



# VALENCIA VOICE

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## European nations band together to fix economic crisis

By Dion Nissenbaum  
McClatchy Newspapers

PARIS — Acting with urgency and unity, which had been sorely lacking, European nations unveiled plans Monday that could inject a mind-boggling \$1 trillion into troubled banking systems whose failures have threatened to drag the world into a deep recession.

Stock markets around the globe rallied after Britain, Germany and France announced concrete steps that will dramatically reshape the world economy by guaranteeing bank

loans and recapitalizing their countries’ commercial banks.

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown declared that his plan would be a “rock of stability.” French President Nicolas Sarkozy said “audacious” steps were the only way out of the crisis. German Chancellor Angela Merkel, a reluctant convert to the coordinated approach, said the measures would restore trust in the world markets.

After significant divisions last week that sent stock markets plunging, Monday’s action marked a moment of triumph for Brown, who spearheaded the strategy, and Sarkozy, who worked tirelessly as the president of the European Union to

overcome German resistance to the idea.

“I think Europe does now have its act together, and has its act together rather more than the United States,” said Richard Portes, an economics professor at the London Business School. “I am actually quite encouraged by the progress that has been made quickly, and I think we have reason to hope that we’ve turned the corner.”

In total, European leaders are offering to pump more than \$1 trillion into their banking systems. The goal is to as-

Please see Page 6

## Where candidates stand as Election Day nears

### Obama pulls ahead in battleground states



Photo by Dennis Tennant, Newport News Daily Press / MCT Campus  
Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama speaks at Victory Landing Park in Newport News, Virginia, Saturday, October 4, 2008.

By David Lightman  
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Three weeks before the Nov. 4 election, Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama is winning big in key battleground states, polls released Tuesday find.

The new Quinnipiac Polling Institute surveys found Obama passing the key 50 percent mark in Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. And for the first time, Obama leads Republican nominee John McCain among white voters in all four states.

“Those margins may be insurmountable barring a reversal that has never been seen before in the modern era in which polling monitors public opinion throughout the campaign,” said Peter Brown, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute.

The faltering economy is clearly helping Obama. “By wide margins, voters in each state say Senator Obama understands the economy better

than Senator McCain,” the poll analysis found.

Among the findings in the polls, conducted earlier this month:

- **Colorado: Obama 52 percent, McCain 43 percent.**
- **Michigan: Obama, 55 percent, McCain, 37 percent.**
- **Minnesota: Obama, 51 percent, McCain, 43 percent.**
- **Wisconsin: Obama, 51 percent, McCain, 43 percent.**

Brown noted that, “the only possible bright spot for Senator McCain — and you would need Mary Poppins to find it in these numbers — is that he is holding roughly the same portion of the Republican vote. But McCain’s support among independent voters, a group he says are key to winning the White House, has collapsed.”

McCain’s best chance of winning, he said, is a “knockout” in tonight’s third and final debate.

“But given that he has been judged by the electorate to have lost both of the previous face-offs, that would seem to be a very tall order,” Brown said.

—MCT Campus

#### On pork, spending controls

Where the presidential candidates stand:	
<b>McCain</b> One-year freeze on discretionary spending (except defense and veterans); after Iraq and Afghanistan wars end, use savings to reduce deficit	<b>Obama</b> Opposes an across-the-board freeze but wants to enforce pay-as-you-go rules that would require Congress to pay for any new spending
<b>Earmarks</b> Promises to veto any spending bill containing an earmark; one of five senators who did not request any earmarks last year	Introduced legislation to require more disclosure of earmarks; wants to cut earmark spending to 1994 levels; has suspended all earmark requests after proposing 53 last year for projects totaling more than \$97 million
<b>Budget</b> Wants to balance the budget by 2013 by limiting spending growth to 2.4 percent; wants to find savings by conducting a comprehensive review of all federal programs	Wants to increase government revenues by reversing tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, close tax loopholes for corporations, end subsidies for oil and gas companies

Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau  
Graphic: Lee Hulteng, Judy Treible

#### On fixing the economy

Where the presidential candidates stand:	
<b>McCain</b> \$300 billion to take bad mortgages off banks’ books and negotiate better mortgage rates for homeowners	<b>Obama</b> 90-day foreclosure moratorium for homeowners living in their homes making good faith efforts to pay mortgages
<b>401k, IRA retirement plans</b> Suspend tax rules that force seniors to sell equities when they reach age 70 1/2; allow those over age 60 to withdraw up to \$50,000 per year, for 2008, 2009, to be taxed at only 10 percent	Supports suspending 401k, IRA tax rules that force seniors to sell equities; allow withdrawals of 15 percent up to \$10,000 without normal 10 percent tax penalty in 2008, 2009
<b>Taxes</b> Increase the tax write-off for stock losses to \$15,000 from \$3,000 for tax years 2008, 2009; reduce maximum tax rate on long-term capital gains to 7.5 percent in 2009, 2010	Businesses get a \$3,000 refundable tax credit for each additional full-time worker hired

© 2008 MCT  
Source: Candidates’ Web sites  
Graphic: Lee Hulteng, Judy Treible

## McCain unveils new economic plan

By William Douglas and Margaret Talev  
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Republican John McCain on Tuesday unveiled \$52.5 billion worth of proposals targeting seniors, workers and the unemployed in a bid to get a handle on an economy that’s hurting him in the polls.

