



Courtesy of OCSO

Marcelo Alves

Ex-contractor, jailed in March, awaits hearing

By Nikki Namdar
nnamdar@valenciavoice.com

Marcelo Alves, a former Valencia contractor, remains in the Orange County jail on five counts of sexual battery with a deadly weapon and physical force, for his alleged March 16 attack on an unnamed 20-year-old woman.

Alves, 39, is accused of luring the woman into a vacant home on Kilgore Road in the Dr. Phillips area. Alves was arrested the following day at 8:43 p.m. The pre-trial hearing will take place Dec. 16.

Alves was a contract network administrator for the information technology department on Valencia's West Campus.

Bob Seal, director of technology

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Official Student Media of Valencia Community College

Knights bowl-eligible

UCF scores 1st victory over a ranked team in program's history

By Neil Tredray
ntredray@valenciavoice.com

ORLANDO, Fla.— The University of Central Florida Knights defeated No. 13 Houston 37-32 in front of an announced crowd of 34,437 at Bright House Networks Stadium Saturday afternoon.

The victory marks the first time UCF has beaten a ranked opponent in 30 years of football, and also gave UCF the requisite six wins needed to be considered bowl eligible.

"It was a great win for our players and being able to stay in the hunt. My hat's off to the players for getting the win and becoming bowl eligible.

The players and coaches alike are both ecstatic about the win," UCF head coach George O'Leary said. "It's definitely a huge game, but it's even bigger because it was a conference game."

Houston (8-2, 4-2 Conference-USA) struck first with a field goal and a 51-yard touchdown pass from Keenum, considered a Heisman Trophy candidate, to Tyron Carrier, showing the explosive potential of a Cougars offense that had posted over 500 yards in its past two games.

UCF (6-4, 4-2 C-USA) stuck to the game plan of offensive ball control at the start of the sec-

ond quarter, orchestrating a 15-play, 62-yard drive that took over eight minutes off the clock and resulted in a 35-yard Nick Cattoi field goal to make the score 10-3.

"I thought we would definitely have a shot if we could just control the clock and move the ball on them," O'Leary said.

The teams went into the locker room with the score 17-10 at halftime.

"We held them to only four plays in the second quarter, and that is essential against a team that averages 100 or so plays a game," O'Leary said.

UCF again proved to be a second half team, as their first drive of the third quarter went 51 yards in eight plays.

Harvey scored on a 1-yard run, but Cattoi's extra point was blocked by Cougars wide receiver L.J. Castille, leaving UCF one point short of the tie at 17-16.

UCF's next drive was an 11-play, 79-yard drive that took nearly six minutes off the clock. Hodges and McDuffie connected for a 24-yard score and, following Cattoi's extra point, a 10-point lead with 9:03 left in the game.

"That was the plan going in, and it really just came down to execution," Hodges said about his team's ability to put so many long drives

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Collin Dever / Valencia Voice

Quincy McDuffie scores winning touchdown in UCF's 37-32 victory Saturday.

Alves sits, waits for hearing

Continued from page 1

support services at the West Campus, said Alves worked for Valencia for “about a year,” and is no longer on leave. “In that event, he was terminated by SunGard Higher Education,” the contractor, said Seal.

Alves’ attorney, Timothy A. Berry, said Alves is very unhappy. “He’s been in there a long time,” Berry said. “He hasn’t been able to see his kids. He’s devastated by this.”

The question asked by many is why Alves is still in jail without bond.

“Based on the allegations, that are very serious,” said Berry, “The judge determined it. We’re in motion to get a bond. We need certain things from the state witnesses first.”

Berry said the incident was “an arrangement” between the accused and the woman. “It’s interesting that she drove from Tampa to Orlando to meet him,” he said.

The Voice reported in April that the meeting between Alves and the woman was a sexual fantasy. A source told the Voice the two agreed to a “rape fetish” encounter. Berry did not comment on the source’s assertion.

Alves’ now ex-wife, Anna, filed for dissolution their 16-year marriage April 1. It

is unknown whether or not Alves will have some custody, or visitation rights, with his son and daughter if he is released.

In a phone conversation March 19 with his then wife, Alves said the online conversations between him and the woman will be able to clear everything up for him.

