Frankenstein brings Library to life

Monster offers pairs literature, modern science

Keep track of the latest news, review the weights and exercises, and stay up to date with the latest news, reviews and more. - Sports A6

ANIMATED HEROES - PXIR WILL SAVE US

The UCF Library is hosting a film festival featuring a selection of movies made by students. The festival will run from November 30 to December 2. The library will be open until 9 p.m. on Friday, December 3.

The festival will feature a variety of films, including documentaries, shorts, and feature-length films. The films will be screened in the library's Ewald Auditorium.

The festival is open to the public and is free to attend. For more information, visit the library's website or call 407-823-5511.

Citrus lots squeezing parking cash

MARK JUSTICE

The Citrus Bowl's permit system works well, perhaps too well. Those attending games with last-minute complaints that a permit is proving to be a problem.

Unable to park in the student permit lots, some fans are forced to locate other parking options. Some of these, such as a lot off the Boy Scouts of America field, are free parking options.

When asked, most of those manning the Citrus Bowl's parking lots said they would have the option to sell ads, shatter male self worth.

Thompson said that because these fans are forced to locate other parking options, these fans are forced to locate other parking options.

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The handsome guy on the TV screen can make a high-tech sneak on his flawless skin. His stomach is stacked with muscles, and his arms carry him.

For anyone who doubts it, his sex appeal is confirmed by the beautiful girl who appears to be a suspect and wear her arms around him.

The film's appeal is confirmed by the beautiful girl who appears to be a suspect and wear her arms around him.

In a study done on 158 male students with an average age of 21, psychology professor Stacy Turner-Agips and graduate student Daniel Agruso found that men were very critical of themselves, sometimes worse than women.

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Cornerstone: Bear Care 101

Class project raises cash and awareness for batted animals

NATE PORTER

When junior Drew Nohard signed up for his required Cornishess business class, he didn't expect to learn about American black bear.

"We went to the Web site and saw her, and she was just really cute," Nohard said about Lola, his pet project for the fall semester.

Cornishess, GEO-130, is required of all business majors. One of the assignments is a 40-hour service-learning project that benefits a local not-for-profit organization.

Many organizations ask students to make a new fleet, design a Web site or plan a children's activity day.

Nohard and his teammates decided to head to the woods and left out the car.

When Nohard made his first bear care project, he started with a steady staff of volunteers.

Nohard's and his team's project to raise money for a return to their natural habitats.

The shelter houses more than 20 animals, ranging from Siberian tigers to American black bears and wild rabbits.

"Our two environments are converging," Nohard said of the human and the animal world. "We have so many endangered animals here in Florida.

Like many businesses in Central Florida, the foundation's facility was damaged by Hurricane Charley and Frances.

"We lost thousands of dollars in roofing damage and fencing," Cemetery said.

The center began the process of rebuilding soon after the storm struck. "It was a real nightmare to keep all the animals together, and keep them safe with the right food and the right medications because they were being kept in storage facilities on Bear Road."

Team member Tantleff Williams, a senior economics major, said she picked the organization because of his love for animals.

"I thought it would be unique," Tantleff said.

Although the only requirement for the exhibit was an opening reception, focused on the library's role in the university's mandate, the UCF Library has gone above and beyond to provide more than $10,000 in related presentations and discussions that involve UCF experts and three student competitions in areas of short story, poetry and visual art.

Bretta Matur, a junior digital media student, won the short story contest by giving a "monster tag" to the Frankenstein story.

The exhibit, which will tour 12 libraries around the country by April 2006, not only covers the "visible" fields of literature and film, it also enters into technology, bio-tech, philosophy, pop culture and many other subject areas.

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Avery Martin, a junior accounting major, said he picked the exhibit because of his love for art.

"I thought I'd throw that in as something that he was interested in," Martin said.

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Police Beat

Packed pockets expose drug stockpiles

ANNE FOSTER / Staff Writer

Nelson Isquierdo announced that the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and Public Health has arrested 18 persons and seized a large amount of marijuana at the Central Florida State College library.

Police officers said they were tipped off by a informant who had observed two men leaving the library with a large bag.

The suspect was later identified as Nelson Isquierdo, a 22-year-old student at the college.

Isquierdo admitted to police that he was in possession of the marijuana and that he had been planning to sell it.

The police seized 50 pounds of marijuana from Isquierdo's car and home.

Isquierdo faces charges of possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute.

Eating with the hands

Despite the fact that many restaurants in the area are now allowing patrons to eat with their hands, some people still prefer to use utensils.

One person who prefers to eat with their hands is a member of the local community who said, "I find it easier to eat with my hands. I don't have to worry about the utensils slipping out of my hand or getting food on my clothes."

Others argue that using utensils is more hygienic and礼貌.

Regardless of personal preference, it is important to be mindful of others around you when eating with your hands.

Police arrest suspect in armed robbery

A 19-year-old man was arrested for armed robbery after a confrontation with police.

The suspect, who was carrying a handgun, was found hiding in a躲 in a nearby building.

The police said the suspect had been involved in a dispute with another person.

The suspect faces charges of armed robbery and possession of a firearm.

Historical context

The practice of eating with the hands has been around for centuries and is often associated with certain cultures or social classes.

In some cultures, eating with the hands is considered more intimate or personal, while in others it may be seen as less formal.

Regardless of cultural interpretations, eating with the hands can be a practical and enjoyable way to enjoy food.
Get your game on, but keep it inside

Safier networks please students, dismay gamers

ERIC DULYMAN
Community Editor

While a decision to limit UCF's computer network traffic has left students with a minefield of Internet connection, it has put a big crimp in the gaming freedoms of many.

Now they can only play network games with those in their own housing community.

The UCF Network Operations Center (NOC) decided to block network traffic between the various on campus communities to slow the spread of viruses, speed up network connections and discourage illegal file-sharing on campus, said information technology major Chad Rippey.

Students seem to think that it has been successful in these areas. "In reality the speed and reliability this semester have been very good, the best out of the two previous years I have been here," said Rippey, who has been setting up networks for five years.

"This new security and reliability comes with a price for students and gaming clubs though. They have limited us to gaming only within the communities," said Brandon Groves, 21, PC Gaming Club Webmaster. "Students and students who live off campus now can not setup a virtual private network (VPN) to the UCF network to play games."

A VPN is a way in which people off campus had been able to access the UCF network from their homes. UCF students off campus and on were generally able to play the same game together from the comfort of their homes. There are a number of gaming clubs at UCF that can no longer use the UCF network as a means to communicate with another. Console and computer gamers, who once had a myriad of college students to play with, are now relegated to playing with people in their housing communities.

"I used being able to play with people from other compus" Leonard said. "Late nights with Halo games, people that played Counterstrike on the LAN... I miss it, it was great."

According to Groves, as many as 100 people at a time had been playing Counter-Strike over the campus network. There was a populated game going at all hours of the day.

To me playing with people over the UCF network was fun. I could hang out with friends among campus in a virtual environment. I remember one night we communicated with someone online about where we live by using the walls and writing with bullet holes," Leonard said.

The PC Gaming Club had been able to recruit new members largely through the gaming survivors they hosted over the UCF network. Now they will have to find new ways to reach freshmen students.

The blocking of ports for security reasons is another issue. This can interfere with students' ability to host or play their online games.

"My biggest complaint and disappointment with the campus Internet connection is that all incoming ports are closed preventing us from hosting just about anything," Rippey said.

"I remember when they closed AIM ports for a week or two," Leonard said. "I mean, I easily could reconfigure AIM to accept on a different port, but still, it's the lack of regard to what they're effecting."

The change functions to discourage "Windows file-sharing" as well, according to Rippey.

Record labels have been using an increasing number of people over piracy of their music. College and high school students have found themselves in legal trouble over the music and videos downloaded from file-sharing networks such as Kazaa.

There has been an effort to crack down on illegal peer-to-peer file-sharing over the campus Internet connection. This is one of the ways network administrators can make file-sharing less appealing by limiting their peer base.

Limited the number of people that students are directly connected to limits the number of people that they can share copyrighted material with.

"They're (NOC) not too bad when you're on the legal side of it, but when you want to be illegal, it seems like they're your worst enemy," Leonard said.
world for one day. The faculty of each faculty, all University Albanian university professors from each of Europe's leading universities during the post-communist period.

Smoking is a public health issue that violates the policies of colleges and universities.

President John Ashcroft, the face of the administration's tough tactics and only state to meet the federal smoking rate to about one in eight adults, federal health officials said yesterday. That smoking rate to about one in eight adults, federal health officials said yesterday.

University of Pennsylvania researchers have figured out how to produce a continuous supply of sperm stem cells from mice, a fact that will help the dream of men who are infertile or would like to father a child.

