

UCF vs USF

Bulls turn lights out on Knights, 31-24 in OT

Photo by Louie Rodriguew, illustration by Robert Navaille / Valencia Voice

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Mortgage titan's CEO replacement to save economy

U.S. Gov't plans to take over Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae to help slumping economy

By Kevin G. Hall
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The historic seizure Sunday of mortgage finance titans Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac is expected to bolster the nation's sinking housing sector by lowering mortgage rates and jump-starting the obscure background market that is vital to home lending.

Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson announced in a Sunday morning news conference that the government was seizing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac on the grounds that their weak accounting standards and ambiguous role as quasi-public enterprises posed a growing threat to global financial markets.

"We examined all options available and determined that this comprehensive

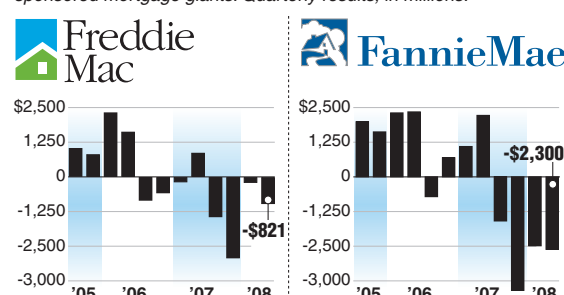
and complimentary set of actions best meets our three objectives of market stability, mortgage availability and taxpayer protection," Paulson said.

The White House praised the move, saying that "Americans should be confident that the actions taken today will strengthen our ability to weather the housing correction and are critical to returning the economy to stronger sustained growth in the future."

Fannie and Freddie will continue to operate as normal but under conserva-

Hit hard

Foreclosure costs and bad loans have hurt both U.S. government-sponsored mortgage giants. Quarterly results, in millions:



Source: Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae

Graphic: Pat Carr

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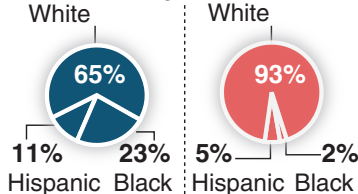
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Delegates

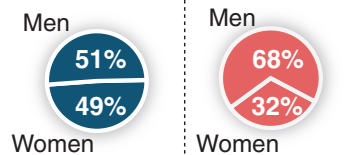
The demographics of the Democratic and Republican conventions:

■ Democrats ■ Republicans

Race, ethnicity



Gender



Age



© 2008 MCT
Source: CBS/New York Times poll of 970 Democratic delegates, July 16-Aug. 17 and 854 Republican delegates, July 23-Aug. 26; margin of error: +/- 3 percentage points
Graphic: Pat Carr



Photo by Louie Rodriguez / Valencia Voice

The SGA Welcome Back Barbecue featured the Ocoee High School Band (above), which was regarded as the highlight of the celebration.

Fall begins with bang

SGA welcomes students back with cook-out, entertainment

By: Shaneece Dixon
Valencia Voice

With the first week of the Fall semester came the return of new textbooks, professors, homework, and other school related stress. Of course to relieve the stress of the semester jitters was the SGA sponsored Unified Diversity Welcome Week, which took place on Thursday, Aug. 28th, on the SSB patio on West Campus.

"I'm glad that SGA cares about the students to make such an event," said Zia Ansari, Execu-

tive Secretary for SGA West Campus, transferring from South Florida's Nova Southeastern University.

Livelier than ever, the cookout had all the types of fun filled themes needed to create a successful event for Valencia students, from crazy hula-hoop contests to freshly made kettle corn to two very animated parrots.

"It's really nice to come to this campus," said CJ Singh, a representative for Volcano Tiki, a company that is notoriously known for their bird shows, "We like doing community service, working with

local colleges, and doing bird shows for public schools as well."

But perhaps the most exciting part of the event was the highlighted performance from Ocoee High School's marching band. Making their way past the crowds of students and faculty, the high school band easily got everyone excited and amped for the festivities.

"This reminds me of a high school pep rally," said Nicole Hampton, a gradu-



Photo by Erica Teamer / Valencia Voice

CJ Singh, a representative for Volcano Tiki, a company that regularly participates in activities like the Back to School Barbeque

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Iraqi leader's overconfidence causes concern

U.S. Officials worry that a string of victories will go to the Head of Prime Minister Maliki

By Leila Fadel
McClatchy Newspapers

BAGHDAD — Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al Maliki has been on a roll, and American officials are getting worried.

Once perceived as a sectarian Shiite Muslim leader, the U.S.-backed Maliki has won over Sunni constituents in recent months with offensives to curb Shiite militias in southern cities such as Basra and Amara and in the Baghdad Shiite slum of Sadr City.

He then turned his security forces north to wrest control of Mosul and Diyala province from Sunni extremists. U.S. forces provided strong backing, and except for Basra and Sadr City, the operations were announced in advance so that militants and insurgents had a chance to run.

Now, however, U.S. officials in Baghdad worry that success has gone to Ma-

Please see Page 4



Chuck Kennedy / MCT Campus

Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki addresses a joint meeting of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Fuel Tool

Lowest prices for regular unleaded gasoline in Orlando (as of Sept. 9):

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Orlando, FL 32837

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Sunoco

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\$3.48⁹

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9498 S. Orange Blossom Tr...
Orlando, FL 32837

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

Opinion

What factors will influence your voting choices?

Image means everything in ‘me’ culture

By Gregory Rodriguez
The Los Angeles Times

For all her talents and accomplishments, it is clear that Sarah Palin became the Republican vice-presidential candidate more on the merits of who she is and where she came from — an identity that is partly real and surely carefully constructed — rather than on what she has done or promises to do.

The same can be said to a lesser extent for the other hit persona of the season, Barack Obama — at the least, he ran his own successful campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Once upon a time, Americans prided themselves on establishing what sociologist Philip Slater called “a culture of becoming.” Our uniqueness, in Slater’s words, lay “in our aptitude for change and our willingness to engage in continual self-creation.”

Our heroes were self-made men, and we lauded and emulated their journeys. We knew that the journey remade the man, and although we revered the original character traits that drove them to achieve, it was still their achievements that we ultimately prized.

Intentions paved the road to hell; deeds were everything.

But four decades of the “me” culture — the contemporary cult of self-esteem — have changed all that. We’ve replaced Slater’s idea of becoming with one of merely being. We’re all great, just the way we are.

We don’t have to win or be the best or do much of anything at all, because those concepts have been erased by the fact that whatever we do, whoever we are right now, is good enough. As Principal Skinner from “The Simpsons” puts it: “All I know is that no one is better than anyone else, and everyone is the best at everything.”

