

**'Jumper' leaps into theaters** Page 9



**'Persepolis' tugs heart strings** Page 9

# VALENCIA VOICE

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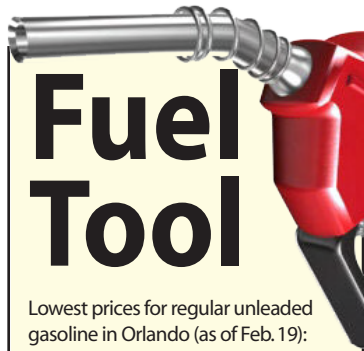
February 20, 2008

## Fast Finder

- Valencia News**  
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East Campus' Black Box Theater presents Moliere's play.  
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**Gaming**  
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- National News**  
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## Important Dates

- Ethnobotanist, Dr. Michael J. Balick, to visit Valencia**  
Tuesday, Feb. 26  
Noon - 2 p.m.  
East Campus
- Phi Theta Kappa Bake Sale**  
Wednesday, Feb. 27  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Winter Park Campus
- Soul Food Day**  
Thursday, Feb. 28  
1 - 2 p.m.  
West Campus



# Fuel Tool

Lowest prices for regular unleaded gasoline in Orlando (as of Feb. 19):

<b>\$2.93<sup>9</sup></b> <b>Chevron</b> 808 Chickasaw Tr. Orlando, FL 32807
<b>\$2.93<sup>9</sup></b> <b>Sam's Club</b> 7810 W. Colonial Dr. Orlando, FL 32818
<b>\$2.95<sup>9</sup></b> <b>BP</b> 1605 S. Semoran Blvd. Orlando, FL 32822

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

## McCain's focus shifts to Obama

By Frank Tobin  
Valencia Voice

As McCain keeps extending his lead in the race for the Republican presidential nomination, the race on the Democratic side maintains its intensity.

McCain has now collected more than 800 delegates toward the 1,191 needed to claim the GOP crown, while rival Mike Huckabee has 241 delegates.

With McCain's increasing lead in the race, many more conservatives are coming out in criticism of McCain's policies. However, many leading conservatives are coming to grips with the eventual nomination.

"Clearly, I've had some disagreements with Senator McCain over the years," said Republican leader John Boehner, an Ohio congressman. "But I've got to tell you, I've watched this presidential race unfold, and I've watched John McCain be a strong advocate for the principles I believe in."

McCain, earlier this week, also met with House Republicans, a group dominated by conservatives who have been suspicious of his moderate positions on some issues and willingness to work with Democrats.

It was, as McCain said, "a spirited and good discussion."

This was not the only obstacle McCain would have to overcome because if he is going to be the nominee on the Republican side then he is going to be facing either Obama or Clinton.

As of recently, McCain is focusing his energy on Obama.

There was a noticeable contrast between the two combatants for the presidency this week,

Please see Page 11



Photo by Abigail J. Isham / Valencia Voice

SGA member Allen Collins and Karina Jabel perform with Power95.3 on the SSB patio Feb. 14.

## Talent Tuesday makes comeback

By Kevin Norris  
Valencia voice

It wasn't just another school day for Valencia West Campus, Thursday Feb. 14th, for two main reasons, one being it was Valentines Day and the other due to Talent Tuesday turning into Talent Thursday.

The courtyard in front of the SSB building was camouflaged with red shirts and red hats on behalf of everyone's fondness for the holiday created by greeting card companies. The event was sponsored by local radio station Power 95.3 who energetically pumped up the crowd of about 100 people with hits from Lupe Fiasco, Robin Thicke and others. Along with Power 95.3 initiating things, students were able to get their faced painted and receive personalized Valentine

balloons by husband and wife act Lester and Susan McNelly. Lester McNelly wasn't the only one offering balloons, members of S.G.A passed out condoms in support of Safe Sex Week.

After students made their way through the labyrinth of a line for pizza and beverages their attention was

earlier minimized the potential danger from the plunging satellite, saying that similar spacecraft fall, or are bought down, to Earth regularly. Asked about those comments Thursday, he said analysts had concluded that the unused hydrazine did indeed pose a problem, and required the satellite to be shot down.

The satellite is believed to be in the 5,000- to 10,000-pound range, small for a spy satellite. It still is carrying most or all of its fuel, because it lost communication with ground control so quickly and was never ordered to conduct a burn of its fuel.

Before Thursday's announcement, many experts in the field said that the danger of anyone being harmed by the falling satellite were extremely small. Much larger spacecraft, including Skylab and the space shuttle Challenger, have fallen to Earth without consequences.

Please see Page 11

Please see Page 11

## U.S. satellite scheduled for destruction

Marc Kaufman  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON—President Bush, acting on the advice of his national security advisers, has decided to attempt to shoot down a malfunctioning spy satellite that is expected to crash to Earth early next month, a spokesman for the National Security Council said Thursday.

NSC spokesman Gordon Johndroe said the president made the decision within the past week and asked the military to come up with plans to destroy the satellite.

Johndroe said that decision, to be explained at a Pentagon news conference Thursday afternoon, was based on the fact that the satellite is carrying substantial amounts of the hazardous

and corrosive rocket fuel, hydrazine.

The satellite was launched in December 2006 but soon lost contact with ground control. While information about the spacecraft is classified, experts believe it is the first of a new generation of smaller and more precise spy satellites.

Johndroe said the satellite would be destroyed "as it comes to Earth," which is expected to occur in several weeks.

The United States and Soviet Union conducted anti-satellite tests in the mid 1980s but stopped once it became clear that the debris from the destroyed spacecrafts became a danger to other satellites and even spaceships. China caused a major international controversy last year when it destroyed an aging satellite, creating large debris fields.

Administration spokesmen including Johndroe

earlier minimized the potential danger from the plunging satellite, saying that similar spacecraft fall, or are bought down, to Earth regularly. Asked about those comments Thursday, he said analysts had concluded that the unused hydrazine did indeed pose a problem, and required the satellite to be shot down.

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

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

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

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

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

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER



# Kerouac celebration “On the Road” to Valencia

By Kevin Norris  
Valencia Voice

American writer, Jack Kerouac (born Jean Louis Kerouac), is viewed as the leading raconteur of the “beat generation;” a term that was used to label the social and literary movement of the 1950’s.

Kerouac wrote many unconventional stories about the journeys of life on the road, meeting people and various places he traveled. He was considered a poetic jazz writer; Kerouac was so dexterous when it came to writing that he could hypothetically blow and wild arrangements of words would appear on the paper.

Jack Kerouac was born March 12, 1919 in Lowell, Massachusetts where he grew up as an intensely serious child. Kerouac constantly formed significant friendships with other children, as he would notably maintain to do throughout his life.

From a young age, he was motivated to write from mystery radio shows like “The Shadow” and the enthusiastic novels of Thomas Wolfe, who he later replicated his writing style after.

After attending school at Columbia University, Kerouac made his way to San Francisco where he was immersed in a community of musicians, artists, and other writers and poets. He wrote his first and most conventional novel, “The Town and the City”, about the agonizing dilemma of having to correspond his family values with the intensity of city life.

A great length of time would pass before

another novel by Kerouac was published, due to the extensive cross-country trip he took with friend Neal Cassady. While on his trip he would work on his novel, which was inspired by the self-effacing prose of Cassady. Kerouac wrote about his trips exactly as they occurred, without editing or even thinking sometimes.

He presented his manuscript to his editor, who was apathetic to the unconventionality of the story; this would end up causing a seven-year drought before his infamous “On the Road” would be published.

“On the Road,” an autobiographical novel about the impulsive road trips Kerouac and his friends took across America, was written in three weeks during April 1951, and was finally published in 1957 by Viking Press. When “On the Road” became an enormous success, Kerouac did not know how to react towards his growing celebrity status.

Kerouac’s sudden triumph in the literary world came during the worst time in his life, his spiritual, morality and sanity was on a downward spiral due the amount of drinking he endured.

Kerouac drifted into the dark stages of alcoholism when he tried to recapture the vibrant, untamed images of “On the Road” with his new novels. Due to his drinking binges, and the miserable personas of his articles he was not taken seriously as a writer.

In 1961 Kerouac attempted to break free from the constraints of alcoholism; he retreated to being an isolationist in Big Sur, California where he revived his writing talents. Over

a short period of time the idea of being alone in a massive forest frightened him and he returned to San Francisco where he rekindled his drinking habits. On the road to having a mental breakdown, Kerouac would completely lay out his daunting experience in his superb last novel, “Big Sur.

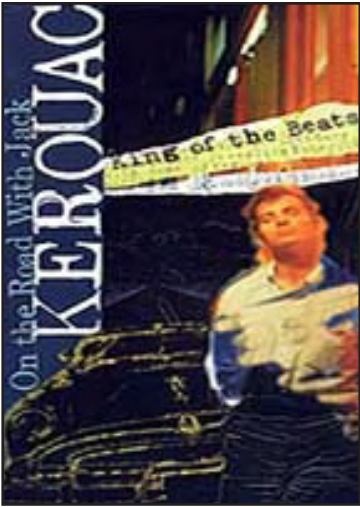
Kerouac left San Francisco once again and moved back to Lowell, Massachusetts before finally moving to St. Petersburg, FL. His health was eventually demolished by his drinking habits; he died at the age of 47 Oct. 21, 1969.

In the past 50 years, Kerouac has been regarded as one of the most unconventional and innovative forces in American literature, followers of Kerouac have always been engrossed with his unique style of writing, and his ability to translate the dull elements of everyday life into revered moments of splendor. Jack Kerouac will forever be remembered as the spontaneous author who believed that the first thought is always the best thought.

In remembrance of his work, Valencia’s East Campus is holding a literary event in honor of Kerouac. Alongside the celebration will be poetry readings by local students and some faculty as well as former Poet Laureate, Billy Collins.

Collins, a distinguished poet in his own right, has been successful in his career with witty, comedic poetry that he will be sharing with students on Feb. 23 from 1-5p.m.

For more information on this event please contact 407-582-3121.



The cover of a film made to commemorate the greatness that was Jack Kerouac.

## “On the Road” writes itself into lone genre

By Shaneece Dixon  
Valencia Voice

Jack Kerouac’s “On the Road” has become the epitome of a rising generation. Aptly titled the “Beat” generation, Kerouac’s latest novel documents the experiences of young people of America who yearned for freedom from the strict complacencies of their parents’ households. This work, originally written in 1957, propelled a movement among the younger generation. An autobiographical work, the book is an illustration of Kerouac’s own restless desire for freedom and his traveling experiences with his friend, Neal Cassady.

The story is narrated by Sal Paradise (who is meant to portray Kerouac), an aspiring writer who longs to gain experience on the open road. Surrounded by boring intellectuals in the East, he finds relief when he befriends Dean Moriarty (representing Cassady), who is notorious for stealing cars from parking lots and his seemingly sporadic spontaneity. With mutual friend, Carlo Marx, and the influence of their constant talk of life out West, it is not long before Dean takes makes the leap toward his first travel destination of Chicago. Sal, missing his companion and yearning for new adventures unheard of in his native New Jersey, embarks on his own journey toward San Francisco, or “San Fran,” to join friend and Frenchman Remi Boncoeur and his ever unsatisfied wife, Lee Ann, on an “around-the-world line.”

With only 50 dollars in his hand, Sal takes on the life of a typical hobo, traveling across the country to the open West by any means: hitchhiking, bus, car, or plane. But despite the constant beckon of hard partying, drugs, alcohol, sex, and romance, for both Sal and Dean, there is always the need to continue their travels on the road. Moving from Chicago to Denver to San Francisco to Mexico City, and back again, the two friends seek meaning and freedom within their own lives while searching for closure on the road.

The language is so captivating that tone becomes very reminiscent of the jazz culture. One minor disappointment would be that there is not much variation in the plot until the end of the first part of the book. But “On the Road,” despite its age, is still a worthwhile read and relevant to current events.

Overall, the book is a refreshing read for those who appreciate adventure and dynamic characterization. If you are looking for a novel with a tame story, symbolic motifs and deep, colorful metaphors, it is not likely that you will find any in “On the Road.” It is the direct brevity that makes this work monumental for its time and “On the Road” truly sets itself apart from other forms of literature, placing itself into its own “Beat” genre.

# Kerouac novel celebrated for 50th anniversary

By Alfred Lubrano  
The Philadelphia Inquirer

From its start, America was a westward-leaning country.

The notion that a person could always head west to pursue his dreams, find himself, or start over is a basic tenet of American myth and tradition.

