It's in the game' at UCF-affiliated EA Sports program

A UCF-affiliated gaming academy, the Florida Interactive Entertainment Academy (FIEA), is holding its first open house this month for students with degrees in a technical area, plans to admit between 30 and 50 students for the fall and expects 300 students by fall 2006. The total cost for the nine-month, four-semester program is estimated at $45,000.

Students will be recruited to work in five specific teams: modeling, animation, technicalrendering, software design and production support. FIEA plans to set itself apart from other video gaming schools by "stigmatizing the workplace as a low-paying, never-attained," Mike Moshell, the interim head of the School of Film and Digital Media, said "chivalry" during a presentation at UCF's Downtown Center.

The academy is a partnership between UCF and Electronic Arts Inc., the United States' largest video game producer, well-known for sports-related games like the Madden NFL Football series. In lieu of preventing students with a traditional class setting, which many of their classmates would have attended, the FIEA will supply students with a modern EA workstation: a desktop computer with an individual desk and the latest in computer technology.

Moshell said he believes that offering students an office-like atmosphere will allow them to use their creative skills to their full potential and will thoroughly prepare them for an actual job with a gaming company.

"Our goal is to have 100 percent of our graduates actually gain a job for employment," Moshell said.

The Orlando City Council also voted to lease the former downtown Expo Centre, home of the FIEA, formerly known as the Downtown Expo Centre, to UCF for a year for the next 40 years. City officials said the hope is that they will help rejuvenate the downtown area.

Although the Expo Centre is not completely renovated, it represents progress for students from the UCF School of Film and Digital Media who began their four-semester visual language program this month.

---

Senate chief declines bid for top role

Sean Lavin decides not to throw his hat in ring

MARK JUSTICE

To the surprise of Student Government Association insiders and close supporters, Speaker of the SGA Senate Sean Lavin announced Saturday that he will not seek the job of student body president.

In a statement to The Florida, Lavin, who was expected to run as a candidate for the United UCF party, said, "Despite the outpouring of support and encouragement from my friends and colleagues, I have decided I cannot abandon my responsibilities to the Senate that I have come to love."

The speaker's decision not to run has united UCF — one of the three major political parties at UCF — looking for another candidate to endorse for the top SGA position with the three-day window for registering candidates opening tomorrow.

"If Sean ran for president, he could do an amazing job; however, he does have a responsibility to the UCF student body and to the FSU Senate as speaker," Arts and Sciences Senate's Kirk Winkler said. Though not running, he shows his love and dedication to helping others.

---

SGA official cleared of all wrongdoing

Senate votes against launching an inquiry

KATE HOWELL

Byron Council, a Student Government Association official, faces no more charges of misfeasance following a SGA Senate committee decision to throw out an affidavit that accused him of general wrongdoing.

In a 4-3 vote, the Senate's Legislative and Judicial Affairs Committee voted Sunday that an affidavit filed against Council, who is chairman of the Senate's Activity and Service Committee, will not go to the floor of the Senate, the body that would need to elect the suspect to be tried on the charge.

The affidavit claimed that the suspect "allegedly committed fraud and/or theft while a student" at the UCF Student Union.

Courtney Sutton

Four different layouts are available, varying from one-bedroom, one-bath efficiency to four-bedroom, four-bath apartments. The apartments come complete with a full kitchen and access to washers and dryers on every floor.

According to Tricia Pena, special projects coordinator for the Department of Housing and Residence Life, six residents cream the top floor will even be able to see downtown Orlando from their windows.

The massive undertaking is under construction and set to open in the spring of 2006. Along with housing, the project also offers residents a private-parking garage where they can elect to purchase their own dedicated parking space.

Unlike the other on-campus facilities, students are required to sign an $800-a-month lease to live in the apartments, instead of being forced to move out during breaks.

Pena said the additional housing would provide upperclassmen with "the opportunity to move into a place completely their own, where they will experience all of the convenience and amenities associated with it."

---

Housing on the rise

Upperclassmen get chance to live in luxury in new on-campus apartments

Courtney Sutton

Students who missed the Jan. 15 deadline for housing have a second chance to live on-campus — in luxury.

A posh, seven-story high-rise apartment building, near the Arena, will be available at the beginning of the year for anyone interested in moving in.

Open house meetings were held last week for anyone interested in moving in.

The on-campus complex is now accepting applications for 2005-2006. Students are required to sign an 11-and-a-half month lease to live in the apartments. Students will be recruited to work in five specific teams: modeling, animation, technical rendering, software design and production support.
Video-gaming academy joins two similar U.S. institutions

By Chris Murrin

January 31, 2005 • Volume 37, Issue 18 • Page 8

The Student Newspaper Serving UCF Since 1969

http://www.ucf-news.com

Central Florida University

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Orlando, FL 32817

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The Central Florida Newspaper is published on Wednesdays and Fridays in full color and Wednesday during summer.

UCF beauty queens never grow old

By Shamin Bennett

It may turn any hopeful on-looker off the shoulders and hips. The UCF student, as with Miss America, is known for her grace and poise. The pageant is subject to change. The Freedoms are on display.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS

A police officer guards at the entrance to the Waterford Lakes shopping center in Winter Springs as the 28 infected cities and provinces of Vietnam and has asked for an investigation in this regard.

The group has asked for a long-term and well-funded campaign that publicizes the mental health risks associated with cannabis.

Icy climate change is future

Emissions of greenhouse gases could cause the global temperature to increase up to 7 degrees Fahrenheit, according to results from the world's largest climate modeling experiment. "There is definitive evidence that the climate will be warmer," Pielke said. "The question is how much warmer." 

The researchers also found that 45 million Americans suffer from general lupus and 20 mil-

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Alabama sets stage to ban books for being too ‘gay’

Schools may drop taboo textbooks, plays from curriculum

Gina Scalon

State lawmakers in Alabama are proposing a bill to cut funding that would aid libraries and communities of books and plays with homosexual characters or themes. The bill is one of the first introduced to this year’s Alabama Legislature and could be discussed when the session begins Tuesday.

If the bill becomes popular like November’s multiplage ban of gay marriage — it could pose a problem for universities.

“The fact that this is taking place in Alabama makes this threat somewhat realistic, but I would hope that something like this could never happen,” said Peter Garper, 55, the vice president of the ACLU Gay Lesbian and Bisexual Student Union. “It makes me feel sick to my stomach.”

Alabama State Rep. Gerald Allen, who sponsored the bill, justified it as necessary.

“I believe that the ban on books, media materials, journals, etc., that currently exist restrict access to information about a wide variety of people,” said Allen, who sponsored the bill.

During a press conference Thursday, Allen said: “It’s an attack on the group of people.”

This isn’t a question of artistic or cultural value. It’s an attack on a large group of people.”

“Ideas have power. And the banning of books, media materials, journals, etc., that currently exist restrict access to information about a wide variety of people.”

Marcia Marotta, who teaches Queer and Lesbian Studies, “The best method for learning tolerance is through art, film and literature — it would make it even more difficult than it already is to disseminate my work.”

Some students expressed disapproval at the proposal. "It's absolutely ridiculous," UCF theater manager Kelly Hould said. "It violates basic rights of the gay community and, more importantly, the constitutions of the United States..." This isn't a question of artistic or cultural value. It's an attack on a large group of people, and it's discrimination."
Running for office?

Though no one officially declared his candidacy for president prior to 20 UCF students arrived with a petition designed to have enough signatures on it to force a presidential election. Senator said he was not concerned with the petition and was looking for a volunteer to help him.

On the campaign trail, Senator said that he was looking for students to help him in his efforts.

"I was always ambitious about running for president," Senator said. "I have a lot of connections and I have a lot of friends who are interested in helping me."
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**Ask a doc**

**KRISTINA GRABNICKAS, ARNP-C**

I have a headache that has lasted for about a month-and-a-half and it does not go away. I do not know what it is. I have tried taking medicine but it hardly helps.

**Almost**

The pain is often throbbing and on one or both sides of the head. People with migraines often feel dizzy or sick to their stomach. They may be sensitive to light, noise or smells. In a few people, migraines can also cause aura, such as seeing spots or halos, just before actually getting the headache.

If you have migraines, you are not alone. It is estimated that 30 percent of young adults in the United States get migraines. Many scientists believe that a migraine is caused by narrowing and expanding of the blood vessels in the brain. There are also many theories that the level of certain chemicals in the brain may affect the nerve system that regulates pain. Where the cause, certain things can trigger a migraine. For some, certain foods can bring on a migraine. Others find that sleeping too long or too little provides a migraine attack.

Some common triggers are:

- Stress
- Sleeping too much or too little
- Certain foods like cheese, chocolate, pizza, hot dogs, pork, seaweed or anything with MSG
- Sudden changes in weather patterns or sleeping patterns
- Smoking
- Travel
- Changes in hormone levels

Also, if one of your parents gets migraines, you have a greater chance of having these types of headaches than someone who doesn't have a family history of migraines.

Most migraines last from ten to sixty minutes; some can last a couple of days. Every migraine begins differently. Some people just don't feel right. Light, sound or smell might bother them or make them feel worse. Sometimes they can feel nauseated and vomit. Often the pain begins only on one side of the head.

Some people get aura, a kind of warning that a migraine is on the way. The most common aura includes blurred vision and seeing spots, colored halos, jagged lines or bright or flashing lights or something in a certain aid. The aura may only be seen in one eye.

Your health care provider will ask you to keep a headache diary to help figure out what triggers the headaches.

Part of the treatment may involve making certain changes in your lifestyle—like changing your sleep patterns or dietary habits, or avoiding certain stresses that trigger your migraines.

The best way to prevent migraines is to learn what triggers your migraines and then avoid them.

Make a plan for all the things you have to do—especially during stressful times like final exams or mid-terms—so you don’t feel overwhelmed when things start piling up. Regular exercise can also reduce stress and make you feel better. You can try lying down in a quiet, dark room until the pain goes away.

