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McCain pulls forward, Mitt quits

By Frank Tobin
Valencia Voice

With the event of Mitt Romney's dropout from the presidential bid, only John McCain, the GOP front-runner, and Mike Huckabee remain in the chase for the White House on the Republican side.

This now makes McCain the inevitable GOP nomination, with his substantial lead over Huckabee. That hasn't stopped McCain from reaching out to the former Massachusetts governor, though.

"I look forward to setting a date for meeting with [Romney] and continuing our efforts as we pledged... to unite the party and move on to victory in November," McCain said in Norfolk, Virginia, earlier this week.

Romney's absence, and Huckabee's deficit, has left most conservatives in a state of flux over who they'll vote for come November.

Ann Coulter, American attorney, conservative columnist, political commentator and best-selling author, fumed about McCain's nomination in a column earlier last week, presenting the upcoming election in these stark terms: "If Hillary is elected

president, we'll have a four-year disaster, with Republicans ferociously opposing her, followed by Republicans zooming back into power, as we did in 1980 and 1994, and 2000. (I also predict more Oval Office incidents with female interns.)

"If McCain is elected president, we'll have a four-year disaster, with the Republicans in Congress co-opted by 'our' president, followed by 30 years of Democratic rule."

Sarcasm aside, Coulter reflects the general conservative census about a possible McCain presidency, calling him a "wolf in sheep's clothing."

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Arab culture hailed at West Campus

By Tatiana Isis
Valencia Voice

The music was playing and a crowd was gathering, but most importantly, culture was being celebrated. This was the atmosphere at Arab-American Culture Day, which took place at Valencia's West campus on Feb. 5 at the SSB patio.

"I'm very excited and very happy to share my culture with Valencia students," said Fay Jourieh, coordinator of the event. This is the first Arab-American culture celebration here at Valencia, but hopefully not the last.

"Look at the crowd," said Fay, stating that they would definitely want to host more events.

The day began with loud music and a good ambiance, as people gathered to see the array of items displayed.

"Some of this is mine," said Souadt Johnson, an in-

dividual working with the Arab American Community Center, as she placed the culture-appropriate belongings on the table. According to <http://www.aaccflorida.org>, the center is "a non-partisan, non-sectarian, tax-exempt nonprofit organization dedicated to providing the greater Orlando area with services that meet the community's economic, social and cultural needs," and strives to "empower Central Florida Arab-Americans to become strong, healthy, confident, engaged, and integrated citizens."

The day went on with a fashion show of customary Arabic clothing and a lesson on Arab culture, by Susan Abdurrahman, also from the Arab American Community Center.

"I am an Arab American," she said proudly, as she

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Photo by Lionel Hahn/Abaca Press/MCT

Herbie Hancock attends the 50th Annual Grammy Awards held at the Staples Center in Los Angeles Feb. 10. Hancock won Album of the Year for "River: The Joni Letters."

Grammys celebrate 50th B-Day

By Dan Deluca
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Amy Winehouse and Kanye West were big winners at the 50th annual Grammy awards at the Staples Center in Los Angeles Sunday night, while jazz pianist Herbie Hancock pulled an upset, winning best album for his Joni Mitchell tribute, "River: The Joni Letters."

"I'd like to thank the academy for courageously breaking the mold," Hancock, 67, said, in accepting the first album of the year award for a jazz disc since "Getz/Gilberto," featuring "The Girl From Ipanema," was honored in 1965. "This is a new day that proves the impossible can be made possible. Yes we can, to coin a phrase," he said — echoing the campaign of Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama.

Winehouse, the troubled British retro-soul singer, took home five trophies,

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Click to view video

Photo by Tatiana Isis / Valencia Voice

Arab-American community belly dancer, Nojomi performs at Valencia's West Campus.

23 killed, 45 injured in Baghdad blast

By Steve Lannen
McClatchy Newspapers

BAGHDAD — On a day when the U.S. secretary of defense arrived in Iraq to discuss U.S. troop withdrawals and Iraq's halting but real political progress, carnage from car bombs and internal battles around the country claimed at least 45 lives.

Pentagon chief Robert Gates ar-

rived unannounced in the Iraqi capital Sunday evening for talks with Iraqi leaders and U.S. commander Gen. David Petraeus and Lt. Gen. Ray Odierno, a military spokeswoman confirmed.

A few hours before he landed in Baghdad, a big suicide car bomb exploded near a local market in Yathrib, north of Baghdad in Salahuddin province, killing at least 23 people and injuring 45. The explosion brought down part of the market building and may

have trapped shoppers in the rubble, according to police.

Another car bomb exploded near Ramadi, killing three, and further north two car bombs were reported in Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city. Both of them targeted Iraqi soldiers and four were killed in one of the explosions, police said.

To the west of Mosul, 21 people

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Fuel Tool

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

\$2.85⁹
Hess
U.S. 192 & Shady Lane

\$2.85⁹
Hess
U.S. 192 & Commerce Center Drive

\$2.86⁹
Kangaroo
U.S. 192 & Kissimmee Park Road

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

Opinion

Valentine's Day: worth it, worthless?

By Ashley Gonzalez
Valencia Voice

The origin of St. Valentine's Day is quite different than what the majority seems to think.

During the third century in Rome, a gathering called the Feast of Lupercus, or The Feast of Lupercalia, took place every February in honor of the God Lupercus, caretaker for all shepherds and their flocks of sheep against hungry wolves that would encircle Roman villages day and night in search of sheep.

To honor the Goddess Juno Februata, names were put into a box and drawn by the lot. The boys and girls who were picked at the same time were to be "partners" for the remainder of the year, beginning in March.

This celebration continued to take place long after the wolves had ceased to hunt in Rome.

It is said that the Christian church, as it became more prevalent among its followers, wanted to ban or make "heathen" practices seem more acceptable to the world.

In order to Christianize the Feast of Lupercus, church officials decided to call it St. Valentine's Day instead.

Soon after, the priests of each church would gather children around; the names of different saints would then be placed in a container and the child would be expected to emulate their chosen saint for the following year.

The churches efforts to sanctify the holiday often proved unsuccessful.

While it still cannot be proven to this day, it is said that there are about seven men by with the surname of Valentine who have had feasts celebrated in their honor on Feb. 14 of each year.

In addition, many Europeans have long believed that on Feb. 14 of each year birds choose their mates but there is currently no information to support this theory.

Valencia students were asked of their opinions toward Valentine's Day and if they considered it a holiday worth celebrating.



"I'm going to celebrate it. It's really nice to express love for one another."

— **Ada Amador**



"My girl says I should treat her like it's Valentine's everyday.

We're not celebrating."

— **Bobby Edmond**



"It's a load of crap. I'm not celebrating it."

— **Gary Morris**



"It's a useless holiday. I'm only celebrating it because I have a boyfriend."

— **Katy Thompson**



"I think it's nice. Even if I don't have a boyfriend I always celebrate."

— **Naomi Priest**



"I'm going to leave notes and clues for my girlfriend until she gets to the park where I'll have something for her."

— **Jon Wicker**



"It's pointless. I never celebrate it."

— **Llay'n Mays**



"It's pointless to have one day to celebrate love."

— **Noelia Reyes**

Photos by Erica Teamer

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Corrections

Opinion

Our Position: Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is a ridiculous holiday geared towards insecure people who need a specific date every year to remind them to be nice to their boyfriend or girlfriend.

If you are single, this Hallmark holiday is extremely uncomfortable and nauseating to even think about. It is bad enough to have one day a year thrown in your face reminding you that you are alone and single, but decorations and advertisements for Valentine's Day usually pop up right after New Year's Day.

The intent of creating Valentine's Day was never for it to be the one day a year that you can let your significant other know how much you love them. Hallmark, Hershey's and Kay Jewelers do not care how you feel about your boyfriend or girlfriend, they just want you to buy their merchandise. Valentine's Day does absolutely nothing for anyone but the economy.

An anniversary or a birthday is a reason to go all out and do something sweet for someone you love. Having a mandatory day for all couples to be romantic takes the romance out of it. It's become a required duty for everyone to fulfill regardless of whether they want to or not. Everyone would agree that it is better to have something nice done for you out of nowhere instead of something done just for Valentine's Day.

Valentine's Day for men is like Black Friday for retail workers. They obviously do not look forward to it, and the whole day probably feels like an eternity. It is extremely pressure filled. If a girl doesn't receive candy, flowers and expensive jewelry that day, then imagine the possible outcome of that relationship. If you are unsure of how your boyfriend feels about you, then

you have bigger problems than a lack of fine jewelry.

If a couple has a fight on February 13th, then it is automatically assumed (mostly by the female) that they will make up the next day and their relationship will be more romantic than ever. No one wants to be alone on Valentine's Day, so some will suffer through anything to make sure they have someone. This holiday is a horrible excuse to keep a possible failing relationship going.

Maybe it would be more romantic if the holiday was more focused on significant others and less on making money. There are countless films opening on Valentine's Day this year, which is a Thursday, instead of on the usual Friday date. What is one day going to really do?

It is understandable to open a movie the Wednesday before Thanksgiving because most people have a couple of days off. Valentine's Day isn't even considered a real holiday, which means everyone has to go to work and school. Obviously this is a weak attempt to make more money at the box office.

The gifts are an absolute waste. Cards that end up getting thrown away are a waste of paper. The millions of chocolate candies are fattening and only benefit your dentist. Flowers will just be thrown away two weeks after they are bought, and the jewelry some girls receive probably costs more than their boyfriend's college tuition.

Holidays are not supposed to make people feel secluded. A holiday is supposed to celebrate a fantastic event, honor a great thing that has happened, and bring people together. Valentine's Day does not fall under any of those categories, and we don't even get the day off from school.

