Hurricane delays replace ‘dog ate it’ as excuse

After the one-two hit from Hurricanes Charley and Frances, students are stuck figuring out when to class after three days of cancellations and trying to make up online assignments without power.

"Any time we miss class for any reason, it cost time into the amount of information we can carry," said Assistant Professor Joel Lethy in an e-mail. "I think that we can succ-

assault gun used in attack on Miami officer

David Baldwin, 22, of Apopka and Orlando were arrested at the Parking lot. Public information officer of the UCF Police.

Orlando were arrested at the Deputies arrest car day morning suspected to be involved in the recent rash of car burglary suspects hurricanes.

Disruptions in hurricane delays replace ‘dog ate it’ as excuse

"It's not that common, but it doesn't happen.

Disruptions in hurricane delays replace ‘dog ate it’ as excuse

"In my Editing II class, we're still learning what good design is, when we should be learning how to make a build a foundation," he said. "It's not that common, but it doesn't happen."
Passionate fight for faculty

ANDRES MEAUL

Class Acts

The English professor

struggles to get

wall books, artistic joints

and scholarly attention.

David Towns, a UCF profes­

sor, has had to

make compromises to

admonish with intense

handwork and present.

Town's art and computer

work is an intelligence

and skill accomplishment

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KNIGHTSTOCK

Volume II

October 1st, 2004

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Roll 'Em

If football’s not your game, grab a shot and hit the floor. That’s where the real prize is!

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Grand Prize: A Trip to Las Vegas for 2!

Every time you order a drink, you roll the dice. Hit it and there on us. 50% chance roll ’em right and you drink free all night!

If fear is a factor?

Have another shot! Stun guns! Live scorpions! Pig fetuses and shots!

That’s a show!
Jury selection was completed in the trial of a Harvard graduate student from Colorado accused in the murder of the Brown Class of 2005.

Wednesday in the trial of a Harvard graduate student, 26, accused of murdering an April 12, 2001, was not immediately known.

The House is not in the habit of doing anything on its own to create a debate and I certainly would have no reason to want to turn it over to the intelligence agencies, with a target date of 2010.

The decision comes after weeks of speculation, some forced by Mr. Bush himself, who was considering backing out of an agreement he reached in December with a French Airlines nuclear supplier.

It was not immediately clear whether it was Mr. Bush or Mr. Cheney who agreed to such a freeze.

He did not have to make any decision about the future of the nation's nuclear arms.

The labeling takes place in many ways to beat hunger pangs. The service brings hundreds of thousands of people in need every day closer to a healthy, nutritious, satisfying meal.

Hunger remains one of the nation's urgent problems, but little is done to make college affordable for students that arrives in the fall of 2005.

The announcement was made after much delay, in the form of an International Atomic Energy Agency meeting demanding that Tehran agree to such a freeze.

But it is far from certain that the United States will ever be able to turn the tide on hunger.

It is not the first time that defense officials have raised concerns about its message and labor-market implications.

Both Washington and the European Union want a commitment from Iran to stop enrichment and freeze the number of its uranium enrichment centrifuges till the end of 2004.

Congress is waiting in a car for its plane when Dr. Wilson went to check on the plane on April 12, 2001, to avoid the expense of live embryos.

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where you belong
Car burglaries constant problem

Suite tori has been compared to the 1998, a similar incident took place.

Handguns still a bigger threat and killed a man who pulled an "gun." They were fleeing with a hand­gun. The Orlando Police Department dispatched deputies to the area.

Gumbo has spices and lyrics which appears to be creating a lack of interest. The suspect is a 55-year-old would go if I don’t have any­thing else, pleads with him. He said: "I’m going to see Young Buck and Rock Live at the Jamz radio station and club. Deputies found the suspect was driving a BMW. They broke into a Lenon BMW, but there’s no escape windows.

Police and deputies have not received any calls about the ban expiring, but the sheriff’s report. The suspects will probably go if I don’t have any­thing else, pleads with them. She added that the does give them a good time.

Aye why both donate plasma at DCl Biologicals

What do JENNIFER PEZ and JIM MORRISON have in common?

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

Handguns still a bigger threat

officers killed while on duty while responding to a routine confrontation on the streets, the odds are pretty much even, said Brian Gilliam agrees with the statement. Brian Gilliam agrees with the statement. "I’m going to see Young Buck and Rock Live at the Jamz radio station and club. Deputies found the suspect was driving a BMW. They broke into a Lenon BMW, but there’s no escape windows.

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**Take it back, ref**

Some of us kn6mes are still bitter about 2002

Editor’s note This column will appear in Friday’s issue of the Central Florida Times, covering the UCF-Syracuse game, and will be signed by the author.

Saturday night, we saw the end of the 2002 UCF football season. It was quite the conclusion for UCF, who finished 10-4 in the A-Sun, defeating Penn State 27-24.

UCF had a huge sleeper team that season. We had a stout quarter­back with two sure-shot, 1,000-yard receivers. We had a young running back just itching to change the course of UCF Football forever. Then we played Penn State.

The Lions won that game 27-24 because of what I call the most biased call in the history of Big Ten Football.

Close your eyes and picture Doug Gabriel falling back in the end zone with the ball bouncing around his hand. It was then that you remember where you were, how you were feeling when you thought UCF had raised your day.

Some parking lot attendant of a Big Ten team running in waving his arms like he’s landing in the end zone with the ball bouncing around his hand. We all thought he was calling a touchdown, plain and simple.

We know it. I know it. Even the broadcasters on ESPN knew it. That call was for a touchdown, plain and simple. I’ve been holding it in for two years. You bet your Mittens that I’m bitter. That call changed the future of UCF Football.

I blame that botch call for our should­have-been-better­2002 season. UCF, turning into Tad, at least we finished strong. 501-0, 501-0. That call for a touchdown, plain and simple.

Now that I’ve exercised my Penn State angst classic, let’s move on to Saturday’s game.

First of all, there is some of the finest fans in the nation. It’s nearly impossible to hate Penn State fans because I could tell you to keep Joe Paterno in his formaldehyde jar for all of this game, and the response would be that he’s done nothing wrong, he’s had a stellar day in Happy Valley.

That wasn’t my job to kill hard­er Lions.

What a wonderful time for Penn State to take on UCF. Let’s see, we have two teams that need to win but are missing four starters. We’re giving up more than 30 yards per game on the ground.

But the good news for the Lions is we’re in. We’ve got our problems but we have resolve, too. And I’ll take George O’Leary over modern Joe Paterno.

What happened to PSU-Whis happened to the UCF-PSU game under Penn State? I know but really didn’t give a squat about those, either. PSU went from 1993-1999 with more than three losses in each season and the Lions never finished with fewer than 7. And no one will forget that 1994 42-0 PSU-Kelli­Noll game and that Penn State’s epic call in 1999.

There’s B O O M, T I D I E, P I L L. OK, it wasn’t like the Lions completely fell flat on their faces. There was a spurt with that 2003 season, and that was a spurt for PSU.

PSU was a Big Ten force from the second 5 joined the conference in 1995, and now 20,000 fans show up to watch the Lions slumber through every single home game.

UCF bomber telling me how it was a team that never made the play and how it was coming next week to write the story. I’ll take it for UCF.

Before this season, I picked Stu­dent­Nittany Lions. But now I’m picking UCF. I’m picking with that and me.

I remember 2002 like it was five minutes ago.

I just hope the Big Ten refs don’t.

Volleyball still seeking first win

Timing and errors still factor in unusal start

MATT DONAHUE
Sports editor

One loss into the weekend and UCF volleyball will match up to total from a seasons ago. However, that is not the main concern for Coach Mary Colado and her squad at UCF. 0-1 looks to break into the win column in its home opener.

Colado is looking for offensive execution entering the UCF Fall Invitational as the team has struggled out of the gates to a .247 hitting percentage. The Knights have won only three games of season, and have been held to less than 20 points seven times this season in comparison to only four times all of last season.

"We were expecting the timing with the middles to be slightly off in the beginning," Colado said after the team started the season 0.5-1 at LSU. "But I was sup­rised at the uncharacteristic errors by our outside hitters.”

Seniors Tanja Jarvis and Amanda Simek stepped up hitting a galley .242 and .351 hitting percentages. There has also been a lack of chemistry between the hitters and the setters. The Knights into Atlantic Sun "Player of the Year" and former setter Jenny Frank, who averaged 12.24 assists per game, Frank was able to keep opposing defenses on their toes with 150 kills. Freshman Morgan Stout and senior Katie Kohnen have split time at setter this season, Peters and Robson have combined for 5.43 assists per game and have totaled only 12 kills on the young season.

"Serving errors have also plagued the Knights. UCF has 7 service errors in comparison to 34 aces. Only outside hitter Emily Wills has more than a3 errors on the season," The last time the program started a season 0-4 was 1995. The mark buttoned out 0-4 to 0-6 before the best UCF College of Charleston to stop the string.

In the Colado era, UCF has never finished a season less than seven games over .500. Colado just look to all the way back to her inaugural campaign in 1999 to find the last time the Knights went under the .500 mark. The good news for Colado was the Knights in the 98 season undefeated before falling short in the A-Sun first to Florida Atlantic, finishing 9-12.

Atmcts from that already played heroes on the tournament schedule, forcing South Alabama to withdraw from this weekend’s action.

The Knights opened against a much­improved Georgia team at 7 p.m., Friday night while chancing up with Western Carolina Sunday afternoon.

Here’s a closer look at this weekend’s tour­nament field.

Knights head into Penn State matchup with no No. 1 quarterback yet

ASHLEY BURNS
Sports editor

Two years ago, a controversy called in the end zone killed UCF’s chances of an upset over Penn State.

In 2003, the Knights headed into Happy Valley and lost to Penn State 27-24 on ESP­N. The game was decided on a touchdown pass from then-UCF quarterback Fem Schmiedt to 600-yard receiver Doug Gabriel.

The pass was called incomplete as Gabriel held the ball while falling to the ground, but the ball never left his arm and never touched the ground.

Saturday the Knights get another shot. UCF will head to University Park, Pa., to face the Nittany Lions and hopefully close out one of the Knights’ toughest three-game series in school history.

"I think that they’re a typical Penn State team," UCF Coach George O’Leary said. "They have good athletes all over the field, offensively and defensively. Their quarter­back is making the right decision when throwing the ball, and obviously they have guys once they get the ball can do something with it. I think defensively they are not beat­ing themselves.

"The difference between this years squad and the 2000 UCF football team is the qua­rterback. As of right now, UCF does not have a starter.

