaineers running attack will be a tough task.

"I think that he's an outstanding back

that can really take it to the barn," O'Leary said during Tuesday's MAC teleconference. "He can make the cut that need be made with the offense that they're running. I think that there is no question that he had a rock of a game against East Carolina. He's a brick that can make you miss, but can also run you over. He has all the tools."

The Knights are coming off a 34-6 pounding at the hands of No. 3 Wisconsin last Saturday.

UCF's defense gave up 226 yards to the Badgers' rushing offense and another 166 yards in the air. UCF saw big improvements on both sides of the ball.

"We were expecting theolini with the midfield to be slightly off in the beginning of the season," Colaco said. "But we were surprised at the uncharacteristic errors by our offense."

UCF faced Utah Valley State tomorrow night and future Conference USA for midseason and national power BYU. UCF faces BYU Sunday night.

UCF beat Utah Valley State 41-3 this season, 2003 season 1-11 overall record, and their only win came against a plodding Army squad that finished the 2003 season 1-11.

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"Obviously we need to work on our protection," Colaco said. "Hitting negative is never an option, and the middle need to become more consistent with timing and execution.

Katie Keohane and Maureen Pires will see more time or action against Wisconsin, but Colaco did not want to talk about their progress too much.

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Young Wolverine program has already pulled off large upsets

For their efforts, Lauren Richards, who averaged an astonishing 49 assists per game last weekend, primes the BYU attack. In games three and four, Pre-Nance was named to the All-Mountain West setter region, third all-time in wins among NCAA Division I schools. BYU has won at least 20 matches in 29 of the last 30 seasons en route to 19 consecutive NCAA Tournaments. Results were not available yesterday with a match at Weber State. Even with the eighth-ranked Nit Tigers sweeping the region, BYU has a team-high 370 assists. The Cougar program is filled with up front, controlling the net sock was a force to be reckoned with. Middle blocker Lindsy Hart-Memphis was named AVCA All-Midwest honorable mention and broke a school record with 1270 sets. Memphis started its road trip out with a match at Weber State. Results were not available at press time.

Scouting BYU

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West Virginia senior running back Ray Jay Harris ran for 61 yards on 11 carries when UCF played in Morgantown last season.

Haynes compiled 63 yards on 11 carries against WVU last season.

Right now with West Virginia, I think there are a lot more problems (to defend) from a formation standpoint," O'Leary said. "I think now that West Virginia is a very talented football team, I think they can tape on tape, and they have great athletes. I think Wisconsin was basically a downhill run team," O'Leary continued. "You know I think that West Virginia spreads the ball around. I think they have a much more eclectic quarterback that can make a lot of things happen both with his feet and his arm. I think that's the difference there, and I think they do a lot more things as far as formations are concerned as well as attacking the field vertically and horizontally."

Marshall threw for only 60 yards and one touchdown against ECU, but reeled the ball twice for 41 yards as well. Marshall's top receiving threat is Mike Newsom who caught four passes for 80 yards against ECU.

Late season the Knights challenged the Mountaineers in Morgantown for West Virginia's homecoming. WVU defeated UCF 31-20. The Knights got an early glimpse of Harris as the then-second string back rushed for 21 yards in the second quarter.

UCF senior tailback Alex Berube is a dual threat against the Mountaineers last season, rushing for 11 yards but also catching a 10-yard pass in the ninth minute of the game. He caught two passes against the Knights last season, completing six of 24 yards and rushing up a 22-yard gain.

Also playing a major factor in this rematch is the rash of hurricanes that have been threatening Florida. Evacuating two hurricanes in three weeks, Orlando residents are now preparing for the potential impact of Hurricane Ivan. Despite the lingering threat, O'Leary remains steadfast that attendance should be higher than ever.

"I was hoping that they would have more for this game than they ever had," O'Leary said of the attendance at the home opener. "I really don't get involved in it that much, but obviously it's the first home game. I think that UCF has done everything that they can do to promote the game, and get the fans involved. A lot of it will be up to the fans, and their personal mindset of where they are. Hopefully the weather stays clear with us so we can get this game in."

What Virginia is led by Coach Rich Rodriguez, who has been calling the plays for the Mountaineers for four seasons. Rodriguez has helped guide WVU to the top of the newyorkeast Coast Conference.

"I think that he's (Coach Rodriguez) done an outstanding job," O'Leary said. "He came in and did a great job. I think they're well-coached, and what they do defensively, which I think is their strength, they bring athletes in, and putting them in the right places where they can make plays."

"Their secondary is very good," said O'Leary, "but they don't have a very good pass rush. They don't have a very good pass rush, and that's something that we're going to have to take advantage of."
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Ride the black and gold line on campus. 10 stops that get you where you need to be.
Run defenses will play big role on Saturday

By ALAN SHAPIRO

UCF's offense is in a bind. The Knights have scored just 13 points in two games this season, getting held to 10 points last week by ECU. In three losses this season, UCF has scored just 50 points. The team is 0-4 for the first time since 2000.

"We have a lot of options on offense," Coach George O'Leary said after practice Friday. "We have guys who can play in this offense. We have to make sure we do a better job of using them, but we have to get in the right system." O'Leary said the offense is working on a new playbook that will feature more plays from last year's playbook.

The UCF offense is averaging 17 yards per kickoff return, but it is only averaging 2.6 yards per punt. The Knights are averaging 4.6 yards per punt return, which is good, but they are only averaging 2.6 yards per punt.

"We have to get a little more explosive on special teams," O'Leary said. "We have to get a little more explosive on the kickoff return." The Knights have scored just one touchdown this season, but they have scored on a kickoff return.

Another rough week on MAC teams' horizon

By BILL REISCHLING JR.

Miami and Virginia Tech now have a chance, it must establish some type of defense and offense. The Mountaineers are 17-9 since going 3-0 in 2000. They have a chance, it must establish some type of defense and offense. The Mountaineers are 17-9 since going 3-0 in 2000.

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S. student Government Association was vrter regime week on Tuesday, morning in its meeting that the party policy polbics: people were in a new year, popular policies were decided, declaring candidacy in the upcoming election. The campaign was held at the university's student center, and it was attended by several students who were interested in becoming involved in student government.

**Opinion**

### Senate opportunities can create change

By: [Name]

Statement from: [Affiliation]

The Senate opportunities can create change by providing a platform for students to engage in meaningful discussions and make significant contributions to the shaping of campus policies and initiatives. These roles offer a unique chance for students to develop leadership skills, fosters a sense of community, and promotes a culture of collaboration and innovation.

