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‘Smash Bros’ super success

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# VALENCIA VOICE

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March 26, 2008

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## Important Dates

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6 p.m.

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Thursday, March 27

6 p.m.

West Campus Bldg. 6-202

### Coffeehouse: Music & Literary Event

Thursday, March 27

7 p.m.

East Campus Bldg. 5-112

## Clinton back on top in popular ratings

By Frank Tobin  
Valencia Voice

Although she trails in the state-to-state delegate count, Hillary Clinton has actually taken a lead in a latest Gallup poll; the March 14-18 national survey of 1,209 Democratic and Democratic-leaning voters gave Clinton, a New York senator, a 49 percent to 42 percent edge over Obama, an Illinois senator. The poll has an error margin of 3 percentage points.

These results display a resurgence in Clinton's popular rating, but as far as choosing the democratic nomination the delegates will decide the outcome.

Gallup said the poll lead was the first statistically significant one for Clinton since a tracking poll conducted Feb. 7-9, just after the Super Tuesday primaries. The two candidates had largely been locked in a statistical tie since then, with Obama last holding a lead over Clinton in a March 11-13 poll.

Gallup said polling data also showed McCain leading Obama 47 percent to 43 percent in 4,367 registered voters' preferences for the general election. The general election survey has an error margin of 2 percentage points.

Obama's slip in the popular rankings could be attributed to his ties to the controversial comments

made by his longtime pastor Jeremiah Wright last week.

Wright's speech, which condemned America for the ills of the world and brought back the ever-prevalent issue of race in our country, placed Obama at a disadvantage. However, the Senator responded in kind with a speech that could be considered progressively elegant, according to a statement by Obama's camp.

Quite in fact, Obama's speech is the most popular item on Youtube as of this writing.

So far, the Obama speech has been clicked on

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Photo by Shaneece Dixon / Valencia Voice

Students take the BSE tutorial (Breast Self Exam) on the 'Komen on the Go' trailer, March 20.

## Komen raises breast cancer awareness

By Shaneece Dixon  
Valencia Voice

Breast cancer is the common type of cancer among women today. Looking at that alone, all women should be wary of the fact, and the national organization, Komen On the Go wants to make everyone, men and women, aware of the fact that they can be at risk. On Thursday, March 20, by the SSB Patio on West Campus, Komen On the Go created a presentation for Valencia students and faculty that was devoted to bring awareness about the risks

of breast cancers and the ways to help prevent it.

According to the Susan G. Komen site, "by detecting breast cancer early on, the five-year survival rate is more than 95 percent."

On the Komen trailer, several computers were set up for students to use to look at Breast Self Exam (BSE) tutorial, which was part of the four step process on the site. Many students were encouraged to look at it, not just for the sake of being aware, but also for the chance to win a

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## Airport building re-opens after rat infestation

By Jim Leusner  
The Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO, Fla.—U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials reclaimed their inspection station at Orlando International Airport's Airside 1 building Friday morning after nearly a week scrubbing, cleaning and deodorizing the facility for dead rats.

"All ends well that smells well," joked agency spokesman Zachary Mann. "We are back up with no issues. There have been no reported issues, complaints or illness."

Friday's return to the first-floor customs inspections area for incoming international passengers caps a two-week battle to eradicate the rodents—and their putrid, decaying stench.

The problem started in early March with construction crews unearthing a



Photo by Oleg Koslov / iStockphoto

rat's nest during expansion of Airside 1, causing them to infest the building, according to airport officials. Exterminators were then brought in to kill an unknown number of the vermin, and the smell of decomposing flesh overwhelmed and nauseated several inspectors and passengers March 8.

Last week, customs and border of-

ficials complained about the lingering odor—and powerful deodorizers, which led them to shut down their Airside 1 inspection area March 14, reopen it the next day, then close it again Sunday. Incoming international passengers were bused to Airside 4 for customs inspections.

Meanwhile, airport workers cleaned carpets, ceiling tiles and air vents and pronounced it safe to return Thursday. They are continuing to monitor the situation and have exterminators available on 24-hour call, airport spokeswoman Carolyn Fennell said.

"There have been a couple of flights and no incidents today," Fennell said. "The operation continues."

Mann said his agency was grateful for the airport's thorough response. He said they maintain a "close" working relationship.

— MCT Campus

## Obama gains key Hispanic endorsement

By John McCormick  
Chicago Tribune

PORTLAND, Ore. — Sen. Barack Obama won the backing Friday of New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, the nation's top Hispanic elected official, providing an image of multiracial unity following a week in which the Democratic presidential campaign has been dominated by a debate over racial division.

Richardson's endorsement could help Obama in the remaining 10 nominating contests between now and June, especially among Latinos, while also providing a nudge for superdelegates — party leaders and elected officials — still on the fence.

A former presidential candidate who worked in President Bill Clinton's administration, Richardson called Obama a "once in a lifetime opportunity for our nation." He also said it's nearing the time for closure in the nomination fight.

"I'm not going to advise any other candidate when to get in and out," he said. "Sen. (Hillary) Clinton, she has a right to stay in the race. But I think eventually we don't want to go into the Democratic convention bloodied and negative."

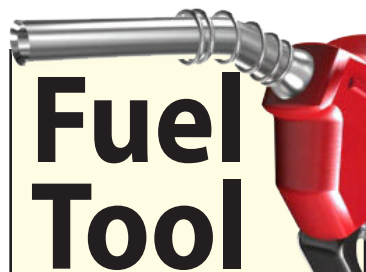
Richardson, a close Clinton family friend, had earlier told an audience of about 12,000 people here in Portland that it was time for Democrats to "stop fighting amongst ourselves and to prepare for the tough fight we will have against John McCain in the fall."

That was one of the strongest statements yet by a top party leader that it was time to end the bickering that has dominated the race between Obama and Clinton, a former first lady and New York senator.

Obama, meanwhile, sought to clarify a comment he made Thursday to a Philadelphia radio station where he said his white grandmother was acting like a "typical white person" when she

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Page design by Sarah King



# Fuel Tool

Lowest prices for regular unleaded gasoline in Orlando (as of March 24):

**\$3.15<sup>9</sup>**  
Costco  
2101 Waterbridge Rd.  
Orlando, FL 32837

**\$3.15<sup>9</sup>**  
Sam's Club  
7701 South Orange Blossom Trail  
Orlando, FL 32807

**\$3.15<sup>9</sup>**  
Sam's Club  
7818 West Colonial Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32818

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





Photo by Jordan Keyes / Valencia Voice

Introduction to Engineering students pose with their self-constructed marshmallow launcher.

## Engineering class launches marshmallow competition

By Jordan Keyes  
Valencia Voice

What do you get when you put together some PVC pipe, a shut-off valve, an air compressor and a bag of marshmallows? The answer is an entry for Engineering professor Deb Hall's once-a-semester marshmallow launching competition.

The competition, which Hall has been putting on since around 2005, is a test of student's skills in both engineering and teamwork. The aim is for a team of students, each averaging about six members, to build a functioning marshmallow launching device using skills learned in their Intro to Engineering class.

"This event is for teamwork, to get these students to work together and just to use basic engineering principles," said Hall. "But the main thing is team effort."

The teams are judged on a variety of criteria. The device and the team are judged based on creativity, professionalism, operational soundness, budget-consciousness and performance. Performance is measured by distance and accuracy when fired at a target.

The target for these sweet-slingers? A paper plate 50 feet away.

With 20 teams in the competition, the project designs ranged from a medieval-style cross-bow to a fully-camouflaged, rocket-launcher.

"They are all so creative," said Hall. "Every semester I'm surprised."

The students competing came up with many different means of propulsion to fling their fluffy firearms. One team used the power of dry-ice as it expanded while yet another used two soda bottles pumped full of air to shoot their ammo.

The aforementioned air-compressor powered launcher was designed by Team 13. Team 13's Richard Morin felt that they had a somewhat disappointing run.

"Our practice shot was better than the real shots we took," said Morin. "Wind was a big problem. In all the trials it wasn't nearly as windy."

Many of the teams cited a strong, westerly wind as an issue when it came to hitting the target.

Team 9 aka "Team Ramrod" went with a large cross-bow as their tasty weapon of

choice. Built from wood, PVC pipes, and a latex rubber bowstring, the tentatively titled "Hammer of Doom" device got Team 9 within two feet of the target, one of the closest in the competition.

"It was a very sexual experience," said Team 9 member Justin Kemp. "It was like losing my virginity all over again."

One team in particular, Team 1, decided to get points the old-fashioned way: sucking up. Team 1 had a decked-out marshmallow bazooka bearing the name of their professor, "Debbie."

With all the fun going on, one would think Hall would want to join in, but not yet. "Actually, I haven't built one," Hall says with a smile.

Once the teams had fired their marshmallows and measurements had been made, each team was assigned to put together a Powerpoint presentation discussing their findings.