Speaking in Blue Bell, Pa., McCain

outlined a plan that would allow people 59 and older who withdraw money from Individual Retirement Accounts or 401(k) retirement plans in 2008 and 2009 to pay an income tax rate of only 10 percent \_ instead of the usually higher rates \_ on the first \$50,000 withdrawn each year. There would be no penalty for such withdrawals.

McCain’s plan also calls for halving the capital gains tax on stocks purchased and held for more than a year

from 15 percent to 7.5 percent for two years, increasing the tax write-off for stock losses from \$3,000 to \$15,000 for tax years 2008 and 2009, and suspending taxes on unemployment insurance benefits for those two years.

“These are all targeted at people who have been hurt by the recent financial crisis: seniors, savers, workers, people who are trying to get to college,” said Douglas Holtz-Eakin, McCain’s chief economic adviser.

The Arizona senator’s plan added to his previous proposals, including having the Treasury Department buy troubled mortgages; giving qualified homeowners government-guaranteed, low-interest mortgages; and suspending rules that require investors to begin withdrawing from their IRAs and 401(k)s when they reach age 70 {.

“With so much on the line, the moment requires that government act, and as president I intend to act,” McCain said.

The nation’s economic crisis has hurt McCain’s campaign, as poll after poll finds that voters trust Democrat Barack Obama more in handling the economy, often by wide margins.

Please see Page 6



Photo by Chuck Liddy, Raleigh News & Observer / MCT Campus  
McCain’s economic plan targeting seniors and veterans aims to slow Obama’s increasing poll numbers.



# Presidential Candidates talk up ideas for the economy

By Margaret Talev and David Lightman  
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Democrat Barack Obama on Monday proposed \$60 billion worth of new ideas to stimulate the ailing economy, including a tax credit to prod companies to hire more workers and a new way for consumers to cash out up to 15 percent of their IRAs or 401(k)s with no early-withdrawal penalties.

Republican John McCain, who is behind in polls, reiterated several of his recent proposals to combat the economic crisis, but rolled out nothing new in speeches in Virginia and North Carolina.

He plans a more detailed speech Tuesday with some “specific new measures,” said Doug Holtz-Eakin, McCain’s senior policy adviser.

The economy is by far the most important issue to voters, polls have found, but some experts said that Obama’s new proposals weren’t comprehensive enough.

Obama’s new ideas, combined with his earlier economic-stimulus proposals from the summer, would cost about \$175 billion over two years, according to his economic policy director, Jason Furman.

The additional spending probably would drive up the federal budget deficit, estimated at a record \$438 billion in fiscal 2008 and likely to be at least that much next year, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Still, because of the economic downturn, “this president is going to need a large stimulus package,” argued Alice Rivlin, a Democrat and former Federal Reserve Board vice chairman.

Campaigning in Ohio, Obama also proposed giving companies a \$3,000 tax credit per new worker for net U.S. jobs created through 2010. He called for a three-month



Chuck Liddy, Raleigh News & Observer / MCT Campus

Evelyn Chargarov calls a timeout as Jack Stanton and Shawnee Bell argue at a McCain rally.

moratorium on home foreclosures. He also asked the Federal Reserve to provide short-term emergency loans to struggling states or local governments that can’t tap the bond market during the financial crisis.

He said that allowing early withdrawals of up to 15 percent — capped at \$10,000 — from retirement savings programs through 2009 without tax penalties “will help families get through this crisis without being forced to make painful choices like selling their homes or not sending their children to college.”

Current law imposes a 10 percent tax penalty on withdrawals from 401(k) plans before age 59, and makes the money that’s withdrawn subject to income tax.

The tax penalty is waived for those who can demonstrate hardships or for first-time homebuyers, said William Roberts, a spokesman for the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Obama’s proposal would let anyone withdraw up to \$10,000 without penalty.

The Illinois senator also reiterated his recent calls for an emergency lending fund, fee

waivers for small businesses and an extension of unemployment benefits.

McCain’s forces were sharply critical. Holtz-Eakin charged that Obama’s \$3,000 tax credits for new American workers would “hardly undo the damage” from the employer health-care mandates or some business tax increases that Obama wants.

McCain supporter Rob Portman, a former congressman and budget director for the Bush administration, said that Obama’s \$10,000 allowance for early withdrawals “seems like it would be the wrong thing to encourage,” since it would let people take money out of their retirement accounts at a time when the assets in them are lower because of the crisis.

McCain reiterated his own ideas, pitching his \$300 billion plan for the government to buy bad mortgages in exchange for lower-rate government-backed loans, and to take bad debt off banks’ books. Obama has criticized that approach as a giveaway to the lending industry.

McCain also has proposed waiving rules that force senior citizens to withdraw from

their IRAs or 401(k)s beginning at age 70 regardless of the market. Obama supports that idea.

In addition, the Arizona senator has called for freezing government spending on “all but the most important programs.” Defense spending, veterans’ care, Social Security and perhaps others he’s yet to specify would be exempt from his freeze.

Some analysts’ were underwhelmed by Obama’s new ideas.

