



**'Rambo' misfires**

Page 11



**'Spartan' parody plunges**

Page 10

# VALENCIA VOICE

Volume 4, Issue 3

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February 6, 2008

## Fast Finder

### Valencia News

#### Orlando Opera

East Campus performance, kicks off 2008 season.

Page 6

### Entertainment News

#### Manchester Orchestra

Atlanta band makes a stop in downtown Orlando.

P. 11

### National News

#### Plastic Surgery

Mistakes cause Americans to change their mind about going under the knife.

Page 7

## Important Dates

### Dancing with Cupid

Thursday, February 14, 2008

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

East Campus

### Hollister Co.

Monday, February 11, 2008

10 a.m.

West Campus

Bldg. 2 Breezeway

Employment opportunities

### DeVry University

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

10 a.m.

West Campus

Bldg. 2 Breezeway

## C-SPAN bus parks at West Campus

By Keisha Sweeney  
Valencia Voice

Students parking in Valencia West Campus' Beta lot on Friday were met with a 45 foot surprise.

Valencia West Campus was a stop on C-SPAN's 11 month,

"The Road to the White House" tour. The tour boasts 2 buses complete with mobile television production equipment and studio facilities. Students were invited on board to view the small scale version of a C-SPAN studio.

The bus is equipped with New

York and Washington, D.C. sets which make it virtually impossible for C-SPAN viewers to distinguish between the mobile studio and their studios in D.C.

Each C-SPAN Campaign 2008 bus has visited all 50 states, all

Please see Page 13

Super Bowl XLII

Giants 17, Patriots 14

## A Giant upset



Photo by Mark Cornelison / MCT Campus

The New York Giants' quarterback and game MVP, Eli Manning, celebrates with coach Tom Coughlin after a 17-14 Giants victory in Super Bowl XLII at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona, on Feb. 3

Please see Page 14

## Students approve Game Night

By Jordan Keyes  
Valencia Voice

If you needed a break from studying and a free dinner on Jan. 31, the West Campus SGA had the event for you.

Just above the quiet, and nearly empty, West Campus cafeteria, Student Government's Game Night was causing quite a buzz. Dozens of students gathered last week to enjoy free pizza, free drinks, and games...lots of games.

People playing such board games as Monopoly and Connect Four shared space with Guitar Hero gurus and Halo heads.

The list of games available grew as the night progressed. Operation? Check. Sorry? Check. Guess Who? Check. You name it, someone was playing it on Thursday night. With about 20 games to choose from and five televisions set up for the video gamers, there was something for everyone at Game Night.

Students from all walks of life came to the caf-

Please see Page 13



Photo by Tim Johnson / MCT Campus

Well-dressed lawyers attend a rally in Islamabad on Jan. 24 to protest what they say are President Pervez Musharraf's efforts to abolish judicial independence in Pakistan.

## Bush supports Musharraf's judiciary crackdown

By Tim Johnson  
McClatchy Newspapers

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The Bush administration has signaled that it will continue to tolerate Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf's crackdown on his country's judiciary at least until after the Feb. 18 national election.

Calling Musharraf an indispensable ally, U.S. officials have largely declined to criticize his ouster of top judges and said that questions about restoring the courts' independence should be put on hold until after the election.

Pakistani analysts said that muzzling the courts might help the embattled and increasingly unpopular leader remain in power, and administration officials told Congress this week that nothing should be done to press Musharraf on the judiciary until after the election.

"They need to have an independent judiciary, but I can't see them doing it until after the election, with all the players, including the new players," said Assistant Secretary Richard Boucher, the State Department's point man on Pakistan.

Please see Page 13



Photo by Tim Johnson / MCT Campus

Lawyers protest against the rule of President Pervez Musharraf in Islamabad, Pakistan, on January 24, 2008. Musharraf, who the Bush administration backs strongly, is deeply unpopular in his homeland.

## Fuel Tool

Lowest prices for regular unleaded gasoline in Orlando (as of Feb. 3):

**\$2.86<sup>9</sup>**

**Costco**

741 Orange Avenue

**\$2.86<sup>9</sup>**

**BP**

277 East Main Street

**\$2.86<sup>9</sup>**

**Citgo**

215 East Main Street

Source: www.gasbuddy.com  
Compiled by Robert Navaille / Valencia Voice



# Clinton, Obama facing long, tough slog

By David Lightman  
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Hillary Clinton will talk about health care and argue that she's the candidate who can win the states that matter most this fall.

Barack Obama will stress his longstanding opposition to the Iraq war and maintain that he's got broader national appeal.

And they both can point to Super Tuesday's split decision as proof that they're right. Super Tuesday set up a duel between the two senators that now appears to have no obvious endpoint. Each is far from the 2,205 delegates needed for nomination, and until Texas and Ohio vote on March 4, no state has the potential to push either one

way ahead. After that looms Pennsylvania on April 22.

The fight now spreads to different venues. Clinton and Obama will battle for the "superdelegates," party officials where Clinton has an edge, but Obama campaign manager David Plouffe claims his candidate's gaining fast.

In the next round of primaries and caucuses, Obama stands to get a quick boost in Louisiana, which votes Saturday, and should show well in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, which follow on Tuesday.

All have large, active black populations — as much as half the Louisiana Democratic vote and one-third or more in Virginia and Maryland. Black voters broke for Obama on Tuesday by at least 4 to 1.



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton appears at the Manhattan Center during Super Tuesday in Manhattan, New York, February 5, 2008.

The Illinois senator's camp also argued that Obama showed Tuesday that he could win in states with tiny African-American populations, as he won caucuses in North Dakota, Idaho and Utah, a good omen with Nebraska's caucuses coming up Saturday.

He's also got what could be the biggest Obama advantage of all: He raised an estimated \$32 million in January, roughly three times what Clinton took in, and he plans to quickly increase his staff and his ad buys.

But Clinton's team contends that she brings her big set of advantages. Her campaign maintains that the New York senator proved Tuesday she could win in big, diverse states California, New York, New Jersey — as well as in Southern states, such as Arkansas and Tennessee, which shows she can compete in November.

Senior Clinton strategist Mark Penn is calling for four debates against Obama this month, notably one in Ohio and one in Texas late in February, before those two crucial states vote. Obama's camp hasn't responded.

Super Tuesday also exposed weaknesses that make the race too difficult to call.

Obama couldn't capitalize on what seemed like strong momentum. In California, he projected the kind of celebrity that the state embraces, and his closing rally at UCLA Sunday with Caroline Ken-

nedy, Maria Shriver and Oprah Winfrey should have been a huge boost.

But Clinton held on to her strong Latino constituency and beat Obama by 3 percentage points among whites, enough to win California.

Clinton, though, continues to be vulnerable. She was strong Tuesday where she's always been strong — among women, lower-income voters and moderates — but she couldn't break Obama's grip on higher-income, younger and black voters.

While she should have enough money to wage a strong campaign, her fundraising is lagging Obama's badly; she took in \$13 million in January.

Penn said that Clinton in the weeks ahead plans to stress her economic remedies, particularly health care. The California exit poll showed that among voters who thought the economy was the most important issue — and nearly half did — she won by 13 points.

Obama's camp sees his best issue as the Iraq war, where he topped Clinton by 14 points among the



Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama and wife Michelle celebrate his Super Tuesday victories at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on Tuesday, February 5, 2008, in Chicago, Illinois.

one-third of voters who said Iraq mattered most.

This much was clear Wednesday: After more than half the states have voted, there's no clear favorite, and no clear formula either can follow.

Even the voters probably don't know how to figure out this one. As Bob Mulholland, a veteran California Democratic strategist, noted last week, "Democrats see two people they really like, and they just can't make up their mind."

## McCain shines at primary in sunny Florida

By Francis Tobin  
Valencia Voice

McCain scores a victory over Romney in the Sunshine State, Giuliani and Edwards are out of the presidential hunt, and Clinton won the "beauty pageant" that is the delegate-less Democratic Florida primary; all of this leading into Super Tuesday.

According to Yahoo Answers, Super Tuesday commonly refers to the Tuesday in early February of a presidential election year when the greatest number of states hold primary elections to select delegates to national conventions at which each party's presidential candidates are officially nominated.

Official Washington sources proclaim "it's on."

"Our victory might not have reached landslide proportions, but it is sweet nonetheless," McCain said during his victory speech after winning all 57 Republican delegates in Florida. His speech was accompanied by the now-familiar "Mac is back!" refrain from his supporters.

John McCain won over Mitt Romney in key conservative districts throughout the I-4 corridor, which stretches from Orlando to Tampa, and ultimately won by five percentage points.

"In one week, we will have as close to a national primary as we've ever had in this country," McCain said, referring to Super Tuesday. "I intend to win it and be the nominee of our party."

In the same night Rudy Giuliani, hoping for a top-two finish in this primary in order to keep his presidential hopes alive, struggled to gain purchase with his prime supporters in the much coveted peninsula.

Giuliani withdrew his name from the presidential hat the next day.

During his concession speech following the Florida primary, the former New York mayor, with McCain at his side, called the Arizona senator "the most qualified candidate to be the next commander in chief of the United States."

"This is a man prepared to be President of the United States at a time of great peril," Giuliani added.



Republican presidential candidate John McCain speaks to supporters after his victory in the Florida Primary in Miami, FL, Jan. 29.

Giuliani made clear his commitment to campaign for McCain in whatever capacity he is called upon.

"When I believe in a man like I do John McCain, this will become to me as important as my own election was," Giuliani said.

This endorsement may point to a possible McCain/Giuliani presidential ticket, but no one was prepared to comment in any of the major news outlets as of yet.

On the Democratic side, John Edwards officially bowed out of the presidential race as well.

In his concession speech Edwards seemed greatly optimistic. "We do not know who will take the final steps to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, but what we do know is that our Democratic Party will make history," said Edwards in New Orleans, where he launched his campaign in late 2006.

"We will be strong, we will be unified, and with our convictions and a little backbone, we will take back the White House in November," Edwards said amidst a cheerful crowd of supporters.