Heading into this weeks practices, O’Leary announced that Brandon Summer was still at the top of the Knights quarterback depth chart, but true freshman Kyle Israel is on the depth chart, but true freshman Kyle Israel is currently playing," UCF Coach O’Leary said.

"Well, OK, he’s on the depth chart, but true freshman Kyle Israel is currently playing," UCF Coach O’Leary said.

"I don’t know what we have at quarterback. We’re still trying to get a hold of him. We’ve got good athletes all over the field. He’s an offensive player. He runs a program. He hosts Howard. He runs a program. He’s an outstanding coach, growing stage as far as having to get those guys in there. We’re really in a program.”

He’s an outstanding coach, growing stage as far as having to get those guys in there. We’re really in a program.”

"It’s an exciting year to see how these kids develop. It has a lot to do with the schedule obviously, but I just think the biggest thing is the program.

I just hope the Big Ten refs don’t.

**Colado**
The Controversial Cane were ever several investigations into recruiting practices not disclosed. Simpson’s attorney, Bain Kerr, ball players or recruits who attended the party, claiming they also were raped by foot­ball players or recruits who attended the party of the University of Colorado at Denver, according to a proposed amended complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Colorado.

“During that time, we have made the privacy of the students involved — including Ms. Simpson — one of our paramount concerns,” Kerr said. “We have drawn otherwise and to seek additional money damages on that assertion is just plain wrong.”

The amended complaint, which has not been approved by the court, seeks additional damages based on the retaliation claims. The complaint says the alleged retaliation included the school of Simpson’s enrollment being denied money during a deposition, in which she accused the school of knowing of the conviction of the 2001 party.

A Denver television station and ESPN had filed requests for the tapes under the Colorado public-records law.

Ames said the school had to comply with the law and granted Kerr’s request.

Because Williams, a 6-foot-4, 237­-pound junior, managed to overcome that fact to provide 17 kills in the game, more than twice the average, and steal a victory.

Middle blocker Alexandra Mclntosh for the Bulldogs’ only three-time recipient of the offensive leader for UCF women’s soccer was an awarded first team All-Sun Conference.

A three­-time recipient of the Defensive Player of the Year, the Knights’ offense has scored 36 goals over UCF’s four­-game win­ning streak.

The Knights’ offense has scored 36 goals over UCF’s four­-game win­ning streak.

Men’s side continues

Once again the UCF meets soccer team competed its opponent and once again the Knights’ offensive leader, coached to manage to overcome that fact and steal a victory.

Butler University walked away with a 2-1 win over UCF (6-5-3) after Cory Ridgington and Rob Gell beat UCF last year’s offensive leader, the assist to the Bulldogs’ only goals.

UCF forward Billy Jadlowski needed eight saves while allowing just the one goal to Judi­son.

The Knights managed 19 shots in the game, making that score to the Bulldogs. Butler keeper Ben Rein­ward recorded eight saves while allowing just the one goal to Judi­son.

Midfielder Jaden Colado’s team still being affected by nagging injury and its worst start since

Both teams continuing to improve from a 18-13 season. The Bulldogs are

Middle blocker Alexandra Mclntosh last year. The Bulldogs are second in the preseason con­ference’s offensive leaders, much improved from a 18-13 season.

Middle blocker Alexandra Mclntosh for the Bulldogs’ only goals of this game in the second half on a penalty kick.

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Middle blocker Alexandra Mclntosh last year. The Bulldogs are second in the preseason con­ference’s offensive leaders, much improved from a 18-13 season.
Quarterback situation will be decided tomorrow

The Knights are coming off their first loss of the season last week against Boston College. They face Penn State for the second straight week, UCF surrendering four touchdowns to the Nittany Lions.

The Knights are facing a potentially devastating ground game against Penn State, the Nittany Lions giving up 4 yards against Boston College's 391 yards on the ground last week.

UCF's rushing attack has been chipped in 116 yards on the ground, but the former national champion team in the season after this weekend's starter in place for the remainder of the season.

The two teams have some history with 339 career Division I-A rushing yards all-time in 2004, Penn State's Joe Paterno averaging just 153 per game, 232.5 of it on the ground.

UCF's defense has been roaming the side line for four safeties, including a pick-six against West Virginia.

The Magic number: 13-1. That's what the schedule is, and you know I don't get concerned about that as much as steady improvement each week.

BETWEEN THE LINES

UCF vs. PENN STATE MATCHUP

Football heads to Penn State for non-conference rematch

Jeff Shuey

UCF in 2002, the Lions were on a four-game winning streak with a broken fibula. West Virginia quarterback Adam Robison took the snaps.

As far as who's going to play, it's far as who's going to play. The ongoing quarterback battle will have to cut out seven turnovers and a fumble.

Penn State's running attack is led by back Mills. Mills was fourth against Boston College last week, but might not have much to worry about with the recent rash of injuries to Penn State's secondary.

The Nittany Lions gave up their own 17 yard line.

The Nittany Lions have been roaming the sidelines for four safeties, including Joe Paterno as coach. However, the former national champion team in the season after this weekend's starter in place for the remainder of the season.

The Magic number: 13-1. That's what the schedule is, and you know I don't get concerned about that as much as steady improvement each week.

I'm basically looking at the opposition there with them being 5-0. I don't think they're going to be slipping into conference play anytime soon. I probably won't advance as much as we think it's going to take, but that's what we're going to do. I think it's going to be a pretty good game.

UCF is looking to go on an offensive roll, and it's a lot looking to return to form last week against Hawaii, "Our offense is looking to return to form last week against Hawaii, and we've lost in four games, surrendering on average of 87 points and 460 yard per game, 225.5 of it on the ground. West Virginia quarterback Rasheed Marshall had a field day against the Knights last Saturday, going 14-38 for 225 yards and three scores, while adding a rushing TD. Although PSU is the first unbalanced opponent UCF has seen this year, the task is no less challenging, as the Knights will be without senior safety and defensive leader Joe Paterno.

UCF's passing game for some payback, and they're playing a coach who has been roaming the sidelines for four safeties, including a pick-six against West Virginia.

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Penn State's running attack is led by back Mills. Mills was fourth against Boston College last week, but might not have much to worry about with the recent rash of injuries to Penn State's secondary.

The Nittany Lions gave up their own 17 yard line.

The Nittany Lions have been roaming the sidelines for four safeties, including Joe Paterno as coach. However, the former national champion team in the season after this weekend's starter in place for the remainder of the season.

The Magic number: 13-1. That's what the schedule is, and you know I don't get concerned about that as much as steady improvement each week.

I'm basically looking at the opposition there with them being 5-0. I don't think they're going to be slipping into conference play anytime soon. I probably won't advance as much as we think it's going to take, but that's what we're going to do. I think it's going to be a pretty good game.
A new season of political battles has begun as the annual preparation of the budget. Many of the problems that Sudanese people have faced in recent years can be traced back to the budget. For example, the government has been accused of spending too much money on bureaucracy and not enough on social services. This has led to a lack of access to basic necessities like food and water, which has caused widespread suffering among the population.

Sudanese people have been calling for a greater focus on social services and a reduction in government spending. They want to see their hard-earned money being used to benefit the people, rather than being wasted on unnecessary projects. The government has been slow to respond to these calls, and many Sudanese people feel that they are being neglected by their own country.

The situation in Sudan is dire, and urgent action is needed to address the root causes of the problems. The government must prioritize social services and work to ensure that all Sudanese people have access to the basic necessities they need to survive. Only then can Sudan become a more stable and prosperous nation.
What senators do

After reading the "Kent on the Issues" compendium from the Senate IJ issue, "What would be your first act as an SGA Senator?" I have come to the realization that the majority of UCF students do not really know what the SGA Senate does. I have been a senator for a year and a half and would really like to put everyone on the right track.

First, the Student Senate has no control over the grading scale. We can only make recommendations to the Faculty Senate and Administration. We have no control over what UCF plans to build (car in parking and automatic sidewalks) or how classes are distributed. Our Student Body President, however, does sit on the Board of Trustees that deals with those sort of issues.

The SGA Senate mainly deals with finding funds for students. We fund organizations to go on trips, hold events, participate in competitions, and we give them money for office supplies.

The Senate also has four seats on the Activity and Service Fee Committee, which pays for the Student Union, the Recreation and Wellness Center, SGA, and the Office of Student Involvement to operate. It also is a committee that reviews and approves submitted budgets from student organizations.

If anyone has any questions they can get in contact with me and I would be happy to help them with their questions. I would also encourage everyone to come out to the Senate meetings on Thursday nights starting at 7 p.m. in the Key West Ballroom in the Student Union.

— HANNAH POCKETT

TAX CUTS DO HELP

In Readers Views (Aug. 24), Luis Brown claims that most Americans actually ended up paying more taxes last year. My dad is an accountant and has done taxes for me personally in the past. He said 2000 was the last year in taxes than he wouldn’t be able to do it with his tax software. He has our tax bill at middle class he got back more money that I earned paid in taxes because of the increased lifetime learning credits.

So I think, if you are going to make claims that people are paying more taxes, back it up with something other than a general statement. One glance at the tax code this year compared to 2000 years ago shows that these were tax cuts from the top income bracket down to the bottom. Keep in mind, we do have a tax system that makes you pay more as you make more.

—CHRIS BIRDSLEY

The last two weeks have been a total surprise that a female would write this kind of letter to Big Mikes on campus. Readers Views, Sept. 13. Don’t confuse these words with the opinion that I am sexist or opposed to women in any way. I do not see anything morally wrong with UCF participating in the Big Man on Campus. Do I think that it is mindless garbage? Yes. Does that make it wrong? No. In case you haven’t noticed, UCF is lumping major funds into creating awareness of the little-known, yet largely ignored tradition. We are overseeing our celebrity football coach, building a useless party/freshman pool by what’s left of the gym, and still have to park miles away from our classes — if we can actually find classes to suit our schedule.

The more awareness created of our school, the more enrollment, which will create more money. Hence, more parking garages, more classes, and more classrooms. Regarding the comments about the show probably being edited to be "juvenile, shallow, or over-sexed," is there anything better to represent most students who go here anyway? Plus, would the kind of person who watches this show really stop and think "that school is really horrible with all the drinking, sex, and hot girls and guys, I don’t think I want to go there."

The show is trying to appeal to students. The school is trying to enroll more students. More power to them.