Their chief benefit would be largely psychological, said Stan Collender, a veteran Washington economic analyst. The ability to tap 401(k)s or freezing foreclosures, for instance, “would take one source of stomach-tightening away from people,” he said. “It could make people feel a little bit better.”

William Shughart, a professor of economics at the University of Mississippi, saw the proposals as minor efforts when “you need a global plan” to help the economy. “People are looking for an overarching plan, not stopgap measures.”

McCain spoke of the economic crisis in national security terms. He used the words “fight” or “fighting” at least 18 times, and said that “the hour is late. Our troubles are getting worse. Our enemies watch ... We have to fight.”

“I’ve been fighting for this country since I was 17 years old, and I have the scars to prove it,” he added. “What America needs in this hour is a fighter, someone who puts all his cards on the table and trusts the judgment of the American people.”

He accused Obama of “measuring the drapes” at the White House with 22 days to go before the election Nov. 4, and said that although he’s slipped behind Obama in national polls, “We’ve got them just where we want them.”

—MCT Campus

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# Young Jews storm Florida, urge elders to vote Obama

By Lois K. Solomon  
Sun Sentinel

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Some South Florida grandparents prepared to kvell last weekend: The grandkids came to visit.

More than 100 Jewish young adults from across the country, urged on by comedian Sarah Silverman, requested a sit-down at the condo kitchen table to encourage their grandparents to vote for Barack Obama for president.

Politics or not, grandparents always kvell (the Yiddish term to beam with pride) when the grandkids come.

The campaign, called “The Great Schlep,” opened Friday, with training for out-of-state volunteers at Obama’s South Florida headquarters in Delray Beach.

Throughout the weekend, the grandchildren had “challenging conversations” with their elders about what they see as the importance of voting for the Democrat, said Mik Moore, The Great Schlep’s co-executive director.

The campaign, sponsored by JewsVote.org, is an outgrowth of Operation Bubbie (Yiddish for “grandmother”), which in 2004 sought to make sure Palm Beach County senior citizens understood the logistics of voting after the 2000 Bush v. Gore U.S. Supreme Court decision.

Moore said Silverman’s widely dispersed promotional video, which has found its way to the front page of video sites like



Rob Kim, Landov / MCT Campus

Sarah Silverman teamed up with JewsVote.org to get the word out about The Great Schlep with a humorous promotional video.

—MCT Campus

# Food, friendship, dancing highlight Hindu celebration

By Omshante Lee  
Valencia Voice

A rainbow of colors flash in a bright frenzy as a beautiful array of dresses sway in a whirlwind of movement.

The women of the Hindu religion in our community have put on their best saris, all of diverse colors, complete with unique designs of sequence and intricate beading. They’ve come together in one of the most important events of the year. The night is filled with dance, food and laughter, as it is the last day of a ten day holiday. The celebration of Navaratri must come to an end.

This annual recognition of Amba Mata, or Mother Amba, took place last Friday and Saturday at Dr. Phillips High School, and lasted from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. both nights. Sponsored by the Indian Society of Florida, whose emphasis is always on “unity with diversity,” this cultural and religious event was open to all.

“There is only one God,” said a volunteer for the event. “But his works are represented through different gods and Amba Mata is the goddess of strength. We fast during the ten days until sundown, and almost everyone stays on a strict vegetarian diet.”

As the fast comes to an end, traditional Indian foods like Jalebi and Dhokla are served for the families to enjoy in between the festivities. Rhangoli Sweets, a restaurant based out of Winter Springs, catered the event, and described the diverse taste of the different meatless dishes.

“Some are sweet, some spicy. It all depends on what you choose to top your food with,” says Neeru, one of the chefs, while pointing to a selection of different flavored sauces.

The food was just one of the many things to enjoy, and as the night went on, guests spoke about other highly anticipated activities.

“Personally, for me this event is an opportunity to get with friends and family and dance,” says Jyoti Pandya, a West Campus student. But until it was time for the dancing, friends enjoyed conversation with neighbors that they had not seen in months.

Men, women and children came together in an opportunity not only to give thanks, but also to unite. “To me, this event means seeing the entire community together at one point during the year. It’s mostly social, but very old school because they play traditional folkloric songs,” said Khush Saika, an active member of the committee.

Finally, the live band begins playing Indian folk music, setting the atmosphere as the heavy drum beat creates the perfect rhythm for synchronized movement. Women of all ages surround Amba Mata’s altar, being sure to remove their shoes as a sign of respect. Their perfectly choreographed dance took them in a circle around Amba Mata’s beautifully candlelit picture. It seems as if almost everyone knows the graceful dance, and those who don’t catch on quickly in honor of the last day to celebrate the goddess of strength.

# Dodge shows off new Durango Hybrid at Miami press event

By Steven Cole Smith  
The Orlando Sentinel

MIAMI — Like a proud father — which, in a sense, is exactly what he is — Abdullah Bazzi, manager of hybrid engineering for Chrysler, is showing off the 2009 Dodge Durango Hybrid.

For the past couple of years, Bazzi has lived and breathed Chrysler gasoline-electric hybrids, finally breaking cover as the Durango and its corporate twin, the Chrysler Aspen. They will soon be followed by a hybrid version of the redesigned 2009 Ram full-sized pickup.