While Edwards left the presidential cir-

cuit, the heated rivalry between Obama and Clinton became even hotter during the results of Florida's primary.

In a report by the AP, the Obama campaign mocked Clinton's interest in the Florida beauty pageant, which grew as the race got tighter.

A spokesman for the Illinois senator, Bill Burton, released a "breaking news" item to declare: "Obama and Clinton tie for delegates in Florida -- 0 for Obama, 0 for Clinton."

"When Senator Clinton was campaigning in Iowa and New Hampshire, she said that states like Michigan and Florida that won't award delegates, don't count for anything," Burton said.

"Now that Senator Clinton has lost badly in South Carolina, she's trying to assign meaning to a contest that awards zero delegates and where no campaigning has occurred."

In the same vein as the hotly contested 2000 and 2004 presidential campaigns, this year's Super Tuesday promises to follow suit.



Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton thanks supporters with Congressman Bill Nelson of Florida, Congressman Alcee Hastings of Florida, Miami Mayor Manny Diaz and U.S. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz in Davie, Florida, Jan. 29.





Brian Baer/Sacramento Bee/MCT  
Republican presidential hopeful Sen. John McCain speaks at the San Diego airport during a rally on Tuesday, February 5, 2008, in San Diego, California.

## GOP voters salivate over underdog’s confidence

By Christy Hoppe  
The Dallas Morning News

PHOENIX — First the city hosted the Super Bowl and then the victor of Super Tuesday. And while the fan count was a little smaller for John McCain, it was equally enthusiastic.

About 1,000 people gathered for a campaign that has taken on the appearance of a winner with a party at the exclusive Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa.

When he appeared before the boisterous crowd, McCain harkened back to the time six months ago when his campaign was dismissed by the pundits. But like the New York Giants, he showed what a good ground game and a strong stance on defense could accomplish.

The Republican presidential hopeful began by saying that he was “the underdog that relished as much as anyone the come-from-behind wins.”

But he also acknowledged the obvious and claimed the mantle that Super Tuesday brought him: “Tonight I think we need to get used to the idea that we are the Republican Party front runner for the nomination. And I don’t really mind it one bit.”

His night saw victories in the coveted, delegate-rich winner-take-all states of Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey and New York, as well as impressive wins in other states.

When he addressed the crowd, McCain also reached beyond to the conservative and evangelical base of his party, many of whom have criticized the maverick GOP senator.

“I promise you, if I am so fortunate as to win your nomination, I will work hard to ensure that the conservative philosophy and principles of our great party, principles that have done so well by the country we love, will again win the votes of a majority of the American people and defeat any candidate our friends on the other side nominate,” he said.

He evoked Ronald Reagan and said, in the long pass to conservative doubters, that he can unite the party and win in November.

“I am confident we will get there,” he said.

— Distributed by MCT Campus

# GOP front runner emerges, Democrat race hazes

By Frank Tobin  
Valencia Voice

While the Democratic presidential ticket is still up for grabs, John McCain emerged as the Republican frontrunner after Super Tuesday’s winners

were projected.

As of all winners being projected of the 21 states holding Republican primaries and caucuses, McCain led in nine states and won about 40 percent of the populous votes, compared to former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney’s seven states,

31 percent, and former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee’s five states, 21 percent, according to CNN.com.

“Tonight I think we have to get used to the idea that we are the Republican Party front-runner for the nomination,” McCain told supporters during his

victory speech.

Over the aisle in the tight Democratic race, Clinton and Obama are in a statistical dead-heat. And even though Obama lost in the state of Massachusetts, he did pick up key wins along the southern corridor.

“We feel very good about the numbers we’re seeing,” said Clinton spokesman Phil Singer in an interview with USA Today.

To fully understand the comprehensive, raw statistical data present in the overall tallies after Super Tuesday, we have provided a rundown of each state and their final scores.

The number of delegates going to each candidate will not be known until later, but the numbers available on Super Tuesday are shown for both the Democrats (D) and Republicans (R). “W” applies to the Republican contest only and denotes a state where the Republican winner takes all of that state’s delegates.

Mr Huckabee won with 52% of the vote, followed by Mr Romney with 47% and Mr McCain with 1% (with 100% of precincts reporting).

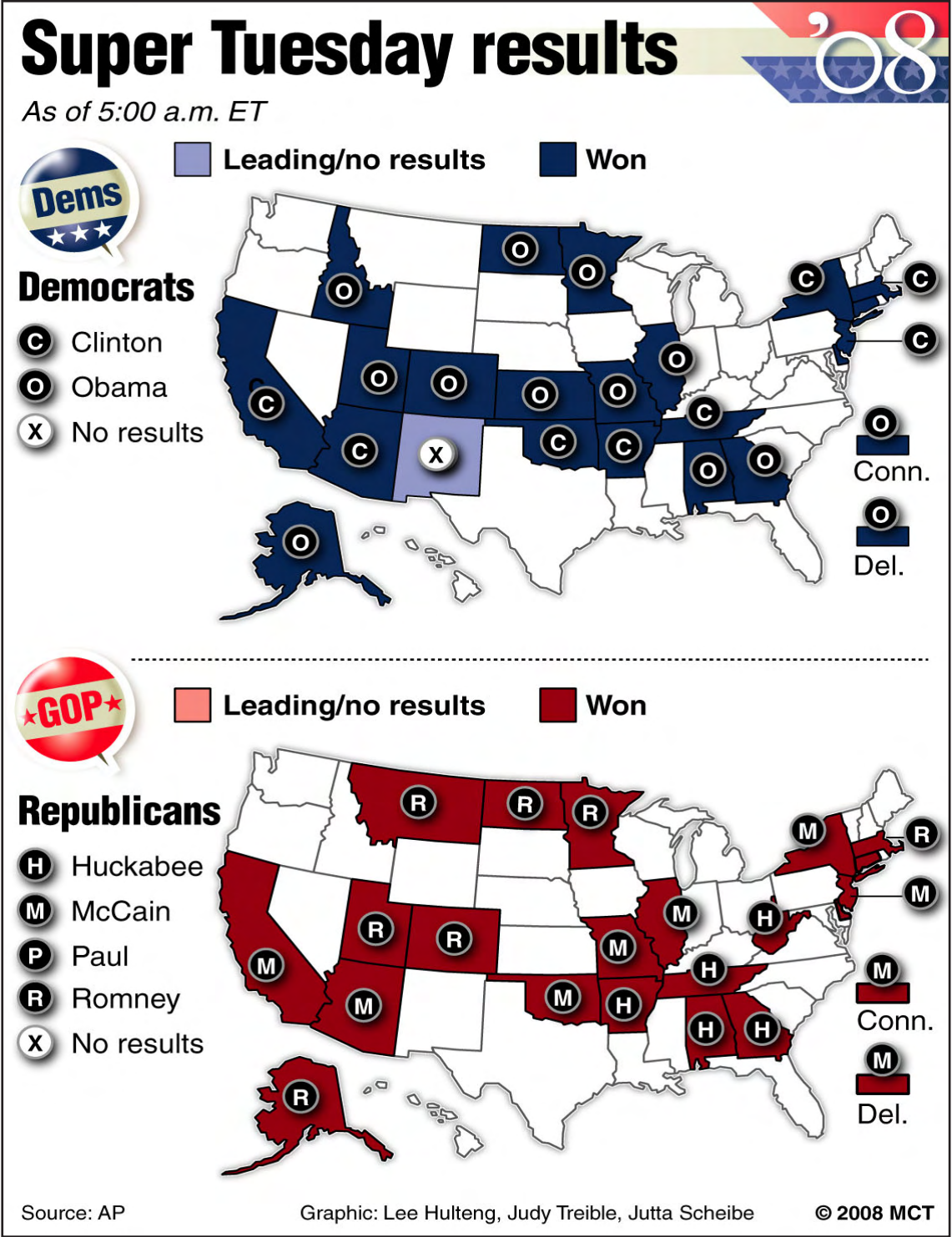
These numbers will undoubtedly represent McCain in the Republican National Convention (where Republican presidential hopefuls attend in order to possibly obtain their party’s nomination), however a Democratic possibility is unclear as of this writing.

What is clear though, is that both Clinton and Obama won in key states, which may shed some insight as to the nature of America’s leanings come election time.

In polls conducted prior to the primaries beginning in earnest, 92 percent of Americans surveyed said they were ready for either a woman or an African American for president, as long as they were qualified for the job.

This was proven with the large turnouts in California and New York (close to one million voters for each Obama and Clinton).

Obama, Clinton, and McCain have gained momentum going into their respective National Conventions; what the outcome will be still remains unseen.



Winners of Super Tuesday primaries broken down by percentage of votes received by each candidate in each state.

State	Obama	Clinton
Alabama	56%	42%
Alaska	75%	25%
Arizona	42%	51%
Arkansas	27%	69%
California	38%*	53%*
Colorado	67%	32%
Connecticut	51%	47%
Delaware	53%	43%
Georgia	67%	31%
Idaho	79%	17%
Illinois	65%	33%
Kansas	74%	26%
Massachusetts	41%	56%
Minnesota	67%	32%
Missouri	49%	48%
Montana	N/A	N/A
New Jersey	44%	54%
New Mexico	42.9%*	43%*
New York	40%	57%
North Dakota	61%	37%
Oklahoma	31%	55%
Tennessee	41%	54%
Utah	57%	39%
West Virginia	N/A	N/A

State	McCain	Romney	Huckabee
Alabama	37%	18%	41%
Alaska	16%	45%	22%
Arizona (W)	47%	34%	N/A
Arkansas	20%	13%	61%
California	43%*	29%*	12%*
Colorado	19%	60%	13%
Connecticut (W)	52%	33%	7%
Delaware (W)	45%	33%	15%
Georgia (W)	32%	30%	34%
Idaho	N/A	N/A	N/A
Illinois	47%	29%	17%
Kansas	N/A	N/A	N/A
Massachusetts	41%	51%	4%
Minnesota	22%	42%	20%
Missouri (W)	33%	29%	32%
Montana (W)	22%	38%	15%
New Jersey (W)	55%	28%	8%
New Mexico	N/A	N/A	N/A
New York (W)	51%	28%	11%
North Dakota	23%	36%	20%
Oklahoma	37%	25%	33%
Tennessee	32%	24%	34%
Utah (W)	5%	90%	2%
West Virginia (W)	1%	47%	52%

\* California has 42% of precincts reporting; New Mexico is still too close to call on the democratic side.