It’s a noble ideology, sort of. I’m all for imbuing children with the idea that they are loved and appreciated no matter what.

But we sometimes forget that if we are to maintain our democracy, we also need to maintain and encourage high levels of real achievement by as many people as possible. In Thomas Jefferson’s words: “Let us in education dream of an aristocracy of achievement arising out of a democracy of opportunity.”

Obama first came to prominence by writing an eloquent memoir about finding himself. In her con-



“We’re all human beings and it shouldn’t matter. Everybody has their own beliefs. Obama is black and white. My vote will go to the person who most covers my interests, works well under pressure and offers me a more secure future as a college student... Obama has inspired me to vote.”
—Brandon Gilliam



“Race does not play a factor in my vote in the upcoming election. I want to vote for the person who is going to best represent and restore the country according to the Constitution. Gender really doesn’t matter either. It just happens to be a white male that i’m voting for.”
—Clint Wathen



“Other people are voting just because he’s (Obama) black. He lacks experience. McCain obviously has more. Hopefully Obama will help ‘black’ people more as a whole. At the beginning it wasn’t really about having a male and female running against each other. Females think more logically and with their heart though.”
—Adaina Plaza



“As a Lebonese Arabian that has been in the military a white female is less likely to be president. Maybe a minority president will be elected.”
—Mark Rayan



It’s the platform. Race and gender don’t play a part in my vote. Obama doesn’t have enough experience. He hasn’t even spent enough time being a senator. Even so, I am still more likely to vote democrat.
—Chris Bogar



What matters to me most is who is more capable to do the job. If you’re a female and you can do the job (maybe even better than a male) than that’s OK too.
—Ebony Lyons



Race plays an important factor in my next vote. Maybe Obama will be more inclined to help the black neighborhood and look out for the community. Obama is black enough and white people don’t care that HE is part white.
—Jamarlyn Jones



I don’t vote. I have never voted in the past. I’m 27 now and I’ve been registered since I was 18. Maybe if I read up on it more I will vote in this next election. If I don’t research it I won’t vote.
—Bonnie Fredriksen

Photos by Olivia Pullinger/ Valencia Voice

man or woman from Hope, Ark., or Dixon, Ill., here.

Call it the Popeye-ization of America — “I am what I am.” Rather than emphasizing how far someone has come from where they started, we demand that our heroes personify where they came from.

A different kind of “me” fixation used to prevail: traditional American individualism. It was a positive force in U.S. society. It contributed to our cultural dynamism, what Tocqueville called our “rest-

lessness.” The inalienable rights of “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” are individual rights. The Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights established a social space free of government interference, which encouraged people to pursue their own paths, live up to their potential, do great things. The freedoms we enshrined were intended to facilitate “becoming.” The rest was up to us.

Now, a culture that puts self-worth and self-affirmation above

self-determination stifles action.

It says a lot about who we’ve become that it no longer offends us that someone can be famous just for being famous. It says a lot that we don’t think twice when a candidate asks for our vote almost purely based on issues of identity rather than on policy positions or proven results. We’ve gotten used to the fact that it’s no longer about what you’ve made of yourself, but where you came from and who you “are.”

— MCT Campus

You don’t know Obama

By Walter Edward
Valencia Voice

Many people adhere to the school of thought that the youth of today aren’t in touch with political issues.

To test this idea, I browsed Valencia’s campus asking students questions regarding Barack Obama (a candidate who has been accused of being more a celebrity than a politician), his voting record and his future plans for America.

The one issue in that the students weren’t exactly accurate about was Obama’s plan to withdraw troops from Iraq. Several students said, “As soon as he gets elected into office they’ll be out immediately.”

Obama’s statement about ending the Iraqi war is that the troops will be removed from Iraq using a 16-month timeline.

Students knew a lot more about Obama’s opinions on energy solutions. Most of the students when asked about Obama’s energy policy knew he was against America’s dependence on foreign oil and is desire to invest in new energy sources and make industries pay



Ed Hille, Philadelphia Inquirer / MCT Campus
What do people really know about Barack Obama?

for the pollution they emit.

Many people believe that Obama was raised Muslim.

Actually, his father grew up in a Muslim-dominated village in Kenya, but did not practice Islam. Obama’s parents were divorced when he was young and he was raised by his mom who is a Christian from Kansas.

The Illinois Senator’s message of change has brought an intense amount of interest from people who were previously uninterested in the political process.



Romain Blanquart, Detroit Free Press / MCT Campus
John McCain and Sarah Palin speak at Freedom Hill auditorium in Sterling Heights, Mich., in the wake of the Republican National Convention.

Candidates hit swing states

By William Douglas
Mclatchy Newspapers

STERLING HEIGHTS, Mich.- John McCain and Sarah Palin tried Friday to ride whatever momentum they generated from this week’s Republican convention, beginning their sprint to Election Day by campaigning together in the battleground states of Wisconsin and Michigan.

After the balloons and fanfare of the St. Paul convention, the Republican presidential ticket stood before a packed amphitheater in this suburban Detroit swing county of Macomb, known for its blue-collar “Reagan Democrats.”

“These are tough times for many of you,” McCain said. “In the state of Michigan, times are tough. You’re worried about keeping your job or finding a new one. Many are struggling to put food on the table. ... All you’ve ever

about them.”

Palin recited her biography and many of the lines she gave in her convention speech. She also continued to throw sharp rhetorical punches, with pointed digs at the Obama-Biden ticket.

She again mocked Obama’s time working as a community organizer. And, noting Obama’s appearance Thursday on the Fox News TV show hosted by Bill O’Reilly, Palin told the crowd that Obama finally admitted that the troop “surge” in Iraq is a success.

Obama did acknowledge for the first time publicly that the surge worked, but he also took care to note that the Iraqi government hasn’t achieved the political reconciliation that was the ultimate goal of the surge. Obama also maintained his position that he will withdraw U.S. combat troops on an orderly timetable and end the war.

Palin said: “Just last night, Senator Obama finally broke and brought himself to admit what all the rest of us have known for some time, and that’s thanks to the skill and valor of our troops, the surge in Iraq has succeeded,” she said. “Senator Obama said, and I quote, ‘It succeeded beyond our wildest dreams.’

“I think,” Senator Obama said, ‘that the surge succeeded in ways that nobody anticipated.’ I guess when you turn out profoundly wrong on a vital national security issue, maybe it’s time to pretend that everyone else is wrong, too,” Palin said.