Valentine's Day: A sad excuse

By Carlos Minet
Valencia Voice

So the time has come once again
For us to dance the night away
To hold our significant other
On another Valentine's Day

A holiday created
For us to show special love
To show the people whom we care for
That we're there when push comes to shove

We run out to the nearest drug store
And buy chocolates and cheap flowers
So we can stink the house up of pollen
And watch our loved ones gorge themselves for hours

Society is so big
On showing love once a year
Every other day is average
But on this day we all cheer

Everything is cleverly red
And all we see is cupid
A naked baby with a bow and arrow
Which I think we all agree is stupid

He flies around in a diaper
Sticking us with his curse
I can think of a few places
He should stuck that arrow first

It is a terrible day
Only invented to create money
With the clever little candies
That say, 'love, kiss, and honey'

If you really love someone
Show it all the time
Not just on one day
With stupid cards that rhyme

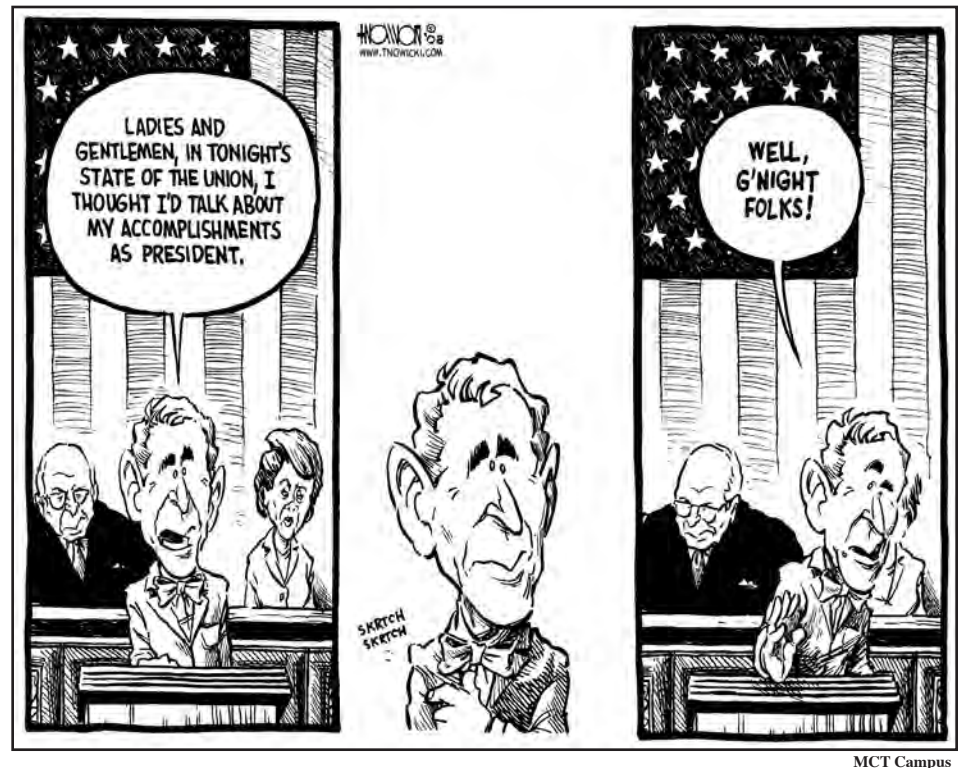
Stop buying jewelry
Stop buying gems
Stop buying little teddy bears
That sing when you squeeze them

You're not cute, you're not original
It's all been done before
You don't even want to buy anything
It's really more of a chore

So basically what we're saying
To any husband or wife
Is just be loving every day
And get a freaking life

Terrence Nowicki

The Western Front



MCT Campus

Our Position: Unions & Strikes

In case you've been living under a rock for the last few months, you may have noticed that your favorite television shows haven't been on the air. This is due to a writer's strike.

Every three years, the Writers Guild negotiates a new basic contract with the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) by which its members are employed. This contract is called the Minimum Basic Agreement (MBA).

In 2007, negotiations over the MBA fell to a holding-point, and the WGA membership voted to give its board authorization to call a strike, which it did on Friday, November 2, with the strike beginning the subsequent Monday, November 5, 2007.

Information detailed in a press release on the WGA's website illustrated the many proposals from both sides regarding the new contract. The proposals addressed several key items of contention including DVD residuals, union jurisdiction over animation and reality program writers, and compensation for "new media" (content written for, or distributed through, emerging digital technology such as the Internet).

It appears, by the tactics employed by modern organizational unions that a certain level of legal bullying occurs. You wouldn't be amiss for not recognizing it at first, though. However, at a previous point in time, unions once stood for more virtuous values.

According to Fraser, W. Hamish, author of "Trade Unions and Society (The Struggle for Acceptance, 1850-1880)," trade unions originated as The Knights of Labor, founded in the United States in 1869.

Eventually over 700,000 workers joined the Knights. They opposed child labor and demanded the eight-hour day. They hoped their union would give workers "a proper share of the wealth they create," more free time, and generally more benefits of society.

They also tried to set up companies owned by the workers themselves. Although the Knights were against strikes, some radical members went on strike anyway when the railroads they worked for at that time cut wages in 1884. After they won the fight, membership in the Knights boomed to 700,000, but then, at the time of the Haymarket Massacre, a fearful public opinion grouped them with anarchists and Communists, and mem-

bership then rapidly declined.

Fast forward to unions of the present day: While the principals have remained similar, this may include the negotiation of wages, work rules, complaint procedures, rules governing hiring, firing and promotion of workers, benefits, workplace safety and policies, the execution has declined. This is due to the fact that unions have stripped away the concept of merit and personal advancement. The agreements negotiated by the union leaders are binding on the rank and file members and the employer, and in some cases on other non-member workers.

Workers should strive to grow on a personal level, without the crutch of a union assisting them, or hindering them, based on their current wages.

The Center for Union Facts is an advocacy group critical of union officials' activities. It is one of several advocacy and public relations groups created by Richard Berman.

Berman is the executive director of the Center for Consumer Freedom, a food industry-supported nonprofit organization. He is also the executive director of the Center for Union Facts, an organization that is critical of organized labor leaders; and president of the Washington public affairs firm Berman and Company.

Berman's Washington, D.C.-based public affairs firm, Berman and Company, specializes in research, communications and advertising.

Berman's website says he founded the CUF "to make employees and the general public more aware of the questionable activities of labor officials." Sources used are from primary documents taken from government sources, including the Department of Labor, the National Labor Relations Board, the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Election Commission.

A TV ad (produced by Berman's company and shown on CNN, among other stations) showed large, burly "union leaders" muscling their way into a worker's home and "intimidating" him into joining the union.

The idea of giving workers their due is sound, but the way it's handled is objectionable. Unfortunately, these practices do not seem to be abating any day soon. Therefore, the only logical course of action is to promote personal growth and responsibility as opposed to legal "wrist-grabbing" and forceful union tactics.

Casino Night hits the jackpot

Strategy and chance raise money to fight against heart disease

By Jordan Keyes
Valencia Voice

The sounds of hip-hop and top 40 music blended with those of roulette wheels spinning Feb. 5 as the Valencia Volunteers and East Campus SGA banded together to fight heart disease, Vegas style.

"Casino Night," an annual event on the East Campus, allowed students to enjoy free refreshments and a chance to try their luck at one of four casino games, all for a good cause.

"All the proceeds go to the American Heart Association," said Corey Hamilton, president of the Student Government on East Campus, "We're trying to raise awareness about heart disease. It's the number one killer in America."

Those attending were treated to a live DJ and their choice of Blackjack, Roulette, Craps, and Texas Hold 'Em.

Those fortunate enough to beat the house were paid in multi-colored "casino dollars" which could be redeemed to win one of the prizes, including an iPod Touch and a Playstation 2, that were being offered throughout the night.

The night was still young when most of the students had found their lucky games. Paul Sushuriba, who came on a whim after seeing a poster, said Roulette was his game and he stuck with it for most of the night. Lady Luck was smiling on president Hamilton at the blackjack table. "I'm sticking with Blackjack," said Hamilton with a smile.

"And I think I'm getting hot."

Many students put on their poker faces to play at one of the two large Texas Hold 'Em tables. The hands got very intense and none of the players were available to comment.

Some people took the Vegas feel to another level, seemingly attempting to keep what happened at "Casino Night" to stay at "Casino Night." When asked what brought him to "Casino Night," a student identifying himself only as Emilio Estevez replied, "I was in SGA in Winter Park and we did this and it was fun." Perhaps his self-described "terrible" performance at the blackjack table was his reason for secrecy.

Yahaira Garcia, the volunteer coordinator on the East Campus said that the goal of "Casino Night" was to "raise money for the American Heart Association and have a fun night for students." The overall donations were expected to be about \$500.

Besides the various games of chance, students were treated to a catered meal. And for those who weren't faring so well at the tables, each event ticket served as a raffle ticket for various door prizes. Students could even have proof of what a fun night they were having at the "Casino Night" photo booth where a photographer could snap a photo in front of a green screen and put your choice of background in your photo.

Overall the night proved to be a successful one as dozens of students came to play and made their contribution toward preventing heart disease.



Students place bets in game of roulette.

Photo by Jordan Keyes / Valencia Voice

Brain Bowl team heats up

Trivia squad makes national tournament

By Jordan Keyes
Valencia Voice

Community college students from all over Florida came together for an important academic competition on Valencia's West Campus, Feb. 9.

Valencia played host to a sectional qualifier for the national Brain Bowl tournament.

Brain Bowl is an academic competition in which teams of four players each race

out of the ten were Valencia players. Since Valencia's Red team won the SCT, it will get to go to Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, on April 11-12 to try to win a fifth national championship for Valencia. With the exception of 2005, Valencia has won every national championship since 2001.

"Our Red team won the tournament, but I'm also proud of the other three teams that competed for Valencia." Said Coach Chris Borglum, an English professor on the Winter Park campus. "That we had sixteen students willing to practice and play speaks well for academics here."

After an intense tournament, Valencia won the final match 245-215 over North Florida Community College. Though only the winner gets an automatic berth, other teams may qualify for the ICT as wildcards. Thus, North Florida, Lake Sumter (3rd place) and Broward (4th place) are still hoping to be invited.

"I'm pleased with the results of all the hard work our players put into preparing for this tournament"

— Chris Borglum

to answer questions in all areas of academic interest (literature, science, humanities, mythology, math, social sciences, etc.). The tournament held last weekend was the National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT) Sectional Championship Tournament (SCT). Last week's competition

was a Community College Sectional, with the winner earning a berth in the NAQT Intercollegiate Tournament, which awards a national championship to the top community college finisher. At the end of the day, Valencia's Red team, made up of students Tristan Byers, Lane Silberstein, Lindsay Harvey and Ian McKenzie, led their team to victory. In the list of top scorers, four

glum and his team were already preparing for the nationals in April.

"Our Red team will have its hands full at nationals. Our toughest competition this year, Chipola College, from the Panhandle, qualified up in Georgia" Borglum said. "They will be tough for us to beat, but we'll work hard for the next two months to get ready."

Artist attracts students to Black History Month display

Watson elaborates on the importance of celebrating artwork

By Keisha Sweeney
Valencia Voice

Valencia's East Campus and East Campus African American Cultural Society kicked off black history month with their event: "The Living Gallery," featuring local artist Alema Pamela Watson.

Watson graced the audience with poetry selections, accented by occasional musical interludes, also courtesy of Watson. Watson's visual art was also featured, along with the works of Eatonville artists Jane Turner, also known as Jilily, and artist Olabisi Olakolade.

The night was emceed by Star 94.5 FM radio personality, Monica May, who throughout the event quizzed the audience on black history facts.

Watson shared her selections with a very responsive crowd. The audience was especially responsive to her piece entitled "SpongeBob in High Heels." This poem depicted a young lady who was provocatively dressed, yet was on her way to school toting a SpongeBob backpack. Watson remembered coming across this young lady and was inspired to write the piece.

The crowd was also notably vocal when Watson recited "Don't touch that stove, it's hot!" This selection illustrated the seemingly enticing, yet unhealthy draw of toxic relationships.

Watson's reading was followed by a reception and a showcase of her artwork.

East Campus student Brittany Reed attended to fulfill a requirement of her humanities class.

"I've never been to a black history event, and I wanted to know more about it," said Reed of why she selected "The Living Gallery" as opposed to another cultural event.

Watson's abstract visual art, along with select framed poetry will be on display in building 5 at East Campus throughout the month of February. Watson specializes in abstract watercolor, acrylic prints, and hand quilted home décor.

A Philadelphia native, Watson was drawn to Central Florida because she needed "a change." Watson remained in Central Florida because of its warmth, and "tight knit artist community."

Watson's passion for art transcends beyond the month of February.

"Art should always be celebrated," said Watson, who defines herself as an abstract artist who happens to be African American, as opposed to simply classifying her artwork as African American art.

East Campus A2CS Vice President Darren Shivers ensures that there will be more events to follow throughout the month of February. A movie night and an event showcasing soul food in celebration of black history month are already in the works.