If you arem interested in seeing a headache or migraine provider, call the Student Health Center for an appointment to be seen by a provider.

---

**Privacy available with first one-bedroom units on campus**

For $115 a month, they don’t have to move out until the following academic year. Though the project targets upperclassmen, it is likely the best deal for seniors. Radio and television major Tommy Silas was interested in living in the new apartment building but does not want to pay for the summer after he graduates. "If I won the lottery, I would love to live there," he said.

The apartment was designed for off-campus living and was not a conscious decision. The total monthly lease cost ranges from $250 to $1,370, depending on the room. Some residents live in a four-bedroom apartment that could cost students almost $900 a month.

A 12-month lease at a four-bedroom, fully-furnished apartment (above the average maintenance cost of $300 per month for a private-gated community) would cost a student almost $1,800 a year. That cost includes most of the amenities.

The project is intended to provide students with more amenities in their new apartments but does not want to pay for the summer after he graduates. "If I won the lottery, I would love to live there," he said.

The apartment is not only in the first phase of a four-phase plan, but also the only phase of a three-bedroom plan that will last until August 2007.

According to Housing and Residence Life, the developer involved in the project is the same one that named the Concourse Center. The name comes from the plans for a $100,000-conversion to a new residence hall that will become a future graduation, basketball games, and between $100,000 and $100,000 entertainment events a year.

In addition, there will be more apartments with room for 1000 more residents. When the project is finished, the first side of campus should resemble a scaled-down version of Winter Park Village or Celebration, For UCF, that means the soon-to-be residential side of campus will be infused with retail, restaurant, and entertainment venues for the area based on the results of focus-group studies.

The developer involved in the project is the same one that named several stores they would like to see in the plan, including Ron Jons and restaurants such as Outback and Blackstone.

The plan also includes a movie theater.

"It’s exactly the kind of project that UCF and our downtown community are happy to support," said downtown mayor Don Dillen. "I just hope it won’t be a repeat of the ’twin’ side of campus."

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**Student Government Senate Utilities**

- **Bill**
  - **Organization Name**: UCF
  - **Amount**: $774

- **Office Supplies**
  - **Total**: $774

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**Student Government Senate Utilities**

- **Bill**
  - **Organization Name**: UCF
  - **Amount**: $500

- **Office Supplies**
  - **Total**: $500

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- **Bill**
  - **Organization Name**: UCF
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Men end three-game losing streak with a 60-57 win over Belmont

ANDY VASQUEZ, Staff Writer

Sometimes wins are ugly. But they're still wins. Ugly wins do the job, especially when they help kill a three-game losing streak.

Anthony Williams scored 10 points and grabbed 10 rebounds while the Knights' defense blocked two shots in the final eight seconds at UCF fielded on for a 60-57 victory on Saturday at the UCF Arena.

The win ended the Knights' losing streak and moved UCF into a four-way tie for sixth place in the A-Sun.

A lack of consistency has defined the season thus far for the Knights, and this game was no exception. UCF lost a 10-point-second-half lead and allowed Belmont to stay in the game with some sloppy play in the final minutes.

"Gary Johnson had two turnovers in the final 1:20, one of them leading to a Belmont lay-up that left UCF with a 10-point lead with 1:20 to play," said UCF Coach Kirk Speraw. "Our guys were pretty aware, we didn't give up on any open looks, and we continued without finding." The win right here definitely makes me feel a lot better," Williams said. "We were going for a championship, but now we just have to compete to make the tournament.

The Knights were forced to readjust their goals after the frustrating stretch, plagued by inconsistency, in which they lost three straight games and fell into a tie for sixth in the A-Sun. Now they find themselves only two and a half games out of first place, and with consistent play down the stretch they could be in contention for the Conference USA crown.

"I don't know what's wrong with us," UCF guard Kingsley Edwards said. "We played hard for five minutes and we slack off for five minutes. We're just too inconsistent as a team.

"We still want things to come a little bit too easy," Kingsley Edwards said. "But when you have such a talented team as we have, you have to win tough games."}

CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE INCONSISTENT PLAY

ATLANTIC SUN TANDING MEN'S BASKETBALL

OVERALL

W L W L

Gardner-Webb 8 3 11 7

Gay 7 4 10 11

Jacksonville 7 5 10 8

Mercer 5 6 7 12

Belmont 6 5 7 12

Baylor 6 5 11 7

Georgia State 6 6 9 11

Stetson 6 6 13

Florida Atlantic 6 6 13

Lipscomb 5 7 9 8

Campbell 0 11 15

William Balkenerst and the Knights defeated Belmont 60-57 Saturday night at the UCF Arena. The win ended UCF's three-game losing streak.
Women still atop standings after loss to JU

Two Free tickets to the MTV Movie Awards!

To enter, swipe your valid UCF student I.D. in at least 1 UCF home sporting events* between now and the end of Men's Basketball Season. One lucky student and their guest will win an all expenses paid trip to California for the live taping of the MTV Movie Awards!

For a listing of sports schedules, log onto www.ucfathletics.com

*Includes football, soccer, row, men's and women's basketball
Tennis off and to a slow start in 2005

Road unkind to both the men's and women's teams

History has a tendency to repeat itself.

Four days after the men's tennis team lost to the Florida Gators, the women's tennis team lost to the Lady Gators by the same score.

"This team has an extraordinary amount of depth," UCF Coach Forrest Allread said prior to Thursday's match with No. 3 Florida. "We look forward to upcoming tours that it's going to be a dogfight.

Unfortunately for Allread's Knights, the Gators made them look like puppets, sweeping all three doubles matches and all of its singles matches.

With the day's only bright spot, UCF sophomore Becca Godden is a top spot on UF's Leonor Frangulyan, who is ranked No. 74 in the nation, when she won the first set 6-3. Godden dropped the second set 6-2, causing the match to be reported. Frangulyan won the third set 6-4, over Godden.

UCF captains Kristina Lohmos and Paua Fernandez both lost when they played on against the Auburn Tigers.

Men still looking for first win

After being out for the Gators, the UCF men's team traveled to Alabama over the weekend looking to rebound.

Now, after losing to both Alabama and UAB, UCF would just settle for its first win.

Ranked No. 77 in the nation, Alabama (1-9) could defeat the no. 6 Knights (0-3) in the Civic Hall Indoor Facility.

"Things began badly for UCF when all three doubles partners lost to the Crimson Tide," said the teams' first and third singles respectively.

The doubles partners lost the second set 6-4, causing the match to be reported. Frangulyan won the third set 6-4, over Godden.

UCF season-debut win

Junior Jérémy Gunter won on No. 92 Florida, breaking his 0-1 match record. When he lost against No. 2 Florida "We look forward to upcoming tours that it's going to be a dogfight."

Intramural Official

Brand and Fernandez as a duo ranked No. 74 in the nation.

UCF Athletics Director Dean Lee, however the Knights' top singles player, lost when they played the nation's No. 3 singles player, Sanaz Mohammadi.

 Crawford as a doubles player, No. 1 men's doubles and No. 1 mixed doubles.

Men's tennis
tennis team lost to the Lady Gators by the same score.

Charlotte Southern at the UCF Arena. Former UCF off%

calling the winter breaks. Anderson whipped the first round point of the UCF holiday tournament between Princeton and

Saturdays game was ugly and it wasn't the refs' fault

FN H

game didn't go well either. My favorite point in the game involved a ball going out-of-bounds off a Miami player and one of the refs called it off of Troy Liddle.

Webb, without his cell phone and his call and rightfully gave the ball to the UCF, making the initial call. The call had this look on his face as if he were saying, "How do you show me up in front of this crowd. I will not rules and cut out your heart.

This is exactly what happens every game. We come out flying, the opposing defense clamps down, the opposing offense declines and we start post-pom-poms hanging in the wire because we don't adjust on anything. It is right to complain about a win! In this case, you don't get me wrong; we were, I'm especially happy that the team took down the Bucs, who hail from the conference before we defeated them in the National Championship of Fights.

Suda's win are like those Esko小鸟 girls that are wearing fat.

It's cold outside. It's a 10 degree day.

You might think they're good but they're still ugly.

What's the solution to this onslaught of ugliness? Destroy Lip sync. Annihilate the Bucs, Put over Knightro's knee and start shooting away. We just can't win. We need to prove that our justice is justified. The three's need to stop and the finals need to die. More than anything the turnovers need to disappear.

There are only a few conference games remaining on our schedule for every game remaining, that's the whole forest of ugly trees out there.

Just once I want to eat all of the beautiful trees.
February 2nd
Pegasus Ballroom

Sports Expo

11AM - 2PM

Central Florida's hottest professional sports teams and UCF's varsity and club teams are joining together at SGA's second annual Sports Expo. Students, Athletes, and Sports Fanatics; this is your chance to get closer to the action. Stop by the Pegasus Ballroom THIS WEDNESDAY for free giveaways and food and opportunities to become a part of UCF athletics. For more information log on to www.sga.ucf.edu
The bill is blatant and horrifyingly regressive. Homosexuality is real. Regardless of if all, or indeed the people of Alabama — think homophobia is not merely a social evil. It is a fact. It actually is, and has been, and will always be.

Grade-school students who have gay parents (or know someone who doesn't) should have the opportunity to learn that they're not alone — they should be able to check out the book "Two Daddies." High-school students shouldn't suffer because of the discrimination of closeted lawmakers — they should be able to read the "I Can't Make This Up," the Future of Donny Gray, if they would like.

Most of all people need to be able to make their own decisions about their own bodies, and also the ability to make a proper connec tion. Thus, the people's duty, and inherent right, to think and act as a free and rational being cannot be a crime.

It's no wonder that people decide that they don't like gay people — gay people are seen as immoral or re duced to the status of sexual objects, of little or none, but need to make their own choices.

What Allen is proposing is banning literature that has been around for hundreds of years — based upon his own moral bias, and his personal opinions.