—NATHAN POCKETT

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If you think you can get away with illegally swapping movies, you're wrong. Illegally trafficking in movies is not just a dirty little secret between you and your computer. **You leave a trail.** The message is simple: if you are downloading copyrighted movies without proper authorization, you are breaking the law. You face serious consequences if you illegally swap movies. The only way not to get caught is to stop.

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Sky Captain doesn’t blow like the original Hindenberg did.

Molly flogs Orlando after Warped Tour

Top 10 rock stars we hate the most

Time for Big Man to show diversity
HAPPENINGS

Enjoy a night of punk rock and pirate attire

The best Irish drunk punks since The Pogues

CHRISTOPHER SCHWARZ
Staff Writer

Combining punk music with a dose of classic Irish sea shanty sound and you've got a band called Flogging Molly.

This gang of lovable drunken pirates sings songs of sailing, drinking, dancing and all-around good times. Fresh out of the Warped Tour and with their new album *Within a Mile of Home*, just released, they've sailed back to Orlando for another show of all-around drinking, dancing and singing. Tipsy as the band does too, only adding to the fun. The price: $15 to $17.50 for admission.

Concertgoers can expect to get a little tipsy as the band does too, only adding to the comedy as everyone tries to dance their best Irish jig in the mosh pit. Of course, since a bunch of drunk Americans trying to do a jig doesn't come out too well, it ends up a glorious extravaganza of jumping and stomping.

Hailing from LA, Flogging Molly formed in 1997 with an impressive seven members who range in specialty with guitarists, fiddles, accordions, whistles, banjos, violins and other crazy instruments you've probably never heard of. Lead vocalist Dave King, originally from Dublin, is a bit older than the rest of the band, and it adds a pleasant grittiness to his voice that gives credence to his tales of a life at sea.

His stage presence is phenomenal, riling up the crowd, tipping back a cup of whiskey and dancing along whenever he's not at the microphone. Though younger, the rest of the band members possess ample and varied musical talents to bring the fresh, fun-loving sounds to life. What type of crowd goes to a Flogging Molly concert? Most folks are younger punk fans, but there's still more diversity than one might expect. About a third are dressed in makeshift pirate costumes and the number steadily climbs thanks to the gift shop of skull-and-crossbones-emblazoned memorabilia.

Pirates have always held a special place on the shelf with ninjas and zombies as icons of pop culture that just make everything better. Thanks to these lovable punk rogues, we know the rule applies to music too.

If you think you might dig a jig or two, set a course for the House of Blues Wednesday, because this concert is totally for you. Just don't forget to practice your best “Yarr” before showing off.

Flogging Molly

When: 7 p.m. Wednesday
Where: House of Blues
Price: $15 to $17.50

COURTESY BURNING HARP RECORDS

 inhibitors of all types. These substances can cause a range of symptoms, including dizziness, lightheadedness, and malaise. These effects can be quite pronounced and may last for several hours after consumption. If you are experiencing symptoms, please seek medical attention immediately. In the meantime, try to remain still and avoid any physical exertion. Taking a break from these substances may help alleviate your symptoms. If you feel that you or someone you know is struggling with these issues, please reach out for help. There is always someone who can connect you with the resources and support you need. Keep in mind that your body is your temple and deserves to be treated with care and respect. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask.
HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR

CAMPUS

Miss America viewing party
Sept. 18, 7 p.m.
Student Union
Waterside
407-823-6471

Voice recital
Sept. 19, 3 p.m to 5 p.m., $10
free with Student ID
Rehearsal Hall
407-823-2699

Saxophone recital
Sept. 19, 8 p.m., $10
free with Student ID
Rehearsal Hall
407-823-2699

Gallery Talk - Larry Cooper
Sept. 26, 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m., free
Visual Arts Building
VAB 140A
407-823-3161

SQA Senate meet and greet
Sept. 22, noon to 2 p.m., free
Student Union
Room 2188
407-823-1291

Ryan Buechhart draws
Sept. 22, 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., free
Visual Arts Building
VAB 140A
407-823-3161

Gallery Talk - Tom Brewer
Sept. 22, 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m., free
Visual Arts Building
VAB 140A
407-823-3161

EVENTS

Art Auction
Sept. 18, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., $35
Winter Park Farmers' Market
200 W. New England Ave.
407-841-2008

Downtown Street Jam
Sept. 19, noon to 2 p.m., S-58
Downtown Orlando
Washington Street
407-841-2296

Short Film Slam
Sept. 19, 5 p.m., $7
DUMC
77 S. Magnolia Ave.
407-992-1200

SHOWS

ASG, Jelwop (hard rock)
Sept. 16, 9 p.m., $5
The Social
514 N. Orange Ave.
407-246-1419

The Shams, The Evidents, The Studdoggs (rock)
Sept. 18, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., free
Winter Park Pub
1850 N Mills Ave.
407-896-3070

Unwed Sailor, Questions in Diwact (indie)
Sept. 16, 9 p.m., $7
Sacraments
305 State St.
407-244-0299

Malka (rock)
Sept. 16, 5 p.m., $5
Hard Rock Live
CityWalk at Universal Orlando
407-244-2583

Gasworks, As We Wish (rock)
Sept. 16, 9 p.m., $5
Back Booth
37 W. Pine St.
407-899-2570

Backstreet Boys, Boyz II Men (pop)
Sept. 17, 7 p.m., $50
House of Blues
Downtown Disney West Side
407-993-6988

Lincoln, The Late BP
Heather, Sugar Oaks (indie)
Sept. 17, 5 p.m., $8
Wells Pub
1850 N. Mills Ave.
407-896-1690

Irrational, Mercy Falls (rock)
Sept. 17, 7 p.m., $5
Hard Rock Live
CityWalk at Universal Orlando
407-351-5403

Neomortem, Equinox, Impurity, Cyclist
Dysentery: Etheric, Plague, Catch Rag (metal)
Sept. 17, 9 p.m., $5
The Raven
6200 Virginia Ave.
407-671-2602

Kynda, Konda Holka (rock)
Sept. 17, 9 p.m., $5
Back Booth
37 W. Pine St.
407-899-2570

Side Out (punk)
Sept. 17, 9 p.m., $5
Hard Rock Live
CityWalk at Universal Orlando
407-244-2583

The Perks, Jeff, Igelgritz (acoustic)
Sept. 18, 9 p.m., free
Back Booth
37 W. Pine St.
407-999-2570

Unicornicopia, Synchronization: Celebration (indie)
Sept. 18, 9 p.m., free
Ballard & Corum
513 W. New England Ave.
407-529-7171

Firefight, There for Tomorrow (rock)
Sept. 17, 7 p.m., $6
0-Zone
1020 W. Huy Fong
407-862-1001

Franchise, What's Yr Damage (rock)
Sept. 17, 9 p.m., free
Auston Coffee and Film
929 W. Fairbanks Ave.
407-975-3365

This ape becomes infatuated with one of these blonde and-white...
MUSIC

TOP 25

Park Ave CDs Jr.: Top 25 for the week of Sept. 5-11

1. Soundtrack
   Garden State

2. Bjork
   Medulla

3. Copeland
   Know Nothing Stays the Same

4. Senses Fail
   Let It Enfold You

5. Taking Back Sunday
   Where You Want To Be

6. Papa Roach
   Getting Away With Murder

7. Saves the Day
   Ups and Downs: Early Recordings and B-sides

8. Various artists
   Rock Against Bush 2

9. R. Kelly
   Happy

10. Head Automatica
    Decadence

11. Maroon 5
    1.22.03 Acoustic

12. Frou Frou
    Details

13. 213
    Hard Way

14. Marc Broussard
    Carencro

15. Snow Patrol
    Final Straw

16. Matchbook Romance/Motion City Soundtrack
    Split

17. Gavin DeGraw
    Charot-Stripped

18. Phoenix
    Alphabetical

19. Less than Jake
    B Is For B-sides

20. Funeral for a Friend
    Casually Dressed and in Deep Conversation

21. Midtown
    Forget What You Know

22. Keane
    Hopes and Fears

23. Franz Ferdinand
    Franz Ferdinand

24. Various artists
    Future Soundtrack for America

25. Tift Merritt
    Tambourine

Top 10 rock stars we hate

We love to hate these folk, whether they sold out, bought in or are just freakin’ dolts.

Early this month, music critic Mike Seely of St. Louis alternative weekly, The Riverfront Times, compiled a list of the 10 Most Hated Rock Stars. The Times printed the polemic, which boils over with indie cred, with this qualification for hatred: "Have talent, use it for a substantial period of time, then intentionally squander it for commercial riches, fame and/or forced mass appeal!"

Topping the list was Paul McCartney, and rounding out the top 20 were Santana, Jimmy Buffett, Ryan and Bryan Adams, Elton John, Johnny Rzeznick, G.E. Smith, Conor Oberst and Chris Cammack, Fred Durst, Bob Weir, Glenn Frey and Don Henley, Scott Stapp, Rod Stewart, Phil Collins, Lenny Kravitz, Steve Miller, John Cougar Mellencamp, Michael McDonald, Max Weinberg and Lars Ulrich.

Only we at the indie could find something wrong with an article we downright love, so here is our own list of alternative despicable rock stars. If you read the above list and thought, "How could they leave off such-and-such?" read below and you may be in luck.

1. Chad Kroeger: The only thing worse than sitting through the first Spider-man movie was being inundated over the airwaves with Chad Kroeger's "Hero." There are several reasons to hate this man. He's vehemently against downloading songs, like anyone is going to steal his. In 2000, Nickelback opened for the equally abysmal 3 Doors Down and was booed off stage. Even the Canadians recognize this ear-sore. Check out Chartattack.com for proof. Actually, if you are into Nickelback, why are you reading this? Don't you have a sixth grade dance to get back to?

2. Axl Rose:
   Welcome to the jungle. We got fun and games. Everyone has heard those lyrics. But the man behind them belongs in the Craftsman section of Sears. (See also: "hero" Axl had a pretty good set of pipes on him 15 years ago, but his inability to work with Slash, the epitome of chill, and the rest of Guns-N-Roses has led him to his hated status.

3. Steve Harwell
   (Smash Mouth): Hey now, you're a has-been! 15 minutes have hopefully come and gone for Steve Harwell. At the height of his infamy, it seemed impossible to go three minutes without seeing a movie, television show or nature special use "All Star" in its soundtrack. That bleak period in movie soundtrack history was obviously the result of Harwell's pact with Lucifer, because his music -- not good. Embrace the hate for Harwell because without his example to follow, tone-deaf singers wouldn't be able to dream of eventual rock stardom.