Obama focused Friday on the economy, visiting a specialty glass factory in Duryea, Pa., and issuing a statement tying McCain to the latest unemployment news.

“Today’s jobs report is a reminder of what’s at stake in this election,” Obama said. “John McCain showed last night he is intent on continuing the economic policies that just this year have caused the American economy to lose 605,000 jobs.”

Obama criticized McCain’s tax cut plan — the Republican would make most of President Bush’s 2001 and 2003 cuts, which expire Jan. 1, 2011, permanent. Obama said that “John McCain’s answer is more of the same: \$200 billion in tax cuts to big corporations and oil companies, and not one dime of tax relief to more than 100 million middle-class families.”

Obama would end the tax cuts for most individuals earning more than \$200,000 and couples more than \$250,000, while cutting taxes for others. Obama also unveiled a plan to help fight cancer, pledging to double federal research funding and promote preventive health care.

“This is a plan that will help save lives,” said Democratic vice presidential nominee Joe Biden’s wife, Jill Biden, who helped explain it to reporters.

— MCT Campus

Physics experiment plagued by fear of apocalyptic results

By Jeremy Manier
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO - Sounds like the premise of a bad sci-fi movie: Big-time physics experiment accidentally destroys the Earth. Scientists really don’t think that will happen when the Large Hadron Collider fires up at the Swiss-French border on Wednesday, but the fact it’s being debated tells you how unprecedented the new device is.

The new facility will smash together intense beams of subatomic protons, producing so much energy that some theories predict it could form tiny black holes. That has led to two lawsuits seeking to halt the project and save the planet.

The most far-out fear is that the device’s little black holes could blossom into big ones, with gravity so strong that they swallow first the earth whole.

Still, don’t quit your job expecting a physics-aided apocalypse in a few days. Even if the European collider gives birth to black holes, and that’s only a theory, each one would be smaller than a subatomic proton, says Fermilab theorist Joe Lykken.

At that size, each black hole will evaporate almost as soon as it is created, in a shower of so-called Hawking radiation, named after famous black hole theorist Stephen Hawking.

Experts also say that if powerful particle collisions really could spawn black holes, we probably would have seen one by now: The Earth receives a constant rain of cosmic rays, some of which carry far more energy than the beam in the new collider.

“In theory, the probability that the LHC will produce pink elephants is not zero,”

— MCT Campus

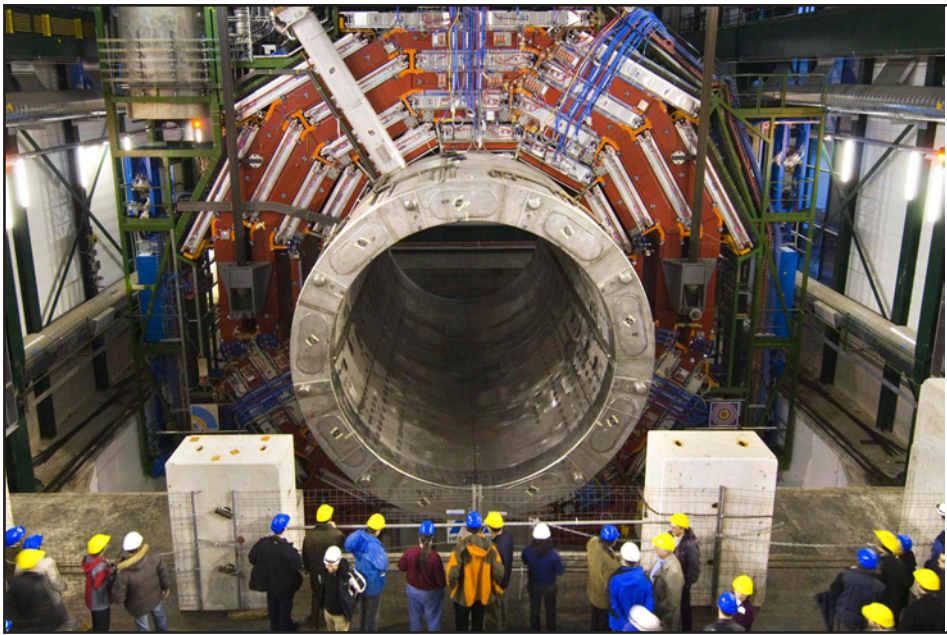


Photo Courtesy CERN/MCT Campus
The 17-mile long Large Hadron Collider is causing quite a stir in the scientific community.



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Back to school celebration at West Campus

Continued from cover

ate from Gainesville High School, “Last year’s show had no spin on it, but this year is much different.” Even so the high school students received a lot of worthwhile information and memories while visiting West Campus, making it a worthy learning experience.

Concern over Iraqi Prime Minister

Continued from cover

liki’s head. They fear that his tough bargaining on a long-term security agreement with the United States is a sign that Maliki thinks he can move ahead on his own. “There is no question that the Iraqi security forces have come a very long way in the course of the last 12 to 18 months. The growth in numbers and in capability has been very significant,” said a top U.S. military official in Iraq. “But the ‘enablers,’ if you will, the assets that the coalition provides, are still very important and will be important for quite some time, and have been decisive, even in operations in the past six months. So, as always, caution is a wise approach.” The official wouldn’t be quoted by name because of the sensitivity of the subject. Last Monday, Maliki dug in his heels publicly at a meeting with tribal sheikhs where he insisted that a firm date for U.S. withdrawal is required in a security agreement that has been under intense negotiations for weeks, and he set the date as the end of 2011. The agreement would replace a U.N. mandate set to expire at the end of this year.

His public defiance rankled U.S. officials in Iraq and in Washington, who’d been telling reporters that the security agreement was virtually complete and glossing over the disputes about a timetable and about immunity for U.S. troops who are accused of committing crimes in Iraq.

The operation in Basra, which U.S. officials originally argued against, led to Maliki’s more assertive dealings with the Americans, one Iraqi official said. The operation was a success, and Basra, once a Shiite militia stronghold, came under central government control.

Without U.S. and British planes swooping in to save the Iraqi army, however, the operation might have failed, U.S. officials in Iraq said, adding that in recent weeks the situation in Basra has slid downhill again, with a resurgence of assassinations in the city. The officials refused to be quoted by name because their assessments are less optimistic than the Bush administration’s public ones are.

The Americans “contributed to creating this overconfidence,” said an Iraqi official close to Maliki. “They kept telling him he can’t do it, it’s going to be a disaster and you are going to have massive casualties and not achieve anything in Basra. ... It achieved things that a much longer British operation couldn’t achieve.” The official refused to be named because he wasn’t authorized to speak to reporters about the issue.

