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Ike's Aftermath

Texas, Louisiana residents clean up after hurricane hammers Gulf Coast



G.J. McCarthy / Dallas Morning News/MCT

Three men struggle to move a boat that left its mooring at a nearby marina and entered into the flooded parking lot of an apartment complex hours after Hurricane Ike passed over El Lago, Texas, Saturday, September 13, 2008.

By Eva-Marie Ayala, Aman Batheja and
Evan S. Benn
McClatchy Newspapers

GALVESTON, Texas — Hurricane Ike flooded thousands of homes, blew out countless windows and left millions without electricity in Texas and Louisiana Saturday as authorities took to boats and helicopters to help rescue people stranded by the rising water.

The storm claimed at least two lives in

Texas after rumbling ashore in Galveston at 2:10 a.m. CDT as a 110-mph Category 2 cyclone, but officials said the death toll could rise in the coming days, and damage cleanup will likely take six months or longer.

"Most fatalities come after a storm," said R. David Paulison, head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. "Don't get impatient. Don't go out too early."

As the wind and rain subsided, attention turned to the tens of thousands who ignored

mandatory evacuation orders from coastal areas.

Galveston Beach Patrol officers pulled Victor Huerta and Cecilia Rivera out of their flooded home in West Galveston Saturday afternoon.

"We lost everything," Rivera cried from the rescue boat.

The couple chose not to evacuate, thinking the storm would not be as bad as predicted. But they found themselves fleeing to the attic

when water rushed into the house and rose 7 feet up the walls.

Rescue crews plucked them and others trapped in homes and moved them to higher ground elsewhere on the island.

Angie Wright, 49, spent Friday night at a hurricane shelter with her pit bull-boxer mix and tried to return to her Galveston neighborhood Saturday. She appeared disoriented,

Please see Page 9

Organizations get the word out on campus

A2CS sponsors event giving tips for a better life

By Devin Heflin
Valencia Voice

In an economy that conservatives and critics alike have labeled as a “contemporary Great Depression,” employment opportunities for an average college graduate which meets all the desired requirements can be few and far between.

The African American Cultural Society sponsored a health and scholarship fair in the patio area of the Student Services building.

The students that flooded each of the tables that were set up appeared to be very interested in the material that they were receiving and were eager to speak with representatives from each organization.

The event was held on Wednesday, Sept. 9th between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

“My profession is a counselor. I started out on college campuses just like this. My organization educates women of all backgrounds in the areas of relationships and parenting,” said Katherine Chatman, Project Coordinator of The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention. “Whatever a person’s need is, whether it be help with childcare or finances, that’s where we step in.”

Representatives of The Center for Multicultural Wellness and Prevention passed out pamphlets that introduced to some and presented to many startling

statistics concerning the risky sexual behaviors of the 18-24 age demographic.

All of these separate entities are working together to bridge the age gap and encourage a plethora of people to register to vote.

Among the various ideologies that the organizations attempted to promote, inducing students to become more proactive in seizing opportunities was the most crucial element.

The African American Cultural Society had their own table which provided new and current students with scholarship information and community service programs.

“Our goal is to show diversity and to bring people together through education and enlightenment,” said Born Understanding Allah, student-member and representative of the African American Cultural Society. “We’re simply about bringing awareness when it comes to voting, health and working with young people.”

The organizations that were present gave students an insight as to what programs are provided and what pitfalls to avoid to make their upcoming year a little easier.

“People, especially young people, must realize that it doesn’t all come in one day. Sometimes it may take a week or even a month, but one trait they must adapt is patience,” said Allah.

As students will learn this year, the road to success is not one that is traveled lightly, but diligence and determination will guarantee the difference. Those attending the event were informed about what people from every culture can do to make their lives better and perhaps a little easier.

SGA spreads the news about events for the fall semester

By Omshante Lee
Valencia Voice

Students often hear about the many Student Government Association sponsored events such as Unified Diversity Welcome Week and this week’s upcoming Constitution Day, but are left wondering what they are.

Some look forward to finding out. “I’ve heard about Talent Tuesday, when one of my friends competed in the contest, but I’ve never actually been,” said Shelleda Philippe, a sophomore.

Flyers are posted and the buzz gets around campus, but detailed information about these events sponsored by students, for students is left out. For example, many contests like Talent Tuesday give students a chance to win a trophy or even cash prizes.

Events like Game Night are set up to work with varied student schedules, allowing them to enjoy the festivities in between classes or after classes. Occasionally they may even last throughout the afternoon or early evening, so that students can participate at the end of their academic day.

The Valencia Voice will have the details of upcoming events.

On Constitution Day, students can find out about America’s founding document. “The purpose of the day is to promote awareness of the Constitution. We will be handing out [copies of the Constitution] because a lot of students don’t know anything about it, or even who wrote it,” said Amanda Dagiau, SGA’s vice president.

“I think it’s important for students to know about all the issues, especially with the upcoming election,” said Danielle Gaddy, a political science and government major.

Along with getting informed, students also have the opportunity to get involved. If they are not already registered, voter registration will be available during the event which will be held Sept. 17th on the patio of the Student Services Building. It will be an all-day event.

For a more casual atmosphere, SGA offers Game Night. It will take place on Sept. 30th from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on the second floor of the cafeteria. Game Night offers students a chance to hang out with old friends and make new ones from all over Orlando. This event will not only be open to the West Campus, but also to students attending the Osceola, East, and Winter Park campuses.

One student offered fond memories of last semester’s Game Night. “It was so much fun. The atmosphere was nice, and everyone was just there to relax,” said Romesha Wiley. “I would definitely go again. People were dancing and just there to have a good time.”

Another event, held twice a month, is Talent Tuesday. New contestants sign up every time to compete in the finale held at the end of the semester. Musicians, poets, dancers and rappers are all invited to perform. Contestants compete to win up to \$250. Students can register by e-mailing the host, Allen Collins, at acollins@atlas.valencia.edu, or by calling the SGA office at 407-582-1604.

“This semester, we wanted to offer Valencia students more diverse events. The purpose is to get everyone involved, and create a sense of unity. We started out with Unified Diversity Welcome Week, so we’re trying to keep the theme going of unity and diversity,” said Dagiau.



Photo by Olivier Douliery/Abaca Press, MCT

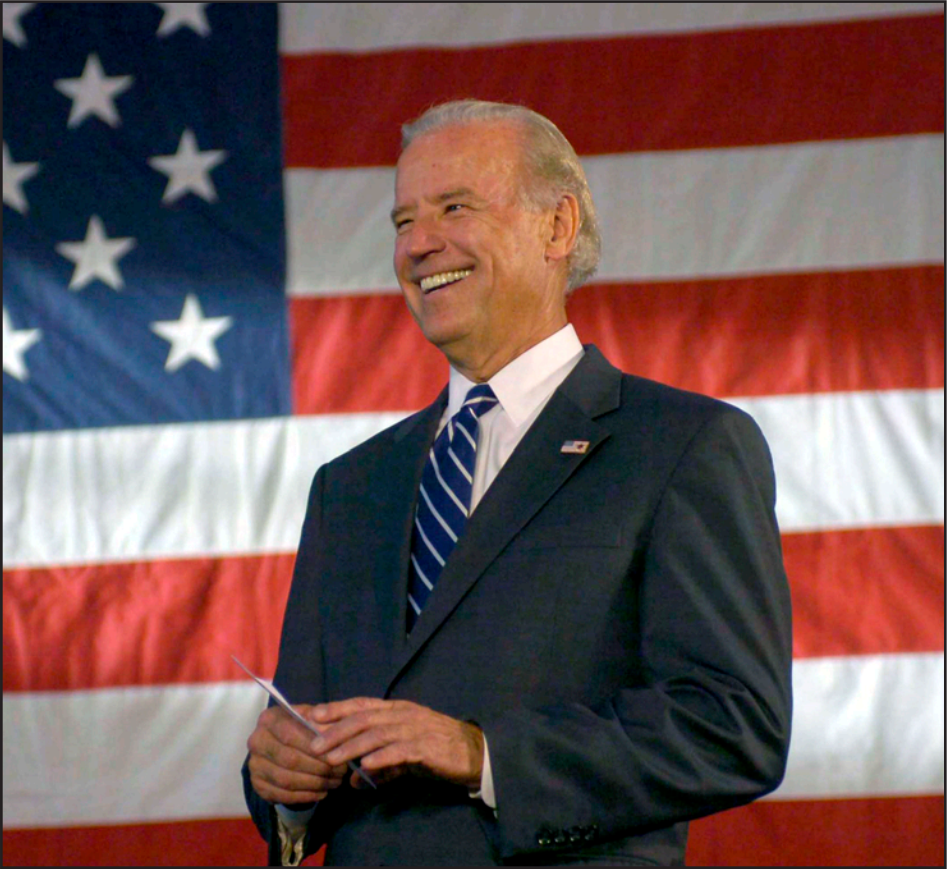


Photo by Robert Lahser/Charlotte Observer, MCT

Polls indicate Palin’s inexperience may be detrimental.