# Cafeteria sparks debate over variety

By Ashley Gonzalez  
Valencia Voice

Although there aren't any recent proposals about Valencia campus getting better cafeteria food, it is comprehensible to wonder if it will ever get better over time.

While some students are okay with the food we already have in the cafeteria, others are not so happy.

Valencia students were recently asked "if you could choose better cafeteria food for Valencia campuses what types of food would you like to see?"

Some requested that there be more of a variety while others simply stated that the food Valencia offers is too expensive.

Ultimately, the likelihood of more students approaching the cafeteria if new food was offered is quite slim.

Some students simply decided that they feel better off scrounging for food at the vending machines.

While some of the requests for more variety seemed appropriate to most students, faculty, and staff the idea is simply not possible.

For instance, a high demand for cultural foods such as Chinese, Japanese, Thai, American, Latin, Italian and Mexican might cause the cafeteria to become too hectic.

The spectrum would be too wide to fit all of the variety and demanding foods into a relatively small cafeteria.

Imagine if you walked into a restaurant that served almost everything.

The tone of the restaurant would be a little chaotic.

Overall the expenses would reach far beyond Valencia's budget and not to mention the overbearing demand of fast service for more work employees would be forced to do.

Although these are just small problems that could quite easily be fixed, there aren't enough problems and complaints about it to ultimately change the entire menu of Valencia cafeterias campus-wide.



"Too expensive anyway. Hit the vending machines."

— **Ayeisha Nelson**



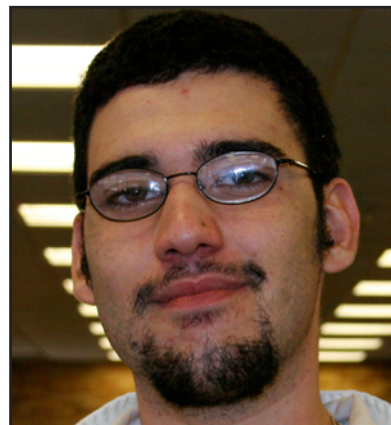
"More of a mix. Variety."

— **Jose Lazarre**



"Something edible. Just more food."

— **David Brettin**



"The food we have already is pretty good but it would be nice to see different ethnic foods too."

— **Leonardo Oliveira**



"Subway, tiramisu, cheesecake, italian, and cheese and broccoli soup."

— **Maria Doychinova**



"More kosher food! Oh and middle-eastern food too."

— **Lior Enbar**



"Subway. Eat fresh..."

— **Jesula Aurelien**



"Healthy food! Salads... and a meatball sandwich."

— **Ruth Joseph**

Photos by Erica Teamer

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## Corrections

All poll photos on page 2 of last week's issue were taken by Erica Teamer.

On page 6 of last week's issue, the word "mission" in a headline, was misspelled

Page 1 of last week's issue was designed by Robert Navaille



Opinion

# Our Position *Embryo Cloning*

Scientific advances in modern medicine are leaning towards a subject of quasi-controversy: human cloning.

On the one hand, research attempted in this particular field could yield promising potential in the fight against Alzheimer's, paraplegia, cancer, and other ailments of the human condition.

In fact, according to [genomics.energy.gov](http://genomics.energy.gov), organs generated from cloned human embryos could substantially increase the effectiveness and regularity of organ transplants, therefore significantly reducing the need for organ donations.

Therefore, instead of a deserving heart patient's condition being perpetuated by an excruciating wait time, they can have the operation performed without the need for another person to posthumously donate their functioning heart.

However, there raises the quandary: where do we as a society draw the line between scientific research and "playing God?"

According to a declaration, filed by Dr. Stuart Newman, in the Superior Court of California, "cloned mammalian embryos, the products of nuclear transfer, if permitted to

develop to full term, are very likely to give rise to biologically abnormal or very sick individuals."

In 2002, researchers at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts, reported that the genomes of cloned mice were compromised, leading to premature death.

If it doesn't work for rodents, why would it work for human beings?

Embryonic stem cell research has been hotly contested within the courts for many years, but scientists have debated the basis of using cloned materials from said stem cells as a replacement.

However, the results are still similar: genetic fetal material would still be harvested in order to further the science of medical practices.

Granted, the advancement of curable options for children with defective abnormalities, developed at birth, would be nothing if not a positive step, but this would lend to a slippery slope.

There could be a viable solution to such a volatile subject, however: utilize the gifts nature already provides for us.

Developed originally as a thesis abstraction for the Federal Drug Administration, but now used as an information tool on their website, [ReligiousTolerance.org](http://ReligiousTolerance.org) suggests an alternative.

"Nature itself is the greatest cloning agent," their press release reads.

"In about one of every 75 human conceptions, the fertilized ovum splits for some unknown reason and produces monozygotic (identical) twins. Each has a genetic makeup identical to the other."

In cloning, this same operation is done intentionally in a laboratory. For ethical reasons, the researchers had selected embryos which had no possibility of ever maturing into fetuses, and thus becoming newborn babies.

Could this be a potential "middle-ground" bordering on the line between unethical procurement of stem cells, and harvesting embryos from aborted fetuses to further the advancement of scientific research?

Time will tell.

But if present data is to be believed, and due to the inefficiency of animal cloning (only about 1 or 2 viable offspring for every 100 experiments) and the lack of understanding about reproductive cloning, many scientists and physicians strongly believe that it would be unethical to attempt to clone humans.

Advances in the name of science should not supercede our own moral intuition, but we should always remain open to the possibility of progressive scientific research conducted in a moral fashion.

We do covet the right to life in this country, after all.

With which we go back and forth  
Half of us say absolutely not  
And the others say of course

The decision isn't really ours anyway  
So the argument is moot  
But it makes us feel better  
And that's what's important at the root

To give us a sense of purpose  
While we argue this important issue  
Do we want them making people  
Do we want them stealing tissue?

Is the chance to live forever worth it  
To have another you walk around  
To be your better counter part  
Once you're in the ground

We aren't here to make up your minds  
While our evolution is on the brink  
But hopefully we've opened your eyes  
And encouraged you to think.

By Carlos Minet  
Valencia Voice

There are several different positions  
On whether cloning is right or wrong  
Everyone states their own case  
Everyone sings their song

Some say it's a good idea  
It'll lead to our salvation  
While others think of morals  
And the ethical implications

They argue from a religious stand point  
Claiming God would not approve  
While others think it's our right as humans  
So what is there to lose?

They feel they've created technology  
And have the right over all  
While the others feel it's against the code  
That's embedded in us all

It's a hot button topic

# Our Position *Express lane on I-4*

If you regularly drive on I-4, it is likely that the interior of your vehicle has been exposed to more vulgarities than one would care to admit to uttering. The Metroplan Orlando Group thinks they hold the key that will put in end to our behind-the-wheel tantrums, rants, and raves.

The group has devised a plan that will place "limited access" toll lanes in the center of the artery that will allow drivers to pay a toll, and supposedly fly by the rest of us using the non-tolled lanes.

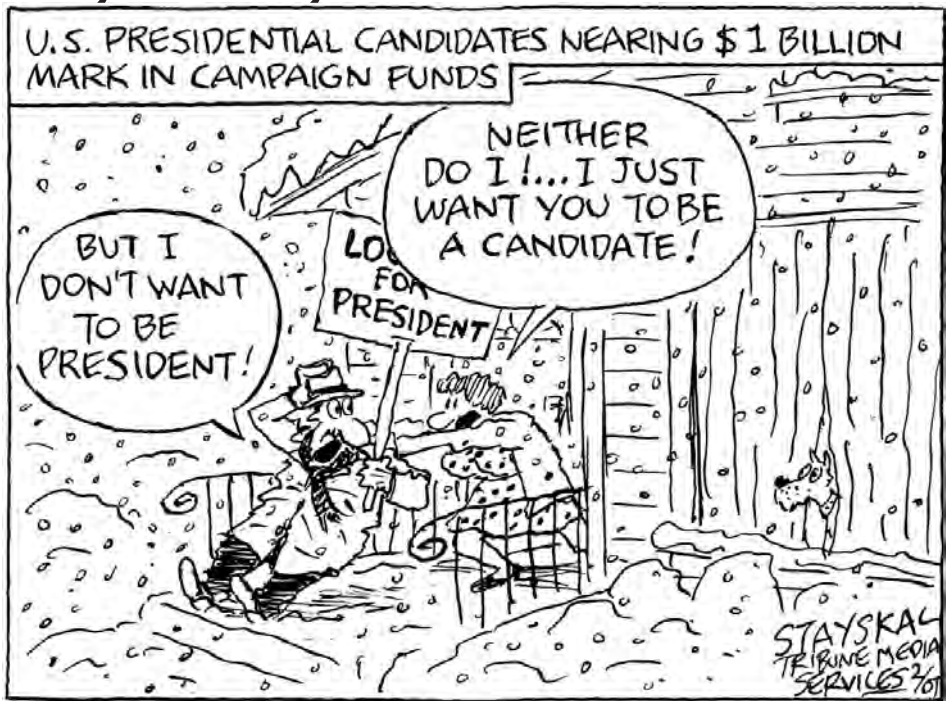
This is wrong on so many levels. To begin with, I-4 drivers now have quite a few lanes in which to maneuver and commit all the driving faux pas that they inevitably do, yet there are still accidents which back up the interstate for what always feels like forever. When these same geniuses take their impeccable driving skills to the artery of the interstate with far less room, one accident could cause these people who intended to zip past the rest of us an even greater delay. The plan will likely be a nightmare for emergency crews attempting to evacuate victims and clear out debris. This will give the toll paying drivers plenty of time to sit back, sip their lattes, and watch those of us

driving for free, fly by them and make it to our respective destinations while they sit idle and enjoy the perks of the "fast" lane.

