Joshua Edmundson, a member of the SGA Senate, has formally announced his intention to file an affidavit against fellow Senator Bryan Voorhees.

The affidavit, which Edmundson said he will file sometime this week, is nearly identical to the complaints from former Senator Kevin O’Grattan, which was dismissed last week. The question remains: will this affidavit prove my case? I am of the opinion that the affidavit has a fighting chance. Edmundson, a member of the Activity and Service Committee, said he took it a step further.

“I am of the opinion and from outside discussions with employees and other individuals that I believe that Senator Voorhees has engaged in unethical behavior,” he said.

Fisher added that notice of an official meeting followed the administration’s Novem­ber decision to declare an impasse in collective bargaining with UCF faculty salaries and benefits.

Voorhees was refer­encing the Daytona presentation post­ed for Dec. 15.

“Legally, the Daytona presentation should have been deleted as it was never approved, and if so the notice of an official meeting took place without the posting being questioned,” he said.

Members also insist that there is no fundamental difference between the affidavit O’Grattan filed and the one Edmundson is proposing. From a legal perspective, Voorhees argues that the affidavit O’Grattan’s charge is of the same vein as the one Edmundson is making, which makes the same conclusions, though coming from different perspectives.

Despite these criticisms, Edmundson feels he is making a strong case. “It’s coming from a sincere senator and it’s coming from a group of the ASU leadership,” Voorhees explained. “The fact that I am on that committee, that the one Counsel heads, is my strongest argument.”

Still, members of the Senate are doubtful about Edmundson’s chances of success. Senate Speaker Sen. Kevin O’Grattan, who was present at the Dec. 15 meeting, and the ER committee meeting that followed O’Grattan’s affidavit, believes the outcome of the charges is uncertain. O’Grattan didn’t talk when his affidavit was presented. As people heard the SGA President’s voice and the Temp Pre­temp [Van Rosenberg] defending the accepted “no,” they thought, “We’re done.” And now, they’re already doing this again.

It is a testament to the dedication and commitment of students and faculty to the university, and to the fact that many people do not consider the offenses that have been found to be of such a high part of impeachment.”

Breaking down the numbers at the Trustees’ meeting

The faculty of a lab study about constructing a new lab to house the school’s football team approved by the Board of Trustees. Although the administration reported an accurate count from local environmental groups, the number was not updated at the meeting.

Preparing for the time ahead, Voorhees was optimistic about the study — President Kevin O’Grattan to check out two similar buildings in the state.

About 190 faculty members have waited for two years during negotiations to receive comparable raises or benefits. Other items that created conflict in negotiations include academic freedom, tenure and benefits.

At 3:15 p.m., Rosie Jordan, a professor in the Peace & Rights at UCF, was the guest. She is serving in SGA for the right reasons.

Perhaps the best compliment Levin paid to Bentley was when the speaker was asked about former Senator Kevin O’Grattan’s most recent appearance. “This is the most respectful, the most professional, the most articulate, the most thoughtful person I’ve ever heard. It’s exciting to be the type of leader Bentley is.”

“President Kevin O’Grattan to check out two similar buildings in the state.”

Taking to the streets

Faculty stage a protest with songs, signs and a march to the trustees

Dennis Conger, a first-year adviser employed at UCF since 1998, has spent a semester parking across the street from campus due to the high cost of parking permits, which he said he can’t afford off his salary.

He is one of 200 faculty members who showed solidarity with United Faculty of Flori­da-UFC as they protested outside the UCF Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday. The meeting followed the administration’s Novem­ber decision to declare an impasse in collective bargaining with UCF faculty salaries and benefits.

Wearing “Respect” buttons and blue shirts, the group of faculty convened on the Student Union patio at about 3:35 p.m.

UCF representatives distributed materials concern­ing administrative raises — which ranged from 10 percent to 45 percent, while faculty

Second-in-command makes impact

Willie Bentley Jr. wakes up at 5 a.m. so you don’t have to

At 5 a.m. most UCF students are sleeping, but not Willie Bentley Jr. He's already awake and starting a day that will keep him in the Student Government Association office until 5 that evening.

Bentley will spend much of his day in meetings, heading to the various schools on a regular basis. He visits the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Student Activities, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Student Affairs, the Office of Student Affairs.

While a large group of administrators received raises ranging from 10 percent to 45 percent last year, the United Faculty of Florida say that UCF faculty members have waited for more than two years for raises. The UCF bargaining team declared an impasse in negotiations, waiting for higher numbers.

While a large group of administrators received raises ranging from 10 percent to 45 percent last year, the United Faculty of Florida say that UCF faculty members have waited for more than two years for raises. The UCF bargaining team declared an impasse in negotiations, waiting for higher numbers.
For more information contact Virginia Kennedy at 644-3604.

Taken the next step
A fall school planning workshop will be held today at 4 p.m. in the Student Resource Center in Room 385. For more information about the workshop, call 245-Career Services & Entrepreneurial Development.

Women power?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Women's Studies will hold a women's meeting at 4 p.m. in the Classroom Building Room 307. For more information call the box office at 623-8000.

Power women?
Plan B pill is up for over-the-counter use

Second time around for emergency contraceptive

TAN MY PHAN

The availability of the emergency contraceptive Plan B hangs in the balance after the Food and Drug Administration decided last week to sell it over the counter to females age 16 and older.

The decision comes near the 32nd anniversary of Roe v. Wade, a landmark case that gave women the right to have an abortion.

Plan B, often referred to as the morning-after pill, has stirred a firestorm of controversy among supporters and anti-abortion activists.

Supporters of Plan B say making the pill readily available over the counter would increase the number of unwanted pregnancies and abortions.

Veronica Stoltz, president of the Pontifical Massily Leadership Alliance at UCF, hailed Plan B as "a viable alternative" and said over the counter availability to the morning-after pill is dire especially since time is a key factor in its effectiveness.

"Sometimes you can't schedule a doctor's appointment fast enough to get a prescription for Plan B and waiting one can be impossible," the sophomore said. "If it's available over the counter, it would cut down on a whole lot of time."

The pills could prevent unwanted pregnancy if taken within 72 hours after unprotected intercourse. The dosage should be followed 12 hours later.

"We're promoting abstinence, contraception or fertilization and doing our best to help young women who have already gotten pregnant," she added.

Emergency contraception after pill is available only with a prescription.

For students like Junior Jennifer Aguirre, the pill could be used for emergencies.

"Brother Jed" offers his views on marriage, sex

JENNIFER AGUIRRE

"Brother Jed" visited the labs of UCF last week with another evangelical visit at the midst of students engaging in what he deems unorthodox behavior.

He stood in front of the Library, urging students to accept Jesus in their lives through Christianity.

In his usual tirade calling attention to sinful behavior, "Brother Jed", also known as Smock, spread wonder and fear that Plan B has a moral evil against humankind.

Surrounded by pamphlets, the traveling preacher blamed the use of the morning-after pill to abortion.

He said there is no need for Plan B because married couples should be ready for children and that "punitive" sex is a sin, and those participating in it will be sent to hell."

Brother Jed said over the counter use of Plan B is "something necessary because sometimes accidents happen," the liberal studies major said. "You can try to be safe by using a condom but that is always breakable.

Plan B opponents are not defining the effectiveness of the drug citing studies that proves the effectiveness of Plan B or over the counter passes FDA muster, a loophole in the system could allow older adults to purchase the pills for their younger counterparts.

This is the second time Barr Pharmaceuticals, Inc., maker of Plan B, has submitted a proposal to the FDA seeking permission to market the morning-after pill over the counter.

The makers of Plan B took an 80 percent effective rating for reducing the chance of pregnancy.

Common side effects associated with the drug are nausea, abdominal pain, headaches and menstrual changes.

Plan B is not to be confused with Plan B, a pill that essentially works like an abortion. The FDA approved the drug's sale in 2001.

"If Plan B is released, it will be a waste," the psychology major said. "Plan B has saved me and my boyfriend from many headaches."

Debbie Workman, 20, said she would not hesitate to use Plan B if the situation arose, especially since she has many friends who have used it.

"It (Plan B) is something necessary because sometimes accidents happen," the liberal studies major said. "You can try to be safe by using a condom but that is always breakable.

Plan B opponents are not defining the effectiveness of the drug citing studies that proves the effectiveness of Plan B or over the counter passes FDA muster, a loophole in the system could allow older adults to purchase the pills for their younger counterparts.

This is the second time Barr Pharmaceuticals, Inc., maker of Plan B, has submitted a proposal to the FDA seeking permission to market the morning-after pill over the counter.

The makers of Plan B took an 80 percent effective rating for reducing the chance of pregnancy.

Common side effects associated with the drug are nausea, abdominal pain, headaches and menstrual changes.

Plan B is not to be confused with Plan B, a pill that essentially works like an abortion. The FDA approved the drug's sale in 2001.

"If Plan B is released, it will be a waste," the psychology major said. "Plan B has saved me and my boyfriend from many headaches."

Debbie Workman, 20, said she would not hesitate to use Plan B if the situation arose, especially since she has many friends who have used it.

"It (Plan B) is something necessary because sometimes accidents happen," the liberal studies major said. "You can try to be safe by using a condom but that is always breakable.

Plan B opponents are not defining the effectiveness of the drug citing studies that proves the effectiveness of Plan B or over the counter passes FDA muster, a loophole in the system could allow older adults to purchase the pills for their younger counterparts.

This is the second time Barr Pharmaceuticals, Inc., maker of Plan B, has submitted a proposal to the FDA seeking permission to market the morning-after pill over the counter.

The makers of Plan B took an 80 percent effective rating for reducing the chance of pregnancy.

Common side effects associated with the drug are nausea, abdominal pain, headaches and menstrual changes.

Plan B is not to be confused with Plan B, a pill that essentially works like an abortion. The FDA approved the drug's sale in 2001.

"If Plan B is released, it will be a waste," the psychology major said. "Plan B has saved me and my boyfriend from many headaches."

Debbie Workman, 20, said she would not hesitate to use Plan B if the situation arose, especially since she has many friends who have used it.

"It (Plan B) is something necessary because sometimes accidents happen," the liberal studies major said. "You can try to be safe by using a condom but that is always breakable.

Plan B opponents are not defining the effectiveness of the drug citing studies that proves the effectiveness of Plan B or over the counter passes FDA muster, a loophole in the system could allow older adults to purchase the pills for their younger counterparts.

This is the second time Barr Pharmaceuticals, Inc., maker of Plan B, has submitted a proposal to the FDA seeking permission to market the morning-after pill over the counter.

