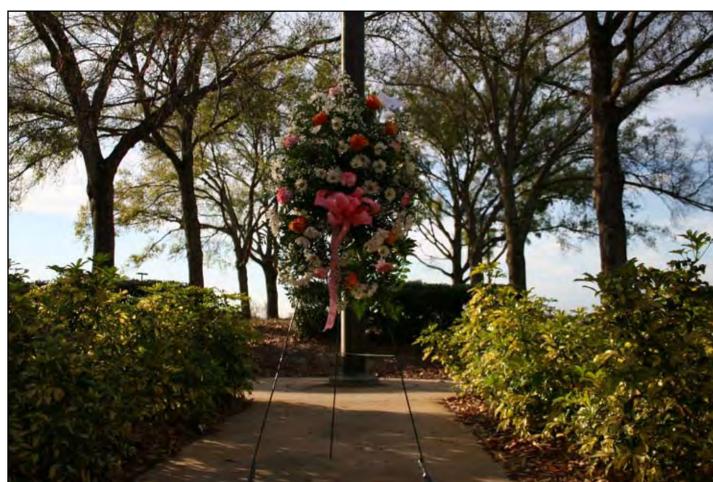


Volume 6, Issue 5

HTTP://VALENCIAVOICE.COM

February 18, 2008



A memorial wreath was placed in honor of Loyta Sloley at the Valencia West Campus flagpole courtyard

Music professors show their stuff

By Kyle Beard kbeard@valenciavoice.com

More than 50 members of the Valencia community gathered at the East Campus Performing Arts Center for a chance to hear their mentors perform on Thursday, Feb. 12.

The faculty recital is an annual event that gives students and members of the Orlando community a chance to get into the music and hear the work of their professors and colleagues.

"Our musical faculty is training the next generation of professional musicians," said the event organizer and interim dean for Arts and Entertainment Wendy Givoglu. "It's a really good opportunity for Valencia students and the community to be able to hear the talent of their professors."

The event showcased five performances consisting of guitar, piano and vocal pieces. Two of the pieces - performed by pianists Omar Surillo and Antonio Brett - were original compositions.

The theme was largely Latin American and Hispanic music, but ranged everywhere from pieces written by Robert Schumann to Andrew Lloyd Webber

"There's a lot of hispanic culture in the area and the students love it," said Brett, a native of Cuba, who performed two original pieces titled 'Sonatina for Intermediate level based on Latin Rhythm' and 'Guajira in G minor.'

"I grew up around this type of music," said Daniel Chacon, a student here at Valencia, "the theme is very familiar."

The recital was a portion of the ongoing United Arts of Central Florida Arts Festival and the Valencia Arts and Entertainment Festival.

"I grew up appreciating music and this is really helping to broaden my horizons," said Andrea Justice, "I'll definitely be attending more after this."

The United Arts of Central Florida ArtsFest boasts more than 75 events throughout ake, Osceola, Orange, and Seminole Counties, including a Valencia presentation of William Shakespeare's "The Tempest."

ArtsFest is designed to create awareness of and drive participation from Central Florida residents and visitors to the wide variety of cultural opportunities available in the area. The even also serves as the kickoff to United Arts' annual fundraising

Fallen classmate honored



Loyta Sloley

By Colin Dever cdever@valenciavoice.com

Janet Bryan was driving home from school on Jan. 27 when she received a phone call from another student that a tragedy had occurred.

Hours before, officers of the Orlando police department had forced their way into a room checked out to James Clayton and Loyta Sloley to find both guests dead from gunshot

wounds in what would be called a murder-suicide. Bryan rushed home as the reports of the incident were being broadcast on the local news. On the television screen she saw a face that she had seen many times before. Sloley, a friend, and former classmate was dead.

As president of the Black high achievers club since 2006, Bryan met

for her academic achievements by the Black high achievers club and was soon to be inducted at the organizations next induction ceremony according to Bryan.

The last time Bryan spoke to Sloley was Inauguration Day. Bryan was in Washington D.C. and called to share in the celebration of the historic event only one week before the events that would unfold at the Marriott Courtyard Orlando on 730 N. Magnolia.

Bryan had not seen any warning signs of the oncoming tragedy. Clayton - who abducted Sloley, his current girlfriend - had sixteen prior felony arrests with three convictions including a murder conviction in 1989

After her death Bryan organized a memorial to honor her friend's memory. "She was someone who was going someplace," said Bryan and it was Sloley's character that she chose to honor and remember.

Bryan picked a poem to read at the memorial: "The Dash" by Linda Ellis."The poem exemplified her," said Ms. Bryan. The poem talks of

Sloley through the volunteer work and an intensive Spanish class they had taken together.

"Intensive Spanish is a nine credit class covering Spanish I through III. The students must work together to pass and as a result can become very close," said Victor Collazo, Student Development Coordinator. Sloley, a very friendly and upbeat person was recognized last semester

a funeral of a friend, and the dates on the tombstone are the birth and death separated by a dash.

It reads "For that dash represents all the time she spent alive on earth... and now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth."

campaign. More information is avalailable at www. unitedarts.cc.

"The Tempest" opens up its doors for 10 performances from Feb. 18 through March 1 at the East Campus' Black Box Theatre. Specific dates and times are in the 2009 Valencia events calender.

Police chief speaks to Campus Crusade

By Brian Cronin bcronin@valenciavoice.com

Lights went down at 1 p.m. on a crowd of 80, when a loud voice emitted from the



podium, "To God be the glory for the things he had done." Police Chief Val Demings took center stage speaking the word of God like a preacher at Sunday Mass, encouraging the student body

and everyone else Val Demings

who attended the public service to get into community involvement through Christian based values.

A respected, spiritual, and motivational speaker, Demings was invited by faculty adviser for Campus Crusade for Christ, Joe Marek with the purpose of speaking about leadership and how God should influence our lives.

The event also celebrated African American History month and honored Christ. Demings is the first woman Police Chief in Orlando with well over 25 years of service to the community. Very well educated and much loved by her co-workers, she is a woman of faith.

Shortly after being introduced on Thursday Feb. 12, Chief Demings turned the podium in the East Campus Performing Arts Center into a preachers stand on a Sunday morning exulting and praising the word of God. The mood in the auditorium was energetic with a few outbursts of applause.

After praising God, Demings continued with her story. She enlightened the crowd with stories from her rookie years, the boundaries she had to breakthrough being a black woman in a predominant white male occupation, and having the courage to lead both mentally and physically in dire economic times, all the while inserting a few Bible scriptures that support her life story.

Ending her personal story, she took a few questions from the audience. An audience member who did not identify himself asked, "What will best help law enforcement to be better?" Demings replied, "In law enforcement we need three things to better ourselves leaders in the community, well trained professional police, and citizen involvement and support."

Another question was fielded, "Will you incorporate the local churches and their followings to help out the police?" She responded with a gleeful yes and went on to say, "The Orlando Police have instituted

Continued on Page 3

"Rollins motivated and inspired me."

If you want an outstanding bachelor's degree program that will educate you for life and work as a global citizen, Rollins College is for you.

Rollins Hamilton Holt School offers the following scholarships to help make earning your bachelor's degree more affordable.

Scholarships Available:

- Academic Merit
- Hamilton Holt School Grants
- EXCEL Transfer Scholarships

Scholarships require a minimum 3.0 grade point average and are based on a variety of criteria.

Scholarship Application Deadlines: March 2, 2009

(Summer-Spring Awards) March 16, 2009 (Fall-Spring Awards)

407-646-2232 rollins.edu/holt



ROLLINS

Ursula Uelze '99 Sr. Manager Advertising & Licensed Partners Universal Orlando Resort

Continued from Cover

'Operation Amoral', where church goers and police go to the worst parts of town for forty days and pray."

Surprisingly, this actually worked she said. There was no crime reported in the area when these groups were present.

As the crowd was exiting, Valencia students expressed their opinion on the event.

Veronica Villalobos stated, "The part that touched me the most was when Chief Demings talked about her mission trips to other countries and the way children are treated in third world countries."

Demings continues to praise God for all of her achievements and ask God to grant her mental and moral strength so she can do her best at the job she is most passionate about. She eagerly invites all to volunteer and, "fear nothing, be a leader, [and] don't let boundaries stand in your way." Her primary concern is to reduce violent crime here in Orlando through Christian based law enforcement.

"I am very motivated, it was encouraging to hear a woman succeed and understand that God was with her through all the challenging times," Jennifer Bittel said.

In an answer to a question the uniformed Police Chief explained, "God will lead us in the right direction if we let him."



Alex Rodriguez goes into the detail of his steroid usage at a press confrence in Tampa Bay, Florida.