Besides the fact that there will be limited space in this faster lane, the whole toll plaza experience does not sound at all enticing. Unless the city plans to implement the mandatory use of Epasses, the toll paying procedure could slow the lanes down more than those of the non-paying drivers. There are not many people that have not been stuck behind the guy that knew they were going through a toll yet, amazingly has to dig around his entire car for change. Then there are the drivers that lack the hand-eye coordination necessary to throw \$.75 from your window to the basket. You either have to wait for these guys to throw each individual coin in the basket, or you have to wait as they pick up all the coins they have dropped on the ground.

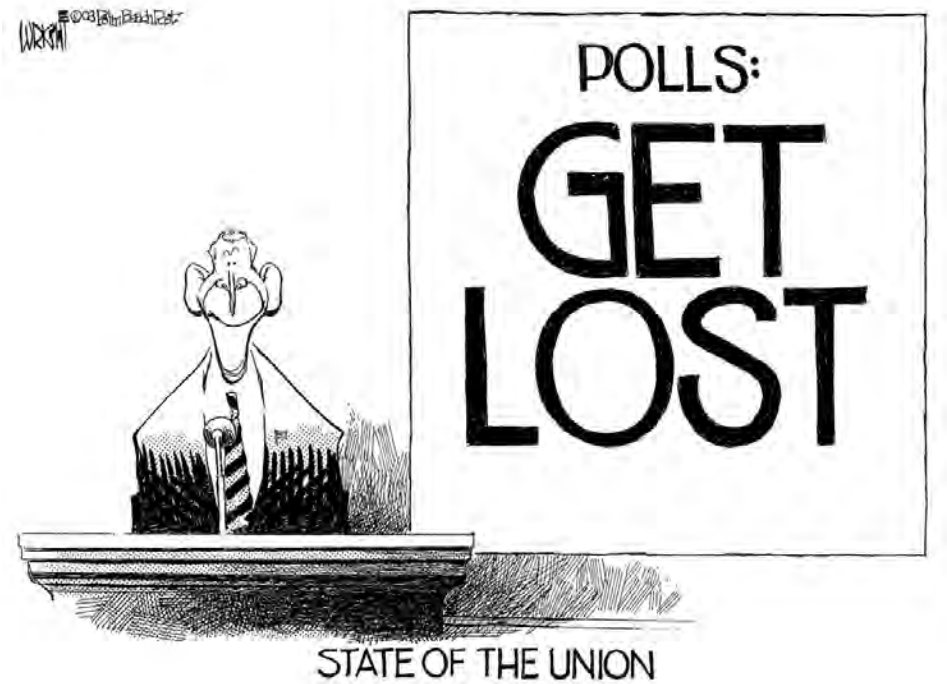
The more this process is picked apart, the more it seems to be simply another poorly thought out plan by the city. It seems more logical to continue hauling down I-4 in a blaze of middle fingers and obscenities than it does to pay for it.

## Wayne Stayskal Tribune Media Services



Distributed by MCT Campus

## Don Wright The Palm Beach Post



Distributed by MCT Campus



# Orlando Opera sings season’s praise



Orlando Opera members (from left) Angela Mortellaro, Sarah Limper, Jon-Michael Ball give students a preview of this year’s Opera events.

By Alfred L. Gordon II  
Valencia Voice

Members of the Orlando Opera Company gave spectators an exclusive sneak peek of what would be in store for their 50th Anniversary season, on Jan. 29 at East Campus. The melodic sounds of the Orlando Opera filled the auditorium of the Performing Arts Center, and warmed the hearts of the near capacity crowd.

Nimrod Weisbrod, Angela Mortellaro, Jon-Micheal Ball, and Sarah Limper gave opera enthusiasts a taste of what’s to come when the Orlando Opera

Company starts their 2008 tour in February at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Center.

Opening the tour will be the contemporary hit “Die Fledermaus” by Johan Strauss, arriving in Orlando by mid-February. Following Strauss will be “Turandot” by Giacomo Puccini, in April, the new contemporary classic “Little Women” by Mark Adamo in May, and concluding with the classic “Don Giovanni” by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in November.

The production “Turandot” will be a sight to see boasting 10 singers in lead roles, a 72-member chorus, a 16-member children’s chorus, 54 Orlando Phil-

harmonic Orchestra musicians, 1 conductor, and 50 supernumeraries, not to mention another 79 staff members working behind-the-scenes, on stage management and direction, wardrobe, wigs/makeup, stage hands, and production-related administration. In total, over 200 talented performers will be seen or heard in this production. “Don Giovanni” is a classic Mozart piece that will appeal to anyone allured by tales of seduction, revenge, with a sprinkle of love and lust. This year is guaranteed to be not only a magnificent display of musical talent, but also a great opportunity for people unfamiliar with opera to find out what all the hoopla is about. While some may think of opera as stiff, and traditional, there is a wave of contemporary opera that is feverishly catching on.

Songs that will be performed include lyrics about intense young love, scenarios of siblings who become jealous of other family members’ relationships, and even a refreshing performance of the opera hit, “Toast of Champagne.” Audiences have loved the lively, and enthusiastic vibe of this song, which tells tales of good friends and good times. Songs of this sort make an effort to ensure that less experienced opera fans, and even the more seasoned veterans, have a relatable perspective of this dazzling art form. The Orlando Opera Company participates in “Y.P.C,” or Young People’s Concerts, and will also be starting a Local Outreach program, designed to grab the attention of people who have

never been exposed to the grandeur of an opera production. On a different note, many have the misconception that to go to the opera means designer clothes and pricey accessories. “This is not at all the case,” says opera performer Sarah Limper. When asked about this misconception, she said, “Looking nice is fine, but being comfortable is important when taking in the sights and sounds of this beautiful art form.” Even the first time operagoer will recognize many of the songs from the time they might have heard them featured in a movie, or even

their favorite TV commercial. The Orlando Opera Company appears poised to surpass the successes of last season by leaps and bounds and this year’s 50th Anniversary is sure to satisfy those who have been eagerly anticipating this years opera fix, as well as first-timers who are prepared to view all of the extraordinary talent that’s sure to tug at every existing heartstring. Some songs will make you laugh, and a few might make you cry, but at the end of the day, you’ll be singing, laughing, and waltzing out of the arena after witnessing the experience of a lifetime.



Mezzo-soprano, Sarah Limper, and baritone, Nimrod Wiesbrod, embrace onstage before students and faculty at the East campus PAC.

## Professor plans to choose teaching over blossoming design company



Professor Jill Sebacher posing with her artsy passion.

By Sarah Soliman  
Valencia Voice

Professor Jill Sebacher is not only an English professor at Valencia Community College, but she also produces her own accessories. Sebacher makes her own purses, jewelry, jewelry boxes, candle boxes and valet boxes. During her honeymoon in Mount Dora, she met a man who was selling decorative cigar boxes and it inspired her to begin creating designs that reflected her personality.

With the help her best friend, Bridgette Mckane, the duo began designing purses and various other accessories two years ago.

But Professor Sebacher does not only design purses for herself.

While carrying her purses around, Sebacher was constantly complimented and questioned by others about where she got her purses. She then decided to start a business by selling her accessories to others.

To do so, the English professor consulted Orange County and legally established her own company. She is the corporate president of Artwearsinc and sells purses through her own web-

site, <http://www.artwearsinc.com>

Professor Sebacher has made about 75 to 100 purses and has sold them to individuals outside of Florida through her website. “It’s cool to know that someone in Wisconsin and California is wearing my purse,” said Sebacher.

Sebacher has also auctioned off her designs for charity and has even made a purse for Sylvia Piotrowski, administrative assistant to the dean of the humanities department here at Valencia

However, Professor Sebacher does not sell purses to her students because she wants to keep her company separate from her passion of teaching. She usually charges about \$100 per purse because of the incredible amount of labor it takes to create these bags; one purse takes approximately two weeks to complete.

Her designs are not influenced by any specific designer, but she loves fashion and is especially fond of the store ‘Anthropologie’ at the Millenia Mall. Although Sebacher loves creating her own purses, she refuses to take her business to a higher level by selling them to boutiques. She states, “I don’t want it to become overwhelming because I love teaching.”

Professor Sebacher is married to Neil Sebacher, an English Professor at Valencia Community College as well. Her husband is known to help her with the handy work. The two have an 11 year old daughter, Megan, who takes after her mother and helps her design purses as well.

“Because my daughter is interested in creating purses and jewelry as well, it allows us to spend time together, and I think for this reason I’ll be making purses for awhile,” said Sebacher, commenting on the future of her business.

“My husband always says, do it until it’s not fun anymore,” said Sebacher, adding later. Professor Jill Sebacher is a creative and passionate woman about everything from her family, her career, and her company. If interested in her designs, visit her website at <http://www.artwearsinc.com>. Her one-of-a-kind designs are perfect gifts for anyone on your list.

Although she enjoys designing purses, Sebacher insists, “The best part of this are people’s reactions to the personal things I make.”

## Pet food drive aims to help needy animals

### Local pet rescue urges students to donate goods for furry friends

By Tatiana Isis  
Valencia Voice

If dog is man’s best friend, than where does that leave cats, hamsters, fish, ferrets, rabbits, birds, and all those other pets at the pet store? At Pet Rescue by Judy, all pets are taken into account.

While dogs and cats are their main focus, the non-profit organization that is Pet Rescue by Judy, welcomes all animals in need. If you’re not familiar with the organization you can find their website at <http://www.petrescuebyjudy.com>.