For Jack Kerouac, the idea of staying in motion on a westward trajectory was vital to his survival as a person and a writer.

The novel that described his urgent, high-energy journeys, “On the Road,” was published 50 years ago Sept. 5.

The anniversary is prompting appreciations—and reinvigorating old criticisms—of a book many say defined the 1950s Beat generation and served as a template for hipster iconoclasts of every stripe who rejected the 9-to-5 status quo in favor of go-man-go sensation (the now-clichéd sex-drugs-rock-and-roll troika), endless curiosity, and indulgent self-exploration.

“‘On the Road’ is a major novel,” wrote Gilbert Millstein in a New York Times review that appeared on Sept. 5, 1957. There are sections of writing “of a beauty almost breathtaking,” Millstein continued. It is, he wrote, “the most beautifully executed, the clearest and the most important utterance yet made by the generation Kerouac himself named years ago as ‘beat.’ ...”

Since that review, academics, critics and others have argued endlessly about the book’s place in the American canon, and in the culture.

Decried as too narrow, naive and adolescent to be considered the Great American Novel, “On the Road” nevertheless reverberates for readers of several generations for its jazzy, hopped-up writing and its messages of lighting out for the territory, and striving to live a bright-burning life.

“The only people for me are the mad ones,” Kerouac writes in a celebrated line from the book, “the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved, desirous of everything at the same time, the ones who never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but burn, burn, burn like fabulous yellow roman candles exploding like spiders across the stars. ...”

When it appeared 50 years ago, the book made some noise.

“It was this huge slash in the consciousness,” said Anne Waldman, a poetry professor and co-founder with Kerouac contemporary Allen Ginsberg of the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at Naropa University in Boulder, Colo.

“On the Road” entered the culture in the

time of the company man, the highly structured, conformist, low-wattage Eisenhower years, Waldman said.

“Here was an energetic book, breaking with writing form,” she added, “written in a highly fluid style, by a curious seeker, a troubled figure with an innate music in his head—the sounds, the rhythms, the syllables.”

Kerouac was an honest, soulful presence at the core of the book, Waldman said. He explored the theme of buddy love, with a homoerotic tinge. He wrote about jazz, drugs and promiscuous sex. Here was a protagonist more interested in getting loaded than getting rich, more concerned with Buddhism and expanding consciousness than acquiring a house in the suburbs.

“He certainly was an interesting mongrel,” Waldman concluded.

Kerouac came from a working-class French-Canadian family in Lowell, Mass., and got an athletic scholarship to Columbia University.

There he met Ginsberg and formed the core of the Beats, the non-yawners whose incandescence lit up the skies.

Kerouac famously wrote “On the Road in a caffeine-jangled 20 days in April 1951 on a 120-foot scroll of art paper he had taped together. (Kerouac said he was on Benzedrine as well, but friends refuted that as the hyperbole of an author out to burnish his wild-man image.)

The speed and virtuosity reminded Kerouac, biographers say, of jazz riffing.

In truth, Kerouac had been working on the novel for years, and the three-week blurt was really the culmination of years of careful crafting.

At the center of the novel is Dean Moriarty, a pseudonym for Kerouac’s friend Neal Cassady, a “holy con-man” who was an intellectual, a criminal, and a shining inspiration for Kerouac (Sal Paradise in the book).

Together they travel America and Mexico, spending time talking about jazz and God, smoking dope, and engaging prostitutes.

Through the years, young readers especially have been enthralled by the kinetic restlessness, the life-on-the-run thrill. They read the book as the adventures of a disaffected James Dean type let loose on the countryside.

But that’s only part of the story, said Hilary Holladay, an English professor and director of the Kerouac Center for American Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. The school is doing an anniversary celebration of the book, including a public reading Sept. 5.

“Kerouac was this deep, lonely, melancholy man,” Holladay said. “And if you read the book closely, you see that sense of loss and sorrow swelling on every page.”

Ultimately, Holladay said, “there may be a gulf between what Kerouac was doing and what we want to think he was doing. This is a strange book.”

Holladay has taught the book for 13 years. In the past, students viewed “On the Road” as a Baedeker of nonconformity, and a traveler’s guide to enlightenment. They were excited.

These days, though, kids don’t react the same way. “They’re more detached from the book and its message than students before,” Holladay said. They are not gripped by the romantic notions that fevered Kerouac’s brain.

Could that spell an end to “On the Road’s” relevance?

Certainly, the political incorrectness of the writing seems dated to today’s young readers.

For others critical of the book, there is a sense that it has been overrated through the years, and that there are better novels with better stories to tell.

To today’s readers, parts of the book seem immature, even ridiculous, said Erin Gautsche, program coordinator of Kelly Writers House, a literary arts organization housed at the University of Pennsylvania.

The group did its own celebration of the book’s 50th anniversary earlier this year.

“When you read Kerouac’s descriptions of sharecroppers in the South and people in Mexico, he has an old-fashioned idea of race: that of the noble savage.”

Kerouac saw poor minorities and other impoverished types as holy innocents untouched by the “dirtiness” of capitalist culture, Gautsche said. “They were shown as peaceful, happy, simple people,” she added.

Also, as some readers have learned in dismaying second reads, a good deal of the book is simply about boorish guys looking for sex from disturbingly young, poor girls.

Still, say Kerouac apologists such as brother-in-law John Sampas, “the academy is realizing Jack was an articulate man of letters.”

“He also was a very tender, sweet, warm, gentle intellectual giant,” Sampas said from his Lowell home. “Only after reading all his journals and diaries did I come to realize he was a genius.”

Kerouac died at 47 of complications related to alcoholism.

That 100,000 copies of “On the Road” are purchased every year speaks to a certain timelessness, despite the book’s flaws.

Most likely, it’s the connection to the irresistible idea of moving on and getting gone, into “the rainy night of America and the raw road night.

— MCT Campus



## Opinion

# Clean restrooms make students happy

By Ashley Gonzalez  
Valencia Voice

There is no question that bathroom cleanliness in public facilities has been a topic of controversy ever since the toilet was invented.

Before leaving home a mother might ask her child if they have been to the restroom in last few minutes.

The reason for this question is to prevent stops at untimely moments and to prevent the child from exposure to germs in public facilities that are not exactly what most people would call spotless.

If each individual would do their part to keep restrooms cleaner it might be the first step in the right direction toward creating a more sanitary bathroom environment.

Of course, routine maintenance is also necessary.

Although Valencia has an excellent staff of janitors who keep the campus looking its best on most days, there are those few days during the school year certain areas of campus, such as the restroom, could use a little help.

This week we asked Valencia students were asked two questions:

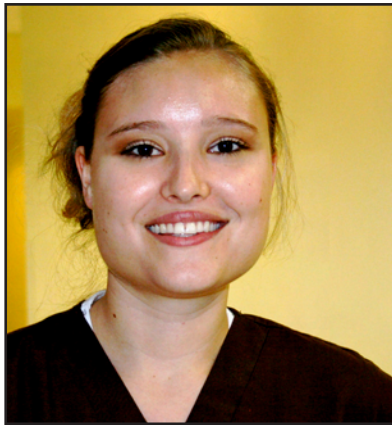
If you could rate the bathroom cleanliness around the campus what rate would you give and what actions could we take to make them cleaner?

While the ideas of many were extremely comprehensible, it seems that most Valencia students, faculty, and staff fail to take the initiative when, surprised, they walk into a stall and see urine all over the seat and toilet paper on floor.

Most people think that it isn't their job to clean up after others and, while this is true, it would be beneficial to the campus if individuals treated the bathroom facilities with the utmost respect as soon as they step foot on campus.

What many students are suggesting is that bathrooms be kept clean for the next person to use as opposed to having to clean up after others.

While this is a good idea, most people will continue passing the buck to the next user by assuring themselves that the person before them was responsible for the mess.



"Clean up after yourself like you would in your own home."

— **Nicole Bott**



"Who wouldn't want a clean bathroom? This is your school so keep it clean."

— **Peter Crespi**



"I try to hold it until I get home!"

— **Sean Kirst**



"It's important to be sanitary and healthy. Our bathrooms also reflect an image on the school. Students should be more considerate."

— **Angel Samms**



"On a scale of 1-10. 10 being the best I would give the bathroom a rate of 6. Students could help by picking up the trash and checking the seat before and after they leave the stall."

— **Ruth Figueroa**



"I don't even use the bathrooms on campus but if I have to the one in building four is the best."

— **David Leppe**



"HSB has the cleanest bathrooms. All the bathrooms on campus should be kept up like the ones in there."

— **Rick Vankannon**



"It's not that hard to clean up after yourself. I don't see why people on campus can't work on it to make the bathrooms cleaner for everyone."

— **Kelly Delvin**

Photos by Erica Teamer

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## Corrections

Opening night of Valencia's play "The Misanthrope" was Thursday, Feb. 14.

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

Page 6 of last week's issue had a missing page number

Pages 6 & 7 of last week's issue were designed by Robert Navaille

Pages 8 & 9 of last week's issue were designed by Sarah King



Opinion

Our Position:  
*School dress code*

On any given school day, parents across the country take pride in sending their children off to school dressed in outfits that won't get them sent back home an hour later: enter Gateway High School student Elizabeth Johnson.

Though Johnson was not sent home, she was given two days detention for donning a pair of sweatpants baring the Playboy logo. The 17-year-old teen, who was eventually made to change her clothing by a dean, thinks the school overreacted.

While it's clear that a 17-year-old girl going to school in Playboy brand apparel is not quite the apocalypse, it is not surprising to hear that school officials object to their students hind-parts being billboards for companies that produce soft-core porn.

The issue of dress codes at institutions of higher learning is more complex. The majority of students attending colleges and universities are adults, and thus, may be less receptive to rules and regulations regarding dress.

At Valencia, the faculty handbook states "Students dress is left to the tasteful discretion of the individual." This dress policy, though laced with a certain amount of ambiguity, is a common sense approach to the issue of student dress.

For the most part, students at Valencia do not get dressed with the intention of upsetting faculty or their peers. In fact, it was a guest to Valencia, ('Real World' veteran Syrus Yarbrough), not a student, who wore a t-shirt baring the infamous F-bomb to last semester's 'Rock the Vote' event. And while one could argue that wearing a shirt adorned with what is debatably the

most offensive of vulgarities at an event with a high volume of students, faculty, and college press was maybe not a fantastic choice, in the end, no one actually seemed to care.

In addition to logos and obscenities, students dressing provocatively can also tend to be an issue of debate. The ruthlessness of the Central Florida sun often gives students just cause to shun jeans and hoodies, in favor of minis, halters, and short shorts. With all the stilettos, shiny purses, gaudy jewelry, excessive makeup, and slinky dresses on campus, one may not be sure if a professor is going to walk into the classroom, or if a deejay will come in and take over while the dry erase board spins around to reveal disco lights and a dance floor. At times, these fashionista failures can be quite comical, but by no means are they wrong.

In an environment in which adults are coming into their own, and have paid their dues within the confines of stringent high schools and their dress codes, students should be allowed the freedom to dress as they wish. For now, it seems that Valencia's policy gives students the liberty to do just that. However, much like the case of the Southwest Airlines passenger who was asked to leave because other passengers were offended by the length of her skirt, it will likely only take one person to be grossly offended by some type of extreme fashion faux pas or wardrobe malfunction for the powers that be to reexamine their policies. But for now, the student body remains free to roam campus grounds in club gear, t-shirts featuring adult humor, and yes, even Playboy.

Our Position:  
*Chalkboards vs. Markerboards*

There was once a time when the public seemed to care about the corporate blitzkrieg of small businesses. A time when the Wal-Marts of the world were spreading their seed of conglomeratic, global annihilation into the bellies of every mom-and-pop store this side of non-conformity.

However, those days have gone the way of priest and rabbi jokes.

The times reflect a new beast plotting the slow bleed of traditional standards. That beast's name is the dry-erase board, and the gushing of blood originates from the throat of the chalkboard.

Incidentally, the bleeding appears more constant than slow.

According to ChemConnect.com, a website devoted to stock market evaluation, the sale of chalkboards has severely plummeted over the last five years, dropping in point value every quarter of every fiscal year.

It's one thing to lose the rainforests to new strip malls, national wildlife reserves to oil drilling, and civil liberties to the Patriot Act, but must you take away the boards made for chalk as well?

