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Recommended Citation
‘Cats strike out
Sophomore strikes out 14 in UCF’s 5-2 win over Northwestern — SEE SPORTS, A8

Possible gunfire at Pegasus Landing
A group of people were shot at a Pegasus Landing at Largo last night, prompting police to search the area and temporarily close down McAllister Road.

Police arrived and closed the area after a student called and told the officer was light outside the door. Police also got an additional phone call complaining about the sound.

The UCF Police Department and Seminole County Sheriff’s Office shut down the road, convinced they were fed up with violence.

However, nothing was found that indicated a gun had been fired.

Misty Gant
Misty Gant dressed for the occasion.

The scents and sounds of cigarette smoke filled the club.

Hand-bangers chugged beers while metal music blared from speakers, and hanging about the scene were more four-letter words than a variety of a $1 soap bar.

Large hair, fishtails, sunglasses and face paint made up the typical attire of the evening.

"We didn’t need No paint! No problem," Backyard’s first-ever Guitar Hero Championship was a sight for sore eyes. Tuesday night, as participants went head-to-head in an all-new rockin’ video game. Thirty-two participants signed up and threw 150 people.

The list to end the list was over.

Contestants pulled out all the stops, from stage diving on the hood of two 2006 motorcycles.

The one who won the crowd’s hearts and the championship was an angel. Adasia Badeaux, 26, drove by the area after a UCF Police Department and the Student Government Association.

Amanda Bartels, 32, drove by the stage and the students were more than happy to have been caused by something other than a gun.

Magic night ends in mixed reviews over Christian illusionist’s preaching

Robert Schuller, a Christian illusionist, packed $1,000 for UCF students into the UCF Arena Tuesday night for the seventh stop on hisnever-before-seen Cross Country Crusade for Christ and the Student Government Association.

“After spending years in the world to desire, there have been people who have observed his name. But when…someone else, said in an interview last week.”

However, the night did end in disappointment and frustration for some students who were registering to be speeded up to 20 to 30 minutes preaching about spiritual issues.

Doors opened at 6:30 p.m. for the 7 p.m. service, the waiting time.

Many students said they were satisfied.

Motion picture studio.

Disco gives $10,000 for study of feces

You may have seen him on VH1’s “The Real World” or VH2’s “Half Time” or VH1’s “Big Break.” He’s a familiar face to students who have made it into his packed show at Rockefeller’s last time he was at UCF, but this time he’s in town for the Comedy Central tour. The show also featured Zach Giffrandas “Comedy Central Presents.”

In addition, the show also featured Zach Giffranadas and Nick Thune.

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Motion picture studio.
The 'reel' winners

Showcased films may move on to score big bucks at grand finale

NITTY GANT

You may have seen some strange activities taking place on campus the last couple weeks, but don’t be alarmed. Students stuck inside classrooms, walked around campus in their underwear, were chased by someone in a large gorilla suit and tied up in the halls, all for the Campus MovieMaker.

Eighty-five teams competed of 2000 University of Central Florida students participated in the first-ever Campus MovieMaker festival, the world’s largest student film festival.

On Wednesday night, the top 10 films were showcased at Backstage Door. The top five finalists for CMF’s Best Picture Award were announced and then the winner. Tough Coll, took home video Bibs. "This Very Funny Award went to The Doll and The Transformer Classic Movie Short Film Award went to Nervy.

As students did their best to fill the theater, students and faculty received the festival a first for UCF, it was the first time a Florida pub-

The the film festival, was the festival a first for UCF, it was the first time a Florida pub-

lic university had participated in the Festival.

"We did a great job," Campus Activities Board Cinema Director Eric Christodoulou said. "It was above and beyond the number we expected."

Students who signed up for the film first received an Apple Corp. laptop, digital video camera, editing programs and technical support from CMF. Guidelines for submission were simple: one movie five minutes and one week to make it. "It's very stressful," said Audrey Adair, a 20-year-old radio-television major and an actress in the film Francoeur Delit. "A six-day film festival is almost convenient because a lot of major film competitions are 21 to 40 hours."