At a news media event here, Bazzi poked, prodded and pointed at a Durango Hybrid, showing me the lithium-ion battery pack, concealed under the middle-row seat in the seven-passenger SUV. He pointed out the electric air conditioner, the electric power steering pump, the electric fans that cool the radiator, and a big black box under the hood that, he said, contains the “brains.”

You know how a regular new vehicle has dozens of diagnostic checks that it performs on itself? Like monitoring fuel pres-

sure, ignition, that sort of thing? Bazzi said the Durango Hybrid has all that, plus 600 more.

To say this is a sophisticated vehicle is an understatement. Chrysler has never built and sold anything this complex.

Which means fuel mileage of 19 miles per gallon in the city, 20 mpg on the highway. While that beats the highway mileage of the non-hybrid four-wheel-drive Hemi V-8 powered Durango by only 1 mpg, in the city it’s an improvement of 6 mpg.

And here’s the part Bazzi is proudest of: All this extra hybrid equipment adds only about \$3,000 to the price of the Durango over a comparable gas-driven model. And since Chrysler is expecting an \$1,800 hybrid tax credit for buyers of the Durango, “you are in effect only paying an extra \$1,200 for the hybrid system.”

Still, this is a little misleading. The absolutely loaded Durango Hybrid I drove lists for a base price of \$45,340 (which includes shipping), and \$48,045 as tested. Yes, this may be about \$3,000 more than a comparable regular Durango, but you’ll pay close to list price on a Durango Hybrid, and I’d

expect a discount of at least \$6,000 on a regular Durango, probably much more. So while they are pretty close in list price, in actual transaction price, they are a long way apart.

That said, it must be noted that Chrysler and General Motors worked together on developing this hybrid system, and GM’s version debuted last year as the Chevrolet Tahoe Hybrid, and the GMC Yukon Hybrid, both of which I have tested and liked. But the GM products are more expensive — the Tahoe Hybrid starts at \$54,210 with shipping, \$8,870 more than the Durango Hybrid.

Now, with that out of the way, how does the Durango Hybrid work?

Very well, thanks. Power comes from a 5.7-liter Hemi V-8 engine that, with the electrical propulsion system, pumps out 385 horsepower. That’s good, because with the extra weight the hybrid system adds, this Durango weighs a hefty 5,609 pounds.

The Durango Hybrid can operate on electric-only mode up to about 25 mph, then the Hemi kicks in, or sooner if more aggressive acceleration is needed. The Hemi

FunnyorDie.com and Youtube helped gather volunteers.

“We are encouraging people to take responsibility for the people they’re closest to,” Moore said. “They can use whatever means of persuasion they have at their disposal.”

That’s what Ari Kuschnir, 28, of Brooklyn, N.Y., is doing with his grandmother, Mary Kuschnir, 82, who lives in Sunny Isles Beach.

He arrived earlier in the week and was unable to talk his grandmother into voting for Obama.

So he promised to get engaged to his girlfriend of four years if she changes her vote and Obama wins.

“I was naive enough, living in my Brooklyn bubble, to think we could have a sophisticated conversation on the issues,” Kuschnir said. “I realized quickly there was no way of getting through. Drastic measures were required.”

But Chip LaMarca, chairman of the Broward County Republican Party, said Jewish seniors have legitimate reasons to favor John McCain and will be outraged by what he sees as the Great Schlep’s manipulation.

“The whole premise is offensive,” he said. “The idea that I would try to tell my grandmother who to vote for is ridiculous. It should be the other way around.”

The Great Schlep’s Web site includes talking points for young people to discuss with their grandparents, including Obama’s enthusiasm for Israel, his pro-choice stance and his efforts to strengthen Social Security.

A section called, “He’s Black, Let’s Talk About It,” says “Obama represents a different kind of black leadership, less interested in the confrontational tactics favored by many who came of age in the 1960s and 1970s.”

Dorit Price-Levine, 24, of Washington, D.C., said she will not have to use these talking points on her grandmother, Mildred Price, of Delray Beach, when she arrives Saturday. Price is already an Obama supporter.

“I’ll be talking to her neighbors,” Price-Levine said. “Whenever I visit her, I end up getting shown off to the neighbors anyway.”

Price, 82, said she was thrilled that her granddaughter was coming to visit and looked forward to knocking on the door of a neighbor who supports McCain.

“I haven’t been able to talk her out of it,” Price said.



Opinion

What if real Sarah Palin appeared on ‘SNL’

By Jordan Keyes  
Valencia Voice

A large portion of Americans have probably seen Tina Fey’s hilarious turns as Vice Presidential Candidate Sarah Palin, but what would it look like if it was the other way around?

Rumors are swirling that Palin is set to play Tina Fey in an upcoming episode of “Saturday Night Live.”

With Fey’s portrayal of the Alaskan governor getting SNL more buzz than it has had in years, could an appearance by Palin be the shot in the arm that the Republican ticket needs, or just one more reason to ridicule the oft-parodied Palin.

If she does make an appearance, Governor Palin will be following in the footsteps of many recent politicians who have taken their campaigns to the comedians.

Senator Barack Obama, Senator Hillary Clinton, Senator John McCain and many more have appeared on shows like “The Daily Show,” “The Colbert Report,” and “Saturday Night Live” in attempts to boost their approval ratings.