Though artist Jilily's artwork is not on display at Valencia, she can be reached for purposes of viewing or purchasing her artwork at tjaylily@aol.com or (407)645-4659. Jilily works in oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, charcoal, photography, and sculpture.

Alema Pamela Watson can be contacted at alemaforart@yahoo.com or (407)443-8956 for inquiries.

Brazilian Film Festival opens doors to indie flick scene

Producer and director come to support viewing of Brazilian film debut at three campus locations

By Carlos Minet
Valencia Voice

The latest function here at Valencia was an important one to say the least. This week we welcomed the Brazilian Film Festival at West, East and Osceola campuses for a deeper look into a different culture than our own. Every year a Brazilian film is played but this year



Photo by Marcel Evans / Valencia Voice

Students and faculty gather at the film festival reception after the screening of, "Women of Brazil."

one man

thought we needed more. Prof. Richard L. Sansone of the West Campus was able to put together a festival in which Brazilian films would be played, Brazilian food and music were shared and people generally got a taste of what it was like to be in Brazil. Among the films played at the festival, "Women of Brazil" was the first to be

shown. Miss Elisa Tolomelli (producer) and Miss

Malu de Martino (Director) have been working behind the camera in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil for 20 years and were in attendance at the first annual Film Festival. Malu came over to this country two years ago when "Women of Brazil" was first released America. The film is one of three that was played throughout the festival which give a deeper look into Brazilian culture. Not only do we have the opportunity to learn about Brazil but Brazilians also get to learn a bit about our culture. Both Malu and Elisa agreed the work was important for that very reason. The main focus of the entire festival was culture exchange.

"When I come here I show a little bit of our culture and I bring back a little bit of your culture." Malu de Martino .

"It's away to show the other cultures, not just the Brazilian students but the Americans too." Elisa Tolomelli.

In the interview conducted Elisa and Malu went on to say that they only fly here from Brazil once a year to show their films and go back to spread our culture back home. This year they came just to be at Valencia and are promising to be back next year since there was such a high turn out. They say that West Campus had the highest turn out amongst all the campuses they've been to. A fact the attest to a long hard



Photo by Marcel Evans / Valencia Voice

Visitors help themselves to assorted beverages and snacks after movie night.

week of informing students and the thirst for knowledge we all have, especially on the last day of the festival.

Twenty year old Albert Beck is a freshman this at Valencia and was at the festival trying to gain insight as well as extra credit in his Intro to Humanities class.

"Intro to Humanities told us there was a Brazilian movie going on and it was supposed to broaden our horizons." Albert Beck.

I think we can all agree that every culture is different. Whether it's food, music, or even movies

we can all learn a little something from each other if we keep our ears and minds open. This year's First Annual Brazilian Film Festival is just one of many resources out there for us to get in touch with new cultures. We applaud Miss Tolomelli, De Martino, and Prof. Sansone for their efforts to enrich us with the gift of knowledge and entertainment in a way most of us have never seen. We at the Valencia Voice are anxious to be a part of the experience again next year and we hope to see you there.

Columnist schools students on sex-ed

By Louis Gordon
Valencia Voice

The mystery of why men and women struggle to communicate about sexuality is a topic that people will forever debate. On Thursday, Feb. 7, the renowned speaker and educator, River Huston, intrigued the audience of eager minds with discussions of safe sex and good sex between partners. The Valencia West Campus hosted the very informative event that gave spectators a deeper insight of the communication needed in order to have a healthy sexual relationship.

Discussions included various topics ranging from common knowledge to lesser known facts about sexual activity.

Huston stressed the fact that "you are your best lover", stating that masturbating is not a bad thing when used to enhance sexual experience. This discussion pushed the fact that, if you know your body very well, your partner will as well, but it can become unhealthy when it substitutes for a healthy relationship of sexual communication.

She also relayed the message that all forms of contraceptives are completely necessary, no matter who you are with or the length of time that you have known them. The discussion continued with a lesson on how to properly apply profalactics.

The conversation about the variety of differences that men and women have about sex, and the way they express themselves before, during, and after, was a hot issue for some audience members. It seems as though people hold on to issues and hang-ups that keep them from totally opening up to their partners. A great sexual relationship is all about being comfortable enough with that person and to be able to honestly communicate your needs with them.

"The challenge for men these days," states Huston, "is not having the biggest piece of equipment, but having to stimulate not only their body, but their mind as well".

According to Huston, every woman has some kind of fantasy, or request that she would like to have fulfilled. Only with a solid foundation of communication can this ultimate sexual experience take place. No matter what you do, "Have fun with it," said Huston.

With society becoming more sexually charged by the day, there is a growing trend of promiscuity in younger people.

Huston brought to light the misconception that alcohol makes sex better, when in reality, alcohol actually suppresses the nervous system that allows your sensitive areas to be fully aroused. Feeling every wonderful sensation that sex comes with is definitely more enjoyable with two sober people, despite what the picture-perfect sex scenes in the movies might lead us to think.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed the witty and informative presentation given by Mrs. River Huston, who said that even though she is HIV positive, she and her husband still enjoy great sex; showing that sex is more than just a physical act. It is a balance of love and communication between two people. Audience members were overjoyed by her open and comedic delivery of insight on topics that we have all thought about from time to time.

River Huston is an award winning

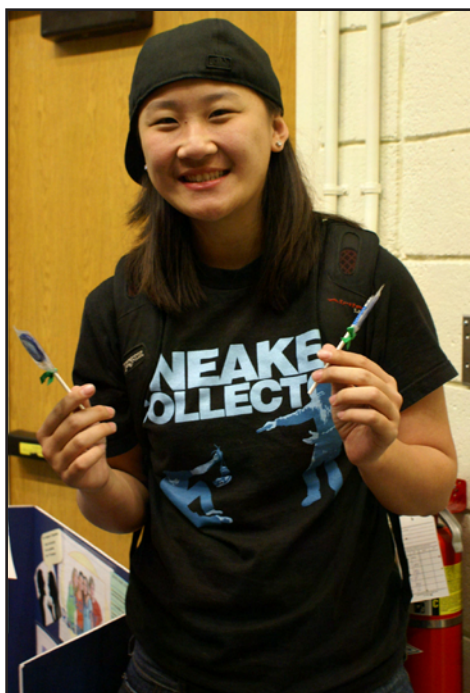


Photo by Abby Isham / Valencia Voice

Student Chi Nguyen holds up two condom lollipops that were thrown into the audience by speaker, River Huston.

poet, and motivation speaker. She has been featured on Good Morning America, Nightline, and CNN. She holds a degree in Health Education and Music from Hunter College, and was awarded an honorary Doctorate from Albright College for her work in the community. She was given the Dorthea Lange/ Paul Taylor award for "A Positive Life: Portraits of Women Living with HIV", and is the creator of the book "Goddess: A New Guide to Feminine Wisdom"

Her website www.riverhuston.com is always open and available for questions.

Currently she is performing her one-woman show "Sex, Cellulite, and Large Farm Equipment: One Girl's Guide to Living and Dying" in theaters nationwide.

Successful shuttle launch for Atlantis

By Martin Merzer
McClatchy Newspapers

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. - Deployed to help validate the International Space Station's inclusive name, shuttle Atlantis overcame a two-month delay and carried a multinational crew and a European laboratory into orbit Feb. 7.

Now, its seven astronauts, including one from France and one from Germany, will attempt to rendezvous with the station and install the European Space Agency's Columbus Laboratory, a 23-foot-long scientific module.

That arduous task will require three spacewalks. It all goes well, the laboratory will double the space station's capability to study a variety of issues, including the human response to microgravity.

"This is a module that's brand new," said mission commander Steve Frick. "It's incredibly capable but also incredibly complex."

Though Russian and other non-American astronauts have been aboard the station and many countries already have produced components, the new laboratory is one of the largest and most visible of foreign contributions.

"This is a huge step for Europe," said crew member Hans Schlegel of Germany. "All of a sudden, we have a module of our own, which is available to scientists in Europe 24 hours a day, 365 days a year."

Said French astronaut Leopold Eyharts: "It's a mission that will have a high visibility in Europe."

Schlegel, Eyharts and the rest of the crew blasted into space at 2:45 p.m. from Launch Pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center in Central Florida.

An advancing cold front had

threatened to scrub liftoff, but mission managers exploited a hole in the weather and sent Atlantis and the Columbus module on their way, the shuttle's five engines roaring thunderously.

Launch commentator George Diller proclaimed the achievement in terms and a cadence that resonate with American history:

"T-minus 10, nine, go for main engine start, seven, six, main engine ignition, four, three, two, one, zero and ... liftoff of space shuttle Atlantis, as Columbus sets sail on a voyage of science to the space station."

Among the crowd of spectators, Russ and Meredith Wayan of Chicago were found along the riverbank, exchanging high fives and hugs.

"All the work that people have done to do this," Meredith Wayan said. "What human beings can actually do is amazing. I mean, I really have tears in my eyes."

It was supposed to be the fourth and last shuttle launch of last year, but ended up being the first of six flights this year as engineers struggled to diagnose and ultimately resolve a faulty electrical connection between Atlantis and its external fuel tank.

During the 11-day mission, the crew will bid farewell to Eyharts, who will remain aboard the station, and bring home Daniel Tani, whose mother died in a Dec. 19 car accident while he was stuck on the orbiting laboratory.

Rounding out Atlantis' all-male crew are co-pilot Alan Poindexter and mission specialists Stanley Love, LeLand Melvin and Rex Walheim.

The shuttle is scheduled to return to the space center at 9:57 a.m. Feb. 18, but the mission might be extended by a day.

-MCT Campus

Kansas abortion clinic under pressure

By Judy Peres
Chicago Tribune

WICHITA, Kan. — The latest skirmish in the abortion wars is being fought, not on the sidewalk outside a clinic, but in the ornate jury room of a 19th Century courthouse.

Kansas is one of a handful of states that allow citizen-initiated grand juries to investigate possible crimes. And anti-abortion activists have invoked a little-used law to get a grand jury impaneled that they hope will put a local abortion provider out of business and behind bars.

Women's Health Care Services is one of the last remaining clinics in the U.S. where women can terminate pregnancies in the late-second and third trimesters. The Wichita facility draws patients from all over, which enrages local anti-abortion groups.

"People hate the idea of being known as the late-term abortion capital of the world," said David Gittrich of Kansans for Life. So, when state prosecutors and legislators failed to take strong action against the clinic's owner, Dr. George Tiller, "we put on a full-court press."

In two and a half weeks last summer, Kansans for Life collected 6,923 verified signatures on petitions demanding that the District Court of Sedgwick County summon a grand jury to investigate alleged illegal abortions performed at Tiller's clinic. Under state law, they needed fewer than 2,500, or 2 percent of the county's voters.

Gittrich says his group had to act because the state was not doing anything to enforce a 1998 Kansas law outlawing abortions after 22 weeks gestation if the fetus could survive outside the womb. Under the law, it's a crime to abort a viable fetus unless the pregnant woman's life is in danger or continuing the pregnancy would cause "a substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function."

The law also requires a second, independent physician to confirm that the woman's health is at risk.

According to the state health department, 11,221 abortions were reported in Kansas in 2006, 233 of them involving viable fetuses.