Many students spent a majority of the week working out the creative process and spent only a day or two of actual shooting and editing.

"Once we finally had just one day to get all the actors together and all the crew together, we edited it before we knew that and submitted it the next day," said 21-year-old writer-student Maria Kavita Allen. Allen produced, co-directed, cowrote and acted in the film The Importance of Playing Yale Ball, one of the top-five finalists for Best Pictures.

Students directed more Hector Sierra, 23, from the film Tough Coll, said his team spent the first three days trying to get ideas and the last three days shooting and editing.

"We didn't think we were going to win," Sierra said. "We just thought, 'Hey, let's just send something.' We had no idea this was going to happen."

Movies were judged by randomly selected non-competing students wearing a lack of bias, Christodoulou said. The films were judged on a 1-point to 5-point scale and the top 10 were chosen.

"We judged on a point system based on the overall atmosphere, overall concept, creativity, storyline, sound design and then just the overall quality," Christodoulou said.

Students, members of CAB and CMF agreed the event was a success and expected many more expectations.

"It impressed, especially for the first year," Adair said. "There are all these creative aspects around Orlando, and you have so much to be inspired by. So Definitely think UCF is an ideal location for this competition."

"I'm very happy and I hope this is an event that UCF continues to have," Christodoulou said. "Hopefully the next director can keep going along with this event because it just keeps getting bigger and better."

All 10 film showcase were eligible for the Florida Grand Prize, which will be held at the Plaza Theatre in Orlando on April 5th and 7th. Tickets are 64 for students. The top film from Rollins College, the University of Tampa and Jacksonville University will be shown. The top 10 from this region will move forward to the national level, where the grand prize for the festival film is $80,000.

For more information, visit campusmoviefest.com.

"There are all these creative aspects around Orlando, and you have so much to be inspired by."

LOCAL WEATHER

Today

RHITE SHOWERS

High: 82° Low: 60°

Saturday

POSSIBLE STORMS

High: 82° Low: 59°

Sunday

PARTLY CLOUDY

High: 83° Low: 61°

Today in detail

Today: Storming is the morning with sun and gusts to the afternoon. Winds will peak at 10 to 15 mph.

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy, gusty breezes, and 60-degree nights.

For more information, call 407-447-2733.

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May you find your pot of gold

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

Whether coloring the Avalon Lake green, downing a pint of green beer, experiencing the local shops and restaurants, or enjoying Celtic Rock Band Off Kilter, it is hard not to feel a part of the dramatic culture and rich history that is associated with the St. Patrick’s Day Celebration in Avalon Park.

Saturday, March 17th
5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information on this and other events visit avalonpark.com or call 407-658-6565.

Avalon Park is conveniently located in East Orlando 5 miles south of the 408 Expressway on Alafaya Trail.
House Dana plans bill for U.S. pullout from Iraq by fall 2008

WASHINGTON - A direct response to President Bush, House Democrats unveiled legislation Thursday that would censure the withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from Iraq by the fall of this year.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the bill would add an item for withdrawing the U.S. military in Iraq and Afghanistan.

She said reporters the measure would mark the first time that the new Democratic-controlled Congress has established a "date certain" for the end of U.S. combat, in the form of a "moral deadline" that has claimed the lives of more than 3,000 U.S. troops.

Within an hour of Pelosi's news conference, House Republican Leader John Boehner attacked the measure.

He said Democrats were proposing legislation that amounted to "establishing and telegraphing to our enemies a timeable suredate that will result in failure of the U.S. military mission in Iraq."

"(Democrats) should be the ones making the decisions about what happens on the ground in Iraq, not Nancy Pelosi or John Murtha," the Ohio Republican added. "And if the Congress of the United States has been involved in the writing of legislation designed to end the U.S. presence in Iraq, it's not doing its job.