Unfortunately, the scores were not tallied at the event and team members will have to wait until their next class period before they know their scores. Until then, no one will know who actually won the competition, but, whoever wins, at least they'll never have to worry about marshmallow transportation issues again.

## Black colleges struggle with funding, identity

By Halimah Abdullah  
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON—Financially strapped historically black colleges across the country are at a crossroads.

Cutbacks in federal and state spending and competition from mainstream institutions for the best students, educators and academic programs have taken a toll on schools that were created to educate African-American students after slavery, said presidents from some of the nation's top historically black colleges on Thursday.

Now, critics are questioning the relevance of historically black colleges and universities, commonly known as HBCUs, in a post-segregation era, and some decry the use of taxpayer dollars to pay for them.

"I am often asked as the president of a historically black university whether HBCUs continue to be viable. The answer I give is a resounding yes," Mary Sias, president of Kentucky State University, told members of the House Education and Labor Committee. "HBCUs are and continue to be needed and are as vital now to the educational system in America as they have ever been."

"KSU and other HBCUs take the terror of poverty, hunger, fear and hopelessness and turn it into hope," she said. "With a little more money and capital we can do even more."

The Princeton Review listed KSU as a "Best Southeastern College;" U.S. News and World Report listed it as part of its "America's Best Colleges 2007."

Still, the school is facing a \$3 million cut in state funding, and Sias said she's fighting an uphill battle when it comes to helping some of her school's nonterminal degree graduate programs become eligible for a federal competitive grant designed to help schools that serve large minority populations.

Historically black colleges represent only 4 percent of all higher-education institutions, but roughly 40 percent of all African-American students graduate from them, said Dorothy Yancy, the president of Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C.

Fisk University, a school in Nashville, Tenn., with a student population of less than 1,000, graduates more black students who go on to earn doctorates in the natural sciences than any other school in the nation, according to a National Science Foundation study.

However, historically black colleges and universities face huge financial and social hurdles.

According to a study by Education Trust, 60 percent of the nation's students complete their undergraduate studies in six years. For an African-American student enrolled at a historically black college or university, where 70 percent of students are low income, the odds of completion are even lower, Sias said.

Over a lifetime, the average American with a bachelor's degree will earn roughly \$2.1 million, while an African American with the same degree will earn \$1.7 million, the college presidents told the panel.

Over the past two decades, at least seven historically black colleges have lost their accreditation. While some schools were able to regain their accreditation status, others, such as Knoxville College and Morris Brown College, remain open without regional accreditation.

In fiscal 2005, 6 percent of the nation's top mainstream universities received more federal funds for research than 79 historically black colleges and universities combined, according to a report by the National Science Foundation.

"We've always been able to wash clothes without washing powder," Yancy said.

## Students bring talent to cafeteria

By Shaneece Dixon  
Valencia Voice

We all know that a typical Talent Tuesday is filled with performances from singers and crooners, rappers and poets. But Tuesday, March 18, was slightly different. Students in West Campus' cafeteria had an interesting lunch as a special promotional edition of Talent Tuesday took place in front of them. Due to weather precautions, the event had to move from the SSB patio, which is the usual area for the event. Instead of talent acts being lined up to perform, however, students were free to come up and display random talents of their own.

"I'm pretty amazed with the talent that was shown," said Gabe Lopez, an EMT student on West Campus, who was inspired to bring a ventriloquist act to next week's show.

Another member in the audience, Eric Ramsey, thought Tuesday's show was "Neato-Torpedo", but believed that audience members should have more of a say in the results of the show.

"I think the audience members should vote on who wins. I want to have my input," Ramsey said.

Of course, there were some Talent Tuesday veterans who couldn't stay away from the stage. First to perform was Melanie Bergerson, better known as Miss M among her peers, who sang the introduction of En Vogue's classic hit "Hold On". Excited to be a finalist for Talent Tuesday, Bergerson was glad to support SGA and their special version of the show.

"More people should come out and display their talents," she said, "It's a good outlet to let go and relax."



Photo by Shaneece Dixon / Valencia Voice

Allen Collins and Lil' Clik (Jordan Keyes) team up to perform on March 18.

Students got a special treat to watch another veteran to Talent Tuesday, Jordan Keyes, and Allen Collins, senator of marketing for SGA West and host of the show, freestyle for their audience. Having performed together before, the audience seemed to enjoy the performance. Collins was more than optimistic with his performance alongside Keyes.

"Every time that Jordan and I perform together, I feel that I have to step my game up," said Collins, who admitted that he might perform again for the Talent Tuesday final on Apr. 15.

Once again, Parris Baker went on stage again to promote his Hip-Hop discussion, which will be on March 25, in building 3, room 111, from 3-5 p.m. on West Campus.

For those of you who weren't aware, this week's show, on March 25, is the last week for anyone to qualify for performing in the final show. For first place, the lucky winner will receive \$250 and a trophy, the second place winner will win \$150, and the third place winner will win \$100. Another note made during last week's show was SGA's Movie Night, which will be on March 27 in building 6, room 202 on West Campus.

By putting a twist on Talent Tuesday, students were able to enjoy themselves and the variety show that SGA had to offer them.

"The show is very relaxing to watch while we listen to music and talk with our friends," said Laisa Simas, "We can just forget about what we have to do and just enjoy ourselves."



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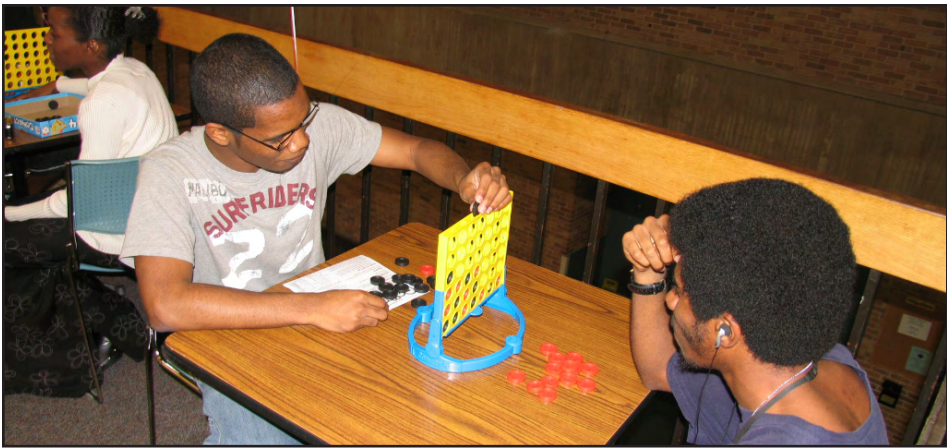


Photo by Shaneece Dixon / Valencia Voice

Valencia student, Marlon Mohabier (left) and friend, strategize a friendly game of Connect Four.

## Guitar Hero big hit at Game Night

By Shaneece Dixon  
Valencia Voice

SGA West Campus hosted their second Game Night for their year on Thursday, March 21, from 5-9 p.m. in the cafeteria. Students were welcome to enjoy free pizza, wings, cookies, and drinks while having free access to play some of the most popular video games of the year: Madden 2008, Halo II, Super Smash Brothers Brawl, and Guitar Hero. There were also board games that students could play at their leisure including Monopoly, Connect Four, Guess Who, Operation, Scrabble, and Sorry.

"It's going very well," said Johnathan Goshe, whose favorite game of the night was Guitar Hero, "A lot of people here are playing games, getting to know another. I'm meeting a lot of new people."

Apparently, the overall response for the night was very positive. While students enjoyed all the games available, the one that really seemed to draw in the crowd the most was Super Smash Brothers Brawl. The amount of space in front of the Nintendo Wii game was so crowded that some students had to resort to stand on top of tables just to see the two television screens.

"It's awesome. There are so many people here to play that we've set it up like a tournament. It's really fun," said Marlon Mohabier, who was one of many of the people playing Super Smash Brothers Brawl.

One student, however, inspired by the

night's event, brought in his own game to share among his friends. WarHammer 4000, an international hit among several countries, including Brazil and Saudi Arabia, is a table top game that originated in England, which the pieces are composed of two armies that are supposed to battle each other.

"It's been around since the 1980's. I assembled and hand-painted all the pieces myself. It's a popular game that is all over Europe," said Austin Marquis, who brought in the game to share.

Always happy to see their events with good turnouts were the SGA members themselves. Even they enjoyed the relaxed, upbeat atmosphere of Game Night.

"For my first one, it's really good," said Sharnise Thompson, an SGA representative, "The food, the games, and the atmosphere make it all really great."

Another highlight of the night was the raffle, which students had the chance to win some prizes. Among the prizes, the following was up for grabs: some PS2 game controllers, memory cards, and PS2 video games.

"I'm glad to see that Game Night continues to be a huge success," said T.J. Cole, president of SGA West Campus, "The students have spoken loud and clear. It's only going to get bigger and better. Game Night is here to stay."