The makers of Plan B took an 80 percent effective rating for reducing the chance of pregnancy.

Common side effects associated with the drug are nausea, abdominal pain, headaches and menstrual changes.

Plan B is not to be confused with Plan B, a pill that essentially works like an abortion. The FDA approved the drug's sale in 2001.
Ohio University has agreed to pay part of a $300,000 settlement in a lawsuit brought by a woman student who said a professor subjected her to sexual harassment. The settlement, agreed to by a federal judge, was announced on Tuesday.

Ohio State University is investigating a student who was accused of ramming a truck into a group of students in September. The investigation was prompted by a complaint filed by a student who said the driver had been following her.

A new loan scale, which the FBI has never done any physical activity for, is being considered by the college with no loans at all.

A federal judge in Massachusetts has ruled that the college is required to pay for the student's medical expenses.

The FBI has arrested a man after refusing to leave the college campus.

A new loan scale, which the FBI has never done any physical activity for, is being considered by the college with no loans at all.

A federal judge in Massachusetts has ruled that the college is required to pay for the student's medical expenses.

The FBI has arrested a man after refusing to leave the college campus.

A new loan scale, which the FBI has never done any physical activity for, is being considered by the college with no loans at all.

A federal judge in Massachusetts has ruled that the college is required to pay for the student's medical expenses.

The FBI has arrested a man after refusing to leave the college campus.

A new loan scale, which the FBI has never done any physical activity for, is being considered by the college with no loans at all.

A federal judge in Massachusetts has ruled that the college is required to pay for the student's medical expenses.
Our message to the board is, 'Respect us, talk to us.'

--- ROSE JOELS, EDUCATION PROFESSOR

Hitt’s prepared speech was never read

--- ROBERT HITT, President

Bentley key in making legal services available

--- MICHAEL STONEYBRIDGE, Father of the Lady Knights
**United They Stand**

Senior forward Marcus Avant is playing his best basketball as a Golden Knight and as the say he can attest to all his teammates. UCF has won four games in a row.

**A-Sun title focusing in as rematch with FAU looms**

ASHLEY BURNS

**Tallahassee**

Dedication is a trickly thing in sports. Some athletes might be dedicated, but usually it's only to themselves. That's not the case for the men of UCF basketball. The Knights believe the reason they've been playing so well is because they have finally gelled.

"They think the reason they're on a four-game winning streak is because they've perfected their team chemistry," Avant said.

It appears that they're right. While there's no single player who stands out above all others, no player has made greater improvements than Marcus Avant. The senior forward on a team that is scoring in three consecutive games after averaging less than four points through the first 12 games of the season.

Avant attributes his success to nothing more than dedication and, of course, his teammates.

"We and Daniel Peppers have been coming in early and we have a lot of shooting competition," Avant said. "We hit the floor early Sometimes we come in at 5... 30 and get some shots in. Whenever I get a chance to get some time to get better."

More than anything Avant attributes the Knights' four-game winning streak and their jump from ninth to third place in the Atlantic Sun Conference standings to focus. More than anything Avant attributes the Knights' four-game winning streak and their jump from ninth to third place in the Atlantic Sun Conference standings to focus.

"I think the team has been practicing harder because the names game what's it's going to take to get from third to first."

"It's all about focusing on us," Avant said.

"We have to get ourselves to play hard all the time."

**Women looking to win fifth in a row**

Hudson and Co. return home after perfect two-game road trip against Campbell, GWU

MATT DURANY

The women's basketball team enters the weekend only a half-game out of first place in the A-Sun standings.

"The Knights fly under the radar," said John Landry of the Knights. "They've been playing so well because they've perfected their team chemistry."

"It appears that they're right. While there's no single player who stands out above all others, no player has made greater improvements than Marcus Avant. The senior forward on a team that is scoring in three consecutive games after averaging less than four points through the first 12 games of the season."
Defense still tops in A-Sun while offense begins to gain momentum as well

Teamwork paying dividends for men
Board of Trustees must trust faculty

Yes, capacity in the room may have been hot. But Florida is one of the states where the Board of Trustees are obligated to provide positive, specific things in which many people are interested. The board may be made available to those people. And the number of the board was asked if the Union should open up another section of the room. The board has two other sections, one of which is within minutes to accommodate the faculty. The board refused.

There's an evidence that the Board of Trustees were well aware that there would be more people than usual attending the inaugurations. It showed that the Board of Trustees expected to show up for the Main Plaza and the Board had expected to show up for the inauguration.

The Florida Times-Union asked exactly in case the Board of Trustees would like to see a disturbance in the area to prevent a possible disturbance at the inauguration. The Board did not fulfill its responsibility as a governing body by making arrangements for the students to access the meeting.

According to the laws of every member of the UCF community, they have the right to attend the meeting. Even if the Board of Trustees is right in the legal questions surrounding the Board's decision to have the teachers out in the cold are the moral questions that follow. That Florida Times-Union story, that Board of Trustees were afraid to enter the meeting, or to even meet to protect their people.

Should the organization be elected? Were all part of the same one - UCF. Most people would not want to see the most popular candidate that the people have chosen to be in the presidency.

The teachers who showed up to the Board of Trustees meeting should have been acknowledged. If another part of the room would have been opened, I would have calmed a lot of tension.

Additionally, it's now obvious that the faculty and student intention of creating a spectacle didn't work, and the teachers and students that showed up, they all have empty arms at the meeting.

Get it together and show some respect.

Still bigged

As an alumnus of UCF I like to read up on the current going on at my alma matr. I feel it is important to determine if I use to read in the future as a student.

The opinion article written by Shannon Mau titled "Sanctuary plan: for a bash" mentioned that the University's balance revealed that President George W. Bush is bent on world domination.

I, Mau claims that just because the U.S. government has a plan to invade Iraq, they plan to use it, I'll bet that the money that the U.S. government will spend on this may also will trusting that this is the case for the Iraq. It's a huge cost.

The post, on the other hand, is referring to a administration involving a contingent military operation in a sign that the country be invaded. The faculty should firmly continue to develop nuclear weapons and conserve a lot of funding. The post was that use should be continued with the use of the nuclear weapons.

The post, on the other hand, is referring to a administration involving a contingent military operation in a sign that the country be invaded. The faculty should firmly continue to develop nuclear weapons and conserve a lot of funding. The post was that use should be continued with the use of the nuclear weapons.

We are living in a world where we are at war and we must be at war. The U.S. military is a major part of this country.

Moreover, I suggest that socialists should take the lead on this issue.

I, Mau says more lies and misjudgments when he claims that the government's oil policy is a step too far. The faculty must be informed that the government's oil policy is a step too far.

Psyched for stadium

If there's anything that we finally approved a plan for the possibility of building a new stadium for basketball and football. The stadium would be at the highest in the state. Sometimes the stadium should be built, but I don't have the time to worry about the players coming to the meetings.

As a student, it would be a huge benefit to have a student-organized plan for the stadium. The stadium would be at the highest in the state. Sometimes the stadium should be built, but I don't have the time to worry about the players coming to the meetings.

In the future, we will be able to come back and tell our story of what happened at the stadium.

Currently, visiting teams and fans (and even students) come to the worst part of downtown Orlando. The stadium should be part of the city.

We are living in a world where we are at war and we must be at war. The U.S. military is a major part of this country.

Moreover, I suggest that socialists should take the lead on this issue.

I, Mau, am the best, and President John Hitt and Athletic Director Athletics. Yeah, I
NOW HIRING

WHAT DO YOU OWE
DOES YOUR FORMER EMPLOYER OWE YOU?

Participants will receive:

- 24 supervised training sessions
- MRI scans of the upper arms
- $125

Call Today
407-823-5163

FREE WEIGHT TRAINING

The Exercise Physiology Lab at UCF is looking for healthy, male and female volunteers (ages 18-35), to participate in a research study to examine how genetics affects the way a person responds to weight training.

Participants will receive:

- 24 supervised training sessions
- MRI scans of the upper arms
- $125

Call Today
407-823-5163

Life is calling. How far will you go?

While learning more about the Peace Corps at the following information event. All are welcome.

University of Central Florida College of Arts and Sciences

Tues. June 10, 12 to 5 p.m.

Free Peace Corps Recruitment Flyer
Student Resource Center Building 12, Room 195

Peace Corps Recruiter Keith Weed will be in the College of Arts and Sciences, Tues. June 10, 12 to 5 p.m.

Peace Corps www.peacecorps.gov
800-424-8580

Healthy Men & Women

Volunteer for a clinical research study on an Investigational medication.

To Qualify:

- Ages 18 and older
- Stay 6 hours in Research dorm
- Make 2 outpatient visits
- Make 2 telephone contacts.

Compensation is paid up to $3,000.

Call M-F, 8a-5p: (407) 240-7876
Orlando Clinical Research Center
5055 S. Orange Avenue - Orlando FL 32809
www.ocrc.net

Join the World Leader in the Rent-a-Car Industry!

College Match 101: HARD WORK = MORE MONEY

No Disappar hand! No pizza delivery! Just to drive cool cars

Earn a good salary + a productivity bonus!

Go with Hertz!!!!

Hertz, the leader in rentals, is looking for hardworking individuals who are willing to turn their hard work into hard cash. As a Car Rental Service Agent, you'll learn basic sales and service skills to earn up to $100 per vehicle you service. It's simple—the harder you work, the more you earn! It's an awesome job (and a world of possibilities)

Position are available with Nisan, 7am and 4pm starts time. To take off that paper hat and apply in person at: Hertz Orlando Airport, 5601 Buffet National Drive, Altamonte Springs 32714 or at www.Hertz.com or call us at 407-839-4000 ext. 0. (resumed resumes please put College Jobs in the subject line)

Any salaries are estimates.

www.hertz.com

Hertz

Genital Herpes

You May Not Have Symptoms, But Your Herpes May Be Contagious

Did you know that you may give your partner herpes even when you have no visible sores or lesions?

Local physicians are studying the investigational use of an approved prescription medication for recurrent genital herpes to learn more about when a person can spread it to others.

You may qualify if you are 16 or older and know or suspect that you have recurrent genital herpes.

If you take part, you will receive study-related care, including physical examinations, laboratory tests and study medications.

To learn more, please call (407) 472-0228

M-F, 8-5, or visit www.oocr.net

Orlando Clinical Research Center
5055 S. Orange Avenue - Orlando FL 32809

Volunteer for Your Future
Summer Jobs
$7.25/hour or more

Full-time, part-time, or temporary.