Some of Maliki’s public statements may amount to political posturing to his fractured political base in parliament, which needs to approve the final security agreement.

Maliki’s defiance, however, could also be attributed to his unstinting support from the Bush administration. Maliki and President Bush have weekly video conferences, and no matter what Maliki does, he knows that U.S. support is there for him, the U.S. officials said.

The Iraqi government is eager to take over the Sons of Iraq program, a U.S. initiative that

“It was really cool for the kids to be on the campus,” said band director Bernie Hendricks, who encouraged his senior students to be actively engaged in their collegiate futures. “They even had like a freshman orientation where they were taken on a tour of the entire campus. It gave them a lot of information.” But the fun was not over. Both the

Ocoee kids and some of VCC’s students, including new SGA West Campus Treasurer Melanie Bergerson, participated in a dance off battle. “I like to have fun as a whole. To have fun, I need to stay involved,” Bergerson said. Even long-time partner for SGA’s West Campus’ events, radio station Power 95.3 couldn’t deny the quality

of the show. “I’m having a blast,” said David Dyer, an intern for the hip-hop and R&B based radio station, and VCC East Campus alum, “I should definitely start visiting more.” What really made this event all the more interesting was its defined objective, which SGA President T.J.... Cole is all too familiar with. “The cookout was definitely a great success,” said Cole, “Not only did we see students and faculty come together and socialize with one another, but we feel like we got the message across with Unified Diversity, which is where Valencia students can come from different walks of life, backgrounds, and cultures but can come together as a united West Campus.”

Preventing catastrophic economic situation

Continued from cover

torship, a process similar to a Chapter 11 bankruptcy, where a business is allowed to restructure its operations.

Treasury will purchase, as of later this month, Fannie and Freddie bonds in the open market to boost home lending and set an example for investors. It also will provide a special lending fund to help Fannie and Freddie weather any future financial storms. This fund will be open-ended, so it guarantees the two can’t become insolvent.

Paulson didn’t put a price tag on his plan, but the Congressional Budget Office earlier this year estimated a rescue could cost as much as \$25 billion. The Treasury plan was designed to recover the upfront costs over time and could result in profits for the federal government over a larger horizon.

The plan, worked out with the Federal Housing Finance Agency, the regulator of the two entities, will eliminate the dividend on Fannie’s and Freddie’s common and preferred stock to save about \$2 billion in capital that otherwise would have gone to investors.

In the short run, the plan has the effect of diluting the value of current shares of Fannie and Freddie stock. But shareholders may win in the longer term if the plan stabilizes the housing market and leads to a rebound.

FHFA chief James Lockhart appointed private sector bankers to head Fannie and Freddie and said that their “compensation will be significantly lower than the (respective) outgoing CEOs,” Daniel Mudd at Fannie Mae and Richard Syron at Freddie Mac. He was pointing to a frequent criticism of the for-profit entities that enjoyed implicit U.S. government backing but operated as private companies with huge bonuses for their directors.

Herb Allison, who was chairman of retirement-plan administrator TIAA-CREF, will now run Fannie Mae. David Moffett, who was the chief financial officer of U.S. Bancorp up until last year, will head Freddie Mac. He is a senior adviser to private equity giant The Carlyle Group, and his appointment suggests the Bush administration sees these entities eventually privatized.

The Treasury Department in late July was given by Congress additional powers to inject money into Fannie and Freddie, but Paulson determined an actual takeover would calm nervous markets more than pumping money into the two.

He was supported Sunday by Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, who in a statement said the action “will provide critical support for mortgage markets in this period of unusual credit-market uncertainty.”

The two mortgage finance companies purchase mortgages from commercial banks and other lenders, then pool them and sell them as bonds in what’s called the secondary mortgage market.

While arcane and complex, this secondary market makes possible the widespread mortgage lending that’s a hallmark of the American way of life. Fannie and Freddie together own or back more than half of the nation’s mortgage debt, or about \$5.4 trillion. Fannie Mae was created in 1938 to

boost home ownership after the Great Depression, while Freddie Mac was created in 1970 to provide more competition.

“The unprecedented steps announced today will provide confidence that the housing finance system will continue to operate without major disruption, and offer an opportunity for a recovery of the housing market,” John Courson, head of the Mortgage Bankers Association, said in a statement Sunday.

Since home prices began plunging two years ago and home sales ground to a near halt, banks and other home lenders protectively tightened their lending standards, making it harder for consumers to get a loan.

During this period, Fannie and Freddie were vital to allow what home lending was happening to continue. But in recent months, the private-sector market for Fannie and Freddie bonds has virtually dried up.

This buyer’s strike happened as existing homes soured at an alarming rate. The Mortgage Bankers Association reported Friday that 6.41 percent of all mortgages nationwide were at least 30 days late — an all-time record. The national average rate for a 30-year fixed mortgage stood at 6.26 percent last week, and Treasury hopes its action will knock that down over time.

Investors are demanding higher returns in exchange for continuing to buy Fannie and Freddie bonds in the secondary market, and that has pushed up mortgage rates, adding another pull against a recovery in the housing market.

Paulson hopes his unprecedented action will shock the housing market’s heartbeat back into rhythm.

“Our economy and our markets will not recover until the bulk of this housing correction is behind us,” said Paulson. “Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are critical to turning the corner on housing. Therefore, the primary mission of these enterprises now will be to proactively work to increase the availability of mortgage finance” for average Americans.

Under Paulson’s plan detailed Sunday, the government-controlled Fannie and Freddie would temporarily increase through the end of 2009 the size of their portfolios of bonds comprised of mortgages. That would help spur more mortgage lending but would leave the taxpayers on the hook if the housing market worsened further or investors keep demanding higher returns.

In 2010, Fannie and Freddie would reduce by 10 percent a year the size of those portfolios, and between now and then the next president and Congress would determine whether to privatize, nationalize or leave as is Fannie and Freddie. Speaking to reporters, Lockhart, who will oversee the two in conservatorship, said the move buys time to revamp needed regulation.

“Some of the key regulations will be minimum capital standards, prudential safety and soundness standards and portfolio limits,” he said. “It is critical to complete these regulations so that any new investor will understand the investment proposition.”

— MCT Campus

Cool fall fashions breeze onto runway, into closets

Keep up with hot back-to-school fashions without burning up in the Florida weather

By Kelly Zyskowski
Valencia Voice

For women in Central Florida, it is very difficult to get excited for fall. You’re back in school after a long, relaxing summer. Your hair remains frizzy since the weather barely changes.