And for those individuals who missed out, Cole has this to say: "Come out and see what the whole college has been buzzing about. Game Night SGA West Campus style."

## Movie Night gets 2 thumbs up

By Ilona M. Horvath  
Valencia Voice

Students, teachers, and visitors alike gathered in the East campus cafeteria Thursday, March 20 to watch a film screening of the documentary "Promises" presented by the Muslim Student Association. The film, by Justine Shapiro and Israeli-American filmmaker B.Z. Goldberg, was shot between 1995 and 2000, following the complicated lives of seven Israeli and Palestinian children living in Palestinian refugee camps, settlements on the West Bank and inner city Jerusalem.

The MSA began with an informal dinner that went on from 6p.m. to 7p.m. and included a variety of Arabic foods from tender lamb to spinach pies. Admission was free for students and faculty and five dollars for guests, which included food and refreshments.

Immediately following dinner, those attending the event were herded into the gym in building 6 where a speaker for the MSA presented viewers with the film. The film began promptly at 7p.m., following a brief moment of technical difficulties that brought the speaker to a pause in the middle of his introduction and toward the back of the screen to adjust the microphone, during which one student yelled, "Boo...MSA sucks."

The lineup of children included Yarko and Daniel, secular Israeli twins living in Jerusalem, Faraj and Sanabel, two Palestinian refugee children living in the Deheishe Refugee camp in the West camp, Schlomo, a devout Jewish boy living in the Old Jewish quarter of Jerusalem, Mahmoud, a Palestinian boy living in East Jerusalem and brother and sister, Moishe and Rahel, who live in the Beit El settlement in the West bank and documented their meetings with each other.

"It was really interesting for me to see how easily the children interacted with each other," said student and MSA member, Sarah Aslahm. "Just a few minutes minutes after meeting..they were playing like they best friends."

"I believed these children had something to say," said Goldberg of why he chose to document the lives of these children. Although they lived only 20 minutes from each other, the children's lives are very different from each other. The film discusses life after the Intifada, or Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza strip, which occurred in the 1980's and early 90's. The conflict, which led to an Israeli military crackdown, has led to much mistrust and bloodshed between the Arabs and the Jews.

The film was approximately two hours long, featuring narration by the director and producer of the film, Goldberg during his travels across the area. Following the film was a question and answer session hosted by Valencia's own Humanities professor, Areej Zafari, who received her undergraduate degree from SMU Dallas, Texas, as well as a Liberal Studies degree from Rollins college.

Zafari is also the Media Director for the Muslim Society of Orlando, and has also recently served on their board of directors. "

"Children are truly brilliant," said Valencia student, Rachael Falowoshele, during the question and answer session, as she explained how amazed she was to see how honest and true the children's feelings and reactions were.

"It's so simple for us to judge others," said student Ester Gonzalez, adding to Falowoshele's observations about the film. "Just having an open mind is a step ahead."

Zafari continued to discuss how the Israeli government's way of dealing with the situation is actually counterproductive to the improved relations between the Arab and Jewish residents of Jerusalem.

"That's what happens with so many of these efforts, higher authority doesn't pursue it," said Zafari.

The event closed with an announcement from the members of the MSA and a short prayer.

"Blessings be to God, the Lord of all creation," said Zafari. "May all children have the opportunity to flourish."



## Opinion

# Americans react instead of act

By Ashley Gonzalez  
Valencia Voice

Ever since events like 9/11, The Columbine Shooting, and the massacre at Virginia Tech it seems as though Americans have taken a timid back seat to the inevitable.

This past Monday, March 3, a 60-year-old man by the name of Alburn Blake went into a Wendy's Restaurant located in West Palm Beach, FL around lunch time.

He proceeded to the restroom.

It was only a matter of moments before more than a few innocent people's lives would be changed forever.

He emerged from the restroom holding a 9mm gun and began shooting without hesitation.

Rafael Vazquez was the first man to be shot. He died before help could reach him.

Four others were shot before Blake turned the gun on himself.

Does America react as opposed to act?

This has been a question that has struck controversy all over the nation.

Is there anything that the government can do to make our nation a safer place? This has nothing to do with the outside world but has much more to do with our environment.

Is there anything that college's can do to make the campuses and classrooms safer?

People are beginning to question whether it is still safe to raise a family, go out to eat, drive, move to a new home, ride a bike, take a walk, or even open the front door of their home for some fresh air.

Valencia Voice asked students how they feel about overall safety in their everyday lives and also if they feel safe around campus everyday.

Ironically, one of the students who participated in the poll was directly affected by what took place this past Monday.

It is all too real and way too close to home for many of us who attend school and live in an already dangerous city, with events like this taking place left and right.



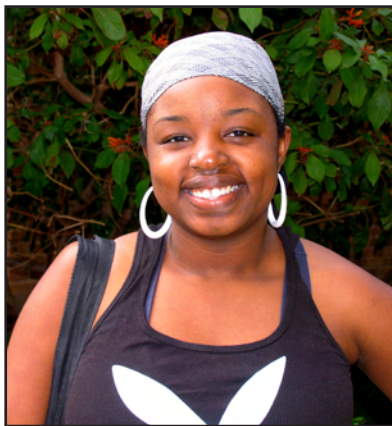
"I'm not too worried about those events. They won't stop me from going outside."  
— **Michael Tatum**



"When you leave home everyday you never know what will happen to you. You're always at risk."  
— **Nicketa Boyden**



"Things could be worse... we could be in Iraq."  
— **Jose Montanez**



"I don't feel safe anywhere. Anything could happen these days."  
— **Woodylyne Mertilien**



"I'm not too worried either. There are enough things to stress about in our everyday lives."  
— **Bonnie Fredriksen**



"I feel fairly safe on campus... we've got the Orlando Police Department around here all the time."  
— **Jonathan Wilson**



"I'm not really paranoid. You can get killed in your own home! Fast food joints are a kind of scary at night though."  
— **Meena Nendall**



"My outlook on everything has remained the same for quite some time. I'm not paranoid when I walk into public places."  
— **Chris Boger**

Photos by Erica Teamer

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## Corrections

Page 12 of issue 9 was designed by Jordan Keyes.

The Eliot Spitzer opinion column on page 5 of issue 9 was provided by MCT Campus.



Opinion

Our Position:  
Adult cartoons

This is what you’ve all been waiting for; what all you office workers talk about around the water-cooler; what the children argue about while swinging on the monkey-bars: The ultimate, be-all-end-all, Alpha and Omega, insanely huge, fight of the century.

In one corner, the challenger, weighing in at six seasons, with over 100 episodes aired, and starring a kooky cast of dysfunctional family members which includes Stewie, Peter, Brian, Louis, Quagmire, and the Greased-up Deaf Guy: it’s “Family Guy.”

Created from the irreverent mind of Seth McFarlane, “Family Guy” centers around Peter Griffin and the exploits of his aforementioned crazy family, using frequent “cutaway gags” (jokes in the form of tangential vignettes that do not advance the story) and well-placed pop culture references; most of which might fly right over the heads of those of you who haven’t yet made it to the ripe old age of 48.

The beauty of the show? That they expertly meld old school references with jokes that kids these days can get as well.

Resiliency is the name of this family’s game, having been canceled two times in its history due to the nature of its content. However, the fans were always the factor in why the show was revitalized, because of the soaring DVD sales and increased viewing when the show was on ancillary stations (FOX being the original network to carry the program). This is significant because it showed the power of the average Joe when it came to their entertainment.

Revolutionary.

According to a Hollywood Reporter report (redundant right?), Quagmire’s exclamation, which has been used in many episodes, (a single “giggity” followed by “awwwright...”) was the number three ring tone for the week ending Feb. 7, 2007.

Needless to say, “Family Guy” has pulled its weight with the way it pushes the censors of FOX, and how it blends old school sensibility with modern complexity.

Now, for the undisputed champion in animated political and societal humor: weighing in at 12 seasons, with over 160 episodes, and starring a cast of children whose purpose is to counter the endless follies made by the adult figures in the show; it’s “South Park.”

An Emmy Award-winning, animated television comedy series, created and written by Trey Parker and Matt Stone for Comedy Central, “South Park” is set in the fictional town of South Park, Colo.

With an immeasurable amount of characters outside the main lot, this show has risen past the crude coloring paper-influenced animation that made it unique in the early days; touching on heavy political topics, with overarching metaphoric connotations, “South Park” remains, to this day, fresh and eye-opening.

According to a press release from Comedy Central, apart from the continuously “vulgar” presentation of issues, “South Park” implements several recurring themes that it frequently uses, including current events, disabilities, political issues, racism, gay rights, death, environment, censorship, political correctness, abortion, sex, and religion, many of which are widely viewed as controversial.