Send resume to:
Melanie Viper
I.ON.15I.
607-345-1234

Summer Jobs
Wanted:

Graphic Design student to work with
Digital photographs on an hourly basis.
Please call 973-545-4257

Central Florida Future

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST

Must be able to multi-task, be friendly and
work in a fast-paced, professional
environment. 25 hours/week.

E-mail resume to
Mike@floridawriters.com
or call 407-475-4155, ATTN: Mia

Central Florida Future

DISTRIBUTION DRIVERS
Spring semester
Monday, Thursday, and
Friday shifts 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Truck/SUV helpful but not required.

E-mail Circulation@floridawriters.com
**THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA ANNOUNCES**

**A PUBLIC FORUM:**

Sponsored by UCF’s Global Perspectives Office, the Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce, UCF’s College of Business, the Metro Orlando International Affairs Commission, Orange County Government, UCF’s Political Science Department, the Orlando Sentinel and the Global Connections Foundation.

**“Free Trade in the Americas”**

**Moderator**
Terry McCoy
University of Florida

**Panelists:**
Glenda Hood
Florida Secretary of State

Andrew LaVigne
Florida Citrus Mutual

Ambassador (ret.) Myles Frechette
Former Ambassador to Colombia and former President of the Council of the Americas

**Date:**
Thursday, January 27, 2005
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Location:**
Cape Florida Ballrooms, 316
UCF Student Union

This forum is free and open to the public.

For more information, please contact the Global Perspectives Office:
(407) 823-0935 · global@mail.ucf.edu
www.ucfglobalconnections.org

---

**Wing Zone**

407-482-1900

12090 College Way
Collegiate Square • Behind Applebee’s

FREE DELIVERY! • HOME OF 25 FLAVORS

**Jumbo Wings**
Pick your Flavor • Eat the Flavor Zone
5 Flavors: 1 Flavor • 5.49
10 Flavors: 1 Flavor • 8.49
15 Flavors: 1 Flavor • 12.49
20 Flavors: 1 Flavor • 16.49
50 Flavors: 2 Flavors, 2 Packages • 29.99
75 Flavors: 3 Flavors, 4 Packages • 39.99
150 Flavors: 4 Flavors, 6 Packages • 49.99

Add Cheese Extra Bleu Cheese or Ranch • 75
Add Free to any Wing order • 25

**Fresh Chicken Salads**
$6.99
Pick your Salad
Plain Chicken Dressing or Fried Chicken Dressing
Pick your Flavor
Plain or any one of our 25 Flavors

**Chicken Fingers**
$3.99
Pick your Quantity, Pick your Flavor
Dipped or On Side
5 Flavors: 1 Flavor • 5.99
10 Flavors: 1 Flavor • 9.99
15 Flavors: 1 Flavor • 12.99
50 Flavors: 2 Flavors • 49.99

**Chicken Finger Basket**
$8.29
5 Fingers & Wedge Fries

**Chicken Sandwiches**
$6.99
Pick your Sandwich
Plain Chicken Dressing or Fried Chicken Dressing • 12 & Burger

**20 WINGS & Regular Fries**
$9.99 / 10% off any item with a minimum order of $16

---

**FLAVOR ZONE**
It may not have an Eiffel Tower, but Club Paris is worth a look

Ladies say ‘no peace, no sex’

O-Rock’s pranksters get personal

Boardwalk + Baseball = disaster?
UCF opens Lysistrata

Controversial anti-war statement debuts tonight

EMILY JANE SCOTT
Staff Writer

It was March of 2003, nearly two years ago now. Protests against a possible war on Iraq were just beginning. Protesters had been marching on D.C. and in the streets of New York in the prior two months. Filmmakers got involved, musicians jumped on board and celebrities spoke out for the anti-war movement. However, at the same time, a more organized, underground project was taking place in the world of theatre.

It centered around and was named after the Greek comedy by the playwright Aristophanes and was known simply as The Lysistrata Project. On March 3, 2003 (3/3/03), the play was performed in 1,029 theatres across the world. Not only was this an incredible showing for the anti-war movement at the time, it was also an incredible showing for feminists across the world.

Lysistrata is the third and final play in the War and Peace series written by Aristophanes. Taking place in the 21st year of the war of his prior two works, Lysistrata focuses on the efforts of Athenian women to bring peace to their lands. Lead by Lysistrata, the women of Athens decide to force their men to cease war on Sparta by making a bold declaration — their men will be denied sexual pleasures until they vote for peace.

Lysistrata instructs her legions to wear their sheerest silks and to “sit prettily” where their men can see them to help make their cause all the more transparent. Even in 411 B.C., the Greeks knew that sex sells. Although we’re used to sex selling music, food, television and even sports, here it is can be used for a more noble cause, proving that women can use their “femininity” for higher purposes. Hence, the play and the 2003 project have been adopted by feminists around the world.

A one-woman show by Kathryn Blume, the co-founder of The Lysistrata Project, premiered off-Broadway in fall of 2004. A musical adaptation of Lysistrata is also currently in the works.

If you’re interested in seeing what all the fuss is about and seeing if the play comes off as liberal as those who have adopted it, you can catch it at the UCF Conservatory Theatre on campus.

The show will run at 8 p.m. from Jan. 20 to Jan. 30, every evening, with two matinees at 2 p.m. on Jan. 23 and Jan. 30. Ticket prices are $12.50 for general admission and $7.50 for students.

For more information, you can call the Conservatory Theatre box office at 407-823-1500.
HAPPENINGS

CALENDAR

CAMPUS

Photography: Living Spaces
Jan. 20, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., free
Visual Arts Building
Room 205
407-823-4240

Clarinet and Piano Recital
Jan. 20, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Rehearsal Hall
Room 116
407-823-5116

The Lysistrata Project
Jan. 20 to Jan. 30, various times, first Unitarian Church of Orlando
$7.50 to $12.50
1901 E. Robinson St.

Late Knights
Jan. 22, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., free
Student Union
407-823-6471

Spike Lee Film Festival
Jan. 23, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., free
Visual Arts Building
Auditorium
407-823-4190

Flute and Piano Recital
Jan. 23, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Rehearsal Hall
Room 116
407-823-5066

32nd Anniversary of Roe v. Wade
Jan. 26, 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
First Unitarian Church of Orlando
1901 E. Robinson St.
407-872-6838

IDEX Premiere
Jan. 21 to Jan. 23, various times,
512
Orlando Expo Center
500 W. Livingston St.
404-379-2217

LATE SOONER

THE LARGEST ANIME COSTUME CONTEST IN THE SOUTHEAST HOSTED BY ANIME SUSHI!

MEDIA GUESTS

RICHARD HERD - "THE MINI SERIES"/V
RICHARD HATCH - "BATTLESTAR GALACTICA"
LOU FERRIGNO - "THE INCREDIBLE HULK"
JOHN KASSIR - "THE CRYPT KEEPER"
SANDY FOX - "AKIRA"
LEX LANG - "JUSTICE LEAGUE UNLIMITED"
SAM JONES & MELODY ANDERSON - "THE ORIGIN electron "FLASH GORDON"
GIL GERARD, ERIN GRAHAM, CHRISTOPHER and FELIX SILLA - "BUCK ROGERS"...and more to be announced!

For more information visit us at: www.megaconvention.com
email: info@megaconvention.com phone: 727-796-5725

GAMING

PRESENTED BY SUNQUEST GAMES & UNITY ENTERTAINMENT

$10,000 TOURNAMENT!
POPcorn FlIcKs: HIGH NOON

High Noon, a film that some have called "the greatest western ever made," will be screening tonight as a part of the Popcorn Flicks program in Central Park, Winter Park. High Noon stars Gary Cooper as the soon-to-retire sheriff of a western town. On the day of his marriage to Grace Kelly, an enemy has threatened to return, and Cooper, being the stoic face of good that he is, is compelled to stay and repel the enemy even if it's against the wishes of his new, beautiful young wife. One of the first films to be played out in real time, fans of the show 24 might like to see where the real-time format originated. The film also happens to be former president Bill Clinton's personal favorite film. Come for the "greatest western ever made," and stay for the popcorn and allegorical communist undertones.

21+ ID Required

WEDNESDAYS
Open Mic Night with Namez
THURSDAYS
Karaoke
SUNDAY
Blues Jam, 4 - 8 p.m.
HAPPENINGS

CALLER

Joe Cocker, Euge Grove (rock)
Jan. 25, 7 p.m., $39.50 to $49.50
Hard Rock Live
CityWalk at Universal Orlando
407-351-5483

Spotlight

Cex
If anyone can get away with mashing several genres together to create a unique sound, it’s Cex. Ryan Kishell (aka Cex) blends hip-hop beats and quick lyrics with folk and electronic sounds. Each show he has put on has been vastly different, ranging from out-of-control stage-diving and rapping to an incredibly chill, intimate show. This time he is on tour promoting the release of the remastered Starship Galaxy with his wife, Roby Newton of Milemarker, who is sure to have a dramatic influence on the performance. Experiences from past shows include aggressive audience contact and being covered in Cex sweat from when he opened for The Postal Service to barely moving on the stage and covering his face when he headlined a few months ago. It is impossible to predict Cex. See him tomorrow night at Will’s Pub for $8 with guests Weathered and Aloha. Doors at 9 p.m.

You May Not Have Symptoms, But Your Herpes May Be Contagious

Did you know that you may give your partner herpes even when you have no visible sores or lesions?

Local physicians are studying the investigational use of an approved prescription medication for recurrent genital herpes to learn more about when a person can spread it to others.

You may qualify if you are 18 or older and know or suspect that you have recurrent genital herpes.

If you take part, you will receive study-related care, including physical examinations, laboratory tests and study medications.

To learn more, please call: 407-472-0228

M-F, 8-5, or visit www.ocrc.net

Orlando Clinical Research Center
5055 S. Orange Avenue • Orlando FL 32809

Volunteer For Your Future
An evening at O-Rock studios

Indie staffer makes a guest appearance on O-Rock's Jody and Scott variety show

MARILYN MANNO
Staff Writer

A good sense of humor and a thick skin for sardonic remarks were the necessary artillery when the indie took a meeting with O-Rock 105.9's Saturday-night radio duo Jody and Scott.

Once a week, between the hours of 8 p.m. and midnight, Scott Mangan and Jody Vining are two halves of the Jody and Scott Show, a program dedicated to their witty banter, wild antics and reporting of just about everything that is happening in their lives on the air. An interview with the indie was no exception.