It should be interesting to see how an appearance from Palin would help her in the polls.

Interestingly enough, every time Fey portrays Palin on “Saturday Night Live,” Palin takes a hit in the polls among Democrats and Independents.

How would Palin’s approval change if she plays Fey? Would Fey’s approval rating take a hit after Palin plays her?

Everyone will just have to wait and see if Palin will make it to the comedy show and then what will happen.

Meanwhile, the Valencia Voice asked for your opinion on a Vice Presidential candidate spoofing herself and a major comedy figure.



I think it’s useless.  
-Jon Lozano



I think it’s immature and it will hurt her campaign.  
-Brittany Harris



That would be a very, very funny idea. It could be a good comeback.  
-Sergio Teixeira



I think it would be weird, but good for her in some ways. She could get her name out to other people.  
-Linsy Inoa



I think it would be hilarious because Fey playing Palin is hilarious.  
-Deshaun Thomas



I think it’s stupid to focus on things like that.  
-Genezareth Berrocal



I think it would be a great idea because they look so similar.  
-Erick Flores



I don’t think it will make a difference. It would be like Bush going on “Saturday Night Live” to boost his approval rating.  
-Richard Hertzburg

Photos by Jordan Keyes

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Neil’s NFL picks  
Week 7

The Lions are  
still terrible

By Neil Tredray  
Valencia Voice

San Diego at **Buffalo** - Who cares?  
Minnesota at **Chicago** - The NFC North has three teams at .500 and one at .000 (the Lions are terrible). Divisional games like these will go a long way towards deciding the NFC playoff contenders, since nobody outside of the NFC East is getting in on a wild card.

**Pittsburgh** at Cincinnati - Ben Roethlisberger, even at his most concussed and appendicitis-est, can and will whip the Bengals silly.

**Tennessee** at Kansas City - After this game, the Titans have two tough home games against Indy and Green Bay. 7-1 isn’t a bad place to be at the season midpoint.

**Dallas** at St. Louis - Okay, I’ll admit I was wrong in predicting a Ram’s loss to the Redskins last week, but honestly, show of hands, who thought the Rams could do it? Put your hand down, Marc Bulger.

Baltimore at **Miami** - The Ravens were the only team out of 16 bad enough to lose to the Dolphins last year. This year, the Dolphins are 300% better, and the Ravens are still pretty weak.

San Francisco at **NY Giants** - So the Giants didn’t exactly “steamroll” the Browns. ESPN still ups “better Manning brother” analysis to 16 hours per day.

New Orleans at **Carolina** - The Panthers looked helpless against Tampa Bay last week. Luckily for them, the Saints don’t have the Bucs’ secondary.

Detroit at **Houston** - This game is like “Aliens vs. Predator” in that whoever wins, we lose.

**NY Jets** at Oakland - Oakland has been allowing 234 yards through the air. Brett Favre is going to have a field day.

Indianapolis at **Green Bay** - Better Manning brother plays in New Jersey now.

Cleveland at **Washington** - My grandfather used to sit me down and tell tales of how after World War II, the Browns were good.

Seattle at **Tampa Bay** - Jeff Garcia is back to form, Joey Galloway might play, and the defense is playing scary-good ball.

As for Monday?  
**Denver** at New England - The Patriots’ starting linebacker corps has a combined age of 121. Things that are 121: Groundhog Day, the automobile, the contact lens, *Gjfnjdjcb* whisky, John McCain.



Sangjib Min/ MCT Campus

Senator John McCain, 121, remembers when the Browns were good; invention of the automobile.



Al Diaz, Miami Herald / MCT Campus

Miami’s Lee Chambers runs for a first down in the second quarter against Central Florida at Dolphins Stadium in Miami, Florida, Saturday, October 11, 2008

Hurricanes defeat struggling Knights, 20-14

By Susan Miller Degnan  
Miami Herald

MIAMI — Another strange game. Another case of the Miami Hurricanes seeming to do their best to give one away.

But the Knights of Central Florida were not going to let it happen. Not with their offense.

Robert Marve threw three interceptions, Miami’s offense could barely get it going, but the Hurricanes defeated UCF, 20-14, on Saturday at Dolphin Stadium.

“Very weird game. Very sloppy on both sides,” said Marve, who has seven interceptions in his past three games. “A win is a win. We’ll take it. We love it. It feels good right now.”

Kind of good, at least.  
The ‘Canes (3-3) struggled to gain their 216 yards and converted 2 of 17 third downs. But the Knights (2-4)? They suffered. Central Florida’s ineptitude on offense combined with UM’s stout defense resulted in 4 yards on the ground and 74 through the air.

The 78 yards of total offense were the fewest allowed by UM since Nov. 20, 1999, when Rutgers had 64 yards against the ‘Canes. UM had a season-high five sacks Saturday, two by defensive end Allen Bailey.

UM coach Randy Shannon was asked if he thought his team had “survived” Saturday’s game.

“You don’t survive when you win,” Shannon said. “A win is a win. You don’t survive.”

The Hurricanes led 10-7 at halftime, but it would have been 10-10 had a 48-yard field goal by Daren Daly - UM’s kicker last year - not been called back because of an illegal formation by the Knights.