And following the fall trends? Unless you want a heat stroke, it is a little tricky. Most fashion magazines preach heavier fabrics and dark, multiple-layered clothing that will only make you sweat more than you already do.



Photo by Rob Kim/Landov/MCT Campus
A model wears a design by Diane von Furstenberg

Fall’s first SGA meeting builds buzz

By Omshante Lee
Valencia Voice

The sound of a gavel is heard in the conference room, signifying the start of the first official Student Government Association meeting of the semester. Long time members and inquiring newcomers make for a diverse and excited crowd.

With fun and convenient events, such as last week’s Welcome Cookout, these students are he to see how they can be doing their part. So what else do the innovative members of SGA have up their sleeves to take some stress away from this semester’s courses? Your Valencia Voice has all the details.

The first event to look forward to is “Constitution Day 2008”, which will be held on Wednesday, September 17 on the Student Services Building patio from 12:00-2:00 P.M. If you’re not registered to vote yet, this day is your opportunity to get signed up. Registration packets will be available, providing a convenient way to get ready to vote.

Next up is “Game Night”, where board game masters and arcade professionals can get together under one roof for a night filled with fun, food and friends. All of Valencia’s student body is invited to show their skills and get to know their fellow classmates on September 30th. For more details, keep reading the Valencia Voice, or stop by the SGA office in building 4.

Another upcoming SGA event is “Talent Tuesday”, where singers, comedians, dancers and poets, finally get the chance to showcase their talents. There will be more details in later issues of all other future events.

If the spotlight isn’t your thing and you want to make your mark behind the scenes, its not too late to get involved with your SGA. An open meeting will be held on September 18 and all potential members are welcome. For more details, call the Student Government Office at: 407-582-1604.

I enjoy wearing my summer dresses well into the fall. The only problem is—people look at me as if I’m wearing two different shoes.

My sister once asked how I could possibly be wearing a white cotton dress on an October day. Maybe because it was 85 degrees outside.

It is my firm belief that there is nothing wrong with a white cotton dress at any time of the year in Florida.

Luckily, some of the major fall trends are easy to pull off in the sweltering heat.

One fabric that made several appearances on the fall fashion runways is lace. Remember to keep it modern, unlike Grandma’s curtains.

The fabric was mostly in the form of dresses, so it is perfect for Floridian women to rock this trend all season long.

This season, the most popular colors were blueberry, raspberry, blackberry, and every berry in between.

You can tone down the summer’s hot colors by opting for berry hues, which keeps things spicy without being dull.

Have you ever longed for some Burberry plaid but your bank account would never allow it? Not to worry, you can be mad for plaid in other stores, since it is in for the fall. Avoid anything too over-the-top, though. It’s better to aim for a chic look, rather than a bagpiper/schoolgirl look.

Another trend that may seem offbeat is floral dresses and coats. But this print is far from the springtime staple, since most of the clothes came in much darker hues like burnt orange and other autumnal staple colors.



Photo by Brittanie Williams/St. Louis Post-Dispatch/MCT Campus
Fortunately for Floridian feet, peep-toed ankle boots are all the rage this fall.

The prints are made up of artsy flowers that look as if they were mixed with the turning leaves.

The leaves that we don’t get to see, of course, but still pretty nonetheless.

In the Florida heat, the last thing you would want to think about is boots.

However, the boots of the season come in all shapes and sizes, including peep-toed ankle boots.

When the weather gets slightly cooler, you can rock these with a pair of skinny jeans.

Of course, the make-up of the season is a

little darker...just like the clothing, the evenings, and our feelings towards school.

But instead of throwing on dark make-up that resembles the way we feel, try a bold shade on your eyes or lips when you go out at night, and try metallic shades during the day.

With these few fashion updates, the fall season in Florida may not seem so bad.

There are no tricks to make schoolless boring, but there are ways to make your wardrobe hot even while the weather (slightly) cools down.



Photo by Louise Rodriguez/Valencia Voice
Building 10 opened on the West Campus the first day of the semester, boasting a more eco-friendly construction and state-of-the-art technology

West Campus’ Building 10 opens its doors

By Ashley Griffith
Valencia Voice

With the start of a new semester, Valencia boasts the opening of a new eco-friendly building on its West campus.

As part of “educational specifications,” said Kathleen Hauser, assistant to the provost, the building was requested several years ago. Schools and colleges alike are required to adhere to educational specifications for renovations and campus requests; however, until state funding is given, construction can not begin.

The building has been selected as the Allied Health and Sciences Building. The degree programs included in the Allied Health and Science departments are “dental hygiene, cardiovascular technology, radiography, sonography, polysomnography, respiratory therapy, chemistry and biology,” said Michael Bosley, assistant to the provost.

Located between parking lots A and C, Building 10 is now considered the largest building on campus.

In addition to traditional classrooms, this new structure offers innovative technology for students. For students in the radiography program, the building has a live radiography lab which offers students the use of X-ray machines.

The building also contains fully stocked Chemistry and Biology laboratories. Chemistry labs have added “snorkels,” new lab components used to reduce fumes. Biology student Holly Kohler said, “The labs are set up well, they have adequate space.” She preferred these labs rather than “walking into an auditorium of labs.”

Much of the technologically advanced laboratory equipment is expensive, so Florida Hospital may be donating cardiovascular technology for enhanced cardiac testing in some laboratories.

Building 10 offers a large amount of the health and science degree program classes to be held in the same building.

Because the building opened the first day of this semester, there has been some confusion. The building is, for map purposes,

Building 10; on the directory, however, it is not labeled.

“The campus is very confusing,” said Biology student Anna Pryor. Many student complaints were logged.

Building 10 was designed to be a “green building,” so the laboratories are mostly lit with natural sunlight, as opposed to fluorescent bulbs.

The architects who designed Building 10 are “LEED (Leadership and Energy in Environmental Design) certified,” said Kathy Hauser. LEED certification verifies a structure has been designed to meet the highest level of energy and environmental performance.

If the Allied Health and Sciences building does receive the LEED plaque certification, it will be considered by the U.S. Green Building Council to be environmentally accountable, cost-effective and a healthy place to inhabit.

Valencia is putting emphasis on being environmentally friendly. Kathy Hauser said, “We are hoping to get gold certification.”

— MCT Campus



Photo by Louie Rodriguez/ Valencia voice
Corey Robazinski and Kymest Williams celebrate the touchdown that sent the game to overtime.

USF beats UCF 31-24 in OT

By Josh Robbins
Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO — The third-largest home crowd in UCF football history packed Bright House Networks Stadium on Saturday night, most of it hoping to see UCF beat its geographic archrival USF for the first time.