Steven M. Falk / Philadelphia Inquirer / MC

A-Rod talks about steroid use

By Phil Sheridan The Philadelphia Inquirer

TAMPA, Fla. — In a nationally televised news conference attended by many of his New York Yankees teammates, Alex Rodriguez admitted injecting a performanceenhancing drug for nearly three years as a member of the Texas Rangers from 2001 to '03.

"I screwed up big time," Rodriguez said at the end of the nearly 40-minute news conference. "The only thing I ask from this group and the American people is to judge me from this day forward. That's all I can ask for."

Rodriguez said a cousin, whom he declined to identify, brought an "over-thecounter" substance called "Boli" from the Dominican Republic in 2001. It is possible that "Boli" is slang for Perobolan, which is the substance that Sports Illustrated reported triggered Rodriguez's positive drug test in 2003. Perobolan is not legal in the United States even with a prescription.

"It was his understanding that it would give me a dramatic energy boost and otherwise harmless," Rodriguez said. "My cousin and I, one more ignorant than the other, decided it was a good idea to start taking it."

Rodriguez said his cousin injected him

and had no good reason to base that decision. It was pretty evident that we didn't know what we were doing."

Rodriguez admitted using steroids from 2001 to 2003 after Sports Illustrated reported that he was one of 104 players to test positive during what was supposed to be anonymous survey testing in 2003.

Asked how a professional athlete in the first year of a 10-year, \$252 million contract with the Rangers would risk using a substance he knew nothing about, Rodriguez, who was 25 at the time, said only that he was "young and stupid." He also said he was not sure whether the substance was a steroid or whether it even helped him.

"I'm not sure what the benefit was," said Rodriguez, a three-time AL MVP. "When you take any substance, it's half mental and half physical. If you take this glass of water and you say, I'm going to be a better baseball player, if you believe it, you probably will be. I certainly felt more energy, but it's hard to say."

If he "didn't think they were steroids," as he said, then why were he and his cousin so secretive about it?

"That's a good question," Rodriguez said after a pause. "I knew we weren't taking Tic Tacs. I knew it potentially could be something that perhaps was wrong. I really didn't get into the investigation. I wouldn't imagine doing something like that today, obviously. It's a different world, a different culture." 2003 after a neck injury that "scared me half to death" and because MLB began its drugtesting program with penalties in 2004.

"At that time," he said, "it became evident to me how serious this all was."

He said he had never taken human growth hormone but acknowledged using Ripped Fuel, a product containing the now-banned substance ephedra, "in the Seattle days." Rodriguez played for the Mariners from 1994 through 2000.

Asked about critical comments made by Phillies pitcher Jamie Moyer, his former Seattle teammate, in an interview with The Inquirer, Rodriguez said: "I'm sorry Jamie feels that way. He's definitely entitled to his opinion.... I'm going to focus on what I can do and move forward."

He reacted in similar fashion to questions about remarks made by MLB commissioner Bud Selig and Houston Astros pitcher Roy Oswalt.

When the subject of his possible pursuit of the all-time home run record and his legacy came up, Rodriguez sounded especially contrite. His public admissions, first in an interview on ESPN and Tuesday, are clearly part of a strategy to salvage his reputation and his potential admission to the Hall of Fame.

"My best year of my career, arguably, was

But if it doesn't, I also understand that."

Rodriguez's 10-year contract with the Yankees, signed before the 2008 season, includes incentives worth millions of dollars if he catches and passes Barry Bonds for the all-time home run record. He has 553 home runs; Bonds' record is 762. Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said there was little the team could do to change the contract.

"It is what it is," Cashman said. "We have to approach Alex as an asset who is going to be on this team a long time. If this is Humpty Dumpty, we've got to put him together again and put him back up on the wall."

Last week, Rodriguez was approached by the Taylor Hooton Foundation, which is named for a 17-year-old high school baseball player who committed suicide while withdrawing from steroids. Don Hooton, who has made steroid education his life's work since the loss of his son, said Rodriguez could help reach millions of young people.

"He's the perfect person to talk about this," Hooton said. "We've never reached out to any of the other players implicated in this."

Rodriguez said he would work with Hooton to try to educate young people about the dangers of steroid abuse. He apologized to baseball fans everywhere, as well as the Yankees organization and his teammates.

with the substance approximately twice a month for six months.

"Neither of us knew how to use it properly," Rodriguez said. "We consulted no one

Rodriguez said he stopped taking "Boli" in

when I was 19, 20 years old in Seattle," Rodriguez said. "My other best year was in '07, just two years ago. So I hope that after my career is over, the evidence falls in my favor. "For a week here, I kept looking for people to blame," Rodriguez said. "And I ended up looking at myself at the end of the day." —MCT Campus



Brown, Rihanna could suffer beyond incident

By Harriet Ryan and Richard Winton Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES - Until someone dialed 911 on Feb. 8 to report a disturbance in a tony neighborhood of Los Angeles, the pop star Rihanna and her R&B-singer boyfriend, Chris Brown, enjoyed relatively wholesome reputations. Attractive and talented, the couple were known as sexy but not oversexed, fun-loving but not reckless. The two seemed unlikely to be involved in anything more shocking than an all-night dance party.

That image opened the door to a host of commercial endorsements. Brown appeared in ads for Doublemint gum and milk, while Rihanna hawked more than a dozen products, including Nike sportswear, Totes umbrellas, Venus razors and Fuze beverages.

But then came the ugly scene that left Rihanna bleeding and bruised, Brown in police custody and the picture of them as hip, uncomplicated lovers in tatters.

"Good boy, good girl. It's something we'd never expect," said Emmanuel Coquia, assistant program director at Power 106, a Los Angeles radio station. "The music that they sing — they don't talk about this stuff, they talk about other things, about having fun."

The consequences to Brown, 19, and Rihanna, 20, are extensive. She must deal with physical and emotional wounds; he must deal with a criminal charge and the possibility of time behind bars.

A week after the incident, Brown released his first public statement, which emphasized that blog and media reports that claimed to have received any previous statement from him about the incident were false.

"Words cannot begin to express how sorry and saddened I am over what transpired," wrote Brown. "I am seeking the counseling of my pastor, my mother and other loved ones and I am committed, with God's help, to emerging a better person."

Both performers have millions of dollars at stake in terms of possible damage to product endorsement predicated on reputations that no longer exist, branding experts say.

"Whether or not it is true is sort of beside the point," said Matt Delzell, who has worked with Rihanna as a group account director at Davie Brown Talent, a Dallas company that



Chris Brown

advises companies on celebrity endorsers.

"If people perceive that these two very successful, young, wealthy individuals turn out to be irresponsible ... then it's absolutely going to hurt them," said Delzell.

Brown has experienced the fallout already. A day after his arrest, the makers of Doublemint gum shelved ads featuring him singing a new jingle. The group behind the milk ad - which showed Brown dancing while wearing a milk mustache - issued a statement saying they were taking the allegations against Brown "very seriously" and noting that the campaign was scheduled to end last week. A



Rihanna

spokeswoman for Rihanna's highest-profile endorsement, CoverGirl cosmetics, said ads featuring Rihanna are still running nationally but declined to discuss whether her status as an alleged victim of domestic violence would affect the future of the campaign.

"As a matter of policy, we do not discuss advertising plans," the spokeswoman said.

The careers of both singers are intricately bound to their commercial appearances. Brown kicked off his work for Doublemint with a concert in a Times Square theater, and the slick television ad pulled last week looked more like a music video with Brown dancing

to his hit "Forever."

After several chart-toppers, Rihanna's music continues to be interwoven with commercial endeavors. Her handlers pitched her hit "Umbrella" to Totes it became the soundtrack for commercials in which she starred.

The night before she suffered her injuries, she appeared at an event for Verizon, which was allowing BlackBerry users to download a new version of her song "Rehab."

"We've worked hard to build me and my name up as a brand," Rihanna told the New York Times last summer.

Marketing experts experienced with celebrity endorsements predicted companies would avoid additional deals with both and would be wary especially of working with Brown.

"I would not want to say that it is a death sentence, but it is certainly going to be very difficult for him to secure future endorsements," said Ann Green, a senior vice president at Millward Brown, a New York-based marketing research company.

Although Rihanna has not been accused of doing anything wrong, some companies may shun her as well, she said.

"The reason why she has been used as a celebrity endorser is that she represents something very positive and in particular a strong female role model, and when she is associated with a situation like this it can have an impact," Green said.

Brown's arrest may have a chilling effect on celebrity endorsements, said Eli Portnoy, chief brand strategist at the Portnoy Group.

"Young entertainer types, regardless of how beautiful and talented, are always risky because they are less mature," Portnoy said.

Perhaps underscoring the high stakes, both performers' camps have been largely silent since the alleged assault.