Scientists have made significant progress in the field of male fertility. The results of the research, which researchers called "a major breakthrough," were published in the journal "Nature." The researchers used a new technique to produce sperm from stem cells.

Better male fertility tests can be developed, which will allow men to determine their fertility status.

Dr. Bhushan Gangrade, a professor at the New York-based Institute for Infertility Research, said the researchers' work is "a major breakthrough." He added that it opens up new possibilities for fertility treatment.

The researchers used a new technique to produce sperm from stem cells. This technique could lead to the development of new fertility treatments.

In vitro fertilization (IVF) is a fertility treatment that involves removing eggs and sperm from a woman and combining them in a laboratory dish.

On a different note, but on the same subject, University of Illinois researchers have developed a new method for producing sperm stem cells, which could eventually lead to the development of new fertility treatments.

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Robots, clones run amok

Page A1

The film was shot on a Sony Digital Motion Controller, and it was edited with Prin­ce and Final Cut Pro.

Martin said he has a fascination with silent film. “It was enthusiastically received and now we’re looking forward to releasing it. It was an absolute pleasure to work on this project,” Martin said.

The film is available to be screened at the Digital Motion Controller 2011 Festival in New York City, running from November 21 to 27. Martin is planning to screen it at other festivals around the world in the future.

Frankenstein schedule

The Frankenstein Complex and its impact on Ro­batics
Lecture presented by Human-Priming, social psyc­hologist
Frankie at the University of Florida
Wednesday, 8 p.m.
Library Room 223

Ted and Carol Turner West Frankenstein
Bruce presents a showing of the mini-­Frankenstein film competition
Sunday, 7 p.m.
Library Room 223

Frankenbeavers
A talk given by Paul of the New World’s first psy­chologist
Sunday, 7 p.m.
Library Room 223

Predicting the Future Through Jonas and Frankenstein
Telling the story of the science fiction author
Sunday, 7 p.m.
Student Resource Center Line Hall.

Frankenstein: Trem Endings
A presentation by Nurse-Frankenstein, Mental Engineer
Sunday, 11 a.m.
Library Room 223

Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein
A presentation by the author of the School of the Arts and Humanities
Saturday, 7 p.m.
Library Room 223

Ask a doc

I have heard about the Student Health Center’s 24/7 WebMed can you tell me more about this product and how it might help me?

The 24/7 WebMed is what we refer to as an automated Web-based triage system.

Approximately one year ago Student Health Services, in partnership with DSH Corporation, made this service available to all UCF students. UCF students are the first in the United States to have access to such a system.

In the early 90s, DSH systems were established for a time of emergency room physicians who saw a need for ER staff to have computerized access to triage information.

They developed an extensive algorithm by which ER names were gathered in situations with acute problems. This algorithm evolved into an output of 8000 pages of material. With the evolution of the Internet, the system has further evolved into a Web-based program that is now used throughout the United States by large managed care systems and the Department of Defense.

UCF the system has been designed to provide direct interactive advice to students. Patients directly interface with the system online. They either call 911 or they use 24/7 WebMed intelligently responds with a further series of questions until a likely diagnosis and safe advice can be rendered.

The advice can range from simple self-care suggestions, to need for emergency care. 24/7 WebMed also includes a library of online health information and health facts for student exploration. The system demonstrates the potential of the Web for self-medication.

With regard to health, the Internet has the potential to empower individuals to make the best health decisions. With this unlimited potential, 24/7 WebMed is an interactive Web-based system that provides users specific and interactive advice. This service is only available to students.

You can access 24/7 WebMed by visiting the Student Health web page at http://www.studentufl.edu/health.

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Heaven, Men, Sun, Thu, 7am - 7am
Women receive NCAA at-large bid

Men ready for A-Sun tournament

Brothers’ unfamiliarity on the field leaves men’s soccer with promising and dominating future

Israel to miss remaining games

Quotables

KINGS OF SOCCER

MEN'S BASKETBALL

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

QUARTERBACKS

UPCOMING

Briefs

Improve M's

Quarterback job faces line in South Florida game

Israel to miss remaining games

Soccer tournament last weekend, UCF received an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament this weekend.

"The Florida State tournament came as a surprise. After the disappointing season ending, they were more than happy to elevate the team’s chances to make a run in the NCAA Tournament,” said Brandon Culpepper. "We felt the need to do something positive after that season to let the fans know we didn’t lose."

Coach Amanda Cromwell knew there was a chance we wouldn’t get it, but I expected we would. We all had a pretty good feeling about it so I wasn’t surprised. We knew there was a chance we wouldn’t get it, but I just knew deep down that our season couldn’t end like that. We were too good of a team and we deserve better. I hope this thing to let the fans know we haven’t lost."

A-Sun coaches have been saying all season that the Knights are the best team in the conference. They are 10-0-2 in conference play.

"When you are 10-0-2 in conference play, every game is a chance to win a national championship," said Brandon Culpepper. "We are ready to go.

Coach Amanda Cromwell was given all three of his signal plays against Florida State two weeks ago was huge. The Knights knew it was probably the biggest win in the program’s history. But they didn’t expect it to mean even more two weeks later. Despite losing in the championship game of the Atlantic Sun Conference’s top men’s soccer team, the Florida State Seminoles, the Knights were able to recover and win their next five games.

The Knights are now 11-1-2 on the season and 10-0-2 in conference play. They have secured a spot in the Atlantic Sun Conference tournament semifinals and are one win away from earning a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

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Jeff Shiro

Summer back to No. 2
after Israel suffers season-ending injury

Sometimes, you can do no more than hold your breath and pray. That's more than 20,000 UCF fans did after Mark Dantonio's
extra-point attempt in overtime sailed wide of the right goalpost last Saturday, giving the Ohio Bobcats a 7-6 overtime victory over the Knights.

Having lost their last three home games by a combined eight points, the Knights now head off for a final 2006 appearance on the road, where they have lost this season by an average of 24.6 points per game, to
saddling Muncie, Ind., to play the nearly equally hapless Ball State Cardinals.

Let's break it down:

UCF offense vs. Ball State defense

Advantage: Neither

Things just continue to stack up against the UCF offense. The Knights lost starting quarterback Kyle Beren with a stress fracture against Ohio, although Steven Moffett, porch worked against the Bobcats (throwing four for seven for 99 yards and a touchdown), over the past two weeks, he has a combined 38 for 248 yards with six touchdowns. This season UCF averages over a mere 34.9 points and 294 yards of offense per game.

The defensive production has been both the dark and bright spot on offense, although UCF averages just over 68 rushing yards per game. Alex Haynes continues to lead the teams in efficient production, averaging 67.6 yards per game. The offensive line continues improving from its youthful staff, but fatigue began to rear its ugly head against Ohio. Just how many quarters were stacked five times, bringing the season total to 12.

Ball State defense continues to struggle this year. It has given up more than 467 off of offense per game — 397.4 of it on the ground. To give an indicator, the Cardinals give up an astonishing 173.6 yards per game.

They have forced just eight turnovers all year. Of those, only one was an interception. Their opponent this season will also come from more than 8 percent of third down, and teams have paled for more total yards against Ball State (81) that the Cardinals have scored running and passing this year.

Leading the Cardinal defense is Jerrell Batson, a senior safety who has ended up with more tackles in last year's MAC lead. He has 18 tackles in this year's starting seven. They have plenty of trouble with Troubles Life, and the Knights still must work on offense for a game.

The team will almost be without its two top tacklers after Travis Johnson joined Stan- ford Stable by suffering a sev- on-end injury to the ankle.

Brandon Marshall, the team's third-leading tackler, served a suspension last week, but it was Paul Cartwright who finally found his stride, record- ing two sacks and his first career interception last week. However, the deployed secondary will be a problem against Ridgeway.

Magic number 10 — Average number of receptions per game for Ridgeway.

UCF special teams vs. Ball State special teams

Advantage: Neither

Ball State place-kicker Brian Jackson is 10 of 12 this year, including five of the last six, but missed his only attempt from 40 yards and beyond.

Although picked, both Hodges are averaging 43.6 yards per kick. It has been kick coverage that has bit the Cardinals. They average giving up 25.5 yards per kick and 16.4 yards per punt return. Meanwhile, BSD returners pick up just 11.1 yards per kick and 23.8 yards per punt return. On top of that, the Cardinals punished nearly twice as often as their oppo- nents.

UCF's kicking worst hit at all time last week, as Prater missed two of three field-goal attempts in addition to the game-deciding extra point. Prater is just three for six from between 30 and 39 yards and has missed five of his last seven. Aaron Home continues to improve his directional short punting, but his average remains just 38.4 yards per kick. Return-wise, the Knights still get an extra 20.8 yards per kick return, and Stamps Capers and Luther Burger are dangerous with the football. However, UCF has given up 83.3 yards per punt return this season.