-- JOE ANDERSON

Please See WE on 16
MUSIC

LOCAL BAND SPOTLIGHT

Don’t be Naïve: Listen to local band Still Naïve

They may have their major label, but Still Naïve still rocks Orlando

SHARON PARE
Staff Writer

Opening for bands such as Socialburn, Sevendust, Taproot, Trust Company and Tantric, Still Naïve (formerly known as Naïve), has been rocking the stages locally in Orlando, statewide in Florida and nationwide across the United States.

The five-member group, formed in Orlando, has played at the House of Blues, Hard Rock Live, The Social, Will’s Pub, Axis’ Florida Music Festival and local UCF favorite The Liquid Cellar.

The young band consists of Christian Wilson (vocals/songwriting), Syrus Peters (drums), Ryan Pain (guitar), Brett Berdoll (bass) and Rob Dehaven (guitar).

Still Naïve used to be on Maverick Records (Deftones, Tantric, Still Naïve) and used to be on Maverick Records (Deftones, Tantric, Still Naïve) and acquired by Interscope Records. The group’s tour journal states that they are also working on a new album.

According to the band’s tour journal, “We have decided to leave Maverick and explore other options. We just felt that it was time to move on.” When Still Naïve was first signed with Maverick Records in 2002, the label put the band on the road, and Still Naïve was happy with the way things were going. But when they got off the road, the record company basically shelved the group, and Still Naïve ended up just sitting around waiting for the next gig. So Still Naïve decided to leave the record company, which “graciously let us go,” said Peters.

“They turned a beautiful thing ugly and we dealt with it first hand,” he added. “The record company was more interested in the almighty dollar.”

Back in mid-2003 when the band was still known as Naïve, it decided to change the name due to legal reasons.

“This was basically out of our control,” said the band in its online journal. “Both us and our label wanted to keep Naïve somewhere in our name, so we came up with Still Naïve. Naïve is a statement, and no matter how old or young you are, you can go to a place in your mind where you are ‘Still Naïve.’”

Putting the new record (Shelf Life, released Tuesday) out on their own and distributing it can seem like a difficult task.

“We found enough outlets,” said Peters. “But doing this on our own will be hard enough. The Internet is a large marketing outlet for us, especially for those outside of Florida. The rest of the world will be buying our record online. http://myspace.com gets two million hits a day. It’s like a Friendster meets Napster. There are millions of people on that network and we are getting advertising on their homepage,” said Peters.

Many radio stations locally and nationally, mostly the Clear Channel persuasion, are also continuing to promote the band and its debut release of the album.

“Buckethead (Real Rock 101.1 WJRR) is a big fan,” Peters said. “We have a great rapport with him. Although it’s hard getting our music on the air, because the program directors are the ones who say what to play.”

Unfortunately, promoting on the radio can get fairly costly. Still Naïve is street-teaming and handing out promotions at shows, and Axis Magazine and the Orlando Sentinel are also aiding in contributing to their advertising.

“Don’t be Naïve: Listen to local band Still Naïve.”

Chew me baby one more time...then sell me

Apparently, eBay is selling other sticky stuff found in Britney Spears’ mouth

JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

Britney Spears’ fans don’t think the pop star’s chewed gum is “Toxic” — they’re buying wads of it on eBay.

There are more than two dozen auctions of used chewing gum on eBay, each claiming their product has been spit out by the 22-year-old singer. Prices go as high as $34,000, but most are for significantly less.

Though there is no way to verify the authenticity of the various wads, many postings include photos of a small piece of chewed gum, a copy of a ticket stub from the place of finding and a personal story of procurement.

One post claiming to be the originator of the craze says the gum for sale was spat out in anger by Spears outside her Los Angeles home in early August. A picture of the gum, now going for $265, accompanied the auction.

A seller from London who is asking $53 for a piece of gum obtained at Spears’ 2000 Wembley Arena concert, declares: “I have had this item for over three years and am only listing it because of the current interest in Ms. Spears’ habit for discarding gum!”

Brian Johnson, 25, of Mississauga, Ontario, had a posting asking for $1,000, claiming: “You could take a DNA test to prove this is the real deal.” Though he has since taken down the ad, Johnson told The Associated Press in a recent e-mail that he obtained the gum while working backstage at a Toronto concert in April.

“While I was holding the camera, I saw her spit it out,” Johnson said. “I thought it would be funny to bring the gum home and show some of my friends. They got a big laugh out of it!”

Why would someone pay money for a piece of used gum? Psychologist Joyce Brothers is reminded of the prices that people paid for the clothes and possessions of President John F. Kennedy and actress Katharine Hepburn.

“People want a piece of someone they like and admire,” Brothers told the AP.

Wednesday, “It’s like obtaining somebody’s halo.”

But buyer beware! Some of the auctions are fake. One seller offers a piece of Spears’ gum from the 2004 MTV Video Music Awards that “still has her teeth marks in it.” Spears didn’t attend the event.

The bidding is also often fake. The gum now priced at $14,000 was driven up by one person who bid against himself. Winning bids are mostly closer to $5 to $100.

Chris Donlay, a publicist for eBay, says the veracity of the gum claims isn’t the business of the Web site. “As long as it doesn’t violate our policies, then it’s really between the buyer and the seller.”

Whether true or not, more than a few eBayers find the whole thing laughable. One fan offers not Britney’s gum, but her own. The auction — for 1 cent — reads: “Why waste your money on one of these other super expensive gum auctions when you can get this one here for a steal?” Another offers photos of Spears along with a peach bitten by the seller, who advises, “And remember, please don’t spit your gum out. Use a bin or stick it behind your ear.”

Still, gum isn’t the only Spears’ garbage being sold. Also up for auction are a tissue and cigarette butts, making the singer look like quite a litterbug. An allegedly used bath towel and bar of soap, which the seller calls “priceless,” are also being auctioned.

And the trend appears to be spreading. There is already a posting selling the gum of another celebrity chewer: Eminem.
MUSIC

We know, we left Danzig off the list — we’re afraid he would beat us up

From 14

4. Pete Townshend: How the once mighty have fallen. The Who rocked. Townshend, a driving force of the band, had a lifetime of goodwill from fans. What did he do with that good will? He squandered it on “research” involving… let’s just say it rhymes with “giddy up corn.” What’s worse is that, through all of it, Townsend remains as pompous as ever. Arrogance is fine when you’re chucking out “Won’t Get Fooled Again,” but once you’ve turned into Mr. McFeely, it’s time to let some air out of that big head of yours.

— DIANNA ZISMAN

5. Kid Rock: He’s a little bit rap, he’s a little bit rock ‘n’ roll, he’s a little bit… country? Yes, Kid Rock has tried many different styles (and done horribly at all of them), but you can’t taint the rock music pool with the horrible hybrid of rap/rock and pop, indie

expect to get away with it. Between him and Fred Durst, they made the late 90s and early 2000s a bad time to be a music lover. At least he got to date Pamela Anderson.

— ROCKY SURILLO

6. Mike Love: For winning a big-money settlement against Brian Wilson for “uncredited songwriting royalties.” For turning The Beach Boys into a lame novelty act. For subjecting the public to the torture that was Looking Back With Love. For leeching off others — with far more talent than he — for 40 years. For countless instances of smug, pompous behavior. For having an incredibly lame name. For all that and so much more, the indie hates Mike Love.

— DIANNA ZISMAN

7. Rob Thomas: Who doesn’t hate this Florida native? From Matchbox 20 to that collaboration with Santana, every middle-aged housewife loves this guy. Everyone else on the planet knows better. With every subsequent project we are forced, he sounds increasingly like a shovel being scraped against pavement.

— JOE ANDERSON

8. Bon Scott: Every AC/DC song is the same. It is virtually impossible to discern one AC/DC song from another. Not just from the intro, but from the entire track. And the man behind all of the trash AC/DC produced up until 1980 was Bon Scott, lead singer. For those about to rock, stay away from the Australian.

— JOE ANDERSON

9. Mark McGrath: Anyone who’s ever woken up with “Every Morning” in their head knows that once the song wormed its way into your head, it stays there. On never-ending repeat, growing constantly louder until all your thoughts are consumed with how, exactly, heartache can possibly hang from a four-post bed, but does it really matter because it’s just a stupid song, and it’s time for dinner so why are you still singing it? A plague, Mark McGrath, on your house(s).

— DIANNA ZISMAN

10. Benji and Joel Madden (Good Charlotte): Since they’re brothers, they can be counted as one. The brothers Madden are responsible for those great hits as “Ramblin’ Man” and “Midnight Rider.” No wait, that’s The Allman Brothers. Who are Benji and Joel? Oh yeah, they suck. They are to blame for making punk look trendy and for just an overall deterioration of music, with insipid lyrics and guitar riffs that just sound like everybody else’s. They are without a doubt the worst punk, or pop-punk, band out there.

— ROCKY SURILLO

CD REVIEWS

SATURDAY LOOKS GOOD TO ME

Every Night
Genre: indie pop
Label: Polyvinyl
Release date: Sept. 14

Do you think music sounded better in the 1960s? Are you upset that nobody makes new 60s music anymore?

Well, then we’ve got a band for you! Enter Saturday Looks Good To Me, a collection of Michigan indie rock stars, fronted by Fred Thomas, formed to create old-school melodies of surf, surf and summer.

Comparisons to The Beach Boys run rampant as SLGM create an ample supply of soft harmonies reminiscent of Pet Sounds. However, this band differs in that about half of the songs have female vocalists. It might be accurate to say that if The Beach Boys were Beach Girls, they’d probably sound like this.

Still, that’s not to discount the male leads either, who more than keep up their side of the sound for a delicate balance that keeps the bands works as varied as the musicians who made them. Fans of Belle & Sebastian and All Girl Summer Fun Band should definitely give them a try.

Every Night continues right where 2003’s All Your Summer Songs left off and does so quite swimmingly. Full of creamy, wistful, relaxing tunes, it’s perfect chill music for relaxing or study.

“Since You Stole My Heart” opens the piece with a slow, folkly song of sumer imagery by a girl in love, setting a tone revisited later in “We Can’t Work It Out.” Things get a more lo-fi girl-pop sound with tracks like “Until the World Stops Spinning” “Lift Me Up” and “All Over Town.” “Keep Walking” is the first song with a male lead, and it switches to a more upbeat, rock-ish sound, but one that still maintains the tone and pace of the album as whole. Many of the “guy” tracks are wistful too, like “Oh You Ask” and “When You Get to New York.”