"We are joined right now by a reporter from the UCF paper," boomed Vining into the microphone with a subtle smirk as he glanced at Mangan from across the sound boards.

"Alright, we have media here, are we gonna do a press conference now?" remarked Mangan.

"Yeah, let's have a press conference," said Vining with a mischievous smile. "Shoot us a question. Let's get to know Jody and Scott."

It all began about four years ago when the two Orlando natives first started working as promotions assistants for O-Rock.

Over the years and several promotions later their titles have changed with Mangan, 25, now coming to the station everyday as promotions coordinator, and Vining, 24, getting up early every morning to produce the Howard Stern show.

"Over the time we had gotten to know each other we sort of developed this rapport where we were constantly talking s**t to each other nonstop," said Vining. He switched off the microphones and a Jimmy Eat World song began to play faintly in the background.

"We would do this when we were hanging around the program director, and one day he was like 'I like listening to you guys talk' because we were constantly berating each other," said Mangan, leaning back in his chair.

So, after much begging the pair convinced O-Rock's program director to give them a few hours once a week. The idea was to recreate the kind of conversation that happens between a couple guys hanging out at a bar.

"We try to make it as non-radio as possible," said Vining as he stood up to stretch. "The whole point is to create something interesting to listen to when you're on your way out Saturday night."

With that in mind, Mangan and Vining make it a point to come up with an idea for the show a few hours before they go on the air. Shows like the one where they decided to send a man to downtown Orlando drunk and dressed as Christmas tree to beg for money.

"Most of the show is kind of by the seat of our pants," said Vining, putting his headphones back on as the song wound down. "It's bad if it's forced."

The mood of the show that night was relaxed, and it was clear that both Vining and Mangan are quite comfortable with the microphone. Still, the guys admitted to being a little nervous that first night on the air.

"The first show was horrible," Vining said.

"Yeah, our first bit was, 'what day is it?'

said Mangan, laughing and shaking his head. "It was so bad."

"That was Scott's genius idea," said Vining sarcastically. "We were answering the phones, 'O-Rock, what day is it?', and we were hoping for some drunken moron to get it wrong."

"But everyone got it right, imagine that," laughed Mangan. "We ended up having somebody call in and pretend to get the day wrong."

When asked how much of the show was real and how much of it was made up, Vining said, "That show was so stupid because we try to avoid doing fake radio," he said seriously. "If we do anything fake it's so over the top.

Mangan agreed, "We once did an indoor fireworks display where we accidentally set the studio on fire," he said. "Was that fake? You be the judge."

"Yeah, we set the studio on fire and still keep our jobs," said Vining jokingly. "You decide."

A year after that first show the pair were sitting patiently with the indie and awaiting the arrival of their next special guest. A man they had promised $20 to if he would allow Mangan to punch him in the face.

"I just have a craving to punch someone in the face with no consequences," Mangan had explained to his listeners.

After making a plea on the air to anyone interested, they chose one from a few people that were willing to take a punch.

"I get to punch somebody in the face tonight," said Mangan eagerly into the microphone. "That's exciting radio!"

"I can't believe we're really doing this," said Vining as he shook his head and laughed. "Hey indie reporter, when you're writing this article, you think you can leave this part out?"
CD REVIEWS

BILLY JOEL
Piano Man: The Very Best of Billy Joel (Japanese import)
Genre: pop
Label: Sony International
Release date: Jan. 18

Aside from being a religion to the 75% of the Florida population that bails from New York, more specifically Long Island, Billy Joel is truly a legend in his own right. He'd have to be to change $75 as his average ticket price. Granted, the cost of admission must be worth it to see the Piano Man himself in action, but the cost of several Billy Joel compilations and Best Of collections might not be. One way for Joel fans to save money is to avoid buying this compilation, which as of now is only available as a Japanese or British import.

A few years ago, The Essential Billy Joel was released, a two-disc collection of all of the man's biggest hits. Spanning from the early “You're My Home” to 1999's “We Didn't Start the Fire” to two instrumental tracks from his 1999 Fantasies and Delusions release, this collection reaches further and goes deeper into the hit catalogue of one of America's finest songwriters.

However, there were a few things missing from that collection, most notably “Scenes from an Italian Restaurant.” Therefore, a fan might hope that this Piano Man compilation might pick up some of the pieces.

Unfortunately, this is not the case. This collection CD begins with some of Joel's more radio-friendly tracks, starting off with the brass-backed “Tell Her About It.” While some requisite tunes are included, such as “New York State of Mind,” “Goodnight Saigon” and “Anthony's Song (Movin' Out),” the disc is seriously lacking some of Joel's finer, if less popular works. Where is our “Miami 2017” Not even a “You May Be Right” or a “Captain Jack?” “Just the Way You Are” was left off? For shame. The absence of “Allentown” and more inexcusably, “Lullabye (Goodnight My Angel),” will leave Joel fans shaking their heads.

Furthermore, these tracks are not organized in any logical manner. Unlike The Essential, which covers 36 songs chronologically by release, this compilation gets it all mixed up. The second track is 1983’s “Uptown Girl”; the third-to-last track is 1994’s “All About Soul,” followed awkwardly by “Honesty” from the 1978’s 52nd Street.

If you are a die-hard fan or you're from Long Island and wish to contribute to his legal fund after all that car trouble, purchasing this album would be a nice show of support. Each one of these songs is outstanding in its own right, and they continue to stand the test of time. But this collection doesn't offer enough of them for the money. If you want to see many of these songs presented in a new light, go see Movin' Out, the Tony Award-winning musical based on Joel's songs—which happens to be playing in Ft. Meyers.

—EMMY JANE SCOTT

TREMBLING BLUE STARS
The Seven Autumn Flowers
Genre: indie-pop
Label: Bar/None
Release date: Jan. 11

The changes Trembling Blue Stars have made in their nearly decade-long existence are subtle, if even noticeable at all at first. Because frontman Robert Wratten doesn't have much range — often relying on his trademark low-key vocal fade-outs — there is an undeniable sameness permeating each album.

Yet the differences between the band's career debut Her Handwriting and its 2001 full-length, the overproduced Alive to Every Smile, are severe. The Seven Autumn Flowers serves as a synthesis of TBS's career so far; it represents a return to the sparse 1990s sound while not ignoring the progression (or digression!) of Alive to Every Smile, with enough ghostly melodies to satiate fans of that album and enough light whimsy to please fans of the old stuff.

Still, the record doesn't rewrite the past; the greatest asset The Seven Autumn Flowers provides is a reliance much less on the percussion and synthesizers Wratten has previously embraced, focusing more on organic instrumentation. Choir-style backing harmonies act as instruments in themselves, replacing the slick ba-ba-ba's of Alive.

Lyrically, Wratten's picturesque ballads are rather exceptional (Take Morrissey and replace the sardonic wit with mundanity, but keep the hyperbole on high). But they're buoyed by such earnest delivery and heartbreaking sincerity that their shortcomings are easy to ignore. Besides, while TBS has always been Wratten's baby, it's Anne-Marie Davies' vocal contributions that stand out the most, from the upbeat, danceable opener “Helen Reddy” to “Further to Fall,” a sentimental valentine with gorgeous orchestral flourishes.

Meanwhile, “One Prayer Answered” may be the most beautiful song Wratten has ever arranged. Wratten's propensity to haunt listeners with otherworldly echo effects is most prominent on “Sorrow Has a Way.” With its progressive structure and Wratten's ethereal call-and-answer with himself, it actually recalls the gloomier moments of Tears for Fears, then becomes a beautiful indie-pop song — an extended jolt from depression to euphoria and back again.

But the question is, who's going to notice this record? This kind of heart-on-sleeve, lovely melancholia is no longer in style amongst the fashionably cool electro-clash surge of today's indie scene. Most of the groups from Wratten's UK Sarah Records collective have either disbanded or are now recording under the radar, with little-to-no distribution in the States.

But with the gradual reissuing of the out-of-print discography of Wratten's old band The Field Mice starting this month, perhaps the legacy of Sarah Records will be preserved, and TBS will remain as relevant as they should be.

—JOHN THOMASON

THE DETROIT COBRAS
Baby
Genre: indie rock
Label: Rough Trade
Release date: Jan. 18

There's a crucial difference that separates The Detroit Cobras from the legion of garage-rock revivalists. While most of today's NME chart-toppers sound like they're channeling 1975 through the slick production and commercialization of 2005, The Detroit Cobras sound like a band recently discovered from that era and unearthed for our listening pleasure.

Equal parts British Invasion and the proto-punk rawness of Iggy Pop, there's an authentic swagger and irresistible pop sensibility that dominates Baby. Occasional flourishes — like the over-the-top sexual innuendos in the silly “Hot Dog (Watch Me Eat)” — are rare, surrounded by great singalongs like “Everybody's Going Wild” and “Cha Cha Twist,” and listen to “Baby Let Me Hold Your Hand” if you ever wondered what it would sound like if Neko Case sang for The Beatles.

—JOHN THOMASON
For the love of the game (and $)

Two contests push modders’ skills to the limit for hard cash

IVAN VELEZ
Staff Writer

Video games were born from the day-dreams of bored programmers. Some of the first pieces of software hackers experimented on were old Atari video game cartridges. Modifying games has always been around, but the last few years have seen this former hobby turn into a marketable venture.

Half-Life 2 Deathmatch Map Competition
http://steampowered.com/?area=map_contest

When released last November, Half-Life 2 sold like Beanie Babies. The game included one of the most immersive singleplayer experiences ever, Developer Valve also smartly included Counter-Strike Source, a modern remake of the most popular multiplayer shooter ever. But a true multiplayer game within the context of the sci-fi Half-Life universe was not released until December.

And it came with a paltry two levels (compared to Counter-Strike Source’s 10 levels).

Rather than tapping their own already-taxed resources for more levels, the people at Valve did one of the things they do best: They asked their fans to produce content for them. They also figured money would be a nice incentive for the dozens of hours of work that go into making a game level. They began a contest Dec. 1, offering prizes of $5,000 for first place and $3,000 for second and third places.

This competition just closed the doors on applications Saturday. Winners will be publicly announced Feb. 28, and their maps will be officially released shortly after that.

$1,000,000 NVIDIA Make Something Unreal Contest
http://www.makesomethingunreal.com/

Having a lot of zeroes in your contest’s name is a good way to turn some heads.