Magic number 42 — Ball State's opponents' net punt average this year.

Betting this game also marks the last road Mid-American Conference contest ever for UCF, which will move next fall to Conference USA.

BETWEEN THE LINES — UCF vs. BALL STATE

Moffett back as starter for final road contest

The Knights have no reason to change Saturday's starting quarterback Kyle Beren with a stress fracture against Ohio, although Steven Moffett, porch worked against the Bobcats (throwing four for seven for 99 yards and a touchdown), over the past two weeks, he has a combined 38 for 248 yards with six touchdowns. This season UCF averages over a mere 34.9 points and 294 yards of offense per game.

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Bojnorn looks to break rushing record against weak BSU run defense

Haynes looks to break rushing record against weak BSU run defense

Knights' all-time rushing leader.

The perfect storm for UCF's defense against Ball State this year. The Bobcats have struggled and have given up 99 yards and a touchdown, over the past two weeks, he has a combined 38 for 248 yards with six touchdowns. This season UCF averages over a mere 34.9 points and 294 yards of offense per game.

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Jacksonville beats up on injured Knights heading into tourney

DATT SUMMAY

"Senior Night didn't go the way the UCF volleyball team would have liked. A&M Galveston erased the Knights' lead of 25-15, 25-18, 25-15 with a commanding win in the final three Atlantic Sun regular-season matches.

The Knights return to the court for the opening round of the A-Sun tournament Thursday night at 8 p.m. against the conference's third seed Mercer.

ARGONTH STANFORD

Adham was the captain of the team during his senior year and knows what I'm doing so that we can play our best," said senior Adham Blagriff. "It made us so much better.

"I've been to coach other teams before another 61-point game. It will be satisfying for both of the brothers." Blagriff said.

The lead was short lived. Islam also scored, and Rustin Kluge is a top four scorer in the conference with seven goals this year, but fell 3-2 in overtime. The top four scorers in the league this year with six goals apiece.

The Knights face sixth-seed Mercer, and posting 49 points in the first half alone. Islam also scored, and Rustin Kluge is a top four scorer in the conference with seven goals this year, but fell 3-2 in overtime. The top four scorers in the league this year with six goals apiece.

The titlereiver between Mercer and Seton was bring players with head-to-head play at the end of the opening round in the A-Sun tournament.

The RedHawks must win and use turnovers to hang with Florida State, ranked No. 2 in the nation in touchdowns. Scooterla is second in the league with 9:28 remaining. Kicker Jason McDougle's 3-yard touchdown lift led the game at UCF.

The Bobcats have struggled to get it every season. Florida State is the defending champ and is expected to have a bigger season than last year. The Bobcats are coming off a 2-9 win over Bowling Green.

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Bush continues to polarize the nation

Out of the key players in the process leading up to Bush's decision, one group that he is clearly excluding is the Palestinian people. This is something that should concern us all, as it is a clear example of the divide that exists between the United States and the Palestinian people.

The Palestinian people are being left behind in their struggle for freedom and justice. They are being subjected to a daily barrage of violence and oppression, with no end in sight. The United States is playing a significant role in this, as it is providing the funding and support for the Israeli occupation forces.

The United States is also acting as a mediator in the conflict, but its role is not neutral. It is siding with the Israeli government, which is not interested in a peaceful resolution to the conflict. Instead, it is focused on maintaining its control over Palestinian land and resources.

The Palestinian people are suffering under this occupation, with limited access to basic services such as healthcare, education, and clean water. They are also subjected to frequent attacks by Israeli forces, which have resulted in the loss of lives and property.

In short, the United States is not fulfilling its role as an impartial mediator, and its actions are not serving the best interests of the Palestinian people. It is time for the United States to change its approach and work towards a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

Jen McGowan, a member of the Democratic Party, said that the United States should be doing more to support the Palestinian people. "We need to change our approach and work towards a peaceful resolution to the conflict," she said. "We cannot continue to ignore the suffering of the Palestinian people."
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A: They both donate plasma at DCI Biologicals Orlando!

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

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Daytona Beach hosts film festival

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Vol. V, No. 12, Nov. 11 - 17, 2004

— PAGE 8
HAPPENINGS

Daytona Beach Film Festival

More than 30 films debut in second annual festival

JOHN THOMASON

When most people hear the word "Daytona," they probably think of the city's beautiful beach resorts and — of course — NASCAR. But for an increasing number of people, Daytona is more than sun, sand and fast cars — it's a place to see unique films they won't find anywhere else.

Starting tonight and running through Nov. 17, the N&S 6 Cinema and the Cinematheque of Daytona will feature the second annual Daytona Beach Film Festival. A drastically improved format from last year's inaugural four-day festival, this year's fest will spotlight films on all of the theater's six screens. In addition, each movie will receive three screenings, as opposed to last year's one.

"Being able to see a week of films on six screens is God's gift to any film buff, or just any local who is interested in seeing a wide variety of films," said Brian Quain, a film booker at Orlando's own art house cinema, Enzian theater. "As a programmer for the Florida Film Festival this past March, I saw tons of films come in, and it is so hard to pick and choose for 10 days on three screens. This will help the festival make wider decisions, get more films, and get a much bigger attendance."

The Daytona Cinematheque is a not-for-profit organization that has been bringing art cinema to the Daytona area for over 13 years. The N&S 6 has been showcasing Cinematheque selections for the last two years. The theater's manager, Bob Cunningham, has seen such an increase in art-film patronage that he believes a bigger festival is more than warranted.

"There's a strong desire here for art cinema," he said. "The Cinematheque group was originally about 100 and has grown to over 400." Last year's fest drew a surprising three thousand people in its four-day run. "We're expecting almost six thousand this year," added Cunningham.

Titles at this year's fest include documentaries like Superstar in a Housedress, Empathy and Silver Wings & Civil Rights; foreign flicks we haven't gotten before like An Amazing Couple and On the Run and retro films like the classic political drama The Battle of Algiers.

The festivities will open tonight with a retro film, 1975's Nashville, Robert Altman's ensemble story of political activism in the titular city.

"Nashville is from a period of cinema that we love," said Cinematheque co-director Jeff Sadler. "And it's a film that rarely gets shown on television, let alone in theaters."

Nashville also provides the cinema with the opportunity for a themed opening reception. Tonight's meet-and-greet before the film will feature a live country band and country-western flavored dishes, and guests are asked to wear their best cowboy and cowgirl attire.

Despite the Cinematheque's illustrious plans and optimistic attitudes, it is still difficult to shake Daytona's commercial image, which has caused some movie distributors to question the festival's importance.

"A lot of people think of Daytona as Bike Week and NASCAR and spring break, and distributors tend to think that way too," said Sadler. "But it's not overcomeable by any means. We're way ahead of the game, and the longer you go on, the more tradition you build."

In the end, Daytona film buffs may just have to get used to the NASCAR hysteria. After all, the post-festival awards reception is going to be held on none other than Richard Petty Boulevard.

For non-cinematheque members, an all-festival pass is $120, and individual tickets are $8. The opening night film (Nashville) and reception is $25. For a full listing of film descriptions and showtimes, visit www.nscinema6.com.

Advertisements like this for the Daytona Beach Film Festival and the N&S Cinema 6 have been ongoing throughout the year. For many film buffs, the wait is finally over.
HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR

CAMPUS

Early music ensemble concert
Nov. 12, 8 p.m., UCF Rehearsal Hall
Room 116
407-823-5116

Frankenstein Complex
Nov. 15, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., free
UCF Library
Room 223
407-823-5008

Salsa lessons
Nov. 15, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., free
Student Union
South patio
407-823-3161

Frankenstein and Diversity
Nov. 16, 3 p.m., free
UCF Library
Room 223
407-823-5008

Hinduism, Himalayan experience and yoga
Nov. 16, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., free
Teaching Academy
Room 304
407-823-8592

Abbott and Costello Meet Frankie
Nov. 18, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., free
UCF Library
Room 223
407-823-3161

Hunger banquet
Nov. 18, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., free
Student Union
Pegasus Ballroom
407-823-6471

Cinematic Legacy of Frankenstein
Nov. 17, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., free
UCF Library
Room 223
407-823-5008

Cinema Series: Frankenstein (1931)
Nov. 17, 8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., free
UCF Library
Room 223
407-823-5008

EVENTS

AutoFest
Nov. 11 to Nov. 14, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., $8-10
Zephyrhills Festival Park
2738 Galler Blvd.
813-782-0835

Play De Luna
Nov. 12 to Nov. 20, 8 p.m., $7
Art's Sale Studios
680 Clay St.
407-459-2210

Fossil, mineral and gem show
Nov. 13 to Nov. 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., $5
Central Florida Fairgrounds
4623 Dekalb Drive
407-255-3247