According to an explanation of the legislation for being attacked by Democrats alike, the measure would be accelerated if the government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki did not satisfy security goals.

U.S. intelligence strongly attacks during crackdowns, says U.S. official

BAGHDAD, Iraq - U.S. and Iraqi officials have sought to intensify crackdowns during which security crackdowns and additional U.S. forces will be assigned to areas outside the capital in order to follow up the new, reconstituting command of U.S. forces in Iraq said Thursday.

U.S. Gen. David Petraeus said the troops on the outside Baghdad will focus on Diyala province, a growing hotbed for suspected Sunni extremists staging the US-Iraqi security operation in Baghdad.

But Petraeus stressed that military force alone is "not sufficient" to end the violence in political and Iraqi military and political efforts must include Sunni militant groups now opposing the U.S.-backed government.

"This is critical," Petraeus said in his first news conference since taking over command last month. He noted that "political negotiators will determine in the long term the success of this effort.

Petraeus listed a series of high-profile attacks since U.S. and Iraqi forces began the security surge three weeks ago, including a suicide blast at a Miami State university and an assassination attack against a top aide of Iraq's vice president.

Bush to face tour for Latin America to counter Chavez

WASHINGTON - President Bush will challenge widespread perception in Latin America of U.S. neglect that helped fuel leftist leader Hugo Chavez's rising influence in America's backyard.

Bush, who leaves Thursday on a five-nation tour, will argue that strong democratic governments hold the promise of prosperity. He hopes his journey will reassure the one in four Latin Americans who live on less than $2 a day and wonder whether democracy will ever deliver them a better life.

"Throughout the trip is to remind people that we care," Bush said in an interview Wednesday with CNN's Wolf Blitzer. "I do worry about the fact that, you know, 'Well, the United States has been pretty good to a lot of people over there,' or, 'The United States really ... than worried about terrorism.' And I think the record has been a strong one.

But Bush, with just two years left in his second term, has a weak hand. Anti-Americanism has a popular point, biased by the war in Iraq, increased Chavez's influence in the region and beyond.

The fiery leader of oil-rich Venezuela, who has labeled Bush "the devil" and claimed that the United States' "date certain" for withdrawing troops from the Iraq, has a weak hand. Anti-Americanism has a short point, biased by the war in Afghanistan, increased Chavez's influence in the region and beyond.

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Doctoral student’s research may bolster giraffes' health

Students for a Democratic Society congregated on the free-speech zones March 12-14. The research into giraffe feces is done in hopes of finding a solution to the animal keeper's problem.

"It's pleasant, sometimes, to be out here," Fewster said. "I just try to sort of absorb a lot of the animal behavior that I didn't have as much time to watch when I worked here as an animal keeper. It's nice just to watch them and see what's going on in their lives."

According to Fewster, Eduar­do Valdes, nutritionist for the Walt Disney World Animal Program, needs to know what giraffes eat in order to provide a healthy and balanced diet for the giraffes at Disney.

"There are up to 400 species of plants recorded for the giraffe's diet, but the bulk of it is usually made up of only a few species of trees and woody breaks," graduate student Graham Wor­thy, UCFS graduate coordinator, said via e-mail. "In fact, the giraffes feed mostly on a single species of tree called the 'Thorn Apple.'"

Born in captivity, the giraffes at Disney's Animal Kingdom consume 75 to 165 pounds of browse per day, and much of that diet is the leaves of the species of trees and shrubs they are eating; 'It doesn't have as much time to watch when I worked here as an animal keeper. It's nice just to watch them and see what's going on in their lives."

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Several angered by “tricks”

BY RYAN PELHAM

THUNE and Christian Finnegan made up an evening of comedy central on Tuesday night comedy Central’s $14 scholarship.