Brown retained one of the city's most media-savvy lawyers, Mark Geragos, who has declined to make a statement on the case. Rihanna has gone into seclusion, leaving her publicist to issue repeatedly the statement: "Rihanna is well. Thank you for concern and support."

Publicist Howard Bragman, who often works with clients in crisis, said silence was the wisest course. "Once we figure out what happened," he said, "there will be plenty of time for apologies . . . and rebuilding careers." – LATWP News Service

₩₩

THE UNIVERSITY

SYMBOL OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

"I was surprised how affordable a University of Tampa education could be."

The University Of TAMPA

UT was my first choice. I used the online scholarship calculator and applied for aid. Turns out, I qualified for more financial assistance than I thought.



1 or OUR TRANSFER **Ved., March 25 at 5:3**(

401 W. Kennedy Blvd. Tampa, FL 33606-1490 • (888) 646-2738 • www.ut.edu

₩₩

PETA targets McDonald's over slaughter of chickens

By Mike Hughlett Chicago Tribune

Nine years after calling a truce with McDonald's Corp., People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals says it is going on a new offensive against the fast-food giant, this time over the most humane way to kill a chicken.

Should chickens be knocked unconscious with a jolt of electricity and then have their throats cut, the conventional method of slaughter in this country? Or should they be gassed, a practice used to some extent in Europe?

PETA, known for its in-your-face protest style, claims the latter induces less suffering. So it's taken its cause to the U.S. chicken industry's biggest customers, including Mc-Donald's and KFC Corp.

PETA has been waging war against KFC since 2003 with its "Kentucky Fried Cruelty" campaign, boycotting the firm, staging thousands of protests at KFC restaurants and using shock tactics like dousing company executives in fake blood.

KFC has refused to give in.

"When PETA protests our restaurants, we have to add additional staff because sales actually increase while they're there," the company said in a statement to the Chicago Tribune.

Still, KFC franchisees in Canada, representing about 750 restaurants, agreed last year to begin buying chickens from suppliers that use the gas slaughter method.

Now, PETA is turning its attention to McDonald's.

PETA kicked off a protest against Mc-Donald's at a restaurant in Chicago's River North area on Monday featuring rock star

Chrissie Hynde. PETA is largely reinstating the "McCruelty" campaign it last used against McDonald's in 2000.

McDonald's made major animal welfare changes in 2000, changes it insisted had nothing to do with PETA, including auditing slaughterhouses to ensure humane treatment.

PETA is aiming to pressure McDonald's and KFC into convincing U.S. chicken suppliers to rejigger their plants to the gas method of slaughter. McDonald's has the power to "require that changes be made" by its suppliers, said Matt Prescott, PETA's director of corporate affairs.

McDonald's has studied the chicken issue extensively, including conducting its own tests on the gas method of slaughter, said Bob Langert, McDonald's vice president of corporate social responsibility. "It's not conclusive that it's more humane."

About 30 percent of the chicken McDonald's buys in Europe comes from slaughterhouses that use the gas method. But in this country, the technology hardly exists in the chicken industry.

In most U.S. chicken slaughterhouses, birds are plucked from big bins by workers and hung upside down on assembly lines. Their heads are dragged through a brine bath and a shock is administered, which if done properly knocks the bird senseless. A whirring blade then cuts its throat.

In the method advocated by PETA, as well as the Humane Society of the United States, chickens are gassed and then hung on an assembly line after they are dead.

"It causes less suffering than the conventional method, which is archaic and inhumane," said Paul Shapiro, head of the Humane Society's factory farming initiative.



Musician Chrissie Hynde of the Pretenders attends the national kickoff for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals "I'm Hatin' it" anti-cruelty campaign at the "rock and roll" McDonalds restau-

But there is disagreement even within animal welfare circles.

"There is not definite proof either is more humane," said Marie Wheatley, president of the American Humane Association. "Both technologies are acceptable in minimizing pain and suffering."

Temple Grandin, a Colorado State University expert on humane animal handling, said both methods can have problems, though gas is the best bet for the future.

"Chickens don't like being hung upside down. They get stressed out," said Grandin, who is a member of McDonald's Animal Welfare Council, a group of outside experts who offer pro bono advice. "Plus, worker abuse of live chickens on the assembly line is a serious problem," she said.

On the other hand, if gas levels aren't administered correctly, a chicken's death can be quite painful. "I have seen them go berserk," Grandin said. "And even when gas is administered properly, chickens still gasp and their heads shake," she said.

Still, Grandin said the chicken industry must move toward the gas method, even though it will require costly investment.

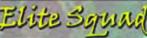
"I'd like to see someone in the industry put up a full-scale commercial plant and make it work," she said.



Look at This

Rated: 14 and older Thursday February 19, 2009 West Campus 5-111 1800 South Kirkman Rd. Orlando, 32811 6:00 reception 7:00 film





Rated: 16 and older Monday February 23, 2009 East Campus Performing Arts Center 701 N. Econolockhatchee Tr. Orlando, 32825 6:00 reception 7:00 film

lapin us for free film screenings!

In partnership with the

Central Florida Brazilian American Chamber of Commerce



Rated: All Audiences Tuesday February 24, 2009 **Osceola Campus Auditorium** 1800 Denn John Ln. Kissimmee, 34744 6:00 reception 7:00 film Sponsored by the Valencia Office of Student Development





Rated: 14 and older Wednesday February 25, 2009 West Campus 5-111 1800 South Kirkman Rd. Orlando, 32811 6:00 reception 7:00 film

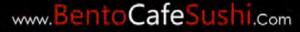




All films are in Portuguese, with English subtitles Musical accompaniment at receptions kindly provided by Giselle Griz For detailed synopses, please contact Professor Richard Sansone (rsansone@valenciacc.edu)



Now proudly serving you from 2 locations Bento Cofe Downtown @ The Plaza (b/w the Solaire Condos and Urban Flats) Anniversary Week! 2/16-2/22 151. S Orange Ave. 407-999-8989 Free Parking validation @ The Plaza Garage



VALENCIA VOICE

Director of Design - Rober Navaille Director of Sales - Jackie Minto

Valencia Voice Managing Editors:	
Design - Kyle Beard	Interactive - Adam Butterfield
News - Trey McConnell	Opinion - Shaneece Dixon
Sports - Alex Barrett	Features - Ebony Chance, Olivia Pullinger, Omshante Lee and Emiliana White
Newsroom: 407-582-5040	Sales: 407-582-1572 / 407-582-1572 (fax)

ads@valenciavoice.com

Our Voice Education can stop domestic violence

By Frank Tobin ftobin@valenciavoice.com

news@valenciavoice.com

The depravity apparent in differing types of physical and sexual abuse range on the demographic spectrum from children to adults; there's not a single type of abuse that is either warranted, or justified. However, the frequency of said deprived behavior towards one group or the other can be explored, and must be understood if it's ever to be halted entirely.

Starting with the obvious, children are often the subject of varying degrees of sexual misconduct, (sex slaves, child pornography, etc.) and physical mistreatment.

Physical and sexual child abuse statistics are difficult to determine. Though hospitals do their duty by reporting child abuse, and social workers investigate the reported allegations, thousands of children are abused behind

closed doors. When se-

vere injuries do occur, the diagnosis of "battered

child" is often missed or denied. Even child and youth homicides are not clearly represented. The numbers of child abuse deaths are under-reported- the result of, among other things, non-existent national standards and death review mechanisms, according to an investigative report conducted by the Department of Child Services in 2000.

In 2008, and going into 2009, many incidents of physical child abuse continue to go unreported, in spite of the "duty to report" law. Yet there's still more ugliness to go around in the carousel of atrocious acts we humans engage in on from repeated sexual abuse.

Fact: In a study of 938 adolescents admitted to residential, therapeutic communities for the treatment of substance abuse and related disorders, 64% of the girls reported histories of sexual abuse.

Fact: 80% of female prisoners were victims of childhood physical or sexual abuse.

And if you think men are exempt from being victims of the same types of physical, and sexual, abuse, then you are horribly, and moronically, mistaken.

Male victims of sexual abuse constitute an extremely under-identified, under-served and frequently misunderstood population. Prevalence rates for males ranged from 3% - 29%, as cited by the same Joshua Childrens Foundation report. The reasons behind this lack of disclosure are as many as they are unfortunate:

Education is the first step in abolishing these abuses from ever taking place. * A cultural bias maintains that males cannot be

> victims. Males are

expected to be confident, knowledgeable, and aggressive. To be a victim means one is an inadequate male.

* Male victims of sexual abuse struggle with issues of homosexuality as most offenders are male. Their homophobia plus their confusion and fear encourage silence. Not to mention the social stigma attached to homosexuality.