Market Pro Computer Show
Nov. 11 to Oct. 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., $4
Central Florida Fairgrounds
4623 Dekalb Drive
407-255-3247

Orlando Beer Festival
Nov. 13 to Nov. 14, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., $34.95
Citrus Bowl
Universals Studios
407-224-5500

SHOWS

Supervillains, Gargamell, Junkie Rush, Pretty Ugly (rock)
Nov. 11, 9 p.m., free-$5
House of Blues
Orlando
407-994-2581

Matt Pond PA, Spacebar, The Party People, Our Divided Fortune (indie)
Nov. 11, 9 p.m., $5-7
The Social
541 Orange Ave.
407-246-1419

Arm for Sleep, Number One Fun, Days Away, The Snake the Cross the Crown (rock)
Nov. 11, 9 p.m., $5
Will's Pub
1850 N. Mills Ave.
407-898-5070

Julington, Says I, Rosebud (rock)
Nov. 11, 7 p.m., $5
The Social
541 Orange Ave.
407-246-1419

Cradle of Filth, Arch Enemy, Bleeding Through, Chimsa (metal)
Nov. 11, 7 p.m., admission TBA
House of Blues
Downtown Disney West Side
407-994-2581

The Bughead (rock)
Nov. 12, 10 p.m., $5
Copper Rocket Pub
116 Lake Ave.
407-945-0699

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR ON 14
HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR

From 13

Norah Jones (pop)
Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m., $29.50-55
Ford Amphitheatre at the Florida State Fairgrounds
813-740-2446

Casseopia (electronic)
Nov. 12, 9:30 p.m., $11
Nature Caffe and Tea
12073 College Way
407-407-3000

The Dumbwaiters, Brian Straw, Six Plus Seven (Indie)
Nov. 12, 9 p.m., $3
Back Booth
317 W Pine St.
407-999-1570

Jeff Golub, Euge Groove, Warren Hill (jazz)
Nov. 12, 8 p.m., $16
The Piano Room
435 N Ramby Ave.
407-228-1220

VAS or Beta, The Fever, New Roman Times
Nov. 13, 10 p.m., $8
The Social
5414 Orange Ave.
407-246-1493

Trachtenburg Family Slideshow Players (eclectic)
Nov. 13, 5 & 9 p.m., $12-$14
The Social
5414 Orange Ave.
407-246-1493

Billy Bacon and The Forbidden Pigs (blues)
Nov. 13, 7 p.m., $5
Copper Rocket Pub
106 Lake Ave.
407-945-0899

Mass Destruction, Pop Suicide, Yeah Melba, Vancouver! (punk)
Nov. 13, 7 p.m., $7
The Social
5414 Orange Ave.
407-246-1493

Marc with a 'C' and The Malls, Bluren, Mummy, Soft Rock Champion (indie)
Nov. 13, 8 p.m., Free
Austin Coffee and Film
529 W Robinson Ave.
407-975-3858

Yip Yip, Landing on Land, On Cassette, Skylight Mines, Dodger (various)
Nov. 13, 9 p.m., $5
Back Booth
5178 Pine St.
407-999-2570

Bouncing Souls, Against Me, Murphy's Law, Let It Burn, The Loved Ones (punk)
Nov. 14, 6 p.m., $12
House of Blues
Downtown Disney West Side
407-894-2583

Our Given Day, Shadow Agency, Dance Floor Tragedy, The Uprise (punk)
Nov. 14, 9 p.m., $5
WCB Pub
1850 N Miller Ave.
407-898-5070

Gargamel!, Indorphine, One Drop, 5 Billion Dead, In This Day (metal)
Nov. 14, 6 p.m., $8
Scramblers
360 State Line
407-244-0299

A Static Lullaby, Hopesfall, Codeseven, YorendarameeuwILLO, Rock Kills Kid (rock)
Nov. 15, 6 p.m., $10
The Social
541 N Orange Ave.
407-224-1919

Animal Collective, Black Dice, Motion Picture Massacre, Yip Tip (indie)
Nov. 15, 8 p.m., $8-$10
Scramblers
360 State Line
407-244-0299

Yellowcard, The Starting Line, The Matches (rock)
Nov. 16, 7 p.m., $20-$22
House of Blues
Downtown Disney West Side
407-894-2583

LARRY THE CABLE GUY
Local boy made good, Larry the Cable Guy, will be at the UCF Arena on Sunday to do his oh-so-white-trash stand-up act. Known as of late for his role on Blue collar TV with Jeff Foxworthy and Bill Engvall, Larry is a native of nearby Sanford, Fla. As Blue collar TV continues to wield its redneck influence with a reemergence of good of fashioned southern fried humor, Larry the Cable Guy continues to increase his audience—from truckers to housewives, and now, the arena hopes, college students. The redneck charm he exudes onstage is more of an act than anything. In interviews, he accent loses a lot of its flavor; however, you can tell Larry the Cable Guy is definitely from the south. Right now, UCF students can get two-for-one tickets from Ticketmaster, so if you have a few extra bucks, check out this stereotypical wearing gay and "Git'er done!"

HIGHLIGHTS

Dead to Fall, A Game of You, Machin, Sunday Driver, Tokyo Rose, In Passing, The Goodwill (rock)
Nov. 16, 6 p.m., $8
Scramblers
360 State Line
407-244-0299

Bob Rafkin (Americana)
Nov. 16, 7 p.m., $12
Chappo's on Park
358 N Park Ave.
407-446-2880

Colched & Cambria, Underneath, Three (rock)
Nov. 17, 7 p.m., $15.50-$17.50
House of Blues
Downtown Disney West Side
407-894-2583

Starlight Mints (indie)
Nov. 17, 8 p.m., $6
The Social
541 N Orange Ave.
407-224-1919

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A CHORUS LINE

In one day, the world can change for a few auditioning actors. A story shaped by emotion, talent and song.
Ed Harcourt, one of the UK's most popular artists, has released his third album, "Strangers." His past two albums did extremely well, and "Strangers" is bound to please audiences too.

His first full-length album, "Here Be Monsters," was a wildly successful album that gripped listeners with its melodic and intoxicating tunes. Then came "From Every Sphere," his "difficult" album, which was not as commercially successful as "Here Be Monsters."

And now, here is "Strangers," Ed Harcourt's love album. Every song in this 12-track album is dedicated to the woman who has stolen Ed Harcourt's heart. Obviously, Harcourt is not one to keep his love a secret, because he's fully expressed it in "Strangers," wearing his heart on his sleeve and not giving a damn.

The best example of this is track three, "This One's For You." It is a very straightforward love song with a slow, dreamy quality to it that makes it perhaps the most beautiful song on the entire album. It is raw and simple, and that is what makes it so wonderful.

The album begins with the somewhat upbeat "The Storm is Coming," which prepares us for the other 11 tracks to come, them many of the lyrics are not so upbeat. "Loneliness" is drenched in sadness and depression, but that isn't so surprising given the title. What is surprising is how upbeat this song is for what it expresses.

Harcourt reveals so much of himself in this album with seemingly no fear, as he expresses his innermost thoughts in songs like "Strangers" and "Let Love Not Weight Me Down." These two songs reveal different aspects of Harcourt. "Strangers" is a song that reveals confidence, yet we know Harcourt is not completely confident from "Let Love Not Weight Me Down." One of the lines in the song has him admitting he is "shedding his tears" and "trying to make sense of it all."

"Strangers" is an impressive effort. Even if you're not much for slow-tempo love albums, Ed Harcourt will keep you listening, after hooking you with "This One's For You." It is rare to have a musician put out an album with so much of himself in it and have that album still be friendly to audiences and easy to understand. Maybe that's because if you've ever been in love, then you know what Harcourt is talking about, and you can relate to him. All in all, this album is a must have for all Harcourt fans. And if you haven't heard him before, this isn't a bad place to start.

— MATT BALMASEDA

By their very nature, greatest hits compilations are difficult albums to critique, particularly if the band in question is actually good.

When a band has put together an extensive (and, for the most part, good) catalog, it's easy enough to pick twenty or so decent songs for a compilation.

The difficulty comes in picking the right twenty songs. The songs that make a listener think, "This is what NoFx is about!" Almost twenty years of music have been perfectly captured with this album!

Thankfully, "The Greatest Songs Ever Written (By Us)" manages to encapsulate the last decade and a half of NoFx while giving the audience some great punk to listen to.

NoFx is at its best when Fat Mike is at his most sarcastic and juvenile. Though some of that raucous humor can be found in the early albums, the band really hit its stride in the years between 1992's White Trash, Two Heebs, & a Bean and 1997's So Long And Thanks for All the Shoes.

Consequently, it makes sense that a large chunk of the tracks (almost half) on Greatest Songs come from those heady years.