A landmark for the show was its episode “It Hits the Fan.” Without going into detail, this particular episode broke down the wall of censorship in ways never seen before in TV history. The “S-word” had never been used so much (162 times to be exact) in any basic cable TV show seen. Ever.

Both shows have equal fan-acclaim; both shows utilize their own brand of controversial subject matter in order to make us laugh and to prove a point; both shows deserve equal play-time on the entertainment box known as a TV set.

Now is the time you’ve been clamoring for; the time in which an undisputed winner is announced.

The winner? The viewer! Yes, that’s right; you are the winner of this heavy-weight clash of the TV titans. The reason being, that both of these shows air on different stations at different times.

Don’t be an elitist snob and prefer one show over the other: enjoy both of these achievements in TV history, open your mind, and devote equal time in both families’ universes.

Yes, you can have your “you killed Kenny, you bastards” and your “freaking sweets” all in two convenient packages..

A side-note: if you were really expecting a clear-cut winner, then you need to get the stick removed from the place that nary the sun would ever traverse. Enjoy!

Comical defense:  
Family Guy

By Carlos Minet  
Valencia Voice

I’m really getting tired  
Of people trying to compare  
Apples to oranges  
Or water to air

There are two top TV shows  
That currently rule the digital box  
South Park on Comedy Central  
And Family Guy on fox

Really there’s no comparison  
Family Guy’s the best  
Peter’s funnier than Cartman  
And Stewie’s better than all the rest

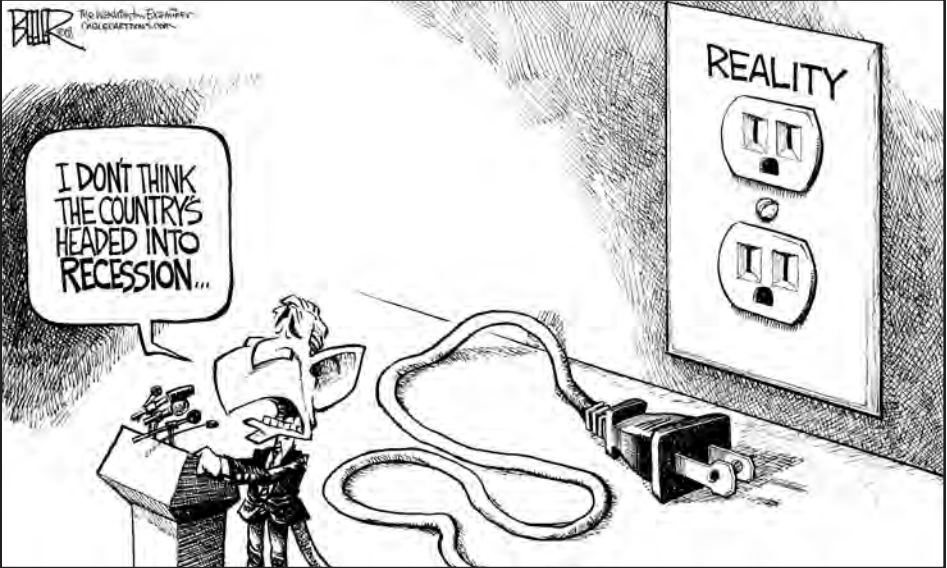
All the lonely Jewish songs  
Or Chef’s deep baritone voice  
Won’t change the fact that most people  
Have made “Family Guy” their choice

It seems today that all you see  
Is violence in movies and sex on TV  
Everyone knows this theme song  
No matter who you may be

South Park is pretty funny  
In it’s only little way  
But Terrence and Phillip got nothing  
On Quagmire’s perverted ways

So next time you’re watching  
Satan and singing holiday crap  
Remember the only show in history  
To be cancelled and then brought back

Nate Beeler



MCT Campus

Opinion:  
American recession

Kansas City Star

Bear Stearns survived the Great Depression, but it was done in by the great unwinding that began with the subprime mortgage meltdown.

During the weekend, JP Morgan Chase & Co. agreed to buy Bear for a mere \$2 a share —1 percent of its value more than two weeks ago.

The Federal Reserve made the right move in underwriting this historic transaction.

With other banks refusing to extend the credit Bear Stearns needed to process transactions, the only alternative for the investment house was bankruptcy.

That, in turn, would threaten to bring down other Wall Street institutions as well.

Bear Stearns’ spectacular fall highlighted the rapid collapse of confidence in long-time Wall Street banks as the credit-market crisis continued with no end in sight.

Today the Fed begins a regular series of meetings on interest-rate policy and will confront another dilemma: the nerve-wracking plunge of the dollar.

Many traders are demanding a full percentage-point cut in the federal funds rate, the key rate on overnight loans among banks.

A full-point reduction, however, would be excessive and would run the risk of worsening the dollar’s fall.

If that slide becomes an uncontrollable panic, foreign investors will dump dollar-denominated assets.

Ultimately, the Fed would be forced to raise rates to defend the currency — a move that would crush the already-fragile American economy.

The credit crisis and the threatened dollar are interconnected: The falling dollar is driving away foreign capital at a time when it is needed most.

The Fed should cut rates, but by no more than half a percentage point. That would signal U.S. determination to defend the currency.

Meanwhile, the Bush administration should coordinate with other major economies to act in the currency markets to stop or at least slow the dollar’s fall. Up to now, the White House and the Treasury have done far too little in this regard, in large part because a falling dollar helps U.S. exporters market their products overseas.

Exports are one of the few bright spots in the economy, but the broader situation has become perilous.

The administration cannot continue its apparent neglect of the currency.

The Fed must act with that in mind as well while continuing its role as lender of last resort.

— MCT Campus

Opinion:  
An Olympic issue

Chicago Tribune

During its nearly six decades of rule over Tibet, China has done its best to suffocate Tibetan language and culture. Thousands of monasteries have been destroyed. Tens of thousands of Tibetans have been killed. Religious freedom is non-existent. And displaying the Dalai Lama’s photo is verboten. The protesting Tibetans want greater autonomy and an end to Beijing’s iron rule.

For China, these protests, coming just months before the world is set to descend on Beijing for the Summer Olympics, are beyond inconvenient. They shine a spotlight on China’s troubling human rights record — and re-insert the disputed status of Tibet into the international conversation.

Of course, that’s what the Tibetans want. When better to draw attention to your cause, and force the government’s hand, than in the months before the Olympics? Pro-democracy demonstrators used that strategy to perfection in South Korea when, a year before the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, they forced the collapse of an authoritarian regime, and elections. Democracy has since become a habit in South Korea, with free and fair elections held every five years.

Tibetan protesters aren’t just masters of timing. They also know that the best way to embarrass Beijing is to highlight how the new, more open China hosting the Olympics is the same old China that brutally suppressed dissent at Tiananmen Square in 1989.

This time, though, China can’t simply flex its muscle and smother the uprisings. The longer the protests continue, the more closely the rest of the world will scrutinize China’s governance of Tibet. Exile communities are keeping the pressure on by holding demonstrations around the globe: in Chicago, New York, Switzerland, Nepal, Australia and New Delhi, to name some locales.

The Beijing government is frantic to contain the story. China has banned foreign journalists from traveling to Tibet, and tourists reportedly are being ordered out. But Radio Free Asia continues to report on the Chinese crackdown. Information, in the Internet age, respects no borders. And image is one thing China government can’t control.

So as Beijing prepares to use the Olympics to showcase what’s right with China, it should remember that the Games will also draw attention to what’s wrong.

— MCT Campus

# Environmental radicals indicted with federal felony

By Chris Christoff  
Detroit Free Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Four people, including three from Detroit and all connected to a radical environmental group linked to similar attacks, have been indicted on federal felony arson charges in connection with the attacks on an agricultural building at Michigan State University and logging equipment in northern Michigan in late 1999 and early 2000.

Officials said at a news conference March 4 that the four are linked to the radical environmental group Earth Lib-

eration Front, a loosely organized movement of environmental extremists with a history of destroying property, often by arson, to intimidate and coerce communities, businesses and governments to abandoning activities that ELF considers harmful to the environment.

The Dec. 31, 1999, attack at MSU destroyed a genetic engineering laboratory. A day later, fire destroyed commercial logging equipment near Mesick, Mich.

“This was more than an attack on a building and the destruction of valuable property. It was an assault on a core value of free and open inquiry at a research

university,” said Lou Anna Simon, president of Michigan State University.

The four indicted are Marie Mason, 46, of Cincinnati; Frank Ambrose, 33, of Detroit; Aren Burthwick, 27, of Detroit; and Stephanie Fultz, 27, of Detroit.

Under the most severe of four charges each person faces, they could be sentenced to a minimum of 7 years and maximum of 40 years.

The MSU lab sustained about \$1 million in fire damage. Much of the paperwork associated with the research, which was aimed at finding ways to improve food crop output in develop-

ing nations, was lost, but the research project itself was not damaged, officials said.

Said Simon: “Once you the chill the academic climate from doing this kind of work, the cost to society is enormous.”