At the end of the show, Finnegan got up to announce the winner of Comedy Central’s $14 scholarship. The winner, Austin Kielsmeier, has an startup business in marketing networking. He won a large, fake check; a very long time and put out as a costume. The winner will have the money that his beard covers the face, you don’t know what’s behind the beard.

Prior to the announcement, Kole warned the audience that the “spiritual portion” of the show would take place after the intermission. He gave students the opportunity to leave without embarrassment if they were uncomfortable. Several students took Kole up on that offer.

Carl Henderson, a management information systems major, left during the intermission. Henderson, who said he believes in God on his own terms, but was upset about the reading material. “It definitely had a negative connotation,” Henderson said. “It’s his way of preaching, in my opinion.”

Kole’s tricks had also left several students upset, so the comments were removed in the interest of not giving anyone the wrong impression. “I didn’t go for the main man,” said CAB comedy and variety director Mike Newman. “I went for a bunch of guys who were solid comedians.”

The group definitely impressed students that they started standing in line at 5:30 p.m. when doors didn’t open until 7:45 p.m. The line wound down the hallway from the Pegasus Ballrooms, where the event was held, and all the way to the front of the Student Union.

According to CAB, special events director Shasta Gist, the line grew to more than 500 students and at one point had 600 people in line.

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CAB members and students echoed that frustration. Campus Crusade for Christ, a Christian organization sponsored by a Christian organization. “We would never deliberately try to deceive people that we’re trying to show things of the spiritual nature,” Dorsch said. Still, Dorsch said that people do get upset about the preaching from time to time.

“Most people come to our performance in a church and they were disappointed by the preaching,” Dorsch said. Dorsch added that, in the past, if people were upset, they have refunded tickets for upset customers. But at UCF, the event was free.
Carnival focuses on serving community

Charitable groups receive donations from annual event

WESTBURY, N.Y. — Community hosts 11th annual Carnival.

The scent of popcorn, hot dogs and funnel cakes filled the air last Sunday as the Mid-Hica Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority kicked off the week carnival-style.

Inflatable bounce houses, food stalls and games were scattered about Lake Claire as guests filled the park for the annual Carnival.

"This is the second year we had this event, and this year it’s bigger," said Adolphi Lachmanova, a Delta Sigma Theta member.

Small donations were accepted upon entrance and guests participated in a variety of activities such as face painting, balloon popping and mask making, inflatables, a hip-hop student dance group, and Exodus Dance Team, a ministry of University Christian Fellowship, entertained the crowd.

Guests received bracelets and participated in HIV/AIDS prevention and goodie bags for kids, pens, folders and flers.

"I think it is a really good event," said Aleta Godfrey, a sophomore advertising and journalism major. "Not only are we giving back to the community, we are creating a good atmosphere for everyone to come out and have fun." Not all students were able to come out and attend due to conflicts, but they extended an invitation to the event to their friends.

Tracey Roland and her son Government, a sophomore advertising major, received an advertisement for the event and decided to attend.

"This is the second year of his day care and [George] just wanted to come," Roland said.

Last year, the sorority held the carnival with the Sigma Alpha Phi Fraternity and had a turnout of about 500. About 200 students and guests came out to support the event this year. Although the sorority prepared for a day of fun, the group's primary focus was to serve the surrounding communities.

"The donations we get will go in support three different organizations," said Leah Epstein, chairwoman of Delta Week 2007.

The chapter is supporting the Royal Ambassadors, the Association to Preserve the Encoree Community, Inc. and Mid-Island honoring Our Senior Citizens Program.

The chapter began the Honoring Our Senior Citizens Program to acknowledge and honor senior citizen residents in Orlando and surrounding communities.

Members of the sorority asked several churches in the area to nominate an elderly member of their congregation for the program, said Maji Haggar, chapter vice president.

"When the senior is selected, (the sorority) will do things like clean their house and take them grocery shopping, and it's all on us," Haggar said.