"I will say that chalkboards do tend to make a room feel more like a classroom. But dry-erase boards are slowly becoming the more efficient way to get the work done." Kari Halpin, a student/teacher aide at Lake Sybelia Elementary in Maitland, agrees with the current stock market trends.

Though "slowly" might not accurately reflect the sales growth of this beast.

Aywon Industries reported through Chem-Connect.com that their dry-erase board sales trumped their chalkboard output. The dry-erase board market alone rakes in 3.9 billion dollars annually in revenues, and Aywon most definitely catches a bit of that nut.

So has the whole of tradition diminished in the eyes of everyone but the disenfranchised. Does anyone even care that Bed, Bath and Beyond might have been Average Joe's Hand Lotion Emporium at some point in history.

"I have used both chalk and dry-erase boards, but I vastly prefer shadow puppets" Talia Finklestein, a student at Valencia Community College, said.

It appears that interest for this hollowed tradition has waned in the eyes of the students. But where do the teachers stand?

According to AtoZteacherstuff.com, a teacher/student informational website, teachers across the country are switching to the White.

"I don't mean to sound smug, but chalkboards? The school district I grew up in replaced those 15 years ago," Violet Swanson, a Special Education teacher from Seattle WA., said.

"I did sub in one room recently that had a chalkboard, and I think I wrote about three words on it all day," Swanson said. She also added that she has been a teacher for four years and has never preferred a chalkboard over a dry-erase board. Ever.

It's evident now that chalk has gone the way of the dodo: the chalkboards sales output staggers against the 3.9 billion dollar onslaught of the White; teachers, like Violet Swanson, place the chalkboard far from memory; students appear to not even remember what chalk is made from.

Here's a hint: it's made from what it's called.

What's next, parents publicly crying out against the video game "Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas" because it has a simulated sex scene that's nowhere near as racy as Britney Spears shaking her behind on MTV?

It's time to weep for the future of the human race.

Dress Codes:  
*Overly enforced*

By Carlos Minet  
Valencia Voice

I think it's pretty safe to say  
That the people reading this are grown  
You probably don't need supervisors  
You can make decisions on your own

You can decide what your clothes can say  
You know what to wear  
You know that if you come in a short skirt  
No people your age will care

So why does anyone stop it?  
Why do these "adults" want to stifle us?  
I haven't been treated like a kid this bad  
Since I rode a school bus

"Sit down, and raise your hand"  
When they could tell us what to do  
And now ten years later  
They're still trying to!

Well I say we put a stop to it  
Let's just wear what we want  
Let's show the higher ups  
That we won't be stopped

Our creativity will overcome  
Freedom of expression will be our guide  
A right given to us by our fore fathers  
A right for which people have died

So who do they think they are  
To tell us who we can and cannot be  
Why can't you all just cut the cord  
And set us all free

Please understand we're not children  
We have the rights that as you  
And do we tell you what not to wear  
No, because you don't need us to

Because you're adults, all of you  
So we show you some respect  
Well that all we are asking for  
That's what we expect

So wear your tank tops proudly  
Guys wear your "offensive" shirts  
Wear a bathing suit to class  
Wear your little skirts

And let's end the madness  
Let's all take a stand  
Tell them, "This is what I'm wearing"  
This is who I am"

Wayne Stayskal Tribune Media Services



MCT Campus

Starbucks:  
*Stealing your green*

By Carlos Minet  
Valencia Voice

Attention everybody  
To all the boys and girls  
To all the corporations  
To all the Starbucks of the world

To anyone who thinks it's ok  
To charge an arm and leg for sport  
That it's ok to over-price weird coffee sizes  
Like Grande, Venti, Tall and short

You people only care about one thing  
The green and almighty buck  
Thinking you're on top of the world  
But really you all suck

And as for those of you  
Who go to get a scone  
Those of you that come in with your laptops  
And you're stupid tiny phones

You walk in with your sunglasses on  
Wearing your business suit  
You order your frappuccino  
And gab away on your Bluetooth

This poem is for all of you  
This poem's an S.O.S  
When the green aprons approach you  
Thinks twice before you say yes

Try to be your own person  
Not following all the trends  
Not spending \$6.50  
On their new Grande special blend

Let's all make our coffee at home  
It's cheaper and the coffee's the same  
Or are you not buying it for flavor  
Are you just buying the name?

Well no one thinks you're cool  
Walking around with a to-go cup  
"Look I can afford expensive coffee"  
Do us a favor and shut up

So attention to anyone  
Who still has a brain of their own  
Buy coffee grounds at Publix  
And just stay at home



# ‘Misanthrope’ debuts at Black Box

## Valencia theater presents classic Moliere play

By Jordan Keyes  
Valencia Voice

East Campus’ intimate Black Box Theater was the perfect setting for the Valencia Character Company’s performance of “The Misanthrope”. Moliere’s play about a young aristocrat who is fed up with the insincere atmosphere of the Paris upper crust gets a thoroughly authentic treatment thanks to the great cast and crew. First produced in 1666, “The Misanthrope” has been a theater staple ever since. The Black Box Theater allowed the audience to feel closer to the happenings of the play, which take place all within the confines of one character’s house and it was unfortunate that the theater was only half-full.

It’s often a challenge to take a 350 year-old play and make it relevant and entertaining for an audience, but the Character Company met that challenge and succeeded thanks, in part, to the direction of Valencia Theater professor Kathleen Lindsey-Moulds. “It’s lively and exciting”, said Lindsey-Moulds. “My roots are in the classics. They are the most fun for me.”

Lindsey-Moulds attributed much of the success to hard work. “We had a week of rehearsal before Christmas break and then six weeks of rehearsal after that,”

said the director. “That’s about two to three weeks more than the usual Valencia production.” She says that Moliere “is one of the hardest to perform, even harder than Shakespeare.”

What is it that makes Moliere so hard? “Heroic couplets,” answers Michael Witherell, who played the Alceste, the plays protagonist. “Corsets,” was Elise Golowski’s answer. Golowski portrayed Celimene, Alceste’s love interest. The pair were brilliant as two lovers who are at odds more often than anything else.

Witherell, who has been seen in such productions as “Twelfth Night” and “Romeo and Juliet”, was severely tested when he found that the lines he had to memorize and recite were heroic couplets, meaning that every other line rhymes. He didn’t know how hard it would be when he went to the audition. “Fredy Ruiz, who I was doing “Urinetown” with, told me about it so I went.”

Fredy Ruiz played Oronte, an arrogant, would-be poet and rival for Celimene’s love. Ruiz, who also appeared in “A Chorus Line” and “Romeo and Juliet”, played his part to a tea and garnered raucous laughter for his performance.

Overall, the play was very well done and each of the performers dealt with the material impressively well and turned in a great show.

“The Misanthrope”, which premiered on Feb. 14, will be running until Feb. 24. The Feb. 16 was a part of an Arts and Entertainment Festival on Valencia’s East Campus. Tickets are \$8 for general admission, \$6 for Valencia students and \$5 for high school students.



Photo by Jordan Keyes / Valencia Voice

Alceste (Michael Witherell) professes his feelings for his lover Celimene (Elise Golowski).

## Professor reveals strong beliefs on being feminist

By Sarah Soliman  
Valencia Voice

English Professor Lisa Dennis is a strong woman who has always been confident in her beliefs as a feminist. Dennis has embraced her feminist ideals for as long as she can recall, but her passion for equal rights did not develop over night.

Growing up, Dennis watched men emotionally abuse the women in her life and realized that this was not right. “You don’t choose your beliefs, your beliefs choose you,” Dennis said.

Dennis’ grandmother is a huge inspiration to her when it comes to being a woman of strength. Her grandmother grew up during a period of time when women were of little value to their male counterparts and were punished if they disrespected them.

Although Dennis’ grandmother has greatly influenced her beliefs, Dennis feels that any woman can inspire others. “All women have the potential to be strong in different ways,” said Dennis, explaining this idea.

For instance, a woman’s strength can begin with her image. Professor Dennis feels that the media today portrays a negative image of women and ideal beauty. Unfortunately, believes Dennis, society continues to praise women who only wish to be viewed as sexy. Due to these false images of beauty, Dennis says, “a woman’s worth relies on what she looks like or what she can do to please just about anyone other than herself.”

Professor Dennis firmly believes that society should look past a woman’s image and begin to value a woman for her morals and behavior rather than the size of her breasts.

Although society continues to struggle with its views on women, Dennis agrees that women are in a better place today than they were 50 years ago.

Today’s generation is on the verge of possibly electing a woman to the position of president of the United States. Hillary Clinton is a smart and determined woman who over overcome the media’s distorted view of females and their roles in society. It is quite obvious that we still have

### Teacher Feature



Professor Lisa Dennis smiling for the camera.

very far to go in our human rights efforts, but even Hillary Clinton, gets labeled a ‘bitch.’ Dennis believes this proves that “we have a lot of work to do.” “The raft is not the shore,” said Dennis, adding to her earlier statement.

But as a feminist, Professor Dennis respects the fact that others have different beliefs and respects them as she would expect the same.

Dennis prides herself in keeping her personal biases separate from her teaching career because she feels that it would detract from a traditional lecture. However, professor Dennis believes it is important for students to be exposed and aware of the idea of feminism and come up with their own opinions from there.

As far as romance is concerned, Dennis claims that she has not had any issues with men who understand the true meaning of “feminism,” a term Dennis feels has been taken over by patriarchal society. Men who understand her views and respect her as an individual can hope to enjoy a mutual, respectful relationship.

Dennis’ views and experiences have combined to present a strong female figure who sticks to her morals while keeping an open mind to others as well.

If this topic is one of interest and you would like to educate yourself on the world of feminism, Dennis suggests such novels as “Feminism is not for Everybody,” and “Teaching to Transgress,” both written by author Bell Hooks.

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# Growing Farmer's Market holds steady customer base

By Abigail J. Isham  
Valencia Voice

Fresh, organic produce and handmade goods might not be what you would expect to find in the middle of downtown Orlando, but you'll find these things and much more at Lake Eola every Sunday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Located between E. Central Boulevard and E. Washington Street at N. Eola Drive, the Orlando Farmer's Market hosts dozens of local vendors, plenty of food, and a wine and beer garden each week.

Bill and Anita Pharis, own-

ers of The Amish Pantry, can be found at the Orlando Farmer's Market each Sunday, but during the rest of the week they take their business to other area markets in Mount Dora, Eustis, Flagler Beach, and to Leesburg, where they first got started about 3 years ago. Anita Pharis cites a "fantastic customer base" as one reason she and her husband set up shop in a new location each day. "They really appreciate it," she adds of their frequent customers.

The Amish Pantry has its cheeses shipped from the Amish in Ohio while other jams and

baked goods are from the Sarasota Amish Mennonite community. Because their foods are homemade rather than processed in a factory somewhere, "you can actually read all that's on the label, so you don't get all those chemicals and preservatives," Anita Pharis says.

Her husband, Bill, thinks their appeal goes beyond health, smiling when he says their old-fashioned, hand-churned butter just has "that taste." "It's not the kind of stuff you're going to find in an average grocery store," he continues.

Vern Seward, a photographer, technology writer, and columnist, has a 9-to-5 job but sells his art at the Orlando Farmer's Market each week. "If you like people watching, this is a great place to be," Seward offers.

While Seward "used to do film photography about 20 years ago," he only got back into his art about 2 years ago. "I didn't realize I loved it until I gave it up," Seward says of his photography.

More of Seward's work can be seen at his personal website, <http://homepage.mac.com/vernseward>.

If you're feeling tired or stressed, head to Healing Herbal Soups, where you'll find the all-natural "Recovery Soup" and "Detox Soup," both of which are loaded with vegetables and antioxidants. Michelle O'Shaughnessy, a doctor of Oriental medicine, started selling her soups after several of her patients told her they didn't like



Photo by Abigail J. Isham / Valencia Voice

Bill Pharis of The Amish Pantry mans the tent at the Lake Eola's farmer's market.



Photo by Abby Isham / Valencia Voice

Michelle O'Shaughnessy and her sons Robert Ortiz and John Coursen of "Healing Herbal Soups" cook for the Farmer's Market.

to cook, said her son, Robert Ortiz, 18. Now that O'Shaughnessy has a soup business, her patients have no excuse for not following the doctor's orders. "You just thaw it out, pour yourself a cup, and eat it," says Ortiz.

Sans cooking, eating healthy sounds easy enough, but that's irrelevant if it doesn't taste good. "My mom gave the recipes to my step-dad, who is a chef, so he had to make it taste good," Ortiz notes.