Announced June 2003, the contest was Epic Games’ clever way of roping in hordes of game-developer wannabes into producing everything from relatively simple maps and models to full-blown total modifications for their latest games in the Unreal Tournament series.

Because of the enormous amount of work required compared to the Half-Life 2 contest, the Unreal Tournament contest broke down into various phases starting from July 2003 and wrapping up in November of 2004. The long elimination process ensured that all surviving entrants would continue to develop their mods for well over a year, allowing Epic to choose from polished games that riled their own professional work.

Last September, Epic re-released Unreal Tournament 2004 in a special “Editor’s Choice Edition,” which included 11 modifications from the contest. Included is the gritty, realistic infantry combat of Red Orchestra, the more fantasy-themed airships and pirate raids of Air Buccaneers and many other various mods. While all of these mods may not end up winners, being professionally published and included in a package that’s guaranteed to sell are goals even real games struggle to accomplish.

Aside from publicity and getting published, mod teams duked it out for cash prizes totaling $900,000, a bounty of computer hardware and a commercial game engine license so that the winning mod team can actually attempt to make a full-blown game and legally sell it.

All that’s left now is the final announcement of the winners.

LIFE

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

A club worthy of Paris

But is it worth your hard-earned dollars?

SHARON PARE
Staff Writer

Just as a reminder for the millionth time, it does not cost $200 to get into Club Paris; it was only for the Grand Opening New Year's Eve Bash.

And should you be harboring any fears about it being too exclusive, put those doubts aside. While the club may be high class, this isn’t Miami. As long as you’re nicely dressed, you’re in. The bouncers do not pick-and-choose, selecting only the clientele they want. But this seeming lack of being selective begs the question: Just how upscale is it?

Club Paris is 18-and-up for ladies, while it is 21-and-up for men, pretty much standard admittance for a club.

The club fills the space of the old Orchid Room at Church Street Station, and though the architecture remains the same, the design is drastically different. Pink and purple couches, mirrors, bars, and purple and pink lights to camouflage the old Church Street feel.

Club Paris has a great deal to offer look-wise.

When initially entering the club, you instantly notice the difference that elevates this dance club above the rest. Instead of bouncers and hostesses collecting the cover charge with dinky little cash registers in the front of the club, you instead are shocked to see an actual admission area. Behind the reception desk, the cash register machines are hidden, where you will also notice the Club Paris paraphernalia and merchandise, such as shirts, hung on the back wall. From there, the whole club is barely visible.

Dual staircases line each side of the wall, leading into VIP areas. The left staircase leads to those VIP parties who have bought bottles (wines and champagnes) for the evening. Mind you, the bottles start at $11 and end at $435 for a bottle of Cristal. Thankfully, upon purchasing these bottles, you have a selection of strawberries and crème, or even strawberries and chocolate.

The right staircase takes you to a VIP area all ladies 18 to 20 automatically have in their cover (for a total of $10), and men and women 21 and older can get for $5 more (for a total of $15).

In the general VIP area isn’t anything out of the ordinary. The greatest thing about it is that you can watch everyone downstairs on the main dance floor get frustrated with the overcrowded amount of people, as you stand upstairs in your own bubble.

Toward the back of the upstairs VIP area there is a more exclusive VIP access area. Here, there is a private dance floor with tables and couches to fit your needs. Looking up, there’s a glass dome ceiling. Again, this area is only good if you are looking to get away from the crowd downstairs.

The front upstairs of the VIP area is the A-List VIP Celebrity area. This area is right beneath the 20-plus-foot projection screen. But unfortunately, there were no A-List celebrities on this particular evening. Essentially, the entire second floor is VIP access, including the DJ booth.

Friday and Saturday nights are Club Paris Party Nights. Expect more themed nights to show up later; Fashion Night starts up Wednesday and Latino Night shakes things up starting Feb. 1. DJ Skoop spins the best of Top 40, including dance and techno, a few token pop hits, your typical Lil’ Jon and Usher beats, and even “Twist and Shout.”

Don’t be fooled by the illusions of the club, for there are mirrors everywhere. The mirrors essentially become the walls of the club, which gives the illusion that the club is bigger than it actually is. The best thing about these mirrors is that the state-of-the-art lighting system, predominantly of the colors pink and purple, reflect off of the mirrors and gives off more light than there actually is. When standing downstairs and trying to find your own personal space without exchanging sweat with everyone else, those hanging “lights” are actually speakers.

The martinis and cocktails are reasonably priced. Expect to spend about $8 per drink; not too out of step with other clubs in the area.

The names of some of these concoctions are themed with the club’s famous co-owner. There’s The Simple Life (her reality TV show with Nicole Ritchie), Tinkerbell (her Chihuahua), Orange Ave. (the local drink), Blue-Eyed Blonde (describing her), and the Paris-tini (which is basically vodka splashed with pink grapefruit juice).

All in all, the atmosphere is pure Paris, making the experience a worthwhile one. But there is some room for improvement. The club should be strictly 21 and up to keep a high-class image, and the VIP area shouldn’t be divided in two. If you’re a VIP you’re a VIP, regardless of whether you bought a bottle of wine or champagne for your party.

So take a trip to Paris and just enjoy the view.
Faithful readers of the indie will remember last month when we shone a dim spotlight on Splendid China, one of many Florida attractions that have gone defunct over the years. The failure of Splendid China was due to its lack of appealing attractions. More specifically, it had no rides.

However, some failed parks did have rides — bumper cars, ferris wheels, even roller coasters. If a park has attractions that tourists might actually enjoy, what else does it need to be a success? In the case of Circus World, aka Boardwalk and Baseball, a 15-mile move to the east couldn’t have hurt.

The history of the failed parks began on Feb. 21, 1974, when the Circus World Showcase opened at the intersection of U.S. 27 and Inters-4, north of Haines City — and 15 miles west of Walt Disney and International Drive. The building, designed to look like a red and white striped circus tent, housed an IMAX theatre, a circus museum and a model of the proposed Circus World theme park, which was to open at a later (unannounced) date.

The original owner of the park was Mattel — yes, the GI Joe and Barbie Mattel. Mattel had purchased Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus several years earlier. Barnum & Bailey at the time was considering building a circus-styled theme park, and when Mattel took over, the plans were put into motion.

Circus World failed to draw any crowds during its first years of operation. Mattel

MATT HEDGECOCK
Staff Writer
tried to back out and sell the park but failed to find a buyer. Naturally, it did what any corporation would do with a falling attraction — it expanded it. Mattel poured $3 million into Circus World, adding rides in an attempt to increase the property's value.

Mattel would continue to expand Circus World throughout the 1970s, adding a shuttle-loop roller coaster dubbed "The Zoomerang" and a wooden coaster called "The Roaring Tiger." Despite these impressive additions, Circus World continued to swim in red ink. But why didn't the improvements draw any crowds?

"It's tough enough to compete with the big [parks], but when you have to get people to drive 15 miles to where you are at it becomes even tougher," said Bob Snow, former owner of Church Street Station.

Mattel gave up in 1984 and sold the park for $10 million dollars to land developer James Monaghan. Monaghan refurbished the languishing park and added a 110-foot ferris wheel and a new looping rollercoaster, but it still failed to make money.

Enter Harcourt, Brace and Janovich. The textbook publishing company had gone theme-park crazy in the 1980s, buying up four Sea Worlds and Cypress Gardens, among others. In 1986 they added Circus World to their family of parks — but it wouldn't be Circus World anymore.

HBJ decided to change the theme of the park to an early 20th century seaside amusement and baseball park. On a cool and windy April 4, 1987, Boardwalk and Baseball officially opened. Hall of Fame slagger Ted Williams was on hand to officially open the gates.

Though the park received praise from guests, some comments proved prophetic — one guest told the Orlando Sentinel that the park was better than Disney because "it wasn't crowded," a bad sign in the hospitality industry. Others felt the change of theme was a poor decision.

"Boardwalk and Baseball, I didn't think was anything unique, but Circus World I actually liked and I went several times to visit it," Abraham Pizam, Dean of the Rosen College of Hospitality Management, said.

It was also an expensive decision. On top of the $18 million HBJ paid for the park, an estimated $25 million was paid to fix and change it. In addition, HBJ built a full-size modern baseball stadium, as well as clubhouses and training fields. The Kansas City Royals were enticed away from their existing spring training grounds in Fort Meyers with the promise of huge tourist crowds.

However, HBJ found itself in the same dilemma as the previous owners. In 1987 HBJ faced a hostile takeover by British publisher Robert Maxwell. The takeover was averted, but the company was in debt for $2.9 billion. On Sept. 28, 1989, Anheuser-Busch bought HBJ's theme park holdings for about $1.1 billion.

The call came over the Boardwalk and Baseball PA announcement at about 3 p.m. on Jan. 17, 1990 — the park would be closing a few hours early, and all guests were to proceed to the entrance for a full refund.

And that was the end. Without warning, Busch decided to axe the park, citing that it had never made any money. The gates closed, the Royals left and the rides were dismantled. The nearly 20-year-old establishment was finally dead.

"I tried to work with the owners but it was always a question of distance," Pizam said. "When push comes to shove, that is the major factor — accessibility. It was not accessible to a major market. It was competing for time and money and it could not.

Ironically, the location which doomed two consecutive theme parks is now some of the hottest property in all of Polk County. Currently under construction is Posner Park, a $500 million, 365-acre development complex that would house upscale homes, condos, boutiques and restaurants. Construction is in early stages, but the majority of the land has been stripped down to a sandy pit. The only building left from the old parks is the baseball stadium, barely visible from the interstate, shrouded behind a line of trees. It is scheduled to be demolished sometime in the next few months, a Posner Park employee said.

The change in desirability over the plot of land is due to the enormous growth of Polk County, which has seen more than a 24.9 percent increase since 1990, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Despite the increase, it remains unlikely that Boardwalk and Baseball would have survived through the 1990s.

The failure of these parks proves that just because you build it, does not mean they will come.
Villains battle for a floppy data Disc

Identity Disc a wasted opportunity

IDENTITY DISC COMIC

BY MARVEL

Genre: Comic Book/Action

Release date: Available now

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

Forget the Dooms and Lex Luthors of the comic-book world. Given the chance, second-rate muscle can be far more interesting. So the arrival of Robert Rodi and John Higgins’ five-part miniseries Identity Disc—a boon for those enthralled with the less-infamous villains. It sports six of my all-time greats: The cantankerous Vulture, Deadpool (a guy who shoots off his mouth as much as his guns), the hulking Juggernaut, the always violent Sabretooth, the elusive Sandman and the marksman Bullseye. Not a slouch in the bunch.