* In a Los Angeles Times poll conducted in 2004 with 2,626 men and women over 18 years of age, Finkelhor and Associates discovered that 16% of the men recalled a history of sexual abuse. The median age for these male victims was

Opinion

Statistics on child abuse

* An estimated 135,573 child maltreatment investigations by Social Service Agencies were conducted in 1998. 45% of these reports were substantiated.

* 65% of investigations of physical abuse substantiated by Child Welfare Agencies involved inappropriate punishment.

* Physical abuse accounted for 31% of all investigations made to child welfare agencies in 1998. * The highest proportions of substantiated physical child abuse cases were in the adolescent age group: boys, 22% and girls, 18%.

* Physical child abuse was committed largely by biological parents: fathers were alleged perpetrators in 46% of substantiated cases of physical child abuse- mothers, 43%.

dy conducted in 2001 on physical child abuse statistics, done by Trocme, Nico, & Wolfe Information compiled by Frank Tobin, Graphic by Robert Navaille / Valencia Voice

<u>Your Voice</u> Students should feel safe attending school

By Kenny Wagner kwagner@valenciavoice.com

Shouldn't she get a return on her

the shooting at Virginia Tech in 2007.

investment?

Student's lives should not be snuffed out immaturely, and the college should do more to prevent campus tragedies. A story of a woman slain in a hotel room in downtown Orlando hit close to home for Valencia Community College as word was passed around in the halls that student Loyta Gaye Sloley was brutally murdered by her boyfriend on Jan. 27.

This tragic event reveals the need for a paradigm shift in the policies of Valencia and

Last semester, a student was held at gunpoint and

nearly shot over a laptop computer in a Valencia west

campus parking lot, this semester a student was killed

over a domestic dispute and all over the United States

campus tragedies like these have been reported, such as

tors to motivate them to put in place a system where

students can seek safety in potentially volatile situa-

tions. They have no problem helping students out with

This should be a wake up call for the board of direc-

schools like it. People like Sloley, who was involved in an abusive home life, should be able to seek sanctuary in their schools. After all she paid tuition, invested her time and money to be a contributing member of this school.

tuition by installing a payment plan nor do they have a problem helping students obtain that FAFSA check in order to pay for their text books. They should address the concern that the offices Valencia has in place to help students in need is not accessible enough. Especially to those who are not enrolled here full time or who were never told of the resources they have.

There should be a link on the front page of the Valencia website and on the front page of Atlas directing students to a site where they can voice concerns if they feel endangered. Furthermore, they should advertise

> on campus where students can go to get the appropriate help they need.

How would the situation between Sloley and her boyfriend be different had these policies been put into place? No one can say, however, as students we should feel safe in our lives on and off campus.

We should not feel threatened, afraid during our time at school. We should be able to focus solely on our studies and our professional lives. Anything negative that distracts from that is tragic in itself. We deserve to have our dreams realized, for those who are responsible for us on campus should keep that in mind, the safety and well being of students is inexorably tied to their involvement at the school and their potential to be upstanding members of society.

Your Voice Proposition leads to lawsuit

By Gale Holland Los Angeles Times limits, particularly in a school setting," Jassy said after reviewing the lawsuit. "Sometimes limits come in the form of restrictions." Lopez,, is described in the suit as a Christian who considers it a religious duty to share his beliefs, particularly with other students. Lopez is represented by the Alliance Defense Fund, a Christian legal organization based in Scottsdale, Ariz., and co-founded by James Dobson of Focus on the Family. Alliance staff counsel David J. Hacker said Lopez was a victim of religious discrimination "He was expressing his faith during an open-ended assignment, but when the professor disagreed with some minor things he mentioned, the professor shut him down," Hacker said. "Basically colleges and universities should give Christian students the same rights to free expression as other students." The Los Angeles Community College District's offices were closed for the Presidents Day holiday and the general counsel, Camille A. Goulet, could not be reached. But in a letter released by the Alliance, the district said it deemed Lopez's complaint "extremely serious in nature" and had launched a private disciplinary process. In the letter, Dean Allison Jones also said that two students had been "deeply offended" by Lopez's address, including one who stated that "this student should have to pay some price for preaching hate in the classroom."

a daily basis.

Take women, for example. As reported by the Joshua Childrens Foundation, several facts remain prevalent throughout the course of the tumultuous history of womanhood.

Fact: A study of pregnancy risk among 200 women aged 12 - 18 years of age, found that female victims of sexual abuse were more likely to report having wanted to become pregnant, having boyfriends who wanted them to become pregnant and fearing infertility because of gynecologic and obstetric problems resulting

VALENCIAVOICE

Opinion:

9.9 years of age.

Education is the first step in abolishing these abuses from ever taking place. Whether the abuse is by the hands of a grown man, or woman, or a parent, or from anyone for that matter, it is never acceptable, and should always be punished to the fullest extent of the law. Using these stats as an origination point could prove helpful in stemming the tide, but more work must be done. Get out there; volunteer; get involved. Make a difference in the lives of many, by simply sacrificing a little of LOS ANGELES -- A classroom dispute at Los Angeles City College in the emotional aftermath of Proposition 8, the same-sex marriage ban, has given rise to a lawsuit testing the balance between First Amendment rights and school codes on offensive speech.

Jonathan Lopez says his professor called him a "fascist bastard" and refused to let him finish when he spoke against same-sex marriage during a public speaking class weeks after Proposition 8 was approved by California voters in November. When Lopez tried to find out his mark for the speech, the professor, John Matteson, allegedly told him to "ask God what your grade is," the suit says.

Lopez also said the teacher threatened to have him expelled when he complained to higher-ups. In addition to financial damages, the suit, filed last week in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, seeks to strike down a sexual harassment code barring students from uttering "offensive" statements.

Jean-Paul Jassy, a First Amendment lawyer in Los Angeles, said a number of cases have explored the tension between expressing religious views and offensive speech. Often, the decision comes down to the specifics of the situation.

"Free speech really thrives when people are going back and forth, disagreeing sometimes and sometimes finding things each other says offensive, but there are

— MCT Campus

Want your voice heard? Send us your opinions. Submissions are subject to editing for grammar, length and AP style. Send submissions to Shaneece Dixon:



Whoops! Did we miss anything? Let us know! If you spot a correction or want to let us know what you think, please send an e-mail to:

CORRECTIONS

Dedicated to Accuracy

Shaneece Dixon

P://VALENCIAVOICE.COM

Who is more favored in abuse & harassment cases?

Different question for guys, girls

By Shaneece Dixon sdixon@valenciavoice.com

For this issue, we decided to have this week's poll focus on the topic of domestic abuse and sexual harassment. Though both are controversial topics, many individuals at Valencia have had some experience with them.

Just recently, to reiterate past news, fellow Valencia student Loyta Gaye Sloley was the victim of a murder-suicide. She was kidnapped and killed by her boyfriend, who then shot himself. We knew that if one student was a victim in such a tragedy, then so were others.

According to www.harborhousefl. com, homicides have increased 47% and domestic violence aggravated assault increased 37%. In 2005, there were over 120,000 domestic violence reported incidents. Of those reported incidents, nearly 200 resulted in death.

As for sexual harassment cases, they are almost just as common. According to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, it has received 12,510 charges of sexual harassment. 16 percent of those charges were filed by males. EEOC resolved 11,592 sexual harassment charges in 2007 and recovered \$49.9 million in monetary benefits for charging parties and other aggrieved individuals (not including monetary benefits obtained through litigation).

The Valencia Voice staff wanted to treat these issues the best way possible. The best way we knew to do that would be to explore it from all different angles. For the poll, we asked two different questions, one for the guys, and one for the girls. For the guys, we asked if they knew or heard of someone ever being involved in a domestic dispute. For the girls, we asked who they felt were treated more fairly in sexual harassment court cases between men or women. The answers, as you see, were quite surprising.

Feel free to continue reading the rest of the stories in this section to see the different takes to these issues. The best way to prevent this is



"I believe females get away with more than males. Sometimes, police will look past a female being physical toward a man."

— Jennifer Huron



"Back in high school I had a friend who was involved in a dispute with his girlfriend during lunch in the cafeteria. It started as a verbal argument and eventually escalated into something that got both of them into trouble with the school."

— Cadet Duffene



" I believe women are favored over men. Women will provoke guys to cause them to act violently towards them. It's not usually the women hitting the guys."

— Asia Brown



"My uncle fell in love with a crazy woman who falsely accused him of doing things he didn't do. In return, this caused him to lose his job as a Sheriff's Deputy."

— Ben Nordmann

"People tend to believe women more. I think males are more abusive, however, females have a tendency to provoke their husband or boyfriend."