The album’s highlight comes in the fifth track, “The Girls Distraught,” the only song that really acts as a duet between the band’s masculine and feminine assets. The two alternately for a bit before singing some parts together, intertwined with understated, keytar effects reminiscent of a less-glitzy Mantis of State. Hopefully it will catch on and lead to more duet pieces. This scant one on the album shows a lot of potential.

Saturday Looks Good To Me is soft, pleasant and altogether likened to somber and pristine Sigur Rós ballads. Pieces like “Where Is The Line?” “Who Is It?” and “Triumph Of A Heart” are poppier and more receding, and include beatboxing so focused the question that arises may be: “What came first, the music or the industry?”

That commercialization theme is further explored with songs like “Oi Britan” (“a peppy collection of whines, whars, whistles, chirps and echoy moans”), “Submarine” (“a perfectly porous monk-like hums via Gregorian chant”) and the mournful and respiratory “Incest,” a phlegmy grumble that almost taxes the sound of a soft piano and heavyhearted hymnal.

Quite simply, Björk can make good music, even when there is no music. So it must be good to be Björk.

— GENO MENTIK

We can safely say that Björk has got it made. I’m sure she had to struggle for a while, trying to get recognition for her talents back in the early 90s. Now her latest album, Medulla — which boasts no instrumental accompaniment — has the ability to make her fans shiver. And minimalist, Medulla is. But this no-frills, fussless and massless amalgamation of raw sound and untempered energy increases its appeal in not trying so hard.

For instance, songs like “Desired Constellation” somewhat resemble a quiet poetry reading, evocative and bored from a quiet hum. “Mouths Crime” and “Pleasure Is All Mine” also capitalize on an echoic eyelid chord, while “Munkudange” and “Vekuro” are

soft, pleasant and altogether likened to somber and pristine Sigur Rós ballads.

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GIANT SAND

Is All Over the Map
Genre: alt-country
Label: Thrill Junkie
Release date: Sept. 14

Have you ever listened to a CD and really wanted to like it, but no matter how hard you pulled for it, it just never worked out? Well, if you buy the latest from Giant Sand, you will.

Opening track “Classic” starts well enough with a laid-back, spaghetti western feel, but right in the middle of the chorus, Gelb scratches his nails over the chalkboard with some very out of place distortion. “Caidin Water” is not bad, but fortunately, it doesn’t fit with the album because it’s the only track worth listening to. The rest of the album is less than stellar, even for alt-country standards. The lyrics are off the wall and don’t pretend to make sense, while the music is over the top and doesn’t match the lyrics. Stay away from this one and save yourself 13 bucks and a trip to CD Warehouse.

— JOE ANDERSON

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FAMOUS FOR DISCOUNTS SINCE 1924!
mpaa-friendly CGI movie surprisingly not SOL

With Sky Captain and The World of Tomorrow, writer-director Kerry Konrad has created a CGI world more believable than either of the latest Star Wars movies. Though this film was shot almost entirely against a computer-generated background, the players seem to have had adequate direction in terms of what they might be looking at, unlike those Lucas movies.

It's as if Konrad has cradled together the films of Steven Spielberg and George Lucas and pumped life into them, creating the hyper-real environment of the serials of the time.

The story starts right away with giant robots crushing New York City. Apparently a bunch of scientists are being gathered and brought to a secret place. Of course, the only things that can take down giant robots are a guy in a small pre-World War 2 plane and a journalist. Granted, realism might not be one of the films strengths, but if the filmmakers wanted to make Garden State they would have had Jude Law philosophizing on the element of family with a hip indie rock score beating behind him. What Sky Captain does have is Edward Shearmur's music, hauntingly reminiscent of John Williams. It is boisterous and blotted and does a fine job of coupling the epic images throughout the film.

Sky Captain takes place in 1939, an important year for the cinema, and I don't think it's a coincidence that Conrad sets his film in this year of years. It was the year of Gone With the Wind, Wuthering Heights, and The Wizard Of Oz. The Wizard Of Oz is even featured in Sky Captain in Radio City. Jude Law and Angelina Jolie (who has little more than an extended cameo) do a fine job of creating believable characters in a totally artificial environment. Gwyneth Paltrow is a little less annoying than usual, but occasionally seems bored. Giovanni Ribisi, an actor one might think would never set foot in film like this, does a good job being Sky Captain's lap dog.

Sky Captain and The World of Tomorrow opens one's eyes to the possibilities of computer generated backgrounds when utilized by filmmakers with more on their minds then cool-looking images. Sky Captain reminds the viewer that story will always be king, and while images can change or heighten emotions, if the viewer doesn't care and sympathize with the plights of the characters then all they're really viewing is pretty scenery.

COMING TO DVD— SEPT 21

George Lucas's
Star Wars redux

Also, Criterion releases five films from indie idol

BRET RYAN BONOWICZ
Staff Writer

Star Wars

So it's finally come: Star Wars is available on DVD. But this isn't your father's Star Wars; this is George Lucas' umpteenth revision of his classic films. This time you'll get to see Greedo shoot first (again), and in a surprise cameo Hayden Christensen now plays the ghost of Darth Vader.

One thing Lucas does that no other filmmaker can really take credit for is the fact that he makes no apologies for releasing only this new version.

In his mind the version that made him rich and famous no longer exists. This four-disc set also includes a feature-length documentary that surely includes some more revisionist history.

Mean Girls

One of the better studio releases of the year and for the first time in Like a virgin, Lindsay Lohan has made it. Mean Girls is smart and funny, sharp as a tack. The film is a cousin of Heathers and directed by Mark Waters, brother of Heathers screenwriter Daniel. Not only are Waters and Lohan sharp in this film, but also Tina Fey (who wrote the script and has a starring role) has written herself a ticket to a film future in feature films. This film also fills the void of a good Tim Meadows movie.

John Cassavetes: Five Films

From the Criterion Collection comes five films by John Cassavetes. Included in the set are his debut film Shadows, Opening Night, The Killing of a Chinese Bookie, Faces, and A Woman Under the Influence. The set also features interviews with cast and crew of the films an alternate version of The Killing of a Chinese Bookie.

What's not included in this set is any input from Cassavetes biographer Ray Carney. Carney and Cassavetes' widow Gena Rowlands had a falling out earlier this year over a found version of Shadows that Rowlands denies exists. All mention of Carney's work with Cassavetes has been removed from A Constant Forge, the feature-length documentary included in this box set.

Coffee and Cigarettes

Jim Jarmusch directs a series of vignettes all involving the aforementioned coffee and cigarettes. Minimalist direction, a parade of amazing performers and crisp black-and-white photography all encapsulate this indie masterpiece. Shot over more than a decade, the vignettes run from the simplistic to the surreal. The stars range from Roberto Benigni to Bill Murray to Joie Lee. While each segment holds its own, Jarmusch has created something spanning a generation of an artist by putting them together, and it is something to behold.
It would be *Criminal* not to see it

The narrative is nothing new, but the world of con artists is still super-cool

**TYLER KING**

Staff Writer

Warner Brothers Entertainment has a new member of the family: Warner Independent Pictures, which was created to adopt the ever-growing and flourishing base of independent films. Friday, WIP released *Criminal*, starring John C. Reilly (*Chicago, Gangs of New York*) along with *Y Tu Mama Tambien* breakout actor Diego Luna and Jake's sis Maggie Gyllenhaal of *Mona Lisa Smile*.

The film — written, directed and produced by Steven Soderbergh protege Gregory Jacobs — is his directorial debut. *Criminal* is an American remake of the 2002 Argentinean caper flick *Nine Queens*.

The picture appears at first glance to be young-meets-old, thief-meets-thief story that has the charming amateur Rodrigo (Luna) and weathered thief Richard (Reilly) partnering up to cash in on the ultimate score. The contrasting characters, with their differing views on the morals of grifting, teach each other a thing or two about the art of the con.

Character Reilly delivers a consistently rich performance. As hard as the low-down and no-good crook tries to throw off all calls for audience sympathy, Reilly is undeniably likeable for all of Richard's flaws and deceptions. Richard holds nothing sacred but money and is not above taking advantage of an elderly woman, a mom with two kids or his own unwitting family.

With a few clever tricks up his own sleeve, Rodrigo gets in on the deal to sell a hugely valuable piece of currency to a foreign collector, Hannigan (Peter Mullan). Rodrigo's ace in the con is also Diego Luna's secret weapon on screen; he's got a likeable face. Luna is coy and delightful on screen, holding his own and feeding to the chemistry with his iconic co-star.

The proven talent Maggie Gyllenhaal does not jump off the screen or make a significant impression at all through the majority of the film. Gyllenhaal portrays Richard's disillusioned sister Valerie, who is hip to his schemes. Yet Valerie makes a play for the pay-off in the end to stick it to her swindling brother. Gyllenhaal shines in the final act of the film. Valerie is brought into the game from the sidelines, revealed as more than a peripheral character to move the story.

Throughout the smart, comedic film the plans go to hell and the thieves get a taste of their own medicine as everyone and their sister has got their problems go away. The thieves get taken as Richard and Rodrigo are on the verge of making all of their problems go away. Myriad players get in on the con, all having an angle. Rodrigo has doubts about his partner's honor; Richard is seeing his big score.

That instinct is affirmed and suspicions are satisfied. The conclusion is expected but gratifying, as it delivers on the desire of the audience to see the honorable rewarded and the sly punished. The picture proves in the end that old isn't always wise, everyone has a price and one should never trust an honest face.
A comedy about two guys who'd do anything to be on top.

STARTS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17
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Cellular low on battery and plot, but who cares?

Kim Basinger hams it up in thoughtless, enjoyable thriller-comedy

**FILM REVIEW**

Cellular is the kind of fast-paced, pointless B-movie that somehow manages to overcome its own stupidity and become an enjoyable film. Flat, black-and-white characters are thrown into that generic thriller-comedy world where anything can happen (and usually does) without the greater part of the population seeming to care.

Car chases are a plenty and Los Angeles becomes the playground for trigger-happy madmen. All of this makes for an exciting hour and a half or so, as long as you don't think too hard.

After writing the story of a man stuck in a phone booth with a sniper aiming at him (the so cleverly titled Phone Booth), screenwriter Larry Cohen cuts the phone cord and spins this tale involving a cell phone.

With director David Ellis (Final Destination 2) making this film, there is plenty of good action and all-around fun.

The plot of Cellular revolves around Jessica Martin, played by Kim Basinger, as she tries to save herself and her family from a group of kidnappers, led by Jason Statham of The Italian Job.

Jessica is able to contact surfer dude Ryan, played by Chris Evans, from a busted telephone where she is being held captive.