Confrontations are bound to happen whenever supervillains get together. A villain’s traitorous instincts will often give in and will make him betray other villains or flee a scene when things get too rough. That’s what makes them different from the heroes, and it’s also what keeps them from winning in the end.

Well, there are no heroes to throw said supervillains at in this tale. No, what we get here is a heist story: invoking Bryan Singer’s film The Usual Suspects much more so than either of his X-Men movies. The six villains are blackmailed into working together by Valeria Merrick, a woman working for a mysterious crime boss who wants the villains to break into the well-guarded A.I.M. (Advanced Idea Mechanics) offices and steal the fabled Identity Disc, a piece of software that contains the personal information of every costumed hero mobile. The plot goes through the typical twist and turns of any modern noir tale, but by the end it’s hard to care anymore.

While Rodi deserves applause for not just resorting to a typical beat-em-up story, his characterizations waffle to fit the roles the story requires. He’ll often give the villains dull questions to ask for the sake of exposition. Each of these characters has had years to develop distinct voices, but Rodi ditches them frequently. Also, the history some of the characters have is forgotten. Sandman went against the Sinister Six and foiled their plans while Vulture was a member, yet neither makes a mention of it. It is cool to see guys like Deadpool and Bullseye exchanging dialogue while offing a dozen guys, which is exactly the type of thing this story needed more of.

Identity Disc won’t make you dislike any of the six main characters. That’s the beauty of comics: Even if one writer mucks up a character and his background, there’s always the chance someone will go back and make it all better.

Resolutions for more fulfilling dating experiences

FROM 18 the earth.

I resolve to never call a man who is too busy to call me. This is my favorite resolution. I often fail to believe that just because a guy doesn’t call, it means he’s not that into you. Then I thought about it. If you are thinking about someone, you call. If you want to see someone, you call. Hell, I get phone calls everyday from my best friend’s pants pocket while he is riding home on his motorcycle. You just can’t tell me you are too busy to call. Guys are just like girls. No matter how busy or terrible their days are, talking to you would make their day 10 times better. Just remember: Busy is another word for jackass.

Jackass is another word for the guy you’re dating.

I resolve to let go of guys who are obviously trying to let go of me. If he disappeared, it is for a reason. That reason is you. A special attachment to that resolution: Let us strive to not be that girl who calls a hundred times, worrying he is in the hospital because that is the only logical reason for his absence. A highly doubtful scenario.

I resolve to not make excuses for a man who is obviously beneath me. Ladies, let’s not be that girl. The one who allows drunken phone calls because “he’s drunk.” The one who believes that two weeks without a single word from a guy is okay because “he was busy.” Reasoning with yourself that a busy week can consist of working one job five nights a week and playing video games in the off time. These men are not worth our time, nor our lame excuses that cause friends to roll their eyes.

It’s gonna be a long year, but with these resolutions hopefully this year loser guys actually lose. Good luck in 2005 ladies.
Check your emotional baggage at the *Hotel Rwanda*

Don Cheadle and cast shine in a powerful true story that sheds light on recent African genocide

**MATT HEDGEOCK**

**Staff Writer**

**GENOCIDE.** Ethnic cleansing. Death squads. Most people would probably associate these words with Nazi Germany and the inhumanity of the Holocaust - a time period which feels distant to many. But these same abominations happened in Rwanda a mere 10 years ago.

*Hotel Rwanda* chronicles the story of a well-to-do hotel manager who shelters hundreds of refugees while his country disintegrates into insanity that would ultimately claim more than 800,000 lives. *Rwanda* is powerful and educative film that owes the majority of its weight to inspired performances.

Paul Rusesabagina (Don Cheadle) is the manager of the Mille Collines, a swanky Belgian hotel that caters to wealthy foreigners. Paul slyly wines and dines military brass and politicos, trading luxury for favors to raise his family's status. He's mildly selfish, primarily concerning himself with the well-being of his wife Tatiana (Sophie Okendo) and their children.

However, the stability of Paul's life is shattered when civil war breaks out between the Hutu and Tutsi (arbitrarily-defined racial groups created by the Belgians during colonialism) factions. After the president is killed by Hutu rebels, the Hutu Power Radio orders its militia to "cut down the tall trees" - the call to eliminate everyone of the Tutsi.

Paul, a Hutu, is initially only concerned with the safety of his family - Tatiana and her family are Tutsi. But when his Tutsi friends and neighbors turn to him for help, he faces the quandary of leaving them for certain death or risking his livelihood by sheltering them in the Mille Collines. He is initially reluctant, but as conditions deteriorate his conscience forces him to relent.

The situation becomes more tragic as it becomes apparent that the Western world will not send support to stop the killing. Colonel Oliver (Nick Nolte), a beleaguered U.N. officer, provides all the support he can - though his men are not allowed to use their guns. Paul ultimately must rely on his intellect and deal-making ability if he hopes to save his family and the refugees from certain slaughter.

Easily the most accomplished aspect of the movie is Cheadle's refined, understated performance. Cheadle is widely recognized as an accomplished character actor, but *Rwanda* is his first major leading role. Paul is an observant, complex man who must shake off his detached behavior and become an active participant in conflicts he would rather avoid.

It's a nuanced and difficult role, but Cheadle fills it flawlessly.

Cheadle doesn't end up carrying the film, though. *Rwanda* has an excellent supporting cast. If Cheadle as Paul is the film's brains, Okendo as Tatiana is the heart. Nolte hands in his usual grunt-and-grumble delivery, but ultimately makes good. Desmond Dube adds soul as Paul's loyal assistant, while Cara Seymour is extraordinary as an emotionally drained aid worker. The film also features Joaquin Phoenix and Jean Reno in extended cameos, but they add little more than familiar faces to the film. All in all, the casting director did a perfect job.

*Rwanda* succeeds emotionally, but it also succeeds politically as well. The message that the West is largely to blame for the genocide (Belgian colonialism, the French supplying the Hutu militia) but unwilling to do anything about it (at one point a State Department official debates the definition of "genocide") is made crystal clear, but it is not harped upon to the point of annoyance. Most audience members will walk out feeling half-uplifted and half-ashamed, which is just how it should be.

The violence of the film feels a little too muted. Scenes of dead bodies or Hutu militia hacking at victims with machetes are usually seen far away or shrouded in fog. While the director faced the challenge of accurately portraying the brutality versus merely grossing the out the audience, *Rwanda* ends up feeling slightly too clean.

As a chronicle of historical events, *Rwanda* feels incomplete, but as an emotional story it pushes all the right buttons. Cheadle deserves some serious Oscar consideration for this performance; though don't be surprised if he gets ignored. *Hotel Rwanda* isn't a perfect movie, but it certainly is memorable and helps connect a human face to a recent conflict that has already been largely forgotten.
The Woodsmen: an honest, sobering look at pedophilia

Kevin Bacon is Oscar gold in this disquietly moving film

JOHN THOMASON

While a film's replay value is usually a plus, it's not always indicative of genius. Take The Woodsmen, for example. While no one should be able to watch The Woodsmen and remain unchanged, it is a film that can never be watched again.

A chilling, unforgettable look into a man's tortured psyche, The Woodsmen packs so many layers of depth and profundity it's hard to believe it clocks in at a scant 87 minutes. A picture of irrepressible grittiness punctuated by moments of slow-burning discomfort, it's a daring picture that will certainly alienate a mass audience.

Indeed, The Woodsmen is by no means traditionally entertaining, and it requires more than passive participation from the viewer. A film that humanizes a pedophile (Walter, played by Kevin Bacon) without the safety nets of biting comedy (as in Todd Solondz's Happiness) or over-the-top angst (As in Michael Cuesta's Lime), Nicole Kassell's debut film is difficult to watch, partly because it offers no easy (read: lazy) explanations for the protagonist's condition.

We see the world through Walter's eyes, after he's released from a 12-year prison sentence for multiple child molestation charges, as he tries to rebuild his life. The film plays out like an internal battle between Walter's <<<

**FILM REVIEW**

The Woodsmen isn't quite all about Eve, but the rapper turns in a terrific, understated performance in a supporting role.

**COMING TO DVD — JAN. 25**

2 villains square off, no one cares

Also, Sky Captain and Metallica's monstrous doc

BRETT RYAN BONOWICZ

Alien Vs. Predator

Keeping the "versus" series alive by a thread, 20th Century Fox has smashed two fledgling franchises together for a movie in which whoever wins, we lose (as both humans and an audience). The DVD evidently features the theatrical version and an extended version with a new beginning. The DVD features commentary by director Paul W.S. Anderson, Lance Henriksen, Sanaa Lathan, Alec Gillis (alien effects), Tom Woodruff Jr. (alien effects) and visual effects supervisor John Bruno. Deleted scenes and a sure-to-be-lame making-of featurette wrap up the normal special features. To add to the mess, Fox has included the Dark Horse comic book cover gallery and some DVD-ROM features that include the first edition of the AVP comic book, an AVP comic book background study and an exclusive 16-page preview of the upcoming AVP graphic novel.

Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow

One of the biggest releases to bomb hard this fall, Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow will possibly go down in history as the film that pushed Sherry Lansing from her post at Paramount Pictures. It could also be remembered as one of the first films to use an all-digital studio to capture its magnificently fake-looking backdrops and Iron Giant-esque robot creatures. The DVD includes five featurettes with background on the film's groundbreaking special effects, the vision behind the film's animation and a look at the original short that catapulted Sky Captain into a major motion picture. The DVD also includes deleted scenes and a gag reel.

Metallica: Some Kind of Monster

One of the better and more revealing documentaries of last year, the blitz year of documentaries, Metallica: Some Kind of Monster follows a crucial two years in the life of the band Metallica. Amidst the band's turmoil, music is made and frequent visits to a very expensive shrink seem to be the only way to turn the band's turmoil into rock gold. The DVD includes 40 additional scenes, exclusive interviews with Metallica about the film, highlights from festivals and premieres, audio commentaries by the band and the filmmakers, two trailers and a music video.
Cult film remake is an assault on good taste

Assault on Precinct 13 needs subtlety and a better cast; in other words, a good Carpenter

CHRISTY LEMIRE
Associated Press

The phrase "cult classic" has been used to describe the original Assault on Precinct 13, John Carpenter's 1976 urban Western about cops and criminals banding together inside a police station against a multicultural siege of gang members.