This year, the sorority con- sidered the event a success. "I really enjoyed it," said Sabrina Thornton, a Delta Sigma Theta member. "It was a good event and a good time in our week.

In the upcoming weeks, the chapter will host a series of events including a Sigma Alpha Phi class and a Sigma Alpha Phi class for juniors. The chapter also encourages volunteerism in the surrounding community.

"I tell my house they have to do volunteerism," said Maji Haggar, chapter vice president. "I tell them this is the best way to give back to the community.

Some people care more for the individual performance than the competition.

"I'm really excited to see all those people dressed in costumes and face paint," said Courtney Smith, an 18-year-old UCSF psychology major. "My friends and I decided these people are going to be really bad or really good — there's no middle.

A lot of the participants wore underage and there was no one at the event, as BackBooth relied solely on tips for profit.

"It was a fake show and nobody was even drunk," said Amy Cassell, a 22-year-old journalism major.

"The bar is kind of slow tonight," said Aaron Wright, the owner of BackBooth. "People are too busy worrying about their performance or whatever. I personally believe in drinking over playing games, but that's me.

He was also impressed at how many people showed up for the competition.

"It's a little bit crazy to me a bunch of guys up on stage pre- cigning to play guitar with some plastic guns.," Wright said.

History education major Bryan Nastanski, 22, who works for Barnes and Noble. He came appropriately dressed for the occasion, originally in a black cape and black wig with black and white face paint. By the end of the night, he was walking around in only a blue thong.

"I told my mom about the competition, and she was like 'You play guitar?'" Nastanski said. "So I had to set up my Web cam so I could explain it to her.

Some people cared more for the competition than willing to strip down to their underwear for the champi-

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"Come out! You've got to show us something!"

Frankie Matt Borla, 22, pulled down his pants and removed the jacket while still strumming his plastic acoustic guitar, moving to "Skye's True Her"

"The coolest thing I saw was that I didn't really want to see who the guy who got down to a thong," Anderson said. "I guess everyone else does what they have to do to try and win."

Anderson was referring to Michael Ponzelli, 23, who works for Barnes and Noble. He came appropriately dressed for the occasion, originally in a black cape and black wig with black and white face paint. By the end of the night, he was walking around in only a blue thong.

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Contestants dress up and strip down

"My friends and I decided these people are going to be really bad or really good — there's no middle.

A lot of the participants wore underage and there was no one at the event, as BackBooth relied solely on tips for profit.

"It was a fake show and nobody was even drunk," said Amy Cassell, a 22-year-old journalism major.

"The bar is kind of slow tonight," said Aaron Wright, the owner of BackBooth. "People are too busy worrying about their performance or whatever. I personally believe in drinking over playing games, but that's me.

He was also impressed at how many people showed up for the competition.

"It's a little bit crazy to me a bunch of guys up on stage pre- cigning to play guitar with some plastic guns.," Wright said.

History education major Bryan Nastanski, 22, who works for Barnes and Noble. He came appropriately dressed for the occasion, originally in a black cape and black wig with black and white face paint. By the end of the night, he was walking around in only a blue thong.

"I told my mom about the competition, and she was like 'You play guitar?'" Nastanski said. "So I had to set up my Web cam so I could explain it to her.

Some people cared more for the competition than willing to strip down to their underwear for the champi-
Basketball season ends 53-51 to Rice

Golden Knights 30
JOSH PEPPERS

Rice 22
MORRIS ALMOND

Position: Forward

Play: Pepper had a double-double with 18 points and 10 rebounds in the game-winner against Rice.

Position: Guard

On Thursday: Almond grabbed eight rebounds and scored 30 points on 10-for-20 shooting, including the game-winning 3-pointer, in Rice's 53-51 win.

THROWING SMOKE

"As long as I can command the slider in the zone and then the slider sets up the fastball."
— BRETT MURPHY, PITCHER

UCF pitching leads Knights in wins

BRIAN MURPHY & ZACH MOORE

Whoever said that lightning couldn't strike twice in the same place needed to be at Jay Bergman Field on Tuesday night against the UCF Knights. Starting pitcher Brett Bordwine had yet to see a starter go past the fifth inning in the first 15 games of the season.