Biden has been in the Senate over thirty years, a major advantage in the experience category.

Poll: McCain, Obama even; Biden more qualified than Palin

By Steven Thomma
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — John McCain and Barack Obama head into the fall campaign neck and neck, despite questions in many voters’ minds about whether McCain’s running mate is as qualified as Obama’s, according to a new Ipsos/McClatchy poll.

The national poll finds Republican McCain with the support of 46 percent of registered voters and Democrat Obama with 45 percent. The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.3 percentage points.

Independent candidate Ralph Nader has 2 percent, and Libertarian candidate Bob Barr 1 percent. Another 6 percent were undecided or didn’t support any of those choices.

“The race has tightened,” said Clifford Young, senior vice president of Ipsos Public Affairs, which conducted the poll Sept. 5-9, its first since the two major-party conventions kicked off the fall general election campaign.

“McCain got a very good bump from his convention and now it’s a real race.”

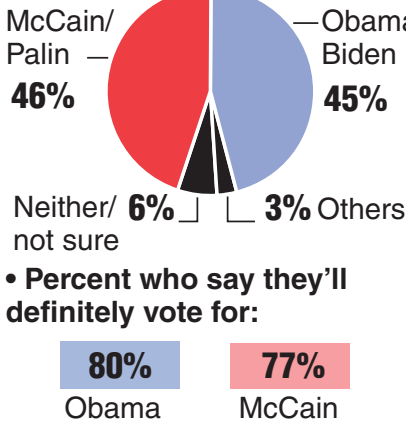
Bounces up in polls immediately following conventions are no guarantee of victory in November. Candidates who got higher post-convention poll bounces than their opponents and went on to lose, Jimmy Carter in 1980, Walter Mondale in 1984 and Michael Dukakis in 1988, according to a study by Karlyn Bowman of

Ipsos–McClatchy Poll

It’s neck and neck

The presidential race among registered voters:

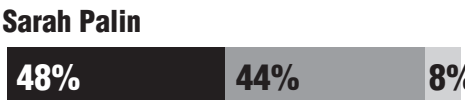
• If the election were held today, who’d you vote for?



Veepstakes

Who is qualified to be president?

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don’t know



Source: Ipsos poll of 876 registered voters, Sept. 5-9, 2008; margin of error: +/-3.3 percentage points
Graphic: Judy Treible

© 2008 MCT

the American Enterprise Institute.

With the Obama-McCain race so close less than two months until the election, several factors could prove pivotal in coming weeks, including how the two campaigns do in winning the support of the roughly 15 percent of voters who could go either way, and how well Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin does in assuring skeptics that she’s up to the job.

The poll finds that registered voters continue to wonder whether Palin, a

first-term Alaska governor, is as qualified to step up to the job of president as her Democratic counterpart, Joseph Biden, who’s been in the Senate for more than three decades.

A majority of voters, 60 percent, think that Biden is qualified to be president, while 31 percent think he is not.

By comparison, 48 percent of voters think Palin is qualified, while 44 percent think she isn’t.

“While Palin has electrified the base,

RNC Recap: What happened while we were out of class

By Walter Edward
Valencia Voice

Day one of the Republican convention was on Labor Day and was mostly recognition of the help that was needed for the

victims of Hurricane Gustav.

Cindy McCain and first lady Laura Bush did give short speeches ushering their husbands in proudly, and the crowd was enthusiastic, cheering loudly.

On the second day, President George

Bush gave a speech from the White House and praised John McCain for the work he has done for the country.

Bush also waxed eloquent about McCain’s competitive nature seen when McCain lost the bid for the Republican

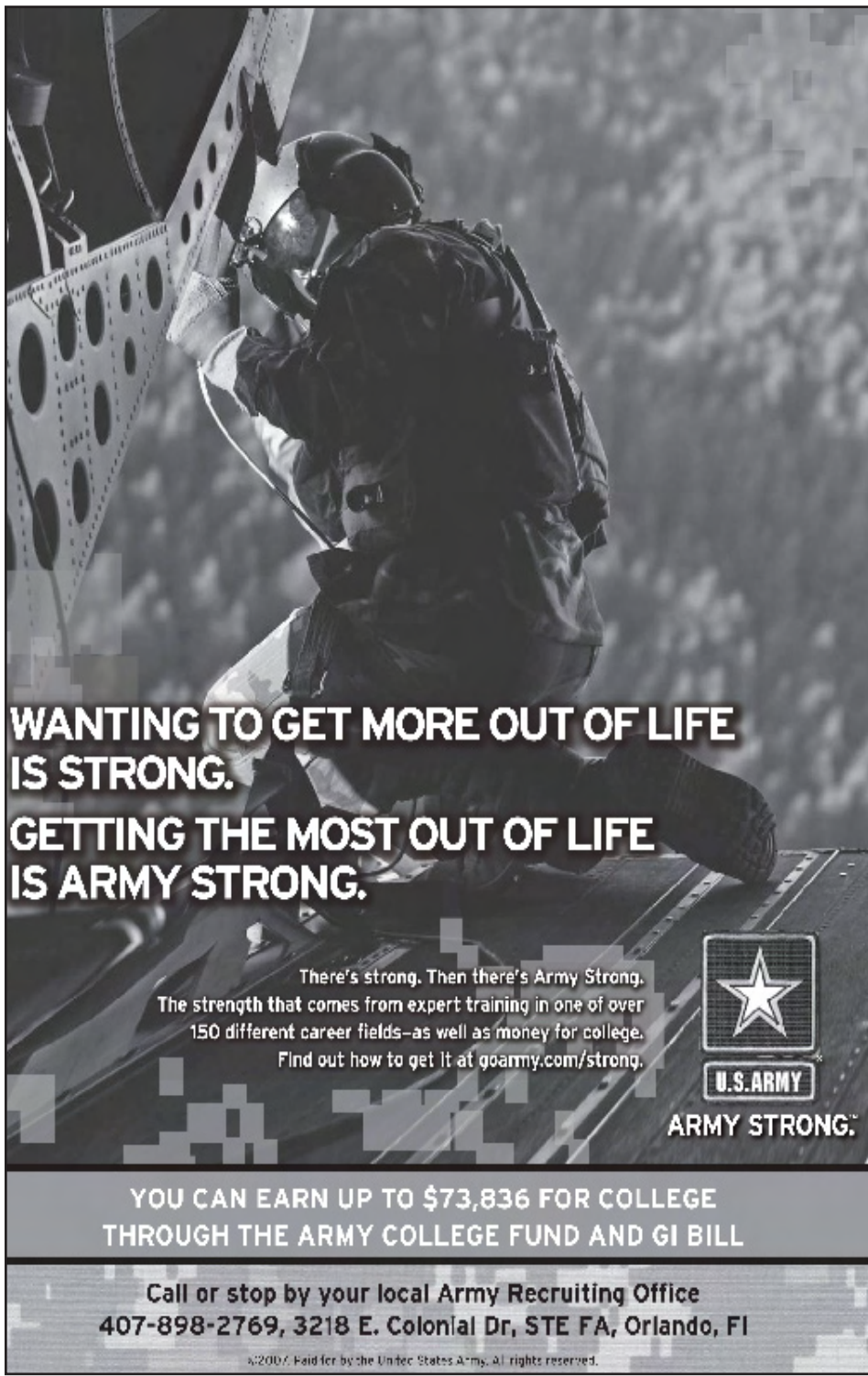
nomination for president to George Bush in 2000. Senator Joe Lieberman spoke of the senseless acts of hostility between the Democrats and Republicans.