Of course it is not only for gays, but it's not practical. Who, when going to sit down, read off of the hundreds of thousands of novels, textbooks, plays, journals and other literature that is in the Alabama libraries? And who is going to be able to monitor every prospective action, against, in books? In the truth, it may not be able to per functory.

Making bigoted laws is wrong, but making bigoted laws that don't make practical sense is a waste of lawmakers' time and the taxpayers' money.

Legislators like Allen need to realize that it is not his na tions to pass laws that benefit only a subset of the population. Just as if I were to tell you, "I don't like the color red, so in every poem I write I will be sure to add fifty words about the color black."

With this in mind, what is the point in going to class, or doing the work, or doing the hard work of educating oneself if it will only make it more explicit.

She might dance loco, that don't make her a ho no...
Are you interested in an exciting career?

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To Qualify:

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- Stay 6 hours in Research dorm
- Make 2 outpatient visits
- Make 2 telephone contacts

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October 22, 2004

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2 min from UCF, $499/mo. Garage, all util.
Near Library, Student Union, Aquatics Center.
Contact Mike 375-7676. 407-691-0097.

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$500/mo. SS, Winter Park, Pool, Cable.
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3FURNISHED ROOMS WANTED

UCF, Jan, Male, only. 3 rooms. $275/mo.
3 roommates needed for 3 BR/2 BA. 2nd fl.
Clean, quiet, near UCF. 753-821-6930
640-1800

ROOM FOR RENT

UCF, one large bedroom, 2nd fl.
From 12/1, $250/mo. All util incl. Meals.
Quality home. Great student. 239-822-6632

ROOMS WANTED

UCF, 4 people needed for 3+ BR/2+ BA.

ROOM FURTHER AHEAD

UCF, Hybrid student needed in 3 BR/2 BA.
$500/mo. All util incl. Home theater.
727-561-1908.

LOOKING FOR ROOMMATE

UCF, 2 female students needed for 1 BR.
Halston Apartments. 2nd or 3rd fl.
$450/mo. All util incl. Home theater.
727-757-6563.

LOOKING FOR APARTMENT

UCF, 2 female students needed for 1 BR.
Near UCF. All util incl. Includes cable, Internet.
727-899-8830.

LOOK IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

UCF, 3 female students needed for 1 BR.
2nd or 3rd fl. $400/mo. All util incl. internet.
727-345-0849.

LOOKING FOR FEMALE ROOMMATE

UCF, 2 female students needed for 1 BR.
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UCF, 1/2 mile from UCF. Furniture for sale.
Contact Andy 407-789-6500.

Mention this ad and you’ll register to win 2 dozen roses from Michael the Rose Man

Send your love one a Valentine’s Day’s! Place a classified ad in the Central Florida Sun

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**O.S.I. HAS THE AMMO YOU NEED TO BATTLE BOREDOM**

A BULLETIN FROM THE OFFICE OF STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

**MONDAY 31**

SGA Presidential Election
Declaration of Candidacy:
January 31st - February 3rd
Office hours are 9am-5pm
Monday through Thursday in S.U. 214

**WEDNESDAY 02**

Black History Month
Opening Ceremonies
11-3pm Student Union Patio
Brought to you by AASU & MSC

SGA Sports Expo
11-3pm Pegasus Ballroom

CAB Movie: Donnie Darko
8pm in Cape Florida
Be there or go back in time and be there.

Dance Marathon
Registration
2-5pm Cape Florida 316

**THURSDAY 03**

CAB Comedy & Variety Committee
Brings back your favorite hypnotist
Tom DeLucia,
8pm Pegasus Ballroom

AASU-MSC Black History Month
Networking Luncheon
11am-1pm Cape Florida, SU 316

Volunteer UCF
Volunteer Expo
12noon Student Union Patio,
Make a difference! Over 30 community service agencies represented

**FRIDAY 04**

Dance Marathon
Registration
2-5pm Cape Florida 316

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Feb. 5th
- Dance Marathon Yard Sale
- AASU-MSC Black History Month Field Day
- UCF Baseball Opening Day event

Feb. 7th
- VUCF Arthritis Foundation Carpool

Feb. 9th
- CAB Lego Event
- AASU-MSC Black History Month Valentine’s Day Gala

Feb. 10th
- Dance Marathon Date Auction
- Arnold Palmer W.A.C.H. Orientation session for new volunteers
- VUCF Labor of Love

Feb. 11th
- AASU-MSC Black History Month
Funny Fridays

Feb. 12th
- CAB Spectacular Knights presents the
Miss UCF Scholarship Competition

Visit:
[WWW.Emoji.SDES.UCF.EDU](http://WWW.Emoji.SDES.UCF.EDU)

For More Info

**WANTS YOU!**
call 407.823.6471
Happy fourth birthday, Broken Speech Poetry Slam!

A geek haven before MegaCon

Spacing out with the Astrological Society

Thanks a Million, Mr. Eastwood

Vol. V, No. 18, Jan. 27 - Feb. 2, 2005
FX show a strong rival for Megacon
Show features guests from films, TV, comics

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

Do you like comics? Have you ever given your mother the silent treatment after she dared call one of your action figures a doll? Then come on down to the 16th annual Florida EXtravaganza, also known as “The Coolest Show on Earth” (Take that, Barry Manilow!) running Friday through Sunday at the Orlando Expo Center on 500 W. Livingston St., across from the TD Waterhouse Centre. Anyone who’s no one is going to be there.

Perhaps the coolest guest for comic fans will be the legendary former escape artist, Jim Steranko, whose innovative work in the 1960s on such titles as Nick Fury, Agent of Shield is still looked at with awe these days. With many of our comic corps fading away, it might be good to thank one personally while he’s still here.

Also, check out Ethan Van Sciver, one of the best artists in the industry today (check out his penciling in Green Lantern Rebirth).

Guests from sci-fi movies include such convention regulars as Mark Goddard (Lost in Space), Sid Haig (Capt. Spalding from House of a 1,000 Corpses), Jeremy Bulloch (Boba Fett from the Star Wars series), Walter Koenig (Chekov from Star Trek) and Glen Shadix (the fat dude from Beetlejuice and the voice of the mayor in The Nightmare Before Christmas).

Two real treats appear in the form of fellow Oz castmates Ernie Hudson and JK. Simmons. Hudson, who does many a B-movie, never ceases to be an entertaining presence in anything he does. Simmons is quickly becoming one of the best supporting actors in Hollywood and is the only redeemable part of the original Spider-Man flick.

On the horror front, you have actor/stuntman Kane Hodder (Jason Vorhees) and Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2 and Night of the Living Dead actor Bill Moseley. Even more random, check out Cindy Morgan, the actress most known for her role as Lacy Underails in Caddyshack, and washed-up wrestling personalities Jimmy Hart, Johnny B. Buff and Glacier, who will be signing autographs for free at the “Notable and Notorious” booth.

Also, the event will feature more than 750 dealer tables. Tons of toys that you can normally find in stores for retail price will be sold for exorbitant amounts! All the phasing Visions and Unmasked Batmans you’ve been looking for are available for a small fortune. What a country!

The convention goes from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Be there and be square. Go to http://www.fxshow.com for more information.
HAPPENINGS

A sample photograph from Carrie Mae Weems, appearing today at the Crealde School of Art.

COURTESY CARRIE MAE WEENS

CAMPUS

Talent show audition
Jan. 27, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., free
Student Union
Building 103
407-823-6471

Free Trade in the Americas forum
Jan. 27, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Student Union
Auditorium
407-823-6471

Marketing X screening
Jan. 27, 7 p.m.
Student Union
Auditorium
407-823-6471

EVENTS

Carrie Mae Weems
Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m.
Creede School of Art
600 St. Andrews Blvd
407-647-3307

John Scott and Horace Boyar
Jan. 27, 7:30 p.m.
Hungerford Elementary School
230 S College Ave
407-647-3307

SUNDAY

Florida Extravaganza
Jan. 28, various times
1000 Holt Ave
407-647-3307

Hurston Humanities Panel
Jan. 28, 1 p.m.
Winter Park Civic Center
1000 W Morse Blvd
407-647-3307

HAPPENINGS

Everyday Drink Specials
$1.00 Domestic Drafts
$2.50 Michelob Lite, Michelob Lager, & Michelob Ultra
$3.50 Jager Bombs & Cherry Bombs

Across the street from the UCF campus in the University Shoppes
12253 University Blvd
For club info & VIP reservations: (407) 273-2882
Do or Dye Salon, Official Salon of Club TR3, (407) 658-2121

Thursday

XOXO Ladies Night
"Hugs & Kisses"
No Cover & Free Drinks till midnight
for all the Ladies (Till Midnight)

Friday

"First Class Friday's"
UCF "U Can't Finish" (Giant Martini) Martini Specials (Till Midnight)

Saturday

"Rain Saturday's" feat. DJ Storm (Till Midnight)
Rain Vodka Drink Specials & VIP Bottle Specials

 рядовая 4

Clue Tr's

Orlando's Only Upscale Vegas Style Lounge

Vodk A

The Indie • JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 2, 2005

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**HAPPENINGS**

**CALENDAR**

**SPOTLIGHT**

**AIDS BENEFIT MUSICAL**

Broadway Cares: Equity Fights AIDS (BC/ EFA) is an organization that aims to give theater artists with HIV or AIDS the opportunity to continue working and leading full lives. BC/ EFA strives to pay for the rent, medical bills, medications or anything else artists with AIDS may not be able to afford.

At 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Winter Park Playhouse will link with BC/ EFA to do a benefit performance of Love, lost & found. Now Days, a popular musical about relationships, from dating to marriage.

This is a fantastic opportunity for BC/ EFA to raise donations and an entertaining way for you to help out. Tickets are $50 for adults and $25 for seniors. For more information or to reserve tickets, call their box office at 407-645-0145. Come out to support “Winter Park’s only professional theater” and artists with AIDS.