The animals rescued by this organization are doctored and sheltered in private homes until new homes are found for them. You can help by becoming a Pet Rescue by Judy volunteer, where you can provide a home for a rescued cat or dog until someone adopts them, or you can even adopt your own pet. The fees range from \$150 to \$250 for dogs and \$125 to \$150 for cats, and while that may seem like a lot, it includes the cost of spaying/neutering, shots, micro chipping, medical care and feeding. The adoption hours are by appointment during the week and 11:30a.m. to 4:00p.m., Saturday and Sunday at the adoption locations.

You can check out their calendar of events on their website for more information.

Last week, at the West campus of Valencia Community College, Pet Rescue by Judy held a weeklong pet food and litter donation. All types of pet food and pet products were welcome. This week long donation was held in Building 4, Room 103, where all you have to do was walk in and drop off your donation.

Student volunteer, Whitney Johnson, was there when the Journalism department dropped in for a visit,

“I’m glad this is happening,” said Whitney. “There were a lot of donations.”

From 20 lb. bags of dog food to dozens of cans of cat food, the students at Valencia truly did help. You might not realize it, but every donation is greatly appreciated. Everything that was donated at the campus will go towards feeding the animals being doctored or awaiting adoption at Pet Rescue by Judy.

If you haven’t yet had the opportunity to donate -- don’t worry! You can always drop off donations, become a foster home or sponsor a specific animal by donating food, pet carriers, collars, leashes, blankets/towels, cat litter, laundry detergent/bleach, dog and cat toys, paper towels, Q-tips/latex gloves, plastic kitchen garbage bags, cash donations, or basically anything that might help the organization and the pets.

So don’t waste another minute, donate to a good cause and on behalf of Valencia, thanks.





Photo by Sylwia Kapuscinski, Chicago Tribune / MCT Campus  
Debra Dunn hated her plastic surgery so much she “wanted to punch myself in the nose and make it all go away.”

# Doing an about face after plastic surgery

By Kirsten Scharnberg  
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — After two nose jobs and thousands of dollars, Debra Dunn hated her face so much that she avoided mirrors, didn’t want to leave the house and hid behind her long hair anytime she had to be out in public.

“Every time I saw myself, I wanted to punch myself in the nose to make it all go away,” said the 40-year-old New Yorker, referring to the five years that followed a cosmetic surgery intended to even out a bump on her nose from a childhood injury. “I just kept thinking, ‘Why did I do this to myself?’”

Doctor after doctor told Dunn her new nose was lovely. “Anyone would kill for a cute little nose like that,” she remembers many of them saying, despite the fact her new nose was so narrow that it whistled when she breathed. But Dunn deeply regretted messing with what nature had given her and felt she no longer bore any resemblance to herself.

Desperate, Dunn eventually spent more than three times the amount of her original surgery in an attempt to rebuild her nose to resemble the one she was born with.

“I don’t think you can ever go completely back to square one,” she said, “but for the most part I now look like myself again.”

As plastic surgery has become increasingly common in America — some 16 million procedures were performed in 2007 — so has the consumer backlash.

Thousands of patients find themselves so displeased with the results of their surgeries that they are paying top dollar to undo what they had done. Such procedures are so high in demand that some doctors now promote themselves as “revision plastic surgeons” and devote up to 50 percent of their practices to such cases. The surgeries have earned their own nickname in the trendy nip-tuck world: Undo-plastics.

“I’d say at this point that one out of about every two or three procedures I do is a revision surgery,” said Dr. Andrew Jacono, chief of facial plastic and reconstructive surgery at North Shore University Hospital in Manhasset, N.Y.

If Hollywood, with its Joan Rivers cheekbones and Botox parties and Angelina Jolie-inspired lip injections, led the nation into its plastic surgery craze, it also has pioneered the developing trend of regretting many of the results.

Rocker Courtney Love recently wrote on her MySpace page that she hated her facelift and wanted to go back to “the mouth God

gave me.” Porn star Jenna Jameson had her breast implants removed last year, saying, “Why don’t I be who I am?” Singer Julio Iglesias went public last year about plastic surgery he had on his sagging neck and jaw line, calling it the “worst thing” he’d ever done.

Actress Annabelle Gurwitch recently contributed a heartfelt commentary on National Public Radio in which she agonized over her choice to follow the Hollywood crowd to the plastic surgeon’s operating table. Instead of loving her new, youthful face, she spoke of missing the bags under her eyes that had taken her “40 years to accumulate” and of feeling “like a sheep.”

“Have I flouted nature and tampered with an essential, defining part of my being?” she said. “People are saying I look prettier, while I think I just look more standardized, like a new house where all the corners meet.”

Jacono said the idea of feeling standardized is exactly what bothers so many of his clients. He said the combination of plastic surgery’s popularity and the fact that so many doctors are jumping into the largely unregulated profession without specialized training has resulted in millions of “cookie cutter” surgeries that he calls “the Dr. Jones rhinoplasty and the Dr. Smith facelift.”

“Everyone kind of ends up looking the same,” he said, adding that patients from California, Wyoming, Italy, England and Ireland have recently come to him to revise surgeries they hate.

Jacono said many plastic surgeons not only tend to do all noses and facelifts alike but also do far more aggressive procedures than clients had envisioned. He said clients often tell him they only wanted to look like a younger version of themselves but “came out looking like they had been trapped in a wind tunnel.”

Patients such as Dunn, who hate the results of their initial plastic surgeries, often become reclusive, unwilling to even leave home. Jacono said by the time many of them come to him, they are profoundly depressed and ashamed.

Kathy Kater, a St. Paul, Minn., psychotherapist who specializes in body image disorders, said such reactions make sense.

“There is a human hunger to be our most authentic self,” she said. “Such dramatic surgeries can make people feel as though their permanent self is not their genuine self — at least on the outside. That can lead to a real feeling of internal discontent or even a very deep grief for a self who now seems to have disappeared.”

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# Science makes gains on multiple sclerosis

## Discovery of controversial viral link leads to treatments, possible vaccine

By Marie McCullough  
The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — Barely 15 years ago, doctors could do nothing to change the course of multiple sclerosis, the disabling neurological disease that strikes in the prime of adulthood.

Today, six drugs are approved to decrease the periodic immune attacks that underlie MS, another six are in final human testing, and dozens more are in development. Researchers have zeroed in on genetic and environmental risk factors; a common virus may play a role in activating the disease. And the ultimate goal — regrowing damaged nerves — is no longer a pipe dream.

“I think a regeneration process may be available in the next five to 10 years,” said Abdolmohamad Rostami, chair of neurology at Thomas Jefferson University, where researchers have partially reversed nerve damage in mice. “I’m very optimistic.”

Without being overly optimistic about the prospects for curing MS, experts agree that huge strides have been made in managing and slowing the disease.

“We’re treating people much earlier, so they’re getting more years of exacerbation-free time, which we believe will reduce the long-term disability,” said Clyde Markowitz, director of the MS Center at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

In MS, infection-fighting white blood cells attack the protective myelin covering that insulates nerve fibers in the brain, spinal cord and eyes. Like broken electrical cables, the inflamed myelin — and, eventually, nerves — become unable to conduct the brain’s signals. This can cause impaired vision, numbness, mental problems, and paralysis.

About 10 percent of patients become steadily and progressively more disabled without clear autoimmune attacks. But most of the country’s 400,000 patients experience relapses of varying severity and frequency, with complete or partial recovery in between. Disability accumulates over time, but MS is maddeningly unpredictable and rarely fatal in itself.

Circumstantial evidence has long supported the idea that MS is triggered by an infectious agent, perhaps a virus or bacteria, in people with genetic susceptibility.

Now, research is bolstering suspicion that Epstein-Barr virus is the culprit.

Epstein-Barr is a ubiquitous microbe that infects about 95 percent of American adults. Often there are no symptoms, but more than a third of infected adolescents and young adults develop the fever, sore throat and fatigue of infectious mononucleosis.

A history of mono increases the small risk of MS as much as threefold. Studies suggest Epstein-Barr also plays a role in lupus, another autoimmune disease.

While the viral link is controversial, it is raising hopes that MS could be prevented with a vaccine, just like measles or polio.

“Collectively, the results . . . provide compelling evidence,” said Alberto Ascherio, senior author of the Harvard study. “I think this new data on MS will generate new interest in developing a vaccine” against Epstein-Barr, he added.

Meanwhile, scientists are learning more and more about the immune system’s role in MS.

The six MS drugs approved since 1993 target various molecules that enable infection-fighting blood cells — T cells and B cells — to communicate and mobilize. The challenge has been finding a way to suppress the immune system that is powerful enough to be effective in most MS patients — yet not so powerful that it leaves them vulnerable to other diseases.

Tysabri, approved in 2004, turned out to be so good at clamping down on immune cells that a few patients developed a rare, overwhelming viral infection of the brain; the drug now carries a warning.

Fingolimod, an experimental drug now in final human testing, is also designed to rein in immune cells, but earlier in the mobilization process. It keeps them from leaving the lymph nodes where they’re produced.

“We’re getting close to being able to control the destructive immune process,” said John Richert, vice president of research at the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. “It may come at the price of side effects that are devastating. But we hope we can find a risk-benefit balance.”

Whether reducing relapses will ultimately lessen patients’ cumulative disability is not yet clear. But that’s the hope, especially as scientists discover new molecules to manipulate.

“Genetic studies will eventually lead us to the cause of MS and make it easier to prevent,” Richert said.

– Distributed by MCT Campus



Photo by April Saul, Philadelphia Inquirer / MCT Campus  
Dr. John Richert, research director of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, chats with patient Carol Johnson.



# VAHSA challenges UCF Kreole dance team

By Chad Sterling  
Valencia Voice

Within the Valencia community there are a network of relatively unknown student organizations. One example is the VAHSA or the Valencia Haitian Student Association. They are a small group of primarily Haitian students that meet once a week in the Health Sciences Building in room 106. With membership only estimated to be in the low twenties, this organization and its activities are typically unknown to the rest of the student body.