### W.U. on terror should be consistent

By: [Name]

Statement from: [Affiliation]

The issue of terrorism should be consistently addressed by all stakeholders, including the U.S. government, international organizations, and educational institutions. A consistent approach is crucial in order to effectively combat terrorism and ensure the safety and security of all individuals.

### Rush Hashana

By: [Name]

Statement from: [Affiliation]

Rush Hashana is a significant Jewish holiday that marks the beginning of the Jewish New Year. It is a time of reflection, renewal, and communal gathering. As we celebrate this holy day, let us remember the importance of peace and understanding in our relationships with others.

### Our stance

By: [Name]

Statement from: [Affiliation]

Our stance is based on [reasons/arguments], and we believe that [position/issue] is crucial for the well-being of our community. We urge all members of the community to support [position/issue] and work towards its implementation.
A GOP convention thrill: Tax reform

CHRIS DANIEL
Contributing Writer

Chris Daniel, 22, was the youngest Texas delegate to the 2004 Republican National Convention. He is a senior in mechanical engineering at the University of Texas at Austin.

On the final night of the Republican National Convention I wound up sitting near the back, while my brother, University of Maine graduate student, Dan, went out of his way to get a better view of the speakers.

Being that close to the president was a thrill in itself. The next thrill was being privy to the real dynamics — the sales pitch — of the speech that the president was to give. It was a fascinating evening of simplification he promised to lead. Politically, the president was as specific as he could be. His first priority is the general election. Even so, in true Bush fashion, he laid out the arguments and observed the facts, and thus figure out what is going on. But first, without reform, what is it more for us as we graduate and join the work force? Today we have all income taxes layered surpassing the wildest confusions of a freshman in September. Beyond that, recall the crushing blow of looking at your first year paycheck.

"Who is this tax? What happened to my full paycheck?" Sadly, the difference between your gross and net pay only grows as you make more money. Without reform, the Social Security payroll you go-scheme will rip even more from your paychecks. Ever!

The best news I can bring you is what I learned about this initiative on the road to and at the convention. Tom Delay, the majority leader of the House of Representatives, sponsored this legislation. Not only is he the third most powerful elected official in our country, he has declared all forms of income taxation, including the flat tax, dead. Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert has made similar statements throughout his book tour — as our second most powerful elected official.

More than 55 members of Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, have co-sponsored the FairTax legislation. There is a grassroots organization for passing this legislation with more than 60,000 members. And now the president says he will lead the tax reform effort in his acceptance speech.

This is movement. For the future, if we help pass this legislation, it is so bright, I am shopping for shades.

READER VIEWS

Wrong. Denying "reality" Sept. 8, relented from the Sept. 2 article and indicated that an anthropology professor disagreed with the UCF administration in regard to the university's hosting of the new WB show Big Mum on Campus.

The professor asked to remain anonymous, yet the article inadvertently mentioned that the anthropology professor was a woman, thereby narrowing the identity of the source, and every aspect of it, including the style of the source.

Anonymous. I read your recent article, "Wrong or...
Q: What do Jlo and Jim Morrison have in common?

A: They both donate plasma at DCI Biologicals Orlando!

* Of course, J-Loo doesn't live in Orlando and Jim Morrison is dead, but we really do have donors with these names.

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WordPress theme: Twenty Seventeen
Schoolwork piling up already? Take a break with the Office of Student Involvement.

**Tuesday September 7**
- SGA Senate Election
- Petitions Available
- SGA Office SU 214
- CAB Comedy & Variety
- Tuesday Knight Live
- featuring Comedian Megan Mooney Wackadoo's 8pm

**Wednesday September 8**
- OSI Agency Expo with tables from SGA, Late Knights, CAB, UCF, Homecoming, MSC, and Knights of the Round Table (KoRT)
- SU Patio 10am-2pm
- CAB Cultural and Fine Arts hosts Film and Forum
- Cape Florida SU 316CD 7-11pm

**Thursday September 9**
- Volunteer UCF Volunteer Expo
- SU Patio 12-2pm

**Friday September 10**
- MSC sponsors AASU Block Party
- Key West SU 218CD 7pm

**Saturday September 11**
- Late Knights: U-Knighted
- Student Union 9pm-2am

---

CAB Spectacular Knights Committee will be holding auditions for the Mr. UCF 2004 Scholarship Competition and the Miss UCF 2004 Scholarship Pageant on September 27th and 28th from 8pm - 11pm. (Come to the Student Union rm. 208 to schedule your audition.) Please come prepared with a 2 minute talent routine (all) and a brief description of your platform (Miss contestants only). Check out the website for more information! http://www.osi.sdes.ucf.edu

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**Art Around the World**

**Physics**

**Economics**

**HISTORY**
Experience A Little Night Music at UCF-Shakespeare Festival

Rounders cashes in on poker trend

You will faint over the new Faint CD

Not one, but two hurricane rants

Happenings... 2 | Movies... 6 | Music... 8 | Ramblings... 10
Sondheim does Shakespeare in 1973 musical

Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival brings it to life

EMILY SCOTT
Staff Writer

Coming to us as a production of the Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival is the Stephen Sondheim musical A Little Night Music. Fans of classical music might immediately think of the Mozart serenade "Eine Kleine Nacht-musik." You know that melody — it has been used in cartoons and cartoon commercials for years. Broadway fans might immediately respond to the name Sondheim, following his other plays such as Into the Woods and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. However, you'd be a little off if you were to make either of those assumptions.

The original musical, first premiered in 1973, is based on the Ingmar Bergman film Smiles of a Summer Night. The plot consists of a convoluted series of adulterous affairs and other infidelity-related zaniness, all leading up to an unhappily married husband and wife and their friends spending a sexually charged weekend in a country estate. There are a couple of notable and unique features of this show, as well. There is a singing quintet that opens the performance and reappears again and again through the story, serving as narrators comparable to a Greek choir. The most interesting feature of this show may be that all of the songs are in 3/4 time. For the lesser musically inclined, think of a familiar waltz or a German "oom-pah-pah" song and dance. According to Moonstruck Drama Bookstore's site, Sondheim has said that he wrote the songs in this less-common meter to create a feeling of a continuous waltz throughout the storyline. So if you think this musical is just another infidelity comedy, you'd also be incorrect.

The Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival grew out of the UCF Theatre's vision to create a professional, classical theater in the area. This idea began in 1987 and grew into the Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival in 1989. This partnership with the community has created one of the most renowned theater programs in the Central Florida area as well as opportunities for theater students for internships, independent studies courses and professional seminars. The Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival offers an educational program and summer theater programs for secondary school students in the Central Florida area. The Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival is an integral part of the Orlando Fringe Festival — our Fringe being the first of its kind in the United States.

The show will be playing at the Lowndes Shakespeare Theatre on Rollins Avenue in Loch Haven Park. Showtimes are on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., starting Wednesday and running until Sunday, Oct. 10. Admission ranges from $13-$38.

A Little Night Music

When: Sept. 15 to Oct. 10
Where: Lowndes Shakespeare Center
Price: $13 to $38
HAPPENINGS

CALENDER

Ani Difranco will start screaming at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday at the House of Blues. Ticket prices are $33.50.

CAMPUS
Volunteer expo
Today, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.
Student Union patio
407-823-6471

Late Knights: U-Knighted
Saturday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., free
Student Union
407-823-6471

Hispanic Awareness Month kick-off
Sept. 15, noon to 3 p.m.
UCF Reflecting Pond
407-823-6471

Pastry Knights
Sept. 15, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
FunkUs, The Goldminers, Toni Brown, Tom Constanten
Scruffy Murphy's Irish Pub, 9 W. Washington St.
407-999-2570

Astronomy public viewing
Sept. 15, 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., free
UCF Observatory
http://www.physics.ucf.edu/astro/

EVENTS
York City Bike Fest
Sept. 10 to Sept. 12, various times, free
Florida State Fairgrounds
800 N. US 301
Tampa
813-228-7300

911 for Charities
Saturday, 6 p.m. to midnight, $50
Orange County Convention Center
1900 International Drive
407-345-9800

Kerry-oke
Saturday, 9 p.m., $5
The Social, 54 N. Orange Ave.
407-246-1419

Zoo, Us (rock)
Tonight, 9 p.m., $5
Screamer's, 360 State Lane
407-244-1029

SHOWS
Rabbits with Glasses, Fireflight, 913 (rock)
Tonight, 8 p.m., $5
The Social, 54 N. Orange Ave.
407-246-1419

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Please see CALENDAR on 14

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• Merchandise
• And More!

Specials and discounts will be updated regularly on OrlandoCityBeat.com. Sign up now!

Want your company to be part of the VIP Program? Contact Diane Politi at 407-420-5588 for more details or email dpoliti@tribune.com.
**HAPPENINGS**

**CALENDAR**

- **THE GRATITUDE DEAD: 30 YEARS OF ART, IMAGERY AND MUSIC**
  - The Grateful Dead may or may not be considered an art-rock band, but the fact remains that few, if any, bands have been the inspiration for so much acid-drenched, freaked-out artwork since their 1965 conception. Tonight, a Dead retrospective will feature more than 100 images by Deadheads Les Kippe (who started that whole underground tape-trading culture), Ton Brown (editor of seminal jam-band magazine Relix) and Gary Keenan. Keenan will even be present to discuss some of his artwork.
  - Grateful Dead keyboardist Tom Constanten will perform live, as well as The Toni Brown Band and Grass Is Dead (Come now...grass will never be dead for Grateful Dead fans).
  - The exhibition will take place at Hard Rock Vault at 8437 International Drive. Tickets are $14.95 at the door, and the show will open at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 407-599-7625.
  - **VAN HALEN**
    - Jump into your spandex pants and get ready for an eruption: Van Halen is coming to Orlando. The cradle will rock and people will be dancing the night away, unchained, at 7:30 p.m. today at the St. Pete Times Forum in Tampa. Yeah, it's a little far, but at least it's not in Panama. The price of $45 to $85 per ticket may be steep, but for many it's not enough to keep them away from these rock icons.
    - There are sure to be beautiful girls (or at least, they were beautiful when they started listening to David Lee Roth in 1978). Who knows, maybe that teacher you were hot for in grade school will be there.
    - For those curious about the current lead singer, right now it's Sammy Hagar, but who knows how long until the band gives him the runaround again.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- **Loveboy (rock)**
  - Saturday, 5 p.m., free
  - 55 West, 55 N. Church St. 407-547-8480

- **Sugar Oaks (indie)**
  - Saturday, 10 p.m., $4
  - The Poison Room, 1321 N. Mills Ave. 407-228-0048

- **Rhino, To Este, Monday's Hero, Kristina Wagner (rock)**
  - Saturday, 9 p.m., $5
  - Back Booth, 37 W. Pine St. 407-999-2570

- **The Morning After, Greater Grey, Chase Theory, Distance (rock)**
  - Saturday, 7 p.m., free
  - Hard Rock Live, CityWalk at Universal Orlando 407-351-5483

- **Pretty Ugly (rock)**
  - Saturday, 10 p.m., $4
  - Stardust Video and Coffee, 1042 E. Winter Park Rd. 407-622-3399

- **Minus the Bear, Paris TX, Statistics (indie)**
  - Sunday, 8 p.m., $8-10
  - The Social, 54 N. Orange Ave. 407-228-8272

- **Amy Steinberg, Justin Bedder (pop)**
  - Sunday, 9 p.m., $5
  - EMAK, 375 Magnolia Ave. 407-992-1200

- **Phases and Ups, Humrah, Skycraft (indie)**
  - Sept. 13, 9 p.m., $5
  - The Social, 54 N. Orange Ave. 407-228-8272

- **Tesla, Bastard Pie (rock)**
  - Sept. 14, 7 p.m., $22.50-55
  - House of Blues, Downtown Disney West Side 407-934-2583

- **There for Tomorrow, Forever Changed (punk)**
  - Sept. 14, 7 p.m., $5
  - Back Booth, 37 W. Pine St. 407-999-2570

- **Red Animal War, Whole Wheat Bread, Believe in Toledo (punk)**
  - Sept. 15, 8 p.m., $5
  - WHP Pub, 1301 N. Mills Ave. 407-898-5070

- **ART**
  - **Diversity (opening reception)**
    - Tonight, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., free
    - Park Avenue Fine Arts
    - 130 N. Park Ave.
    - 407-628-2540

- **Mind Cuts (opening reception)**
  - Tomorrow, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., free
  - Valencia College Community Arts Center
  - Gallery
  - 701 N. Econlockhatchee Trail
  - 407-582-2289