---

**From 13**

**Audiophile, Distance, Lucid Fly (rock)**

Jan. 27, 8 p.m., $2

535 W. New

407-539-1711

**Ballard**

Jan. 27, 8 p.m., $5-$7

407-244-0299

Suckerpunch, Hedshok, From Goldminers, Ed Screamers 360

Jan. 27, Keller Glass Hall

407-999-2570

Back Booth

37 W. Pine St.

**12727 21+**

-----no cover ----

---$3 cover---

SMOKERS WELCOME

THURSDAYS

SUNDAY

Blues Jam 4-8 p.m.

**21+ ID Required**

**WEDNESDAYS**

Open Mic Night with Ramex

Karat bar

**FRIDAY**

Boulderfield

10pm-close

no cover

**SATURDAY**

Fin w/ Ramez, Nasgan & Wyn Bros.

10pm-close

$3 cover

SMOKERS WELCOME

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(At I-485 & E. Colonial)

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★ College Students Always Free

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For 1 Free Program

(Any Performance)
HAPPENINGS

From 14

Kate O’Brien’s Irish Pub
42 W. Central Blvd.
407-649-7646

Big Ten-4, Ask Me Later,
Megaphone, The Band of the
Name, Amy Steinberg, Funk U,
Ben Bledsoe, Ruth King, Snafu,
Skip, Atomic Tangerine, One
Drop, The Curve, Band Marino
(various) for "Tsunami Relief
Concert"
Jan. 29, 3 p.m.-10 p.m., $10
Wall Street Plaza
Wall and Court Streets
407-896-9904

Invisible Ink, Early Next Year,
Lynex, The Antics, Runnin’
Blind, Linda Nunez Band,
Bleeding Inc., Wilcor (rock) for
"Emergenza Fest"
Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m., $10-$15
Milne’s
Back Booth, 37 W. Pine St.
407-999-2570

Evil Ballerina (indie)
Jan. 29, 9 p.m., $5
Island Creek
2716 N. Sydenham Rd.
407-657-6047

Trick Daddy (hip-hop)
Jan. 30, 10 p.m., TBA
The Club at Firestone, 578 N. Orange Ave.
407-972-0066

The Five Finger Discounts,
Mesmer Machine, 3rd Limb, Fifth
Avenue Onyx, Whaystation,
Verloren, Unstable, Danny
Morris Band (rock) for
"Emergenza Fest"
Jan. 30, 7:30 p.m., $10-$15
Back Booth, 37 W. Pine St.
407-990-2570

The Skepticals, The Corks,
Insufficient Numbers, One Pump
Chump, The Know How (indie)
Jan. 30, 5 p.m., $7
Will’s Pub, 1850 N. Mills Ave.
407-896-5070

The Kick, The Hour Unknown,
Country Slashers (rock)
Jan. 31, 8 p.m., $5
Will’s Pub, 1850 N. Mills Ave.
407-896-5070

Walls of Jericho, Bury Your Dead,
Fall Blown Chaos, Premonitions
of War (hard rock)
Jan. 31, 8 p.m., $10
The Social, 54 N. Orange Ave.
407-246-1419

Kings of Convenience (indie)
Feb. 1, 7 p.m., $15
The Social, 54 N. Orange Ave.
407-246-1419

The Toasters, Supervillains ( ska)
Feb. 2, 8 p.m., $10
The Social, 54 N. Orange Ave.
407-246-1419

The Spotlights
WINNIE-THE-POOH LIVE
Who could forget that “silly ole bear?” For the past 80 years, the
unforgettable characters of A.A. Milne’s Winnie-the-Pooh and his
friends have lightened the hearts of the young and old in the pages of
their books. Now, starting tomorrow and running through Feb. 20, the
honey-coated cast will come to life on the stage in an adaptation by
Kristin Sergel. So, if you’re feeling fuzzy and a little nostalgic for the
lovable teddy, join Pooh, Piglet, Kanga, Roo, Owl, Rabbit and Eeyore
in their adventures through Ashdown forest at the Orlando
Repertory Theatre, 1001 E. Princeton St., 407-896-7363. Admission is
$12.50.

UCF Conservatory Theatre Presents
The Woman Who Fell From the Sky
Written by Victor Hugo Rasevski Randa
Directed by Lani Harris - Starring Be Boyd
This production, out of 248 entries from a ten state region, is
one of seven that has been invited to perform at the Regional
Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in West Palm
Beach, Florida.
One Performance on Campus:
January 31, 2005
For reservations, call the box office at 407-929-1500
Having staked a reputation in two of the most influential independent bands of the 1990s, Dinosaur Jr. and Sebadoh, and having put together successful home-recorded compilations, Lou Barlow comes forth with his third solo record. Titled *Emoh* and probably a wordplay on everyone's favorite teenybopper music of the times, this album does work toward many of the goals that most "emo" music does — simple expression of emotions through uncomplicated songs. However, Barlow does this effectively with beautiful melodies, quiet guitars and strong songwriting.

It seems as though Barlow has continued to calm down over the years. Dinosaur Jr. came out of the gates rocking from the start, and then Barlow's days with Sebadoh included more songwriting and a great deal of mellowing out. Like his Sebadoh material, this latest record does not convey any desire he might have to be a rocker. On *Emoh*, we have a series of solid songs of love, hurt, hope and redemption, some which inspire laughter while others are likely companions for a good cry.

Much like his home recordings, the overall feel to the record is surely lo-fi, but the sounds are clean and well-produced. One aspect that stands out here also is Barlow's voice. With the familiarity of 1970s folk singer and the steadfastness of a Christian praise and worship songleader, Barlow infuses meaning into lyrics such as "If you love me / tell me with your eyes," from "Legendary." Pleasant singing may not always be a pertinent feature of lo-fi indie rock, but it certainly works on this album.

The songs on *Emoh* skim through but don't really explore varying genres, but are highlighted with some string and piano accompaniment. The record has an overall foxy feel, with some alt-country sensibilities to boot. Many of the lyrics are somewhat obvious rhymes and messages, such as "I knew from the beginning / that you would end up winning / I knew right from the start / you'd put an arrow in my heart." There is also a sweet, surprising little ditty about the Virgin Mary ("Mary, Mary and a veil of stars / you changed the world and broke my heart") that will likely end up in any listener's head hours after hearing it.

Barlow is not striving for endless complexity or deep meaning here. In a sense, the album does serve the same purposes as much emo music claims to, except this record actually achieves its goal. These small, lovely, well-crafted songs are not muddied down by anything unnecessary. This album is both fairly upbeat overall and still tranquil and soothing. Barlow displays vestiges of the statement "less is more" on this record, and the listener definitely gets more out of this carefully mastered work.

—EMILY JANE SCOTT

To say that the new M83 record, *Before the Dawn Heals Us*, is a major disappointment is to understake the case. It's a terrible record. If their previous record, *Red Cities*, *Dead Seas & Lost Ghosts*, hadn't been so good and widely praised, it's hard to imagine anyone would waste their breath on *Before the Dawn Heals Us*. Part of what made *Red Cities* such a fascinating and unique record was how it co-opted the sort of cheesy, faux-majestic synth sounds usually found in fantasy video games and low-budget anime but put them to use making genuinely majestic music. *Before the Dawn Heals Us* uses a similar sound palette as *Red Cities*, but now simply sounds cheesy.

The comparison that got used out the most in reviews of *Red Cities* was "My Bloody Valentine with synths," but that influence is mostly gone, seemingly replaced with bad soundtrack music and dirge-like tempos. The band's new record, *Lost Ghosts*, was how it co-opted the sort of cheesy, faux-majestic synth sounds usually found in fanatical moments, with its bursts of distorted bass and dramatic drums fills as "Run Into Flowers," *Red Cities'* standout track. "I Guess I'm Floating" is reminiscent of *Red Cities'* more vertiginous, shoe-passer-influenced moments, with its bursts of distortion and woozy melody. While passable, such tracks aren't nearly enough to offset *Before the Dawn Heals Us'* worst moments.

With M83 changing its sound so dramatically and with such apparent purpose, one wonders whether *Before the Dawn Heals Us* is a mistake or aberration. More likely, instead, is that *Red Cities* was a glorious one-off, an accidental byproduct of inexplicable experience, the likes of which M83 will never be able to recreate.

—DARYN COX

The Duluth, Minn. band Low has been labeled "slowcore" for its haunting vocals and dirge-like tempos. The band's new album, *The Great Destroyer*, should do little to shed their image. "When I Go Dead" (sample lyric: "When I go dead / I won't even mind"), "Broadway (So Many People)," and "Death Of A Salesman" will never be mistaken for teen pop. Not that that's a bad thing. Low proves to be masters of space and texture to convey genuine emotional feeling, most notably on "Silver Rider" and the album's first single, "Monkey."

The album starts to drag a bit near the end but finishes strong with "Walk Into The Sea," a fuzzy, semi-pop song that brings to mind the Pixies at their best. *The Great Destroyer* may not be instantly accessible, but repeated listening reveals a rewarding musical experience.

—NICHOLAS MARIAVICH

If you've never listened to ... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead before, then the first two tracks on the CD might confuse you or shy you away. With a band like Trail of Dead though, that's just them being them.

*Worlds Apart* starts off with an intro that is as random as it is weird. The CD doesn't really start to pick up until the third track, but even then there are instances of random sound effects in background songs.

It seems to be that they didn't do it to be odd; they do it because they can. Despite the randomness, the CD offers good indie rock that will be sure to please the fans of Death Cab for Cutie and Modest Mouse.

Even for people that aren't fans of indie rock, this just might be the CD to get them into.

—RICKY SIBILLO
**The indie** is giving its two cents on the major award categories; this week, we cover Best New Artist and Short Video of the Year.

**Best New Artist**

Los Lonely Boys: A true crossover act if there ever was one, Los Lonely Boys has played on top 40, adult contemporary, country, latino and rock stations across the country.

Maroon 5: It's technically not their first album, but who's keeping track? With three songs that radio had to put a restraining order on, Maroon 5 has made songs about being dumped catchy and cool for the first time since Counting Crows.