UM scored on a fourth-quarter safety to make it 12-7 after a botched punt snap by UCF with 13:31 left in the game.

The Hurricanes made it 20-7 after a booming, 43-yard punt by Matt Boshers went through the arms of UCF returner Joe Burnett and was recovered at the UCF 5-yard line by Sam Shields. Graig Cooper, who had a career-high 23 carries for 90 yards, scored on the next play - and the ‘Canes got the two-point conversion

Harris took a knee the last three plays to run out the clock.

Marve completed 8 of 19 passes for 74 yards, with a 25-yard touchdown to Travis Benjamin and had his three picks.

Harris (4 of 6 for 14 yards) led six drives, including the initial one to end the first quarter. He came in again with 13:31 left in the game and wasn’t replaced.

When asked if that was an indication that the quarterback position is open, Shannon quickly replied, “Nope. Nope. Next.”

Said Marve: “I think anyone would like to be in the game, honestly. But whatever the coaches think. I was cool with it. I was having a rough day. It happens in football. But it’s great to have a rough day and still win the game.”

Marve conceded it was his responsibility to do better.

“Yeah, that’s rough,” he said of the picks. “I’m trying to make plays. Maybe it’s dumb freshman things. I don’t know what it is. Sometimes I just see it there or I’m trying to force it or just little ones too - ending games or ending halves.

“I’m going to keep slinging the ball. If anything I’m going to focus on the bonehead mistakes, the bonehead throws. Maybe I can work on that a little bit more, but I have to keep being aggressive.

“I’m still learning the offense, and when the defense, like this week, shows you a whole different defense than what we thought they were going to show, it tends to happen. They didn’t run what we thought they’d run.”

Central Florida scored its second-quarter touchdown on Marve’s second of three interceptions in the first half. Cornerback Johnell Neal ran in front of Benjamin for the catch and sprinted 62 yards for the touchdown.



Al Diaz, Miami Herald / MCT Campus

UCF’s Rob Calabrese scrambles out of the reach of Miami defender Marcus Forston

when quarterback Jacory Harris ran it in.

But the ending would not be simple for the Hurricanes, who imploded last week and almost did again Saturday in front of 40,011 fans. UM’s DeMarcus Van Dyke was flagged for offside on the ensuing kickoff, and Boshers had to kick again. This time, UCF’s Burnett returned the kick 91 yards for a touchdown.

Suddenly, the score was 20-14 with 4:57 left.

Harris was sacked for a loss of 15 yards on UM’s next drive, and the Hurricanes punted from their 21. UCF started at its 41 and drove to the Miami 36, but Rob Calabrese’s incomplete pass ended the Knights’ hopes.



# Students shine at Talent Tuesday

By **Shaneece Dixon**  
**Valencia Voice**

Returning to West Campus is the highly anticipated Talent Tuesday, hosted by West Campus' Student Government Association. Despite the light rain and heavy winds, students and faculty gathered together on Oct. 7th by the Student Services Building patio from 1-2 p.m. The first to perform on stage was Terrance "T.O." Owens, who sang a remix of the gospel song "His Eyes on the Sparrow."

"There's a large crowd out here," said Owens. "I'm really happy for the opportunity to share my song."

As always, it was the first time for several students to see the event. Andres Gonzalez just happened to be one of those several students.

"It's nice that we get to be here and chill with people," Gonzalez said.

Next to perform was Emilio "Eclipse" Myles, who performed his original song "Smooth Sailing." The producer and MC of five years found out about Talent Tuesday through Allen Collins, the Senator of Marketing for SGA.

"Allen and I already collaborated on our music, so he told me about it, and I came. It's a great opportunity and I would like to come back," Myles said.

One of the performances which garnered the most applause came from Demaril Whitaker who did a spiritual dance to the song "Never Would Have Made It" by Marvin Sapp.

"I feel really comfortable performing,"

said Whitaker, who has been performing for 14 years. "I wanted to minister to the students here, and encourage them while making changes in the community. I'm really happy to be here."

Last to perform in the show were three individuals, Malcolm-Louis "Breez" Tramel, Raymond "Ray-Man" Furness, and Jabari Suluki.

mond "Ray-Man" Furness, and Jabari Suluki. Despite the fact that they don't have a group name, all three dance, sing, and free-style. Suluki first entranced the crowd with the original song "Antidote." Then Tramel eased up the crowd with some original free-styling, which he called "Soothe Mics" while Furness and Suluki

walked across the stage, providing some beats and music while supporting his act.

"It was a fun experience," said Tramel. Following their first appearance as entertainers to the Valencia community, the trio plans to perform again at the next show. The next Talent Tuesday will be Tuesday, Oct. 14.



Malcom-Louis "Breez" Tramel, Raymond "Ray-Man" Furness, and Jabari Suluki relax after their performance.

Erica Teamer, Valencia Voice

## European Union combats global economic emergency

Continued from cover

sure investors that the banks are healthy and free up frozen lending between banks, which has been at the center of the worldwide fiscal meltdown.

In exchange for a lifeline, troubled banks must accept government oversight that, in some cases, will amount to partially nationalizing the financial institutions.

Other European nations already are falling in line. Also, after its initial \$700 billion bank bailout strategy failed to reassure markets, the Bush administration is moving toward embracing Brown's strategy as a crucial element of the U.S. approach.