James Dunlap, director of MSU’s police, said the investigation spanned 10 states.

FBI agent Andrew Arena, of the agency’s Detroit office, led the investigation. He said, “We sent a message to these people that time will not deter us.”

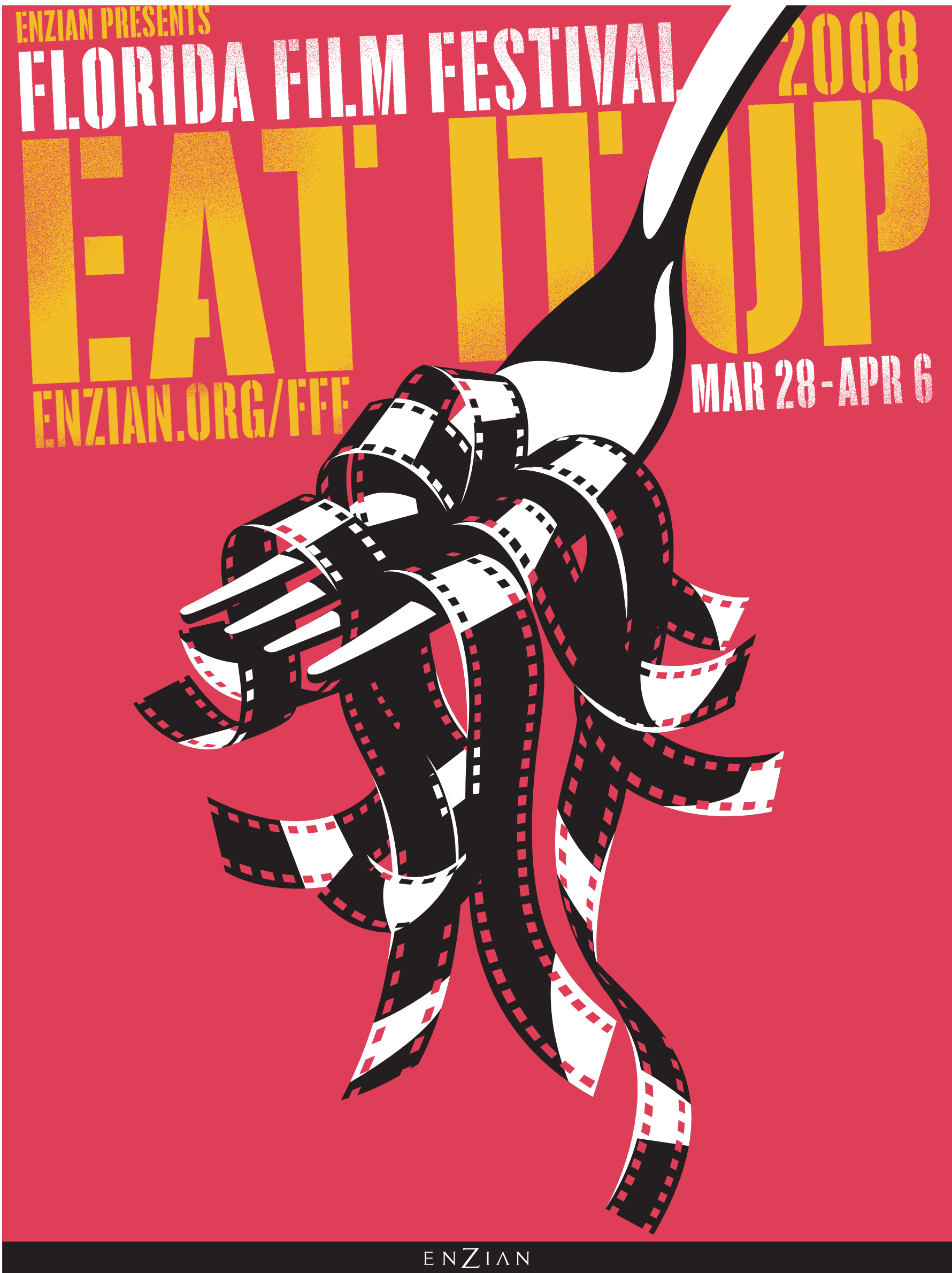
In early 2001, Ambrose was charged

in Indiana with tree-spiking in forests in Monroe and Brown counties, an act attributed to the Earth Liberation Front.

Prosecutors said they believed Ambrose had driven 10-inch nails into trees at a logging site in a state forest, a tactic to discourage logging, after state foresters saw a car registered to him in the area. After his arrest, Ambrose, told local media he didn’t do the nail-spiking.

In September, 2001, the county prosecutor dropped the charges against Ambrose without explanation. A graduate of Purdue University with a degree in biology, he was.

—MCT Campus





## With little originality, ‘Drillbit’ simply bites

By Kevin Norris  
Valencia Voice

In 2007, director/producer Judd Apatow and writer/actor Seth Rogen both single-handedly recharged the ailing comedy genre with their comedic gems “Knocked Up” and “Superbad.” Unfortunately for the duo (to be fair, Apatow is on the producer of “Drillbit Taylor”), it’s a new year and trying to follow up two dynamic films with the likes of “Drillbit Taylor” proves that the difficulty level of reaching comedic gold for the third time is near impossible.

“Drillbit Taylor” follows the story of three high school freshmen Wade (Nate Hartley), Ryan (Troy Gentile) and Emmit (David Dofman) who find themselves the terrorized victims of school bully Filkins (Alex Frost) and his posse. The trio, unable to physically defend themselves, settles on hiring a bodyguard with a small amount of money they all pull together. Unfortunately, their insufficient funds are unable to grant them with a “real” bodyguard so they are forced to settle with Drillbit Taylor (Owen Wilson). Taylor, an Army deserter living on the streets of Santa Monica, pretends to be a highly skilled black ops agent. He decides to help out the kids against their nemesis in order to gain enough money for a trip to Canada.



Drillbit Taylor (Owen Wilson) teaches his clients how to keep good hygiene.

Instead, Taylor changes his plans when he becomes friends with his clients and ultimately falls in love with a schoolteacher.

In their previous productions, Apatow and Rogen managed to capture some of the funnier moments of high school life, something that most films of the “high school comedy” subgenre have so easily failed to do. This makes “Drillbit Taylor” far more disappointing when compared to the sidesplitting “Superbad” or “Knocked Up”. “Drillbit Taylor” lacks any real humanity; instead it disastrously relies on vulgar and absurd situations to carry out its entire story.

The only thing Apatow and Rogen could

seem to get right with “Drillbit Taylor” was its casting. Wilson is delightful and amusing as he has a knack for playing slightly off center characters. Wilson is the only character who is able to deliver absurd lines in a way that makes them funnier than they should be.

“Drillbit Taylor” reeks of something produced from a squatting position, by the end of the film you may want to throw you popcorn, drinks, or whatever sticky item you can unearth on the theater floor at the screen. Be sure to save the \$10 you were going to spend on seeing this cinematic equivalent to toxic waste, and go purchase “Superbad” or “Knocked Up” and experience Apatow and Rogen at their peaks.

## VH1 says ‘You Oughta Know: Chrisette Michele’

By Shaneece Dixon  
Valencia Voice

Nominated as one of VH1’s “You Oughta Know: Artists On the Rise,” Chrisette Michele is truly one of the few talented new artists. Her solo debut, “I Am,” is truly a breath of fresh air. If you’re looking for the hottest, hip-popping, choreographed R&B artist, you will not find it in Chrisette Michele. Her voice is very reminiscent of the classic blues singers, such as Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald. “I Am,” including her two hit singles, “If I Have My Way,” and “Be OK,” featuring rapper/producer Will.I.Am of the Black Eyed Peas, is a definite keeper for an avid music listener.

The first track on her album, “Like A Dream,” is very easygoing and playful. It talks about a girl who sees a cute musician in the club, and how special she feels to know that

he’s interested. Practically every girl can relate. It proves how connected she is to younger audiences, not just the young adults. Another noteworthy song on the album is “Love is You,” which is simply about someone who is defining what love is and finds that love does exist—in the person that she is with. Alongside Chrisette’s slow, melodic intonations is John Legend on piano, who also produced the track. The collaboration works like magic—it will easily leave you in a trance. Like many of the tracks on this album, the song doesn’t really contain a lot of clever, witty lyrics, but they are still catchy and thought-provoking nonetheless.

Another track, “Mr. Radio,” can be considered Chrisette’s indirect ode to commercialized music. “Write a song about the spiritual / Write about a lover’s soul / Tough love’s much sweeter,” Michele says. Because she has writ-

ing credentials on every song on the album, this is her way of saying that music has a long way to go to truly be universal. The message is that music has turned into an outlet for fantasy, while the reality is almost blocked away by the typical bedroom love songs.