On day three of the convention, vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin harshly criticized Democratic nominee Barack Obama. She referred to herself as an “average hockey mom” and spoke of the negative media coverage she was receiving about her inexperience and personal issues.

Ex-candidate Rudy Giuliani gave a speech also criticizing Democrats for having bad judgment in supporting Obama.

On day four McCain began his speech by thanking his fellow Republicans that ran against him for the nomination and thanked the Bushes.

Casually, McCain paid respect to his opponents Obama and Joe Biden, and promptly declared he’s going to win the election.



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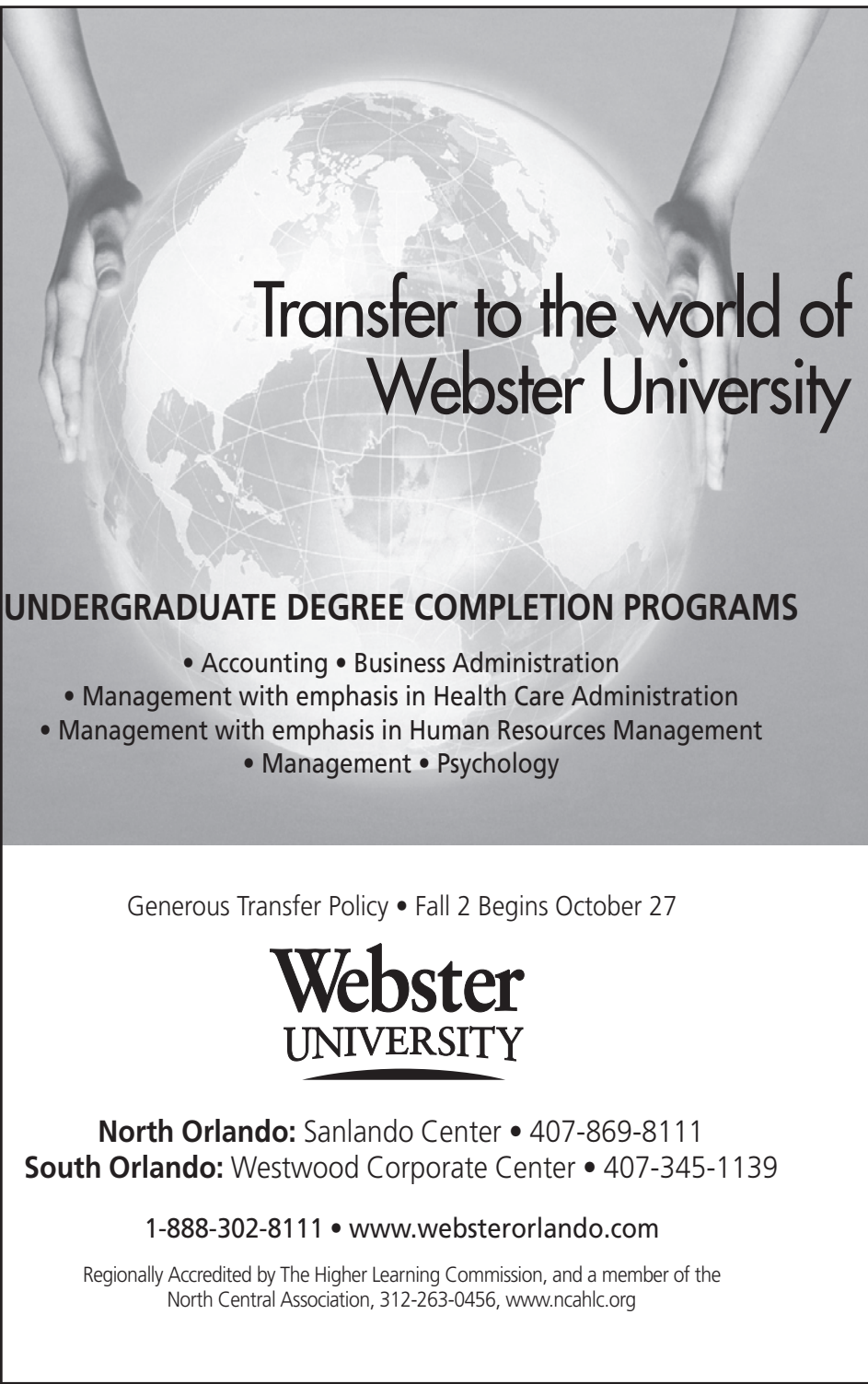
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COLUMBIA COLLEGE



Zia Ansari is observing the traditions of Ramadan by fasting and praying. Louie Rodriguez, Valencia Voice

Valencia’s Muslim students observing Islamic holy month

By Shaneece Dixon
Valencia Voice

To many Muslims, Ramadan is known as the holy month. Considered a fundamental aspect of the five pillars, it is a time for spiritual purification consisting of fasting, self-sacrifice, and prayers. Fasting during this month is one of the pillars of Ramadan. The five pillars are basic duties that all Muslims must complete to rejuvenate and strengthen their faith. These are the five pillars that all Muslims must come to realize:

The first pillar is believing in the oneness of God.

The second pillar is prayer.

The third is alms (giving a percentage of your net worth to charity).

The fourth is fasting in the month of Ramadan and the fifth is the pilgrimage to Mecca.

These are certain things that are symbolic of what has been written in the holy book of the Quran (Koran).

For every year, Muslims follow the Hijri (lunar) calendar which follows the new moon, to find when the first day of Ramadan, the ninth month of the calendar will fall. The objective for Ramadan is to teach Muslims humility, making them thankful for what they have been given.

“You’re supposed to feel like a poor person,” said Zia Ansari, who is celebrating Ramadan this month. “It teaches you to be humble.”

From sunrise to sundown (approximately from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.), those Muslims who are participating must fast, which means not eating, in order to give themselves physical and spiritual purification. In order to fast during this time, one must be physically able to do so, excluding those who are sick with an illness or even feel sick from not eating, and those who are elderly. However, it is normal to break a fast by eating a date.



Photo by Susanna Frohman/ San Jose Mercury News/ MCT Campus
Pictured are the traditional meats, fruits, and veggies consumed during Ramadan.

The typical diet during Ramadan is divided into two groups: Sahari, which are foods eaten before dawn, and Iftar, which are foods eaten after sunset. Among the several foods that Muslims eat during the Ramadan holiday include halaal (which is a type of meat), dates and figs, fereni starch pudding, lentil soup, and pita bread.

During Ramadan, families come together to pray at least five times a day from the Taraweeh, which comes from an Arabic word meaning to rest and relax. They are special prayers that are long recitations from the Quran.

“Ramadan makes you more aware of yourself, and it makes you thankful for God,” Ansari said.

At the end of Ramadan, Muslims celebrate what is called the Festival of Eid-ul-Fitr (Festival of Fast Breaking), where everyone goes to the mosques to attend a special community prayer service, similar to that of Christmas or Easter. Though the Festival lasts for three days, the main festivities are held on the first day. People not only donate money to charities but some also visit their families and friends and exchange gifts, or what is called a blessed Eid.

For the Festival of Eid-ul-Fitr, the foods that are typically eaten include: chicken bi-yani, figs with goat cheese, sambousa, and chickpeas.