—Maria Henriquez



"I have some acquaintances that were involved in domestic disputes where the female did a lot of things to provoke the male. My grandma was actually killed by my grandfather because my grandfather falsely accused her of cheating."

— Earl Mitchell



"Guys don't get treated fairly in domestic cases. Everyone assumes that it's always the man who is in the wrong."

— Nikki Richard



"I don't personally know anyone that's been involved in a domestic dispute, however, I hear of incidents in the news everyday. Women appear to have more power and people believe them more in sexual harassment and domestic violence cases."

— Xavier Canady

to stay informed.





Touchstone Pictures / MCT Campus Isla Fisher, center, stars in "Confessions of a Shopaholic." The movie speaks to a population for whom shopping is more than a hobby; for them, it is a lifestyle and opened at the number seven spot in its opening weekend.

"Confessions of a Shopaholic" a must see for everyone

By Cassie Weinz cassieweinz@valenciavoice.com

"Confessions of a Shopaholic," had audience members giggling with embracement last weekend as a handful of woman may have come to terms with their own shopping addictions.

This lighthearted romantic comedy had the audience chuckling in comradery and cheering in support for the movie's heroine, Rebecca Bloomwood, as played by Isla Fisher.

Based on the novel, "A Shopaholic Takes Manhattan," written by Sophie Kinsella, "Confessions of a Shopaholic," is the story of a young woman who is slapped in the face with a mountain of debt and bills.

Rebecca Bloomwood is a journalist residing in New York City with her best friend Suze, played by Krysten Ritter, who is held down from a successful career due to excess amounts of debt brought on by an addiction.

Like all addictions, shopping ends up taking control of Rebecca's life and ultimately causing her more grief than happiness. But like all good romantic comedies, the film as directed by, P.J. Hogan, contains a silver lining in which Rebecca will have to lose everything before she can regain control of her life and the relationships she holds dear.

To watch a film that contains a conscience within the characters and the storyline itself, is quite a refreshing change from what seems like a never ending chain of horror film remakes with the same basic plot among the plays having been released as of today.

Movies that have already been created and had their 20 minutes of fame are yesterday's news.

What audiences really want to see are stories about real people with relatable is-

sues in which the cast and crew of "Confessions of a Shopaholic," were able to provide to the movie-goer's life.

The truth and understandable circumstances found in this movie are among those that can be found in the lives of many a young girls or woman living in today's brand named based society.

For a number of women, fashion is a necessity and held within the same essential category as breathing. It's needed to sustain life and continue living.

Just like many woman of this day and age, Rebecca soon finds herself struggling to maintain the costly demands brought on by her addiction while trying to balance a career and personal life.

On top of the reality behind this film, "Confessions of a Shopaholic," is also overflowing with many bright and inspirational fashion trends waiting to happen. Do not be surprised if within a week or two woman are sporting a vibrant green

with 'Friday the 13th'

scarf around their necks and trading in their blacks and browns for magenta and hot pink dresses.

With Hugh Dancy, who plays Luke Brandon, for a love interest, this movie also leaves room for hope that even in the most hectic of situations; love can sweep in unexpectedly and take over.

Yes, this movie has it all - love, mild tragedy, inspiration, and of course shopping.

Woman should run to the theater in their five inch pumps to see this adorable film with its talented cast among whose names also include the likes of Joan Cusack and John Goodman.

Despite being categorized as a, "chick flick," "Confessions of a Shopaholic," contains something more powerful that makes it a cut above the rest; this movie is easy to relate to and understand. Two essential key qualities to the art of film making that keeps a film living in the hearts of it's viewers for years to come.

Horror reigns supreme

By Frank Tobin ftobin@valenciavoice.com

Jason, the hockey mask, the machete, that ominous theme that sounds a lot like "Kill, Kill, Kill," anyone with any knowledge of the horror genre has undoubtedly come across this villainous icon. This monster of "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre," "Halloween" and, to an extent, "The Hills Have Eyes," established parental issues for our lovely lot of deranged killers, in order to solidify their motives as adults. Perhaps attempting to appeal to a wider audience, the filmmakers felt it necessary to provide more of an emotional backdrop for these iconic

character.

Instead of trying to completely redo and re-brand Jason for a 2009 audience, the film amalgamates everything everyone loved about the series that made them come back for ten sequels.

Remember the gratuitous amount of breasts and graphic sex scenes? They're here, and just as tantalizing as ever (in a Cinemax, soft-core, sort of way).

But for all the praising, the film is obviously imperfect.

Leaving aside the ridiculous twist in the middle of the film and the total lack of character development, (albeit, totally expected, but upsetting nonetheless) the film drags its heels getting to the finale.

There's a particularly dry spot as the film

the silver-screen, that practically coated the inside of every theater with blood throughout the 1980s.

Although he basically became a parody of himself in "Jason X," and then was essentially (and wrongly) turned into a psychologically tormented Frankenstein's monsteresquire creature in "Freddy vs. Jason," the beast was always remembered for who he originally was.

That is what makes the new remake/reimagining of "Friday the 13th" such a success (for the most part).

Despite being written by Damian Shannon and Mark Swift, the same hacks who brutalized the characters of Freddy and Jason in their fabled match-up, they wisely went back to the basics that made the character so popular. Sure he runs like Usain Bolt now, but he's a hulking beast again.

There is a bit of added development in the relationship between Jason and his mother, but the story remains the same. He's still the vengeful bane of any group of sexcrazed teenagers stupid enough to camp out in Crystal Lake. psychos to brutally indulge in their deranged eccentricities.

Apparently, they couldn't exist as simply being demented, and absolutely bonkers.

Thankfully, by and large, "Friday the 13th" doesn't bother with any of that. Sure, there's a plot twist that will make any devotee squirm with inner fan-boy repulsion, but it still makes sense in the grand scheme of who Jason was and is now.

The character has no added dimension completely taking away from how terrifying he is, and making him into a misunderstood infant. For that alone, the movie is more than worth the price of admission.

Another wise choice was to stick to the traditional, R-rated horror movie formula. None of this ripping off Japanese horror flicks, none of this Paris Hilton inspired garbage, no more "Saw" movies, just sticking to what made classic slasher flicks so great in the 80s and 90s.

The filmmakers here (including director Marcus Nispel of 'Texas Chainsaw' remake fame) have made what equates to an homage to the series, a gooey letter to the fans of the Remember the goofy dialogue, and total lack of any knowledge shown by the characters in trying to combat them against this machete-wielding maniac? You get that in spades. And remember all those ridiculously violent, over-the-top bloody, kills? Let's just say, the horror movie gods are smiling upon this movie.

The film knows its genre, and it knows its audience.

It throws plenty of cheap scares at a moment's notice, and offers just enough laughs (both intentional and unintentional) to keep the audience invested in the movie. And when the actual scares come, the film manages to keep the audience transfixed at those moments too (whether they're screaming in fear or laughing from how ridiculous the scene is).

Rather tastefully, the deaths are gruesome, but not to the point of overkill like in the awful "Saw" series, or even within "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre." Honestly, they just know which buttons they want to push. nears its third act that borders on painfully boring, and seems more like a forced narrative device to stretch the running time out.

Some scenes seem marred by a failed attempt at building tension.

But of course, it's pretty hard for a scene to be tense when you're cheering for the killer as opposed to the victim (you do that a lot in this movie).

The film also suffers from the same slapdash editing that plagues modern horror and action films. In some instances, it's almost impossible to be scared because our view is obstructed by MTV inspired smash-cuts, and overly abused shaky-cam nonsense.

Some scenes linger on the aftermath, but some happen and disappear quicker than Michael Phelps spraying Lysol in his buddy's room just as the cops show up.

In the end, "Friday the 13th" is a whole lot of fun. Granted, if you know what to expect from a film featuring Jason Voorhees as the main character, then you shouldn't go home disappointed.

And coming from a remake, that's saying quite a lot.



Columbia Pictures / MCT Campus

Clive Owen as "Louis Salinger" in Columbia Pictures' thriller, "The International" which opened in the number six spot at the box office Friday, Feb. 13, taking in a total of \$ 10,700,000 in the first weekend. **The International' suspensefully worth the attention**

By Piel Thach pthach@valenciavoice.com

"The International" is a realistic intense thriller based off of true events starring box office mega-stars, Clive Owen and Naomi Watts .

Louis Salinger (Owen) is an Interpol agent on a global mission to take down a violent and corrupt bank, the International Bank of Business and Credit, which funds corrupt organizations and does not hesitate to kill anyone in the way of their profits.

Dealing with assassins and crooked characters, agent Salinger and district attorney Eleanor Whitman (Watts) takes the viewrs on a suspenseful investigation.

With leadership from German film director Tom Twyker, "The International" travels through beautiful sceneries of Europe while holding an intricate but naturalistic storyline. The first half of the film starts off at a slow pace, with little violence and excitement.