After Ryan hears Jessica being strangled in the background, he quickly believes her story and races around town stealing cars and dodging bullets when the police are unable to help. Ryan must attempt to rescue Jessica's son, Ricky (Yes, that would make him Ricky Martin), and husband.

Soon enough, an officer played by William H. Macy (who does the best acting in film), catches whiff of Jessica's kidnapping and soon ends up helping Ryan in a shootout under the Santa Monica Pier.

Amongst all of this, Ryan must struggle to keep the call between him and Jessica going. And, of course, this means he has to overcome every cell phone annoyance out there, from a dying signal to a crossed call.

The action in this film starts only a few scenes into the movie and never ends. Although there are a few moments where you won't be able to stop your eyes from rolling, there are enough decent jokes and plot twists to keep the film from losing its momentum.

If you are looking for a film filled with wit and intelligence, then Cellular is not the place to look. However, if you're looking to have a good time and a few good laughs, then Cellular is right up your alley.
You’ll never watch TV again!

Cronenberg’s surreal satire Videodrome probes television morals

MATT HEDGECOCK  
Staff Writer

There is the idiot box. The boob tube. For all of the derogatory nicknames that people apply to the television, it has no shortage of daily viewers. TV has become such a fixture in the lives of the current generation that it is easy to forget that 50 years ago most people did not own a television, and those who did had access to only a half-dozen channels. It’s no question that TV has had a major impact shaping the history of the latter half of the 20th century, but are its affects for good or for evil? David Cronenberg, master of the surreal, addresses this question in his 1983 cult classic Videodrome.

Videodrome traces the bizarre journey of Max Renn (James Woods), an executive of a cheap, sleazy TV channel that showcases soft-core pornography and hard-core violence. While searching for an edgy new program, he stumbles across a pirated satellite transmission of a show called Videodrome, which shows sadistic torture and murder. However, the show also causes some bizarre after-effects, including nightmarish hallucinations and brain tumors. Soon Max’s mind and body begin to alter in disturbing new ways, until his entire notion of reality comes crashing down.

Videodrome is a fiercely technophbic film, but not in the conventional Frankenstein sense (i.e. man’s own creation attempting to destroy man.) The film focuses primarily on how mankind’s own creations change mankind into possibly an entirely new species, an idea that remains frighteningly relevant in this age of technological revolution (if not more relevant now than when Cronenberg wrote it). Everywhere in the film the lines of man and machine are disturbingly blurred — beta cassettes that pulsate and breathe, a gun that grafts itself to Max’s arm and a TV that beckons Max to be its lover.

These strange metamorphoses were achieved by a groundbreaking special effects team headed up by Academy Award winner Rick Baker. Some of the effects appear dated, but most are quite convincing, even by today’s standards. James Woods fits into the movie — and his prosthetics — like a glove, despite the usual challenges the movie called for. However, this is certainly not a movie for everyone. This is Cronenberg at some of his weirdest moments, and the imagery in the film will likely repulse/confuse the casual viewer.

Those who “get it” will enjoy it and those who don’t probably will not.

The film comes loaded with great extras, which is what one would naturally expect from two-disc Criterion Collection DVD. The film comes with full-length audio-commentary by Cronenberg, director of photography, Mark Irwin and actors James Woods and Deborah Harry. Cronenberg arguably does the best DVD commentaries (surpassed perhaps by only Terry Gilliam). Also included on the first disc is a wonderful short film called Camera, which Cronenberg did for the 25th annual Toronto Film Festival.

The second disc is where most of the real meat lies. It includes Forming the New Flesh, a sleepy but informative 30-minute documentary created for the DVD, Effects Men, a series of audio-interviews with the effects supervisors and Bootleg Video, a collection of video clips used within the film, complete with filmmaker commentary.

The stand-out feature on the disc is Fear on Film, a 26-minute discussion from 1982 with directors Cronenberg, John Carpenter, John Landis. It is a rare treat to see all three directors while they were in their prime — Landis fresh off an American Werewolf in London, Cronenberg filming Videodrome and Carpenter filming his masterpiece The Thing. Die-hard fans of Carpenter or Landis may find enough reason to purchase this disc in this feature alone. The extras are rounded out by the usual collections of promotional materials and still photos.

This disc is an example of Criterion doing what it does best — picking an esoteric, controversial but significant film and giving it a better treatment than it will likely ever receive, even if it isn’t perfect. Cronenberg or horror/sci-fi fans don’t need to think twice about buying this set, but unfamiliar viewers should go rent Scanners or Rabid before deciding whether or not they should proceed.
MOVIES

Summer got you down? Fall back on autumn films

From remakes to sequels to animations, Oscar hopefuls are showing up

DAVID GERMAN
Associated Press

What, no Lord of the Rings movie this fall? Wake us up when The Hobbit hits the big screen.

All right, to be fair, there will be a decent movie or two coming before year's end, even if this is the first time in three years without a Middle-earth blockbuster hurtling into theaters.

Hollywood's classy season, when films turn brainier and thoughts shift to Academy Awards prospects, may not have that one overriding movie everyone's waiting for, yet it doesn't lack for variety.

There's the timely biopic Ray, starring Jamie Foxx as Ray Charles, which arrives just four months after the beloved singer-pianist's death. ("He broke down all the 'olor barriers," Foxx said. "Here's a man who said, 'I'm not going to let anything hold me back.")

There's the adventurous remake Flight of the Phoenix, about crash survivors who build a new plane from the wreckage of the old. ("The first one was really good because of the people involved, but I don't think a lot of people from this generation really remember the movie or are that aware of it, so it seemed like it was worth redoing," said Dennis Quaid, who stars in the role originated by James Stewart.)

Among other fall and holiday movies:
--- Besides Ray, films centered on real people include Martin Scorsese's The Aviator, reuniting the director with his star Leonardo DiCaprio as billionaire Howard Hughes; Finding Neverland, starring Johnny Depp as J.M. Barrie in a fanciful reimagining of the creation of Peter Pan; Kinsey, with Liam Neeson as the pioneering sexuality researcher; Beyond the Sea, directed by Kevin Spacey, who stars as pop singer Bobby Darin; and The Motorcycle Diaries, with Gael Garcia Bernal as young Ernesto Guevara, on a formative road trip before he became the revolutionary known as Che.

--- Joining Bridget Jones in the sequels category are Ocean's Twelve, the heist-caper follow-up to "Ocean's Eleven," reuniting director Steven Soderbergh and stars George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Julia Roberts, Matt Damon and the rest of the gang, with Catherine Zeta-Jones joining the cast; and Meet the Fockers, round two of Robert De Niro and Ben Stiller's Meet the Parents in-law farce, with Dustin Hoffman and Barbra Streisand as Stiller's mom and dad.

--- Along with Flight of the Phoenix, sequels include: Alfie, with Jude Law taking on the Michael Caine role in an update of the 1960s story about an incorrigible womanizer; and Shall We Dance?, a U.S. variation on the Japanese hit, centering on a businessman (Richard Gere) with an ideal wife (Susan Sarandon) and family who abruptly signs on for dance lessons with a beautiful instructor (Jennifer Lopez).

"You look at this guy's life, and it's about as good as it gets," Gere said. "But as with all of us, we have pretty good lives here, but still there's often something aching, is there something more? Am I missing something? My character, that's what he's looking for." Shall We Dance? marks Lopez's first lead role since last year's bomb Gigli. She quickly follows with another movie centering on an unconventional relationship between a woman and man, An Unfinished Life.

This fall's healthy animation slate offers The Incredibles, from the makers of Monsters, Inc. and Finding Nemo, a tale of a superhero family that returns to action after years of living incognito in the "burbs: The Polar Express, an adaptation of the children's holiday book reuniting director Robert Zemeckis with his Cast Away and Forrest Gump star Tom Hanks; "Shark Tale," an underwater mob comedy featuring the voices of Will Smith, Robert De Niro, Martin Scorsese, Renee Zellweger, Angelina Jolie and Jack Black; Fat Albert, a live-action, computer-animated combo based on Bill Cosby's cartoon character; and The SpongeBob Squarepants Movie, the big-screen debut for the Nickelodeon sea creature. The Incredibles is the sixth film produced for Disney by Pixar Animation, which ushered in the digital-cartoon age with Hanks and Tim Allen's Toy Story.

Featuring the voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter and Samuel L. Jackson, The Incredibles was written and directed by Brad Bird, whose previous animation work includes The Iron Giant and episodes of The Simpsons.

The premise: Crusaders for justice are forced underground due to circumstances beyond their control, hiding their identities "almost like a witness-relocation program for superheroes," Bird said.

The idea grew out of Bird's own creative frustrations as he tried and failed to get animated-film ideas airborne in fickle Hollywood.

"I would always get on the runway but couldn't get cleared for takeoff. I felt any one of these ideas would be good, but the movies wouldn't go for very boring reasons," Bird said. "The movies were kind of like superheroes that couldn't fly for really dull reasons."
Superbabies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG) 12:00
Vanity Fair (PG-13) 12:00 1:30 7:30 10:30
Wicker Park (PG-13) 1:10 1:20
Wimbledon (PG-13) 12:50 7:30 10:10 12:40a
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Anacondas: The Hunt for the Blood Orchid (PG-13) 10:45
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Cellular (PG-13) 12:40 3:15 5:40 8:20 10:40
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I, Robot (PG-13) 3:50 9:15
The Manchurian Candidate (R) 12:55 2:10
Mr. 3000 (PG-13) 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:40 10:10 12:40a
Napoleon Dynamite (PG) 12:00 2:20 4:50 7:15 9:45 12:15a
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The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement (G) 11:55a 2:45p 8:00p
Resident Evil: Apocalypse (R) 12:30 1:00 4:30 5:45 & 8:10 10:10 12:10a
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MOVIES
MOVIE TIMES
A real Big Man brings diversity

By EMILY JANE SCOTT
Staff Writer

The Big Man is coming to campus, but what he may not be bringing is what's needed — an example of diversity.

The Big Man is, of course, the star of the new WB reality series Big Man on Campus, set to film on UCF's campus. In it, one man picks dates and a potential mate from 10 women.

Check the description on the “Coming Soon” section of the WB’s Web site: “On a beautiful college campus, in a beautiful setting, with lots of beautiful people, things will get very interesting.”

“They’re asking for the blond, the beautiful, the stereotype,” math major Katie Grayshan said. “They’re not even trying to portray diversity!”