“A family tradition of ours is to go to our oldest uncle’s house where the elder relatives give money to the kids,” Ansari said.

Students and workers take time and work off whenever they can to celebrate this holiday. In Islamic countries, where both Ramadan and the Festival are recognized as holidays, schools get out early.

The holiday’s purpose isn’t just to make one humble and thankful for what they have but also cites communal and familial values as a key part to living a peaceful and happy life.

Keeping healthy while fasting through Ramadan

By Robert Mitchum
Chicago Tribune

Even Muslims without serious health issues can find fasting during Ramadan, which started on Monday, a challenge as the body adjusts to going without any form of food or drink between dawn and dusk for a lunar month.

“For someone who is used to eating several meals a day and then you go to a long period between sunrise to sundown where you can’t eat, that creates a whole new dynamic for your metabolism,” said Dr. Memoona Hasnain, director of family medicine research at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Though medical studies have not shown any serious adverse effects of the Ramadan fasting schedule upon healthy Muslims, doctors said they have seen patients suffer lack of sleep from waking up early for the traditional pre-dawn

meal, called sahur, after staying up late for nighttime prayers and ceremonies. And counter-intuitively, doctors said many of their patients actually gain weight during the fasting month.

“When you are hungry, you feel like you want to eat everything and anything,” said Dr. Mohammed Zaher Sahloul, a pulmonary, critical care and sleep specialist in Oak Lawn, Ill., who said caffeine withdrawal is his biggest Ramadan challenge.

To prevent weight gain and minimize daytime hunger pangs, experts recommend that Muslims eat a sahur rich with complex carbohydrates such as whole wheat bread or cereal, and break their fast with sugar-rich food or juices.

If a healthy diet is followed, research has found that fasting during Ramadan can actually have several health benefits, including lowered cholesterol and blood pressure.



Photo by Robert Cohen/St. Louis Post Dispatch/MCT Campus
Hundreds of men fill the prayer room to celebrate the Festival of Eid-ul-Fitr, marking the end of Ramadan.

Ramadan

The world’s Muslims observe Ramadan, their month of spiritual discipline, by fasting, abstinence and prayer during daylight hours.



Calendar

- Muslims use the lunar calendar of 354 days (12 months of 28 to 30 days each); Ramadan is the ninth month
- Since lunar year is shorter than 365-day solar year, Ramadan occurs earlier each year in the Western calendar



Origin

- On the 27th day of Ramadan, the Koran, the sacred book of Islam, began to be revealed to the prophet Muhammad



Fasting

- Healthy adults consume nothing between sunrise and sunset, not even water; sex and smoking are forbidden
- Normal daily tasks are performed; business hours may be shortened

Source: University of Chicago’s Center for Middle Eastern Studies

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Reasons for fast

- Religious duty specified in the Koran
- Purifies body and strengthens individual’s faith
- Creates common bond with poor



Meals

- A small meal is eaten before sunrise
- Muslims gather for prayer and a meal after sunset; evenings are festive



Fasting’s end

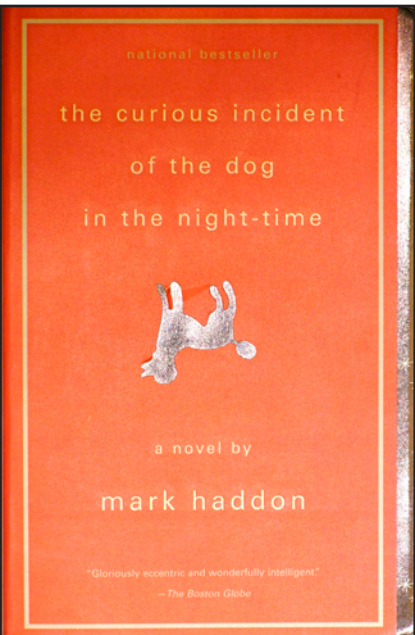
- A feast, “eid al-fitr,” marks the end of Ramadan; celebrations can last several days



Festivities

- Friends and family gather to pray, eat, exchange gifts
- In some countries, shops and cafes stay open all night

Curious kid unravels ‘Curious Incident’ Get into a different kind of murder mystery



THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME
By Mark Haddon.
Illustrated. 226 pp. New York: Doubleday. \$22.95.

By Trey McConnell
Valencia Voice

Mark Haddon’s bitterly funny debut novel, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, is a disenchanted murder mystery of all aspects; portrayed by an autistic version of Adrian Monk.

Christopher Boone, the autistic 15-year-old narrator of the novel, finds peace by groaning and doing math problems in his head, turning the radio dial in between stations to hear the white noise, and fabricating arbitrary patterns (“five days later I saw 5 red cars in a row, which made it a Super Good Day, and I knew that something special was going to happen.”)

Although almost everyone thinks of him as abnormal, it’s far more involved and requires patience to understand such a fragile teenager. Christopher excels in maths and sciences but the problem derives from his lack of the intuitive concept, “theory of mind.” He is virtually wired with minimal social skills.

When the next door neighbor’s poodle, Wellington, is brutally murdered and Christopher is found holding him in his arms, he is a quick target of suspicion and is falsely accused.

Knowing he was just tending to the dog (Christopher loves dogs because he knows what they’re thinking all the time) he decides to imitate Sherlock Holmes, his favorite character, and set off on a perilous journey to find out who murdered him.

With the encouragement of Christopher’s social worker, Siobhan, he decides to write his own murder mystery, which navigates his complete, chaotic tale of boldly interacting with strangers and even spending one night in jail.

As the conundrum unwinds and he begins to discover the missing details of his parent’s tattered marriage, Christopher battles the complex emotions of the world. His only chance to solve the mystery and complete his book is to rebel against his father’s command.

He constructs literal-minded observations,

almost poetic in their prose, to avoid breaking his promise to his father. While unraveling the poignant enigma, he must resort to deductive logic to better understand the social complexities of the world.

Haddon, a first-time novelist, successfully formulates an elaborate plot and devises the perfect, sophisticated yet complicated, narrator who labels his chapters only in prime numbers; while presenting graphs and diagrams of intricate theories like the universe collapsing into a massive black hole.

Twisting and turning on almost every page of the novel, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time dawns a new concept of storytelling and proves Haddon to be a compelling literary voice. Although the novel didn’t meet my ultimate expectations, it sure was dynamic and fluid enough for me to award it four out of five stars.



‘Burn After Reading’ presents supreme lineup

By Jordan Keyes
Valencia Voice

How do you follow up a stark, violent drama dealing with the progression of evil in the world? A dark, screwball spy spoof featuring Brad Pitt as a gum-chewing, bike short-wearing, health nut. Sounds like a horrible decision, right?

Well, the much-renowned Coen Brothers pulled it off with style in their new comedy, “Burn After Reading.”

“Burn After Reading” begins with a disgruntled ex-CIA analyst (John Malkovich) who decides to write his memoirs. Through a chain of events, his memoirs fall into the hands of two bumbling gym employees (Frances McDormand and Brad Pitt) who decide to sell those memoirs to the highest bidder.

The plot is all over the place with no less than 6 or 7 “main” characters and an intricate web of subplots. Fortunately, the Coen brothers are able to bring it all together and tell a great story.

The deceit and trickery that make up the core of the movie are an interesting take on government and politics, but more so a commentary on people in general and their absurd attempts to keep up appearances.

The script is the smartest one I’ve seen this year. The Coen’s do dumb more intelligently than any other filmmakers I know.

It didn’t hurt that they had a stellar ensemble cast to back it up.

John Malkovich’s portrayal of the disillusioned Osbourne Cox is delightfully manic.

Even though they aren’t the “main” characters, Brad Pitt and George Clooney steal the show.

Pitt’s happy-go-lucky fitness expert garners a good 50% of the real laughs in the movie while getting significantly less screen time than his co-stars.

It’s amazing to see an “A-list” star with a good reputation in the “serious” film arena, really enjoy himself in an unapologetically, goofy role.