- **Nathalie Torres (opening reception)**
  - Sept. 11, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., free
  - Harwood Watson Dance Studio and Art Gallery
  - 820 A Hampolites Ave.
  - 407-728-0005

- **Politicked (opening reception)**
  - Saturday, 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., free
  - The Center
  - 940 N. Mills Ave.
  - 407-228-0272

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

- **My Florida**
  - Sunday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., free
  - University Club
  - 641 N. Park Ave.
  - 407-424-2514

- **Wet (artist reception)**
  - Sept. 14, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., free
  - Gallery on Virginia
  - 1803 Virginia Drive
  - 407-896-8143

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Time to round out your DVD collection

The disc’s re-release brings a bevy of special features

MATT HEDGEOCK
Staff Writer

R
ounders is a film released six years too soon. Poker is the hot alternative "sport" at the moment, and all well-behaved capitalists are trying to get a piece of the pot. There are innumerable books on how to master the game by pros (and those claiming to be pros), and several cable programs showcasing tournaments, the most famous being The World Series of Poker on ESPN. In 2003 the number of entrants in the WSOP was 839. In 2004 it was 2,276.

Yes, Rounders was released much too early. Or perhaps it was released at just the right time. Had it been released today it would be little more than a cash-in product (like the new special edition DVD). But as it stands now, Rounders is a hot-rod of a movie — a sleek, cool ride without sputters or stalls.

Mike McDermott (Matt Damon) is a law student — no scratch that. He’s a poker player, and a damn good one at that. The law student gig is an attempt to go straight after losing $30,000 in one hand to "pocket rockets" — a pocket pair of Aces. Things are going well until Mike’s swindler of a friend "Worm" (Edward Norton) is released from prison and proceeds to involve Mike in his sizeable debt to Russian Mafioso Teddy KGB (John Malkovichout a Boris Badenov accent).

It would be easy to lump Rounders in with second-rate crime films, but the film is much more than just trying to repay some goons. At its core it’s a film about living life to the fullest and doing what you love to do. When Mike starts playing poker again, his girlfriend promptly leaves him. But instead of trying to win her back, he and Worm head down to Atlantic City and hit the tables. All throughout the film, obstacles (his girlfriend, mob goons and Worm’s recklessness) confront Mike, and he faces down each one to achieve his goal — to play poker. As Martin Landau tells Mike in the film, "We can’t run from ourselves, our destiny chooses us."

This fascination with "risky" behavior and pushing the odds also makes Rounders a quintessential "Guy’s Movie." In the same league as Fight Club or Goodfellas. The performances are superb: Norton’s smart-ass Worm seems second-nature, while Malkovich delights in chewing the scenery. The film is authentic to the world of high-stakes poker (the writers spent weeks playing with poker pros to perfect the experience), but its slick story and perfect characterizations make it approachable to anyone, regardless of poker intellect.

Mimmax has re-released the film with some special features, making up for the last barebones version. The best new features are two full-length audio commentaries. The first features the writers, the director and Edward Norton (but sadly no Matt Damon). It’s a fun and informative track, and really showcases just how much love these men have for this movie.

The second commentary is the gem of the disc. It features professional poker players Johnny Chan, Chris Moneymaker, Phil Hellmuth and Chris "Jesus" Ferguson. More important than their own particular insights on the film and its accuracy is the insight on the pros themselves and the camaraderie the four seem to

To share: The verbose Hellmuth dominates much of the track and comes across much more likeable than the arrogant side he shows at the WSOP table. Though non-poker fans may not see much value in this track, it makes the disc worth the price of purchase for WSOP junkies.

The other extras on the disc (which include two woefully short documentaries and a boring "Play the Pros" video game) are mostly filler, but the commentaries help to offset the balance and keep the disc from feeling like a rip-off. If you already own the previous version of Rounders and are a fan of the film, replace it. The commentaries make this a double-dip worth going in for.
**MOVIES**

**COMING TO DVD — SEPT 14**

**Angels soars to DVD bins**

Plus, Richard Linklater defines a generation

**JOHN THOMASON**

**Associate Editor**

Angels in America

*Angels in America* may go down as the best film to never play in theaters, but this unfortunate fact may also cause the film to slip through the cinematic cracks and hinder its lasting impact. The six-hour series, divided into two parts and six chapters, was picked up by HBO in an angelic steal for the network (it already has every other competitor beat in TV series, so they might as well kick ass in the miniseries category too).

The series, shot by the masterful Mike Nichols and based on Tony Kushner’s famed Broadway play, is certainly worthy of a theatrical release. With its depiction of country on the brink of the AIDS outbreak and filled with criticisms and observations of Reagan’s America, the film works as a splendid ’80s time capsule, but it doesn’t lose its relevance or resonance.

Young Adam

To those of you ladies out there swooning over Ewan MacGregor’s inherent horniness, you owe it to yourself to see *Young Adam*, where your opinion may slightly change. In a film wholly reflecting the nihilistic core of the Beat novel on which it was based, MacGregor has sex with just about anything, young or old, animate or inanimate. Though his character is thoroughly unlikeable, you get to see MacGregor frequently in the buff — his Little Adam even makes a cameo — which may be of interest to some of you. But despite the critical thrashing the film received, it’s mostly undeserved.

*Young Adam* is filled with vibrant cinematography, hilarious black comedy and provocative insights about human nature, guilt and redemption, buried beneath a slightly soft-core porn surface.

**Slacker: Criterion Collection**

The long-awaited DVD version of Richard Linklater’s cult classic *Slacker* is finally out. Not only do you get to see disaffected youths wandering aimlessly for the first time in letterbox, the film that defined the Gen-X movie is stacked full of drool-worthy extras. A second disc includes Linklater’s rarely-seen first feature, *It’s Impossible to Learn to Fly by Reading Books*, as well as a 1985 short called *Woodshock*, made on 16mm by Linklater and Lee Daniel. With three audio commentaries, original casting auditions and a Linklater essay on slacker culture, this Criterion should keep you slacking off for weeks.

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**DVD REVIEW**

**Millenium Mambo an unusual dance**

Taiwanese film a total escape from Hollywood

**JOHN THOMASON**

**Associate Editor**

It’s no surprise that major Hollywood movies tend to conceal the formal qualities of film as much as possible. Even in the most daring mainstream movies, the story is usually the highest priority, with the form merely serving the content. The films of Taiwanese director Hou Hsiao-hsien are the exact opposite. Even the most common of film attributes — the breaking up of a scene into individual shots — are abandoned almost completely.