Joss Stone: With the personality of an *American Idol* contestant, what this English tart lacks in charisma she makes up for in vocal prowess. With two lucrative albums, Joss Stone is becoming the queen of plastic soul.

Kanye West: This producer-turned-rapper is the toast of the town at this year's Grammys with his overly ambitious and overlong CD *The College Dropout*.

Gretchen Wilson: A protégé of Big and Rich and a member of their esteemed Music Mafia, Wilson showed that she could succeed with party anthems as well as slow ballads.

**Prediction:** With West's 10 nominations, it seems likely he'll sweep in other categories, and they'll award it to Joss Stone, who's being groomed for big things, though Maroon 5 will definitely put up a good fight.

**Short Video of the Year:**

"Take Me Out," Franz Ferdinand: An unconventional video that captures an unconventional song. An excellent way for a band to make a first video. It gives a good, lasting first impression and leaves you wanting more.

"American Idiot," Green Day: An overrated video from an overrated album by an overrated band.

"Flawless," George Michael: It's different but not accessible enough for lasting appeal.

"Walkie Talkie Man," Stereogram: Directed by music video and film genius Michel Gondry, this video has some fun moments but is one of Gondry's weaker efforts. Still beats "Human Nature."

"Vertigo," U2: U2 is the only band that consistently releases albums and still has each one labeled as a comeback. This video rocked and picked up right where the band left off.

**Prediction:** U2. Grammy voters dig guys that can still rock in their 40s. It gives them hope. Plus, the dizziness of the video matched its namesake.
Buste a cap into your GameBoy for a good time

Meanwhile, Resident Evil 4 keeps things freaky on the GameCube

IVAN VELEZ
Staff Writer

After the pre-holiday deluge of major games, this past month has been pretty stagnant on the release front. Xbox, PS2 and PC gamers all received their blockbusters of Halo 2, Metal Gear Solid 3 and Half-Life 2 back in November. The sales of those titles carried over into December, but January hasn't seen any other high-profile games for those platforms.

Luckily, Nintendo has been less stingy this month. Two new games from two of the biggest franchises gave Nintendo gamers something to be happy about this month.

The Legend of Zelda: The Minish Cap

Everyone's favorite pointy-eared, green-vested warrior has returned in yet another hand-held adventure. The Minish Cap returns the Zelda series back to gameplay more reminiscent of the Super Nintendo's A Link to the Past than recent 3-D entries in the series. The 2-D graphics provide for a vibrant, cartoon backdrop for the colorful characters and monsters that Link encounters. The look was heavily influenced by the cel-shaded visuals in The Wind Waker.

The Minish cap allows players to become smaller than a dime. When players shrink, their environment becomes drastically different and more threatening. Being tiny, however, allows players to interact with the diminutive Minish race. It also allows them to explore inside places where they normally can't fit — they can even attack enemies from within.

Developer Flagship used its previous game The Four Swords as practice dabbling with the classic Zelda gameplay. Now they've produced a game that once again proves that 2-D games are alive and well on the Game Boy Advance.

Resident Evil 4

Five years have passed since Resident Evil

PLEASE SEE FRIGHT ON 19
LIFE

NIGHTLIFE SPOTLIGHT

A pool hall fit for dukes

Duke's is ‘your living room on steroids’

Marilyn Manno
Staff Writer

“...I really just wanted to create the kind of place that I would want to hang out at,” Jeff Meyers said. At the youthful age of 26, Meyers is the owner of Orlando’s newest mutation of the pool bar, Duke’s Billiards.

“It’s nice because most of the places you would normally go to play pool don’t have good food and are usually kind of beaten up and run-down,” said Steve Wilson, 35, a loyal patron since Duke’s grand opening on Sept 13 of last year.

With everything gleaming and only a few short months old, it is a long way from being run-down. A traditional pool hall with a few extras added in, Duke’s is a streamlined and upscale version of the original idea. Its high ceilings and large rooms are lined with lavish pool tables and plush leather couches—all of which are surrounded by an array of 40 television sets.

“It’s kind of like your living room on steroids,” Wilson remarked with a smile.

“Wow, I’ve never heard it put like that, but I like it,” said Meyers. “I’m not really a big bar person, so coming up with this place in my head I probably did, without even realizing it, create my living room.”

True to the hype, the atmosphere, with the help of a team of lovely Duke’s girls, does a good job of catering to a wide variety of needs.

Feel like watching the game? Then you can kick back on any of the eight leather sofas or recliners set in front of a 120 inch HD TV screen. The sofas are “the first thing to fill up on game night,” according to Meyers.

If a game isn’t on that night, then the screen rolls up into the ceiling to reveal a perfect stage for live music. You might find the comfortable leather and table service to be a nice contrast from the usual standing rooms, plastic cups and self-service that is typical of any other local music venue.

Hungry? Any one of the girls will be by your table any minute to see if you’d like something to eat from a full menu. Or, if you’d rather drink your dinner, then you can visit any one of two full liquor bars.

Of course you could always play pool. It’s still a pool hall, right?

“I can definitely say, without a doubt, that we have the nicest pool tables in all of Orlando,” boasts Meyers of the 15 brand-new Brunswick tables.

Still, at its Lee Road location, Meyers admits that even though Duke’s isn’t around the corner from the colleges or set in the middle of downtown, he hopes that it will become a popular destination for anyone in search of a beer and a game of pool.

“It would really warm my heart if this place could become that place that everybody knows about,” he said. “I would love for it to be that kind of place for Orlando.”

Like random violence? Then this game is for you

**MERCENARIES**
**By Lucus Arts**
**Genre: Action**
**Release date: Available now**

Ricky Surrillo
Staff Writer

You’re a lone agent who gets to hijack anything you want, kill people and blow up your surroundings. Sound familiar? It should, it’s been done before—and done well (Anyone hear of Grand Theft Auto?).

While nowadays it’s hard to find a truly original video game concept, Mercenaries puts its own twist on the genre. There are three different mercs to pick from, though it doesn’t really matter which one is chosen. Each character can drive the same vehicles and shoot the same guns. The only difference is one can take more damage, one runs faster and one is harder for enemies to spot. Each merc can also speak an additional language, which doesn’t affect your gaming experience.

The game is set in North Korea, where the government has been overthrown by General Song. Taking him down will make you an extremely wealthy mercenary. Song has a $100 million bounty on him, but to get to him, you have to get through his 51 “officers.” All together they are known as the Deck of 52 — Song being the ace of spades. There are four factions that will give you jobs and bounties; Allied Nations, South Korea, Russian Mafia and China. If you decide to favor one faction over the other, it’s not a problem. If you ever get to the point where you become hostile with one of them, you can just bribe them and you’ll be ok. So feel free to shoot anyone and blow up anything, since really, that’s the point of the game. Sure, you get money from bounties and random contract jobs, but if you decide to blow up, say, a random vehicle or building, go right ahead and get paid for it too.

Mercenaries offers something that other mission-based games don’t—supply drops and bomber raids. After all, a building isn’t going to get destroyed with grenades and machine guns. That’s when you order a surgical strike to take it out. As you progress through the game you get more options available to you, from getting a vehicle whenever you want to an extremely powerful “bunker bomb.”

Probably, the best part of the game is the sound, but what else would you expect from a Lucas Arts game? So, bottom-line, as long as you don’t care about mindless destruction and the go-here, kill-this-guy type of game set in a war zone, then this is for you. It gets a little old and redundant, but if you ever get bored you can explore the countryside and find hidden goodies and, as always, blow the ever-loving crap out of everything.
Four years of the Broken Speech Slam

Faithful poets keep it alive through three venues, giving them a place to take their poetry.

EMILY JANE SCOTT
Staff Writer

ESTED IN WINTER PARK is Stardust Video and Coffee. It is a Thursday night at about 9:30 p.m. Michael Tedder stands on a stage in a small room. He introduces the event that is about to take place — the weekly Broken Speech Poetry Slam.

Before the performances, Tedder and founder/organizer Jay Bradley look around the room to find three judges for the slam. Each volunteer is handed a wipe-off board and a dry-erase marker. The judges are instructed to score competing poets on a one-to-ten basis, decimal points allowed. Performers are limited to three minutes for each poem. Tedder reminds patrons to show appreciation for every poet who performs and the slam officially begins.

Location aside, this is the way that Broken Speech has operated for four years. Jan. 27, 2001, we had four poets compete in the first Broken Speech slam at UCF," Bradley said. "Originally, it started through Sigma Tau Delta. The first slam took place in a room in the Student Union.

Broken Speech spent a year at UCF before it moved to Guinivere's, the downtown coffeeshop now a part of DMAC. Bradley said the move was a "tremendous success." After a year there, Bradley had considered a move to Stardust, but Guinivere's took action first. "The Iraq war was breaking out, and all over America, there were poets reading against the war. I decided to do it because it was a great way to get more socially conscious poets out there, and to get the slam promoted. Guinivere's said, 'bye bye.' Stardust then gave Broken Speech a home on a trial basis and people kept pouring in. That home was soon made permanent. Jay is emphatic as he states. "Stardust is the best venue."

Now, each Thursday night, patrons of Stardust witness all kinds of poets, from beginners to seasoned veterans, perform in three rounds. "When it comes to slam poetry, Jay actually runs the tightest ship that I've seen," says Martin Collins, the first poet to perform this particular evening. "He's real rigid on the rules... other places are more spoken word, open mike, much like Spokenword on Tuesday nights at Will's Pub." Bradley said the three-round competitive format was created by a Chicago construction worker in 1986 in hopes to make poetry seem "more accessible" to more people.

A regular performer at these events, Collins' poems often talk of eating gingerbread men and kittens. "When it comes to actually reading stuff, when it's judged, I find that the more quirky, amusing stuff, the audience likes better," He said that he had written some poetry as a college student, but he had gotten involved in Broken Speech in the past year.

The second poet performing this evening is Veronica Smith. She is the chosen representative of Broken Speech for the upcoming 2005 Individual World Poetry Slam competition in Worschester, Mass. Smith beat out three other male poets to have her chance at being the representative. "We had different qualifying rounds, and you first started out with a basic slam," she said. "Whoever ranked the highest [went] onto the final round." She said she had not expected to be the victor.