There is not one song on this album that isn’t worth listening to. Chrisette Michele is a reminder to music listeners that good music isn’t limited to glitz and computerized sound effects, but it really does involve raw talent that is just that-- simply natural. This album is worth every penny, and I give it 5 out of 5 stars. If you’re looking for an original artist, then this album should definitely be part of your music playlist.

To find out more about Chrisette Michele, check out this website: [http://www.defjam.com/site/artist\\_home.php?artist\\_id=611](http://www.defjam.com/site/artist_home.php?artist_id=611)

## ‘Smash Bros.’ newest installment honors original

By Frank Tobin  
Valencia Voice

Imagine a world where all the greatest Nintendo mascots, Mario, Luigi, Yoshi, Princess Peach, Link, Zelda, Kirby, and Donkey Kong, got together to share funny stories over tea and crumpets.

Boring, right?

Now imagine those same mascots, plus 20 some odd more, getting together to beat the ever-living snot out of each other?

On Apr. 26, 1999 Nintendo released a game that changed the face of fighting games. It consisted not only of everyone’s favorite Nintendo characters like Mario and Link, but it was all in all a tribute to Nintendo’s greatest achievements over the years. Doubtless to say, Super Smash Brothers was an instant critical and commercial success.

This newest installment, the third iteration in the ‘Smash Bros.’ universe, retains the essence of the original while still expanding on the mechanics that made the previous games great to begin with.

Welcome to “Super Smash Brothers Brawl” for the Nintendo Wii; it’s time to get your smash on.

The premise is simple; collect, again, Nintendo’s greats, from the past and present, and throw them in to an arena setting and let them have at it, utilizing a simplistic control scheme that anyone can pick up and master.

This game is the epitome of “pick-up-and-play for all ages,” even the older of us. Why? Because 20 and 30-somethings have grown up with these characters, and the wackiness that



The cover art of “Super Smash Bros” 3rd game, now for Nintendo Wii.

ensues when you begin arguing about who can whoop who, Mario or Pikachu, then you know you have something special.

However, the concept behind the game is not the crème de le crème, but rather the mechanics you use in order to bust some Nintendo-skulls is where this game truly shines.

A fight begins with either you versus three other computer players, or you versus three of your friends, fighting it out to become the ultimate victor of the Ninten-world (liking these Ninten-prefix compound concoctions?).

The kicker? You’re not fighting to lower your opponent’s life bar, but rather to increase

the damage gauge, which is measured by a percentage meter. The higher the damage count, the more susceptible your opponent is to getting smashed out of the arena. That’s when you bust out the simple “up-A,” or “right-B” button combo in order to launch your opponent clear off the screen.

Very fun indeed.

Now, of course, these positives would be rendered moot if the end-product was not aesthetically pleasing to look at. Thankfully it is.

Granted, the Nintendo Wii is not known for its graphical prowess, but this game is very manageable in its execution. It doesn’t maximize the full potential of a 1080p HDTV, but it certainly doesn’t look like a pile of pixilated crap either. Generally speaking, as long as you can tell what you’re looking at (a fat Italian plumber or a green dinosaur) then you should be content. Besides, Nintendo has never been known for its advances in graphical output, but rather its superb genius in gameplay construction.

Unlockable characters, stages, music tracks are all there for you to discover during gameplay. The Nintendo Vault also makes a return (which started in the second game in the series, ‘Melee’), and with it even more new trophies of Nintendo characters and such from the company’s history that can be found while brawling (or completing other tasks). Add in an all-new stage builder, WiiConnect 24/7 support (Nintendo’s online gaming service), and just entirely too many others to mention and you’ll see SSBB in your Wii for many months (or years) to come.

So, whether you’re all alone, or you have a surplus of friends, ‘Brawl’ will fulfill your innermost nerdy fascinations. This is gaming bliss.

## Flo Rida’s new album brings weak response

By Ryan Vincenec  
Valencia Voice

“Shawty had them apple bottom jeans, boots with the fur, the whole club was lookin’ at her. She hit the floor, next think you know, shawty got low, low, low low, low, low, low, low, low.”

With a few simple lyrics courtesy of perennial hit-man T-pain, a career was made.

Pain was of course assisting fellow florida native Flo Rida with the lead single “Low” of his debut album “Mail on Sunday.” The song has since become a fixture on top 40 and hip-hop radio over the past few months as well as been played incessantly in clubs and bars and has also gained the rare distinction of being a strip-club anthem of sorts.

“Low” of course is only one of the 14 tracks on the album and therefore cannot carry the debut on its own. The rest of the songs attempt to cater to segments of the typical 2008 rap collective.

Never is this more evident then when simply looking at the track listing. The average “Me and U” and sleazy “Freaky Deaky” are misguided efforts to cater to the ladies. “Ack Like You Know” and “Don’t Know How to Act” follow much of the rap industry’s gangster conventions with mild success. While perhaps Flo Rida’s favorite subject, money is woven throughout each track, featuring most prominently on the catchy yet repetitive “Priceless” and “Money Right”.

Money rains from the heavens, the champagne flows, drugs are packaged and sold, and veiled threats are made at posturing mc’s. Again, nothing new. However, what saves the album is it’s high production value, slick sound, and guest appearances. It becomes apparent after a few listens that a lot of money was thrown at the release on the heels of the aforementioned, uber-popular “Low”.

The production courtesy of such heavy-hitters as Timbaland, DJ Montay, J.R. Rotem, and Drumma Boy features a very diverse, synth-driven, sonic landscape for Flo Rida to lace lyrically and for the most part he does an adequate job. Flo Rida more or less lives up to his name as the nimble-tongued mc’s strong-suit is staying on beat with his rhymes.

Flo Rida falters in his delivery however when slowing down which only serves to accentuate what is already a whiney vocal pitch. Also, while he possesses good breath control while rhyming, poor diction makes Flo Rida hard to understand over the bass-heavy beats.

Flo Rida also lacks a lot in the charisma department and sometimes seems to be rapping simply in order to fill up space in between the catchy choruses and over the pricey productions.

Like any other major-label debut released in rap over the past decade, the guest list is lengthy, yet does aid in adding much diversity to the album. Dirty south counterparts Lil’ Wayne and Rick Ross contribute verses while love-him-or-late-him reggae singer Sean Kingston, Yung Joc, Will I. Am, and Timbaland add some chorus-work.

Such assistance still cannot save Mail on Sunday from it’s mediocrity. The problem with Flo Rida is that his lack of substantive real-life material cannot be tweaked as easily as something like vocal delivery can.

If Flo Rida can reach down deep and couple some real life experiences, as opposed to a hip-hop superstar fantasy with a slightly augmented delivery he has a chance of remaining a fixture in the industry as opposed to just another one-hit wonder, bargain bin mc.



# Survey finds hazing still raging on campus

By Erica Perez  
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MILWAUKEE \_ More than half of college students in campus organizations have experienced hazing despite the fact that the practice is banned practically everywhere, a new national survey has found.

The study, released this week, didn't limit its focus to the usual suspects \_ fraternities, sororities and varsity sports teams. Those are still the biggest offenders, with nearly three-quarters of members reporting hazing. But the study also found hazing in club sports (64 percent), performing arts organizations (56 percent) and even academic clubs (28 percent).

Types of hazing activities ranged from benign to extreme. The four most common were drinking games, singing or chanting in public, associating with specific people and not others, and drinking large amounts of alcohol to the point of passing out.

Milwaukee-area students interviewed last week said that by the researchers' definition, they'd been hazed, but in a way they thought was positive.

Marquette University law student Mike Menghini said that as an undergraduate at Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio, he was awakened by fellow members of the tennis team for midnight practice, which the study described as hazing.

"I would say it's just part of the camaraderie," he said. "It wasn't something I was forced to do. ... It was just a team thing."

The Marquette men's soccer team makes each new freshman sing a cappella on the bus while everyone cheers or boos, said Daniel Addis, a junior on the team.

"It's pretty embarrassing," Addis said. "It's fun. It's just joking."

Researchers Elizabeth Allan and Mary Maden of the University of Maine's College of Education and Human Development surveyed some



Recent study shows hazing is still very popular on college campuses everywhere, not just fraternities anymore.

11,000 students at 53 college campuses in 2007. An online survey asked students to indicate what kind of campus organizations they were involved in and then asked whether they had participated in 30 activities that the researchers defined as hazing.

"Hazing is more widespread than I think most people would have assumed," said Allan, the study's principal investigator. "Most people typically associate it with Greek organizations ... and more recently with athletics ... but I don't think people think of other types of student organizations and clubs."

The study defines hazing as "any activity expected of someone joining or participating in a group that humiliates, degrades, abuses or endangers them regardless of a person's willingness to participate."

Hazing is not only prohibited by Wisconsin law, but also specifically barred at most universi-

ties, which have policies written into their student handbooks or conduct codes.