*Millenium Mambo* (released on DVD in America in August) is an excellent starting point to dive into Hou’s idiosyncratic films. While not as visually ravishing as his flawless 18th-century extravaganzas, the voice-over formula, especially when paired with the masterful Mike Wing Chun-hao Tuan’s rarely-seen score, adds new depth to *Millenium Mambo*. The film’s one sex scene is interrupted visually by a pulsating techno score. The film’s one sex scene is interrupted visually by a pulsating light, as if plucked from an earlier club scene, but, symbolically, without a beat to thrust to.

It’s a visually driven picture, with long stretches of silence saying much more than the sparse dialogue, which often comes off as improvised. Every frame is drenched in a luminescent atmosphere, with Hou finding a meticulous balance between artificial light and the light created by set lamps and especially candles (taking a cue from *Barry Lyndon*). The long takes stretch out minutes without a cut, requiring patience from the viewer.

And yet, what could easily become boring is rendered captivating. Because the scenes aren’t cropped down as we’d expect them to be, Hou’s camera delivers an unflinching look at Vicky’s pathetic relationship with Hou Hou, never providing us with the comfort zone of shot/reverse shot familiarity. Instead, we get doors, blinds and shades blocking our view, never knowing when Hou Hou’s next outburst will occur, watching at Vicky’s pace the deconstruction of a relationship.

The film is also incredibly moving thanks to the sporadic voice-over moments from an unseen, omniscient narrator, who tells Vicky’s backstory from 10 years into the future. It adds new depth to the voice-over formula, especially when romantic stories of Vicky’s past are juxtaposed with the present-day images of her downtrodden life.

Because of its focus on contemporary club life, the film isn’t as exotic or unusual as, say, *Flowers of Shanghai*, but it’s more universal. Many can relate to a heroine like Vicky, no matter what the culture of language. But rarely has a filmmaker captured her with such a fresh eye.
**Wicker Park**, straw plot, cardboard acting

CHRISTY LEMIRE  
Associated Press

**W**ick Park is one of those maddening movies in which the characters do incredibly stupid things simply for the sake of plot contrivance, and everyone’s problems would be solved if they simply picked up their cell phones. And they do have cell phones. They just choose not to use them. Instead, they say things like, “Meet me in the park at 3.” Then one person doesn’t show up for some reason, and leaves a note explaining why — which, naturally, isn’t delivered in time, if at all.

This all may have seemed quaint or even romantic if it had taken place, say, 200 years ago in London. But the setting is now, in the Wicker Park neighborhood of Chicago, in a film that tries desperately hard to be slick and modern.

Director Paul McGuigan relies heavily on split screens, mirror reflections and screechy sound effects — visual tricks ostensibly intended to give the film tension, but instead seem like transparent, pretentious gimmicks.

Josh Hartnett and Diane Kruger play Matt and Lisa, a young couple who are madly in love, or so we’re told. They’re individually fascinating, but Hartnett, who’s even more low-key than usual, have zero chemistry.

We learn in flashbacks that Lisa, a dancer, disappeared two years ago after Matt told her he had a big, new advertising gig in New York and asked her to come with him. Now, in the present, Matt has moved back to Chicago with his soon-to-be fiancee (Jessica Pare), whose brother is his boss. One night during dinner before a business trip to China, Matt thinks he sees Lisa at the restaurant, and promptly cancels his flight in order to obsessively look for her.

He tells his best friend Luke (Matthew Lillard, who gets the few funny lines in Brandon Boyce’s script) about the clues he’s found: a plastic hotel room key, a silver compact, a torn-up newspaper obituary. He could have just done an Internet search for Lisa’s phone number, but that would have been too easy.

Instead, he sneaks into what he thinks is her apartment and finds another woman who says her name is Lisa. Turns out Lisa No. 2 is a clingy, seemingly bipolar woman named Alex, an actress that Matt’s buddy Luke recently started dating. The ensuing series of near misses and mistaken identities seems to aim for Shakespearean proportions (and Alex is performing in a community theater production of Twelfth Night).

Unfortunately, all the confusion is much ado about nothing.
MUSIC

Top 25
Park Ave CDs: Top 25 for the week of Aug. 22-28
(Due to Hurricane Frances, no newer list was provided)

1. SOUNDTRACK — Garden State
2. Rilo Kiley — More Adventurous
3. KATIE BALL — Any Cool Music?
4. DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS — Dirty South
5. GUIDED BY VOICES — Half Smiles of the Decomposed
6. FURTHER SEEMS FOREVER — Hide Nothing
7. SAVES THE DAY — Ups and Downs: Early Recordings and B-sides
8. KISSERS — Hot Fuss
9. HOT ROD CIRCUIT — Reality's Coming Through
10. G. LOVE — Hustle
11. VARIOUS ARTISTS — Future Soundtrack for America
12. THE GOOD LIFE — Album of the Year
13. VARIOUS ARTISTS — This is Americana
14. CLINIC — Winterset Cathedral
15. JOAN OF ARC — Joan of Arc Dick Cheney Mark Twain
16. ENGINE DOWN — Engine Down
17. TWILIGHT SINGERS — She Loves You
18. F***KING AM — Gold
19. VARIOUS ARTISTS — Rock Against Bush 2
20. SCISSOR SISTERS — Scissor Sisters
21. SONIC YOUTH — Sonic Nurse
22. POLYPHONIC SPEERE — Together We're Heavy
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scene report

Make a scene

How to be, and why not to be, a scene kid

RICKY SURILLO  Staff Writer

A lot has been said about the indie scene. Fashion, slang, spies, are all part of an endless topic. But while delving into the different things that go on in the music scene, there may be some questions as to what it is exactly.

A music scene can be divided into its own genres: country, hip-hop, etc. Each has its own styles, trends and slang. What makes the indie scene (which consists of punk, hardcore, emo and indie rock) stand out from the rest is that it has the most ridiculous and immature things surrounding it.

Obviously, for a scene to exist, there has to be people in it. Only in the indie scene, however, are those kids called "scene kids." Scene kids typically go to lots of shows, usually for free because they are on the guest list. The scenester makes friends with band members, dresses in the "scene uniform" and, of course, talks in the iiber-popular scene slang.

As My Chemical Romance singer Gerard Way said in the August issue of Alternative Press in reference to the scene, "It's extremely homoerotic, especially the whole emo-sensitive thing. Everyone's wearing women's pants; everyone's got women's haircuts; everyone's wearing youth-medium shirts. I don't have to come out and say it. It's blatantly obvious."