For most people such a small size would be reflective of low productivity, however, the accom-

plishments of VAHSA have proven otherwise. Last year, they were responsible for the first Cultural Day, during which they held a small celebration in building 3 of West Campus. The highlight of the evening, according to those who were in attendance, were the traditional dances that were performed by some of the talented women within the organization.

In a recent phone interview, the vice president of the club, Olsen Deronvil, along with secretary Wendy Joint, assured me that the club is open to everyone and not just those of Haitian heritage. Meetings are conducted in English and the discussions are structured in such a way as to

not exclude anyone. The typical meeting consists of discussion, welcoming of visitors, dealing with the future plans for the club and, finally, wrapping up with a open discussion and networking.

They are planning a busy year, during which they hope to enact some environmental and community service projects. There are also plans to initiate a movie night in the near future. Another goal is to consolidate with University of Central Florida's dance group, Club Kreole, in an upcoming performance at the UCF campus. Obviously, most of these plans are in the developmental stage, but there are high hopes within

the organization that this semester will be an exciting one for VAHSA.

The VAHSA belongs to a larger organization called the National Haitian Student Association; there are branches of this group located within colleges across the nation.

These various groups come together once a year for a large conference that will be held at the University of Florida this year. A number of Haitian personalities are expected to be in attendance, as well as a few currently unnamed musical performers. This trip is open to everybody and all interested parties only need to inquire at the next meeting.



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# ‘Spartans’ spoof stinks

By Frank Tobin  
Valencia Voice

You buy your movie ticket at the box office, your sweetheart at your side. The movie posters promise a plethora of perfectly placed pop culture references, with a dash of visual force in order to emulate the entertainment it rips apart. Stale popcorn crunches underneath your shoes; sticky soda syrup smacking as you step to your seat. The adventure of going to the movies has begun; enjoy.

That's when you realize, as the "curtains rise" and the first scene begins, that instead of embarking on a cinematic escape you are trapped in your seat for a full hour and a half of legal torture.

This is the absolute perfect reason why movie reviews exist; to save you the time, money, and sanity you would lose watching such unmitigated trash that is

"Meet the Spartans."

In the same vein, (and that term is used very loosely) as "Airplane", "Hot Shots", and "Naked Gun", 'Spartans' utilizes all the major trends currently soaking society at the present moment, then roasts them: the mind-numbingly, intrusive melodrama that is Britney Spears, any major film that has been released in the last five years, and Carmen Electra.

Where this movie fails miserably is in its insistence that it thinks it's actually funny; it couldn't be more wrong.

The "jokes" would have been funnier had they been written by a team of mentally deficient amoebas. As it stands, the only people who'll derive any enjoyment from this affront to modern cinema fit into the producer's choice demographic: teenage boys ages 13 to 14, and even then it should be assumed that had these children been raised with integrity that

they wouldn't enjoy a cinematic slap in the face by this unintelligible "step-mother."

Comedies of this ilk usually follow a strict pattern: it sets up the premise of the movie by capturing the essence of the genre it aims to pay a ripping homage to. It then co-connects original ideas and writes them with variations of familiar lines from the emulated work. However, the main theme always remains independent from the source material. 'Spartans' relies heavily on the concept of the genre it attempts to spoof, without having any ideas of its own. The execution is so poorly laid out that you might develop, and subsequently experience, a brain embolism within the 90 minutes you endure this garbage heap.

If you want clever repartee, witty barbs, and visual gags at their finest, watch the aforemen-



Photo by Rotten Tomatoes

Spartan Sean McGuier and Persian King Ken Davitian star in the comedy 'Meet the Spartans'.

tioned classics. If you want more entertainment than what you could get from this movie, and don't have the finances to see another flick, strongly consider a

swift-kick to the kneecap; it's free, and it won't hurt as much as getting your eyes drilled out, metaphorically, by casting a wayward gaze at 'Spartans'.



ENZIAN



# Atlanta’s finest visit popular local venue

Kevin Norris  
Valencia Voice

It was not just another mind-numbing start to the week of Jan. 28 for the residents of Downtown Orlando who were able to indulge in a little excitement thanks to Atlanta’s “Manchester Orchestra.” Touring with Canadian singer/songwriter John Ralston and All Get Out, who are on the wings of their debut full length album, “I’m Like a Virgin Losing a Child”, the Manchester Orchestra dropped a dynamic, if somewhat disorganized, set at The Social. Throughout the hour and a half that they played, the Manchester Orchestra floated through through songs that were stripped-down to the soul-bearing bones of “Colly Strings” to other melodies as thrilling and epic as their hit single “Where Have You Been?”

Lead singer/ guitarist, Andy Hull, opened things up after a monotonous set by John Ralston. Hull, playing solo, passionately sang, “Do you really like being alone/ of course you don’t/ I think I might just go back home and get a job.” The irony in the lyrics of the opening song, “Being Alone,” was almost comical considering the fact that The Social was filled to capacity. Not only was “Being Alone” a strikingly beautiful song to open the set with, but it also perfectly ushered in the vibrant “Wolves at Night.” “Now That You’re Home” was next in order to recreate the explosive one-two opening combo

found on “I’m Like a Virgin Losing a Child.” “Wolves at Night” and “Now That You’re Home” nearly out-delivered their performances on the record, making one wish that “Manchester Orchestra” had put out a live album. Fortunately for fans of their studio album, Hull announced that the band is planning to release their new album in late summer of 2008.

If there was any particular problem with the set, it was the mixture of quiet and loud numbers; it was often too unsettling to come off the towering high from songs like “Alice and Interiors” to the tired melodies of “Sleeper 1972”. Even though the set was a rollercoaster ride of emotions, the crowd did not forget to bring to surface the raw power and passion that permeated from every line of music Hull sang.

The crowd continued working out their own vocal chords to sing-a-longs like “Golden Ticket” and “I Can Barley Breathe;” Hull encouraged this saying, “we are not an emo-band, but we encourage singing along, but no crying when you do it.” The sing-a-long session was ultimately topped of with the ever-inspiring “Colly Strings.” Although “Colly Strings” may have been the dramatic finale everyone was ready for, “Where Have You Been” still shined like the light at the end of the tunnel. The razor-sharp guitar melodies cut through the ambiance of The Social like a soul ascending into heaven,



Manchester Orchestra keyboardist/ vocalist, Chris Freeman, inspects his keyboard prior to playing at The Social on Monday, Jan. 28.



Manchester Orchestra lead singer/guitarist, Andy Hull, serenades the crowd.

while the expansiveness of the song was taken up a notch when members of All Get Out joined Manchester Orchestra for an energetic finish on the small stage. “Where Have You Been?” brought so much energy to the show, that it seemed the band owed the crowd an apology for not performing as such earlier in the set.

The evening ended just like it started for “Manchester Orchestra,” once again an unaccompanied Hull was greeted with a massive roar of applause. By the sound of the crowd’s reaction you would have thought Bruce Springsteen had come on stage to serenade the crowd with one of his classics. “Our band has never been clapped like that before,” said Hull, commenting on the encore. As the clapping slowly retreated, Hull went slowly into a more intimate version of “Colour Revolt’s” chaotic “Blood In My Mouth.” Although most of the people in attendance had no idea who Hull was covering, it was still one of the most alluring songs of the night. “Blood In My Mouth” was not enough to satisfy the crowd, however, so Hull finished out the evening by throwing down the microphone and singing “Sleeper 1972” a cappella. The conclusion of the evening was both emotionally moving, and melodramatic in its obvious intentions, as Hull literally swept the spotlight from the stage as he walked off.

# ‘Rambo’ lacks luster

By Ashley McBride  
Valencia Voice

Twenty-six years after “First Blood,” the first “Rambo” film, Sylvester Stallone, tries albeit unsuccessfully to revive “Rambo” once again. Following on the heels of another Stallone character revamp, “Rocky Balboa” that came out in 2006, “Rambo” hits theaters with disastrous results.

In “First Blood,” Rambo barely speaks until the very end when a monologue comes rushing out of his mouth as though he can’t even stop it. “Rambo” is the same way in that Rambo never speaks. He growls a couple of times, but hardly ever utters an intelligible word.

He lets a pompous mercenary talk trash to his face, and does not even do anything.

Rambo does utter one good line in the film, “Live for nothing, or die for something.” He also says, “When you’re pushed, killing’s as easy as breathing.” The second quote I don’t so much agree with, but I’m not an ex-Vietnam soldier like Rambo, maybe that’s why.

The film is ridiculous behind measure. People are shot in cold blood by soldiers, and unrealistic effects happen in the movie. Someone gets shot in the arm, and then they just fall apart, or a soldier gets shot in the head and his head comes off his body. The CGI effects in the film are way too overdone, and are pathetic making this film not entertaining but just another film in an endless line of useless torture porn films, where the only purpose is to be as graphic as possible.

There wasn’t any need for writers for this film, because there is hardly any dialogue. This film is drenched in blood, blood, and more blood, and is a waste of time. This 93 minute gore fest is not entertaining in any case. Even the torture porn films have a little bit of realistic blood gushing and such, whereas this film says, “the heck with being a little realistic with effects.”

The film finds John Rambo living in Thailand catching rattlesnakes and spear fishing. Stallone is super buff in the movie but he looks more like a plastic G.I. Joe doll, because of the

set-in permanent scowl etched onto his face.

Rape, children being murdered (via bullet to the head in one scene), soldiers gunning people down like a firing squad are all things you’ll see in this movie. The grisly child killings are hard to watch, but there is a “game” the soldiers play with the civilians that is even harder to watch. The soldiers throw down land mines and then they let the few prisoners they have at the time, generally about 5 people, go free. When the civilians attempt to run to freedom, they usually step on the landmine and blow up into pieces. If they somehow make it to the other side of the field, there is another soldier there with a gun, forcing them back the way they came so that eventually, they’ll put their foot down on a landmine and go kaboom.

This movie is disgusting, very unrealistic, and brutal to watch. The worst film I’ve seen in years, and a waste of footage and a waste of time.