On Tuesday night against Michigan State C-USA, freshman Carminio Giardina led the Knights with nine strikeouts over six innings and allowed only one earned run.

Bordwine's performance was one night later by junior Brett Bordwine when he struck out a conference-high 14 batters over 6 2/3 innings. He allowed only four hits and did not give up a run in the Knights' 5-2 victory over Northeastern (C-USA).

"Great performance it really was," UCF coach Jay Bergman said. "I was so proud of him, so happy for him." Bordwine got out to a rough start when we walked the first two batters of the game. After a visit from pitching coach Craig Courter, Bordwine settled down.

"Fast off to a dusty start," Bordwine said, ".I got out of my mechanics a little bit, and coach Courter came out there and told me to relax, and everything would take care of itself.

Bordwine struck out the next batter, Mike Timmons, and got a terrible play from catcher Brandon Romans when he threw out David Gatesman trying to steal third on the same play.

The 14 strikeouts for Bordwine were the most by any Knights pitcher since 2005, when Tim Racine recorded 17 strikeouts.

Bordwine attributed most of his success to the context he had over his starter.

"As long as I can command the slider in the zone and get ahead with that. .and then the slider sets up the fastball," Bordwine said.

MCES

Wednesday, March 13

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UCF vs. Rice
Saturday, March 9

The Knights continued to struggle away from the home court, losing their third consecutive game.

Speraw named C-USA Coach of the Year

MELELLA HEBBERD

In his 14th year as UCF Men's Basketball coach, only his second year leading his team in Conference USA, Kirk Speraw learned Wednesday that he was named the 2007-08 C-USA Coach of the Year.

Speraw became the first UCF coach to receive the accolade since Chuck Macha received it in the 1993-94 season.

"The C-USA Conference was very good in 2007," Speraw said. "We have played many good teams this year." Speraw's team is second in the regular season record and a second place finish in the conference with a record of 9-5.

The C-USA's 22nd season rates as the second-most in program history.

"Mr. Speraw has an excellent reputation with his team and a great record in winning," said offensive line coach Mike Beaudoin of the Knights who were dropped by Speraw.

UCF's 22-win season ranks as the second-most in program history.

"I'm very proud of our team," Speraw said. "It's been a great season. We've had some struggles, but we've come back to win."
**Men's Golf finishes 11th out of 13 teams**

ZACH MOORE

The UCF Men's Golf team was unable to make any noise in their most recent tournament in the 16th place this past weekend at the Southeastern Intercollegiate Championship. The Knights were not able to wrap up their third place last weekend, but did take home the top honor in the third place.

The team did not finish the tournament with any positive results. The individual championship was won by at least 24 strokes. No UCF players finished in the top 20.

**Sports Briefs**

**Women's Tennis**

HEZRA SERBAN, ALANA VAYNHART and MCGREGOR all earned victories over every opponent they faced. The Knights return to action on April 15th when they head to Florida to take on Stetson and Charlotte Fall Patterson.

**Men's Tennis**

Jared Poole and Nicki Harman won their match and the Knights moved to the national semifinals. They defeated Jason Steirihorn and Kate Lohner and Jeanette Fei-Roesch and Danny Colon in their strong play on defense.

**Baseball**

In May 2005, the Knights wrapped up a four-game series against Xavier. The Knights were unable to win the fourth game of the Golden Knights, improving their record to 2-4 on the season.

**Volleyball**

The Knights accomplished two of their three wins in the first half of the season. One of the wins was against Florida Atlantic University, and the other was against the University of Tennessee.

**Basketball**

In the tournament, the Knights had a total of 12 points, but were unable to make any long shots. They were defeated in the first round by the Florida Gators.