In 2006, the University of Wisconsin-Madison put the school's marching band on probation for seminude dancing, sexualized banter and shaving one band member's head. The year before that, Marquette suspended its men's lacrosse team after the administration determined hazing occurred at a party involving beer, bongos and thongs.

In an interesting wrinkle, the study also found that nine out of 10 students who report experiencing a hazing behavior in college do not consider themselves hazed. More students perceive positive rather than negative results from hazing. Some 31 percent of the time, students said they felt more a part of the group because of hazing, while hazing made them feel stressed 11 percent of the time, for example.

Allan said her interviews with roughly 300 students helped explain why many students don't

think there's a problem. For many students, hazing implies the use of physical force or causes real physical harm.

"Many students don't take into account the power of coercion," she said.

Even if students don't perceive certain hazing activities as problematic, she said, peer pressure to participate in seemingly harmless hazing behaviors can lead to more hazardous activities.

"It sets up this power dynamic that there are those who are in and those who are out," Allan said. "That can create a slippery slope."

Nearly half of the students reported experiencing at least one hazing behavior while in high school.

Wisconsin-Madison senior Laura Voith said she participated in "positive" hazing when she was a student at Shorewood High School.

The school had an event at which upperclassmen would dress younger students in potentially embarrassing clothing, such as Halloween costumes or mismatched outfits.

"From my experience, it was in good fun," Voith said. Now captain of the university's women's club volleyball team, she said the team plays drinking games but she never forces students to play.

"If they don't want to drink, I don't drink so they have someone to hang out with," Voith said.

"I would say it's just part of the camaraderie. It wasn't something I was forced to do. ... It was just a team thing."

55 percent of college students involved in clubs, teams and organizations experience hazing.

47 percent of students come to college having experienced hazing.

Nine out of ten students who have experienced hazing behavior in college do not consider themselves to have been hazed.

—MCT Campus

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Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama speaks before a packed crowd at the Grady Cole Center in Charlotte, N.C., March 19.

# Racial remarks jeopardize Obama

Coninued from Page 1

1.6 million times —though it’s not possible to tell whether viewers watched all 37 minutes.

The speech was not a usual Obama event. The crowd was small, just a few hundred people. Obama came in with little fanfare and stood at a bare wooden podium. He talked first about some of the progress that he feels he has made in the campaign so far.

“Despite the temptation to view my candidacy through a purely racial lens, we won commanding victories in states with some of the whitest populations in the country. In South Carolina, where the Confederate Flag still flies, we built a powerful coalition of African-Americans and white Americans,” Obama said.

Obama then brought his speech back to Wright. He said that if his pastor is right about one thing — that racism is endemic to America — then his candidacy loses its foundation.

“The profound mistake of Rev. Wright’s sermons is not that he spoke about racism in our society. It’s that he spoke as if our society was static,” he said.

The reaction to the speech was somewhat

mixed, with more conservative-leaning networks like FOX News placing a heavier emphasis on the integrity of the speech, while liberal-leaning news stations like CNN praising the speech as a “step in the right direction for race relations in this country.”

Meanwhile, on the economic front, a potential recession looms.

“It’s going to be a hard year for us. Everyone will be affected. And the hurt will be deepest among the low-income families,” Ernesto Pernia, professor of economics at the University of the Philippines and former economic chief at the Asian Development Bank, told ABS-CBN Interactive News Online in an interview.

“We will probably start feeling the impact of the US slowdown by the second quarter, which is April to June, and up to the third quarter of 2008,” Pernia said. “It also depends on how the US government stirs its economy. If they (US) don’t recover by the third quarter, then most probably the Philippines will go through hard times the rest of 2008.”

This will surely play a crucial role in the battles ahead, with all presidential candidates weighing heavily in soon enough.

# Multiracial unity for Democrats

Coninued from Page 1

expressed fears after seeing blacks on the streets.

“We all harbor stereotypes,” he said. “That doesn’t make us bad people. It’s simply pointing out that, and by the way, the context in which I stated it was fear of young black men on the streets. That’s not even unique to white people.”

Obama said African Americans have their own stereotypes. “That’s part of what was the failure of Rev. (Jeremiah) Wright’s Sunday sermons, was painting with a broad brush and assuming a set of attitudes that weren’t necessarily accurate,” he said.

Seeking to challenge suggestions he has been less than clear about what statements made by Wright he had heard, Obama tried to clarify what he knew about what had been said in his Chicago church.

“I was not aware that he (Wright) had made some of the most offensive statements that had been looping on the Internet and on the television news,” he said. “I wasn’t aware of the AIDS conspiracy statement, which I think is completely out of line and off the wall. I wasn’t aware of the

statements about ‘God damn America.’ Those statements were not ones that I knew about until the story broke.”

Obama also said he was not aware of Wright’s statements about America setting itself up for attack on Sept. 11 because of its foreign policy until he read them in a newspaper story shortly after he announced his presidential candidacy in 2007.

Richardson, who dropped his own presidential bid in January after a distant fourth-place showing in Iowa, said he decided a week ago to endorse Obama and his decision was enforced by the Illinois Democrat’s speech on race this week.

“Barack Obama addressed the issue of race with the eloquence and sincerity and optimism we have come to expect of him,” he said.

Richardson said he called Hillary Clinton Thursday evening to deliver his news. “Let me say, we’ve had better conversations,” he said.

The endorsement is a boost for Obama who himself described the last couple of weeks as “turbulent,” following losses in Texas and Ohio primaries and controversy over remarks made by his longtime Chicago pastor.

Richardson is the 62nd superdelegate Obama has won since early February. But he downplayed



Gov. Bill Richardson at the Democratic presidential debate at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Oct. 30, 2007.

# Breast cancer awareness raised at West Campus

Coninued from Page 1

free iPod shuffle.

“I like it. I think Valencia should have this more often,” said Angie Pineda, “A lot of women don’t know how serious this is.”

On a different note, for those who don’t know who Susan G. Komen is, she was diagnosed with breast cancer and unfortunately died from the disease. Twenty-five years ago, her sister, Nancy Komen started the Susan G. Komen For the Cure foundation, making it dedicated towards finding a cure for the disease and helping others become more aware of it.

“You’ll see students never known to do a BSE. By coming to one of our one-off events, they become empowered after becoming aware,” said Kim Kirchhoff, the event coordinator and staff member for Komen On the Go.

Alongside the national organization, Komen On the Go’s Central Florida affiliate was also there at the event giving away more information concerning breast cancer as well as information

regarding volunteer opportunities. According to Mark Hollamon, who is the director of special events for the local affiliate, there are other events that everyone could get involved with.

“We have Battle of the Bands coming up, which is presented by RockPink. It’s supposed to target education on breast cancer for people ages 18-30,” he said, “Our first show will be on April 4, and it will feature four local bands.”

Among those four bands are Traverser, Burning Madison, Uptown Terminal, and 69 Fingers. Taking place at Backbooth, all four shows will feature local bands battling it out to be featured in the fifth and final show at the House of Blues on November 21. For more information, the RockPink MySpace has all the details: <http://www.myspace.com/rockpinkforthecure>.

The main goal for both the national and local organization for Komen On the Go is get people to be more aware about breast cancer and to have more people join the cause. The Susan G. Komen site has many events that do that.



Komen staff members Nick Blake and Kim Kirchhoff assisted students with questions and information regarding breast cancer.

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# Large squirrel populations slowed by contraceptives

By Joey Holleman  
The State

COLUMBIA, S.C.—Squirrel contraception: Once you get past the jokes, it makes sense.

Burgeoning gray squirrel populations are causing problems in urban areas. Shooting them in neighborhoods can be dangerous (and illegal in many municipalities). Poison would be socially unacceptable and hard to administer without harming other animals.

Searching for a solution, Clemson researchers plan to try contraceptives.

Stop giggling. This is serious stuff. Clemson officials documented at least \$1.3 million in squirrel-caused

damages on the school's campus. Much of the damage is caused when squirrels gnaw bark off trees to mark their territory. But they also destroy wiring and duct work under houses and offices.

"There's got to be some (method) for cutting populations back," said Greg Yarrow, the Clemson wildlife ecology professor supervising the study.

The study, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Wildlife Research Center, will be done at the Clemson Experimental Forest and is designed to reveal the effectiveness of two methods of contraception.

The first, and most promising, in-

volves trapping squirrels and injecting them with GonaCon, which renders males and females infertile. Because squirrels live only one to three years and generally stay within about a 3-mile radius, a thorough trap-and-inject program could greatly reduce populations for years.

Of course, hungry squirrels from nearby areas eventually would discover the underused food sources and move in. But that could take a while.

The other method involves food soaked in an oral contraceptive called DiazaCon. This is less promising because, like human oral contraceptives, it must be taken over and over, Yarrow said.

Squirrels that eat DiazaCon-coat-

ed food over a 10-day period should be infertile for about four months. To control the population in an area, you'd have to put out treated food for 10 days every four months.