Abortion opponents charge that Tiller sometimes does post-viability abortions when the only reported threat to the woman's health is depression or anxiety. To Gittrich, terminating pregnancies with such flimsy justification is tantamount to abortion on demand. But after years of investigations, the state charged Tiller with 19 misdemeanors in June 2007. The charges allege he had an improper financial relationship with the doctor who provided the second opinion — not with performing illegal abortions.

The misdemeanor charges are still pending, but anti-abortion groups say they don't go nearly far enough.

Calling Wichita the "front line" in the abortion battle, Cheryl Sullenger of Operation Rescue said, "Nowhere else is an abortionist so blatantly violating the law."

One of the grand jury's first acts was to subpoena medical records of some 2,000 patients who had sought abortions at Women's Health Care Services since 2003 for pregnancies of more than 22 weeks. The subpoena said the clinic could redact the patients' names and other identifying information. But lawyers for Tiller and his patients — who are fighting the subpoenas — said the disclosures still would constitute a gross violation of patients' right to privacy.

"I don't need the worst time in my life sprawled across the desks of people I have no idea who they are or what they want," said a former patient who is among those challenging the subpoenas and was made available by her attorneys.

The woman, who spoke on condition she be identified as "Jane Doe," said she discovered halfway through her pregnancy that her unborn baby had a serious heart defect and had only a slim chance of surviving the birth. Although she and her husband had never contemplated abortion, Doe said, the idea of watching their baby suffer was even more unthinkable.

"Even if it was a remote chance," she said, "the thought of her being born alive and gasping for air for even 30 seconds — I couldn't do it."

Doe, a 41-year-old office worker with three living children, said Tiller was the only doctor who would terminate her pregnancy, and she's grateful for the "very compassionate, very understanding" care she got at his clinic.

Last week, the Kansas Supreme Court temporarily blocked the grand jury from obtaining the records of Doe and the other patients. The court gave the judges overseeing the grand jury until Monday (Feb. 11) to file objections to the temporary stay. They have until Feb. 25 to respond to the demand that they quash the subpoenas entirely.

Daniel Monnat, one of Tiller's attorneys, called the grand jury a "vigilante" effort: "A very small group of people can launch a petition drive and force a criminal investigation based on false claims." He noted that only five states allow citizens to convene grand juries: Nebraska, Oklahoma, New Mexico, North Dakota and Nevada.

Bonnie Scott Jones of the Center for Reproductive Rights, who represents Tiller's patients, said leaders of Kansans for Life and Operation Rescue were among the first witnesses to testify. They presented photographs of visibly pregnant women entering the clinic, Jones said. Leaders of Operation Rescue, which also posted the photos on its Web site, told reporters that their goal was to persuade the grand jury to seek the patients' medical records.

Ron Allen of Northwestern University Law School, an expert in constitutional law and criminal procedure, sees nothing wrong with citizen-initiated grand juries.

"The initial conception of the grand jury," Allen said, "was precisely that it could be a collection of laymen to act as another check on government — on government corruption or incompetence or overreaching."

Judge Michael Corrigan, chief judge of the Sedgwick County judicial district, called the grand jury a "powerful tool" because it can investigate whatever it chooses.

The job of the 15 jurors, he said, is to determine whether there's probable cause to file charges. They set their own schedule and they meet in the Historic Courthouse, a Victorian Renaissance structure across the street from Corrigan's modern building. From there they can subpoena records and summon witnesses, with the county footing the bill.

Corrigan appointed a retired judge to oversee the grand jury, but that person is not supposed to influence the direction of their investigation. Jury members were selected from a pool of people randomly selected from voter lists.

Corrigan said the tool is used only rarely — mostly to look into alleged violations of abortion and obscenity laws.

Another grand jury is investigating a Planned Parenthood clinic near Kansas City based on a citizens' petition spearheaded by Operation Rescue. In 2006 Tiller was the target of a grand jury convened by Kansans for Life. That one investigated the death of a mentally disabled Texas woman after a third-trimester abortion, but it did not vote to bring charges.

Tiller, who drives a bulletproof SUV, has drawn the wrath of the anti-abortion movement for decades. His clinic, a windowless fortress, was fire-bombed in 1985, and he was shot in 1993, Monnat said. These days an Operation Rescue truck is parked opposite the clinic gate, its panels covered with huge photographs of a bloody, dismembered fetus.

On Friday a lone protester from Operation Rescue stood vigil outside the clinic, trying to divert patients to the anti-abortion pregnancy center next door. Her arms were full of baby clothes and receiving blankets.

Dozens of white wooden crosses had been pounded into the sod of the parkway, representing "the unknown babies who have been killed here," said the protester, Donna Lampkin.

Jane Doe remembers being confronted by similar protesters when she arrived for her abortion.

"I don't think those people realize what they're doing to us," she said.

"I'm not the mother of three children — I'm the mother of four; I just don't have one with me. I don't regret what I did. (But) I'll live with the tears and pain for the rest of my life."

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Breaking down Valentine's Day

By Ellen Warren
Chicago Tribune

Love is grand.

Love expressed with a sweet card on Valentine's Day is even grander.

And grandest of all is the special Valentine that you can't run in to Walgreens and buy at the last minute. In the game of love, there are bonus points for planning and ingenuity.

A handwritten poem or heartfelt note created especially for the beloved is always the best choice. If this is accompanied by a lacy paper doily cut in the shape of a heart, all the better.

But let's assume for a minute that original poetry doesn't come easily. Or that arts and crafts — even the minimal skill of using a scissors to make a cutout — are just not your thing.

Here's a suggestion that can make you a romantic champ: a vintage Valentine specific to the one you love.

The card shown here melted the heart of a newspaper reporter we know. It was purchased for a few bucks on eBay, where old Valentines abound at this time of year. This same card could have worked just as nicely had the recipient been the parent of a cute little redheaded boy.

It turns out that virtually every hobby, sport, obsession and profession has been embodied in the Valentine-makers' art. "I'd fly to your arms," says the pilot (or the trout fisherman). "Loving you is as easy as pie," a baker declares. "Pulling for you to be my valentine," says the dentist, holding a single tooth aloft.

There's bowling, polo, baseball and canoeing. Trains, squirrels, puppies and, to signify the mammoth size of your love, a herd of elephants. If there's a barber in your romantic sights, a talking shaving brush is "in a lather over you." Did you meet her in a coffeeshop? A steaming coffee pot "can't help spouting my love."

One more tip if you aspire to the Valentine's Day Hall of Fame: You can't go wrong with a foot massage.

— Source: U.S. Census Bureau; Hallmark.

— Sixty-five percent of Americans exchange greeting cards on Valentine's Day; 38 percent give candy, 32 percent flowers and 11 percent jewelry. About 46 percent of all Valentine's Day cards are hand-delivered. The first American Valentine's Day card was published in 1849 in Worcester, Mass.

— MCT Campus

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Professor's guitar inspires international students

By Sarah Soliman
Valencia Voice

Professor Aaron Powell teaches for the ESOL (English as a Second Language) program at Valencia Community College's West Campus.

On his down time, Powell is a musician who plays rhythm guitar and enjoys singing. However, he considers himself more of a songwriter than a vocalist. His passion for music began in his hometown of Bloomington, Ind. where he was raised in a family with a strong musical background.

This did not have an immediate impact, however, and Powell did not pick up music until he

Teacher Feature

reached college. His sound consists of melodic rock sounds mostly influenced by bands like The Beatles, Bob Dylan, and Americana. Professor Powell's musical talents have served as an emotional outlet, as well as a way to meet people who share similar interests.

One such person in particular is band member, and friend, Thomas Chang. In 2002, Powell and Chang were introduced through a mutual friend, Jeffery Bullock, and from there discovered each other's passion for music.

That summer, the duo formed a band they named Fuzzy Warbles in which Powell played guitar/vocals with Chang on the drums/vocals. Later, Bullock joined the band, playing the bass. Together, the Fuzzy Warbles have recorded an album titled, "Ootheca", which can be downloaded at <http://www.cdbaby.com/fuzzywarbles>. Although music is not their primary source of income, the Fuzzy Warbles have played, and continue to play gigs at Orlando hot spots such as Underground Bluz, Red Light Red Light, and Room 3 Nine.

But Powell's favorite gigs involve more intimate settings like family gatherings.

Professor Powell believes that anyone can find great music today if they're willing to steer away from the commercial stuff. "You can find new music you like on your own time and by doing research and using the resources available," said Powell.

Today, Powell has developed a taste for bands like Morphine and White Stripes, but faithfully continues to enjoy melodic rock, blues, and jazz music. Although Professor Powell thoroughly enjoys music, he says he would never quit teaching to pursue a musical career.

Instead, he infuses his teaching with music by bringing his guitar to his ESOL speech class. "By playing guitar

in front of my speech class, I feel like it helps students feel more comfortable getting in front of an audience to speak if they see their teacher goofing around," said Powell.

It is in this way that Professor Powell uses his talents to benefit the students of the ESOL program by inspiring confidence in them. Powell firmly believes that "music is a great way to teach a language" and will continue to combine his passion of teaching and his musical talents to make the the ESOL program at Valencia Community College a success.

To check out music by the Fuzzy Warbles and Valencia's very own, Aaron Powell, check out <http://www.myspace.com/fuzzywarblesband>.



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New puzzler brings 'Boogie' to Xbox Live

By Billy O'Keefe
McClatchy-Tribune News
Service

Sometimes, all it takes is one idea and some very good timing.

"Boogie Bunnies," the first puzzle game to hit Xbox Live's Arcade service since November, definitely is gifted with good timing. Gamers starved for some simple, familiar puzzle action will find absolutely that with "Bunnies," which apes the match-same-colored-falling-blocks-to-clear-them genre about as well

as one could without having to pay royalties.

The object of "Bunnies" is to stop a marching parade of bunnies from reaching the bottom of the screen and falling into a presumably perilous moat. You do this, naturally, by launching new bunnies upward and matching sets of three or more same-color bunnies. Certain color bunnies give you extra clearing power, and matching aqua-colored bunnies causes the parade to break into dance and dole out bonus points. Outside of the fact that the pieces dance, it's pretty much

every falling-block game you've played, revisited.

Here's where that one idea comes in. In addition to letting you fire bunnies upward, "Bunnies" also lets you fire across the board from the left and right edges. The two extra planes of attack give the game a necessary shot of freedom and strategy — which is precisely what it needs once a few glaring oversights reveal themselves.

Most alarmingly, there's no way to tell what color bunny you'll receive after you launch the one currently in your possession. That means there's

no way to plan a move ahead, which robs you of some combo opportunities and makes the game feel more reactionary and reflex-based than anything demanding real brain-power.

This loss of foresight is compounded by "Bunnies'" seeming tendency to always provide you with the only color you don't need when things get hairy. While it's never the game's fault if you let the bunny parade get too close to the moat, you'll swear some cheating mechanism kicks in the moment this happens, particularly on the harder levels.

Reaching those levels feels less gratifying when there's that sneaking suspicion that the game has made a conscious decision to work against you.

All in all, though, "Bunnies" isn't a bad use of \$10. It has the requisite modes of play, supports online multiplayer and offline co-op, and is generally easy on the eyes if you have a high cuteness threshold. You won't remember purchasing it a year from now, but hungry puzzle junkies should get their money's worth in the meantime.