O'Shaughnessy's soups can also be purchased through her website, [www.healingherbal-soups.com](http://www.healingherbal-soups.com).

The Orlando Farmer's market has a wide variety of vendors and

products, from handmade soap to custom-fit leather belts. After you've worked up an appetite walking and shopping, you'll find yourself surrounded by great food choices, whether you're in the mood for El Coqui Mexicano or you're after funnel cakes and kettle corn.

The next time you have a free Sunday, grab your friends or family and explore a hidden treasure in the hustle and bustle of downtown. You can even bring Fido, provided he's on a leash and you clean up after him.

For more information, visit [www.orlandofarmersmarket.com](http://www.orlandofarmersmarket.com) or call 321-202-5855.

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## Gas prices leave Americans changing personal lifestyles

By Ronald D. White  
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles legal secretary James Eric Freedner got fed up with high gasoline prices.

He put his 2003 Toyota Tacoma truck in the garage and switched to a Honda Nighthawk motorcycle for weekday 6-mile commutes to Beverly Hills. He stopped driving to the beach on weekends and cut back on trips to check on properties he manages. He began grouping errands into one trip each Saturday.

The tradeoffs Freedner has made in the last year haven't necessarily made him happy, but they've reduced his gasoline consumption nearly 50 percent. And although he admits to feeling jittery traveling freeways on the Nighthawk, all the changes are permanent, unless gas returns to \$2.50 a gallon.

"The price was just eating up what I earned," said Freedner, 57. "This is the best thing I can do to make ends meet."

Americans are getting serious about using less gasoline, confounding some economists who have argued that most people can't reduce their driving much because they have to get to and from work and make those necessary trips such as shopping and chauffeuring their children around.

The truth is more complicated, according to some energy experts: When the price reaches a certain threshold or the driving reaches a peak point of aggravation, people are willing to give up personal space and independence. "There is an awful lot of what might be called discretionary driving," said Edward Leamer, an economist with the University of California, Los Angeles' Anderson Forecast. "Raise the price high enough, and you will see that there is a lot more that people can do."

For some, the next drop in prices won't be enough to send them back to their old driving habits.

"The trend will be toward more lasting conservation and longer-term savings if they are not just reacting to prices and have instead made a decision to change," said Bruce Bullock, executive director of the Maguire Energy Institute at Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business in Dallas.

In California, the nation's biggest fuel market, drivers have been burning through less gasoline than they had the year before for six consecutive quarters.

Nationwide, motorists are conserving fuel by taking fewer trips, driving slower and paying premiums for the most fuel-efficient vehicles because of a doubling of gasoline prices since 2003, the Congressional Budget Office said in a recent report.

University of Southern California mathematics professor Kimra Haskell, began bicycling to work six months ago.

She had many reasons. Sometimes she felt a shooting pain in her driving leg. She wanted to make a statement about the Iraq war and U.S. dependence on foreign oil. The California lifestyle of driving everywhere for everything — even to exercise at a gym — had left her too dependent on her aging 1993 Honda Accord.

The trial run was on a clunky old Schwinn mountain bike. On the return trip of the 26-mile ride, uphill, she was ready to abandon the bike by the side of the road. But she persevered, bought a sleek Italian Bianchi Volpe bicycle and is building up to cycling to work five days a week.

Gas prices were only part of the story, Haskell, 43, said. "It was mainly the effects on my health, on the time it took out of my life, the stress of dealing with the traffic."

— LATimes / Washington Post



# Safe sex in Winter Park

By Erica Teamer  
Valencia Voice

Free cookies, candy, cupcakes and condoms were a combination that captured some Valencia students residing at Winter Park Campus. Winter Park Campus' Student Government partnered with Albertsons, Peer Educators and Planned Parenthood to promote safe sex on campus on Wednesday, Feb. 13. Despite Albertsons' donation of doughnuts, SGA's cute conversation and cupcakes, and many professors' safe sex speeches, students still seemed shy when offered free condoms. "Condoms are expensive, but we've learned that even when condoms are free people still choose not to take advantage of the opportunity," says SGA's Bryanna Burke. Attempting to ease an awkward situation, flavored condoms as well as condoms on a stick given the nickname "conda-pops" were set out

on the table for individuals to take at free will. When speaking to the school's representatives I sensed a deeper concern in them for their peers. Discussion of homosexuality arose. Bryanna opened up once again, "The channel 'The-N' shoves homosexuality in your face. They don't say homosexuality is okay, they tell you that homosexuality is the way to be." As Chris Brown blared on the radio, students became more inclined to take items from the table and converse with fellow Valencians. It was funny to watch 42% of students take condoms and say it was for a friend. Over 50% declined all freebies. The eight percent of students that took the condoms with pride all giggled as they made their journey away from the table and to their vehicle. Although the circumstance was somewhat humorous, a more serious statement backed up the shy chuckles. Ignorance isn't so blissful when it affects your health and your future.

# Mardi Gras shakes up Universal

By Marcel Evans  
Valencia Voice

The sights and sounds of New Orleans were on display at Universal Studios (Orlando) recently and this year marks the 12th anniversary of Mardi Gras. The replicated streets of 'The Big Easy' were lined with spectators anxious to catch a glimpse of the approaching floats; concert patrons danced in the street as a live band worked the crowd. "Mardi Gras has a huge concert element. Over 150 performers and 11 floats," said Jim Timon, senior president of entertainment. "There is an energy in the park you can actually feel," said Timon. After hurricane Katrina, several artists found themselves jobless. Universal Studios created a relief fund to help these artists and provide them with work. "An idea that came out of Mardi Gras was to hire several New Orleans musicians," said Timon.

"We wanted to authenticate the experience." Universal also features artists from country music to hip hop icons. Music, beads and even a district resembling the French Quarter was created by event planners. "Originally, Mardi Gras was created to generate park interest during off season," said Timon. Timon described Mardi Gras as more than just flashy beads, but an actual way to experience culture. "I come here for the music (and to collect beads)," said parkgoer, Amanda Witherington. On average the park gives out over a million beads during the festival. Beside the sidewalk, Witherington has just managed to catch two beaded necklaces. "This is such a fun and safe atmosphere," says Witherington, clutching a flashing mug in her hand. "I didn't even have to work for these beads."

# Bottled water consumers make misguided purchases

By Ruth Mantell  
Market Watch

WASHINGTON—Even if pristine mountains adorn your bottled water, you may be drinking from the tap. Two Democratic House lawmakers, concerned that labeling is clouding consumers' bottle-water purchases, have asked federal auditors to investigate the industry. "In the past decade, sales of bottled water have reportedly tripled, but no one is examining the environmental ramifications of Americans shifting their water consumption from the traditional tap to the plastic bottle," said Rep. Al Wynn, D-Md. A report last year from the Container Recycling Institute said nonsparkling bottled water sales hit 29.8 billion units in 2005, up from 15 billion units in 2002. In 2005, bottled water accounted for more than 10 percent of total U.S. beverage consumption, according to the American Beverage Association, a trade group for nonalcoholic beverages. Wynn, chairman of the environment and hazardous materials subcommittee, and Rep. Hilda Solis, D-Calif., have asked the Government Accountability Office to probe the quality, labeling and economic impact of bottled water. A final report from GAO won't be ready until later this year. "I think that consumers are under the misguided impression that bottled water is being carefully regulated and fully tested, and that it comes from whatever place is on the picture on the label. That's not the case," said Dr. Gina Solomon, a senior scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council. Observers say consumer confusion about water is understandable. There are a bevy of bottled-water varieties: artesian, artesian-well, ground, mineral, purified, sparkling and spring. Water can undergo distillation, reverse osmosis, absolute 1 micron filtration and ozonation. About 30 percent of bottled water is sourced from a municipal system, according to the International Bottled Water Association, the industry

trade association. The FDA regulates bottled water, while the Environmental Protection Agency regulates tap. The lawmakers have also asked GAO to look into EPA's drinking water standards for contaminants. The FDA requires manufacturers to produce safe and truthfully labeled products. The agency has set "standard of identity" regulations for different types of water, such as mineral water containing a minimum proportion of solids. FDA's standard of quality regulations for bottled water set allowable levels for more than 70 different chemical contaminants. In the United States, PepsiCo Inc.'s Aquafina brand bottled water uses public water sources, which the company treats with reverse osmosis, a process that forces water through membranes to remove minerals. Coca-Cola Co. markets its own "municipal source" water, Dasani, which also uses reverse osmosis. Dasani relies on about a couple dozen municipal water sources across the United States, according to spokesman Ray Crockett. "We test our water for a number of different chemicals, and our water meets or exceeds any standard set by EPA, FDA or local (rules)," Crockett said. Stephen Kay, IBWA spokesman, said purified bottled water from a municipal water system is not simply tap water in a bottle. "It is important to note that bottled water companies that use municipal source water treat and purify the water before it is bottled and delivered to consumers as a packaged food product," he said. There's a lot that isn't so clear about the bottled-water industry, according to the Natural Resources Defense Council. "Bottled water doesn't need to have information on the label about where that water comes from," said NRDC's Solomon. "This is an industry that has gotten away with being essentially self-regulated. And some companies maybe do a good job, but there's no consistency."

— MCT Campus

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# All-star cast saves mediocre adventure flick

By Jordan Keyes  
Valencia Voice

Boy meets girl. Boy gets superpower. Boy makes his wildest dreams come true. Boy fights and wins the girl. So goes the plot of “Jumper,” this slick, fast-paced action flick that shows that beautiful people and dazzling special effects can cover a multitude of sins.

The film’s hero, David Rice (“Star Wars” heartthrob Hayden Christensen), somehow acquires the power to teleport practically anywhere and uses it to escape his less than ideal situation; little does he know, however, the consequences that his actions will have in the long run.

It is a good thing Christensen is attractive because his talent could not have carried the movie alone; to say he is wooden would be generous as he struggles to make his rugged features contort into something resembling emotion. Each line is delivered as though he is about to doze off mid sentence as if he was abusing some narcotic substance or other. Fortunately, after having him narrate the first 10 minutes of the movie, it seems the director figured out what “Star Wars” fans figured out six years ago, Brando he is not. And, with the help of a brisk pace and a stellar supporting cast, they managed to create a solid action/adventure film.

The always-beautiful Rachel Bilson (“The OC”) plays Milly, the whip-smart love interest, and injected some much-needed life into the scenes where Christensen was not zapping back and forth. Samuel L. Jackson turned in a great performance, as usual, in the role of Roland, a religious fanatic who is hunting our intrepid hero. Jackson pulls off menacing and intense with ease and it makes one realize how easy it is to take his performances for granted.

With all these big name stars, it is surprising that Brit, Jamie Bell (“King Kong,” “Flags of Our Fathers”), a relative unknown, stole the show as David Rice’s reluctant teammate, Griffin. His quirky,

rapid-fire delivery is to thank for the high point of many scenes in the film. Think a skinny, British Jonah Hill without the expletives and you will get the feel of Bell’s comedic timing. With such a great group of actor’s it is unfortunate that Christensen is not up to the caliber of his supporting cast.

The scenery for the film is nothing less than stunning. From the top of the Sphinx in Egypt to London’s Big Ben, the settings are exotic and breath-taking.

If there is one thing you can say about “Jumper”, it doesn’t skimp on the special effects. As expected from most big-budget popcorn flicks, the effects are abundant and top notch. Explosions and green screen scenes galore compliment sleek “jumping” effects that would make many a sci-fi film green with envy. Watch for the scene in the desert, involving “jumping” and a double-decker bus that is especially jaw dropping.

At a swift 88 minutes, the film’s producers knew they needed to keep the action moving and they did. There was little lingering on character development, because for the most part there was no need. Instead, the audience is treated to an explosive, breakneck journey that mercifully glosses over its lead’s lack of personality.

The movie ends with the conveniently ambiguous conclusion



Milly (Rachel Bilson) and David (Hayden Christensen) share a private moment between “jumps.”  
Paramount Vantage

that is oh so prevalent these days, leaving the possibility of a sequel wide open.

If this film makes a lot of money, which I predict it will, look for a follow-up. In the end, I would recommend this to anyone looking for a fun action film or just a diversion the daily grind. It’s definitely worth the price of the ticket, which is more than you can say about most of the films coming out this month.