Too bad some fans left early. USF pulled out a 31-24 overtime victory, but not before UCF scored a pair of touchdowns in the game's final minutes to tie the score at 24.

The 17th-ranked Bulls scored the game-winning touchdown on the first possession of overtime when quarterback Matt Grothe hit wide receiver Taurus Johnson on a 25-yard touchdown pass.

UCF's ensuing drive ended when quarterback Michael Greco's scramble on fourth-and-6 from the 21-yard line ended just inches short of the first-down marker.

With their win before an announced crowd of 46,805 and a national-television audience watching on ESPN, the Bulls once again kept their I-4 corridor bragging rights.

The loss dropped the Knights to 0-4 all-time against the Bulls. UCF officials say they want to schedule more games, but USF officials don't.

Greco hit Corey Rabazinski on a 13-yard touchdown pass with 2:46 remaining in regulation to cut the gap to 24-17 after the extra point. Greco tied the score when he hit Rocky Ross on a 31-yard score with 1:40 to go.

USF had taken control of the game early in the third quarter, when Grothe and the USF offense took the opening kickoff of the second half and drove 78 yards down the field on five plays for a touchdown.

— MCT Campus

Tebow leads Gators to 26-3 victory over Hurricanes

By Susan Miller Degnan
McClatchy Newspapers

GAINESVILLE — Miami was supposed to be humiliated by fifth-ranked Florida.

But the Hurricanes, underdogs by more than three touchdowns for the first time in 11 years, came to play in ways perhaps few expected but themselves, even if they were nervous at the start, wore down late and unraveled in the final quarter.

Unlike what appeared to transpire in Miami's final game in the Orange Bowl (a 48-0 loss to Virginia), the Hurricanes fought to the end of a 26-3 loss Saturday at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. The UM defense, strong through much of the game, was outclassed by Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow's near-perfect 106-yard aerial attack in the final quarter, as the Gators scored 17 points. Tebow finished with 256 passing yards and 55 rushing yards.

The final blow, after two consecutive sacks of Miami quarterback Robert Marve



Photo by Stephen M. Dowell/Orlando Sentinel/MCT
QB Tim Tebow is sacked by Miami's Sean Spence

near the end: a 29-yard field goal with 25 seconds remaining to make the Las Vegas oddsmakers look like geniuses.

"It was a great game, but in the fourth quarter it kind of got away from us," UM coach Randy Shannon said. "We played hard

Did officiating hurt the Knights?

By Neil Tredray
Valencia Voice

Don't blame the Big East officiating crew for the Knight's first loss of the season Saturday night.

Oh, I know everyone is going to anyway, and they're right to gripe. I was on the sideline for the last three minutes of regulation and both overtime possessions, and about a foot to the right of the first down marker on that final 4th and 5.

Maybe my view was a bit obscured by a general love of an underdog, come-from-behind story, but I saw Central Florida QB Mike Greco get the 1st down. I saw the bad spot. Heck, I even overheard a member of the chain gang say "Wow, bad spot." (Although, in the interest of avoiding a nasty libel suit, he could have just as easily been saying "flat top" about his buzz-cut-sporting companion on the sideline.)

But don't blame the refs. UCF is blessed, in a sense, with the image of being a cow college with a pushover football team. Bigger schools like South Florida Saturday or Texas last year come to Orlando and expect an easy win.

USF showed up, ready to sleepwalk their way through another rout of UCF. USF soon realized they had a football game on their hands when senior Joe Burnett took advantage of USF's poor kick return coverage and torched them for 91 yards with 10:32 left to go in the first quarter.

Sadly, UCF is also cursed. They had all

the opportunity in the world to catch the Bulls asleep, but focused more on negating their own gains.

UCF had 12 penalties, including 6 personal fouls, for 148 yards.

The most frustrating personal foul was after a UCF third down stop in the third quarter. Facing a 3rd and 14 after an illegal block penalty, USF sent sophomore FB Richard Kelly barreling down the field. Fifth year senior FS Jason Venson and sophomore DB Justin Boddie forced Kelly out of bounds after 10 yards.

Apparently forcing a strong opponent into a punt situation is a good time to draw a personal foul, because that's exactly what junior CB Emery Allen did after he slammed his fist into a defender's helmet.

Personal foul, defense. 15-yard penalty. Automatic first down," intoned the referee.

Don't blame the officials, UCF shot themselves in the foot.

As for some personal observations, Class Act of the Week Award goes to the reporter from a supposedly unbiased South Florida newspaper who not only changed into a USF polo shirt before the game, but actually took his shirt off in the pressbox.

And how hilarious was it to see Bulls fans celebrating? Guys, last year your team gut-stomped the Knights 64-12. This year UCF gave you a legitimate scare. This is equivalent to Notre Dame celebrating just barely edging perennial football powerhouse San Diego State earlier Saturday. Frankly, any jubilation shown is just embarrassing.



Photo by Louie Rodriguez/ Valencia voice
UCF coach George O'Leary has it out with an official, a familiar sight at last Friday's game.

NFL Week 1: Taking flight



Ron T. Ennis, Fort Worth (Texas) Star-Telegram / MCT Campus
Dallas running back Marion Barber soars over Browns' defenders Mike Adams and Leon Williams for his second touchdown, putting the Cowboys ahead 21-7 in the second quarter of their 28-10 victory at Cleveland Sept. 7.

Favre wings it, wins it in Jets debut

By Randy Covitz
The Kansas City Star

MIAMI — Brett Favre winged it in more ways than one in his debut with the New York Jets.

He winged it with his arm, throwing two spectacular touchdown passes in the Jets' 20-14 victory Sept. 7 over the Miami Dolphins. And he winged it with his words, improvising plays he is still learning on the fly.

Favre, the three-time NFL most valuable player who joined the Jets last month after 16 seasons with the Green Bay Packers, spent Saturday night in his hotel room writing out the names of the plays over and over "so they looked and sounded normal to me."

But when he got in the huddle, the names melted in the humid Florida air.

"Sometimes, I said, 'Hey guys, Same play. Ready, break,'" Favre said with a wide smile. "They'd say, 'Play what?' But sometimes you have to overcome."

Favre delivered one of his trademark bombs for his first touchdown pass, a 56-yard strike to a wide-open Jericho Cotchery that gave the Dolphins a 7-0 lead. Favre froze the Dolphins secondary with a play-action fake to running back Thomas Jones and hit Cotchery in stride before chest-bumping fullback Tony Richardson in celebration.