— MCT Campus

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Funny man Covert claims showbiz is all play, no work

Actor shares his take on life in Hollywood

By Ashley McBride
Valencia Voice

Allen Covert, known for his roles in movies such as "Big Daddy" and "Grandma's Boy," had this to say in reference to what he is most remembered for.

"Three words: Michael Jackson jacket."

But he admits that the comedic moment wasn't originally his idea.

"I would say probably until recently it's been 'Grandma's Boy,' but before that it was probably Sammy from 'The Wedding Singer.' That Michael Jackson jacket was pure Adam Sandler. He actually called me one day and went, 'I just wrote you the biggest laugh in the movie.' He goes, 'You owe me.'"

Covert appears in the new movie, "Strange Wilderness" alongside a chain of great comedians including Steve Zahn ("The Great Buck Howard") and Peter Dante ("Mr. Deeds").

As a star in a film about a group of guys (and one girl) who go off in search of Bigfoot, Covert, a West Palm Beach, Fla. native, admits he is not an outdoorsman. "I used to be when I was a kid growing up in Florida. I used to go fishing out on the ocean and stuff. Now I'm just a lame Hollywood writer guy and I like air-conditioning. And I don't like bugs. So basically, if there's not a resort, I'm not going."

After learning that this pampered Hol-

lywood boy feared the great outdoors, what was the biggest thing he had to fear when filming "Strange Wilderness?" "I would say the scariest part was actually where we had to hike through this river, which was actually kind of a lake that we made look like a river, and they made us put on full protective dry gear cause they said there was so much bird crap in the water that they didn't want it touching our skin. So basically, the biggest thing we had to fear in the shoot was a lake full of bird crap."

Covert, who wrote and starred in 2006's "Grandma's Boy," said, "If you like 'Grandma's Boy,' you're definitely going to love this one. It's just crazy and non-stop ridiculousness."

When asked whether Covert saw 'Wilderness' as a stoner movie, he said, "This is just a hardcore comedy and I know Justin Long. His character is a stoner and my guy's kind of a stoner, but I mean it's not a stoner movie. It's just this crazy movie about these idiots who go out into the jungle to find Bigfoot. I will say this. It's definitely the bloodiest comedy I've ever seen. But no animals are getting bloodied. It's all us."

Jonah Hill, who plays Cooker in the movie, improvised most of his scenes, both Zahn and Covert said: "We had so many times though where Jonah literally would just go off and we would just let it go and then the only time we would stop is when everyone would just start laughing too much."

His favorite part of filming was, "...going to work everyday and going 'Hey, all my friends are here.' You know, instead of going, 'Oh God, I've got to see that guy today.' Also, like I said, to meet a few new people. Like I didn't know Justin Long before this and so to get to meet him and work with him and just to hang



Paramount Vantage

Allen Covert and co-star Steve Zahn, prove making "Strange Wilderness" was far from hard work.

out with my friends and be funny hopefully."

Covert also talked about his job as an actor. "It's just too much fun and I could be doing a lot of other jobs that were actually considered work, so I'm never going to be the guy who goes, 'It's so hard.' It's not. It's easy. It's fun and anyone who tells you different is just a miserable person." Covert also told us that he prefers acting as opposed to writing. "I prefer the acting in front of the camera because I am inherently lazy and pretty much all you have to do then is show up, put on your costume and make sure you say the right words. Then you go home at the end of the day. I like the other stuff a lot because I am also a giant control freak. Like I hate the actual idea of sitting down and

writing, but once we actually do it's a lot of fun because usually I write with someone so we just sit there and try to come up with jokes."

"I live in an age when there's DVD and Pay-Per-View and cable...it's not like once it dies in the box office no one sees it and I'm actually kind of really happy because now people kind of feel like it's their own," says Covert.

Covert recently worked with comedian Nick Swardson, ("Blades of Glory"). "Well Nick Swardson from 'Grandma's Boy' and I actually have another script. It's a miniature golf go-cart extravaganza and we're just basically looking for a distributor right now."

Covert's parting words? "Go see the movie, then they'll let us make more."

'Strange Wilderness' leaves viewers hunting for humor

By Ashley McBride
Valencia Voice

Steve Zahn ("Sahara"), Allen Covert ("The Wedding Singer"), Kevin Hefner ("Club Dread"), Justin Long ("Live Free or Die Hard"), and Jonah Hill ("Knocked Up") come together for a wild adventure in "Strange Wilderness."

Academy Award winner, Ernest Borgnine, who is now 91 years old, even had a small role in the film. My problem with "Wilderness," however, is its brevity; it is merely 86 minutes long. After telephone interviews with both Covert and Zahn, I feel like I got ripped off with only 86 minutes of laughs.

With all of the funny people cast in the movie, I had expected it to be a lot longer. Those of us in the theater for the movie were all laughing hysterically but because the film is so short, none of the actors get the amount of screen time that they truly deserve.

According to Zahn, Jonah Hill ad-libbed just about every line he had in the movie. If he can be that funny on the spur of the moment, imagine what he could do at a stand-up comedy show. All the characters in the film are such dim-wits that it is fun to watch and see what idiotic situations they are going to get into next. Junior played by Long, tattoos pictures of eyes on his eyelids so when he falls asleep people will think he's awake. Of itself, that was pretty hilarious but when you add in the reaction from all the guys around the table, it is even funnier.

"Just a bunch of idiots go look for Bigfoot and they're not real good with animals," said Covert, explaining the film during a conference call on Jan. 29. Awkward with animals is an understatement and Long's character, Junior utters this line when spotting a python, "Dude! A porcupine!" There is a hysterical scene involving a shark near the close of the film and if you have no idea what I'm talking about visit <http://www.strangewildernessmovie.com>, and watch the trailer. That is also a sure fire way to tell if you will like the movie; if you find yourself laughing at the ridiculous antics of this team of idiots, you should go see it. But my recommendation after seeing it in theaters is to wait to rent it, that way you will get to watch the (hopefully) endless supply of bloopers and deleted scenes, including one scene where the cast memorized a Cher song and sang it together when it came on the radio, which Zahn personally recommended.

As a side note, however, in an interview with People magazine, Zahn wanted everyone to know that his character was not based on the late Steve Irwin, known to everyone as "The Crocodile Hunter." This movie is full of dumb jokes, and gross-out humor. I had high hopes for this film, but unfortunately, it was much too short, and there was no gag reel at the end. Here's hoping there will be a gag reel on the DVD release. But regardless, I found myself laughing at the dumb stuff that guys can do when you set them off into the wild.

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'Savages' explores relationships

Jenkins' film exposes the tragic acceptance of middle-age

By Kevin Norris
Valencia Voice

"The Savages" is writer/director Tamara Jenkins' second full-length feature since the 1998 "Slums of Beverly Hills." If "Slums," a film about a teenage girl growing up under the restraints of a volatile but loving father, was a comedy about the "coming of age," than "The Savages" is sure to be regarded as a "coming of middle age" drama.

"The Savages" is often a sluggish, but moving journey into the harsh extremities of death and the sorrow that it results from it. Seen through the humor and aptitude of actors Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Laura Linney as brother and sister (Hoffman and Linney) are forced into caring for their insensible father Lenny Savage (Philip Bosco) after he is found painting a bathroom wall with his own fecal matter. Soon after the incident Lenny's girlfriend dies, catapulting him into deeper stages of dementia. Jon and Wendy (cleverly named after the brother and sister in "Peter Pan" who rejected the thought

of growing up) fly out to Sun City, Arizona to take hold of what they call the "situation."

Throughout the movie the duo squabble over insignificant choices, gawk in the speculation of each others decisions and, sometimes, actually worry about one another. Jon, a grumpy college professor living as a recluse in his book-strewn house, is letting his Polish girlfriend, Kasia (Cara Seymour) get deported back to Krakow upon the expiration of her visa because he can't bring himself to marry her. Jon's younger sister, Wendy, is a fraught playwright who lives in an extremely small East Village apartment; her only enjoyment involves messing around with her married neighbor Larry (Peter Friedman) who takes care of her cat and ficus plant when she is too troubled to do so. Together, Jon and Wendy have extended their adolescence and dodged the responsibilities of adulthood well into middle age.

Both Hoffman and Linney are so precise in creating their characters that we see them as real people rather than elements in a plot. Hoffman and Linney mutually animate a living state of arrested development and anguish, which seem to suggest that their estranged father had disregarded them as his children. Jenkins brings the sort of amusing humiliation that you witness on television shows like

"Oprah" alive to her viewers when Jon finds out that Wendy has been receiving grant money intended for disaster victims. Jon callously ridicules her for not having endured enough traumas to deserve it. In return, Wendy presents a weak defense to her brother's quarrel, and immediately it is made clear that she has finally succumbed to the juvenile flaws of her personality.

Jon realizes his own immaturity during one of the film's most engaging scenes; while driving to work high on painkillers for his neck injury he begins crying to the soft melodies of Lotte Lenya's "The Solomon Song." In that very moment the dreary, cold Buffalo streets, with their sneakers sagging from above phone lines and bare winter trees, are transformed into an impressive illumination for Jon and set the tone for the rest of the movie.

"The Savages" finalizes itself as the journey of aging without growing up. It is a scatter-brained, indignant, laugh-or-you-might-cry story, assembling some of life's most authentic sentimental issues. It tackles the dreariness of life and unearths humor, comfort even paradise in the trivial moments. For a gentle look at relationships between siblings and the profoundness of death and the meanings we derive from each experience, "The Savages" is as exceptionally witty as it is touching.



Paramount Vantage
Tess Finnegan (Hudson) and Benjamin Finnegan (McConaughey) discover their treasure isn't exactly where they had hoped.

Treasure hunt film sinks

By Tatiana Isis
Valencia Voice

The film began at 1:20p.m. and was so predictable that by 1:30p.m. it was clear how things would turn out.

The much talked about "Fool's Gold," stars Kate Hudson and Matthew McConaughey, and the only thing highly anticipated about it was the ending. Set in the Caribbean, the movie actually takes place down under, which does not really matter since half of the movie was shot under water. This 90 minute film is about treasure hunting, with McConaughey playing Ben Finn Finnegan, a surf bum, and Hudson, his wife (and then ex-wife, and then wife again), Tess Finnegan. They are both basically over obsessed with finding the legendary 18th century Queens Dowry treasure that was lost at sea in 1715. The couple divorce, their boat named Booty Calls sinks, and McConaughey manages to find a plate that he believes will lead him to the treasure.

McConaughey is hit in the head with a cane, a cricket stick, and even spends the night floating in the middle of the ocean after being dumped there to die by gangster, Bigg Bunny's, crew.

Not much of a threatening name, but neither was the gangster, played by Kevin Hart, who funds some of McConaughey's treasure hunts and, coincidentally, owns the island where

the treasure is found.

Donald Sutherland has a small part in the film as billionaire Nigel Honeycutt, who owns a mega-yacht where Hudson works and who ends up helping the couple on their quest to find the treasure. His daughter Gemma, played by Alexis Dziena, takes the role of a ditzy rich socialite (kind of common nowadays), who dreads spending the summer with her father, but ends up having a good time.

McConaughey spends most of the movie shirtless, which was not surprising, and yet happened to be the most appealing part of the movie. 'Fools' was very sex oriented, with smart Tess marrying surfer Finn for the sex, as well as many other sexual connotations laced throughout the entire script.

In the end, they find the treasure, of course, the ditzy daughter helps save the day, they crash a plane, tell each other how much they love one another, and the bad guys die. They end up giving all the treasure to a museum, Tess and Finn get married again, she's pregnant and they live happily ever after.