On Monday, Merkel unveiled the most expensive of the European plans, a \$681 billion package that will be used to guarantee bank loans and recapitalize German banks. The French version calls for the government to inject nearly \$500 billion into the nation's banks. Brown pledged to pump as much as \$63 billion into England's three largest banks.

"To let the chips fall where they may

would be the height of irresponsibility," Brown said. "It would be a failure of leadership precisely at the moment when vigorous action is needed to protect people who need that help most."

Their approach addresses the heart of Europe's problems: Banks are afraid to lend in a climate of panic. Because European banking is dominated by a few huge banks in each country, that poses a greater systemic risk than struggling U.S. banks do.

The U.S. crisis came about because of problems involving investment banks, which were subject to lesser reserve requirements than commercial banks were and were allowed to borrow more against those reserves. These same banks were crucial in developing complex, esoteric and unregulated financial instruments that threaten to implode and harm global finance.

The U.S. Treasury also is looking for ways to boost lending by healthy banks, the overwhelming majority of the more than 8,000 U.S. commercial banks.

Monday's steps were the outgrowth of emergency meetings in Washington, London

and Paris after a dizzying week of record stock market losses worldwide.

Faced with a second week of market panic, European leaders agreed on a plan that gives each nation an economic "tool box" from which it can pick and choose.

"The greatest risk today is not by being audacious, but by doing nothing," Sarkozy said.

Stock markets endorsed the approach Monday by staging strong rallies. In New York, the Dow Jones Industrial Average posted its biggest one-day point gain ever, soaring 936.42 points, or 11 percent, to 9,387.61. Germany's DAX index ended the day up nearly 9 percent. In France, CAC stocks were up more than 7 percent. The FTSE 100 in London was up about 5 percent.

While the European nations are putting their government backing behind troubled banks, the final bill for taxpayers may not be as high as the numbers suggest.

The goal in each country will be to instill confidence in the banks and attract private investment.

"I think this gets over the first hurdle," said Viral Acharya, a professor of finance at New York University and the London Business School. "This eliminates the complete lack of confidence, but the challenge now is for the banks to go out and find more capital on their own."

In the most significant element of the Brown plan, the British government could end up as the majority stakeholder of the Royal Bank of Scotland. If, as expected, RBS can't raise enough private investment to stabilize, the British government will inject as much as \$33 billion into the bank in exchange for nearly 60 percent of its stock.

Britain also could pump nearly \$30 billion into Lloyds TSB and HBOS, two U.K. banks that are in the process of merging. In return, Brown's government would receive a 40 percent stake in the bank.

"The government cannot just leave people on their own to be buffeted about," Brown said in announcing the plan. "We must, in an uncertain and unstable world, be the rock of stability upon which people can depend."

— MCT Campus

## McCain unveils economic plan prior to election

Continued from cover

The Illinois senator's campaign quickly dismissed McCain's plan as a risky venture that provides little tax relief to millions of Americans, particularly senior citizens.

"John McCain's latest gambit is a day late and 101 million middle-class families short," Obama campaign spokesman Bill Burton charged in an e-mail statement. "Sen. McCain also shows how little he understands the economy by offering lower capital gains rates in a year in which people don't have an awful lot of capital gains."

McCain's plan came a day after Obama proposed \$60 billion worth of new ideas to revive the ailing economy, including a tax credit to spur companies to hire more workers and a new way for consumers to cash out up to 15 percent of their IRAs or 401(k)s without early withdrawal penalties.

Obama's new proposals, combined with his earlier economic-stimulus plan from the summer, would cost about \$175 billion over two years, his economic advisers said.

McCain charged that Obama's plan would harm the economy further by overly encouraging early withdrawal from retirement accounts.

"This is an invitation to capital flight, and therefore to continued instability in the market at a moment when exactly the opposite is needed," McCain said. "Any family that takes part in this will not see the benefits of the market recovery that smart policy can help bring out."

Economic experts say that both plans would add to the federal budget deficit. Rudy Penner, an Urban Institute analyst and former director of the Congressional Budget Office, said he didn't embrace either plan for that reason.

However, Penner said he liked one McCain proposal — one that Obama, too, has since adopted — to waive rules that otherwise would force retirees to begin withdrawals from their IRAs and 401(k)s at age 70 { despite the accounts' now-battered value.

He doesn't favor plans that encourage easy withdrawal from 401(k)s for anyone, especially not younger people. He worries

most that both candidates' plans would make the already giant federal budget deficits even bigger, swelling the national debt, diverting capital from more productive investment and expanding the nation's dependence on foreign lenders.

"I'd be very careful about increasing the debt," Penner said. Charles Schulze, a Brookings Institution analyst and former economic adviser to President Carter, said he was "dubious" that McCain's plans would spur more investment, and he's certain they would widen the disparity between the wealthy and the poor.

"The whole history of these past years is concentrating income. There's been a large increase in the inequality of income," he said. "The last thing we need to do is just increase that effect."

Schulze thinks that Obama's pledge to cut middle-class taxes is the right way to respond to a recession. But there are parts of Obama's plan that Schulze doesn't think are particularly helpful, including a three-month moratorium on foreclosures.