**Lacrosse**

In the final round, the Knights defeated the University of Massachusetts, 6-0, and are now at a point in the program's development where new leadership is needed. The coach and dedication showed strength and dedication throughout the game.

**Soccer**

The Gaels defeated the Knights 2-0 in the final round of the tournament. The game was filled with opportunities, but the Knights were not able to capitalize on any of them.

**Track and Field**

The Knights set a season home attendance record with a 48-109 record. The team is now 3-0 on the season.

**Softball**

In the final game of the season, the Knights defeated the University of Central Florida, 4-0, and are now at a point in the program's development where new leadership is needed. The coach and dedication showed strength and dedication throughout the game.
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Named for a fabled beast, Chimaira's spit-fire act rocked the No Fear tour

AMANDA K. SHAPIRO

Staff Writer

reminded the House of Blues why it needed extra security Tuesday night after the stage lights were lit for only three minutes.

At last, six dark figures emerged from behind the curtains — exciting screams so loud that the scene could be mistaken for a battle field.

Chimaira did not welcome fans with a typical greeting. Instead, they began slashing their way right into the first title release off their new album, Rectification.

Chimaira's set list featured the perfect mix of old and new material.

The biggest response from the crowd came when the band played "Power trip" and "Nothing Remains," songs off of The Impossibility of Reason and Chimaira's self-titled albums.

Fans chanted along with the band's dark and angry lyrics; most committing the band's and new album, Rectification, to showing their support for the musicians. A few fans lined up outside of the House of Blues as early as 2 p.m. for a show that wouldn't begin until around 7:15 p.m.

Some fans who were desperate to find extra tickets surrounded the box office and begged. Most were willing to pay extra for tickets to the sold-out concert.

When fans were interviewed about seeing the band live and if they had bought the new album, all coherent answers were drowned out by shouts of excitement.

Once he was pulled aside, Chimaira fan Fernando Rodriguez had the chance to tell his story. Rodriguez drove more than three hours from his hometown to wait another five hours outside of the House of Blues.

When asked if he had a favorite album, Rodriguez said picking just one was like "trying to pick your favorite sister!"

About two weeks into the seven-week-long No Fear Music Tour, Chimaira graced Orlando with their presence for what they would later deem the best
Searching for local flame-broiled goodness

FINGER ELEVEN

Band's latest effort turns up to 11
New album is harder-hitting

ANNA D. SHAPIRO

Finger Eleven, based in London, Ont., is known for its catchy, anthemic anthems, and its fans have been eagerly awaiting the release of the band's new album, *Finger Eleven*. The band's previous albums, *Scream* and *The Trick*, have earned them a loyal following with their pop-punk and alternative-rock sound.

The band's latest album, *Finger Eleven*, is a departure from its previous work, pushing the boundaries with its harder-hitting sound. The album features a mix of rock and pop elements, with a focus on catchy hooks and memorable lyrics.

Finger Eleven - Scream

The album opens with the title track, *Finger Eleven*, a fast-paced rock song that sets the tone for the rest of the album. The song features a strong guitar riff and a driving beat that will have you tapping your feet along in no time.

Finger Eleven - The Trick

The second track, *The Trick*, is a slower, more acoustic-driven song that showcases the band's versatility. The song features a stripped-down arrangement, with a focus on the vocals and acoustic guitar.

Finger Eleven - Crawl

The third track, *Crawl*, is a powerful rock song that builds to a climactic ending. The song's lyrics explore themes of perseverance and fighting against the odds.

Finger Eleven - Love

The fourth track, *Love*, is a slower, more introspective ballad that highlights the band's emotional depth. The song features a simple arrangement, with a focus on the vocals and acoustic guitar.

Finger Eleven - Scream

The album's final track, *Scream*, is a high-energy rock song that will have you clapping along. The song features a strong guitar riff and a driving beat that will have you tapping your feet along in no time.