Conclusion: cute, funny, somewhat romantic movie, and not a total waste of my \$8. It reminded me of an "Into the Blue" remake with older, less attractive people. The beautiful ocean scenes makes this corny film worth the watch, but I recommend waiting until it comes out on DVD.



Photo by Paramount Vantage / Rotten Tomatoes
Jon Savage (Hoffman) and Wendy Savage (Linney) contemplate their middle-aged lives.

Kravitz's latest album met with fan's approval

By Louis Gordon
Valencia Voice

Lenny Kravitz's highly anticipated album "It is time for a Love Revolution" hit the racks Feb. 5, and sent a clear message that he is not afraid to love. The musical extraordinaire produced and arranged all of the songs on his newest solo effort.

Kravitz supplied fans with a hefty dose of tracks with old-school instrumentals, soulful lyrics, symphonic backgrounds, and cranking guitar-laden flows.

"The album's title track, "It is Time for a Love Revolution," takes you on a psychedelic ride with crazy sound effects that are reminiscent of old "Shaft" and "Dolemite" movies! The gripping track "Good Morning" is fiercely catchy. Not only does it have a top-of-the-morning-to-you-type feel, but also Kravitz even takes you on a tour of his typical morning rituals, which seem not too different from anyone else.

The album makes a mood change and shows a vulnerable side of Kravitz on the song "I'll

be waiting." Few people could wait around for an ex-lover to come back after they've left them for someone else. Kravitz pleads, "the love you need is right in front of you, so come back home." "I love the rain" tells of a lover that comes and goes like the wind.

Many can relate to being in an unhealthy relationship with someone who does not reciprocate the love you give them. "Here comes the wind, but don't bother me, cause she's my friend. Just as she always does, she has to leave, with her she takes my heart into her breeze," says Kravitz, singing.

He even puts his political thoughts on the table, and gives a descriptive account of his opinion of our nation with the song "Back in Vietnam." "We do just what we want, and don't care if it is illegal. We're on a horse that is high; we think we're so damn regal," sings Kravitz.

The song selection for this album was very good, however, there are filler songs that could have been left off the album.

One such example is the track "Bring it on," which sounds a bit

unfocused, and does not really add much by way of music to the album at all. "Will you marry me" is another track that is somewhat unorthodox, with the lyrics not really connecting to the mood of the beat.

This is the 8th album for Lenny Kravitz, further solidifying his status as a legendary musician and performer. Kravitz has not been on the music scene since his album "Baptism" rocked fans in 2004.

Kravitz uses a variety of styles and sounds on this album, showing his exceptional talent for musical arranging and producing. Kravitz has good lyrical content; the delivery is given to you straight. No lemon or chasers here.

Some might find his lyrics simple, while others may find it refreshing and easy on the mind. Heavy guitar riffs mixed with orchestra-laden instrumentals give this album not only a stamp of revolutionary love, but revolutionary music as well.



Photo by Dan Rosenstrauch, Contra Costa Times / MCT Campus
Lenny Kravitz plays the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium in San Francisco.



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Join Valencia for a **FREE** literary event
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local poets, students and faculty.

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

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Grammys celebrate old age and some young newcomers

Continued from Page 1

including new artist and best song for her stubbornly defiant "Rehab." West, the self-confident Chicago rapper, won four awards, including best rap album for "Graduation."

In accepting that trophy, West — who had the word "Mama" stenciled into the back of his hair in honor of his mother, Donda, who died unexpectedly in December — said, "All I'm gonna do is keep making you proud. We own this!"

West chastened Grammy producers for starting the exit music before he finished his short speech, and cheekily said that Winehouse and her producer Mark Ronson deserved the album of the year honor "as much as I do. I deserve it too."

Neither Winehouse's nor West's success was a surprise. West had topped the nomination list with eight, while Winehouse — who performed via satellite from London — rated second with six nominations.

Fully beehived, tattooed and mascaraed in a fluffy black minidress, Winehouse appeared nervous and unsteady, but downright healthy compared with the absolute wreck she presented on a recent videotape that seemed to show her smoking crack. She performed from London because she was initially denied a U.S. visa last week, then was granted one too late for travel.

She sang the spooky "You Know I'm No Good," as well as "Rehab," altering the lyrics to drop the name of her jailed husband, Blake Fielder-Civil, into both songs.

When she won record of the year for "Rehab," she accepted hugs from her mother and members of the Dap Kings, the Brooklyn, N.Y., backup band she's borrowed from American soul singer Sharon Jones. Winehouse, 24, thanked "Blake, incarcerated," and dedicated the award to "London, 'cause Camden Town is burning down!" a reference to the fires that ravaged Camden Market this weekend, damaging one of her favorite pubs, the Hawley Arms.

Three Grammys were awarded to Bruce Springsteen. Two each went to the Foo Fighters, the White Stripes, Justin Timberlake, Mary J. Blige and Hancock.

West, 30, provided the musical highlight of the early part of the show. He appeared in glow-in-the-dark glasses and jacket for "Stronger," for which he had won a rap solo performance prize in the pre-telecast ceremony, and was joined by the French techno duo Daft Punk, in the first television appearance of their 14-year career.

West took off his shades for a heartfelt "Hey Mama," his tribute to his mother, that left audience members like country star Carrie Underwood (who herself won two awards) with tears on their cheeks.

Ronson, who also worked with British singer Lily Allen, whose excellent "Alright, Still" was all but ignored by the Grammys, won as best producer, defeating Timbaland, among others. "I can remember 10 years ago hearing 'One in a Million,' and listening to it 18 times straight," Ronson said, speaking of the 1996 hit Timbaland produced for Aaliyah. "I thought it was the best thing I ever heard, so it's quite an honor."

In its 50th year, the Recording Academy took time to honor its past. The show kicked off with a duet between Alicia Keys, looking like a Popsicle

in a lime green dress, and a black-and-white video projection of Frank Sinatra, on "Learnin' the Blues."

"Frank Sinatra looked good for 150, didn't he?" quipped Prince. (Actually, were he alive, Sinatra would be only 92).

Lifetime achievement awards were given to the Band (whose drummer, Levon Helm, won for his album "Dirt Farmer" in the traditional folk category), as well as Burt Bacharach, Cab Calloway, Doris Day, Itzhak Perlman, Max Roach and Earl Scruggs.

The young-and-old duet theme was kept up with the pairings of Rihanna and '80s funk group the Time, Beyonce and Tina Turner, and, most bizarrely, rap-rocker Kid Rock and jazz-pop singer Keely Smith.

Significant screen time was given to the Beatles, who won best compilation album for "Love," the remastered mashup of their hits that is the soundtrack to the trippy Las Vegas Cirque du Soleil show of the same name, which the troupe performed. The award was accepted by Ringo Starr and producer George Martin, who said of John, Paul, George and Ringo, "I guess we miss those guys a hell of a lot."

— Distributed by MCT Campus

Grammy wins

Winners at 50th Annual Grammy Awards, major categories:



Album of the Year
"River: The Joni Letters,"
Herbie Hancock

Record of the Year
"Rehab,"
Amy Winehouse

Song of the Year
"Rehab,"
Amy Winehouse

Best new artist
Amy Winehouse

Pop Vocal Album
"Back to Black,"
Amy Winehouse

Female Pop Vocal Performance
"Rehab,"
Amy Winehouse

Male Pop Vocal Performance
"What Goes Around...,"
Justin Timberlake

© 2008 MCT
Source: AP
Graphic: Jutta Scheibe, Morten Lyhne

Iraqi bombing spur chaos

Continued from Page 1

were killed in fighting between insurgents and members of the U.S.-funded local awakening council militia. An Iraqi army official said al-Qaida insurgents provoked the battle by killing a family of six in the town of Sinjar, and awakening council members retaliated at the insurgents' hideout.

Five awakening members and 10 insurgents died in the early-morning fighting, a U.S. Army spokesman said.

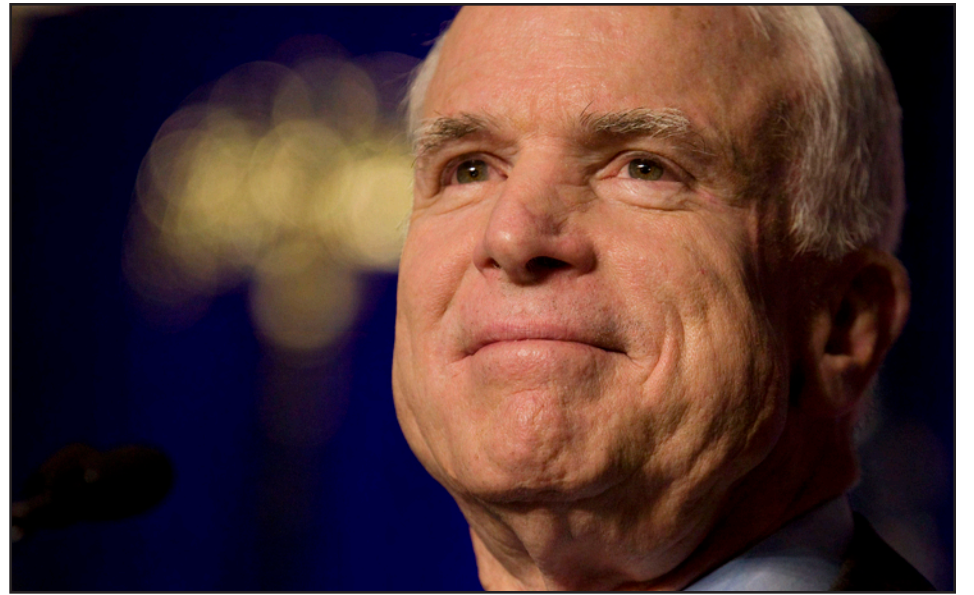
Also Sunday, a court martial convicted Sgt. Evan Vela, of St. Anthony, Idaho, for murdering an Iraqi man who stumbled on the soldier's hideout last year. Vela was accused of killing the man, planting an AK-47 on him and making false statements to investigators. Vela's defense attorney argued he was too sleep-deprived to grasp what he was doing. Vela was sentenced to 10 years in prison. Two other soldiers had been convicted of planting false

evidence but were acquitted of murder charges.

In Diyala province, northeast of Baghdad, five members of awakening groups were found dead Saturday. They were thought to have been kidnapped Friday, the same day many groups there began a strike to demand the ouster of Diyala's police chief, whom they accuse of participating in a death squad.

They have also demanded the arrest of seven police officers they say raped and killed two women last week, assistance in the return of displaced Sunnis to Shiite neighborhoods and the release of prisoners not convicted of a crime or terrorist acts. A mediation meeting was held between various groups Sunday, but it apparently was inconclusive, according to a member of the awakening in Diyala.

— Distributed by MCT Campus



Republican presidential hopeful Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) speaks at the 35th Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington, D.C., Thursday, Feb. 7.

McCain knocks off Romney

Continued from Page 1

However, with Romney publicly endorsing McCain, the hopes of a relatively conservative return to power might not be out of the question.

During his concession speech in Washington D.C., Romney called his presidential bid resignation a step to ensure that neither Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton nor Senator Barack Obama were elected president; which he said could lead to devastating results for our country.

"Frankly, I'd be making it easier for Senator Clinton or Obama to win" if he stayed in the race, he said. "I simply cannot let my campaign be a part of aiding a surrender to terror."