Persepolis shrinks back in fear of the two nuns harrassing her on school grounds.  
Paramount Vantage

## ‘Persepolis’ examines young life in troubled middle-eastern nation

By Kevin Norris  
Valencia Voice

Director Marjane Satrapi and co-director Vincent Paronnaud’s latest animated film, “Persepolis,” is not like anything you have ever seen before. In an age when the sophistication of computer animation reigns supreme, “Persepolis” is a breathtaking tribute to a period of time when cartoons were bold and simple. Hand-drawn in unadorned black-and-white images, the film takes its audience on a journey through the political cataclysm of modern day Iran. “Persepolis” is everything “The Kite Runner” failed to be.

The film is an autobiography based on several of Satrapi’s experiences as a young girl while growing up in an extremely westernized, liberal family. The duration of the film follows Satrapi’s transition from childhood to adulthood, where she deals with the Islamic revolution and the even more tyrannical command that pursued the pyrrhic Iran and Iraq war, as well as a period of exile in Austria where she is swiftly forced into marriage.

The film starts in 1978, when young Marjane (voiced by Gabrielle Lopes), a fan of Iron Maiden and Bruce Lee, sits with her family in Teheran while they watch apprehensively as their Shah’s government become increasingly oppressive under the fundamentalist revolution. Puzzled by the

actions taking place in the community, she struggles to believe the stories her Mother (Catherine Deneuve), Grandmother (Danielle Darrieux) and communist uncle (Francois Jerome) convey to her.

As Iran begins to crumble and conditions worsen, the teenager Marjane (now voiced by Chiara Mastroianni) is sent off to a fastidious French-speaking school in Vienna, Austria. In Vienna she becomes even more depressed and unsure of herself, ultimately leading to the loss of her identity. Upon her return to Iran, Marjane discovers that the stringent rules of Islamic law under the Mullahs are still in place and have become even more restraining.

The only problem with “Persepolis” is that it ends, and rather too abruptly. It is not a spoiler to reveal that when the story wraps up Marjane is forced into exile once again, due to the fact that the entire film is actually a flashback of the past while she waits in an airport to leave for France. At that very moment, Marjane becomes less apprehensive and more open minded than she has ever been, realizing that she has a life ahead of her to live.

“Persepolis” is an homage to human experience, evidence that staying true to one’s individuality during desperate times is crucial, and a reminder that even the most complicated stories and identities are often painfully straightforward.

## ‘Devil May Cry 4’ offers latest, greatest in gaming installment

By Frank Tobin  
Valencia Voice

Standing at the precipice of a church altar, your spiritual leader lying, presumably, dead at your feet, you stare the attacker in the eyes prepared to strike. Over-sized sword in hand, and with athletic grace offered to you by a demon-laden genetic DNA layout, you leap 40 feet into the air and ferociously descend upon the would-be assassin.

Steel clangs, sweat beads, blood sprays, and adrenaline pumps--this is video game nirvana. This is what it must be like to be a fantastical hero in a digital escape from reality; this is “Devil May Cry 4.”

“Devil May Cry 4” is, as the name implies, the fourth installment in the “Devil May Cry” saga. The series, developed by the Japanese game studio, Capcom, made its debut on the Sony Playstation 2 to critical and commercial acclaim. It introduced a memorable main character, a smorgasbord of style and a new and exciting genre that grew from the 2D beat-em-ups that you either loved (as an old school gaming fan) or hated (as a new breed gamer corn-fed on first person shooters).

After a failed follow-up in “Devil May Cry 2,” and a brain-busting, reflex-driven, finger-bruising third installment in “Devil May Cry 3,” the series was heading for new territory.

“Devil May Cry 4” marks a rebirth of the series. Though the tale of the legendary Dark Knight Sparda (Dante’s father) is still a centerpiece, the storyline has very little to do with the rest of the series; a new main character, named Nero, has been introduced who plays drastically differently from Dante (though Dante is still playable, more on that later) and the rise of a new enemy faction that has absolutely no bearing on the original story.

Gameplay wise, Dante always arms himself with an assortment of pistols and blades, leading to a varied gaming experience where you can strategically map-out every move in order to gain style points to better increase Dante’s arsenal. Nero, on the other hand, has only one sword, one gun and his arm to fight with, but Nero has far more of a focus on aerial combat than Dante. Needless to say, this is a breath of fresh air for the series as a whole, which could have gotten stagnant if not for the brilliant developers over at the big C.

Thankfully, you actually get to control

Dante halfway through the game, who is, as you will see, much stronger than Nero the hero. Being able to kick demon-tail as the series’ original protagonist marks a nice detour for the game as a whole, and further explores the mythos of his character without over-playing him by seeing him too frequently throughout the game.

The switch, however, reveals what is perhaps the game’s biggest flaw. While the level design itself is sound, literally all but one of the levels you play as Dante (which is a boss fight) are just Nero’s levels in reverse. Backtracking has been a substantial segment of DMC (with the exception of the abysmal DMC 2), but usually with just enough moderation to enhance the game’s progression. This is a shame, but isn’t quite as big a problem as it appears. The levels themselves are at least three times the length of DMC 3’s, meaning that even if you were to judge by removing repeated content due to backtracking, you still have a longer game.

What is not as forgivable, however, is the fact that a few of these levels are poorly laid-out. Level 19, in particular, sticks out like a sore thumb of mediocrity on a hand of overall excellence; you’ll never want to play another board game as long as you live.

Where this series has always excelled is in its boss fights: fights with larger, more complex enemies, at the end of any particular level, which require more skill, strategy, and luck than the other lackeys during the course of a stage. This game offers the best boss fights in the series to date.

The fights are also very varied (though they are recycled later on), and you will fight everything from a toad with demonic antennae to a pane of bulletproof glass.

Graphically, this game runs at a very smooth frame-rate clip, and offers stunning gothic vistas to marvel at while kicking the snot out your enemies. If you have an HDTV it’s even better, since the game utilizes the most comprehensive video output package, and spits out brilliant 1080p visuals.

This series has forever been known for its attention to gameplay details, with its focus being on reflex and luck over supreme strategy and critical analysis. If you vividly remember the 1990s, and recall the brilliant games of that era, then you will feel downright nostalgic indulging in this expertly paced, albeit punishingly difficult, digital tour de force.



# Abnormal brain antibodies found in autistic children

By Thomas H. Maugh II  
Los Angeles Times

Abnormal antibodies in maternal blood that bind to fetal brain cells may contribute to the development of autism, according to two new studies from the MIND Institute at the University of California, Davis.

Immunologist Judy Van de Water and her colleagues isolated a form of antibody called “immunoglobulin G,” or IgG, from 61 mothers of autistic children and found that in seven cases, it bound to two proteins in fetal brain tissue.

Six of those mothers had children with regressive autism, in which children appear to develop normally for the first year or two before developing symptoms such

as loss of social or language skills.

The team also extracted IgG from 62 mothers whose children were healthy. None of those antibodies were able to bind to the fetal tissue proteins.

Their results will be published in the March issue of the journal *NeuroToxicology*.

Following up on those findings, behavioral scientist David Amaral of UC Davis and colleagues from the California National Primate Research Center injected four rhesus monkeys with human IgG from mothers of autistic children three times near the end of the first trimester of the monkeys’ pregnancies.

All the offspring of the exposed monkeys demonstrated repetitive behaviors that are analogous to those exhibited by autistic children, such as pacing, back-flip-

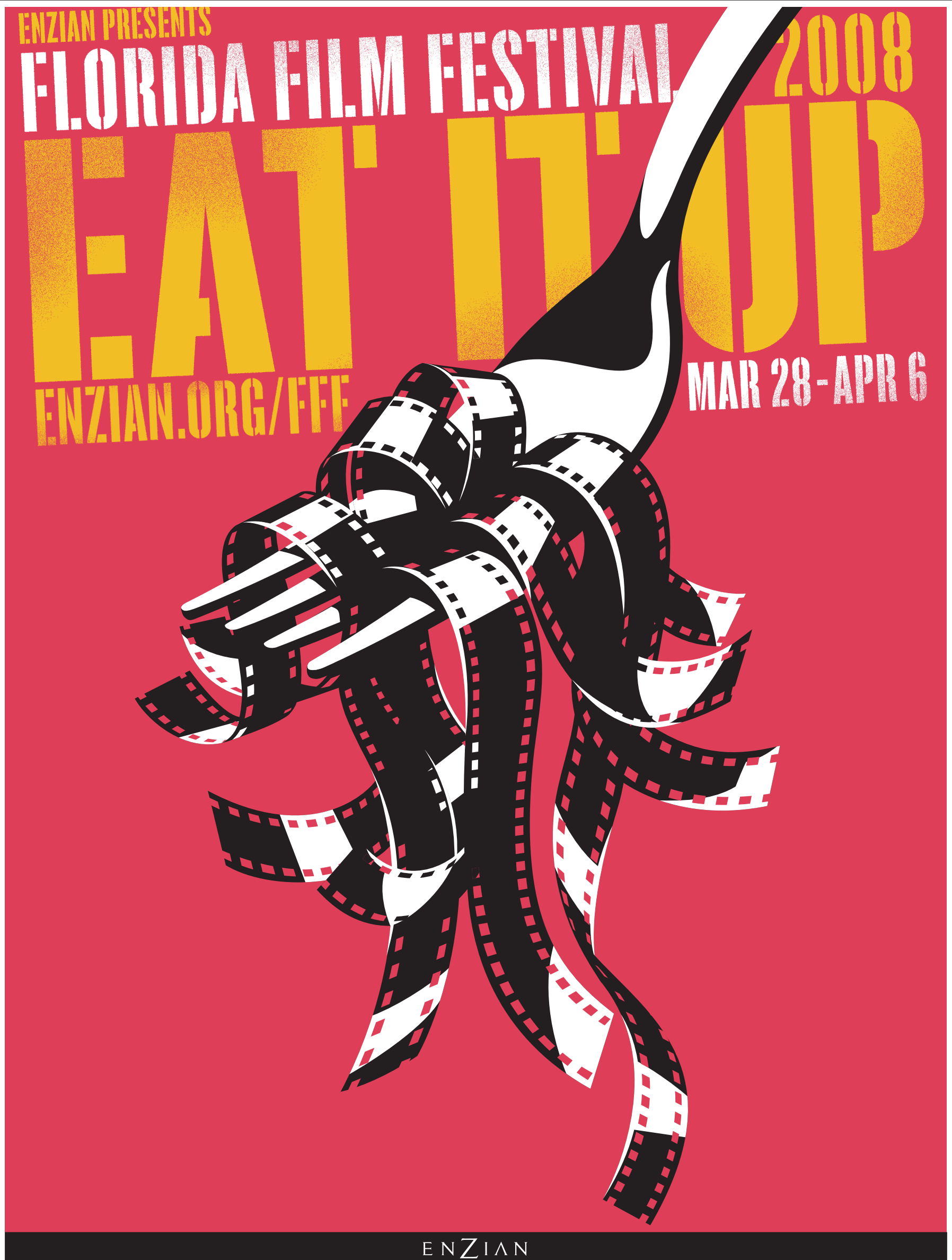
ping, twirling and swinging more often and for longer periods of times. The behaviors, called “stereotypies,” became more pronounced after weaning and were more striking when the animals were placed in unfamiliar settings.

Offspring of four female monkeys exposed to IgG from mothers of healthy children showed no such behaviors.

The study “links exposure to abnormal immune system factors during pregnancy with specific behavioral outcomes in offspring,” Amaral said.

The study was published online Tuesday by the journal *Brain, Behavior and Immunity*.

— *LA Times* / *Washington Post*





# University shooter's motives mystery to law enforcement

Continued from Page 1

firing. Police found 48 shell casings and six shotgun shells in the classroom, indicating the number of shots, he said.

Authorities have traced the shotgun and one of the handguns to a gun dealer in Champaign, Ill., where Kazmierczak was attending graduate school at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. They said the purchases were legal, and there was no reason that Kazmierczak should have been denied purchase. Agents with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives are tracing the other two weapons, said agent Kevin Cronin.

Earlier, the DeKalb County coroner's office had issued a news release saying that a sixth wounded student had died overnight, but university officials retracted that, saying there had been a miscommunication and that only five students and the gunman had died.

The dead students were identified as: Daniel Parmenter, 20, of Westchester, Ill.; Catalina Garcia, 20, of Cicero, Ill.; Ryanne Mace, 19, of Carpentersville, Ill.; Julianna Gehant, 32, of Meriden, Ill.; and Gayle Dubowski, 20, of Carol Stream, Ill.

Before the Friday morning news conference at which Kazmierczak was identified, NIU President John G. Peters said "the shooter had a very good academic record, no record of trouble."