The suspense that covers the first half and what keeps audience interested is due to Owens' character, who as agent Salinger, plays his character intensely, picking up the pace of the film.

The actual thrills came when a shootout erupted on a flight of long spiral stairs in a New York museum. Action packed with machine guns and art displays, this scene was shot beautifully and hands down what made the movie worth watching.

Unlike other cliché thrillers, "The International" was not over exaggerated with huge explosions, car chases, and fictitious plots. Instead, it depicts true events and shows the dark underworld of global networking.

Though lacking some action, it's worth watching in theaters.

'Overkill' most horrifying game you'll ever play

By Frank Tobin ftobin@valenciavoice.com

Are you ready for blood, boobs, and bullets? You probably are, but before that: if you're under the age of 18, "House of the Dead: Overkill" is not for you.

In fact, you shouldn't even be reading this review. 'Overkill' is filled with things that shouldn't appeal to adolescents, such as strippers, zombies exploding in sprays of blood, and the extensive use of famous four-letter words that start with "F" and "D."

It's recommended that the kiddies play a more wholesome, but still excellent, Wii title such as "Super Mario Galaxy" or "Zack and Wiki." Have fun!

OK, now that the lights are turned down low, and the adults can come out and play, the real review can start.

"House of the Dead: Overkill" is insanely impressive! It has strippers, zombies exploding in sprays of blood the extensive use of famous four-letter words that start with "F" and "D."

As a parody of/tribute to grindhouse cinema, 'Overkill' is B-movie schlock at its best.

But as shiny as the presentation is, the execution still leaves quite a bit to be desired. The dialogue tries way too hard at times to be funny, and the characters look and move like blocks of wood.

But if you enjoy the over-the-top style of films like Robert Rodriguez's "Planet Terror," you'll like this game; scratch that, you'll be smitten like a kitten over this gem.

The game looks impressive for a Wii title and not just in the stylish menus and deliberate film-grain effect during the cut-scenes. The backgrounds are well-detailed, and the zombie hordes hunting you down look suitably creepy.

But an inconsistent framerate bogs down the experience, causing you to miss both power-ups and headshots when the screen jerks unexpectedly.

That's not helped by the already-imprecise Wii remote- it feels like your cursor is constantly half a second behind your movements.

But the biggest problem is that in multiplayer, you and your friend's crosshairs are nearly indistinguishable: One is a white circle, and the other is two concentric white circles. Why aren't they different colors, like every previous "House of the Dead" game?

On the other hand, the game's weapon upgrade system is rather enjoyable.

After each mission, you earn money that you can put toward purchasing new firearms, or upgrading the damage, reload time, etc. of what you already have.

There aren't many guns to choose from, but the upgrading gives you a reason to play through each stage more than once other than trying to unlock concept art and background music.

And when you run out of ammo during

the game, you don't have to shoot off-screen to reload your gun automatically refills when you run out of bullets, though you can always reload manually by hitting the "A button."

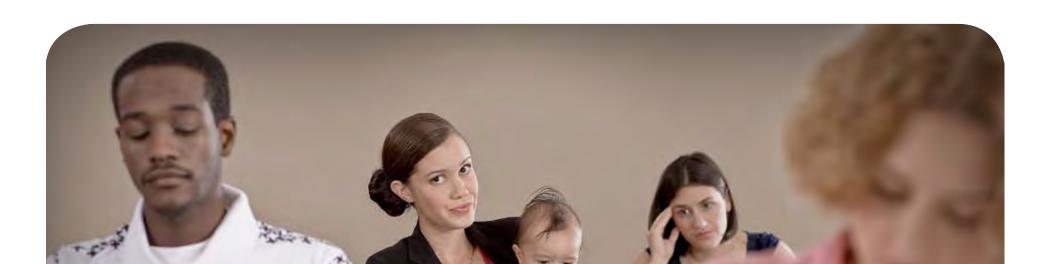
Where 'Overkill' will truly be divisive is in the narrative: some people will love the nonsensical, fast-paced story.

But with its constant stream of expletives and toilet humor, it may turn just as many people away. And as purposefully offensive as it is, this game still delivers in spades in the ever elusive, yet obviously important gaming aspect, fun-factor.

The dialogue is strained, and the barrage of f-bombs is played out by the second level, but there are several genuinely funny moments.

For a few quick rounds of cheesy, light gun-style action, this new 'House' is one worth visiting.

Get your grind on, gamers; this is the hardcore you've been waiting for.



10

LEARN ONLINE, IN YOUR OWN CRIB.

UCF Learning on Demand.com

UCF STANDS FOR OPPORTUNITY

What film deserves best motion picture?

By Omshante Lee olee@valenciavoice.com

It has always been known that for the typical college student a movie day is an affordable and entertaining outlet. When one is not bombarded with various assignments and challenging course work it is not surprising to find a classmate at the local movie theatre.

However, as this year's Academy Awards nominees for "Best motion picture of the year" have been announced, one is forced to question the common idea that a trip to the movies is a classic source of recreation for the average young adult. In fact, many students have never even heard of some of the competing movies.

Out of the five movies nominated, general plot familiarity are slim to none, however the most popular seem to be "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button", and "Slum Dog Millionaire", while "Frost/Nixon", "The Reader" and "Milk" fall to peripheral awareness if any. It seems that movie-goers have indeed continued their weekend activities as usual, however they lack interest in those films critics claim are "the best".

So where do these nominations come from? It is obvious that if public popularity had any influence on the selection process, that films like "The Dark Knight" or "Seven Pounds" would undoubtedly make the category."

"Many times we believe that something is praiseworthy because we're told so," says a west campus IDH student. "They can say 'this is the greatest movie of all times' and its just accepted because of who said it."

How exactly is the rubric determined? One wonders if perhaps these movies are set to appeal to an older audience, or if they are in fact among the greatest for any age group, and young individuals miss out due to their thirst for action packed trailers and their lack of attention to true substance. What movie do you think should win?







"I saw 'Curious Case of Benjamin Button', I think it is capable of winning Best Picture. The story line was good, they put the sequences together well."

"I'm planning to see 'Ben-

—Kalisa Moore

jamin Button'. I think that

'Slum Dog Millionaire' will

win because it won a lot at

the Golden Globes."

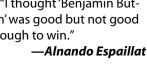
–Rashad Shakar



"I just haven't gone to see them yet. I don't go to the movies often." —Stephanie Valdes

"'Benjamin Button'. I liked it. It's worthy of being nominated." -Joe Delisle

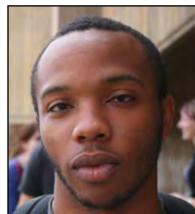
"I thought 'Benjamin Button' was good but not good enough to win."





"'Benjamin Button' but 'The Reader' was good too." —Jacqueline Feazell

"'Benjamin Button' is not like any other movie. I think it could win." -Cleo Cerveira



"I wanted to see 'Benjamin Button' but went with a group and chose something else."

—Nick Law

Photos by Emiliana White

The critics cast their Oscar votes

Los Angeles Times

HOLLYWOOD - All year, film critics tell us what they like and don't like about new movies, always moving on to the next release. But how often do we ask them to take a second look, to give us their considered opinions again once the Oscar nominations are announced? That's just what we've done in assembling Los Angeles Times film columnist Patrick Goldstein and film critics Kenneth Turan and Betsy Sharkey to play Oscar Voter for a day.

Patrick Goldstein: They don't let any of us peons vote in the Academy Awards, but if you could vote for best picture, I'd like to hear you make the case for your favorite this year.

Kenneth Turan: It's "Slumdog Millionaire." It's a throwback to the old style of Hollywood moviemaking. It's a smart movie by an independent director that has really broad mainstream appeal, and that's good enough for me.

Betsy Sharkey: My choice would be "Slumdog" too because it does what, really, every -- it sweeps you in, and it takes you away, and you are absolutely there with it every minute.

Goldstein: What is the film that doesn't belong there?

Sharkey: "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button." I know it's been popular with a lot of people, but to me it did not fully work.

Goldstein: Why not?

Sharkey: What should have been the spine of the movie, which is Brad Pitt's performance, was passive throughout. And I had a hard time buying into the proposition that if you had that sort of absolutely counterintuitive life, that you would not be more introspective, that you would not be more active or proactive in the way that you reacted to and assessed your life. He just was gliding through the years.

Turan: I won't pick a film that should be cut out, but I will say that I feel bad that "The Dark Knight" didn't make the cut.

Goldstein: Why do you think it deserved to be there?

Turan: It's exceptionally well made just from a craft point of view, art direction, cinematography, all the kinds of things that the And I just like the notion of having popular films in there. Often, if a film is too successful, it doesn't get voted in, not always, but sometimes you can be too successful for the academy's taste.