"If this were only about me, I'd go on," Romney said. "But it's never been only about me. Because I love America in this time of war, I feel I now have to stand aside for our party and for our country." That brought shouts of "No! No! No!" from the crowd.

The only question that remains now is who is qualified to stand against McCain on the democratic side.

That race could take a little longer to decide.

Both sides seem confident though, as evidenced during a conference call with "The Wall Street Journal" news outlets (online and print) last week. Senior Hillary Clinton advisers stressed that the New York senator and former first lady, has been vetted more than Obama and has a proven track record of standing up to Republican attacks.

Obama's campaign, in response, circulated a memo highlighting their strengths against McCain in an election fight; one highlight displaying recent polling surveys that show Obama beating McCain in a general election matchup.

Many polls also give Clinton an edge over McCain, but in a handful of cases Obama has a wider margin in lieu of his success with independent voters, as stated in the "Journal's" received memo.

"Barack Obama is the candidate best suited to win Independents, play well in red states, and beat John McCain in November," the memo also states.

Diverse ethnicities unite at West Campus 'Culture Day'

Continued from Page 1

gave us a brief history of the culture.

The event went on to include coffee tasting and a selection of Arab pastries being handed out, and even a lesson on how to write your name in Arabic, but it wasn't complete without a performance by a professional belly dancer. The belly dancer graced us with her presence as she shook and shimmied her hips to Arabic music. The captivating performance seemed to be the highlight of the day, as the crowd grew larger and all the more interested in the culture.

"It's for women of all shapes, sizes, and culture of background," said Laubel Reynolds, president of Valencia Community College's belly dance club, "Jewels of the Nile," that meets at West Campus. The club, which is just getting started is set to join with UCF's own belly dance club and prepare a performance for the end of the year. If you're interested in joining the club, contact Laubel Reynolds at (305) 904-833 or via e-mail at lreynaldo1198@yahoo.com. Everyone is welcome, insecurities left at the door.

The celebration ended with a delicious arrangement of Arabic food for sale for \$5 a plate, less than the cafeteria's prices, and a lot more appetizing. The menu included falafel, taboule, hummus, and other delicacies.

The event was a hit, to say the least. Arab-Americans presented their culture in an enticing, entertaining, and appealing way to VCC students. It wasn't only about having a fun time watching the performances and enjoying the food, but it was an interesting lesson on Arab-American culture. If you are interested in learning more on the culture, feel free to attend the panel discussion that is taking place at Osceola Campus Auditorium (Bldg 2, Room 101), on Feb. 14 from 1:15p.m. - 2:15p.m., where guests from the Islamic Society of Central Florida and

the Arab American Community Center will be there to talk about the culture and where guests will be able to share their experiences growing up in the U.S. and in Arabic countries. Contact Paul Chapman, pchapman@valenciac.edu for more information.

If you didn't get a chance to attend Arab-American Culture Day, you can still enjoy the enticing belly dancing by clicking the belly dance video link. Enjoy!



Arab-American Community Center belly dancer, Nojomi, performed on the SSB patio, Tuesday, Feb. 5.

SPORTS

MISL | Orlando Sharks 4 Baltimore Blast 12

Lack of offense sinks Sharks

Missed opportunities doom intense effort against Blast

By Steven Ryzewski
Valencia Voice

The Orlando Sharks dug themselves a hole and were unable to climb out Saturday night. The Sharks took on the Baltimore Blast for the final time this season, losing by a final score of 12 to 4.

The "Mardi Gras" theme of the night was slightly dampened as the Sharks could never get it going offensively, and had trouble keeping a potent Baltimore offense at bay.

The Sharks trailed the entire contest, although at halftime they trailed only 6-4 and looked to be gaining momentum.

The Sharks went down early on two unanswered goals scored by Billy Nelson and Machel Millwood of the Blast.

"I think it was in the first quarter when we went down four to nothing," said Coach Jake Dancy when asked to identify a turning point. "When you dig yourself a hole it's tough to climb out of it especially against a team that has won three

out of five championships in the past five years."

The Sharks were to respond, though, first with a goal by Damien Pottinger. Unfortunately the Blast scored shortly thereafter, making the score 6-2. The Sharks closed out the half scoring on a penalty kick by Shawn Boney. It looked as if the Sharks were building momentum, but that was not to be the case, and Boney's impressive penalty kick was to be their last points.

The Blast scored quickly to open the third quarter and never looked back. The Sharks seemed stuck offensively, and missed opportunities came back to haunt them.

"We don't make enough runs off the ball," said Dancy, who also expressed concern with his players hanging around the perimeter when on offense as opposed to attacking. "There's not enough running off the ball to create new passing lanes and shooting lanes."

An intense effort by the Sharks,



Photo by Wayne Sysock / OrlandoSharks.

The Sharks JP Rodrigues chases down a loose ball as Baltimore pursues Saturday evening

cheered on by the home crowd, was held back by missed opportunities and mistakes.

"Simple mistakes got us down early, and that's tough, we've got to be on the scoreboard first," said Sharks Defender JP Rodrigues.

Fans in attendance still enjoyed an entertaining evening despite the Sharks' loss. The game was uptempo and the action constant, while the Sharks' dancers spread the "Mardi Gras" spirit, tossing beads

in the stands and pumping up the crowd.

The Sharks will look to rebound Saturday at home against the Milwaukee Wave. With nine games remaining in the regular season, four of which are at home, there is still some time for the Sharks to come together.

Says Rodrigues "Our goals are to win games, we still have nine games left, there's no reason why we can't win all nine."

The Santana Effect

Mets signing Santana weighs on Indians, Sabathia

By Atrick Mcmanamo
Akron Beacon Journal

CLEVELAND- The New York Mets have made things infinitely more challenging for the Cleveland Indians as they try to keep C.C. Sabathia beyond this season.

Actually, the Mets might have made it impossible.

But because the Indians believe they can contend in 2008 and because they believe their team is at a point where it can improve and because they know Detroit is better and Chicago and Minnesota are talented, the Indians do not plan to put out the "For Sale" sign for Sabathia.

"We owe it to our fans not to pursue a trade

that compromises our opportunity to contend," General Manager Mark Shapiro said Monday when summing up the team's attitude toward this soon-to-be starting season.

That means Sabathia might put out the "For Sale" sign for himself once the season ends. He becomes a free agent if the Indians don't sign him to a contract extension.

The Indians have an offer on the table to Sabathia. They were not revealing numbers, but there are other benchmarks that might indicate the offer is in the \$17.5 million per year range.

Specifically, that benchmark would be Jake Peavy of the San Diego Padres.

Peavy is 26. Sabathia is 26.

Peavy has 172 career starts and 76 wins. Sabathia has 219 career starts and 100 wins.

Peavy was 19-6 with a 2.54 ERA last year in the league without the DH. Sabathia was 19-7 with a 3.21 ERA in the league that uses the DH.

Peavy won the National League Cy Young Award in 2007. Sabathia won the American League Cy Young Award.

Peavy signed a three-year extension worth \$52 million this offseason. Sabathia has not signed the Indians' offer, but he has watched left-hander Johan Santana sign a contract with the Mets that averages \$23 million per year.

That's an outrageously high figure in the baseball marketplace of Cleveland, where the rich get richer and better at least on paper- and the middle-to low-revenue teams need creativity and intelligence to survive.

Sabathia has said all the right stuff. How he loves Cleveland. How he always has played for the Indians. How he would love to stay here.

When he flew into town for the Cleveland sports awards and landed at Hopkins airport, he said he looked at

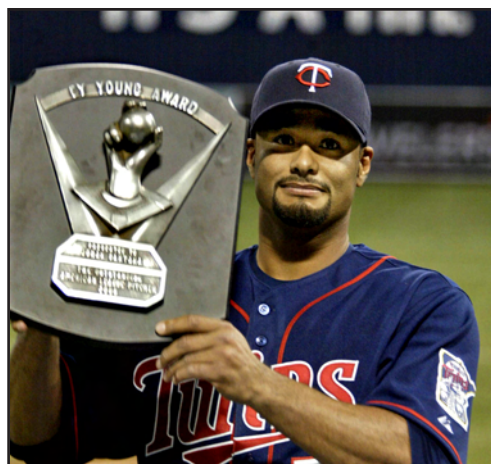


Photo by Marlin Levison/Minneapolis Star Tribune/MCT

Santana, accepting the Cy Young Award.

his wife and said he felt like he was home.

But home in real life is where the heart is, and in baseball, home is where the money is.

So if Sabathia defers to the highest bidder, the Indians surely will lose him. If Sabathia wants to stay in Cleveland, he has a justification to take less than Santana- and that is to point to Peavy's deal and say he was compensated fairly, especially given the size of the Cleveland market compared to the size of the New York market, where Santana will play.

If this seems unlikely to happen, it probably is.

Sabathia would be the exception if he turned down the big bucks and stayed in Cleveland. Jim Thome didn't want to leave Cleveland, but he left after his agent found him the highest deal in Philadelphia. Manny Ramirez left for Boston. Albert Belle left for Chicago.

The Indians got draft picks.

That is some form of compensation, but isn't major-league talent.

Still, Shapiro is not about to start to market his beloved left-handed pitcher. He sees a team that won 96 games a year ago, a team whose strength is pitching, especially a starting combination of Sabathia and Fausto Carmona.

He sees his team competing to win the American League Central with Sabathia as the No.1 starter. He does not see his team doing that if Sabathia is the No. 1 starter somewhere else.

Barring an unexpected collapse - or an offer Shapiro can't refuse- it's the right way to look at a team that came within one game of reaching the World Series.



Photo by Lew Stamp/Akron Beacon Jour-

Cleveland Indians ace C.C. Sabathia, seen here hurling a curve ball, continues to remain a key piece to the Indians hopes of contending.

THE RUNDOWN

What's Coming Up in Sports

Week of February 5 through February 20
NBA Basketball



Wednesday, February 13
Denver Nuggets @ Orlando Magic
Amway Arena
7 p.m.

TV- Fox Sports Florida
Radio- 580 AM

Storyline- The scoring duo that is Carmelo Anthony and Allen Iverson come to the Amway this Wednesday and the Magic will be given the task of containing this pair. Besides the obvious task of defending a potent Western Conference opponent, another storyline lies in how star center Dwight Howard will respond after receiving a scolding in a postgame press conference from distressed coach Stan Van Gundy after the two exchanged words in Monday's game against the Cavaliers.



Major Indoor Soccer League

Saturday, February 16
La Raza de Monterrey @ Orlando Sharks
7:30 PM

Amway Arena
Storyline- The Sharks look to rebound after a tough loss to the Baltimore Blast. Coming to town on this occasion are the La Raza de Monterrey (8-11), coming off an impressive win against the Detroit Ignition last week at home, 15-10. With nine games left now is the time for the Sharks to put it together.

La Voz

Descubre lo nuevo en trajes de baño 2008

Mejora tu apariencia eligiendo un apropiado de baño

Edmarlin Rivera
Valencia Voice

La temporada de playa, sol y brisa se acerca, así que es hora de pensar en las nuevas tendencias de trajes de baño que nos permitirán lucir más femeninas y que nos ayuden a esconder esos defectos físicos que no, nos gustan mostrar.

No importa si eres llenita, de caderas anchas o con mucho busto, en este verano 2008 tienes que resaltar tu belleza y mostrar tus encantos femeninos.