Clooney’s womanizing G-man, Harry Pfarrer, is an immature, oversexed delight. He plays his role of the suave agent with less than suave hobbies to a T.

The music in the film is superbly crafted, purposely bringing back strains of the spy thriller of yesteryear while still sounding current and punctuating the movie effortlessly.

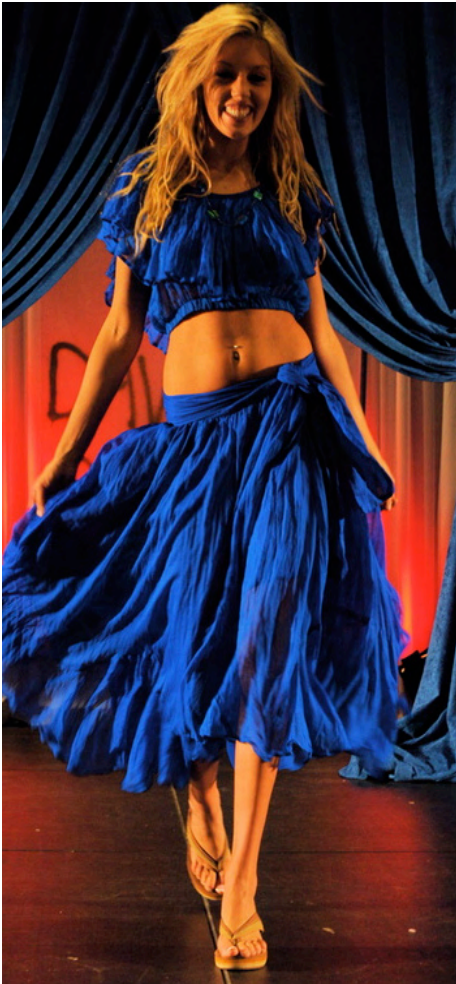
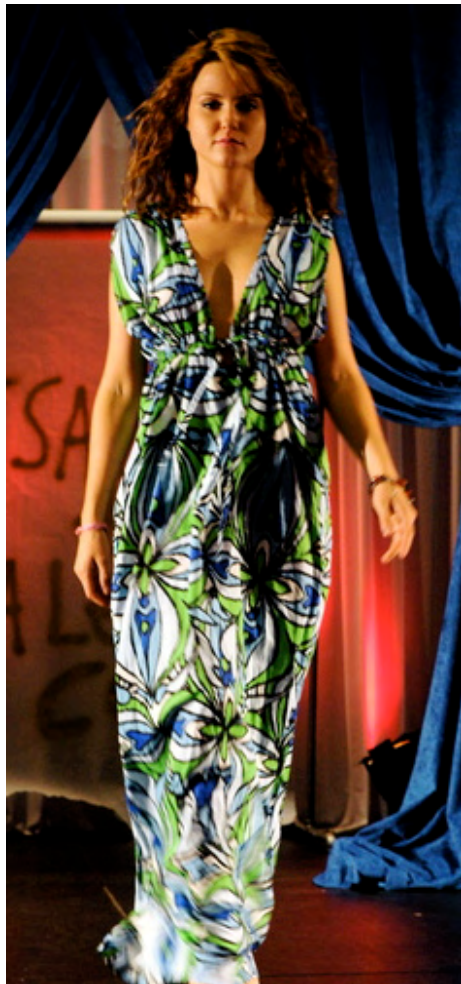
The movie has two distinct sections, the first being a scattershot goofball romp and, after a shocking turn that literally had the whole audience gasping for five minutes, the movie becomes a dark comedy.

Some would say pitch black, but the ending doesn’t disappoint. Some might say it’s too abrupt, but given the film’s lightning fast pacing, the shocking conclusion is in keeping with the feel of the film.

This film is really the epitome of a dark comedy. It deals with the darkness of the human race and the absurdity of pretending like we have a clue. This movie gets a four out of five for being the one smart comedy that came out this summer that manages to get more than your money’s worth in actual laughs.



Focus Features Studios
Brad Pitt and Frances McDormand take a minute to gaze at the computer screen. McDormand and Pitt both play health-nuts who work in a gym. ‘Burn After Reading,’ released Sept. 10, remains the number one movie on the box-office charts.



Photos by Olivia Pullinger / Valencia Voice

Models show off boutique designs in Surf Expo fashion show by designers P.J. Salvage (left and center), Dawn's Designs (right).

Surf Expo showcases beachwear trends

By Olivia Pullinger
Valencia Voice

Manufacturers and retailers in the beach and fashion industry gathered at the Orange County Convention Center this weekend to exhibit their clothing and (for some) to showcase their designs in a variety of fashion shows, all a part of the bi-annual Surf Expo. The fashion shows were divided into separate categories featuring swimwear, boutique, board shorts, and beachwear.

Several models walked the runway sporting a variety of designers, many of which featured beachy, flowy fabrics and everything from whites and pastels to bright, eyecatching jewel tones. Although there were over 20 designers featured between the swim and boutique categories, California-based company P.J. Salvage seemed to be an overwhelming favorite with the models. "I just love the feeling of the material," Model Alicia Vela-Bailey said of the terrycloth ensemble she wore. "It's very comfortable." P.J. Salvage was originally founded in 1996, making a name for themselves among celebrities such as Jessica Alba and Britney Spears, and selling mostly pajamas and loungewear. As of this year, however, the company has expanded its line to include beachwear, children's clothing, and a vast array of active-wear.

The company's main selling point is that the clothing is easy to wear. Their philosophy is "fashion and comfort 24/7." "It's all about the high-quality fabrics and the prints," representative Jodi Keyes said while displaying a colorful and chic sundress with a matching toddler-sized counterpart.

The age old debate of comfort vs. style continues to plague a large majority of women, and comfort has always seemed to be a non-existent concept in the world of fashion, lost in a sea of 6-inch stilettos and itchy hair extensions.

This predicament stems from the assumption that we must choose between the two. Most women don't realize that the option of comfort is available to them. Contrary to that belief, the looks displayed on this week's runway were flowing, feminine, and chic, while still being easy to wear.

With lines like P.J. Salvage's and tees from designers like Ed Hardy becoming increasingly popular, it seems that comfort is making a comeback in everyday fashion.