The indie scene is a scene where a haircut is more important than music. It's almost like there is a certain uniform that comes along with whatever musical style one is into. There are even some sites showcasing the hilarity that comes along with such dress styles. http://www.dobi.nu/emo shows the basic things you need to "dress emo." It shows everything from what shoes to wear to typical bands to AIM screen names. It's ironic, however, that the creator of the site designs t-shirts for some bands that can be considered emo.

http://www.maniclab.com has a flash cartoon that shows not only emo kids, but punks, hardcore rockers and even vegans. There is also a band name generator that continues to make fun of the scene.

Hopefully now, all those questions the indie never received about the scene are now answered.

artist spotlight

Gina: A performer unintended

The health nut and science geek plays to her own piano

EMILY JANE SCOTT  Staff Writer

To her friends, she's an inspiration. To a large crowd of people, mostly strangers, whom she played in front at Natural Science a couple weeks ago, she was most certainly something to talk about. Who was the skinny, brown-haired, bespectacled girl alone at the piano? Why can't we tear ourselves away from her sweet but raw voice? Why can't we take our eyes off of her amazing presence that she maintains through her obvious nerves?

She was and is Gina Riggio, a 23-year-old Penn State student who used to attend UCF. She is a music major with a penchant for organic chemistry and does a lot of work in alternative health. Her sound is comparable to that of a musical lovechild of Tori Amos and Ben Folds, but with her own undeniable sense of humor. Originally from Boca Raton, she began her music minor at UCF and also began her performing career at the old Stone Soup Collective while living in Orlando. There she made friends who she continues to collaborate with today — friends who helped her to book her gig last Friday while she was visiting down here. She spoke to the indie about who she is and, in the meantime, gave us many reasons to continue to listen to what she has to say.

The indie: Your sound seems like it could be classified as "geek pop." How would you describe your genre?

GR: My friends say I'm punk. He's actually convinced that I'm the first punk pianist. I think it's because of my lyrics. I rant a lot. It's like, what would I say to your face that you wouldn't want to hear unless it was in a song?

the indie: You left UCF to major in nutrition at Penn State. How does your field and the fact that you're a science nerd affect your songwriting?

GR: I wrote a song about chemistry once but I never recorded it. I used to write lyrics in my calculus notebook — there are pages of derivatives and then lyrics. When I recorded my album, the guys who helped me ordered pizza and I was sitting there with my acorn squash. They were like, wow, you eat healthy. With food, people call me a health nut — what is that? I say if you're not nuts, then you're not paying enough attention. Why
THE FAINT
Wet From Birth
Genre: indie rock
Label: Saddle Creek
Release date: Sept. 14

What American city is home to a completely new sound combining danceable new-wave electronics with indie rock? If you answered, "Omaha, Nebraska," you may already be a fan of The Faint. Everyone else is probably a little surprised.

Beginning as a quirky lo-fi punk outfit with startling, nearly-emo lyrics, The Faint mutated into their current incarnation in 1999 with the release of Blank-Wave Arcade. The addition of a keyboard, the use of synthesizers, and the introduction of rap vocals dramatically catalyzed their change into a sound that's not distinctly of any genre. Dark, grating, processed, and unmistakably male, the gory detail of Biography of a Dog is mixed with a theme of politics and psycho-baby talk. "Drop Kick the Punks" rebels against the rest of the CD with a screaming, defiant musical revolution.

Then the theme shifts back as "Phone Call" laments all the things that could have been in a relationship if not for a single mysterious phone call. Like "Belles" seemed to continue "Desperate Guys"; a few tracks later, The Faint do it again with "Symptom Finger" resuming "Paranoid Tucker," which calls sickness felt from lies and propaganda in the media. Also likening back to the first half, track 10 finishes the piece with a brutally overt sexuality in the title track, detailing the so-called Miracle of Life with all the poetry of an English class and all the gory detail of Biology 1049.

Trying to describe The Faint causes a new appreciation for just how unusual they are. Their sound calls to be played loud and in public places, but its "mature content" makes for a more personal experience that feels deliciously like a guilty pleasure with every listen. This album carries a strong recommendation for previous fans and anyone to whom the concept sounds interesting. Check out Wet From Birth Tuesday or wait until they come to The Social on Oct. 23. Just be warned: It's not for the faint of heart.

- CHRISTOPHER SCHWAB

Gina aspires to inspire pals

The indie: How is the Orlando scene different from the scene in State College, Penn.?
GR: The atmosphere [down here] really creates the presence. I don't have that in State College because I know everyone in the audience just wants to drink their beers. Up there, it's only Penn State or farms, and all the people there do drink. I had pretty much stopped performing up north because I had so many bad experiences. I really wish I could collaborate with people down here more often. I'm just addicted to the energy down here.

One good thing about coming here was that my friends are here and they're the people whom I've touched, whom I've inspired. That's my whole purpose in life, even if I'm living penniless in a cardboard box. If I inspire people to not settle, to live a better life, then it's worth it.

To hear a sampling of her music, head to her Web site at http://www.ginariggio.com.

In the last presidential election, 100,228,726 Americans didn't show up to vote.

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JENS LEKMAN
When I Said I Wanted to Be Your Dog
Genre: singer/songwriter
Label: Secretly Canadian
Release date: Sept. 7

Despite its title, the first stateside full-length from this young Swedish troubadour is no reference to Iggy Pop. In fact, Lekman's sound couldn't be farther from Iggy.

With Lekman fully realizing the potential we saw in his earlier Rocky Dennis EP, the amount of grace and maturity apparent on these 11 songs is breathtaking. Each song unfolds with the same simplicity of a classical composition, with the sugary sweetness of melancholic pop coating over them. From the infectious a capella of "Do You Remember the Riots" to the full-bodied, brass-powered arena pom-pom of "You Are the Light," Lekman's Swedish lilt works marvellously to decorate songs as well as carry them completely.

If there's anything critical to be said about Lekman, it's that his influences are too readily apparent. "Song X sounds like artist Y" can be applied to any track; Morrissey, Neil Diamond and Cole Porter are among the artists Lekman apes in both instrumentation and lyrical quirks, though The Magnetic Fields influence stands out the strongest. When I Said I Wanted to Be Your Dog sounds more like The Magnetic Fields than The Magnetic Fields do, it is the floor with the Fields' latest album.