While not in chronological order, the tracks on Greatest Songs inspire a fun trip down memory lane, tracking the odyssey of NoFx from young, bratty punks to mature — well, older, at least — bratty punks.

Never slowing, Greatest Songs keeps you rocking from the first strains of "Dinosaurs Will Die" to the call to "kill all the white man" in, uh ... "Kill All The White Man."

Adding another check in the plus column, this compilation manages to avoid including head-scratching "great" songs while, at the same time, leaving actual great songs off the album. Even the superb Rolling Stones collection, 40 Licks, couldn't avoid this pitfall, including an "Undercover of the Night" in favor of a "Midnight Rambler."

Shameful.

It's no small feat, then, that at no point do the selections in Greatest Songs disappoint. Any songs that have been passed over tend to fall into the category of "personal favorites" versus "greatest hits."

While it may be slightly disappointing to see "Cheese" and "Where's My Slice?" left off of the compilation, it is understandable.

It's all too rare for a compilation album to offer old and new fans alike an opportunity to experience the soul of a band. The Greatest Songs Ever Written (By Us) does it with humor and fun punk to spare. So go ahead. Add it to the CD collection. Though it's a job to keep punk rock elite, this is one compilation that should be enjoyed by all.

— DIANA ZISMAN
Brosnan gets a Woody

After the Sunset caper is marred with homophobic humor, illogical scenarios

BRETT RYAN BONOWICZ
Staff Writer

To understand After the Sunset, one must understand its director, Brett Ratner. Ratner was raised in Miami, a rich child of Jewish decent. When it came to college, he attended NYU film school and has lived an unrealistic, idealized version of the life that most can only dream of. In the strangest way, this glimpse into Ratner's personal life is the only way to decipher the strange decisions that have been made in his films.

After the Sunset begins like a lot of movies do today, with a teaser. This teaser involves Pierce Brosnan making out with someone the audience believes might be a man, in the first of what will be many rather uncomfortable gay jokes. The film itself revolves around a criminal played by Brosnan, who has supposedly retired, and the FBI agent that has tracked him down. Of course, there is a "one last job" in this film, and here it involves the Napoleon 3 diamond. Salma Hayek stars as eye candy and Ratner regulars Chris Penn and Don Cheadle ham it up in overextended cameos that don't belong in the narrative in the first place.

There are toys abound in this film, but most that have no basis in reality. They're fun toys and criminal toys, but when one begins to think how they could possibly work (a remote controlled car), the audience must understand they're living in a Brett Ratner world, a privileged world in an idealized setting. Ratner elevates his characters above the hyper-real and navigates them into the terrain one might just call ridiculous.

Logic is something that is often missing from a Ratner film (see Rush Hour and Rush Hour 2), and After the Sunset is no different. At first it looks to be a caper movie, then turns into a buddy movie but somewhere around then decides it wants to be a movie filled with gay jokes and subversive situations in which Pierce Brosnan and Woody Harrelson can talk about each other's poles ... fishing poles.

While the acting is good, its context can sometimes prove ridiculous. When Pierce Brosnan is sleeping next to Woody Harrelson one moment and then professing his love to Salma Hayek the next, one can't help but miss the connection emotionally to the character; the changes just don't make a lick of sense.

After the Sunset is not a bad movie; it's just a painfully average one. Ratner has discussed previously that he loves "call backs," where one character will bring a joke back from the beginning of the movie. This is abundant in After the Sunset. One supposes that the logic behind all of this is that since the audience was there for the joke the first time, when it comes back to the audience they'll feel somehow smarter for getting the reference. This, however, can be seen as talking down to the audience and a manipulation tool that is looked at as pretty lame by most.

Though it does appear on screen that everyone had fun making the movie, it's evident too that everyone tossed their script around day 23 of shooting. By the end of the film Ratner managed to turn everyone into a caricature and in the process took away all credibility and likeability to this sometimes fun, always slick, but disappointingly average caper movie.
Documentary film legend Ross McElwee stakes out a good position amongst the North Carolina tobacco plants in the nostalgic Bright Leaves.

Ross McElwee's Bright Leaves
a subtly comic look at industry

GENO MEHALIK
Staff Writer

The way Ross McElwee presents it in Bright Leaves, the tobacco industry and its far-spanning historical implications run the small towns in North Carolina. From pint-sized beauty queen "Miss Tobacco" to tall fields where laborers shuck the crops that produce a $5,000 gross yield per acre every harvest, tobacco's remnants are still engrained in these locales, socially and geographically.

McElwee learned to make films in the 70s while enrolled in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's graduate film program. His earlier works include Sherman's March, a film about his Southern romantic nature juxtaposed with the conquests of Gen. William T. Sherman in the South in 1864. His seventh and most recent film, Bright Leaves, is a subtly hilarious documentary about the tobacco industry — to say the very least — as it relates to his genealogy in North Carolina.

The film begins with a visit to McElwee's cousin's home in North Carolina where the two gaze at the man's collection of film posters and original stills. His cousin informs him of a 1950 Michael Curtiz melodrama titled Bright Leaf and starring Gary Cooper, Lauren Bacall and Patricia Neal. McElwee, now convinced that the Hollywood production, the story of Brant Royle (Cooper), who struggles to keep hold of his position as the primary purveyor of tobacco against the villainously depicted Major Singleton (Donald Crisp) — is, in fact, a "cinematic heirloom," he embarks on a series of interviews to reinforce his reticent postulation.

McElwee contends throughout the film's historical lounge visits and conversational ruminations that his grandfather, John Harvey McElwee, a North Carolina tobacco tycoon, was ruined and ultimately made bankrupt in legal battles over the "Bull-Durham" trademark with James Buchanan Duke (whose legacy would include Duke University and the American Tobacco Company).

Along the way, however, McElwee intersperses meetings with close relatives and elemental friends and mentors. His home movies of his father and brothers (who all grew to become doctors) isolate, for McElwee, the pathological-agricultural connection embedded in his family. The filmmaker's admitted compulsion to capture everything on film in an effort to slow down time is venerably flawed, as revealed in montages of candid video of his family, including his young son, that illustrate the unyielding power of time.

That theme is further explored in meetings with two of McElwee's best friends, who are engaged to marry. Cutting to and from the couple as they vow to quit smoking time and time again, McElwee inserts a theme of desperation (placed, most certainly, ironically) among wedding footage. Another character McElwee introduces us to is Charleen, his former teacher and friend who he featured in his 1980 film of her namesake. Charleen serves, in this film, as another cheery and optimistic voice in the desperate struggle against tobacco by reporting the story of her sister, Rebecca, who recently died of cancer as a result of smoking.

All in all and at its best, McElwee's Bright Leaves offers an intimate glimpse into the lives of everyday folk struggling with everyday addictions, set among the backdrop of history and speculation and tempered with the elements of affection and lighthearted laughter. At its worst, Bright Leaves is a yellow-teethed and depressing cross-section of provincial wealth (gone big!) and its ramifications. With thoughtful looks at stammering countryfolk and jaunting peerings into the subtext of a family steeped in silicone soil and wrapped in the debris of the tobacco industry, Ross McElwee's Bright Leaves yields a meditative and low-key scrapbook satire of Southern discomfort. Opens Friday at DMAC.
**FILM REVIEW**

**Incredibles lives up to its title**

**MATT HEDDGECK**
Staff Writer

There are more superhero movies these days than you can shake a kryptonite stick at. Some have been great (Spider-Man 2), many have been lousy (Catwoman) but all have helped to build interest in the superhero genre.

The Incredibles is perhaps the ultimate result of that fascination — a perfectly balanced, wonderful film filled with chuckles, thrills and humanity.

Mr. Incredible (Craig T. Nelson) is on top of his art deco world. He's got a bigger physique, tricked-out car and he just got married to Elastigirl (Holly Hunter), the most flexible woman in the world. Then came the lawsuits.

Fifteen years of retirement later and things are not going well for Mr. Incredible. He and his family have been placed into a sort of witness protection program for ex-superheroes, and they are forbidden to use their powers. He staves off the misery of his day job as a cubicle drone by moonlighting with his old pal Frozone (Bill Fagerbakke), a miniature fashion designer who specializes in superhero costumes (like James Bond's Q, but with style) and who never uses capes in her designs.

Animation-wise, The Incredibles succeeds. Though the stark-yet-richly detailed world seems somewhat jarring at first, one quickly accepts the reality of the universe, and some effects, such as Violet's force-fields, are positively stunning. The caricatured character designs are lively and emotive and are infinitely preferable to the wooden human populus of Shrek 2.