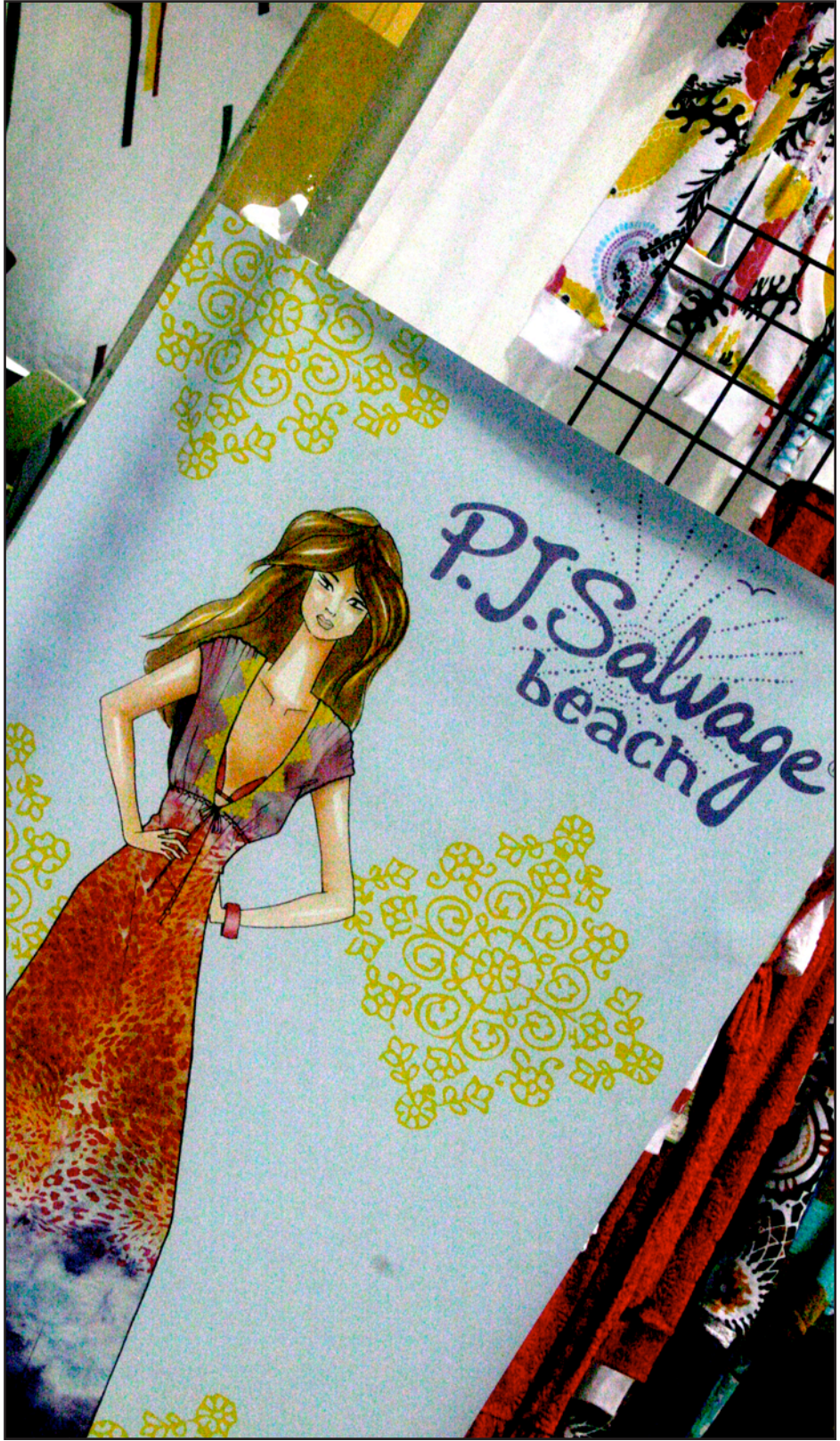


Photo by Ebony Chance / Valencia Voice

Sign displayed at P.J. Salvage clothing company's exhibit at the Orlando Surf Expo borrows styling cues from recently launched beachwear line.

Fashion Q&A: what to wear to job interview

By Jean Patteson
The Orlando Sentinel

Q: I am a big-and-tall guy, especially in the stomach region. I will be interviewing for jobs over the next few weeks and won't be able to shed a lot of pounds in a short time. What should I wear that will make me look professional, comfortable and, as much as possible, conceal the extra pounds? I will wear a jacket when I arrive, but after the initial introductions, I will be in shirt and tie most of the time. These are jobs with an informal dress code.

A: Smart thinking to arrive wearing a jacket. It will make a good first impression _ and hide some of that spare tire. **Tip No. 1:** Make sure everything fits properly. Tight clothing accentuates bulk. Loose clothing looks sloppy. Check your interview outfit, front and rear, in a full-length mirror before leaving home. **Tip No. 2:** Use color and stripes to your advantage. For your jacket and pants, go with black, navy or charcoal gray. Select a tie with bold, diagonal stripes in rich shades such as red, gold, black or navy, and team it with a shirt in a strong shade such as French blue. The tip of your tie should reach to the middle of your belt buckle. **Tip No. 3:** For shoes, socks and belt, stick with basic black. Shine your shoes. Wear a good-quality belt, and make sure it is long enough to fasten comfortably on the center hole. **Tip No. 4:** Start an exercise program right away. Maybe you won't lose much before your interviews, but the exercise will energize you - and make you feel and look better.

Riviera Beach man's fashion gets him arrested, fined

By Olivia Pullinger
Valencia Voice

It turns out that there is such a thing as the fashion police. A 29 year old man was nabbed by Riviera Beach Police for a real-life fashion crime last Wednesday.

Two officers were investigating a reported drug dealer when they spotted Kenneth Smith standing next to the suspect's vehicle.

According to the officers, Smith's shorts "were so low it exposed his blue and white boxer shorts approximately two inches below his waist."

Smith is currently facing a fine for up to \$150 for "exposing undergarments," and if he commits this offense again he could be faced with up to 30 days in jail.

Residents of Riviera Beach voted the law in earlier this year, and there have been at least 4 arrests on this charge. "How can you stop somebody for following a fashion? I don't think we should get punished for the way we dress," said 18 year old Morrius Bleau, one of the violators. "I feel this is just another way to harass black men. It's just an easier way for police to have probable cause to mess with somebody."

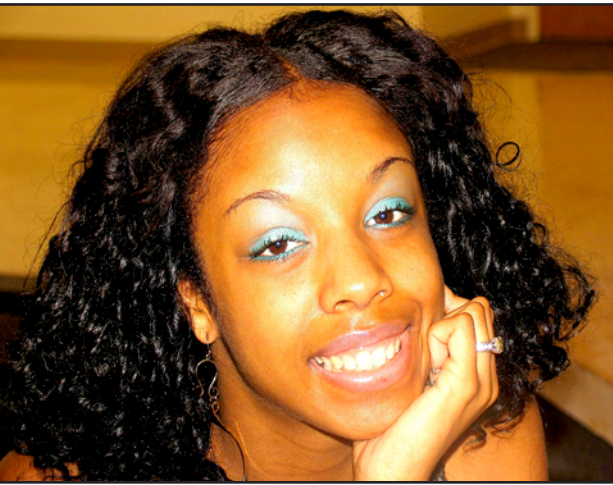
In such a forwardly progressing age as today it's hard to believe that we could be punished for something as trivial as our choice of wardrobe, but it appears that now, with fashion police cracking down on "indecent exposure," we must think twice about what we wear when we leave our homes.

What factors influence your shopping?



Photo by KAREN ELSHOUT

Debbie Nolden, 47, of Town and Country, Missouri, looks through the racks of a Banana Republic Petite store. Many petite women say it is a struggle to find fashionable, professional clothing in their size.



"Quality is the most import thing to me. Comfort doesn't really make a difference."

--Ashley Hudson



"The number one thing is that it has to be comfortable. I hate too-tight stuff. It also has to be colorful; I love to wear bright colors."

--Bridget Gattis



"When I'm shopping for clothing I consider comfort as a factor. In shoes I don't."

-- Praise Santos



"I like to have something nobody else has, and to go to stores nobody else knows about. Comfort does matter. I have a pair of skinny jeans but they are comfortable and not too tight"

-- Marquis Garvin



"I look for things that are different or unique. Comfort is a major part of my decision, especially if I'm going to be wearing it to school."

-- Bianca Torres



"I usually buy unique things. A good fit is also very important. I dont like wearing things that I have to adjust all the time."

--Marissa Bravo

Photos by Omshanti Lee, Ebony Chance / Valencia Voice



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September 17, 2008

VALENCIA VOICE

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Opinion

Opinion: One take on the RNC

By Walter Edward
Valencia Voice

The 2008 republican convention was overall a fraud of so-called change that the McCain-Palin ticket portrayed. McCain has voted the same as George Bush 95% of the time and Bush has the lowest approval rating of any president in recorded history.

At one point in McCain's speech he said, "I know these are tough times for many of you" recognizing the economic decline and the crowd starts chanting "U.S.A! U.S.A! U.S.A!" for about a minute.

The audience at the convention would've cheered for anything he said besides, (In Darth Vader tone of voice) "I am your father, McBush." (Bush as Luke Skywalker) "That's impossible my daddy is George Bush senior. NO!"

Sarah Palin stated that Obama had no responsibilities as a community organizer in Chicago, and her two terms as mayor of Wasilla, Alaska (a town with only a popula-

tion of 6,000) had more responsibility.

Obama served as a community organizer, helping people get jobs to provide for their families and tutoring for college, through 1985 to 1988 when Palin was a sports reporter.