This new Assault on Precinct 13 is a classic, too — a classic example of destroying a movie by remaking it bigger, louder and more obvious. It's a phenomenon that has stretched across every genre in recent memory: horror (Dawn of the Dead), comedy (Shall We Dance?), sci-fi (The Stepford Wives) and adventure (Around the World in 80 Days).

Actually, calling this a remake isn't entirely accurate, because it resembles the original in title and little else.

The premise is vaguely similar to that of Carpenter's film, which itself was inspired by Howard Hawks' 1959 movie Rio Bravo starring John Wayne, Dean Martin and Ricky Nelson: The good guys and bad guys must join forces inside an abandoned police precinct, on the night it's about to close, to fight an onslaught from the outside.

The action has been moved from sunny, arid Los Angeles to Detroit in a blinding New Year's Eve snowstorm, perhaps an attempt by French director Jean-Francois Richet to obscure the muddled action sequences.

But the attackers and their motivation are completely different. In a feeble effort at relevance, screenwriter James DeMonaco has made the police themselves the bad guys — corrupt cops using their high-tech SWAT gear to bust in and take out an organized crime leader (Laurence Fishburne) who had been their secret partner but now threatens to expose them. (To see this ripped-from-the-headlines angle played out far more powerfully, check out Michael Chiklis and Co. on the FX series The Shield.)

Fishburne, intimidating as usual as Marion Bishop, brings us to the next major difference: the stars. The new movie is packed with them, though they represent such a random cross section of the acting world, it's like watching a very special episode of The Love Boat, only with gunfire and explosions.

Here we have Ethan Hawke as Sgt. Jake Roenick, a former narcotics officer who's now working a desk job after an undercover assignment turned out hideously. It's as if his idealistic Training Day character grew up and turned sour.

There's Brian Dennehy as your stereotypical drunk, Irish cop on the brink of retirement. Drea de Matteo, apparently borrowing clothes from her days as mob moll Adriana on The Sopranos, shows up in fishnets and spiky boots to play Iris, the oversexed police secretary (with, you know, a heart of gold). And wait — isn't that rapper Ja Rule, playing a jailed street hustler named Smiley?

Part of what gave the original its cult-classic status was its cast of unknowns; it was like discovering something small and unexpected. There's nothing small or unexpected in this film, with its jump cuts and shaky hand-held camerawork to make you feel as if you're running through the dark police precinct halls, too.

Richet also takes us inside the dirty cops' heads to explain to us why they're doing what they're doing — especially their leader, played with singular sleaziness by Gabriel Byrne — but the threat was more daunting in Carpenter's film when it was vague.

One scene was carried over from the original, though: an extended attack in which seemingly every window is shot out, and the people trapped inside the precinct huddle for protection. The first time around, the tension had been building slowly to this point, and the barrage itself played out wordlessly and without music — just the steady ping of bullets piercing the building from every angle, which made you hold your breath.

This time around, it's all deafening blasts, competing with an overbearing, overdramatic score.

Subtlety? That's just old school, man.
Daggers fly while hearts soar

House of Flying Daggers a cornucopia of stylish battles and deceptive love

MICHAELE FERRARO
Staff Writer

Following up his near flawless film *Hero*, director Zhang Yimou creates one of the most visually stunning and unforgettable motion pictures of recent memory. Almost every scene in *House of Flying Daggers* is a kaleidoscope of rich color and beauty, and it practically redefines what a romantic period epic should be. It abandons the boredom and predictability of the genre to include such hypnotic martial arts combat. Just like *Hero*, the incredible fight choreography of *House of Flying Daggers* is perfectly composed into view and edited without overdoing it Tony Scott-style. The movement of the characters is captured in such a way that it almost feels more like a ballet than an actual battle. Rarely before has combat been seen in the midst of such gorgeous settings, making the already fanatical fight scenes just that much more memorable.

With the exception of the brilliant direction and look of the film, comparing this film anymore to Zhang’s *Hero* would be wrongly unjust. They are more different than similar, and while *Hero* was a philosophic and political story told in Rashomon form, *House of Flying Daggers* is a linear love story reminiscent to Ang Lee’s *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*.

This film is sure to please any type of filmgoer, and in these dark days of post-Oscar frenzy, *House of Flying Daggers* is the perfect escape.

Portman’s
Beautiful State

BRETT RYAN BONOWICZ
Staff Writer

The day it came out, I purchased the *Garden State* DVD. I had seen the film four times in theatres. Three times I loved the movie and the fourth... I just couldn’t see the film.

I had seen the film the fourth time with someone who seemed to love taking the joy from the movies. She had taken everything I enjoyed in the film and sucked it straight from my beating heart.

You see, I was going through a rough patch in my life at that moment; I had broken up with my girlfriend, purchased a car and for some odd reason had gone on anti-depressants. Now Zach Braff might say I was having a quarter-life crisis in the vein of his *Garden State* character, but being removed enough from the situation now I can say firmly that this was not the case. It was a mid-life crisis and one I have begun to recover from. I’m now in a happy relationship, the car is still running, and I threw those anti-depressants aside after six weeks.

Coming from a completely different perspective months later, I passed the time until midnight of *Garden State*’s DVD release date by watching the movie *Beautiful Girls*. It had Natalie Portman in it, so I thought it might be a good thing to watch before I went to buy *Garden State*. I watched the film in admitted horror.

Not only had it aged like stale urine, Portman’s character matched almost perfectly to her *Garden State* alter-ego. Let’s line up the facts. In both films her characters have male names: In *Beautiful Girls* it’s Marty; In *Garden State*, it’s Sam. Both films involve her ice skating in her younger years, and in both films she is an overly inquisitive youth that causes the main character to revalue his life.

This was fascinating. I figure the name discrepancy can be chalked up to the fact that in *Beautiful Girls* when Timothy Hutton first started talking to her, she may have feared for her life (he does look like a pedophile) and therefore lied about her name...to a degree. She subconsciously chose another boy’s name and stuck with it for the duration of the relationship. She does not address anyone else in the film, and no one else addresses her as Marty. Upon watching *Garden State* again, one can notice the subtle maturities that Sam has gone through from the events of *Beautiful Girls*. She’s been hurt in her life, she’s been broken and she’s all the wiser for it. By the time the credits rolled, I knew I had become a different person and I had learned to love *Garden State* again. I had gained the same wisdom Sam had gained on her transition from *Beautiful Girls* to *Garden State*.

Now it might not be plausible that Zach Braff went about writing his film as an indirect sequel to a little-known film from the 90s, but who cares? It’s a fun little game to play. See how many movies you can do it with. But for now, see the four-hour cut. *Beautiful State*. Watch the arc of Portman’s character and know that the next time you go through a life-altering change that it’s already been done. Better, probably.
id — his still-base sexual desires toward 9- to-12-year-old girls — and his dwindling ego, steering his urges back into place. It would be too much for Kassell to demand the audience's sympathy for the character. In fact, she pulls no punches about the criminal consequences of the character's freedom (a scene in a deserted park involving Walter and a 11-year-old birdwatcher is one of the most uncomfortable and bracing in cinema history). Rather, she asks for the sympathy of his situation.

In every facet of his life, Walter is forced to confront a past he can never escape in his genuine attempts at rebuilding anew. The only apartment that will take him lies across the street from a loud elementary school. His therapist makes him recount his first sexual desires in explicit detail. From his window, he sees a shady character loitering at the school — presumably to seduce boys into his car with candy — and Walter only picks up on it because he knows how pedophiles think and act. And finally, Walter is even harassed at his seemingly stable and droning job at a lumber yard by a snooping co-worker (played by Eve), who finds his record as a convicted child molester and plasters the factory with the information.

While Walter's crimes were unpeacably awful, the keyword here for Kassell is "were" (the breakdown of Walter's ego in the park with the girl comes after a filmic hour of harassment and testing by just about everyone). Eve's character represents the country's paranoia of and double-standard toward child molesters, the same paranoia that made everyone want to capture the Friedmans before adequate evidence and makes police sergeant Lucas (Mos Def) frequently show up at Walter's apartment with vague speculations and no search warrant.

Because of these harsh surroundings, it's only a matter of time before Walter explodes from the pressure. And when he does — beating the crap out of the shady molester across the street — we get the impression that he's really beating up the man he once was and still is inside. Along with a somewhat normal relationship with another abused soul at the lumber yard (Kyra Sedgwick), it's the closest Walter gets to redemption.

Walter's attempts to return to relative normalcy are channeled visually through sex scenes with Sedgwick, which start off jarring and edited out of sequence — to show that Walter's idea of sex is permanently skewed — and gradually evolve to encompass a lyrical beauty. While Bacon's bravura performance is Oscar-worthy, Kassell, as director and co-screenwriter, deserves the most credit for pulling off the almost insurmountable task of providing a balanced and realistic look at a pedophile without succumbing to melodrama, letting us sympathize for Walter's situation while understanding the concern of the outside world.

Opens tomorrow at AMC Pleasure Island.

**MOVIES**

Daring *The Woodsman* provides no easy answers

From 114

id — his still-base sexual desires toward 9- to-12-year-old girls — and his dwindling ego, steering his urges back into place. It would be too much for Kassell to demand the audience's sympathy for the character. In fact, she pulls no punches about the criminal consequences of the character's freedom (a scene in a deserted park involving Walter and a 11-year-old birdwatcher is one of the most uncomfortable and bracing in cinema history). Rather, she asks for the sympathy of his situation.

In every facet of his life, Walter is forced to confront a past he can never escape in his genuine attempts at rebuilding anew. The only apartment that will take him lies across the street from a loud elementary school. His therapist makes him recount his first sexual desires in explicit detail. From his window, he sees a shady character loitering at the school — presumably to seduce boys into his car with candy — and Walter only picks up on it because he knows how pedophiles think and act. And finally, Walter is even harassed at his seemingly stable and droning job at a lumber yard by a snooping co-worker (played by Eve), who finds his record as a convicted child molester and plasters the factory with the information.

While Walter's crimes were unpeacably awful, the keyword here for Kassell is "were" (the breakdown of Walter's ego in the park with the girl comes after a filmic hour of harassment and testing by just about everyone). Eve's character represents the country's paranoia of and double-standard toward child molesters, the same paranoia that made everyone want to capture the Friedmans before adequate evidence and makes police sergeant Lucas (Mos Def) frequently show up at Walter's apartment with vague speculations and no search warrant.