"I thought I overthrew it," Favre said. "That's the one thing I didn't want to do . . . first big shot you have is to unleash one and throw it in the second deck."

Favre's second touchdown pass was unlike any of the previous league-record 443 TDs he's thrown in his career.

The Jets were in fourth and 14 from the Miami 22 but unable to try a field goal be-

Adds to record with 2 TD passes



Joe Rinkus Jr., Miami Herald / MCT Campus
New York Jets quarterback Brett Favre fights through a sack attempt by Miami's Randy Starks and heaves a second quarter touchdown pass to Chansi Stuckey en route to 20-14 victory over the host Dolphins Sept. 7.

cause kicker Mike Nugent was out of the game because of a thigh injury. So the Jets, tied 7-7, went for it.

Favre, under heavy pressure, eluded the

grasp of Miami defensive end Randy Starks, and while sandwiched between Starks and the oncoming Joey Porter, he threw a high-arching pass up for grabs at the goal line

caught by wide receiver Chansi Stuckey for a 13-7 lead.

Without a backup kicker, the Jets were forced to go for two, and Favre's pass for Jones went incomplete, a missed conversion that nearly came back to haunt New York.

"I tried to throw it to where someone was," Favre said of the impromptu pass to Stuckey. "I saw him, but I didn't think we had a chance in hell of catching it. It was like a shot put. I can't believe it went as far as it did. It was fourth and whatever. You don't want to take a sack. This is one time if you throw a pick, so be it."

Even the Dolphins were impressed.

"The guy is just a player," said Miami defensive end Matt Roth, whose sack of Favre also caused a fumble and who also drew a personal foul for hitting Favre after a play. "He's a playmaker . . . the guy makes plays all day."

Favre completed 15 of 22 passes for 194 yards and no interceptions. Then he had to stand helpless on the sideline as Miami's Chad Pennington, the quarterback Favre supplanted in New York, led the Dolphins to within a touchdown and extra point of winning the game.

After reaching the Jets' 18, Pennington's pass with 10 seconds left was intercepted by Darrelle Revis.

At that point, Favre knew for sure he made the right decision by reversing his decision to retire and joining the Jets.

"I've said from day one that I know I've made the right decision," Favre said. "One time during the course of the game, I looked up and they were flashing scores, and I saw Packers-Vikings, and it wasn't like, 'Wait a minute, I'm supposed to be there.' I'm a Jet."

— MCT Campus

Service winners

Serena regains No. 1 rank with 3rd U.S. Open victory

By Jeff Williams
Newsday

NEW YORK — Serena Williams is the U.S. Open champion again, is the world's No. 1 player again, is a force to be reckoned with again.

Using all of her substantial arsenal, Williams defeated Jelena Jankovic in the Open final Sunday night, 6-4, 7-5, in an enthralling match at Arthur Ashe Stadium. It was Williams' third Open title, her first since 2002, and her ninth major singles trophy.

Her victory over her sister Venus in the quarterfinal was a key to this victory, but the final master stroke was beating Jankovic, a first-time major finalist who was far from being a deer in the headlights.

When Williams hit a backhand winner to take the deciding set, she yelped and jumped wildly, then hugged Jankovic at the net, while apologizing. "I'm sorry I got so excited," she told Jankovic, who smiled broadly as she always does.

The first game of the first set described neatly how this match was going to go. It went to three deuce points with long rallies as Jankovic stayed at the baseline and counterpunched. The rallies were long, side to side as if they were slaloming. When Williams finally held her serve, it was on a 20-plus hit rally. This was going to be long, and entertaining.

Jankovic got the first break in the third game to take a 2-1 lead. Then she was broken right back, the start of a four-game run for Williams that took the score to 5-2. Jankovic got another break to claw

back to 5-4 and give herself a small sliver of hope. Williams quickly ran Jankovic to triple breaker in the next game and closed out the set when Jankovic hit a forehand long.

It wasn't going to be easy for either player. "I'm really never giving up," Jankovic said the other day. "I'm really there until the last point. No matter what, I'm going to be there until the last point."

But after expending so much energy in the first set, what would Jankovic have left? Williams was imposing her will with power and speed. Jankovic kept trying to go to Williams' forehand, which has a tendency to sputter, but Williams was solid on her right side and creating angles that continually ran Jankovic off the court. Jankovic struggled on her serve but continued to hold it.

Tenacity being her primary weapon, Jankovic kept returning and returning and returning, and it paid off when she broke Williams in the seventh game of the second, coming back from 40-15 down to take a 4-3 lead. Jankovic had a huge chance to close out the set when she got triple-breaker on Williams' serve, but Williams powered back with two big serves and a big ground-stroke rally, going on to hold and force Jankovic to serve it out. She couldn't do it. Williams showed plenty of tenacity herself, especially after blowing a triple-break situation to start the game. But after four deuces, she tied the set at 5. Williams took it to 6-5 by holding her serve, winning the game with a stab volley.

— MCT Campus



J. Conrad Williams, Newsday / MCT Campus
Serena Williams celebrates her third U.S. Open victory after defeating Jelena Jankovic of Serbia Sept. 7.

Federer silences doubters with 5th consecutive crown

By John Jeansonne
Newsday

NEW YORK — Gringe-worthy statements about Roger Federer's lost aura and tennis' dire need for stars were forcefully rebuffed Monday by the Swiss champion's masterly 6-2, 7-5, 6-2 victory over Scotland's Andy Murray for a record fifth consecutive U.S. Open title.

The result made Federer the only man to win two of the four major tournaments (Wimbledon and the Open) five consecutive times. It moved him, at 27, within one of Pete Sampras' standard of 14 major singles championships. It shushed, at least temporarily, the talk that Federer's performances had ceased, within a single year, to be surrounded by the field of subtle, luminous radiation present for his 4-1/2 years as the world's No. 1 player.

The halo effect certainly was back Sept. 8 during the first Open final since 1987 to be pushed to the tournament's third Monday by rain. Wearing red and displaying a game far more colorful than the gray-clad, workmanlike Murray, Federer was visually, athletically and spiritually superior throughout the 1-hour, 51-minute match.

At 21, Murray was appearing in his first major final. He was carrying the hopes of Great Britain, which hasn't had a male major tournament winner since Fred Perry's 1936 Wimbledon, and Murray was wearing a Fred Perry-brand tennis shirt and cap, which might have been seen as an omen.

But Federer's shots — running forehands, delicate drop shots, timely lobs, varieties of slice and topspin — were almost all perfectly placed, like stones in a Zen

garden. Murray countered gamely, producing his own championship-level play through the tense second set.