Obama has been running for president almost as long as she has been mayor. If you do any research on Palin you will find out she has a lot to hide and her controversial private matters are trickling down to be investigated.

I could go on, but it would be too much for this small opinion column and I'll have more opportunities to write about the election.

Please, people, don't be fooled by what you see on T.V. or read in gossip magazines and research your candidates before you vote.

I just hope that American public sees through the façade the Republicans are wearing when it comes to the important issues of today.

Opinion: Neil's NFL Picks

By Neil Tredray
Valencia Voice

The Valencia Voice Sports Desk thought it would be fun to make our picks for the upcoming week in football. Let us know who you picked and feel free to notify us if you think we made any mistakes. Let's get right to it. Our picks are in bold.

Sunday

Kansas City @ **Atlanta** - Michael Turner runs wild over the Chief's dismal run defense.

Oakland @ **Buffalo**

Tampa Bay @ Chicago - Bucs' defense will pressure Kyle Orton into poor decisions.

Carolina @ Minnesota

Miami @ **New England** - Dolphins have to be thinking, "Here we go again."

Cincinnati @ **NY Giants**

Houston @ **Tennessee**

Arizona @ Washington - Last week, Redskins TE Chris Cooley made his most privates most public before playing a great game against New Orleans. He won't do the same this week, so Arizona gets the nod.

New Orleans @ **Denver** - Denver will win this without the help of Ed Hochuli.

Detroit @ **San Francisco**

St. Louis @ **Seattle** - Even if the Seahawks have to use a Wing T playbook, they're still better than the Rams.

Cleveland @ **Baltimore**

Jacksonville @ Indianapolis - I hate calling AFC South games because the teams step up the competition. If Indy loses this, they'll win in Jacksonville later in the season.

Pittsburgh @ **Philadelphia**

Dallas @ **Green Bay** - Aaron Rodgers makes Green Bay say "Brett who?"

Monday

NY Jets @ **San Diego** - The Chargers have lost two games in a row to last-minute heroics from opposing QBs. They're facing Brett Favre, a guy whose name is pretty much synonymous with "last-minute heroics." If needed, he does it again.



Graphic by Chris Ware, MCT Campus
Of nine Justices, Obama said he wouldn't have picked two, and McCain said he would have passed on four.

Editorial: President will shape our courts

Presidents can have their deepest and most lasting impact on American society through their appointments to the federal courts — and, more specifically, to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Presidents select Supreme Court justices as well as federal judges to the appellate and trial courts. Jurists who get approved enjoy lifetime tenure and almost unfettered freedom to rule on a wide range of issues that shape public policy and impact the lives of American citizens long after the president who appointed them is gone.

That's one reason the stakes are so high in November's presidential election.

Voters will have a clear choice between presumptive Democratic nominee Sen. Barack Obama and Republican Sen. John McCain on the issue of the courts.

Just weeks after taking office in 2001, Bush removed the American Bar Association from the judicial-screening process, ending its half-century role of reviewing candidates' credentials for nomination.

Instead, Bush has followed the advice of the office of the counsel to the president, which comprises mainly members of the Federalist Society — an organization devoted to advancing a conservative agenda through the legal system.

Currently, the high court is deeply divided, as seen by its frequent 5-4 decisions. But the next president will likely have an opportunity to leave an impressive mark on the court, too.

Six of the current nine justices are more than 68 years old. John Paul Stevens, 88, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 75, two of the more-liberal justices, could retire soon.

During a recent forum at Pastor Rick Warren's Saddleback Church in Orange County, Calif., both Obama and McCain shed some light on the types of judges they might appoint if elected.

Obama said he would not have nominated Thomas to the bench because he didn't

think Thomas was "a strong-enough jurist or legal thinker." Obama, a former constitutional law professor, said he also disagreed with Thomas' "interpretation of a lot of the Constitution."

Obama added that neither would he have nominated Antonin Scalia because he also disagrees with the justice on many legal matters. McCain said that, "with all due respect," he would not have nominated Justices Stephen Breyer, David Souter, Ginsburg or Stevens.

The Republican candidate added that appointments to the Supreme Court and federal bench "should be based on the criteria of proven record, of strictly adhering to the Constitution" and "not legislating from the bench."

McCain has promised to nominate justices in the mold of Roberts and Alito, both Bush appointees.

Voters then could expect a McCain presidency to shift the court further to the right, if its more-liberal justices retired — while an Obama presidency would more likely maintain the current divide, since the Democrat would likely replace the liberal judges with like-minded thinkers.

Obama has explained his opposition to confirming Roberts and Alito by expressing his belief that deciding "truly difficult" cases requires "the critical ingredient" that is "supplied by what is in the judge's heart." Critics say such a statement is a clear indication that Obama wants activist judges who shape policy from the bench.

Obama has promised to "make preserving women's rights under Roe v. Wade a priority as president." While McCain says he will be a "pro-life" president.

On that issue alone, voters can see the philosophical divide between Obama and McCain. After eight years of the conservative activism exerted by the Bush Supreme Court, many Americans would welcome a change.

—MCT Campus

Ike ravages Gulf Coast

Continued from cover

wearing socks but no shoes as she waded through floodwater and considered aloud where she would go.

“I could just sleep in my car,” she said. “The unfortunate truth is we’re going to have to go in and put our people in the tough situation to save people who did not choose wisely,” said Andrew Barlow, a spokesman for Texas Gov. Rick Perry. “We’ll probably do the largest search and rescue operation that’s ever been conducted in the state of Texas.”

Perry mobilized 7,500 National Guard troops, Coast Guard helicopters searched for

flood victims, and Houston Mayor Bill White said firefighters and police officers started responding to emergencies as soon as conditions became safe Saturday morning.

“It looks like a bomb went off over there,” Houston Police Officer Joseph Ledet told the Associated Press as he looked up at the 75-story JPMorgan Chase Tower and its shattered windows. “Just destruction.”

About 2 million people fled coastal communities before the storm made landfall, but another 140,000 chose to ride out the hurricane at home, according to U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. He flew to Texas Saturday night to assess the damage.

The first two deaths blamed on Ike were a woman in Pinehurst, Texas, who was killed when a tree fell on her home, and a man in Corpus Christi, who slipped off a jetty and was swept out to sea. The storm had already claimed more than 80 lives in the Caribbean last week on its march toward the Gulf Coast.

The American Red Cross provided shelter to 20,000 evacuees at 155 locations in Texas and Arkansas. A woman gave birth at a middle school shelter in New Braunfels, Texas, just northeast of San Antonio.

A geriatric psychiatrist, an intensive-care nurse and a few volunteers helped Ku Paw deliver a baby girl on a bathroom floor at Church Hill Middle School Friday night. Mother and infant were then taken to a local hospital for evaluation.

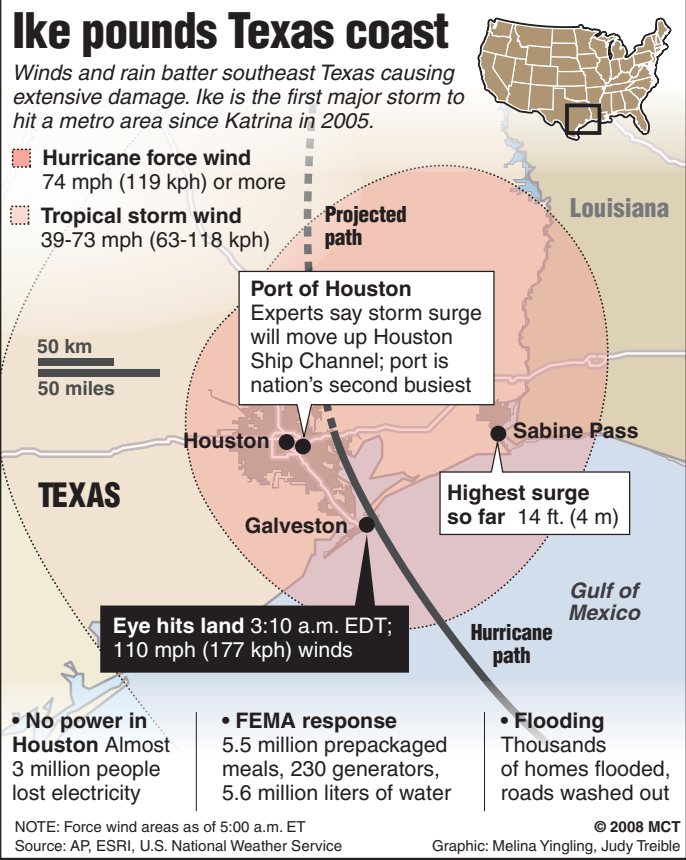
“It’s kind of like riding a bike,” Dr. Mark Burns said to The Herald-Zeitung newspaper about delivering his first baby in two decades.