- JOHN THOMASON

In Stores Now

CD REVIEWS
RAMBLINGS

THE GEEK LIFE

We should take shelter, but it's so cute!

ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

Well, it would seem the weather has turned against us yet again. Could it be that Orlando, in its plastic fantastic universe of make-believe, has committed some grave crime against the gods in heaven? I can think of few other explanations for this dreadful repeat of misfortune.

Perhaps Mickey Mouse has been conducting some crimes against nature in his secret castle, or maybe there has been some sort of unnatural lust between Pluto and Minnie that has brought this wrath upon us? Just kidding, Disney. Please don’t rain upon us with your furious might and marauding hordes of lawyers. We quake in unnatural fear and trepidation.

I sit in my darkened house imagining the terrible tortures those Disney bureaucrats could easily have in store for me. It makes my blood run cold.

Actually, the people I really feel sorry for are the tourists. They come here from countless miles to hang out with the likes of Spider-man and Donald Duck, only to be battered with hurricane after hurricane. What I am actually hoping for is a Mad Max-style apocalypse. How many hurricanes can you think it would take before the thin veneer of humanity slips away and we all become savages a la Lord of the Flies? If I remember correctly, humans would form packs for safety and comfort, slowly picking off any outsiders in the name of survival.

I’d like to think that I would survive thanks to my superior intellect, but I fear I may be in for a shock. My extreme myopia will probably doom me to an early death by sharks or murder. Of course, no apocalypse is complete without the mutants.

I would imagine that the local nuclear power plant would explode if we get hit by enough hurricanes. Let’s see how we get hit by 16 in a row. The state of Florida would separate from the mainland, the national guard would give up and leave us all for dead, and even Gov. Bush would have had enough and run home to his brother.

So then we are stuck fending for ourselves. I am sad to say that even with all my knowledge of future apocalypses, most gained from watching mediocre science fiction movies and my repeated viewings of Battle Royale, in which a group of high-school students are sent to an island and ordered to kill one another, I doubt I could survive. Without my video games, electronics, and of course my trusty iBook, I would soon be reduced to a bumbling madwoman.

But maybe I would rise to the task and form an army of techies. Together we would build some sort of matter transporter and escape from the wretched mess. Or, failing that, we’d build some sort of crazy hover ship that runs on coconuts. You never know. It could be possible.

Ok, let’s go even further. Let’s say that some giant asteroid hits the Earth and there is no more technology, no more anime, no more Final Fantasy XI for anyone. After I finished crying for my lost technology and fantasizing about Quantum Leap ever being picked up for another season, I suppose I would have to deal with the fact that technology is now gone forever.

As long as some of us are alive, I would avoid the mutants and cyborg freaks to search out for other geeks like me. Our task would be to jump start society. Together we would start a new country, a new world order. Drugs would be legal, Shigeru Miyamoto would be a prophet and rational science would marry Buddhism to create an incredible new religion. We would live in a dome city and worship science and the memories of video games long past.

Won’t you join my secret society? I swear it will be fun.

HURRICANE PARTY!

Tips to have fun through Ivan

DIANNA ZISMAN
Staff Writer

Stormy party guide.

The most important thing is to be prepared. Charlie made a surprise stop through Central Florida, so the only thing we had was one candle, a few candy bars and a gallon of water. This meant that our hurricane party (and the days after it without power) was duller than a game of Parcheesi. To keep this from happening to you, make sure to buy everything you need WELL in advance of the storm.

What should you buy? I’d like to suggest beer, Risk (the game for world domination. Fun for everyone!), extra batteries, gin, beef jerky, tequila, crackers, margarita mix, water, vodka, candles, marshmallows and more beer. Remember, half of the things on this list should only be purchased if you’re 21 and up. Nobody needs you youngsters out there lighting candles without supervision. It’s just not safe.

Once you’ve bought everything and have boarded yourself in for the day (or three in the case of Frances), you’ll find that one of the underrated

CRAZED INDIE ROBOT

Hurricane party!

Michael Lawrence
Staff Writer

If crack could be put into television form, VH1 would be thy name. I began watching the network innately enough in the early years, when they were the gentler, adult contemporary side of MTV. Instead of Nirvana, it was Natalie Merchant. The network caught my interest with the quirky series Pop-Up Video. I’d put in on while I was on the computer or doing homework, but pretty soon I couldn’t keep my eyes off the screen, fascinated by facts such as the name of the boat Cher strutted about on during “If I Could Turn Back Time,” and what Mighty Mouse had to do with Madonna’s “Like A Prayer.”

Then Behind the Music came around, with its cyclical stories of rise/fall/rise again. It didn’t matter if it was MC Hammer or Tony Orlando, someone was going to get wasted, lose money, and make it back to the recording studio for a second shot. Game shows like My Generation and Rock and Roll Jeopardy began to trickle on, and Flickerstick was appointed winner of the first and last annual Bands on the Run competition. Where Are They Now was a particular favorite of mine, where the has-beens not good enough for their own Behind the Music were given a few minutes to let us know they’re still alive.

And the list specials started trickling on. It started with 100 Greatest Bands, then 100 Greatest Songs, then 100 Greatest Albums, TV Music Moments, Rock’s Most Shocking Moments, Greatest Music Videos, Best Women in Rock, and so forth. I watched all of these lists shows, day after day and then again when they showed them in five-hour blocks down the line. Then they had the 200 Greatest Pop Icons. Pop-Up Video and Behind the Music were all but gone by this time, and specials about bad hair and loving the ‘80s cropped up. And like an addict, I consumed them too. But not as willingly. And now those reality shows about reality shows and The Fabulous Life are around, and I can’t even think of digesting them.

To paraphrase Fred Willard’s character in A Mighty Wind, what happened to VH1? Wasn’t it about the music originally? Sure, they still show videos, but never after 11:00 A.M. and before 3:00 A.M.
How to be a voyeur from your home

Web sites where personal, private lives become public domain... thanks, Internet!

CHRISTOPHER SCHWARZ
Staff Writer

Computers have an amazing tendency to amass information, whether desired or not. Despite all the talk of anonymity online, everything you search for and everywhere you visit shows up in a log somewhere.

Sites generally have a little disclaimer about how they value your privacy and won't talk of anything else to do, rely on these sites to deliver you a constant stream of content every time you reload. Of course, seeing live streams of Internet requires a strong stomach and desensitization that could only come from being a veteran. Newbies beware!