Because of these harsh surroundings, it's only a matter of time before Walter explodes from the pressure. And when he does — beating the crap out of the shady molester across the street — we get the impression that he's really beating up the man he once was and still is inside. Along with a somewhat normal relationship with another abused soul at the lumber yard (Kyra Sedgwick), it's the closest Walter gets to redemption.

Walter's attempts to return to relative normalcy are channeled visually through sex scenes with Sedgwick, which start off jarring and edited out of sequence — to show that Walter's idea of sex is permanently skewed — and gradually evolve to encompass a lyrical beauty. While Bacon's bravura performance is Oscar-worthy, Kassell, as director and co-screenwriter, deserves the most credit for pulling off the almost insurmountable task of providing a balanced and realistic look at a pedophile without succumbing to melodrama, letting us sympathize for Walter's situation while understanding the concern of the outside world.

Opens tomorrow at AMC Pleasure Island.
RAMBLINGS

THE GEEK LIFE

Did you feel that second pass?
As time and distance march on, everything starts to change

ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

I've been thinking quite a lot lately about distance and time. These factors have a way of changing things—of changing patterns, friendships and attitudes, as well as being the basis of, or at least mentioned in, the bulk of science fiction. Sometimes, if I pay close attention, I can physically feel the seconds pass, as though the ticking of my plaid wrist-watch mirrors the beating of my heart and the death rattle of the countless millions of cells slowly dying in my body. I swear I've never been goth...

Actually, my as-of-late obsession with time and distance isn't really linked to anything morbid or even slightly depressing. When I think about years passing, the Earth cycling around the sun, just eight light-minutes away in their constant dance, I feel awed. The fact that these moments are passing, escaping our grasp never to return, changing the very universe in ways we can't even fathom, is such an incredible concept my head grows dizzy trying to hold it all in.

CRAZED INDIE ROBOT

DIANNA ZISMAN
Staff Writer

Dear Ashlee Simpson,

What's up, girl? You've had a rough couple of weeks, so I only ask this to help you: What the hell were you thinking? As if you didn't embarrass yourself enough with your acid refluxtasticness or the Cotton-Eyed Joe Dance of shame, you get your sorry ass booed off stage at the Orange Bowl. And to make matters even worse, your excuse for getting your sorry ass booed off stage at the Orange Bowl? "Maybe they were booing at me, maybe they were booing at the halftime show 'cause the whole thing sucked... I was facing the Oklahoma Sooners, and I was rooting for USC, and they played a clip of it, so maybe it was that those people didn't like me..."

Oh, my. Stop deluding yourself, dear. We all saw the clips. The crowd wasn't booing your football affiliations. They were booing your relentless, non-stop assault on their eardrums. Whoever's advising you on damage control and spin, fire them immediately. Then come up with a more believable story. Tell the world that you wanted your performance to bring Trojan and Sooner fans together, and it worked. For one glorious moment, an entire football stadium was united in their hatred of you. Well done, Ashlee. Well done indeed.

I'm embarrassed for you, Ashlee, and I'm speaking to you as a non-fan. Do you know how easy it is to make fun of you now? It's like shooting fish in a barrel. I've heard people referring to you as the "dumb one" when comparing you to your sister. How do you expect me to hold onto my enthusiasm for ridiculing you when half the globe is stealing my material. Shape up, Ash. I beg you.

Sincerely,
Concerned indie Robot

Dear Prince Harry,

What's up, buddy? You've had a rough couple of weeks, so I only ask this to help you: What the hell were you thinking? As if you didn't embarrass yourself enough with your acid refluxtasticness or the Cotton-Eyed Joe Dance of shame, you get your sorry ass booed off stage at the Orange Bowl. And to make matters even worse, your excuse for getting your sorry ass booed off stage at the Orange Bowl? "Maybe they were booing at me, maybe they were booing at the halftime show 'cause the whole thing sucked... I was facing the Oklahoma Sooners, and I was rooting for USC, and they played a clip of it, so maybe it was that those people didn't like me..."

Oh, my. Stop deluding yourself, dear. We all saw the clips. The crowd wasn't booing your football affiliations. They were booing your relentless, non-stop assault on their eardrums. Whoever's advising you on damage control and spin, fire them immediately. Then come up with a more believable story. Tell the world that you wanted your performance to bring Trojan and Sooner fans together, and it worked. For one glorious moment, an entire football stadium was united in their hatred of you. Well done, Ashlee. Well done indeed.

I'm embarrassed for you, Ashlee, and I'm speaking to you as a non-fan. Do you know how easy it is to make fun of you now? It's like shooting fish in a barrel. I've heard people referring to you as the "dumb one" when comparing you to your sister. How do you expect me to hold onto my enthusiasm for ridiculing you when half the globe is stealing my material. Shape up, Ash. I beg you.

Sincerely,
Concerned indie Robot

I'm embarrassed for you, Ashlee, and I'm speaking to you as a non-fan. Do you know how easy it is to make fun of you now? It's like shooting fish in a barrel. I've heard people referring to you as the "dumb one" when comparing you to your sister. How do you expect me to hold onto my enthusiasm for ridiculing you when half the globe is stealing my material. Shape up, Ash. I beg you.

Sincerely,
Concerned indie Robot

Writing the wrongs of pop culture

As time passes, as we move through it and it moves through us, we change. Whole chunks of our lives, times we may have thought were endless, do come to a close. I remember thinking that middle school was one long torture session that would never end. Looking back now, those three years flew by so fast. I

Please See SCOTT on 19

NEAR-LIFE EXPERIENCE

Cancelled shows 2

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

Last week I started running through some of the more memorable (and forgettable) cancelled prime-time shows of 2004. This week I'm just going to finish the year out. Enjoy!

Miss Match, NBC — An abominable performance as Batgirl in the equally abominable Batman and Robin will always keep me from liking anything specifically tailored for Alicia Silverstone, an actress whose best roles were in Aerosmith music videos, where she didn't have to speak.

Whoopi, NBC — A show with an Arab American character that portrays him as a wisecracker with terrorist ties. Way to expand people's minds, NBC. With both her sitcom and Hollywood Squares getting axed, and losing her Slim-Fast endorsement, this has been the worst year for Whoopi since the year Theodore Rex came out.

The Tracy Morgan Show, NBC — I bet he regrets leaving SNL now. That is, unless he watches it.

Ed, NBC — No more joy in Stuckeyville. My mom and stepfather liked this show a lot for its sweetness and small-town characters, two things that don't last unless they're on the WB and feature preening adolescents who have two skills: Mugging the camera incessantly with bland expressions of utter confusion and posing, posing, posing.

Hack, CBS — For the first time in the history of television, a show named for the type of person who would create it. Can I get a zing?

The District and The Guardian, both CBS — Now I don't have to worry which is which any more. Does that mean I have to get a life now? Aw, crud.

Becker, CBS — I dug this show for the first few years and thought the idea of Ted Danson as a cynical asshole doctor was brilliant casting. But then romance started taking over the show, and it became too syrupy for my tastes. Besides, you can only do so many blind jokes. I'd still recommend the first two seasons. This show was House without the gruesome plots and hyperkinetic effects.

Line of Fire, ABC — David Paymer as a crime boss. Wait, let me say that again: David Paymer as a crime boss. That'd be like casting John Wayne as Genghis Khan. Thank God no one ever did that...

Method and Red, Fox — It's like The Beverly Hillbillies but with violent black people instead of inbred white folk...

Please See MORE on 19
Here's a game where you're presented with a button. The challenge is, predictably, to see how long you can hold the button down. How? Click on it with your mouse and don't let go. The timer starts counting when you press. After either your finger goes numb or you realize the utter pointlessness and just stop caring, it shows you your time compared to that of others. As of now, the highest record is two days and one hour... and that's only the record from the past week. Cite this if you ever need proof that the Internet contains a lot of losers.

You're The Man Now Dog
http://www.yourethemannow-dog.com/

Here's an entire Web site with only one page. It features a clip of Connelly and large text that says, "YOU'RE THE MAN NOW DOG.COM." Most significantly, it has a looping sound clip of Connelly's character in Finding Forrester saying the quote. After other, copycat sites with unintentional left blank.org

Here's a page that has been intentionally left blank. It has only a small link to a site explaining its purpose and mission: to preserve the old practice of "intentionally blank" print pages and transport it to the Internet. Why? It's something about zen and relaxing. I don't know, I just like it. It seems like a front for uselessness to me. If you choose to "take part," they encourage you to create a blank page on your own site. What could be more awesome than that?

---

Technology shrinking time, distance

A hundred years ago, the world was a much larger place. Now we needn't wait but a second to reach our peers, comrades, families and friends. Yet, as we seem more and more desperate to fill every second and erase the distances that separate us, are we perhaps forgetting about the long term? In our rush to fill every moment, to make things fast and quick and easy, I think we are forsaking the permanence of such things as a simple letter kept safe in a box. The digital world, as much as we do love it, has a real temporary feel. An old newspaper cut-out saved in a scrap book somewhere in a dusty closet will mean more in 50 years than a 120-gig hard drive full of old e-mails, and I would prefer an old bookstore copy of my favorite book than some server somewhere holding a thousand digital pages.

Scott Baio dressed as Michael Jackson?

Scott Baio dressed as Michael Jackson when, as an Englishman, you'd have to know the pain your country went through on account of Hitler's armies. Or that I knew better than to dress like that when I was 10, meaning that, at 20, costumed Sieg Heils should never have even been an option. No, what bothers me most is the celebrity trend you're threatening to set. Many a star have contemplated this scheme as a way of boosting their own publicity. Why, I heard Scott Baio muttering that he should have come to the premier of Superbabies dressed as Michael Jackson, while Rush Limbaugh complained about not having the presence of mind to show up at ESPN headquarters in a Donavan McNabb jersey.

Next time you're invited to a costume party, Harry, just dress up like an M&M and save us all the trouble, all right?

Best Wishes,
Robot Von Trapp
Club Tr3

Orlando’s Only Upscale Vegas Style Lounge

Grand Opening

Come see what you’ve been missing!!!

Saturday Jan. 22 at 9 PM

Party with Power 95.3’s Obie and Little Shawn live from club Tr3.
Featuring Montie Carlo Night for fun prizes.
Live Vegas show girls. Body painting by Nick.

Located right across from the UCF Campus
@ 12253 University Blvd. On the corner of Alafaya
Trail and University Blvd. in the University Shoppes.

For club info & VIP reservations: (407) 273-CLUB (2582)
Do or Dye Salon. Official Salon of Club Tr3 (407) 658-2121
www.clubtr3.com