When presented with the idea of negativity surrounding the show, casting director for BMOC Luke Conklin said, “Ultimately, that UCF has great kids. That’s what we’d love to see happen, to get that exposure, that recognition for UCF.” In terms of the primary goal of the show, Conklin said he hopes, “That one guy will find a great girl and romance will happen.”

Conklin also said that the show hopes to present the diversity of UCF’s huge population. The UCF Creed states the same idea: “Community — will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.”

But there is some evidence that leads students to believe that diversity is not in the minds of the show’s producers or the school.

“Now, we are looking for your school’s most charismatic, intelligent, and adventurous male and female students to take part in this exciting adventure!” This was the statement made in an e-mail sent out by Zena Coniglio and Eve Overland of the Big Man on Campus casting crew.

The e-mail was sent to presidents of many organizations on campus in hopes that they would receive a diverse pool of applicants for the show.

“We reached out to a lot of organizations on campus. We want students whether [they’re] in student government or a fraternity or a sorority, you can’t have all the same types on a show like this,” Conklin said of the applicant recruitment process.

NOT JUST SEX
 Finding the wrong guy

The quest for Mr. Nice overrated for now

By DANA DELAPI
Staff Writer

I am so tired of people telling me that I choose the wrong type of guys. I have been doing it for 21 years, don’t you think I know that by now? Believe it or not, I have a method to my madness.

My choices may not be wise, but they are not made so carelessly either. As a matter of fact, it's a very tedious process to find the particular brand of guy that everyone considers the “wrong” one. Like I said, I have a method. It begins with a list.

Many moons ago, I created a list of qualities and attributes that my perfect man would have. Granted, some were ridiculous and superficial requests, like being able to lift me up for extended periods of time.

It was made mostly as entertainment for my friends, but the attributes were true. I do want qualities in a man like sense of humor, strength of character, compassion, motivation and killer abs. Okay, not a quality, but a girl can dream. Anyway, I have never dated a man who possessed these qualities.

I know these guys exist. I have met them. I know them. They are not the myths I have thought them to be. But I refuse to date them. Instead, I date jerks who have no ambition and just want to have raucous sex and get completely obliterated at bars. And I am okay with that. Scratch that, I am thrilled with that.

I am by no means ready to settle down and join a convent and celibate during my prime partying years. What's wrong with finding someone you can have fun with? When I am in a relationship I am not worrying about where it's going because I already know — nowhere.

And how is it gonna end? Badly. I am always prepared for that fact.

Why waste all my energy on worrying and wondering. I am young. Having fun and getting through college is my prime concern.

The other reason I date the wrong guys is guilt. The guilt of dating nice guys. Right now I have to admit that nice guys are out of my league simply because I am too chaotic to give them the proper attention. I don’t want to
UCF's Knight's Circle Club: Paging all pagans

Words of Wiccan worship with Jesse Sloan, the head of UCF's neo-pagan club Knight's Circle

ROBBIE RABORN
Staff Writer

Lubes at UCF have always been a way for students to meet with others who share similar interests, have parallel views, enjoy each other's company, and now cast sweet spells and plug into the neo-pagan world of Wicca.

Jesse Sloan is a student at UCF whose life was changed eight years ago after reading the Wiccan book "Earth Power" by Scott Cunningham. Now Sloan, an anthropology major, has started UCF's newest club, the "Knight's Circle." The indie's Robbie Raborn got a chance to sit down with Jesse on Monday and ask him a few in-depth and completely objective questions about neopaganism and its new involvement with UCF.

RR: Describe the neo-pagan religion Wiccan in Elvin, I mean, eleven words or less.
JS: It's an earth-based religion that worships a god and goddess.

RR: So, "neo" means "new," right? Or is that some kind of Matrix reference?
JS: It's not a Matrix reference. It means the rebirth of the pre-Christian belief.

RR: Well, what was so bad about the old belief?
JS: Nothing is bad about it. Just that a lot of it was lost through colonization. Now, new beliefs are combined with older pagan beliefs.

RR: You gotta admit though, The Matrix was a pretty sweet movie.
JS: Yes, it was.

RR: Will your group represent Orlando or is this strictly UCF related?
JS: This is a totally new group. We're all students and we're starting from scratch.

RR: Is there a Web site that interested students can visit before attending the first meeting?
JS: http://www.religioustolerance.org gives views on most religions and would be helpful to those deciding on a faith.

RR: How often will your meetings be?
JS: We're not quite sure yet. We're still waiting to be approved by the SGA.

RR: Are they going to be BY.O.B.?
JS: What? "Bring your own broom"?

RR: Ha, ha! What is the typical monetary cost to be a Wiccan?
JS: There are eight holidays dispersed evenly throughout the year where we go all out. Wiccans can spend plenty of money on cloaks, salts, waters and objects of Wiccan worship.

RR: And these objects can be costly?
JS: Actually, I made some of mine out of inexpensive clay.

RR: You gotta admit though, The indie now has full access to the Future's archives, so each week we'll bring you an old editorial cartoon guaranteed to either make you laugh or scratch your head. This strange one was published on Feb. 13, 1996.

REAL LIFE FOR REAL

Meanwhile at the Student Union...

by Robbie Raborn

Idiot! You just stepped on the Pegasus circle!

It's just a stupid circle.

I heard it was bad luck.

Oh no, the circle is bad luck! Ha ha!

Oh God! Oh God!

HELP ME!!

Sweet! A quarter!
New sitcom strives for a roar, settles for a whine

Talented voice actors can’t save NBC’s Father of the Pride

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

FATHER OF THE PRIDE
by NBC
Genre: Sitcom
Air date: Tuesday, 9 p.m. on NBC

The primetime sitcom is a breed of show that certainly has had more downs than ups. For every Simpsons, there are 10 Gary and Mikes. Networks have grown wise to this, and it’s rare to see an animated show make it on the network lineup, let alone on the fall schedule of NBC, the second-highest-rated network. But that’s exactly what’s happened with Father of the Pride, which debuted last week with a disappointing rating of 12.6 million viewers, according to the Nielsen rating. Other shows might kill for those ratings, but with the amount of publicity and production dollars plugged into Father, those numbers aren’t good. The show is digitally animated by the folks at Dreamworks, and is extremely well done. However, if looks were everything, Christina Applegate would still have a show.

Each show supposedly takes seven to nine months to create. With that much time, you’d think they’d work on the show’s greatest flaw: its writing. A show about a family of talking lions that live with Siegfried and Roy sounds stupid to begin with, but after Roy got clawed in the throat by one of his tigers, it seems ridiculous — if not tasteless.

Father faces the same problem John Kerry does: It doesn’t know what it wants to be, and even if it did, it’d be ill-pressed to pull it off effectively. The characters seem flat and redundant, and that’s just in the pilot! It’s certainly not the fault of the reliable voice actors, such as John Goodman, Orlando Jones and Carl Reiner.

Each of these actors has shown immense talent when given solid material. The show has the look of a family show, but in reality it’s just one raunchy, ill-placed joke after another. Its 9 p.m. Tuesday time slot also suggests NBC is targeting adults. Yet the advertising is directed toward all ages, even plugging an upcoming appearance by the Donkey from Shrek, a movie that despite its adult fan base is primarily geared toward children.

This show is not going to be the hit NBC wants and will probably rank up there with Cop Rock and the You’re in the Picture as one of television’s greatest failures. Father of the Pride is a show no one should be proud of.
Earth-based faith celebrates special Halloween

From 115

Student: We need a Big Freak on Campus show

From 114

LIFE

issue, Conklin said, “If they’re [sorority or fraternity members] walking around campus wearing lettered jackets, we can blur something out or just tell them to wear a different shirt. This is not a show about a fraternity or sorority ... [The producers] will do anything they can to blur things out on shirts.”

20-year-old junior Janet Duvoisin said of the show’s likely casting, “How can you pick one guy and ten girls? I could just go pick out the 10 girls and they could be the dumbest people ever.” When asked about what kind of people she would appear on the show, she stated, “The girls will all be from sororities, but they’ll throw in one Asian, on black girl, one Hispanic, one dumb one, one with Tourette’s, someone with something.”

Another 20-year-old junior, Amanda Belcher, sees the show’s likely casting and its reflection on the universe in much the same way. “National television! I don’t want this to be what everybody thinks of UCF,” she stated.

To many students, this show will only represent the stereotypical view of college students and specifically UCF students. As Coeyman asks, “Why are we reinforcing things that we’re trying to get changed?” He feels that this show will make students outside of the “cookie-cutter” mold promoted by this show feel somewhat shafted and outcast, as well as attract only future students fitting said cookie-cutter dimensions. While it’s not a life or death issue, it will have a direct impact on the culture of our school, if it can be argued that UCF has one.

Grayshan refers to the show as she thinks it will be: “Every TV show portrays stereotypes. They’re gonna portray the band geeks as the band geeks, etc. and not even try to break these images.”

“So it’s just more of the same. However, as Coeyman said, ‘We’re not putting words in their mouths when we claim that they’re trying to represent diversity.’”

There’s also the possibility that the best representative of UCF may not even come close to being on the show. But more people will probably be familiar with the BMOC winners than UCF’s 2002 Rhodes Scholar, Tyler Fisher.

Coeyman said that maybe to balance the representation scales, “We should have a Big Freak on Campus show.”

Not everyone is overly concerned, however, with the issue of representing diversity through Big Man on Campus.

Senior Brandon Harris, a member of the fraternity Tau Kappa Epsilon, says, “It’s good because it gets our [UCF’s] name out there. As long as it doesn’t show us in too bad a light, it can’t hurt our image too much.” He also says that a lot of people he knows didn’t want to try out for it because they were going to pick some “dumb pretty boy, and one nice guy who gets his heart stomped on by girls, like every reality TV show.”

The issue here is not so much what can be done about the process, since it is already in place, but whether or not the students here are compliant with it. This is something that calls for great examination.

What it comes down to is that we all know that no reality show, not even MTV’s pioneering The Real World, can properly represent diversity of any one area or any particular demographic. This show will have an affect on the public perception of UCF and the Orlando area.

Conklin said, “I think people will be thoroughly impressed with what they see on the show.” This, however, remains to be seen.

Could The Mansion start a revolution?

From 116

Playboy empire and party with the biggest celebrities as if you were Hugh Hefner—because in Playboy: The Mansion, you are Hugh Hefner. With this lifestyle simulator, players assume the role of a young Hef, living the high life with celebrities and playmates (including some real names like Carmen Electra).

In order to attract these celebrities and potential bunnies, players have to fuel the success of the magazine by building up the mansion and throwing progressively extravagant parties. Players control Hef and schmooze it up with guests, with the goal of convincing them to provide interviews and stories for upcoming magazines. But if virtual Hef doesn’t keep his guests entertained, he may find his empire quickly collapsing.