50 Latest Livejournal Pictures http://ga2so.com/lj.php

Love it or hate it, Livejournal is single-handedly the greatest single repository of emo on the planet. One fateful day, some of their programmers were feeling feisty and set up a system to see the address of the latest image posted in a journal. Other sites found a way to catalog them and serve the result for your viewing pleasure. Every reload shows fifty more horrors representing the current trends in net-culture. The trend began within the same "song lyrics typed over a grayscale photo of someone looking sad" to the "look at my boobs" mask as showing off a new tattoo or piercing. There's also more "friends only," "survey," and "cutesy animated-gif adoption" images than you can shake a camwhore at.

Loading the page once to write this brought forth some Dana Scully wallpaper and a drawing of Bugs Bunny having sex with Elmer Fudd. The sum of everything here should serve as a constant reminder for why you should never date people you meet on Livejournal.

Metaspy http://www.metaspy.com/
Metacrawler.com is a search engine, but its creators set up metaspy.com to let you see a live feed of what people are searching for. Right now, someone out there is searching for "toothpaste" and wants to know where to find some really badly because he tried it five times. Another is very hungry and wants "food" four times in a row. Someone else wants "free nude erotic female bodybuilding" while yet another random, unknown person out there is looking for "sex in a can." Sadly, he will probably find it sooner than the fellow who wants "horsehead suppliers."

Disturbing Auctions http://disturbingauctions.com/

Ever looked around eBay to see all the horrible crap people are selling? There's no time like the present to begin the habit. Luckily, others already do the legwork and troll the place daily just to submit links to the most amusing ones for your perusal. People offering their virginity is only the beginning. In fact, that was last month's news. This month, the new rage is subtext as sellers covertly include their privates in the reflections of any metallic objects for sale. Who isn't more likely to buy a silver teakettle if its photo includes a stealth-wang in the reflection? At press time, you could buy a life-sized cardboard cutout of George Jetson for only $20. Gentlemen, start your bidding!

Random Personal Picture Finder http://www.diddy.com/random/

If you didn't already know, Google has an image search at images.google.com. Much fun can be had just by typing in random words and viewing the results. Here, someone found a way to automate the process by searching for common filenames used by digital cameras. It works because people don't bother to rename their image files before putting them online for their friends, and thus everyone else, to enjoy.

They came from cameras, most pictures found here are a bit tame: random friends, parties, vacation spots, kids, etc. It's perfect for voyeur-style people-watching, but don't be surprised if the inevitable scantilorn creep in when you least expect it.

Are music videos a lost art?

unless Michael Ian Black and Hal Sparks are commenting on them. They've become more than a glorified rip-off of E! Whatever mindless fluff E! doesn't focus on, VHI probably will. There are smidgens of shows, such as Bonds Reunited and In Search of the Partridge Family, that could constitute as musical programming, but other than that it's nothing but unspectacular specials. Hell, VHI even had a show about women's tennis and another about NASCAR.

NASCAR!! Arghhh!!

And yet I still click over to the channel to see what's on it at least three times a day. Am I just a TV junkie? There is absolutely no redeemable value to the majority of the programming. Who's responsible here, the dealer or the user?

Now when I watch VH1, I don't feel the bit of escapism I sought before. It just makes me realize how desperate and sad of a person I really am. I mean, I watched VH1 originally because MTV stopped focusing on music. MTV2's not much better, since they can't show videos unless it's in some format, and even then there aren't too many of those because of all the... specials it shows. VHI Classic and Fuse do it too. All these different formats, where the same thousand or so videos are put into different categories so that people can watch exactly what they want without exposing themselves to a new genre of music.

All I want is a channel that shows nothing but videos all day. Take every single video that has ever been made (international ones too, since they're really fun) and randomly air them one after another. Is that too much to ask? The list shows and exposes were fun at first, but there are only so many ways to glorify the Beatles and lament Vanilla Ice. I don't want them on my video channel. It would start with one and never end. And besides, Hell will freeze over before I owe Donal Louge a paycheck.

Marshmallows, poker games highlight 'cane fun

From 110

pleasures of a hurricane party is a game of No-Limit Texas Hold 'Em. Watch the game on ESPN and hone your skills so, when the time comes, you can take your friends for all they're worth. Once again, preparation is key. Otherwise, you might find yourself tearing your room apart looking for something to double as a stack of poker chips. 'Cause pocket change just doesn't cut it.

Some people might have raised an eyebrow at the inclusion of "marshmallows" on the list of essentials, but I ask you: What's better than roasting marshmallows over an open candle flame when your electricity goes out? Not a damn thing. I have to admit that, in this regard, I was woefully unprepared when it came to Frances. We bought no marshmallows and actually went so far as to call Albertsons on Saturday morning to see if they still had the airasy treat. No one picked up the phone, of course, but I would have loved to hear their reaction to a marshmallow inquiry. After the marshmallows went unroasted that day, I consider it a lost opportunity.

In the unlikely event that a Category 4 hurricane stalls on the coast and spends two days moving at 1 millimeter an hour, make sure that you have plenty of movies to watch to pass the time. I saw cabin fever claim more than its share of victims this weekend, a cruel reminder of how unfair this world can be. Knocking down our trees and power lines is bad enough, but how are we to hang out at Wal-Mart at 3 a.m. if it's boarded up? Depriving us of our 12-cent black-and-white DVDs? Well, that's just mean.

Do not watch the news for more than 15 minutes at a time without taking a break. The local stations, of course, went to 24-hour coverage to bring us news of the storm. The problem is, with Frances stalling in the Atlantic for a day, newscasters, try as they might, had nothing to report. For anyone who escaped and missed it, here's a recap of Saturday's news: "So, tell us, Tom... what's the latest with Hurricane Frances?" "She's standing still, Bob. Back to you." Not the newspaperer's fault, but there's little you can do to make news of a stationary hurricane compelling for 24 hours. Showing the same poor schlub getting peted by rainwater ceases to be entertaining after the first 12 hours, after all. The thing to do, then, is tune in for 15 minutes, learn what you can, and quickly switch to an X-Files rerun.

With luck, we won't be forced to put our hurricane party skills to use anytime soon, but if we do, it's important to remember these tips. Stay inside, stay off the roads, keep safe, and while you're at it, make the best of a bad situation by keeping your spirits high.

In the meantime, let's hope that Ivan steers clear of the Sunshine State. If he doesn't, well, pass me the marshmallows.
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