— MCT Campus

## Well-dressed historical drama makes deep commentary



Knightley's character, Georgiana Spencer, was called the "Empress of Fashion" in her time.

Peter Mountain, Paramount Vantage

By **Olivia Pullinger**  
**Valencia Voice**

The idea of Keira Knightley starring in a newly released historical drama is no shocker. The idea of a historical drama having any relation or relevance to modern events on any level, though, is a bit extraordinary.

"The Duchess" depicts the story of a young aristocrat named Georgiana Spencer (played by Keira Knightley) who marries the Duke of Devonshire (played by Ralph Fiennes), tying herself into a family of wealth, power, and ultimately imprisonment.

Georgiana's optimistic attitude going into the marriage is quickly crushed with the realization of her husband's disloyalty and frigid disposition.

Described as the "Empress of Fashion," Georgiana is a trend setter who is loved by seemingly everyone, with the exception of her husband.

With her abundant personality and lovable optimism, she far overcomes the role of dutiful wife and servant that she is meant (by society and her husband) to play.

In culmination, she bears three children, one of whom is the result of a brutal and violent marital rape, and is ultimately forced to choose between her offspring and her own independence.

"The Duchess" accomplishes a few things as a whole.

It brings to mind to Georgiana's real life descendant, Diana Spencer, and examines the more personal side of a society filled with misogyny and sexism through tolerable performances from a few well-known actors.

Despite lengthy and sometimes yawn-inducing segments, the film presents an attention-grabbing array of impressive costumes, quite possibly some of the best

this year, and an elaborate set.

The importance of the wardrobe is established early on in the movie, as Georgiana muses that the elaborate get-ups are an avenue for women to express themselves, in an age where women are best seen and not heard.

But do not be fooled by the abundant presence of wigs and corsets; this movie does not tread the worn path of a fanciful love story.

If you are eager to see another Jane Austen-esque, fairytale romance, don't waste your money.

Part of what makes the story acceptable is its historical accuracy.

It is harshly realistic. Admittedly there was some artistic license taken, but it is less a piece of glamorized Hollywood fiction than a true account of Georgiana Spencer's story.

With its subtle politics and a strong feminist message, "The Duchess" brings to the screen a remotely typical historical drama, while incorporating qualities that bring it to level with moviegoers today.

In a time where groundbreaking female politicians and leaders are working their way into the threads of our society and becoming household names, there has never been a more effective time for a study in early feminism.

However, when Georgiana gives way to her husbands demands, she seems to lose the personality and depth of character that made her likable in the first place.

A plot contradiction that is justifiable only by its historical accuracy, it makes you question the motivation behind the making of the film.

All in all, "The Duchess" serves as a testament to how one person, no matter how ambitious or passionate, cannot overcome a deeply rooted societal structure such as the one in 18th century Britain.

## 'Quarantine' stands out, thanks to sharp camera work

By **Roger Moore**  
**The Orlando Sentinel**

"Quarantine" is a movie testament to craftsmanship and commitment. The best "Blair Witch" knockoff of them all is basically a zombie movie seen through the viewfinder of a TV news camera — that "found footage" "Blair Witch Project" conceit.

But think about what it takes to make that come off— the camera blocking and staging, the choreography that gets our stars and the lights and mikes and camera from one perfect spot to capture what's happening to the next perfect spot, with enough jarring, jumpy bumps in the Steadicam to make it all so nauseatingly real.

And the actors are working in long takes. That means pages of script at a time, no lazy short edits to cover blown lines or players dropping out of character.

Jennifer Carpenter, playing the toot-thin, too-young, too-flirty Angela, a TV reporter whose "ride along" with firemen turns into a zombie virus nightmare, gives a performance that harks back to the Golden Age of Jamie Lee Curtis.

Yeah, she's that good.

No, the script isn't anything special and the novelty long ago wore off in this style of movie making.

But the execution in this film from John Erick Dowdle (he also did the similarly constructed "Poughkeepsie Tapes") is amazing, the camera work and cutting perfect.

"Quarantine" is a remake of "[Rec]," a Spanish horror thriller about a reporter and a cameraman who get more than they bargained for when they do a story on the night shift at a fire station. An ambulance call takes them to an old apartment build-



Sony Pictures

Director John Erick Dowdle's masterful camera work takes what could have been just another "Blair Witch" knock-off and turns it into a genuinely scary horror film.

ing. An old lady is sick, foaming at the mouth and covered in blood.

Before they can get her out, she's bitten others and the building is instantly sealed off, SWAT snipers preventing anybody from leaving.

One by one, the residents (Greg Germann plays a vet) and the first responders are picked off, official reassurances that "this'll all be over soon" not being very

reassuring at all.

The confines of the ancient and darkened building create paranoia, the sound effects (sirens and helicopters) add to it.

And Carpenter as Angela avoids the shallow, vapid TV newsbabe clichés.

She's just a young woman fighting back hysteria by doing her job and yelling "Film EVERYTHING!"

As this lean "Masque of the Red

Death" unfolds, she reacts the way most of us would.

She hyperventilates.

The jerky motion of the camera may make you sick because this sort of horror isn't to every taste. But "Quarantine" is the first of the "Blair Witch" clones to rip it off without embarrassing those doing the ripping off.

—MCT Campus