President Bush declared a major disaster in Texas and Louisiana and ordered immediate federal aid.

“People of that area can rest assured that the American people are praying for them and will be ready to help once the storm moves on,” Bush said from the White House.

About 3.5 million people lost power in Texas and Louisiana, and power companies warned it could be weeks before all service is restored. Initial tallies indicated several thousand homes were destroyed throughout southeast Texas, including some in Surfside Beach just south of Galveston.

“It’s pretty bad,” Surfside Beach Mayor Larry Davison told AP. “It’ll take six months to clean it up.”



Guy Reynolds, Dallas Morning News / MCT Campus
An unidentified man surveys the damage to the JPMorgan Chase office tower in downtown Houston after Hurricane Ike ripped through southeast Texas, Saturday, September 13, 2008.



G.J. McCarthy, Dallas Morning News / MCT Campus
A coastal home in Surfside, Texas is left demolished after Hurricane Ike made landfall during the early morning hours, Saturday, September 13, 2008.

Ike's winds had weakened to 45 mph by Saturday evening as the tropical storm moved northeast toward Arkansas. The hurricane appeared to have avoided causing major damage to the oil rigs and refineries along the Gulf Coast, but gasoline prices jumped almost 6 cents a gallon due to a fear of shortages. Bush suspended restrictions on some reformulated gas to make it easier for foreign imports to reach the U.S. market and said federal and state will monitor gasoline prices "so consumers are not being gouged."

— MCT Campus



Danielle dos Santos goes on the attack in Friday's 2-1 victory over the Illinois State Redbirds.

UCF women's soccer runs Wilde

By Neil Tredray
Valencia Voice

The University of Central Florida women's soccer team moved to 4-1-1 Friday night with a 2-1 victory over the Illinois State Redbirds (3-4-0), extending their undefeated streak to five games.

"We were kind of up and down tonight as far as our rhythm and attack are concerned," said head coach Amanda Cromwell. "They made it hard for us to find our forwards at times so we needed to use the width of the field more, and in the second half I think we did a better job of that."

Senior midfielder Hanna Wilde assisted on UCF's first goal in the 28th minute. Junior Becca Thomas played a cross to Wilde, who crossed to freshman Katie Jackson. Jackson then passed the ball to junior Courtney Whidden who quickly tapped the ball in the goal.

"She just creates opportunities for herself," said Cromwell of Wilde.

Wilde created the biggest opportunity for herself and the team in the second half by scoring the game-winning goal in the 73rd minute.

Just five minutes after Illinois State scored, junior Nikki Moore on the near sideline crossed the ball to Wilde who

took a shot. Initially gathered up by Redbirds keeper Katie Grill-Donovan, the ball came loose and just barely crossed the goal line.

"I thought we created some decent chances," said associate head coach Colby Hale. "Individually we did all right. We're getting results. It's not pretty, it's not in the dominating fashion we'd like, but we're getting in the box now which is a step forward. We're definitely taking steps in the right direction, it's just fine-tuning things. [No. 17] Illinois and [No. 18] Kansas will be big tests for us."

Illions and Kansas will be the Knights' third and fourth games against ranked opponents.

Zambrano gets no-hitter 36 years in the making

By Paul Sullivan
Chicago Tribune

MILWAUKEE — Bernie Brewer wasn't at Miller Park on Sunday night, and the famous racing sausages decided to sit this one out too.

But the pro-Cubs crowd of 23,441 that showed up for the first makeup game of the hurricane-affected series between the Cubs and Houston got a chance to watch Carlos Zambrano make history.

Zambrano threw the Cubs' first no-hitter in 36 years in a 5-0 victory, stunning the Astros and making a triumphant return to the mound after an 11-day layoff since his last start.

"I guess I'm back," Zambrano said. "My arm is back. It's good."

"He was throwing the ball well, and got some good work in this week, but you don't expect a masterpiece like this," Cubs manager Lou Piniella said.

He became the 15th Cub since 1880 to throw a no-hit game and the first since Milt Pappas did it on Sept. 2, 1972, when he beat San Diego 8-0 at Wrigley Field.

No one could have predicted Zambrano would dominate a red-hot Astros team in such fashion.

But Zambrano was untouchable on this remarkable night, allowing only two balls to leave the infield while improving to 14-5.

Entering the ninth having thrown only 99 pitches, Zambrano was still on fire. Humberto Quintero grounded out to short on the first pitch, and pinch-hitter Jose Castillo followed with another routine grounder to Ryan Theriot.

Zambrano fell behind Darin Erstad 2-0 but got a



Zambrano reacts after throwing the Cubs' first no-hitter in 36 years.

called strike and a foul ball before bouncing a pitch to make it a full count. He got Erstad to chase a pitch out of the zone for strike three.

The Cubs moved 7½ games ahead of Milwaukee in the National League Central after the Brewers were swept in Philadelphia, allowing the Phillies to move into a tie for the wild-card lead.

Alfonso Soriano homered off Astros lefty Randy

Wolf on the third pitch of the game, setting the tone. Derek Lee added a two-run double as the Cubs batted around in a four-run third, breaking the game open and turning the spotlight over to Zambrano, who lives for being the center of attention.

How did he hit those speeds after not throwing that hard since early on in the season?

"I don't know man, my arm is weird, for real," Zambrano said. "Sometimes I give all I have in my arm. I even go back and try to throw harder and I just see 92-93. And sometimes I just kind of play catch with (catcher Geovany Soto) and see the scoreboard and it's 97-98."

Zambrano's closest no-hit encounter before Sunday was on Aug. 22, 2003, when he pitched seven no-hit innings in Arizona.

On Sunday, Zambrano did not allow a batter to reach until walking Michael Bourn in the fourth. Zambrano quickly induced a double-play grounder from Miguel Tejada, ending the inning.

After hitting Hunter Pence with a pitch with two outs in the fifth, Zambrano got David Newhan to hit a liner toward first that Lee snared with a leaping grab.

The crowd was buzzing the entire night and was on its feet every time Zambrano reached two strikes. They began chanting "Let's go, 'Z'" when Zambrano got two strikes past Lance Berkman with two outs in the seventh. Zambrano eventually caught Berkman looking at a curve.

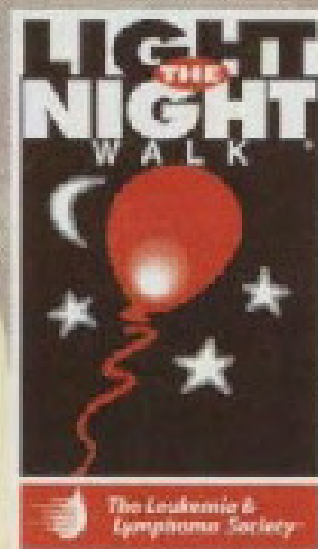
From that point on, emotions ran high on every pitch. The crowd erupted when Zambrano made a dramatic entrance from the dugout to start the ninth, knowing the history was only moment away.


After striking out Erstad, history had been made.

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Age 88, Myeloma Patient

Crawford Wheeler
Age 4, Leukemia Patient



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