The only person besides Stallone himself that is recognizable is Julie Benz, who does a good job on the hit television show on Showtime, “Dexter”, mainly due to the amazing acting talents of Michael C. Hall. She virtually regurgitates her “Dexter” character into “Rambo,” but without the help of her “Dexter” co-star, she falls flat on her face as a naive church member from Colorado, who is in Thailand to help the civilians in Burma.

Sometimes, old characters should be left alone. Stallone, who dug up Rocky and Rambo for revamped sequels, maybe should have left them buried. Maybe Harrison Ford should take note before dusting off his whip and his fedora for “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull,” which (I can’t help it) sounds like a He-Man movie. Or maybe ‘Indiana’ will be a refreshing remake unlike Stallone’s two. In ‘Indy’s’ corner, is one promising rising star, Shia LeBeouf, who




Rambo (Sylvester Stallone) waits behind a tree to sneak up on an enemy and kill them.

was recently seen in “Transformers,” “Disturbia,” and “The Greatest Game Ever Played.” I’m keeping my fingers crossed for what could be a very entertaining ‘Indy’ sequel. As for “Rambo,” avoid it at all costs, if you have to see it, wait to rent it, it’s cheaper that way.

“I’m the last one, sir.” says Rambo in “First Blood.” Hopefully, Stallone paid attention to his quote, and hopefully this will be the last “Rambo” movie.





# **The Kerouac Celebration is “On the Road” Again**

Join Valencia for a **FREE** literary event  
celebrating Jack Kerouac. Readings by  
former Poet Laureate Billy Collins,  
local poets, students and faculty.

**February 23, 2008 | 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

Valencia Community College, East Campus, Performing Arts Center  
701 N. Econlockhatchee Trail, Orlando

**More information: 407-582-3121**

Funded in part by:

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER



# C-SPAN bus makes stop at West Campus

Continued from Page 1

state capitals, and all presidential libraries. The buses visit colleges, high schools and rotary clubs in an effort to educate students with regards to the campaigning process.

“It was important to come to Valencia because of its large student body which is very active in politics,” said Erin Patton, Marketing Representative for C-SPAN.

Valencia’s activity in politics was visible Friday morning as the West Campus chapter of Students for Liberty set up next to C-SPAN to discuss Libertarian concepts with inquisitive students.

Alicia Barker, president of West Campus chapter of Students for Liberty was eager to explain why her club felt it important to endorse Ron Paul.

“He is the only candidate that represents the constitution and true American values,” said Barker.

In agreement was the University of Central Florida club Knights for Liberty who was also on hand for Friday’s event.

“We felt like [Ron Paul] was the most genuine of the candidates,” said Nik Ritchie, president of the UCF club.

The bus and their crew were successful in drawing students aboard on Friday morning, and motor coach operator Terence Bial never gets tired of it. Bial has operated the bus for the past five years. Recently, visitors to the bus included former republican candidate for president, Rudy Giuliani, former democratic candidate for president, John Edwards, and the wife of republican candidate John McCain, Cindy McCain.

C-SPAN is a different source of political news than many of the other networks that students may turn to for campaign news and updates. The company is a non-



SGA president T.J. Cole and C-SPAN bus driver Terence Bial discuss current matters in C-SPAN bus.

profit that was created and is funded by the cable industry.

“We have no advertisers and are able to show speeches in long form,” said Patton of one of the distinguishing factors between C-SPAN and the other news networks.

C-SPAN does not track viewership ratings but various studies have been conducted to collect data on audience interests.

In keeping up with the elements which set the 2008 campaign apart from those in

the past, the C-SPAN Campaign 2008 bus has its own MySpace page, <http://www.myspace.com/campaign2008bus>.

The page features photos from across the country, a number of blogs documenting their journey, and a program schedule summary.

The MySpace page is also a good resource for other political organizations, as the Campaign 2008 Bus page has almost 800 “friends” which are comprised of many

partisan and non-partisan political groups. The event was successful in drawing in a large number of students and sparking discussion concerning the campaign. “This event is very helpful,” said Ron Paul supporter and Valencia West Campus student Edwardo Muniz of the Campaign 2008 Bus visit. With the bus headed off to its next location, talk of this monumental campaign still lingers at Valencia.

Photo by Tim Johnson / MCT Campus

## Bush tolerates judiciary crackdown

Continued from Page 1

Asked if he considered Musharraf indispensable to the United States, Boucher replied, “I do.”

Musharraf has been a key U.S. ally in the fight against the Taliban and al-Qaida in neighboring Afghanistan and on Pakistan’s northwest frontier. Pakistan has arrested hundreds of Islamic extremists, but the unstable nuclear-armed nation is still facing a growing Islamic insurgency.

Musharraf has responded to growing Islamist and political opposition by cracking down on Pakistan’s courts, press and opposition political

parties. He sacked more than 50 judges in November, among them the chief justice of the Supreme Court, whom he’s kept under house arrest and accused of being “inept and corrupt.” Musharraf’s repressive moves have undermined his legitimacy, with polls finding that the vast majority of his countrymen want him to step down. Several U.S. lawmakers told Boucher this week that the rule of law is crucial to credible elections. “I can’t get beyond the fact that he (Musharraf) basically dissolved the judiciary and put them aside. And it seems that almost everything that follows from that point becomes a farce,” said Rep. Christopher Shays, R-Conn. The Democratic chair of the House of Representatives subcommittee on national security, Rep. John Tierney of Massachusetts, said Musharraf has sacked 13 of the 17 Supreme Court judges and more than 40 other senior judges and replaced them with sympathetic ones. “Stacking the full range of high courts ... amounts to hijacking the electoral process itself,” Tierney said. — Distributed by MCT Campus

## Game Night approved

Continued from Page 1

accompanies each new semester. “It’s relaxing,” said student Shushunn Rora. “You don’t have to worry about homework.”

Rora, the president of the African American Cultural Society, had his eye on the ‘Madden’ tournament going on in the corner of the room. “I’m gonna to wait until he beats everybody,” Rora said, pointing to SGA president T.J. Cole. “Then I’m gonna beat him.”

Rora said he would like to see Game Night happen “at least once a week.”

Elsewhere, student Christine Rodriguez, a Monopoly fan, commented on Game Night as she prepared to face off with a friend in Connect Four. “It’s pretty fun,” she said. “You get a break from studying and doing homework.”

Besides offering students a much needed study break, food was provided as well. In between blistering, simulated guitar solos and intense 2-on-2 Halo 2 battles, those in attendance were treated to Pizza Hut pizza and wings, free

of charge. “This is phase two of increasing student involvement,” said president Cole. “We wanted to go bigger and better this year.” SGA had tried a Game Night in the Fall 2007 semester, but with less than stellar results, they were not sure of what to expect this time around. The SGA was, however, pleasantly surprised with the turnout and will “probably do at least one more” this semester according to Cole. When asked where his gaming talents lie, Cole said with a laugh, “Madden...but I haven’t played Guitar Hero yet. Then there’s always Connect Four and Hungry, Hungry Hippos.” All the games were provided by students and Cole gave due credit to the members of SGA. “This event wouldn’t have been possible without preparation and hard work from SGA.” Game Night is just one of many events in the works that aims to get students to participate in school activities. In reference to the upcoming Valentines Day bash, Cole said “they haven’t seen anything yet.”

### JU LOVES TRANSFER STUDENTS



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It's no mystery why Jacksonville University's transfer student population has grown steadily over the past several years.

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#### JU BY THE NUMBERS

- FOUNDED 1934
- ENROLLMENT: 3,400
- MORE THAN 60 MAJORS, CONCENTRATIONS, AND PROGRAMS
- U.S. STATES REPRESENTED: 45
- COUNTRIES REPRESENTED: 50
- MINORITY REPRESENTATION: 25%
- STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO: 14:1
- MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS FROM \$2,000 - \$9,000
- AVERAGE CLASS SIZE: 18

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## SPORTS

Eli Manning's miracle toss and Giants D-Line leave Patriots...

18-1

ny

17



Photo by Thomas A. Ferrera / MCT



14

Photo by Karl Mondon / MCT Campus

Manning evades capture before launching an improbable completion to David Tyree and Tom Brady goes down for one of five sacks thanks to the effort by the Giants defensive line.

## SUPER BOWL XLII COVERAGE



## Perfect season has perfect ending

By Rick Morrissey  
Chicago Tribune

GLENDAL, Ariz.- Perfect? Why, yes, now that you mention it, it certainly was. Perfectly shocking.

And it was a perfect ending for a team that hung in there and hung in there some more and wouldn't go away when common sense and a mountain of hype suggested it was time to hit the road.

To say the Giants stunned the previously undefeated Patriots doesn't quite describe what happened Sunday night. The Giants stunned most everyone - experts, bookmakers, front-runners, people who wouldn't know a pass from a run and even those of us who live for an improbable story once in a while.

This one was beyond improbable. This was a far-fetched fairy tale.

The wild-card Giants, who should have known better but apparently didn't, beat the Patriots 17-14 in Super Bowl XLII. And in a sports world that throws around superlatives as if they were pennies, New York pulled off one of the greatest upsets in NFL history.

Just like that, the Patriots' would-be 19-0 season became 18-1. A world of a difference in that.

"There wasn't no Godzilla out there," wide receiver David Tyree declared.

After struggling for much of his

young career, baby-faced Eli Manning became a man Sunday. One play summed up what he was made of in the biggest game of his life. With the Giants down 14-10 and a little more than a minute left in the game, Manning somehow managed to extricate himself from a pocket thick with Patriots, then stepped up and threw a pass in the general direction of Tyree.

How Tyree caught the pass defies explanation, too, but he did. At the height of his leap, he caught the ball over his head, then pressed it against his helmet on the way down to retain possession of it for a 32-yard gain. You'll see this play forever on replays. And every time you see it, you're going to say, "How did Manning get away?" and, "I can't believe Tyree caught that."

"He made an unbelievable catch and saved the game," Manning said.