Kazmierczak was not a current student at the school 65 miles west of downtown Chicago, authorities said. Peters earlier had said the man had been enrolled as a sociology graduate student at NIU but left school last spring.

In an interview at his home near campus Friday morning, a visibly rattled Joseph Peterson, the instructor of the ocean science class on which the gunman opened fire, said he did not know the man and had no idea why he targeted his classroom.

In Lakeland, Fla., local sheriff's police were interviewing Kazmierczak's father, Robert, at the request of investigators in DeKalb, but would not release details.

Speaking briefly with reporters at his home about 50 miles southwest of Orlando, Robert Kazmierczak, 66, who is retired, said: "Please leave me alone. I have no statement to make. This is a very hard time. I'm a diabetic."

Then he broke down crying and went back inside his mobile home. Records indicate his wife died in 2006.

Officials said Kazmierczak, dressed in black, stormed into an oceanography class Thursday afternoon and opened fire with a shotgun and two handguns. In a matter of seconds, he killed five and wounded 15.

Then, still on stage, he killed himself, authorities said.

Late Thursday, sources confirmed that the gunman was a graduate student in social work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

A law-enforcement source said the gunman was found with a U. of I. identification card in his pocket. Police also said they were unable to determine a motive for the shooting, which erupted shortly before 3 p.m., about 15 minutes before the class of about 100 students in Cole Hall was scheduled to end.

NIU classes have been canceled indefinitely. The dorms, however, remain open. "It's not a lockdown," NIU's Peters told reporters Friday morning.

It was the worst campus shooting since April 16, 2007, when 32 people were shot to death on the campus of Virginia Tech University by a student who later killed himself. Virginia Tech officials have called NIU offering help and advice, Peters said.

—MCT Campus



Photo by Rick Wood, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel / MCT Campus  
Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama greets supporters at a campaign rally in Racine, Wis., on Wednesday, Feb. 13.

## Clinton stakes hope on Ohio

Continued from Page 1

John McCain versus Barack Obama.

Last week, Obama swept three primaries and delivered, what most political pundits would consider, an eloquent speech in front of a mixed crowd in Madison, Wis., which ranged from the young and old to black and white citizens alike.

McCain's tactics were, in comparison, more to the point.

Although McCain admitted that he does not think of himself as a savior, he attacked Obama subtly, without directly naming him.

He characterized Obama's campaign as platitudes without policies or experience. He also hinted that Obama had no idea about team play or how to overcome difficult obstacles.

Before the official presidential race has begun, the ante has been upped.

Meanwhile at the Clinton camp, while

Obama worked Wisconsin, Hillary campaigned in south Texas, a big state that votes in March. She declared herself "in the solutions business" and Obama "in the promises business," and she threw down this challenge: "Tell him to meet me in Texas. We're ready."

In fact, Hillary Clinton leads Barack Obama among Democrats in Ohio and Pennsylvania, two of the states she's counting on to halt his momentum in the party's presidential race and regain a lead in convention delegates, according to a Quinnipiac University poll.

"Ohio is as good a demographic fit for Senator Clinton as she will find," Quinnipiac Polling Institute President Peter A. Brown said in a statement. "If Clinton can't win the primary there, it is very difficult to see how she stops Obama."

Apparently, if the polls are to be believed, this could be the make-it or break-it phase of the Clinton presidential run.

## Talent Tuesday returns to celebrate Valentine's

Continued from Page 1

focused to the commencement of the event by commentators TJ Cole and Allen Collins. Both Cole and Collins, members of S.G.A., fervently jumped around the stage while they announced the first act of Jazmin and Bryanna Burke's spoken word about love. Cole and Collins weren't able to commentate for long due to the fact that both of them along with friend Lance formed to sing "I Want You Exclusive" by Day 26 (Making the Band season 4). The trio went under the name Men of S.G.A and would later reunite to serenade the crowd with Carl Thomas's "I Wish"

Cole and Collins retreated back to their positions as hosts to give out various Valentines Day gifts to the crowd before the group One More Time swept them off stage. The 4 member group resembled those of previous "boy band" acts that once tyrannically occupied Orlando during the late 90's and 00's. One More Time graciously sang a cappella just as Nsync or Backstreet Boys would have if they were there that day.

Half way through the show the line for food was still buzzing as Cole and Collins counted down the "Top 10 things not to do on Valentines Day." The list ranged from "not having two girlfriends who go to the same school," to "prolonging relationships until after Valentines Day."

Melanie Bergeson, who went under the stage name Mrs. M, was the first act to "do it for the ladies" when she sang Mariah Carey's "Vision of Love." Bergeson stood out as the most vibrant act of the afternoon as she was greeted with an uproar of applause due to her breathtaking vocal abilities.

Collins notably made fun of his own "vocal skills" after the awe-inspiring Bergeson left the stage. Instead of following up with another music act, Collins asked for three ladies to judge the dance competition between David "Willie" Arrington and Cole. The R-rated dancing of Arrington was asked to be kept "PG" by Col-



Photo by Abigail J. Isham / Valencia Voice  
Students gorge on Valentine's Day treats at Talent Tuesday, Feb. 14.

lins while Cole gave the judges a strip tease. Arrington ended up being the crowd favorite, as the judges unanimously preferred Cole.

Unfortunately the second lady act of the day, Karennia, faced many problems during her performance, none that were attributed to her own fault. First the DJ opened up her performance with the wrong backing music, causing Karennia to redo the song. Two magnificent break-dancers, Shawn "Bboy Unknown" Rivas and Adam "Bboy Fevill" Gonzalez, accompanied Karennia before a member of the crowd, who decided to take the break-dancing matters into his own hands, rudely interrupted her. The fan was escorted off the stage by campus security who took matters into their own hands.

Roberto Crichlow brought just as much astounding vocal talent as Bergeson did earlier with his stylish guitar/ singing abilities. Crichlow sang about his "crappy singing" which was humorous due to the fact that he was a remarkable singer. After Crichlow finalized the show, all the members of S.G.A gathered on stage to thank the crowd and give them an encore of 112's "Cupid".

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# Spielberg withdraws as Summer Games sponsor

By Evan Osnos  
Chicago Tribune

BEIJING — Spectacular stadiums are nearly complete, new subways have been laid, and the world’s largest airport terminal is getting its final touches.

But those were the easy parts. China is discovering that the most formidable challenges to hosting the 2008 Summer Games could be political.

In withdrawing this week as an artistic adviser to the Games, Steven Spielberg blamed China’s continuing support of the government of Sudan, which has failed to quell violence in its Darfur region. His decision deals the heaviest blow yet to Chinese leaders struggling to hold back a wave of foreign criticism that threatens to tarnish what China hopes will be a showcase of its growth and modernization.

Spielberg’s announcement came just days after a separate Olympic dust-up, in which British sports authorities, facing an outcry, dropped a new rule that would have banned British Olympians from freely expressing criticisms of the host country during Beijing’s Games.

With nearly six months remaining before the opening ceremony Aug. 8, China faces an uncomfortably long window for critics to marshal forces. Activists already have begun to expand their pressure to target corporate sponsors and foreign heads of state who plan to attend. Britain’s Prince Charles said last month that he would not attend the games in protest of China’s treatment of Tibet.

Shoring up foreign support is increasingly critical to meeting China’s own standard for a successful Games.

“The important thing is not how many gold medals we win, but how many countries participate,” said Yan Xuetong of the



A map of China showing Beijing (upper right) where the 2008 Summer Olympics will be held.  
Photo by Marco Coda / iStockphoto

Institute of International Studies at Beijing’s Tsinghua University.

Chinese leaders have few good options: If they resist appeals to improve domestic human rights, permit dissent and bring greater pressure on the Sudanese regime, then criticism is likely to persist. But bend too fast and too far and leaders risk emboldening fresh critics to use the Games as a cudgel.

The politically charged atmosphere surrounding these Games reflects China’s particular aspirations for hosting the Olympics. A half century ago, China was a new Communist-led republic, ostracized by the world’s great powers and unable to win a single Olympic medal.

In the decades since, China has emerged as the pacesetter of the developing world, the planet’s fastest-growing major economy — and the second-largest gold medal winner after the U.S. at the Athens Games in 2004.

So, in China’s national imagination, the Games have taken on epic importance as a barometer of the country’s image in the world.

“The Olympics are a kind of advertisement,” said Han Qiaosheng, a veteran sports announcer on state television. “Ever since the Cultural Revolution, the Chinese people, in their hearts, have nothing to worship or believe in. China is in a period of rapid economic growth and transformation.

“China needs the Olympics as spiritual sustenance,” Han added. “It’s the same as Tokyo in 1964, Seoul in 1988.”

But ensuring the best possible debut on

the world stage requires maintaining a fragile balance: China doesn’t want other countries to define the Games in political terms, yet, at the same time, it is engineering the event to glorify its national renaissance.

At first, Darfur seemed an unlikely irritant in China’s Olympic plans. According to UN estimates, some 200,000 people have died in the western Sudanese region as a result of war, famine and disease since pro-government militias started cracking down on rebellious non-Arab tribes seeking a larger share of the country’s resources.

China, which buys oil from and sells arms to the Khartoum regime, consistently stood by the Sudanese government as the U.S. and Britain pushed for UN Security Council sanctions against Sudan. But last year actress Mia Farrow, a goodwill ambassador for the UN Children’s Fund, started a campaign to label the games the “Genocide Olympics.”

In a March 2007 op-ed article in *The Wall Street Journal*, she issued a pointed warning to Spielberg, who had agreed a year earlier to “give the world a taste of peace, friendship and understanding” by helping Chinese filmmaker Zhang Yimou design the Games’ opening and closing ceremonies.

Farrow wrote that Spielberg could “go down in history as the Leni Riefenstahl of the Beijing Games,” invoking the name of the German who created Nazi propaganda films.

Spielberg responded by sending a letter to President Hu Jintao of China, condemning the violence in Darfur and appealing to the Chinese government to use its influence in the region to curb the killing. Before long, Beijing had sent a special envoy to Sudan and signed a unanimous Security Council decision to send peacekeepers to Darfur, abandoning its long-stated aversion to interfering in Sudan.

— MCT Campus

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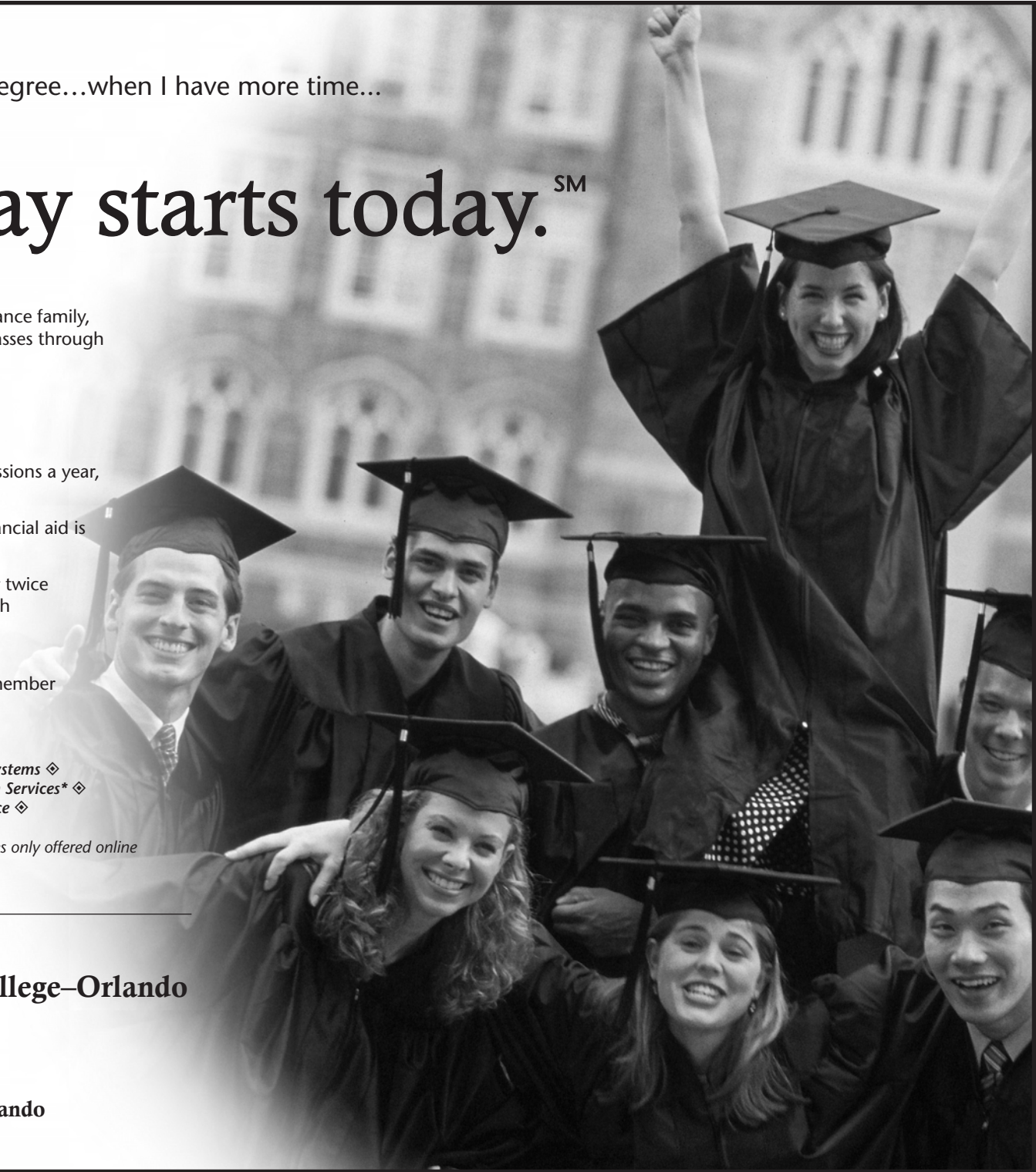
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## SPORTS



Dwight "Superman"  
Howard owned the  
Slam Dunk Contest

## NBA All-Star Weekend 2008 from New Orleans

## Howard crowned slam dunk champion

By Brian Schmitz  
The Orlando Sentinel

NEW ORLEANS - Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard was super, man.