The other problem with oral contraceptives is keeping the DiazaCon-coated food away from other creatures. The hot items in bird stores these days are squirrel-proof bird feeders. For the Clemson study, researchers are working on bird-proof squirrel feeders. They've come up with a tube design they think will do the trick.

Michael Williams let out a loud laugh when told about the subject of the research. A former state wildlife officer, Williams is regional director

of the tongue-in-cheek organization Squirrels Unlimited.

"The best way to control squirrels is good trigger control," Williams said.

In neighborhoods where shooting isn't allowed, "they're real easy to trap, and you can relocate them," he said.

Williams used to have a squirrel problem around his house. Then he got a couple of good squirrel dogs. The population in his yard thinned quickly.

Yarrow acknowledged that "a high-end pellet gun is more cost-effective" than contraception. But he said the Clemson study could provide another tool for use in special situations.

— MCT Campus



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**www.VALENCIA.ORG**



Comics and Games

Brothers Watt by William Wilson



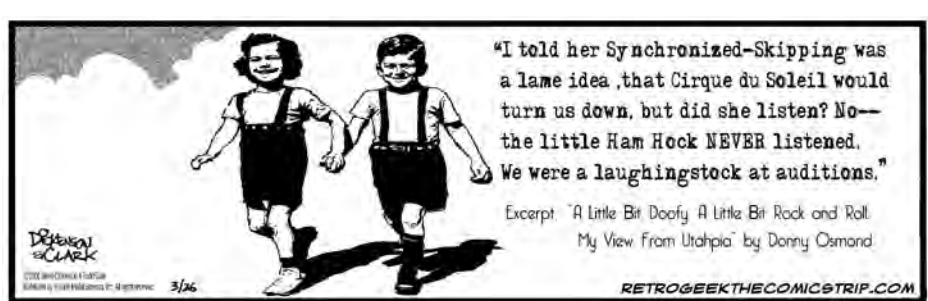
Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Kid Shay



Dream Nation by Louis Coppola



Retro Geek by Dickenson & Clarke

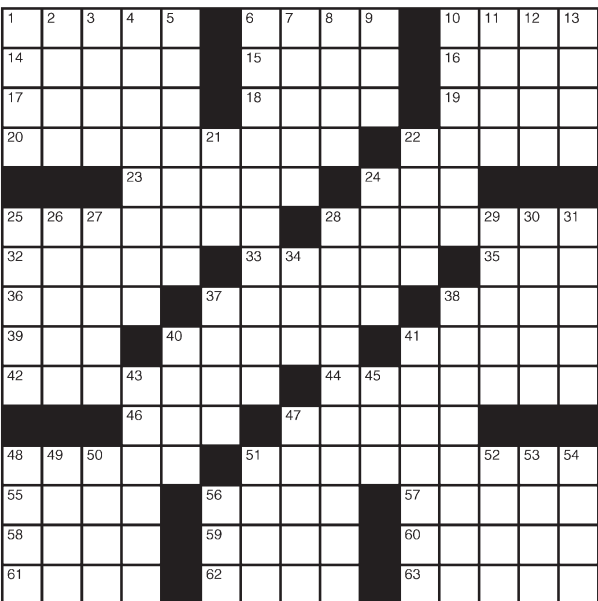


Paul by Billy O'Keefe



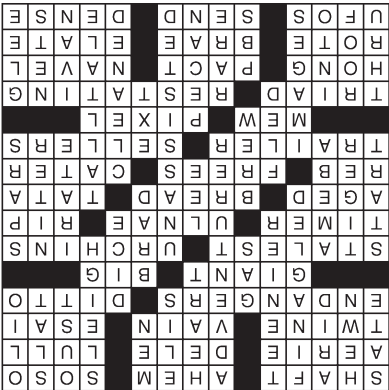
Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Stream of light
  - 6 Uh...excuse me
  - 10 Mediocre
  - 14 Eagle's nest
  - 15 Mark for removal
  - 16 Break in the action
  - 17 Twisted string
  - 18 Narcissistic
  - 19 Actor Morales
  - 20 Puts in peril
  - 22 Me, too
  - 23 James Dean film
  - 24 Tom Hanks movie
  - 25 Most passe
  - 28 Scamps
  - 32 Stopwatch
  - 33 Bones in forearms
  - 35 Actor Torn
  - 36 Ripened
  - 37 Loaf or roll
  - 38 Cheerio!
  - 39 Gray Johnny
  - 40 Emancipates
  - 41 Supply food and service
  - 42 Cinematic preview
  - 44 Vendors
  - 46 Common gull
  - 47 Video image unit
  - 48 Trinity
  - 51 Paraphrasing
  - 55 Kong
  - 56 Agreement
  - 57 Type of orange
  - 58 Memory method
  - 59 Highlands hillside
  - 60 Make merry
  - 61 E.T.s' transports
  - 62 Transmit
  - 63 Tightly packed
- DOWN
- 1 Overfill
  - 2 Felled
  - 3 Like the Sahara
  - 4 Wangled
  - 5 More diminutive
  - 6 Indiana Jones, for one
  - 7 Core
  - 8 Yale students
  - 9 Guys
  - 10 Santa's transportation
  - 11 Throw out
  - 12 Louver element
  - 13 Hodgepodge
  - 21 Tank filler
  - 22 Andrew Clay
  - 24 Pitt of "Seven Years in Tibet"
  - 25 Commence
  - 26 Woods with metal woods?
  - 27 One-celled organism
  - 28 Single-handed
  - 29 Really angry
  - 30 Saltpeter
  - 31 Bowsprits
  - 34 Jeans brand
  - 37 Concoct
  - 38 Whopper
  - 40 Went on the lam
  - 41 Did domestic work
  - 43 Pictures in the mind



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Solutions



- 45 Dept. phone number
- 47 Pie nut
- 48 By way of, briefly
- 49 Skyline component
- 50 Division word
- 51 Seldom seen
- 52 Terrible leader?
- 53 Seines
- 54 Elation
- 56 Network of "Frontline"

Announcements & Classifieds

**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!!

Bellago Academy: Maryellen Troffler  
(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

**Scholarships Available**  
The study trip to Poland's Holocaust sites with Professor Gair will be June 1 - 10.  
To be eligible you must fill out the application, attach the photos it requests and attach the deposit fee of \$450. With the scholarships we estimate the cost to the student will be approximately \$1600 to \$1700, this does not include passport fees. I must have the applications and deposits in the hands of the travel company by the start of March.

For more information please contact:  
Professor Richard A. Gair  
East Campus, Building 8, Office 132  
407-582-2641

**Are you at least 35 years old?**  
Are you at least 35 years old and attending school with the goal of becoming self-sufficient in the support of yourself and your family??? If so, Financial Assistance MAY be available to you. Options!, a state-funded grant is now available to help eligible men and women with education expenses here at Valencia. Call now to see if you qualify for grant funding from ? Options!...a Program of Education and Employment for Displaced Homemakers

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options@jifgo.org

**Valencia Spring Dance Concert**  
  
WHEN: March 28 and 29 at 8 p.m.  
WHERE: Valencia's East Campus Performing Arts Center.

This year the concert features a reconstruction of "Giona," a modern piece by the dance company Pilobolus, a classical modern piece by Valencia's Dance Theatre Artistic Director Lesley Brasseux, and a jazz piece set to contemporary music by Rollins College Director of Dance Dr. W. Robert Sherry. Dancers from both Valencia and Rollins College will perform.

Ticket prices are \$8 for the general public and FREE for Valencia students with a student ID. Senior citizens and other college students with IDs are \$6. For tickets, please call the Performing Arts Center Box Office at 407-582-2900.

The reconstruction of "Giona" by Pilobolus was made possible by American Masterpieces: Dance, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts, which is administered by the New England Foundation of the Arts with Dance/USA.

Come out and enjoy a wonderful evening of dance!!

CLASSIFIEDS

Purchase items from categories like healthy, personal & beauty, electronics, home, food & beverage, apparel, baby, jewelry & fragrances, holiday (toys, more electronics, apparel, and gift wrap). Also clearance deals and b2b items (paper, cleaning agriculture and coffee & syrup products. All located under the shop categories, and brands links at [www.quistar.com](http://www.quistar.com). I also sell SMC products such as kitchen & household, inspirational, family, candles & scents, fountains, home & garden décor, bath & body, travel, just for her, just for him, bulk buys (large quantity), crystals, travel, and design & style items. If you're interested in any quistar or SMC products, email me at [bummers8@yahoo.com](mailto:bummers8@yahoo.com), or [bummers7@hotmail.com](mailto:bummers7@hotmail.com). You can also call 321-662-0050.

Part-time babysitter needed in Dr. Phillips neighborhood for two children ages 3 and 6; must have experience, references and good driving record. Should be creative, responsible and prompt; light food preparation and housekeeping required. Please email resume to [dkhny@yahoo.com](mailto:dkhny@yahoo.com).