Smith got her start in slam at Will's Pub. "I read this poem called 'Quotes' and then afterwards, this sister came up to me with this piece of paper with red lips on it. I came out to her that night and it was one of the most eye-opening experiences. I had never seen people get up and compete between who had the best art." She came to Broken Speech "to get a taste of both venues [Austin's and Stardust]." Smith says she writes poetry more focused on the message and not so much about competing. She feels that poems such as "Funk Me" and "Rape Music" achieve her goals.

The third poet for the evening is another regular, Curtis Meyer. On this night, he reads an amazing poem about the young girl who died in the Fenway Park riots last fall. While he says he writes poetry to keep himself occupied, he comes out to Broken Speech for a different reason. "I think it's the social aspect. I've come here, I've made friends. Yes, I've found love..." Meyer said. During his first slam visit, he "saw an absolutely beautiful girl onstage and said, 'Hey, they're doing poetry.' I didn't know what a slam was at this point. I came back the next week, performed, met that girl, and she is currently my girlfriend."

Bradley is the last poet in the round. A self-proclaimed "Slam Master," he has engineered this slam from day one. "There was a documentary done in 1996 called Slam Nation. A lot of people who saw that documentary wanted to get started in slam. Bradley said about his earliest inspirations. Other causes of the slam were local rest locals. While other poets would complain, Bradley decided to take action: "I decided that Orlando needed a slam."

Broken Speech's regulars do not deny that their slam is somewhat male-dominated. Collins said, "Every venue ends up having its own sort of flavor. Jay's slam tends to be heavy on guys." Collins also feels there is a lack of ethnic diversity, not just with Broken Speech but also across Orlando. "My impression about Orlando is that we're pretty vanilla," he said. "What I've noticed is that slam started out as much more of an ethnic movement. Where all the white men did academic poetry, slam poetry developed on the streets."

Some would slam populated a black female. Bradley was a Speech. "What Asians? When they're out there they've got to hold up their end of the deal; the stereotype of what the average Asian is. "But I've been to Veronica gets a lot of the applause, she does hold up her end of the deal. Jay annouced Patrons are out. This night was indeed thrive. Smith saw Stardust and Orlando has been what is outside of the norm."

Tonight, Broken Speech celebrates its anniversary. Patrons and poets are all doing their part to make Broken Speech their own. It's a place where poetry is celebrated, where new voices are heard, and where the spirit of the slam continues to thrive.
ch Slam

would be surprised to know that a poetry slam mostly by white males have Smith, sale, as their competing representative. Where are more diversity at Broken Cre are our Hispanics? Where are our gays and lesbians? I know here we need them to come out here.

Canteen, there are still great poets to Which Broken Speech slam. On this night, sets up to recite her last poem for the they got my sons listening to this rape begins. She tells the story of the difference in hip-hop culture. As she finish performance and receives thunderous she laughs, relieved that she finished. The up their boards to reveal three perfect

ences the scores for the top three poets: Smith, Bradley and Curtis. First-time write Kennedy said, "Most of the con absolutely awesome tonight, so I went performance... most of the points I took performance-based."

and poets alike chat and make their way light proves that Orlando culture does, if you know where to find it. Veromi

me the well when she described id Broken Speech as "the art within it seems for some reason to be hidden one else, but when you truly discover there for the taking. it's a grand experi-

Broken Speech will be having its fourth party, with specially invited perform-
half-hour block reserved entirely for event will also serve as a fundraiser for Massachusetts. The slam will start

Jay Bradley slams a poem at the Broken Speech Poetry slam at Stardust Video in Winter Park on Jan. 20.
LIFE

Raborn asks the Astrological Society questions about Uranus
Stars and moons aren't just for emo Internet names anymore

ROBBIE RABORN
Staff Writer

I\ "Last night some guys made me drink an STD slushee.

I.: That actually happened.

That's dead right. Out.

Don't quite.

Oh, yeah! “Ewing frat. Right?”

rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr
After the long wait, Clint Eastwood’s profound, redemptive masterpiece lives up to its Oscar hype

JOHN THOMASON

The allure of boxing, a paradoxical glamour that gleams beauty and glory from the ugly, bloody faces of its competitors, has never been lost on the cinema. Boxing films have always captivated audiences, with emotions ranging from pitiful sadness to triumph (Rocky) to conflicted anger (Raging Bull).

And, much like those films, you don’t have to know a thing about boxing to appreciate Clint Eastwood’s ambiguous poem to the sport, Million Dollar Baby. While providing a bit of all three of the above films’ emotions, it adds another layer of depth to the genre: boxing as a metaphor for faith, or more specifically, redemption.

Redemption is a common theme for Eastwood, best articulated previously in Unforgiven and also playing a part in his last effort, Mystic River. But where Mystic was arguably over-plotted, Million Dollar Baby is spare and simple—a straightforward master/protege story where the master ends up being taught the great lessons. It’s a timeless theme, but with its profound religious undertones, lack of sentimentality and subdued use of music, it feels revitalized like never before.

Washed-up boxing agent and trainer Frank, played by Clint himself, is a quintessential Eastwood archetype. His trademark pragmatism you might hear from The Man with No Name, the Outlaw Josey Wales or Dirty Harry while they train their perennial sidekicks. But there’s an archaic weariness to this statement in Million Dollar Baby that matches the veteran actor’s own haggard appearance. One wonders if the jaded hero can even believe his own aphorisms anymore.

In fact, there isn’t much he does believe in, yet he still goes to mass and sits like a silent rogue, for reasons neither he nor his minister can understand. He’s severed ties with his daughter for reasons unexplained, but continues to write her letters for only his benefit — they always bounce back to his doorstep.

A conservative agent whose last client left him for the quick title shot offered by the competition, Frank is at the end of his rope when he comes across the boundlessly ambitious but dirt-poor amateur boxer, Maggie, played by Hilary Swank. After wrestling with his own dated notions of masculinity (“I don’t train girls”), he agrees to take her on and literally teach her the ropes. A professional work relationship develops into a genuine friendship, and Maggie soon rises to the top of the boxing world. And then, tragedy.

But even when the tragedy occurs and the film appropriately shifts in pace, the subject is never sentimentalized for saccharine tear-jerking. It’s merely presented in matter-of-fact reporting-style courtesy of Morgan Freeman’s stoic narration.

With hands-down the best lighting in a 2004 film, cinematographer Tom Stern creates a shadowy noir-ish atmosphere, the visual representation of the darkness buried deep in Frank’s soul. If Citizen Kane cinematographer Gregg Toland were to shoot a film today, this might be what it would look like.

And for purely aesthetic reasons—the boxing scenes are a beauty to watch. This kind of intense, visceral verisimilitude has not been seen in a boxing picture since Raging Bull, or possibly in any sports picture of the last 20 years.

But in the end, Million Dollar Baby is not just a movie for boxing fans, or even boxing movie fans. It’s a movie for anyone who’s ever felt lost, guilty or depraved, for anyone questioning the divine power of religion versus the real demands of everyday life, for anyone who’s wondered what it all meant. If you look hard enough, Million Dollar Baby may provide an answer.
Mr. 3000 strikes out as a comedy

Beware of false School Daze advertising on new 2-disc set

BRETT RYAN BONOWICZ
Staff Writer

Mr. 3000

Bernie Mac as a retired baseball player going back to the majors for a few more hits because of some error in counting. Sounds like a winner. Mr. 3000 didn’t fair as well as Bernie Mac’s other film of 2004, Ocean’s Twelve, but then again Mr. 3000 didn’t have the cast, writer, director, cinematographer, musical composer, grip, gaffer, lighting technician and animal wrangler that Ocean’s Twelve had; it’s just a different pedigree altogether. The DVD includes deleted scenes with director commentary, sure-to-be-hilarious out-takes and extended scenes, including SportsCenter and The Tonight Show featurettes. To top it off, Buena Vista has included three more featurettes: Spring Training: The Extras Journey, Everybody Loves Stan and Making of Mr. 3000.

Shall We Dance?

The answer to this rhetorical question is a firm no, and Peter Chelsom has created one of the most excruciatingly bland films of the last century of cinema. Richard Gere single-handedly drops his career down a notch, and Jennifer Lopez phones in her performance as a dance instructor in this remake of a much better film. The DVD tries to excuse the movie from being so bad by including commentary by Chelsom that’s sure to be self-gratifying. Deleted scenes include optional director commentary. There is a The Music of Shall We Dance? featurette and a Beginner’s Ballroom featurette that puts the spotlight on real ballroom dancing, not the fake stuff Gere and Lopez pretend to do. Then, because they need more featurettes to pad the badness of the movie, Miramax has included a behind the scenes special on the film itself as well as a Pussycat Dolls’ “Sway” music video.

School Daze: Special Edition

It’s another case of a faux two-disc set in the vein of Easy Rider. Including the soundtrack to your film is not adding another disc. The new set does include a new commentary with the cast and a few other featurettes that don’t make this new double-dip worth the purchase price. Shame on the studio. While the soundtrack can be a nice listen, to tout itself as a new two-disc set implies a second DVD, and that is not the case. Beware.
DiG! a sad and funny look at indie-rock feud

Vengeful documentary finds the real massacre in the Brian Jonestown Massacre

JOHN THOMASON
Indie Editor

Debunking the myth that for indie-rock bands, it's "all about the music, man," DiG! shows us that rock-star excess and arrogance isn't limited to the famously volatile Wilcos and Oases of the world. Sometimes, it even affects bands you've never heard of, bands that have neither the clout nor the justification for their self-destructing actions. DiG! follows a seven-year period in the lives of Portland's The Dandy Warhols (the band you have heard of) and California's the Brian Jonestown Massacre (the band you haven't unless you're firmly entrenched in indie-rock circles. Though Orlandoans may remember the band playing a rather static opening set for Guided by Voices at The Social last January).