In a way, The Incredibles' achievement may not be surprising. Pixar is renowned for its delivery of great films, and one could view their latest as just par for the course. However, the film is so wonderfully ambitious in its scope — incorporating beautiful animation with intelligence and action-film thrills — that The Incredibles is probably the biggest achievement for the studio to date. It's the animated film of the year, and perhaps the best superhero movie ever.
MOVIES

FILM REVIEW ★★★★★

The future of anti-Bush docs

BRETT RYAN BONOWICE
Staff Writer

With the election over, my mind started to wander over the DVD shelves of the local video store. I found myself in the special interest section, a shelf filled with pornography and political documentaries that seemed to have an expiration date on them: Nov. 2.

In the last year, a lot of political documentaries with the aim of removing President George W. Bush from office have come to the forefront: Bush's Brain, Control Room, Homs and Halos, The Hunting of the President, Bush Family Fortunes, Fahrenheit 9/11 and Robert Greenwald's "un" trilogy that includes Unprecedented, Uncovered, and Unconstitutional.

These films, almost without exception, had a singular purpose: To expose the truth and to take back the presidency. Now that that cause is lost, one is forced to reexamine this abundance of films to see for what they really are: films. No longer are they propaganda: their purposes to propagate are futile now that Sen. John Kerry has lost his bid for the presidency.

The "un" series might be the first films to disintegrate. While filled with important information, these films are not the highest quality in terms of production value. And after getting past the propaganda value of the films, one must examine it for its filmmaking. Sad to say, the filmmaking is not that good, and these films will only be forgotten about with time. Much in the way Osama bin Laden has disappeared, these films will follow.

Homs and Halos is about much more then the Bush administration; it is about Bush as a man and the lengths he has seemingly gone to hide his past. This film will last for as long as Bush is alive and remembered. A film worth seeking out, Homs and Halos follows the author of Fortunate Son, an unauthorized biography of George W. Bush, which alleges amongst other things that Bush was arrested for cocaine.

Control Room is the one film I think will age like a fine wine. The film is not about unseating Bush as much as it is about showing the way in which the media focuses on the war. It is a great film in that it only has to go as far as exposing Bush's actions in the most subtle way to show him to be as incompetent as he continues to be almost 18 months since "Mission Accomplished."

Fahrenheit 9/11 might be the most polished of the documentaries mentioned, but it's the one that runs the risk of being a film that won't resonate as the years pass. Sure, it will always have its place in the history books as the first documentary to cross the $100 million mark, and no one will ever forget its win in Cannes and then Disney subsequently deciding not to release it, but the film had an expiration date of Nov. 2, 2004.

What will these films look like in another four years? By law, Bush cannot run for re-election again (until he changes the rule, that is) so what are these films going to be now besides time capsules that showcase a time when America was so bad that everyone and their brothers made a documentary about how George W. Bush is ruining America and then how America still re-elected him? One has to wonder: What will future generations think of us?
Learn to stop worrying and love the DVD re-releases

Dr. Strangelove's 40th anniversary DVD issue is the film's best release yet

MATT HEDGECOCK
Staff Writer

Nuclear holocaust is no laughing matter, or so they would have you believe.

In 1964, during the height of the Cold War conflict between the United States and Soviet Union, Stanley Kubrick released his black comedy masterpiece Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb. In spite of, or perhaps because of, the global crisis, the absurdity and black humor of the film came across clear as a red alert claxon. Now, 40 years later, Dr. Strangelove still has the power to simultaneously amuse and frighten.

President Merkin Muffley (Peter Sellers) has a slight problem on his hands. It seems one of his generals, Jack D. Ripper (Sterling Hayden) has gone and done a silly thing. He's ordered an all-out nuclear strike on the Soviets in an attempt to protect their vital bodily fluids from Commie fluoridation.

To make the situation more interesting, the Russians have recently installed a doomsday device that will destroy all life on Earth if even one H-bomb is dropped on Russian soil. While the president debates the matter with Gen. Buck Turgidson (George C. Scott) and the Nazi-saluting Dr. Strangelove (Sellers again), British Group Capt. Lionel Mandrake (Sellers once more) tries to get the cancellation code out of Gen. Ripper before the whole mess blows up in their faces.

Dr. Strangelove is arguably the finest satire ever put on film. Kubrick reveals the insanity of the concept of “nuclear deterrent” better than could ever be achieved with a serious picture.

The situation in the film is deadly serious — the laughs are derived from the film’s characters. Everywhere there are fools wishing to be taken seriously. When President Muffley declares “Gentlemen, you can't fight in here! This is the War Room,” he says it with such deadpan conviction that we can't help but laugh.

Sellers gives perhaps the greatest multi-role performance ever, but it's George C. Scott who manages to steal the show as the raving Gen. Turgidson. Turgidson is the embodiment of a consummate optimist, assuring President Muffley that once the bombing begins, “no more than 10 to 20 million killed, tops.” Depending on the breaks, of course.

As the breaks would have it, the film’s 40th anniversary DVD release comes just in time for the newest nuclear crisis with North Korea and Iran. The new two-disc set features the previous features from the original DVD release, as well as two exclusive documentaries featuring interviews with former Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, Bob Woodward, Roger Ebert and Spike Lee. Also included is a collectible booklet with photos and an essay by Ebert.

The new features are very nice, but don't justify a double-dip purchase if you already own the previous version. Considering the price ($34.95 MSRP) Columbia TriStar should have sprung for at least one audio commentary track.

However, those who do not yet own this masterpiece would do well to pick up the newest release. Remember, nuclear war isn't funny — it's hilarious.


**MOVIES**

**FILM REVIEW** ★★★★

**Express to cinematic crapola**

Polar Express strives for family fun, but settles for creepily real animation

DAVID GERMAIN
Associated Press

People in Hollywood should never work with children or animals, WC. Fields once said. Maybe that should be expanded to hyper-realistic computer-generated children and reindeer, too.

As technically dazzling as we’re supposed to believe they are, the creations in Robert Zemeckis’ Christmas adventure *The Polar Express* just don’t look right. In fact, most of the time, they look plain wrong, the sort of creepy characters more likely to induce nightmares than visions of sugar plums.

With his *Forrest Gump* and *Cast Away* star Tom Hanks providing body movements and voices for many key characters, Zemeckis set out to create a film that stretches the bounds of computer animation with detailed digital renderings of the actors through a process called performance capture.

Hanks and his co-stars performed on a bare soundstage, their actions captured by infrared cameras keyed to receptors on their faces and bodies. Zemeckis boasts that the expressions and body language are so humanly authentic, the film cannot even be called animation.

Distributor Warner Bros. disagrees, having entered *The Polar Express* in the Academy Awards animated-feature category. While the characters do look more real than the usual cartoon figures, the movie clearly is a form of animation, designed to resemble the world of Chris Van Allsburg’s beloved Christmas picture book.

Whether the creations of *The Polar Express* are more emotive than the fairy-tale beings of *Shrek* or the superhero caricatures of *The Incredibles* is questionable. When Shrek’s pal Donkey cracks a goofy grin, you feel it, and grin right back.

When the nameless children of *The Polar Express* stare you in the face, they’re unsettling, stuck in some shadowy zone between flesh and figment. They have lifelike parts — hair, mouths, ears, noses — but the pieces fit together rather formlessly, like the indefinite features of the embryonic pod people of *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*.

And there’s something eerie and dead about these children’s eyes, making them resemble those evil, stoic kids of the 1960 horror flick *Village of the Damned*.

Some family flick, huh? Screenwriter William Broyles Jr. sticks to the essence of Allsburg’s plot: A boy (body by Hanks, voice by Daryl Sabara) lies awake on Christmas Eve, pondering whether he still believes in Santa Claus. Along comes a train, the Polar Express, stopping in front of his house to haul him to the North Pole with a bunch of other kids for Santa’s big send-off.

With the help of a self-assured girl (Nona Gaye) and a timid boy (body by Hanks’ Bosom Buddies co-star Peter Scolari, voice by Jimmy Bennett) who’s accustomed to Christmas passing him by, our hero comes to once again embrace Santa and the holiday spirit.

Hanks also provides body movements and voices for the train conductor, Santa, the lead boy’s dad and a ghostly hobo who hitches a ride on the Polar Express.

Many of the visuals are truly fantastic — the remarkable detail of the train, wolves prowling the woods, an eagle swooping across mountain peaks.

Yet so much of the action Zemeckis adds to stretch out a thin storybook is in service only of the visuals, not the plot or characters. There are grating musical routines to mostly forgettable songs by Glen Ballard and Alan Silvestri (Aerosmith’s Steven Tyler performs as an elf belting out the party tune “Rockin’ on Top of the World”).

The North Pole is a turgid mob scene, with elves so ominous and off-putting all they need are drabber garments, scars and lesions to fit right into the dark army of Mordor in *The Lord of the Rings*.

And when in doubt, the filmmakers send the three main kiddies spiraling down a track or tunnel.