Goldstein: Let's move on to director. Whom are you rooting for to win?

Turan: I like Danny Boyle. If you look at his entire career, one of the things that characterizes it is that he brings a lot of energy to his films no matter what the subject matter is. And I think that energy was critical in making "Slumdog" the success it is.

Sharkey: Danny Boyle is terrific. I also would throw in a strong vote for Ron Howard. He is one of the filmmakers who is very often overlooked, and with "Frost/Nixon" he took a huge leap of faith that really paid off.

Goldstein: How about lead actress?

Sharkey: Kate Winslet. She had two powerful performances and "The Reader" is the more nuanced of the two. Perhaps with the exception of Meryl Streep, it is really the best performance out there.

Turan: I want to vote for Melissa Leo in

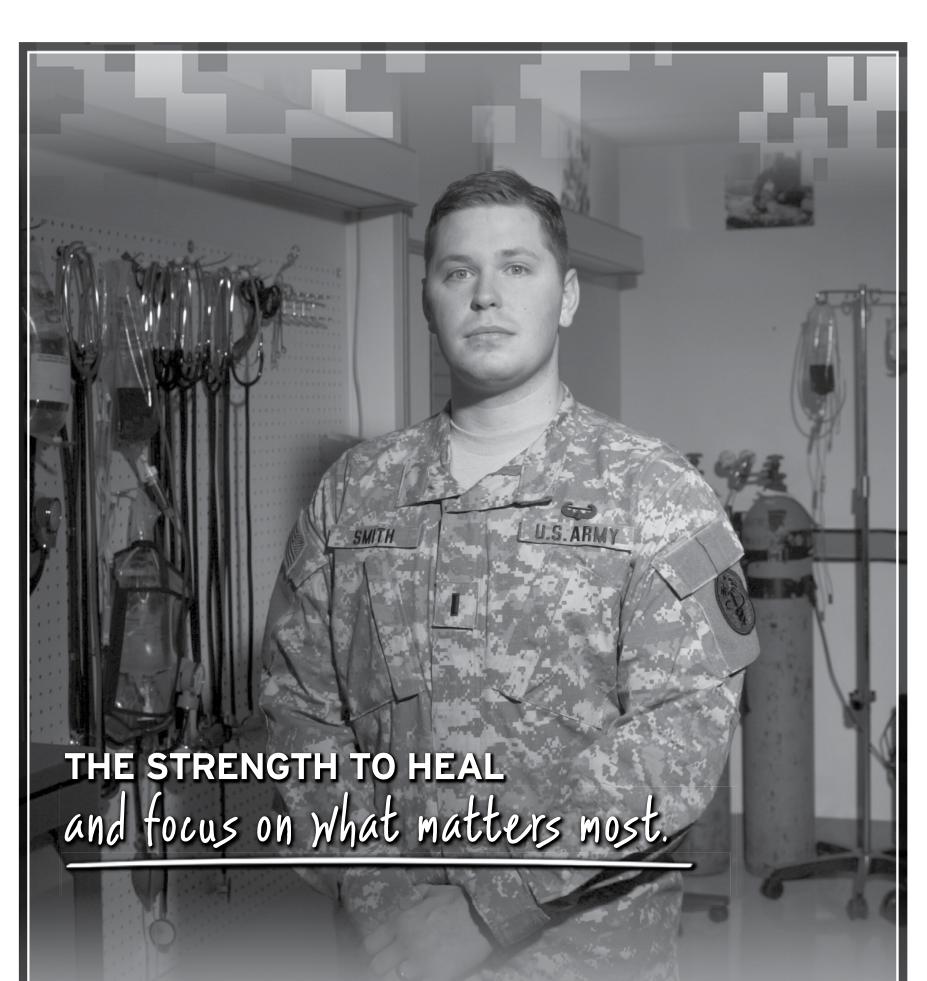
the notion of people from smaller films getting that kind of recognition. She has been around for a while, always been really good, never gotten this kind of recognition. This is a terrific performance; it really makes this film the film that it is.

Goldstein: Lead actor?

Turan: Sean Penn did an exceptional job. but he has won an Oscar before, and I would -- for that reason alone -- go for Frank Langella. There's a marvelous performance, again, a wonderful career. He doesn't impersonate Nixon -- he creates a character who is Nixonian and makes us really compelled by him.

Sharkey: I am a sucker for redemption stories, so I would have to say Mickey Rourke. It was a vulnerable, stripped-down, raw and brave performance by somebody who has climbed his way out of what seems like a bottomless pit. It really reminded me of all the things that I loved about Mickey Rourke in the early years, just kind of a fearlessness for whatever it takes to get the performance across.

- LATWP News Service



You entered nursing to make a difference. The U.S. Army can provide you with financial and educational benefits to make that difference with our Soldiers — with up to \$120,000 for nursing school loans and



the experience of working with dedicated professionals and advanced technology.

To learn more about the U.S. Army Health Care Team, call Sgt. 1st Class Abel Plasencio at 877-358-9593, email abel.plasencio@usarec.army.mil, or visit healthcare.goarmy.com/info/nclp1.

©2009. Paid for by the United States Army. All rights reserved.

Shaq, Kobe reunite to win Allstar co-MVPs

By Tim Bee tbee@valenciavoice.com

For years Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal combined to make one of the best two man combos in NBA history. They were the main pieces in a Lakers dynasty that was able to bring three consecutive championships to Los Angeles. However, they had not played together since 2004 when Shaq was traded to the Heat due to drama between the two players.

That all was in the past Sunday night as Shaq and Kobe combined for 44 points to lead the Western Conference past the Eastern Conference 146-119, at the 58th NBA All-Star game in Phoenix Arizona. To make the night an even bigger blast to the past, Phil Jackson was the coach of the West team. He is the current Lakers' head coach and was the coach of those Lakers teams with Shaq and Kobe.

Bryant, a starter for the West, scored 27 points to lead all scorers. Shaq, who was playing in his 15th career All-Star game, finished with 17 points and possibly the play of the game. In a rare basketball moment, Shaq found himself out beyond the three-point line, and being guarded by lead vote getter for the All-Star game, center Dwight Howard of the Orlando Magic. Shaq passed the ball through Howard's legs and then cut to the basket to get the ball back and dunk the ball down. The play drew a huge roar from Shaq's now home crowd of Phoenix. Even Howard could not help from laughing at the great play.

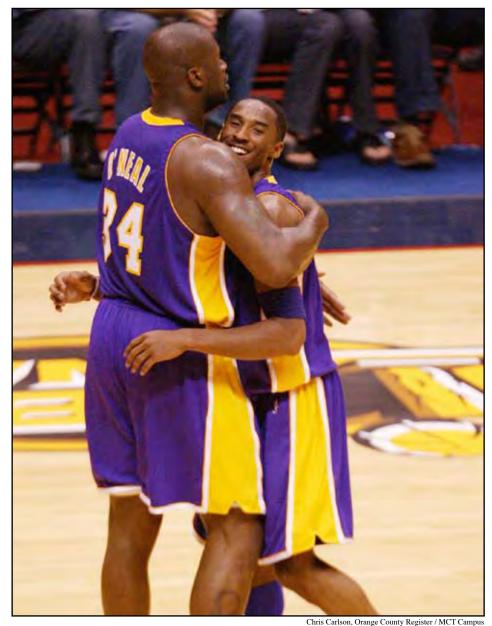
The play came in a stretch in the 3rd quarter that had Shaq score eight points in a row for the Western All-Stars. That run by O'Neal, accompanied with the fact that he was playing in his home arena, probably won him the co-MVP award. The 3rd quarter was dominated by the West, who outscored the East 14 points to add on to their 72-67 half-time lead.

The West was definitely trying to find Shaq and get him the ball. Point Guard Chris Paul of the New Orleans Hornets led all players with 14 assists while also scoring 14 points. Paul was one of six All-Stars that were honored at halftime for their performance in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, as members of the Gold Medal winning U.S. Men's Basketball team. Paul, along with Kobe Bryant, Chris Bosh, Dwayne Wade, Dwight Howard, and LeBron James were all given championship rings during a halftime ceremony.

James, a starter for the East, filled the stat sheet as usual with 20 points, five rebounds, and three assists. He really set the tempo early on with his signature style of attacking the basket. However, he will probably be remembered most for his off the glass dunk on the last play of the game. The dunk was a possible preview of what he plans to do next year in the dunk contest as he announced Saturday night that he wants to participate next year.