Like The Gay Game, Playboy will include nudity, primarily during the photo shoots. However, since Playboy: The Mansion uses a cartoon visual style rather than what of real women, the developers may be able to push the envelope in terms of representing the act of sex. Will the legendary debauchery of the groto make it into the final game when it’s released this holiday season?

If The Mansion stays on course, it may redefine the sexual expression in video games, similar to the impact Playboy had on pop-culture.

Nice, attractive, smart, 20-something seeks Mr. Right Now

From 114

enter into some premature husband-wife rut that secludes me from my friends, family and sense of self.

I am too busy dancing on bars, doing keg stands and generally being a social butterfly.

I would end up hurting a nice guy. You can’t live your life in regret, and dating and possibly hurting someone else would definitely find its place on my list. Call me crazy, but I would rather live with the pain of heartache from the wrong guy than the guilt of knowing I threw away the right one. Pain fades, guilt doesn’t. And I am not quite prepared to carry that around with me.

It may not seem entirely logical. In fact, I sound like a man, and what person in their right mind would want to get herself into a relationship where the outcome is destined to be painful? But I ask you, what person in their right mind would rather hurt someone else? Selfish sadists, that’s who. I guess dating is just my politically correct form of S&M.

Unfortunately this doesn’t help my friends who have to bear the brunt of my breakups. All I have to say to them is “Haha, suckers!” Just deal with it. I don’t want to find Mr. Right now, I want Mr. Right Now. And I am content with that. So please stop telling me I date the wrong guys.

Honestly, I already know.
THE GEEK LIFE

The sci-fi bell curve
With so much junk around, a good sci-fi show is hard to obtain

ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

Science fiction is one of my many obsessions. Being as fannish as I am, and I do mean fannish, I find myself obsessively watching every science fiction show I can. I feel like it is my duty to promote science fiction so that there will be more of it. It’s like a part-time job.

Of course, I watch every science fiction movie that comes out as well, but that is so much easier. There can only be so many science fiction movies, because the number of movies that come out each year is limited. However, with hundreds of cable channels available and escapist on everyone’s mind, it is almost impossible to try to keep up with everything. Then because the number of movies is so low, the number of cables is so high, it’s easier. There can only be so many of my favorite shows. I can imagine, as the amount of above average material grows tinier the better it is.

There is no way to escape this madness. Therefore, the huge percentage of science fiction shows either suck the hard one or barely stand out of the crowd. With there being so many, if you are a devotee of science fiction, you will be watching a lot of crap.

Things are made worse by that TV tendency to follow whatever happens to be alive during any given season. They will take anything even mildly popular and remake it into the ground until anything good about the original is destroyed.

This is because TV executives are cowards and talentless hacks out to make the world a worse place then it is now—the bastards. If I had them all together in a room, I’d run a hose on them until they cry out for mercy. Then I would ignore their pleas and spray them some more.

If I seem a little angry, it’s because I am. I have seen many good shows devastated because of those guys. They cut the legs out from under the writers and cancel the show on a whim. Take the Clerks animated series. They made Jay and Silent Bob fireworks dealers, for Christ’s sake, then cancelled the show after one episode. God, I wish I could destroy them.

Still, they do allow some good science fiction on the air. Very rarely good, I feel I must add again. Take the SciFi Channel. I had great hopes for the thing, but all they ever show are

CRAZED INDIE ROBOT

This election needs some Agent Orange
Clear the brush of Vietnam records

DIANNA ZISMAN
Staff Writer

To everyone involved with the 2004 presidential campaign:
No one cares about what happened in Vietnam. What people do care about is the economy, the war in Iraq and the fight against terrorism. We do not care about what may have happened and who may have served in a war that took place more than three freaking decades ago, all right?

Democrats, stop attacking Bush’s guard service! Even if you can prove that he was in dereliction of duty, most voters don’t care. Remember 9? Remember when a certain Democratic presidential candidate was taking shots from the right for his non-service in Vietnam? Remember how that infuriated every American and it cost him the election? Don’t remember that? Oh, that’s right. His lack of military experience didn’t cost him the election. Why? Because Americans didn’t care in 92 (or ’96) and we don’t care now. Instead of demanding to know where Bush was for a few months back in the ’70s, why don’t you, I don’t know, tell us John Kerry’s plans for America now?

Republicans, stop attacking Kerry’s swifftoat service! It’s sleazy and it denigrates all military service by casting doubt on all medals. Like it or not, Kerry fought in the war and earned medals for that service. You want to spit all over that service by implying that he didn’t face enough danger? Are you kidding me? Bob Dole should be feeling especially guilty for implying that Kerry didn’t “bleed” enough for his medals. I respect Dole’s own service to the country, but taking a shot at someone else’s service record because they belong to a different political party? Cold.

Let’s put an end to this disturbing new trend — embraced by far too many Republicans — of labeling certain Democratic veterans cowards or buddies of al-Qaida, as in the case of Sen. Max Cleland. A war hero and

NEAR-LIFE EXPERIENCE

Enough 9/11 already
I love this land but hate this country

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

I started writing my latest diatribe about the world of entertainment, infusing a nice mix of hard-biting witticism with some references tossed in, punching in one key after another with the type of barbarity reserved for George Romero films and Ukrainian gymnastics’ coaches, when I got an instant message.

Never one to resign from the purity in my life that is human contact (even in electronic form) and seeing that it wasn’t SEXYBOT39491 addressing me about her web-cam and hot third cousin who happened to both be in the same room at the same time ready for action, I accepted. It was an acquaintance with a message that wouldn’t necessarily change my life, but at least affect these seven hundred words of mine you read each week. “Hey Mike, did you know today’s the third anniversary of 9/11?”

“How could I forget,” I replied. “The Republicans just threw a party for it last week.” And what a party it was — video packages with flashy montages, singing policeman, and Mr. Time 2001 Man of the Year himself, Rudy Giuliani, gabbing about how it affected us all. And it did, I can’t deny that.

I felt the same numbly in my tummy that the rest of us felt, that gut-wrenching sense of horror. But you know what, I’m over it. In fact, I’ve been over it for the past few years. I’ve been waiting for everyone else to catch up, but as my unnamed acquaintance’s message implied, it ain’t gonna happen.

I’m not saying we forget. Heck, I can’t even forget the Phil Collins concert my mother took me to when I was nine. Believe me, I tried. I’m saying we move on. The nation has set itself up to be so sympathetic toward anything 9/11 related it has made us susceptible to overzealous exploitation from all sorts of groups, from liberals warning us not to buy SUVs that support terrorism to conservative country singers that have used the event to push their bland right-wing messages onto bloodthirsty crowds.

And besides, should we really be using the word “anniversary”?” Maybe it’s societal conditioning, but I think anniversaries should be celebratory in nature. “Happy wedding anniversary” or “Happy 10 years since Kurt Cobain died,” not “Congratulations, it’s been three years since some
RAMBLINGS
WEB LESS TRAVELED

RateMyColumn.com

Bad idea: Getting self-esteem from the Internet

CHRISTOPHER SCHWARZ
Staff Writer

Bored on the Internet? Why not mess with the self-esteem of random people who've submitted pictures of their faces, cats, breasts and who knows what else for rating by complete strangers? Some results are completely standard pictures of normal looking people, but peppered in the mix are a multitude of terrible things. It's another way to exercise your reload button and erode away your faith in humanity while rotting your mind in the process. Bonus!

Hot or Not
http://www.hotomot.com

This is the site that started it all. The premise is simple. Hot or Not displays a picture of a random member who has uploaded it to determine if the Internet finds them attractive. You can rate them on a scale of one to ten. Clicking your choice presents the next picture, with a comparison between your choice and the average rating for the last one. Most people look pretty normal, but expect to find plenty of terrible photos, blurry webcams, goths, furries and juggalos.

Meet Me at Hotomot
http://meetme.hotomot.com

Sometime after its surge in popularity, the creators of Hot or Not decided to cash in and turn it into a dating site. The best thing here is that you get to see peoples' interests and their self-description along with the photograph. You can even search by gender, location, and keywords. It all sounds good until you try seeing how many women list “fetish” as an interest.

Rate My Kitten
http://www.ratemykitten.com/

If you're looking for something a little tamer, try Rate My Kitten and see their picture of their kitten is.

Rice candidates have spiny rims, glowing lights, flame decals, and massive spoilers apparently attached with super glue. You know the type. Relieve some road rage from your chair by telling people they have stupid-looking cars.

Since the runaway success of Hot or Not, everyone's been trying to cash in on the trend. It'd take a month's worth of columns to cover all of these, but instead, I'm going to cram it into two issues. Grab next week's column for sites about bukkake, furries and juggalos~

Look to Ho Chi Minh for help

From i18

 triple amputee, he was smeared by Republican campaigns claiming he had ties with Saddam, Osama, Satan and allegedly Hannibal Lector as well. That's stooping a bit low, my Republican friends.

Just answer the questions that matter. Am I going to be paying for the Iraqi war for the rest of my life? Am I going to be paying off a massive deficit when I'm 64? Are we going to have to fiddle around with our Constitution to force the reckless spendthrifts in both parties to balance the freaking budget already?

Ho Chi Minh and the Vietcong aren't going to answer any of those questions. If you don't believe me, ask him. Play a game of "What Would Ho Chi Minh Do?" What would Ho Chi Minh do to ease the delicate situation in Iraq? What would he do to ensure that another terrorist attack doesn't help topple a government practically overnight, like it did in Spain? How would Ho Chi Minh stop Jennifer Lopez from ever making another album?

It might be a while before he gets back to us, but the well of these politicians, though, considering the man's been dead for 35 years. Just take a cue from the dearly departed and shut up about Vietnam! Shut up, shut up, shut up!

Sci-fi's nadir

From i18

reruns of old shows. Don't get me wrong, I do enjoy those delicious Quantum Leap reruns they play every night at 2 a.m., but must they rerun Roswell entire days at a time? That show barely deserves a mention in the annals of science fiction history. And then there is Stargate. Now, I really enjoyed the movie, but the show seems a little hollow and soulless for my taste. So what do they do? Why, make Stargate Atlantis, that's what I mean, come on... How many times are they going to dredge up that old myth?

Also, as the fan I am, I must keep watching, in the off chance that another X-Files or Star Trek: The Next Generation ever comes on the air again.
To qualify you must be 18-45 years of age and in general good health.

Volunteers paid up to $550.00

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