After feeling slighted last year in his first appearance, Howard won the all-star slam-dunk contest Saturday night, recording two perfect scores- one while wearing a Superman cape.

Howard beat defending champion Gerald Green of the Minnesota Timberwolves at New Orleans Arena.

For the first time in the history of the contest, fans helped decide the winner, text-messaging their favorite dunker during the final round. Howard, 22, earned 78 percent of the vote.

He delivered some mind-boggling displays of jumping ability and creativity, becoming the tallest man at 6 feet 11 to win the competition since 6-9 Larry Nance in 1984.

His first two dunks in the final round were spectacular.

Teammate Jameer Nelson affixed a tiny basket to the side of the glass backboard and put the ball on it like a golf tee. The NBA's dunk leader leaped and grabbed the ball and dunked in a pumping motion.

Howard bounced the ball high and ran toward the basket in his first attempt. With his left hand, he tipped the ball off the backboard and back to himself, throwing the basketball down emphatically with his right hand.

Howard, as expected, donned a Superman cape for one dunk. He took off just beyond the free-throw line and appeared to fly like the Man of Steel, throwing the ball down in one line-drive motion. He also had tossed the ball off the back of the backboard and moved in front of the basket while it the air, catching it with two hands and dunking with his left hand.



Lebron James goes up for another basket during his MVP performance, leading the East to a victory over the West Sunday evening

East 134, West 128

## ‘King’ James Reigns

By Sam Smith  
Chicago Tribune

NEW ORLEANS- And now back to your irregularly scheduled NBA season.

"This year has been the most surprising season and off-season we've had in the NBA in a long time," said the Cavaliers' LeBron James.

James led the underdog East to a 134-128 victory with 27 points, nine assists, eight rebounds, two steals and two blocks.

"With the Lakers dealing for Pau Gasol and Miami and Phoenix dealing Shaq and Shawn Marion ... " James said. "You look at Ray Allen and Kevin Garnett going to Boston, Rashard Lewis to Orlando, now (Mike Bibby to Atlanta and Jason Kidd off to Dallas). It's going to be a challenge."

It wasn't much of a challenge to enjoy Sunday's All-Star Game, especially an entertaining and competitive final six minutes that included six ties and three lead changes. The finish also featured a pair of big three-pointers from Allen, who scored a game-high 28 points, a big did-ya-see-that dunk from James and a Dwyane Wade block on a Dirk Nowitzki three-point try with 25.9 seconds left to protect a four-point East lead. Yes, ma'am, that was NBA defense there.

"D-Wade had the unbelievable block," said James, who now has the highest All-Star Game scoring average of 24.7 per game, with Oscar Robertson second at 20.5. "Ray hit some big shots. And I was able to

put the finishing touch on with the dunk. They beat us up pretty bad in Las Vegas last year. We didn't want that to happen again."

It was an uplifting weekend for the East stars and for New Orleans.

"Great, great weekend," East coach Doc Rivers said. "You got the flavor of the city."

It was basketball spectacle and silliness as usual in the usually festive Big Easy environment.

In many ways, the NBA All-Star Game fits best the personality of this offbeat city of jazz music and dance, filled with improvisation and rhythm.

One particular second-quarter sequence was its own riff with Orlando's Dwight Howard furiously slamming a pass from James that came volleyball style off a high lob from Kidd.

After Stoudemire, one of three West players to lead the team with 18 points each, responded with an angry tomahawk dunk, Howard repaid the favor with a high lob pass James dunked from behind his head as the East led by nine at halftime.

"Ray hit some big shots and it kept flowing," James said.

It's not like All-Star Games matter, but as Rivers said, "It's a game. You should try to win it."

"The game hasn't changed. It's a make-or-miss league. Ray made some shots, LeBron made some plays. We won the game."

Perhaps a preview of what figures to be a slam-jamma finish to this NBA regular season.

## THE RUNDOWN

What's Coming Up in Sports

Week of February 20  
through February 27  
**NBA Basketball**



**Sunday, February 124**  
**Sacramento Kings @**  
**Orlando Magic**  
**Amway Arena**  
**6 p.m.**  
**TV- Sun Sports HD**  
**Radio- 580 AM**  
**Storyline-** The Magic fresh out of the All-Star Break take on the now Mike Bibby-less Sacramento Kings. A point of intrigue is how star center Dwight Howard's rising level of fame, since his spectacular All-Star Weekend performance, will impact his day-to-day game.



## MISL Update

*Orlando Sharks 6,*  
*Monterrey La Raza 11*

**RECAP-** The Sharks fall in another hard-fought outing, this time against fellow first year team La Raza de Monterrey. The Sharks led after the first quarter, up 2-0. But, La Raza went on a 9-0 scoring drive, making the count 9-2 at the half. Each time scored once in the third, making the score 11-4 going into the final period. The Sharks scored one more goal in the contest by Miki Djerisolo, his second goal of the night. Again, the Sharks played well enough to win but lack of offensive productivity and assertiveness haunted them in the end.

Page design by Steven Ryzewski

*Orlando Magic 109, Denver Nuggets 98*

## Van Gundy's scolding motivates Howard

By Ryan Guilfooy  
Valencia Voice

Dwight Howard answered Stan Van Gundy's comments with a season-high 24 rebounds, 23 points, and two blocked shots, as the Orlando Magic defeated the Denver Nuggets 109-98 at the Amway Arena last Wednesday night.

The Magic are 33-21 coming out of the All-Star Break,

Howard dominated the boards the entire game, setting the tone early. In the first quarter alone he scored 8 points, snagged 7 rebounds, and had 2 blocks.

Howard was motivated by Van Gundy's comments after last Monday night's loss to the Cleveland Cavaliers. Van Gundy benched Howard for a two-minute stretch because Howard appeared unsatisfied with his offensive touches. Van Gundy said after the game that Howard needed to focus more on rebounding.

Howard responded with a season high 24 rebounds.

Howard said after the game "Coach said what he had to say. He felt I wasn't focused in the right areas, so I just came back and played as hard as I could."

"You could tell right away he was serious

about this game," forward Rashard Lewis said. "Dwight wanted to knock that chip off his shoulder."

Lewis, too, responded to the tone set by Howard, scoring 25 points and grabbing 7 boards.

Brian Cook had a season high 18 points providing a spark off the bench.

In the third quarter Lewis caught fire and scored the seven straight points, sparking a 10-2 run that gave the Magic the lead, 76-69, to end the third quarter

Then Hedo Turkoglu took over in the 4th quarter scoring 12 of his 18 points and 2 three-pointers to finish off the Nuggets.



# Videojuego promueve el riesgo de ser un inmigrante

## Este juego examina la innovación migratoria para el nuevo año

**María Peña, EFE  
Univision.com**

WASHINGTON - Cinco jóvenes extranjeros, entre ellos una residente legal de India, un estudiante japonés y un mexicano sin documentación, protagonizan un nuevo videojuego lanzado en Estados Unidos que permite al público vivir en carne propia las vicisitudes del inmigrante.

Objetivo: la ciudadanía. La idea de sus creadores es despertar, a través de la cultura popular, la conciencia social del electorado, especialmente de los jóvenes, y promover una reforma migratoria integral.

El juego, en tres dimensiones, ha sido creado por “Breakthrough”, una organización internacional sin fines de lucro con sede en Nueva York que intenta poner rostro humano a la tragedia de las deportaciones y la separación de familias.

El videojuego, que se apoya en casos de la vida real, se puede descargar de forma gratuita en versión de Windows o Mac a través del sitio web “www.icedgame.com” y lleva las siglas ICED en inglés (I Can End Deportation o Puedo Frenar la Deportación), deliberadamente similares



Foto por, Kevin German/Sacramento Bee/MCT / metcampus.

a las de la Oficina de Inmigración y Aduanas (ICE).

Aunque su objetivo es conseguir la ciudadanía estadounidense al evadir la captura o deportación, el juego incluye datos sobre el laberinto migratorio y una mordaz crítica de sus leyes.

Sin pelos en la lengua, “Breakthrough” señala que las autoridades atropellan los derechos humanos de los inmigrantes.

Además, advierte de que “cuando permitimos que el gobierno prive a ciertas personas de sus derechos humanos y el debido proceso legal, ponemos en riesgo todas nuestras libertades”.

Una grave voz masculina asegura en el juego que, con el falso pretexto de la seguridad nacional, cerca de dos millones de personas, tanto en situación legal como indocumentadas, han sido deportadas desde 1996 sin el debido proceso legal.

En el juego, el público tiene la opción de vivir el día a día de cinco inmigrantes, todos veinteañeros que, por diversas situaciones, afrontan el riesgo de ser expulsados.

Allí encontramos a Anna, una residente polaca que afronta la deportación pese a que ya purgó pena por un delito menor; Suki, un estudiante japonés con visa F-1; Ayesha, una residente legal de India que escribió un ensayo sobre la ley antiterrorista; Javier, un mexicano que dejó caducar su visa de turista, y Marc, un haitiano que pidió asilo político, se metió al Ejército y fue a parar a Irak.

De entrada, el juego otorga 100 puntos pero advierte a cada inmigrante virtual que una “mala jugada” puede costarle una detención indefinida y hasta la deportación misma, porque “nadie está a salvo” de las garras de ICE.

“Mantén la calma y no te metas en líos”, se aconseja en el juego, que utiliza la tendencia de fomentar el cambio social a través de un medio muy popular entre los jóvenes.

En Estados Unidos, los jóvenes normalmente viven aislados en una burbuja apolítica, pero su voto ahora es codiciado por ambos partidos.

“No es un problema hispano, es un problema de todos, porque tenemos un sistema roto, injusto e inservible, que necesita una reforma. Pensamos que los jóvenes pueden ser agentes de cambio y a ellos nos dirigimos”, dijo a Efe Malika Dutt, directora ejecutiva de “Breakthrough”.

“Ningún documental ni ningún libro permite en realidad ponerse en el lugar del otro tanto como lo hace un juego, donde la gente puede descubrir lo que significa ser un inmigrante”, enfatizó.

El juego, continuó Duff, busca persuadir a la opinión pública sobre la necesidad de una reforma, que fracasó el año pasado pero ahora tiñe incluso la contienda presidencial.

Así, ICED pretende servir de contrapeso a la xenofobia de grupos que desde la blogosfera y que, también con videojuegos, combaten una temida “invasión” de inmigrantes.

Uno de esos juegos, lanzado en 2006 y titulado Patrulla Fronteriza, permitía acumular puntos por matar a inmigrantes que cruzaran ilegalmente la frontera desde México.

Dutt anticipa que ICED despertará la ira de quienes ven en cada inmigrante a un terrorista en potencia, pero eso no le preocupa.