Dwight Howard of the Orlando Magic, who finished 2nd in this years Sprite Slam Dunk contest, finished with 13 points, nine rebounds, and three blocks. Howard's highlight of the night other than getting embarrassed by Shaq, was a very powerful dunk over both 6'11 Tim Duncan, and 7'6 Yao Ming. Howard's fellow Magic teammate Rashard Lewis finished with eight points, and six rebounds.

The win gave a little bragging rights back to the West who had lost three of the past four All-Star games. Next year the game will be held in Dallas, Texas. The game will be played in the new Cowboys Stadium, where the NBA hopes to fill the 100,000 seats available in the new building.



The Lakers' Shaquille O'Neal, left, and Kobe Bryant hug in game four of the NBA Finals on Wednesday, June 12, 2002.

Electrical Engineering

High-tech is in high demand and electrical engineers are benefitting from top employment opportunities. With the Electrical Engineering program offered at UCF Valencia West, you'll receive hands-on instruction and benefit from research opportunities in biomedical engineering, communication systems, robotics and much more.

NBA Commissioner sells 'horse' to Geico

By Alex Barrett Abarrett@valenciavoice.com

Wow, now I've heard it all. Recently, the NBA decided to add H-O-R-S-E to it's All-Star weekend lineup, and I was

stoked. I mean,

why not? It

would be fun to

see athletes revert

to the games of

their youth and

see what they can

accomplish now.

lem. now, bu-

and Geico has

rights to rename

the game G-E-I-

reaucracy

taken

bought

C-O.

One prob-

has

the

over,

for the name "basketball" ?

Kids will no longer play in basketball tournaments, they will play in Trump tournaments. "Hey, Alex, wanna go out front and play Trump?" No. I'm good, ill pass on that. Will the NTA (Formerly the National Basketball Association, now the National Trump Association,) provide more money for The Donald?

13

One thing is for sure. I would rather give my money to Mr. Trump than to Geico. Someone use their insured car to run over that freaking Gecko. Might as well cost them some money since they have enough from stealing from all of us to buy an entire competition. Ridiculous. Or just sad.

But is this really Geico's fault? Or do we point the blame at David Stern for selling out

Interested? An advisor will be at Valencia West from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following dates: February 17, 18, 24, 25 March 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31 April 1

Call 407.582.5500 to schedule an appointment.





LIONEL HAHN / ABACA PR NBA Commissioner, David Stern.

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

Hey, Geico, way to take a classic and screw it up. You're already a corrupt organization of crooks - insurance companies who takes people's money in case they get in trouble, then keeps it even if you don't? You do, Geico. And now you have tarnished a classic. Everyone already knows who you are thanks to your cruddy gecko spokesperson and crappy cavemen commercials. No one will be watching the competition at home then suddenly declare, "Oh, they're spelling G-E-I-C-O! Man does that make me want to go buy car insurance!"

I hear that Travelocity wants to buy the Around-The-World competition to promote their travel company. And hey, while were at it, how about calling Donald Trump, who has plenty of money to toss around and asking him if he wants to buy the rights

on the cometition? It is one thing to say, the "so-and-so" All-Star game, or sponsor games, but to re-name the competiton entirely is a touch too much.

For some reason, I just can't think that Stern went to his rolodex and sent a mass text across the globe that said; "Dear prospective customer, who has a five letter company name; the H-O-R-S-E competition is for sale. Make me an offer."

I just can't wrap around that - I tend to believe it was more the evil gecko's doing, placing the phone call and asking Stern how much it would cost to change the name over to their companies'.

Again, sad. And unreasonable. If you were going to allow this, at least change the competition to spell out something creative; or with all of the community service the NBA commands, something may have at least changed the name an made it pro-active, like Truth's anti-smoking campaign.

This all is up in the air, but i don't agree with it either way. so lets use this time to mourn the death of a classic.

Sports

Kenseth wins Daytona 500

By David Poole McClatchy Newspapers

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — "When you're growing up in Wisconsin," Matt Kenseth said Sunday, "Daytona seems like it's a long, long way away."

But even though he'd made it here to race at Daytona International Raceway many times before this year's Daytona 500, even on the eve of this year's first Sprint Cup race he said Victory Lane still felt distant.

"I was in the motor home yesterday with [wife] Katie," Kenseth said after winning a race shortened from 200 to 152 laps by rain. "It wasn't like a pity party or anything, but I was telling her that I was getting pretty fed up of not winning and being a contender for championships."

A little more than 24 hours later, Kenseth found himself with the kind of chance he'd been waiting for. This time, he got it right.

Kenseth drove to the low side to pass Elliott Sadler for the lead on Lap 146, clearing Sadler's Dodge with drafting help from Kevin Harvick, and took the lead at what turned out to be the perfect moment.

Almost as soon as he swept into the top spot, Kenseth said, raindrops began splattering onto the windshield of his No. 17 Ford. Within a moment, Aric Alimorla's car was spinning in traffic behind him and the yellow flag was out.

Before racing could resume, the rain intensified and NASCAR brought the cars to pit road under a red flag. Fittingly, it was 17 minutes later that the race was declared over and Kenseth the winner of the 51st Daytona 500.

Kenseth, known for being so even-tempered that he was portrayed as a robot in a commercial a few years back, was a wreck. A



Matt Kenseth crosses the finish line in the last lap before a rain delay, giving him the victory during the Daytona 500 race at Daytona International Speedway in Daytona Beach, Florida, on Sunday, February 15, 2009.

happy wreck.

Kenseth had never finished better than ninth in nine Daytona 500 starts, and he had wrecked cars in the Budweiser Shootout and his 150-mile qualifying race on Thursday. That sent him to the back of the field for the start of Sunday's race, but it also got him into a backup car that he actually found some comfort with in Saturday's final practice.

Still, after a winless 2008 season, Kenseth said he never dreamed he'd be celebrating his first Daytona 500 victory _ and team owner Jack Roush's first in the event. It was also the first victory for Drew Blickensderfer, working his first race as a Cup crew chief.

Then again, very little turned out as it appeared it might on this day in Daytona.

Lyle Busch led 88 of the first 120 laps and it seemed that his No. 18 Toyota was clearly the class of the field. Kenseth, though, had fought back from the week's travails and was actually running right behind Busch on Lap 124 when this day took its most dramatic turn.

Dale Earnhardt Jr., who had fought back from missing his pit stall earlier in the race, went a lap down after stopping outside his pit box just before that restart. He was in the inside line and battling with Brian Vickers to be the first driver a lap down in case another yellow flew. Vickers moved down to block Earnhardt's advance and Earnhardt went below the yellow line going into Turn 1. Earnhardt came back up and got into Vickers' car, starting a wreck that took out Busch as well as several other potential winners.

Kenseth, the 2003 Sprint Cup champion, said he thought that his car was the best left standing at that point. But Sadler had the lead, thanks to the fact that he'd been on pit road when the yellow came out and assumed the lead after those who hadn't pitted under green came in.

Sadler, who is pretty much Kenseth's emotional opposite, knew there was rain coming. He thought under a previous yellow that the race might be called with him in front and said he let himself think about what that might mean.

"I had a lot of cool stuff going through my head," Sadler said.

But the green did come back out on Lap 143 and Sadler had another kind of storm gathering behind him. Harvick bumped past Reed Sorenson in the draft and got lined up behind Kenseth, and Sadler saw them coming.

"I had to make a choice, to let him to the outside of me or under me," Sadler said. "I decided to let him to go under me and I hoped I could side-draft a little bit.

"They had such a good head of steam. I can play that back in my head a million times... but it's not going to change the outcome. I needed to do a better job. . . .It's hard to swallow. I had a chance to win it and just made one mistake.

"To be half a lap short of being the Daytona 500 champion is very emotional."

Harvick, who got a drafting push on the final lap from Kenseth when he won this race in a photo finish over Mark Martin in 2007, wound up second this time with AJ Allmend-inger _ who nearly replaced Sadler in the No. 19 Dodges in the offseason – third.

Clint Bowyer came through in fourth with Sadler winding up fifth.

"This will be a popular win in the garage," Harvick said. "Matt is a stand-up person and I think there are a lot of us who can kind of relate to him being kept a little out of the spotlight sometimes. It seems like he could win seven or eight races in a year and never receive any credit.

-MCT Campus





Generous Transfer of Credit Policy
No CLAST or Foreign Language Requirement
I-20 issued to qualified students; Tuition costs are same as domestic
Credits from regionally accredited schools evaluated at no charge
Small Classes Meet One Evening Per Week

Convenient Free Parking
Free Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate

Apply today at www.webster.edu

North Orlando: Sanlando Center • 407-869-8111 South Orlando: Westwood Corporate Center • 407-345-1139 1-888-302-8111 • www.webster.edu/orlando

Regionally Accredited by The Higher Learning Commission, and a member of the North Central Association, 312-263-0456, www.ncahlc.org