There's a reason most people haven't been turned on to the excellent psychedelic cult band The Brian Jonestown Massacre: the erratic, cruel and spotlight-hogging theatricals of its overly ambitious frontman, whose actions on and off stage prohibited the rest of the band from hitting the major-label paydirt they should have. Meanwhile, old friends and touring mates, The Dandy Warhols, took their equally clever band name and became one of the most popular groups overseas while shooting pricey music videos for Capitol Records. The film follows the warm friendship-turned-laughably-bitter-rivalry between the two groups, intercutting crucial scenes in their seven-year evolutions.

Like the other recent D.MAC rise-and-fall story Overnight, DiG! is largely about how the self-destructive behavior of one individual can damage the careers and prohibit the success of others in team efforts, like music and film. Also, like Overnight, we feel no sympathy for the main character, just the hardworking bandmates thrust into his working domain.

But both are also about the fickle nature of the industry and the unfeeling coldness of the money-hungry record companies. References are made to the inconsequentiality of Napster in the grand scheme of things and even the meaninglessness of poor band performance and behavior. The BJM's frontman Antone Newcombe insisting the blame to be wholly on the inhumanity of record executives. While it's easy to say Newcombe's crybaby self-centeredness was a large contribution to the band's unraveling, he also has a point in the "what have you done for me lately?" impatience of the major-label heads.

The film is far from a fair and balanced look at both groups. Narrated by Dandy Warhols vocalist Courtney Taylor, the film is heavily weighted toward Newcombe's spontaneous bursts of erratic behavior, which get far more screen time than the modest and uncinematic success of The Dandy Warhols (what can you do, sensationalism sells). Thus, DiG! partly feels like Taylor's revenge note against his old pal Newcombe, written through the medium of film.

A funny, fascinating and sad film with more complexities than the simplistic formulas of a Behind the Music, DiG! is a great rock movie, whether or not you're a fan of either band. Opens tomorrow at DMAC.
NWA = Nannies with Attitude?

Ice Cube loses all credibility in the awful, unfunny family film Are We There Yet?

Michael Ferraro
Staff Writer

B rian Levant, the directorial mastermind that discovered one of the future Anakin Skywalkers in the 1996 Christmas film Jingle All the Way, brings us a new road trip film starring Ice Cube. This is no ordinary Ice Cube film, however. Gone are the days when Cube smoked weed, drank 40-ouncers and popped fools who kept stepping on his foot. Nowadays, he is doing things the clean and PG way. Surely, one could have predicted this move while rocking out to some old-school NWA records. Maybe he matured a little bit since Friday and decided to make a PG film to appease the kids out there. But sadly, he picked the wrong film to start with.

To elongate the plotline as much as humanly possible for the purpose of this review, the film tells a story of Nick (Ice Cube), a bachelor who discovers the ultimate way to woo over his new lady friend, Suzanne (Nia Long). She has two kids, Lindsay and Kevin (Aleisha Allen and Philip Daniel Bolden), who need a ride to Canada, for which Nick happily volunteers his time. Of course, as the title suggests, some mishaps happen along the way that this bachelor, and his new SUV with spinner rims, just wasn’t prepared for.

Calling them “kids” is actually doing them a great dis-service. They are actually spawn of Satan. These aren’t likable kids by any means. These are the kind of kids that if they were burned alive in a fire, you’d probably laugh because they deserved it. For example, in the beginning of the film, they practically kill one of their mother’s potential suitors with a prank involving hundreds of marbles. What is their justification for this? They don’t want their mom to be held up when, and if, their dad comes home to rejoin the family.

Putting some quibbles about the recycled formula and shabby direction aside, other problems lie within the characters themselves. Not only are they the type of children you would not want your kid looking up to, the film also promotes bad parenting. In the few scenes that actually show Suzanne alone with the kids, she does nothing to scold them for their terrible actions. She actually resorts to no disciplinary tactics whatsoever. In fact, she lets her kids walk all over her.

If you are looking for a film involving bratty and spoiled children, the parenting skills of a corpse and a plot you’ve seen more often than not, Are We There Yet? is perfect. It would also be a great film to see if you were pondering a vasectomy.

Before Nick is introduced in the film, there is a scene where Lindsay tells her brother, “I feel sorry for the next sucka that tries to date mom.” She should really feel sorry for the next sucka that pays to see this movie.
Thriller *Leon* gets a professional 4th DVD treatment

**Matt Hedgecock**
Staff Writer

Crime films of the early 1990s were some of the most over-hyped films of the current generation. While some, like *Pulp Fiction* and *The Usual Suspects*, are modern classics, many like *Reservoir Dogs* are just above-average thrillers, propelled to a lofty status by boozed 20-year-olds. *Leon* (aka *The Professional* in the United States) is one of the latter.

The film is a spin-off of sorts to director Luc Besson's earlier flash-and-dash energy exploits as most of his action films.

*Leon* is a fantasy crime film — *Leon* is improbably skilled, every thug is armed to the teeth and the real life DEA has rules against hiring scene-chewing, pill-popping maniacs.

But Besson handles over-the-top scenarios with a wry, entertaining charm, and the film oozes fun and personality.

Oh, and do you like Gary Oldman when he overacts? Buy this DVD, and then go buy *The Fifth Element*.

Additionally, the version on this disc is the extended European cut, which includes some controversial scenes in which Mathilda asks *Leon* to have sex and scenes showing the two lying in bed together (albeit not in a sexual manner).

The scenes aren't particularly offensive to someone who understands the context of the film. Mathilda comes from a dysfunctional home where she is openly exposed to sex, and therefore assumes she understands it (the scene is also defused by *Leon's* frank refusal). The scenes don't add a whole lot to the final film, but it's always preferable to have the uncut version.

This latest release marks the fourth time *Leon* has seen DVD in one form or another. And while the extras aren't anything special, the latest release is the definitive version to own.

The special features include three features — a 10-year retrospective, a spotlight on Reno and a spotlight on Portman. They're nicely done and informative, but far too short, clocking in at less than one hour of material. There's also an informative "fact track" that plays with the film, but a commentary of some sort would have been preferred. Oh, and the film itself is the Superbit version, so the picture and sound are first-class.

*Leon* is a fun crime picture that has unfortunately been diluted by heaps of hyperactive praise in the 10 years since its release. However, it remains a lively affair that would make a good addition to anyone's action movie collection. Fans of the film might as well jump in for this double-dip. After all, waiting for the 15th anniversary edition would take way too much patience.

**MOVIE TIMES**

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**REGAL WINTER PARK**

510 N. ORLANDO AVE., 407-629-0163

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**RACIAL WINTER PARK**

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**集中在黑鹰城市**

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**ENZIAN CINEMA CAFE**

1200 S. ORLANDO AVE., 407-629-1088

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RAMBLINGS

THE GEEK LIFE

It’s a surreal reality (television)
The voyeuristic allure of reality TV claims another victim

ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ
Staff Writer

A

s ashamed as I am to admit it, I have found myself finally giving in to the reality-TV craze. Oh, I think I did a good job for a rather long time of avoiding the dreaded curse. The truth is, I find most of that stuff incredibly boring and stupid. And yet, it even managed to capture my oh-so-elitist interest.

It all started with The Osbournes, a show I still faithfully follow. At first, I didn’t think too much of my fascination with the show. Ozzy is like an old friend of mine. I’ve seen him in concert many times. His silly whiny rockstar voice is indelibly imprinted in my brain folds.

The show was and still is lovely, brash and full of delicious curse words and British accents and spoiled bratty scenester kids I would probably hang out with even if they weren’t famous. I have no problem enjoying that show.

Then it happened. The Surreal Life showed up, and I couldn’t pull away from the wretched train accident/explosion that is Vanilla Ice. These genius producers decided that the next leap in eavesdropping would, should involve locking B-list celebrities in a mansion and watching the sparks fly. Well, whenever the Ice-man showed his pasty, angry white boy face they will. Somehow, this show made its way to VH1, which is longing to make itself the new celebreality capital of the cable nation. The network

Please See STRANGE on 119

NEAR-LIFE EXPERIENCE

Bush, Pimp my country

MICHAEL LAWRENCE
Staff Writer

W

ell, it’s official. Tard sandwich was inaugurated last Thursday to serve his second term as president. I know, I know, it blows more than Superbabies, but what are you gonna do? Poor people will continue to be poor and Blue Collar TV will remain on the air. Congratulations, Bush. But don’t worry, it doesn’t have to be so bad. Not if Bush elects to listen to my proposition gracefully.

Mr. Bush, I offer you the chance to advance your agenda of manifest destiny and at the very same time entertain the masses. The Department of the Interior meets interior design, advance by loads of crank to give the nation its newest reality sensation, Pimp My Country. It snatches the interest of all demographics, especially the ones you’ve ignored. The NAACP will instantly forget how you’ve ignored them when they see this show.

Here’s the concept: We send about 100,000 troops into any country (voluntarily, involuntarily, it doesn’t matter) with bullets and buckets. Of paint, that is! And we decorate the ever-lovin’ hell out of them. We cross over the lines of bureaucratic red tape that keep us from interfering with countries and replace them with designs of red drapes! Each week it’s a different country with guest rappers serving as ambassadors of dopeness and Colin Powell hanging along for the ride.

Let’s take, for example, the Vatican. That place is beyond old-school. It makes John Tesh seem hip by comparison. What the Vatican needs is a good pimping. In just a few months with some hard work we can transform the Vatican into (drum roll please) . . . the Phatican! With its bullet-proof exterior, the Pope-Mobile is already the envy of many rappers. Put some tight rims and some holy hydraulics and you’ll be cruising out wild like every night’s your Last Rites. And how about replacing the pope’s hat with a sombrero? No one’s going to question the authority of a man in a sombrero. Plus, we can replace that archaic smoke-blowing chimney with some loud speakers. Pump a joint way up on the speakers, and that way everybody’s going to know who the new pope is, whether they want to or not.