“Queremos que sea la chispa para reactivar el debate migratorio, y que sean los jóvenes los que promuevan la reforma”, puntualizó.

# Tornado destruye cientos de hogares

## Comienza la búsqueda de víctimas

**Univision.com**

PRATTVILLE, Alabama — Las cuadrillas de rescate recorrían el lunes las casas en busca de personas atrapadas en medio de los escombros, después que un tornado castigó a esta población, parte de una tormenta de lluvia, nieve e inundaciones durante el fin de semana en el medio-oeste.

Dos heridos No se reportaron muertes en Prattville, en las afueras de Montgomery, pero dos personas resultaron gravemente heridas, dijo Dallis Johnson, del departamento de bomberos.

Veintisiete personas resultaron con heridas leves, manifestaron las autoridades. Cerca de 200 viviendas resultaron dañadas o destruidas y los funcionarios impusieron un toque de queda al caer la noche el domingo.

Un hospital móvil con 35 camas fue establecido frente a un supermercado para atender a las víctimas con heridas leves o moderadas, con el fin de que los hospitales pudieran dedicarse a las personas más graves, manifestó el doctor Steve Allen.

Los daños. El área estaba repleta de postes de electricidad derribados y escombros. Se abrieron refugios en escuelas, y los autobuses escolares trasladaron a las víctimas hacia el centro de la ciudad.

Cerca de 9 mil viviendas y negocios quedaron a oscuras en Prattville. El tornado fue parte de una serie de tormentas que sacudieron al sur del país, dañando casas en Alabama, Georgia y el norte de la Florida.

Un tornado destruyó cuatro viviendas en el condado de Escambia, en la Florida. Otras 60 casas, negocios y edificios de almacenamiento de mercaderías tuvieron daños de

distinto tipo, expresó la portavoz del condado, Sonya Daniel.

Los inspectores llegaron el lunes a evaluar los daños.

Los residentes, en tanto, limpiaban los escombros, cubrían las ventanas rotas e intentaban reparar los techos rotos.

En el condado Escambia de Alabama, dos casas fueron destruidas por un posible tornado en la población rural de Dixie, dijo el servicio meteorológico.

La tormenta dañó algunas estructuras en el condado Covington de Alabama, y derribó árboles, expresó Jeremie Shaffer, subdirector de la agencia de emergencias del condado.

Diez personas resultaron heridas en Georgia, dos de ellas de gravedad, dijo Buss Weiss, portavoz de la agencia de emergencias de ese estado.

Al menos 14 casas, 13 de ellas móviles, fueron destruidas, de acuerdo con información preliminar de la agencia.



Foto por,Steve Linsenmayer/Fort Wayne News-Sentinel/metcampus.

# Espera la cobertura de Premios lo Nuestro en nuestra próxima edición



Nometa Premios lo Nuestro

Foto cortesía Univision.

**Ada Amador  
Valencia Voice**

Premios lo Nuestro celebra 20 años de trayectoria. Da tributo y honra a lo Nuestro, los latinos.

Cada año podemos disfrutar de un espectáculo fresco e innovador.

La alfombra, roja, verde, o azul brilla con las estrelladas del momento cada año.

Premios lo Nuestro comienza en el año 1989, ofreciendo reconocimiento a los artistas que se lo merecen.

En el año 2005 pudimos ver a una participación espectacular de David Bisbal junto con Dayanara Torres quien demostró ser todo un estuche de monerías cuando apareció derrochando sensualidad mientras acompañaba a Bisbal en la interpretación de uno de sus temas.

En el año 2006 pudimos disfrutar de Juanes y gran éxito “La camisa negra.”

Juanes ese año gano en el renglón Rock (Artista del Año, Canción del Año).

En el año 2007 vimos a Gloria Trevi destacando desde la misma alfombra sorprendió a propios y extraños con su elegante atuendo, y minutos más tarde lo haría en el escenario con una espectacular presentación de su tema Todos me miran.

Este 2008 que podemos esperar. Todos queremos ver nada mas que lo mejor, hasta los mejores chismes.

Como que esperarse si AB Quintanilla y Cruz Martínez llegan a enfrentarse en pleno festejo.

Quieres enterarte de todo lo que sucederá, busca la cobertura de Premios lo Nuestro en nuestra próxima edición de La Voz.

Edmarlin Rivera te traera un resumen de los mejores momentos del evento.

Enterate con nosotros.



# Yahoo, MySpace to fend off Microsoft?

By Benjamin Pimentel  
MarketWatch

SAN FRANCISCO—Speculation on Yahoo Inc.'s anyone-but-Microsoft options intensified Wednesday amid reports that the company was talking to News Corp.—and that Google Inc. is losing interest in a possible alliance.

Yahoo this week formally rejected Microsoft Corp.'s unsolicited \$44.6 billion bid to buy the Internet company. But Microsoft has said it reserves the right to pursue other options, a stance analysts believe would mean either raising its price or mounting a hostile-take-over campaign.

As the two tech titans harden their positions, Yahoo is reportedly discussing a possible deal with News Corp. involving an alliance between the Internet company and the media giant's Fox Interactive Media unit, which includes MySpace, according to two influential tech industry blogs.

A report by the online edition of the Wall Street Journal, citing unnamed sources, also said the two sides were discussing a deal, one that would give News Corp. a 20 percent stake in Yahoo. News Corp. is the owner of both the Wall Street Journal and MarketWatch, the publisher of this report.

Microsoft shares were trading up 2.2 percent to \$28.96 by late afternoon, while

Yahoo was up 0.9 percent at \$29.85.

Citing unnamed sources, a posting on the Silicon Alley Insider blog described talks about a deal in which News Corp. would take a major equity stake in Yahoo, which would then assume control of News Corp.'s MySpace and other Fox Interactive Media properties. That report also cited the possibility of News Corp. arranging a cash infusion for Yahoo as well.

Another blog, TechCrunch, which also cited an unnamed source, gave a similar account of the discussions between the companies, adding that they were trying to reach agreement in the next couple days.

In the days following Microsoft's move to acquire Yahoo, News Corp. has said that it is not interested in making a rival bid.

Meanwhile, Internet-search market leader Google Inc., which came out publicly against Microsoft's proposal, has lost interest in pursuing a search outsourcing deal with Yahoo, according to a Wall Street Journal report from earlier Wednesday.

Analysts have speculated about a Yahoo-Google alliance as a way for Google to thwart Microsoft's bid, although some also said such a deal would likely run into antitrust hurdles.

— MCT Campus



## Join us

as we raise our glasses  
in support of learning



*Valencia Foundation invites colleagues, alumni and friends of Valencia Community College to our annual international wine sampling and auction. This year guests can sample fine wines donated by more than 100 vintners from around the world.*

The evening will include a silent auction with hundreds of selections, including spa treatments, trips to exotic locations, gift certificates to local restaurants and attractions and, of course, wine. Also, Valencia will present its prestigious 40th Anniversary Award to 40 recipients, 10 from each decade, for the distinction they have brought to the college.

Please join us in helping deserving students - 100% of sponsor, ticket and auction receipts will go directly to Valencia scholarships.

### 2008 Early Benefactors

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\$125 per person, \$200 per couple  
Call 407-582-3150 for details

**VALENCIA**  
FOUNDATION

Saturday, April 12, 2008  
7 to 10 p.m.  
Rosen Shingle Creek  
9939 Universal Boulevard, Orlando

[www.VALENCIA.ORG](http://www.VALENCIA.ORG)



Comics and Games

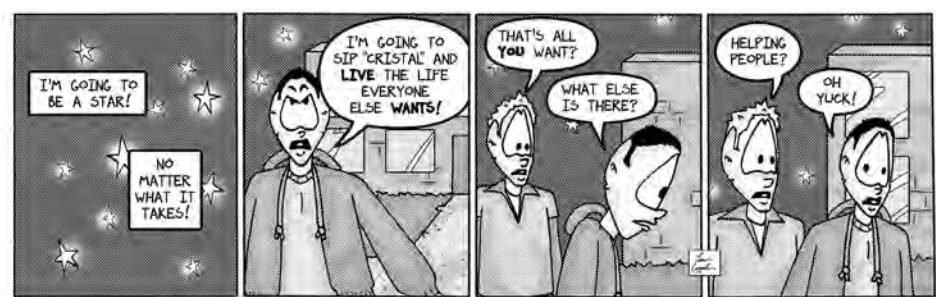
Brothers Watt by William Wilson



Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Kid Shay



Dream Nation by Louis Coppola



Retro Geek by Dickenson & Clarke



Paul by Billy O’Keefe



Sudoku

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

Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Reach 212 degrees F
- 5 \_\_\_ of Worms
- 9 Mall events
- 14 Writer Tyler
- 15 Between jobs
- 16 Heavy tread
- 17 Hexagonal structure
- 19 Tropical lizard
- 20 \_\_\_-whiz!
- 21 Scuba or snafu, e.g.
- 23 Noon and midnight, e.g.
- 26 "Catch-22" author
- 28 Sicilian volcano
- 29 Three-time Masters champion
- 30 Continental money
- 34 Dotty art
- 37 Short snooze
- 38 Actor Joseph
- 39 Bearlike
- 41 Pub brew
- 42 Norwegian explorer
- 46 Experiment
- 48 Ointment
- 49 Resounding defeat
- 50 Save
- 52 \_\_\_ Domingo
- 53 Italian astronomer
- 56 Take one's pick
- 57 Overhead
- 58 Crowning
- 64 Sao \_\_, Brazil
- 65 Musical add-on
- 66 Round dance
- 67 City on the Ruhr
- 68 Culture base
- 69 Twelve months
- DOWN
- 1 Scrooge's word
- 2 Lennon's love
- 3 Travelers' stop
- 4 "Shampoo" co-star
- 5 Casino toss
- 6 Altar vow
- 7 Shade tree
- 8 Soprano Renata
- 9 False alarm
- 10 Clinton's veep
- 11 Bank offering
- 12 TV award
- 13 Junk mail, online
- 18 Affirmative reply
- 22 Conclusion
- 23 Cool dude
- 24 "The Lion in Winter" star
- 25 Makes one
- 26 Actor Holbrook
- 27 Hospital wing
- 29 Adroit maneuvering
- 31 Concord
- 32 Used the last one
- 33 Not close-minded about
- 35 Part of GTE
- 36 Med. scan
- 40 Harsh and irritating
- 43 Former CEO of Chrysler
- 44 Resp. disease
- 45 Holiday lead-in
- 47 Unimportant thing

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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Solutions

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			I	D	O			O	E	T	I	V	A	G
O	L	N	S		E	N	O	S	E	H				
I	N	O	H		E	A	T	V	S		L	S	E	L
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D	V	N		W	S	I	T	I	L	N	I	O	D	
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V	W	V	G	V		B	W	O	O	A	E	N	O	H
D	W	O	T	O		E	T	D	I		E	N	N	V
S	E	L	S			L	I	D		L	I	O	B	

- 51 Rocker John
- 52 Hot tub
- 53 Stand open
- 54 Unfortunately!
- 55 Brock and Costello
- 56 \_\_\_ Khayyam
- 59 Cabin piece
- 60 Wash. neighbor
- 61 End of a sock
- 62 One Gershwin
- 63 Sedan or SUV

Announcements

Valencia Theater Presents “The Misanthrope”

The Valencia Character Company presents Molière's classic comedy, “The Misanthrope”. Additional performances will be held Feb. 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.” The event will take place from 1p.m. - 2p.m. at East Campus’ PAC.

Wednesday, Feb. 20:

Movie Night

7 - 10 p.m.  
East Campus; Building 3 Atrium

National Guard Recruiting

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
East Campus; Great Hall - Building 5

UCF Decision Day

9:30 a.m. - 1p.m.  
West Campus; SSB Lobby

VAHSA Meeting

2:15 - 3:30 p.m.  
West Campus; 1-132

Tempus Resorts Employment opportunities

10 a.m.  
West Campus; Bldg. 2 breezeway

American Income Life Employment opportunities

10 a.m.  
West Campus; Bldg. 2 breezeway

Skinhead Speaker

3 p.m.  
Osceola Campus; TBA

Friday, Feb 22:

The Misanthrope by Moliere

7:30 p.m.  
East Campus; Black Box Theater

Chess Club Meeting

1 - 2:15 p.m.  
West Campus; 7-230A

Second Harvest

2 p.m.  
Osceola Campus; TBA

SGA Game Night

6 – 9 p.m.  
Winter Park Campus; 226