Maybe the pretty pictures and visual commotion will be enough to satisfy young children. Their parents might be wishing they had stayed home and read Allsburg’s book again to their little ones.
Kevin Hill is an up slope

The series, about a lawyer and single father, boosts UPN

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

KEVIN HILL
BY UPN
Genre: Drama
Air date: Wednesday, 9:00 p.m.

Kevin Hill is the rarest of rarities, a decent UPN drama. The network, which always seems to be wrestling with the WB for last place in the ratings, has gotten ahold of a show that might just be enough to get people watching the network. It's doubtful they'll stick around for anything else, but they will at least watch this show. It's simplistic and pleasing enough to reach a wide audience without being too sappy or stupid.

The basic plot is that the title character is a hotshot lawyer living the luxurious bachelor life until his cousin dies, at which point he's left with the deceased's 10-month-old daughter Sara. Now he must learn to be responsible, etc. etc. It's really not as bad as it sounds, and that probably has a lot to do with the easily likable Taye Diggs, who plays Hill. The rest of the cast does as good a job as they can with limited roles. Kevin Hill brings with it the typical cliches you'd expect from this type of lighthearted drama. There's the gay babysitter, the firm female employer, the goofy "let's get drunk and screw" women and interchangeable best friends.

It does a nice job of balancing Hill's social life and baby dramas with the courtroom cases. Generally the case Kevin is dealing with teaches him something about raising Sarah. For instance, in one episode he has to defend a negligent rockstar mom. When he realizes she's a bad parent it makes him evaluate himself and teaches him to keep his morals in tow. It is preachy, but it's done manageably without it ever running rampant through the whole show. With all the high-concept shows that aren't really going anywhere story wise, this show is a gentle excursion. It doesn't try too hard, and it's wise in that it doesn't jam itself down your throat. It's easy to appreciate that type of sincerity from a show.

Kevin Hill certainly isn't the greatest show on television, but it's also far from being the worst. It is as it stands, a show that follows all the rules befitting its genre and is a charming way to waste an hour. Being merely good is an accomplishment enough, considering what network the show is on and what else we've been offered this season. Give it a shot when you get the chance, you just might be pleasantly surprised.

Taye Diggs, bottom right, stars as Kevin Hill in the drama of the same name. He plays as a single father and lawyer.

Relationship limbo blues

DANA DELAPI
Staff Writer

There are only two great places to be in this world when it comes to relationships — either to be completely in one, or completely out of one. It is that in-between stage that is killer and often drives people to the brink of insanity.

Ladies and gentlemen, I give you relationship limbo, the most awkward place to be in the world. It is that place between being complete strangers and an actual couple, where nothing is certain, but everything is essential.

For most people, this can be the most fun stage of a relationship. The getting to know you stage, the I-need-to-impress-you-so-much-I-broke-the-bank-buying-this-outfit stage. It is here girls get to act coy and mysterious while guys strive to seem masculine and successful.

But how long is relationship limbo really supposed to last? This is where it starts to get tricky. The longer it takes for a relationship to progress, the crazier some people get.

Imagine this: you've been seeing someone for two months, you go out on a date and act like a complete fool because you're nervous and have no idea where the two of you are headed. You might as well smack your head into a door, because it can only get worse from here.

Officially, I think this stage can last no more than three months. After that, you know too much about each other, have spent loads of time together and you will have to keep fending off questions of "What is the deal with you two?" and "Is that your boyfriend or can I hit on him?" Not that it is anyone's business anyway. It just gets plain irritating. Plus, by this time your relationship may have hit a sexual level and monogamy is important on a psychological and physical level.

Getting out of limbo is much harder than getting into it. I keep hearing that the best solution to this limbo dilemma is to simply communicate your feelings. But does anyone actually do that? I could sit here and tell you till I am blue in the face that you need to communicate if you ever want to get out of relationship limbo. But, I have never been able to do it either — classic case of easier said than done.

The unfortunate accessory to this rule is if you have to ask the question, you probably won't be happy with the answer. Relationships are supposed to progress naturally, but not at the speed of a turtle. If it is taking forever for your twosome to become official and comfortable, there may be something else holding it back. And there are only three responses to your question: the answer you want, the truth or, the worst one of all, the lie they tell because it is what you want to hear.

While it may be the scariest thing you ever do, if you truly need to know your status, get to it. Slide under that limbo stick and hope for the best. If you fail you can always start over during the next cycle.
View of Paris from Orlando

Oh God! YES!
Paris comes to O-town

SHARON PARE
Staff Writer

The next blonde bombshell to set up shop in Orlando will be coming New Year's Eve, 2004. It's not Britney Spears, Jessica Simpson or any other blonde that had ruled this world in the pop-idol ideal of way. But it's the bona fide typical-to-the-tee blonde Paris Hilton who will be opening up Club Paris right here in Orlando.

Club Paris is set to open up in major party cities, including Las Vegas, South Beach, New York City and London, but lucky us, we will have the opportunity to party with this ditzy vixen right down the street from UCF before they open up in any of the other "sin-cities."

Say what? Paris Hilton will be within breathing distance from us? Oh my goodness, isn't this the greatest opportunity to star in my next home video with her? No, that's not the wishful notion of the nightlife in Orlando.

If many of you are not aware of it yet, the Downtown Orlando area will actually have a skyline in two years. With the number of luxury condominiums to be erected, such as 55 West, The Vue Orlando, The Sanctuary and the already built Waterplace, these architectural additions will bring hope to the Orlando economy that we have yet to see.

Paige Grosnick, a sophomore communications major, said, "I heard about Club Paris through the grapevine — other people. Club Paris will give a different vibe; a New York, LA-kind of attitude instead of a tourist. A lot of college students who want to see her will be there. Maybe 18-30 year old men.

Although, 18-and-up will bring the club [dance] atmosphere back to Orlando."

Snap to reality! Don't be jealous because it's hard to get into a bar unless you are illegally doing so. Actually, let's hope that club-owner Fred Khalilian knows that the smallest marketing strategy into "uplifting" the nightlife back into Church Street would be to assure the Orlando crowd that it will strictly be a 21-and-up scene. Justin Timberlake surely would not want to party with a bunch of teeenboppers at Club Paris. Moreover, these teeenboppers are worse than drunken hookers. But then again, how would one know that?

But what does that have to do with Paris Hilton? Everything! With the addition of Club Paris to the lavish new malls (i.e. Millenia Mall), luxury living condominiums and grand openings of ultra posh lounges along Orange Avenue (i.e. Rhythm & Flow, The Monkey Bar and the Dragon Room, to name a few), there is a chance that she will bring in high-class life here — such as more celebrities, surprise surprise — which can be a good or bad thing.

Club Paris will be opening at the Church Street Station next to the late Cheynne Saloon. The club's interior will be, you guessed it, pink. There will also be a special section for Hilton and her guests, a separate martini-and-cigar lounge, a dance floor and a VIP section.

Becky Adney, a senior art education major said, "My brother heard about Club Paris on Celebrities Uncensored or something like that. I think Club Paris will bring more stars, and downtown needs some desperate help and money. Club Paris will attract MTV watchers' 'provocative little girls.' Paris is a big socialite. Cameraman seem to follow her (hehe). It will attract older men and younger girls."

For you Hilton fans out there (and not just for that infamous sex video on the Internet, tsk tsk), she has signed a contract that requires her to make an obligatory visit at least twice a month at the club. This will perhaps help keep the nightclub alive, for many locals will start to frequent the club obsessively as some have been itching to rub elbows with nationally known celebrities.

In addition, Hilton will be at the grand opening of the new nightclub on Church Street, New Year's Eve. Until 9 p.m. that evening she will make an appearance right here in Orlando until it is time to open the second Club Paris that same evening in Las Vegas, the real sin city. Furthermore, Hilton has also received a seven-figure bonus for signing on to this deal. As if she needs more money after her recent nonfiction book that is No. 8 on The New York Times' bestseller list, her new jewelry line, her upcoming perfumes to be released this holiday season, her status as the latest Guess? model representative and the most recent film she is shooting to date, National Lampoon's Pledge This!

Although, in respect to opening Club Paris here in Orlando, is Hilton aware of the fact that Orlando stops selling alcohol at 2 a.m. and that most of those clubs, bars and lounges close their doors by 3 a.m.? One is not sure whether Hilton and Khalilian have taken that obstacle into consideration as to whether that issue will affect the success of the nightclub, but Orlando should feel honored for having the privilege of Club Paris first.

Tickets are on sale for this year's New Year's Eve event. Admission is $599 just to get in. VIP admission is $999 (and who knows if a bottle of Cristal is included). But, for a steal, VIP private booths and beds will be $999. In fact, tickets will "fine food, drinks, and red carpet treatment."
The desert is this geek's dessert

This desert life a sandy necessity
ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

I n my heart, I am a city girl. I always have been. I would be hard pressed to survive without high-speed Internet connectivity and my friendly neighborhood anime/comic book store. However, I must admit my strong affinity for the desert. When I retire, it's going to be to a little villa-style house in the middle of nowhere, an hour away from any major cities, somewhere in the wilderness of Arizona or New Mexico.