No hay mejor manera de hacerlo que seleccionando el traje de baño perfecto para tu cuerpo.

Empezando con trajes de baño que tengan varias combinaciones de colores y figuras. En cuando a colores de traje de baño se refiere, en este verano se encontrara de todo.

Los colores brillantes, como el amarillo, verde y rojo, serán algunas de las tonalidades favoritas para esta temporada.

Estos colores llamarán la atención de los demás y resaltarán tus atributos. Los colores oscuros, como el negro, nunca pasan de moda, así que úsalos a tu conveniencia.

Si eres una mujer protuberante y quieres disimular el tamaño de tu busto, caderas, estomago o trasero, los colores a usar son los oscuros ya que disimulan el tamaño de estas partes de tu cuerpo y te hacen ver más delgada.

Las rayas combinadas con colores sólidos, estampados de bolitas, flores, cuadros y animal print, se verán mucho en este verano. Las líneas horizontales y estampados grandes son perfectos para crear una ilusión de busto prominente.

Los famosos "Boy shorts" que siempre están de moda y que tanto nos gustan por que son un poco más recatados que el bikini, son muy buenos para las chicas con pocas caderas y fatales para aquellas que tienen muchas.

Los trajes de baño

de una sola pieza, de colores metálicos, como el dorado, y plateado, con cortes asimétricos, resaltarán tu silueta y realzará tu busto.

No obstante, este tipo de traje de baño completo es la pieza perfecta para disimular esas libritas de más que tanto queremos ocultar.

En esta temporada se verá mucho las figuras geométricas y la mezcla de colores así que no olvides escoger un traje de baño que no solo este a la moda pero que también le quede perfecto a tu cuerpo.



Modelo muestra como deben lucir los boy

Foto cortesía de www.MCTcampus.



Foto cortesía www.MCTcampus.

En el día de el Amor y la Amistad regala una rosa con un verdadero significado

Ada Amador
Valencia Voice

Que significado tienen los colores de las rosas que regalas en el día de el amor y la amistad. Enseguida podrás obtener importante información que te ayudara a escoger el mejor arreglo de flores para tu ser mas querido.

El blanco significa seguridad, pureza y limpieza. A diferencia del otros colores suaves el blanco por lo general tiene una connotación positiva. Puede representar un inicio afortunado.

El blanco igualmente se asocia con la luz, la bondad, la inocencia, la pureza y la virginidad. Se le considera el color de la perfección. En heráldica, el blanco representa fe y pureza.

En publicidad, al blanco se le asocia con la frescura y la limpieza porque es el color de nieve. Es un color apropiado para organizaciones caritativas y para personas como una madre, tía,, o hermana. Por asociación indirecta, a los ángeles se les suele representar como imágenes vestidas con ropas blancas. Tienes por seguro que mezclando rosas de colores blancos incluirás un significado puro y perfecto.

El amarillo simboliza la luz del sol. Representa la alegría, la felicidad, la inteligencia y la energía.

El amarillo sugiere el efecto de entrar en calor, provoca alegría, estimula la actividad mental y genera energía muscular. Con frecuencia se le asocia a la comida.

El amarillo puro y brillante es un reclamo de atención, por lo que es frecuente que los taxis sean de este color en muchas ciudades. Mezcla rosas de color amarillo y provocaras el calor y acercamiento de la persona.

El color rojo es el del fuego y el de la sangre, por lo que se le asocia a la energía, la fortaleza, la determinación, así como a la pasión, al deseo y al amor.

Es un color muy intenso a nivel emocional. Mejora el metabolismo humano, aumenta el ritmo respiratorio y eleva la presión sanguínea.

Trae las imágenes con este color a primer plano resaltándolas sobre el resto de colores.

En publicidad se utiliza el rojo para provocar sentimientos eróticos. Símbolos como labios o uñas rojas, zapatos, vestidos, etc. Un arreglo de rosas rojas le dirá a la persona que le desees y le amas.

El púrpura aporta la estabilidad del azul y la energía del rojo.

Se asocia a la realeza y simboliza poder, nobleza, lujo y ambición. Sugiere riqueza y extravagancia.

El color púrpura también está asociado con la sabiduría, la creatividad, la independencia, la dignidad.

El púrpura representa la magia y el misterio.

El púrpura brillante es un color ideal para diseños dirigidos a la mujer.

Con el color púrpura brindarás un significado muy especial. Mas información sobre el significado de diferentes colores lo puedes encontrar en <http://www.webusable.com/coloursMean.htm>

Conoce a las personas detrás de tu pagina en Español, *La Voz*

Ada Amador
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Intereses Personales: Moda, Entretenimiento, Medios de comunicación

"Soy una persona simple, pero todo lo que hago, lo hago con tenacidad. Amo a mi familia, nunca me fallan. Estoy muy agradecida con Dios y la vida, se que lo mejor en mi vida esta por llegar."

Edmarlin Rivera
Escritora principal de moda y entretenimiento
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Edad: 21 años
Contactos: riveraedmarlin@yahoo.com/ myspace.com/edmarlin
Intereses Personales: El modelaje, la moda, y el mundo de las comunicaciones

"Estoy muy agradecida con la vida y con mi familia. Soy quien soy ahora gracias a mis padres y a mi familia. Ellos son mi soporte y mi guía a seguir. Soy una persona que vive su presente y busca un futuro sin olvidar su pasado."

Pagina creada y diseñada por Ada

Comics and Games

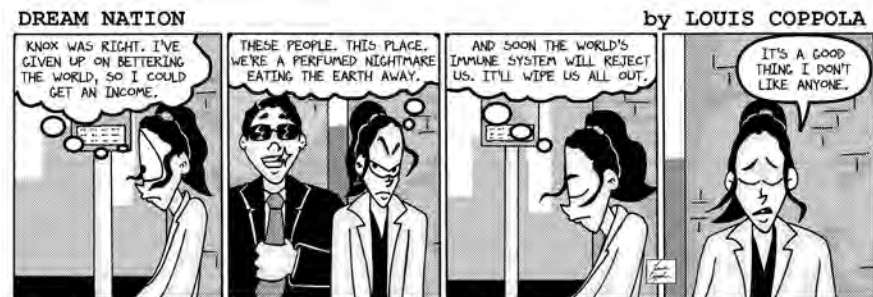
Brothers Watt by William Wilson



Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Kid Shay



Dream Nation by Louis Coppola



Retro Geek by Dickenson & Clarke



Brothers Watt by William Wilson

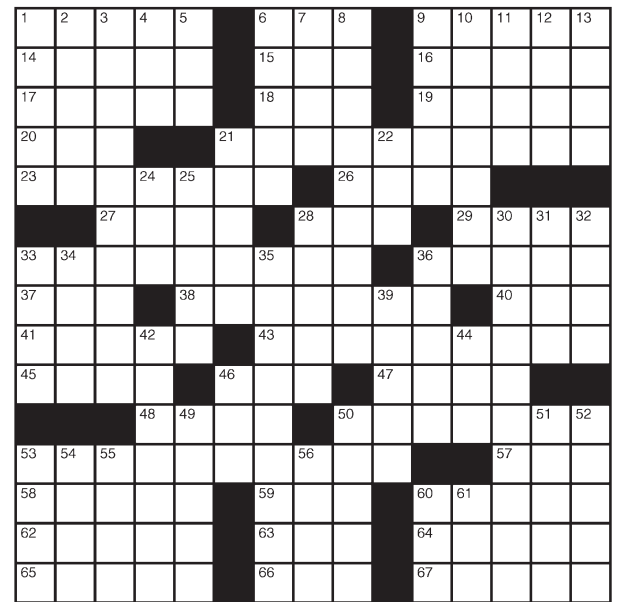


Sudoku

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

Crossword

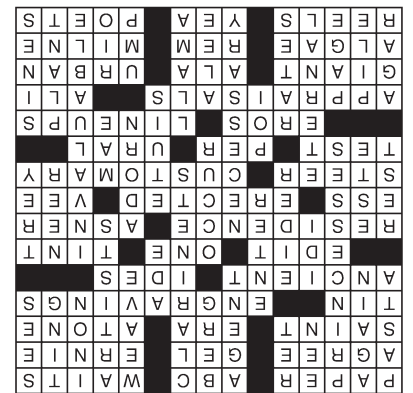
- ACROSS
- 1 Treatise or essay
 - 6 Easiness initials?
 - 9 Stands in line
 - 14 Come to terms
 - 15 Salon substance
 - 16 Banks of baseball
 - 17 New Orleans pro
 - 18 Pitcher's stat
 - 19 Make amends
 - 20 Sort of foil
 - 21 Some prints
 - 23 Really old
 - 26 Fateful day
 - 27 Polish the text
 - 28 Five before six
 - 29 Color shade
 - 33 Where one lives
 - 36 "Lou Grant" star
 - 37 Capital of Senegal?
 - 38 Put up
 - 40 Victory sign
 - 41 Take the helm
 - 43 Normal
 - 45 Exam
 - 46 RPM part
 - 47 River to the Caspian
 - 48 Love god
 - 50 Battering orders
 - 53 Expert valuations
 - 57 The Greatest
 - 58 Colossus
 - 59 Pie __ mode
 - 60 Metropolitan
 - 62 Red tide and kelp
 - 63 Sleep letters
 - 64 Pooh's creator
 - 65 Does Virginia's dance
 - 66 Vote for
 - 67 Bards
- DOWN
- 1 Spaghetti, e.g.
 - 2 Once more
 - 3 Potentialqueens
 - 4 Poetic contraction
 - 5 Out of the bus.
 - 6 Man in the field
 - 7 Floating ice mass
 - 8 Some woodwinds
 - 9 Operate a loom
 - 10 Manet and Monet
 - 11 Privy to
 - 12 Small, metallic sound
 - 13 Comprehends
 - 21 Go in
 - 22 Summertime refresher
 - 24 Amin of Uganda
 - 25 Fine-feathered duck
 - 28 Come to pass
 - 30 Priceless
 - 31 __-do-well
 - 32 Low card
 - 33 Remainder
 - 34 Italian noble name
 - 35 Required
 - 36 Decorate
 - 39 Needle cases
 - 42 Everlasting



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Solutions



- 44 West of Hollywood
- 46 Luau dish
- 49 Costs per unit
- 50 Andes beast
- 51 Factory
- 52 Trig functions
- 53 Thickening agent
- 54 Nuclear reactor
- 55 Aide
- 56 Toward shelter
- 60 Balk caller
- 61 Carnival city

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.

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

A Special Talent 'Thursday' for Valentine's Day

A special Talent Tuesday on a Thursday: Special for Lovers & Friends Feb. 14, 1p.m.-2p.m. SSB Patio Free Food, Drinks, Giveaways, and Prizes Lester's Balloons and Body Art by Susan * Come join the SGA WEST CAMPUS and Power95.3 celebrate Valentine's Day. Wear Red & Black to support school spirit and receive giveaways.* Sponsored by: Student Government Association WEST CAMPUS & Power95.3 Call 1604 for more information

UCF Majors Fair 2008

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

Wednesday, Feb. 13
11:00 a.m. - 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!

Career & Financial Planner

Mar 13th & 20th 10a.m.
West Atlas Lab SSB 142

THIS WEEKEND!

Osceola County Fair
Food/Concession HELP needed!
800-433-5197, pin 1430