Once Pimp My Country becomes the highest rated show on C-Span in the history of ever, we unleash its companion show, Queer Girls For The Third World, as hosted by Mary Cheney. We’ve tried everything with places like the Sudan and Palestine,

Please See LESBIANS on 119

CRAZED INDIE ROBOT

Sidekicks keep flicks kickin’
The indie Robot ranks the all-time best tagalongs

DIANNA ZISMAN
Staff Writer

S

idekicks. We all have them, or else we are them. In movies and TV shows, they can be off-kilter and exuberant at times when the main characters cannot. They tend to not be regarded favorably by those who must endure them, usually looked down upon as “tagalongs,” and ending up the butt of society’s jokes. Which is a shame, as sidekicks are, quite frankly, what make the world go ’round. Here, then, just a few of my favorites. I salute you guys.

“Milhouse, on The Simpsons: From claiming that his mom says he’s the coolest kid in school, to randomly collecting Alf’s pogs, Milhouse has all the hallmarks of a classic sidekick. Bart’s best friend rarely got a chance to shine on his own, and his long, unrequited crush on Lisa made him extremely pitiable, but gosh, he sure did try not to suck.

Sean Astin as Samwise Gamgee, in The Lord of the Rings: He fights giant spiders. He carries his master up steep, dangerous mountains. He makes heartfelt speeches at the drop of the hat. And, to top it all off, his chemistry with Frodo makes audiences the world over blush. Is there anything that little hobbit can’t do? Not likely.

That Crazy Irish Bastard, in Braveheart: Always talking about “my island” and claiming to have a direct line to God, the Crazy Irish Bastard really adds a healthy dollop of humor to Crazy Mel Gibson’s tale.

Harrison Ford as Han Solo,

Please See HAIL on 119

in Star Wars: In the first one, he was the character that everyone in the audience could identify with: the guy who hears about the Force and says, “What is this crap?” He has absolutely no idea what’s going on, and doesn’t believe in any-
These people do it on the Internet

CHRISTOPHER SCHWARZ
Staff Writer

Because of the Internet’s “anonymous” nature, its denizens feel more comfortable telling millions of strangers their most secret, innermost thoughts under the mask of a screen name. For the bored, looking through them can be a delicious, guilty pleasure.

Online self-help columns are home to everything that Ann Landers would never dream of printing. Want to find out if cranberry juice is a good lubricant? Need to ask for advice about your tendency to cut yourself? Don’t ask your friends, parents or therapist — ask the Internet!

Group Hug http://group hug.us/
This site is a doozy. Every time you go, there’s more insanity to check out. It’s your one-stop shop to remind yourself that no matter how weird you are, other folks are much, much worse. At the time of writing, someone has recently confessed to being the creepy guy who hangs out at the pool.

Elsewhere, a girl tells us that she found naked pictures of her sister on the family computer and masturbates to them. Another girl is dead set against the idea that she might accidentally fart during sex.

Some other guy has confessed that he wants to break his toe to obtain sympathy and time off from work. Another choice tidbit is someone who has admitted to “liking Mexicans,” but only sometimes.

Yet another guy says he’s never used a toilet in his life because he prefers a sink. It’s a cornucopia of things that decrease your faith in humanity, one reload at a time. What could be better?

Sex Tips Community http://www.livejournal.com/community/sextips/
Oh, Livejournal-chans! What won’t you do? This is a sex column for the new millennium. Sure, there’s the usual “How big is the average penis?” and “Why does my crotch smell funny?” but that’s where the normality ends. Remember, this is not just the Internet, it’s Livejournal.

About one entry per day will ask about a fetish you probably never knew existed. Others will make you sad that its posters are reproducing. None of it could possibly be printed on this page.

From reading today’s batch, I’ve learned that some poor dude is wondering what it would feel like to put Listerine strips on his penis. In the “I hope I never have a daughter” department, there’s a girl here asking for advice about how to stay with a man she hooked up with at a movie theater. The catch? She’s 14.

Awesome.

Lesbians will save us all

and none of it ever coalesces with the feuding factions in these countries. So let’s use lesbians! They’re like a shot of whiskey. They instantly make anything better! We’ll have a mix of both hot and butch lesbians. The hot ones will focus on first and speaking with the dictators. They’ll give them style tips, take them out for manicures and pedicures and watch Sandra Bullock movies. The butchies will just be there as peacekeepers to make sure all goes well.

Soon every country will be pimped up by rappers and softened up by lesbians.

Let’s face it: The president, could care less about mending Malaysia. Tsunamis are soooo last year. As a former cheerleader, his heart lies in beautifying, not rectifying. This is the way of the future. And hey, if all else fails we can always fall back on Who Wants To Bomb My Country?

Strange Love VHI’s creepiest thing

From 118

seems intent on showing the ditz Simpson girls in our faces as well as dragging every person who was ever the least bit famous all over the screen. The crazier and creepier, the better, of course.

The creepiest thing VHI has on right now, and the show I of course can’t get enough of, is Strange Love, the bizarre and twisted journey of the heart of tiny defiant rapper Flavor Flav and European giantess Brigitte Nielsen, the barely famous ex-wife of Sylvester Stallone who is currently engaged to some hot Italian nobody. These two star-crossed freaks of nature met while filming The Sirens of the Skies. But it seems they really hit it off for those 14 days they were forced to live together. Now Flav is basically stalking her in an effort to win her over. I’m sure things will end well.

My favorite ditzing in reality these days isn’t even real. Comedy Central’s hilarious Drawn Together is just brilliant. It combines so many of the things I love into one extreme sizzling pot of madness. It has video-game character parodies, comic-book heroes lookalikes, Internet-cartoon wannaholics and a sick little perverted Spongebob spawn, to name just a few.

Just imagine if the networks started making more fake reality shows. Imagine the adventures of Data and Commander Benjamin Sisko, travelling the cosmos in Road Rules style, being forced to perform extreme sports for points they can use to beat their rivals, the cast of Voyager.

Because those two have more coolness points in their little fingers than Captain Janeway has in her whole body, my money is on them. They would snowboard off comets and fly through asteroid fields while shaky cameramen follow them dressed in black.

Maybe, one day in the future, once those gods of Star Trek realize that they have the best times of their lives working for the Federation, they will come together and entertain us all. They’ll be forced to live through fake Ferengi attacks and eat only replicator foods high in nutrients but low in taste. How long do you think it would take William Shatner to stop being polite? Before long he’ll be singing/speaking karaoke so badly that Michael Dorn, TV’s Worf, will be forced to kill him in a bloody Klingon duel. I would pay real good money to see that, especially if it takes place in some sort of Murder Dome where only one celebrity walks out alive.

How many years do you really think it’s gonna take before we are paying celebrities to kill them selves? It can’t be that long. I would definitely pay to watch that happen.

Hail Inigo Montoya!

From 118

thing but his own self-preservation until his slightly inexplicable (but satisfying) change of heart at the very end. And, though irritable, he had a clearly defined sense of humor.

Heard the Cyclops, in Krull: OK, I don’t know that his name is actually Earl. That’s just the name we always call him when watching it. Why is he on the list? He’s a cyclops. Duh.

Jeff Cohen as Chunk, in The Goonies: Poor Chunk. He’s constantly lying, he’s a little pudgy, and all his so-called friends pick on him. If this was a movie directed by Larry Clark, he’d probably get his revenge by shooting Mikey. Brand, Mouth and Data in the face and by giving Stef and Andy AIDS. But alas, this is not a movie directed by Larry Clark, it’s directed by Richard Donner, and so Chunk ends up teamed with a deformed giant name Sloth trying to catch up to his adventure-seeking buddies who secretly can’t stand him. At least he manages to keep himself in good spirits throughout.

Ringo Starr as That Other, Weird-looking Guy in The Beatles: He always knew his place, never clawed for attention, and yet made crucial contributions at key moments (say, the title of “A Hard Day’s Night”). He got perhaps the best expression of appreciation ever sent by a leading man to a sidekick, when John Lennon wrote “In My Life” about him.

Mandy Patinkin as Inigo Montoya, in The Princess Bride: My favorite sidekick ever! From his skills with the sword to his revenge quest, he captured my heart the very first time I saw him. Not only are “Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die.” probably 13 of the most famous and oft-repeated words in cinema history, Inigo dispatches the evil Count Rugen with the awesome “I want my father back, you son of a bitch. [stabil]” It doesn’t get any better than that in sidekick land, folks. Hail, Inigo!
MEDIA GUESTS
Richard Herd - "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 - "Flash Gordon"
Gill Gerard, Erin Gray, Thom Christopher, and Felix Silla - "Buck Rogers"...and more to be announced!

SPECIAL GUESTS OF HONOR:
Joe Quesada
Marvel editor - in - chief

Guest Artists*
Brian Pulido - Lady Death
Peter S. Beagle - The Last Unicorn
Mark Waid - Greg Horn
Marv Wolfman - Chuck Dixon
Ethan Van Sciver - Roy Thomas
George Pérez - Dan Brereton
Wilson Tortosa - Aaron Lopresti
Phil Jimenez - Mike Deodato
Tone Rodriguez - Gene Colan
Ron Marz - Billy Tucci
Tommy Castillo - Allen Bellman
Mike Perkins - Andy Runton
George Tuska - Monte Moore
Steve McNiven - Alex Saviuk

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NEW CITRUS CHICKEN SALAD - a Crispers original, featuring our own chicken salad, fresh spring mix, pineapple, mandarin oranges, sugar walnuts and honey lime dressing.

NEW ITALIAN ANTIPasto - we roll up ham, salami, roasted peppers, pepperoncini, red onions, Swiss cheese, lettuce, and tomato, topped with balsamic vinaigrette.

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For the sweet freaks among us, there are creamy cheesecakes, mile-high layer cakes, and cold, creamy treats made with Publix Premium ice cream. Why pay six bucks for a bad burger and fries when you can go gourmet? Visit Crispers today. No bad burgers, no pitiful pizza. Just great gourmet food, made fresh.

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