And from there it was only right that the man who had taken some

heat for predicting an upset would catch the game-winning pass. That would be Plaxico Burress, who was wide open in the corner of the end zone and caught Manning's 13-yard TD pass.

That's called symmetry. It wasn't Joe Namath guaranteeing victory in Super Bowl III, but it was close, very close. Of course it was Burress who caught the ball. Of course it was. Fairy-tale stuff.

The Patriots were favored by 12 points, and going into the game that sounded about right. In the regular season they had scored the most points in NFL history.

What nobody counted on was that Brady would be half-dead by the time the game was over. The Giants put a brutal rush on him, blowing past

the overmatched New England offensive line. When Brady wasn't getting hit or sacked, he was struggling to find his rhythm.

"You could sense they were frustrated and a little surprised," Giants defensive end Michael Strahan said. "We were beating the best offense in the league."

Brady put together one good drive to give the Patriots a 14-10 lead in the fourth quarter, but other than that he was very ordinary. You don't ever expect Brady to be ordinary.

Few people expected Manning to outplay him.

"We believed in ourselves all year," Manning said. "That's the position you want to be- the ball in your hand."

Pretty good 12 months for Eli and Peyton Manning: back-to-back Manning Super Bowl championships and back-to-back Manning most valuable player awards, with Peyton's Colts winning last year.

The Patriots were attempting to become the first team since the 1972 Dolphins to go undefeated. Many of us were sure it wouldn't take much of an effort. When the Giants arrived in Phoenix, they were dressed in black, the unspoken message being that they were in town for a funeral. It wasn't their funeral.

"Every team is beatable," coach Tom Coughlin said.

On Sunday, he made Brady and New England look average.

Perfect.

— Distributed by MCT Campus



Photo by Karl Mondon /  
Giants receiver David Tyree celebrates his second half touchdown.

THE  
RUNDOWN

What's Coming Up in

Week of February 5  
through February 13

## NBA Basketball



**Friday, February 8**  
**Los Angeles Lakers @ Orlando Magic**  
**Amway Arena**  
**7 p.m.**  
**TV- Fox Sports Florida**  
**Radio- 580 AM**  
**Storyline- Kobe Bryant** and his surprising Lakers team comes to town in this Friday night matchup. The deciding factor may very well be whether the Magic, who have played weak defensively all season, can hold Bryant, who is contending for the Scoring Title, to minimal offensive production.

Major Indoor  
Soccer League

**Saturday, February 9**  
**Baltimore Blast @ Orlando Sharks**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Amway Arena**  
**Storyline- The Sharks** celebrate Mardi Gras as they take on the Baltimore Blast. The Sharks, who have been playing much improved as of late, look to avenge a lost last week at the hands of the Blast. Look for the Sharks to bring an improved effort as the postseason draws near.

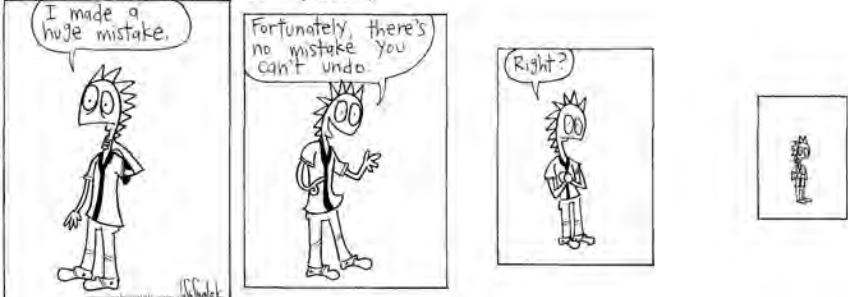


Comics and Games

Paul by Billy O’Keefe



Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Kid Shay



Dream Nation by Louis Coppola



Retro Geek by Dickenson & Clarke



Brothers Watt by William Wilson



Sudoku

1	5					7	
		6	9			5	
			8		1		
9	3			4			5
	6			1		9	
5				3		6	4
			4		7		
	8				5	6	
	4					8	2

Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 "Saturday Night Fever" craze
- 6 Surefire shots
- 10 Expansive
- 14 Jots
- 15 Weapons talks, briefly
- 16 Centerward
- 17 Male feature
- 19 Lat. list-ender
- 20 Of the family tree
- 21 London district
- 23 Automaker
- Ferrari
- 24 Kampala man
- 27 Not listening
- 28 Med. tests
- 29 Florida key
- 33 Unalterable
- 35 Indian port
- 36 Tavern brew
- 39 Seize suddenly
- 40 Hoover or Grand Coulee
- 41 Off one's feed
- 42 Dwell
- 44 Plains dwelling
- 46 Dolphins' home
- 47 Rhythm
- 48 Interlock
- 52 Tiny aerobic life forms
- 54 Bar in a car
- 55 Gambling houses
- 58 More wacky
- 60 Yemeni or Saudi
- 61 Put upon
- 64 Planted explosive
- 65 Sound reflection
- 66 Superman
- 67 Beatnik abodes
- 68 Store away
- 69 Church leader
- DOWN
- 1 Rang up
- 2 Thyroid treatment
- 3 Poem division
- 4 Happened, without a hitch
- 5 Greek peak
- 6 Nile viper
- 7 Toy pistol's ammo
- 8 Barkin and Glasgow
- 9 Stand one in good
- 10 Southeast Asian nation
- 11 Poker pot starter
- 12 Comic Laurel
- 13 Narrated
- 18 Female graduates
- 22 Strauss opera
- 25 Seize forcibly
- 26 Feel poorly
- 30 Baseball stat
- 31 Guy's date
- 32 Popeye's Olive
- 34 One of Cleveland's nine
- 35 Purify
- 36 Escort's offer
- 37 Hawaiian souvenir
- 38 NASA's ISS partner
- 40 Settlement
- 43 Drinks
- 44 Part of AT&T

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
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64						65				66				
67						68				69				

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Solutions

H	E	D	T	E		M	O	L	S		S	D	V	D
E	A	E	E	H		O	H	O			E	N	I	W
D	E	L	N	O		S	H	E		D	E	V	H	V
H	E	I	N	V	Z		S	O	N	I	S	V	O	
E	T	X	V			I	T	I	O	V				
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						E	E	D	E	L	E	D	I	S
						W	V	D		B	V	N	E	T
A	V	B	W	O	B		T	V	N	I	F			
O	G	H	V	T		S	I	H	W		F	V	E	D
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O	L	N	I			L	T	V	S		S	V	L	O
L	S	V	A			S	E	O	V		O	O	S	I

- 45 Lasker of chess
- 47 Cut in half
- 49 Left the stage
- 50 Record holder?
- 51 Cowboy, at times
- 53 Gets by
- 55 Pitch a tent
- 56 Opera song
- 57 Author George
- 59 Farm measure
- 62 Fraternity letter
- 63 Scatter seed

Announcements

**Valencia Theater Presents "The Misanthrope"**

The Valencia Character Company will present Molière's classic comedy, 'The Misanthrope'.

Opening night is Feb. 14 at the Black Box Theater on Valencia's East Campus.

Additional performances will be held Feb. 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23 and 24.

Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. Thursdays - Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays.

\$2000 from Valencia, \$2000 for UCF

Award: \$2000

Applications due: February 8, 2008 by 5 p.m.

Finalists (5) notified: March 12, 2008

For an application and more information go to: [www.valenciacc.edu/alumni](http://www.valenciacc.edu/alumni)

Elementary School Tutoring Opportunity!

Looking for community service hours? Volunteer at one of the 16 Elementary Schools listed below! Only 30 minutes once a week. All materials are provided. All we need is you!!

- Bellalago Academy: Maryellen Troffer (407)-933-1690 x0249
- Canoe Creek Charter: Nancy Martinez (407)-891-7320
- Central Avenue Elementary School: Cheryl Vicari (407) 343-7330
- Chestnut Elementary School: Kathe Weisheyer (407) 870-4862
- Cypress Elementary School: Pam Ollis (407) 344-5000
- Deerwood Elementary School: Louise Steurer (407) 870-2400
- Hickory Tree Elementary: Deanna Fertic (407)-891-3120
- Kissimmee Charter Academy: Wendi Molina (407) 847-1400
- Mill Creek Elementary School: Maritza Torres (407) 935-3660

Poet Billy Collins to Speak at Valencia's Kerouac Celebration in February

Feb. 23, Valencia will host a free literary event in continuation of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the publication of Jack Kerouac's book, "On the Road."

The event will take place at Valencia's East Campus Performing Arts Center from 1-5 p.m.

**Ethnobotanist to Reveal Rainforest Remedies**

Feb. 26, world-renowned ethnobotanist Dr. Michael J. Balick will visit Valencia to give a presentation on "Ancient Wisdom and Modern Medicine: Plants, People, and Cultures in the Tropical Rainforest."

Event will take place from 1 - 2p.m. at East Campus' PAC

Washington D.C. Internships Available

The Hispanic Association of Universities and Colleges has paid internships opportunities with federal government and the private sector.

**DATE:** Monday, February 11th

**TIME:** 10:00-12:00 noon

**LOCATION:** Bldg 1 Atrium - Osceola campus

Barbara Frazier

Valencia Community College

Internship and Placement Office

407-299-5000 ext. 3328

[bfrazier@valencia.cc.fl.us](mailto:bfrazier@valencia.cc.fl.us)

UCF Majors Fair 2008

An opportunity to explore over 75 UCF majors as well as meet with UCF faculty and staff.

Wednesday, February 13

11:00 AM - 2:00 p.m.

UCF Student Union, Pegasus Ballroom

Free food and prizes

Participate in "Major Wii-search" and be entered into a raffle for a Nintendo Wii

Don't forget your VCC ID Card!

Award Winning Poet and Sex Columnist to perform at Valencia

**Poet : River Huston**

Date: Feb. 7, 2008 at 2:00p.m.

Location: West Campus Bldg. 5-111

**Career & Financial Planner**

Mar 13th & 20th 10a.m.

West Atlas Lab SSB 142