Only to see Federer keep conjuring delightful winners. In one crucial game alone — Murray serving at 5-6 in the second — Federer broke service at love with four suitable-for-framing points: a charging forehand to the open corner, a backhand stab volley down the line, a slam-dunk overhead and a running pass off a Murray drop shot.

It was the kind of show Federer had put on so often during a record 237 weeks with the No. 1 ranking, relinquished only last month to Rafael Nadal, as he shook Murray's windows and rattled his doors before an admiring full house at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

For the first time since 2003, Federer had entered the Open without a major tournament title during the calendar year — he lost to Novak Djokovic in this year's Australian Open semifinals and to Nadal in both the French and Wimbledon finals — and was facing a career 1-2 record against Murray.

But Monday, Murray said, "He definitely set the record straight."

And won back his good name. "I guess some players get a kick out ... wanting to prove people wrong," Federer said. "I'm not that type of person, to go through life wanting to prove myself. I'm past that point."

He admitted that "the Pete thing is still very much alive and everything is possible." In the meantime, though, Open No. 5 was "a very special moment in my career."

— MCT Campus

Box office danger for Cage

By: Shanece Dixon
Valencia Voice

'Bangkok Dangerous' is directed by Danny Pang and Oxide Pang Chun, is a remake of a 1999 Hong Kong action movie the pair also directed. It tells the story of a solitary hit man named Joe, played by Nicolas Cage (National Treasure) whose main job is to kill targeted criminals in Bangkok, Thailand. Joe is forced to conceal any trace of his identity from the outside world, preventing anyone from believing that he is an assassin. With that in mind, he conceals any type of emotion towards anything outside of his work. But he is eventually forced to enlist the help of a local con artist and thief named Kong (Shahkrit Yamnarm) to go into the underground club territory of his unknown employers to find Joe's next target.

Eventually Joe's cautious and cool demeanor melts away as he slowly bonds with Kong, training him as his new apprentice. He also befriends a deaf-mute pharmacist named Fon (Charlie Young), a young woman who is probably the only woman Joe has had any verbal interaction with since birth. The closer he gets to Fon, the more he wishes to reject his job. Thus, his skills that were once so calculated begin to deteriorate as his new friendships become distractions. By breaking his rules of complete secrecy, Joe subconsciously leaves an identifiable trail for his enemies to follow, putting all that he cherishes at risk.

Sadly, this movie falls victim to a limited storyline and bad characterization. Cage's monotonous method of acting barely does anything to enhance the already flimsy structure of 'Bangkok Dangerous.' Unlike his

characters in Face/Off and the National Treasure series, Cage's portrayal of Joe the assassin is uninspiring and does nothing to show that the actor has any variety in his acting abilities. The supporting roles of Kong and Fon have more personality and punch combined than that of Joe. The movie itself, with action clichés such as car chases and frequent murders, holds no originality that makes it stand out as a box-office hit.

'Bangkok Dangerous' has just as much intrigue as the title itself—little to none. If one weren't paying crucial attention to the little details in the movie, it would be very easy to forget the name of the main character, let alone realize that he even has one. For anyone wishing to see this movie, don't waste your money at the theaters. I suggest waiting until it comes out on DVD and goes on sale at your nearest retail store.



“Death” resurrects hip-hop

Hot album release brings back rap with killer style, production

By Jordan Keyes
Valencia Voice

Many people claim hip-hop is dead, citing the likes of Soulja Boy and Bow Wow and their simplistic approach to rhyming. Isn't it ironic that a death could be the key to hip-hop's resurrection? Specifically "Death of the Mixtape Rapper," Harlem rapper Charles Hamilton's latest sample-laden gift to the rap world.

Through an unorthodox style and even more unorthodox musical approach, Hamilton is gradually forging a reputation as the most unique rapper to hit the scene in a while. From his affinity for Sonic the Hedgehog and the color pink to his genre-breaking sampling choices, he seems to be bringing every aspect together and making it work for him. Following up his acclaimed effort "Outside Looking" mixtape hosted by DJ Green Lantern, "Death of the Mixtape Rapper" mixes lyrical skill, killer production, and a monstrous swagger to signal a huge career for Hamilton and his upcoming solo LP.

Here are the standout songs you should check out. The opening track on the DJ Skee hosted production "Stay on your Level," an other-worldly track with instrumentals reminiscent of The X-Files, Hamilton's braggadocio spills over into a commentary on the state of music in general. On "Just A Musician," he takes the much-freestyled-over (not actually a word...yet) beat from Lil Wayne's hit "A Milli," adds a hook and makes an unbeatable track to crank up in your stereo while riding slowly by your least favorite people

(a musical middle-finger).

Two of "Death"'s standout tracks, "Twitter 16" and "Windows Media Player," expose Hamilton's nerdy side. The former's infectious hook, "Go ahead and Twitter me baby!", a variation on Teana Taylor's "Google Me" is a great compliment to his jocular track about the art of writing a verse.

"Windows Media Player" is quite possibly one of Hamilton's most creative songs. It starts out with random sounds that become recognizable as the sounds your computer makes when a window pops up or when you shut down Windows XP. Gradually, these sounds come together to form an intricate beat that showcases the essence of Charles Hamilton, a smart sampler with smart lyrics like "You other clowns got hate in your blood/You talk that new s—t with Windows 98 in your blood."

The one true party song on the album "Down" uses a techno-infused beat to make a great track to dance to while still showcasing Hamilton's wordplay.

On a more serious note, "Do What You Love," the final track of "Death" talks about Hamilton's journey to becoming a musician who is getting a lot of respect from people in the underground scene as well as heavy-hitters like Kanye West and The Game.

Overall, "Death of the Mixtape Rapper" is a tantalizing vision of what hip-hop could become if people like Charles Hamilton keep making music. The only thing that keeps it from being perfect is the lack of diversity in content and subject matter. It's still worth a listen. Pick it up for free at iamnotcharleshamilton.com.



The "I'll Just Have One More" Martini

- 3 oz. gin or vodka
- 1/2 oz. dry vermouth
- 3 olives
- 1 automobile
- 1 long day
- 1 diminishing attention span
- 1 too many

Combine ingredients. Drink. Repeat.
Mix with sharp turn, telephone pole.

Never underestimate 'just a few.'
Buzzed driving is drunk driving.

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J. Conrad Williams, Newsday / MCT Campus
Switzerland's Roger Federer kisses the cup for the fifth time after defeating Scotland's Andy Murray Sept. 8.

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