Something about the vast scale of things here, the emptiness and desolation in contrast with the mountains that always seem to be hundreds of miles away until you are right next to them, makes my spirit seem to stretch. You can feel something akin to infinity here among the desert brush. The sky seems so large, so looming, you can't help but feel the insignificance of humanity in the universe. At night, watching the stars, you can truly feel the enormity of the universe pressing in all around us.

To call it breathtaking would be a cliché, and it wouldn't even begin to describe the way it makes you feel to actually see it all up there. It takes your soul away, if that makes any sense. I feel like I am stretching to meet the sky, and part of me gets lost. A part of me that I do not miss, however.

I doubt I am the only one to feel this way. Countless movies, books, and poems have been created that allow the uninitiated to taste what is out there in the empty places of the world. Here the only colors you see are the rusty reds and browns of the soil and the blue of the vast sky above, peppered by an occasion-

The crazed robot is a uniter

Nonpartisan things we'll all agree on
DIANNA ZISMAN
Staff Writer

W ith a contentious election over, it's apparent that the country needs a little healing. I say, who better to unite the huddled masses than your favorite robot columnist? See, I'm a uniter (what?), not a divider (what?), Gon work harder (what?), I'm a uniter (what?), we're gon make it (what?), I will unite us (what?), keep on unitin' (what?). Here are a few things that can go a long way in uniting us. Let the healing begin.

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts. How is it possible that even their most simple form — a doughnut consisting of little more than dough, air and sugar — can be the perfect treat? I once read of an unusual method to rid a garden of earwigs: you capture them, mix them with water in a blender and grind those suckers up. Then pour the potion into a spray bottle and spray it around the garden. Apparently, the earwigs flee. The garden must reek of their death, and in its wake, they run for their nasty little lives.

Now, I wonder... if a Krispy Kreme was sprayed with ground-up people, would I stay away from there? I feel confident it wouldn't work. I'd cross over a battlefield of carcasses, recognizing friends along the way, to get my Krispy Kreme fix. A fresh one — right off of God's conveyor belt — that would melt in my mouth. Mmm! Now, don't look so shocked. I've seen people Hoover down two crème-filled ones in a matter of seconds, so I'm pretty sure T'd have good company while crawling over my dead friends.

Near-life experience

Don't like America?

Start your own country: All liberal, all the time!
MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

W ell, now I know that it's official: Turd Sandwich (A.K.A. Bush) has won the popular vote for the first time and will be president for the next four years. Congratulations, you expiative expelives.

So now that our doom is sealed, we've got to ask ourselves: What do we, the disenfranchised voters who punched in that other guy on the ballot, do now that we've lost? Do we just accept our defeat and let the country rot itself into a puritanical nightmare? Damn straight!

There's nothing that can be realistically done to lift this country from its liberal crisis. We can do as they do and pray for the capture, but change back to our hysterical ways just before the "righteous ones" get sucked up to heaven. But since that, like all religion, is a load of crap, we've got to think more realistically.

Let's leave the country and start our own. There's a lot of empty space, and if all else fails, we can take over Poland. You can't be a country unless you take over Poland. It's a rule.

So anyway, we start our own country. We call it Freedonia 2 because we'll be honoring the freedom we'll be standing for, and besides I'd only want people who got Marx Brothers references in my country in the first place. It'll be great. We can start a new government and everything. First things first, we ultimately separate church and state by never having a church to begin with. People can still have faith, they just can't incorporate it into our government. We focus on science and the arts and fill our nation with America's great minds who feel the way we do about the sinking status of the country. We don't censor; we encourage daring thought. Remember, the time in which religion had the slightest grip on the country was referred to as the Age of Reason, whereas the most religious time, where thoughts were completely censored and violently silenced if provocative, was known as the Dark Ages.

We'll accept all mess and sexualities and create our own holidays. Everything from "purple pants day" to "watch your favorite Mandy Patinkin day." We'll tax, but we'll let people know where the money's going.

I know it sounds a bit idealistic, but what do you expect? I went out there, like many of my fellow-first-time voters, and supported
Internet trends of yesteryear

From ninjas to gay jokes to awful personals

CHRISTOPHER SCHWARZ
Staff Writer

After a couple themed weeks of Web Less Traveled, it's time to return to normal. We're done with the meager Halloween festivities and people have stopped reloading CNN.com every few minutes for election coverage, allowing the rest of the Internet to proceed with the downloading of pornography and music at normal rates. In this edition, let's examine even more Internet culture fads of yesteryear. If you haven't seen them, then you may already be a newbie. Read and be schooled.

Hello my future girlfriend
http://www.xsunderground.com/teddie/

Searching for love online has always been a terrible idea. It doesn't help if you're 11 years old and already have a mullet large enough to challenge that of most NASCAR fans. The original Geocities page from 1998 died ago, but countless mirrors still exist of this young Michael Blount's infamous childhood folly. While the image is creepy and the page design is awful, the sound byte is worse. Load the page and you'll hear young Michael saying, "Hello my future girlfriend. This is what I sound like. I am 11 years old in the sixth grade in New Mexico. Please PM me if I am in Yahoo Chat. Bye! Thanks for stopping by!" in the most creepy, monotone way possible. In January of 2004, he created a site at deceitful.org, claiming his status as the Internet's foremost child celebrity and telling his side of the story. It's since died again, but with that much embarrassment in his past, is it any surprise that he named his blog something as emo as "deceitful.org?"

Real Ultimate Power
http://www.realultimatepower.net

Welcome to the self-proclaimed "Official Ninja Web-page." It's run by a guy named Robert Hamburger, who posts, "Ninjas are sooooooooot sweet that I want to crap my pants. I can't believe it sometimes, but I feel it inside my heart. These guys are totally awesome and that's a fact. Ninjas are fast, smooth, cool, strong, powerful, and sweet. I can't wait for yoga next year. I love ninjas with all of my body (including my pee pee)." Combining youth culture's omnipresent love of ninjas with the then still-unique idea of acting stupid online for comedy value, Mr. Hamburger's site became wildly popular. I'll admit that I hadn't visited the site in years, but in going there now, I'm not surprised to find that he too has written a book. For only $9.95, you can buy Real Ultimate Power: The Official Ninja Book from Amazon. Apparently it's some kind of confidence-building self-help piece. Crazy.

Go left, young man

From i14

tree-face, and as a result felt crushing defeat. I'll be damned if I sit through this disgrace of an administration for four more years. The Civil War lasted four years, as did both World Wars. Do you know how much destruction can be caused now? Join me, my readers, as we start our brave new world, our beautiful nation, Freedonia 2. It can't be any worse than what'll happen here. You can say that after the results were announced Nov. 3, I saw the light. I truly realize what the people want and know now just how the world works. I might be less tolerant now and a bit more unforgiving, but why not? Got to fit in somehow.

Cult films, anime dig desert

From i14

al dull green of the desert plants. The colors seem almost muted. It is a quiet and powerful beauty. Somehow, looking into the impossibly distant horizon, I feel those qualities rub off on me. Considering that I am normally quite the chatty Cathy, this is a huge change. I can understand why those cowboys and Indian braves who rode out into the desert for weeks at a time came back so very cool and collected, along with a stillness inside them. After just a few days, I can feel it rubbing off on me.

Of course, that doesn't mean I am ready to run off to the desert yet. I am sure there is a lot this place could teach me, but I am not quite so sure I am ready to learn it. I have a lot more city adventures to go on, and a lot more talking to do before I am ready to be one with the void. Still, my appreciation is deep. And many others have taken a stab at it. Trigun, probably my favorite anime in the entire world, is based in a desert world far in space where the remnants of humanity must struggle to survive. The cinematography makes full use of the landscape. The great, despised, honorable David Lynch, god of the strange, has even dabbled in the desert in some of his films. Lost Highway especially did a disturbing job of portraying some of the eccentricity of those tiny desert towns that pepper the landscape. But none of that stuff holds a candle to the real deal, to the actual presence of the desert all around you. Don't be fooled. To experience it, you must live it. I suppose that's true about any place, though. To actually know the mountains, you must visit them in person. All the pretty pictures of the Rockies don't do them any justice at all, and those sparkling sandy beaches aren't real unless you can dip your feet in the water.

Why not try experiencing some of these places for yourself? I think traveling changes you in a very special way, and I know I would not be the person I am without seeing as much of the world as I have. There is so much to explore, so much beauty to be found here on Earth, that it makes the heavens and space seem unimportant.
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