Overall, *Finger Eleven* is a must-listen for fans of pop-punk and alternative-rock. The album's diverse range of styles and emotions makes it a standout addition to the band's discography.
Celtic lore finds home in UCF's Shapeshifter

BY TYLEE GILLESPIE

A haunting tale of lost love and a mysterious sea creature is at the heart of "Shapeshifter," a new play at UCF that combines classic storytelling with modern-day design and technology.

The play is set in the Scottish Highlands and follows the story of Midge, a young woman who, after the death of her mother, becomes involved with a mysterious sea creature that takes on different forms.

Director Dr. Jamie Salmasian said the production features a number of unique elements, including a large-scale puppet that is brought to life through the use of Celtic folklore and modern puppetry techniques.

"We wanted to create something that was both familiar and different, something that would transport the audience to another time and place," Salmasian said.

The production also features a number of modern-day elements, including LED screens and projection mapping, which help to bring the story to life.

The cast, which includes student actors as well as professionals, is led by Elizabeth Irving as Midge and Kathleen Gillespie as Fierson, the mysterious sea creature.

"Midge is a complex character who is dealing with a lot of different things," Irving said. "She's struggling with grief, she's trying to understand the sea creature, and she's trying to find her own identity.

"Fierson is this enigmatic, mysterious figure who is so much a part of her life," Gillespie added.

The play runs through March 2 and 3 at the Donnelly Center for the Arts, located on the UCF campus.

Early reviews have been positive, with many praising the unique storytelling and the strong performances of the cast.

"It's a really unique show that combines so many different elements," said audience member Sarah Johnson. "I loved how the Celtic folklore was woven into the modern-day story, and the puppetry was really impressive.

"The cast was fantastic," she added. "I was especially impressed with Elizabeth Irving's performance as Midge."

The play is being presented as part of UCF's efforts to showcase the University's commitment to the arts and to connect with the wider community.

"We want to create a space where people can come together and experience something new," said Salmasian.

"Shapeshifter" is the latest in a series of productions that have been created as part of UCF's Arts and Medicine Initiative, which aims to use the arts to improve health and well-being.

The production is also being presented as part of UCF's efforts to engage with the broader Orlando community.

"We want to reach out to as many people as possible," said Salmasian.

"Shapeshifter" is being presented at a variety of venues throughout the region, including the Donnelly Center for the Arts and the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre.
Film basks in blood & beauty

WILLIAM GOSS
Staff Writer

The legendary battle of Thermopylae gets a ravishing modern update, thanks to graphic novelist Frank Miller of Sin City fame and director Zack Snyder, who previously directed 2004's Dawn of the Dead remake.

King Leonidas (Gerard Butler) opts to defy the laws of the elders and leads 300 of his finest Spartan soldiers to take on the seemingly invincible forces of invading Xerxes (Rodrigo Santoro).

Meanwhile, Leonidas' queen (Lena Headey) clashes with corrupt politicians in an effort to send support to her husband and his troops.

Using digital technology and an admirable faithfulness to its source material, Snyder takes an age-old swords-and-sandals tale and modernizes it for a generation raised on Sin City and Red Bull, with touches of wry gallows humor spread throughout.

Relevant political and sexual themes are there for those eager to find them, but otherwise, Butler and company manage to make a story that is as purely visceral as it is visual, in spite of the inherently artificial filmmaking techniques and storytelling embellishments inevitably accumulated across time.

Underneath its spectacular shallowness is the ultimate underdog story, one that embodies brotherhood, pride and honor in the face of death, setting even moral purity to the wayside.

Yes, it's graphic and gratuitous and more than nary a sermon. No, it isn't for everyone. However, those willing to watch will find that 300 is a shear vision of pop art, a glorious indulgence that transforms into a greater testament to myth, a monument to masculinity and the downright coolest history lesson in quite a while.

Perhaps it's finally time to commandeer that "new classic" label from TNT because someone can finally show them what one of those would really look like.

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