According to his attorney, evidence has been confiscated and is in the process of being analyzed, but no information has been released yet.

“We’re waiting for the computer information from the government, and so far we haven’t received that,” Berry said. “It takes a long time and they are doing a lot of other cases. I think it will help greatly in his defense.”

Berry explained he did not know why Alves claimed the knife he carried March 16 was for “self-protection.” Alves talked about the knife in a recorded phone conversation with his then wife in March.

The woman is still unnamed, and it is unknown where she is and if she will attend the hearing. Berry said he requested her presence, but was denied.

If found guilty, Alves could face a “number of years in state prison,” said Berry.

Alleged 9/11 mastermind to be tried in New York

By Carol Rosenberg
McClatchy Newspapers

MIAMI — Confessed mastermind Khalid Sheik Mohammed and four other alleged 9-11 plotters will face a federal trial in New York, Attorney General Eric Holder said Friday in an announcement that left intact the war court at Guantanamo.

Charges against the alleged al-Qaida kingpin have not yet been filed in Manhattan, N.Y., scene of the attack on the World Trade Center.

But the decision to bring to civilian court the mass murder case of nearly 3,000 people on Sept. 11, 2001, underscored the White House’s determination to ultimately empty the prison camps in southeast Cuba.

“They will be brought to New York — to New York — to answer to their alleged crimes in a courtroom just blocks away from where the Twin Towers once stood,” Holder said.

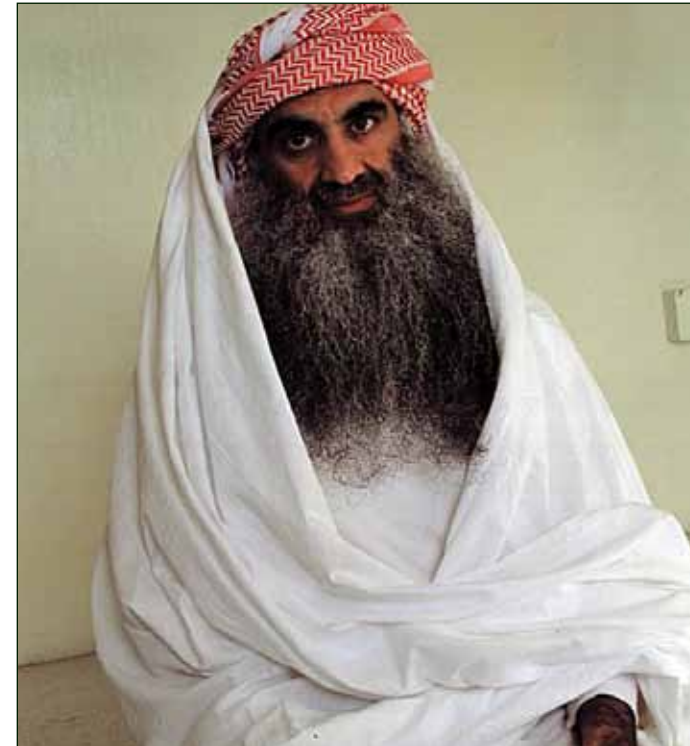
He urged prosecutors to seek the death penalty, and swept aside security fears.

Still, the announcement unleashed a wave of political protest. Republican opponents accused the White House of jeopardizing a near-certain military conviction, potentially exposing U.S. intelligence secrets, and, worse, risking a legal loophole that could free enemies on the streets of America.

War court critics railed at the White House for continuing to use the war court at Guantanamo, calling it inferior justice despite recent congressional reforms.

The 9-11 case has been mired in controversy in part because the CIA reportedly secretly subjected Mohammed to waterboarding 183 times — an interrogation technique the Obama administration calls torture.

“Islamofascist terrorism is a threat to our na-



Courtesy Jarret Brachman via Miami Herald / MCT Campus

Khalid Sheik Mohammed will be tried in New York along side four other conspirators.

tional security and should be treated accordingly,” said Florida’s GOP junior senator, George LeMieux. “The men who planned and executed the 9-11 attacks are not bank robbers — they are dedicated to destroying our way of life.”

Holder countered that, in authorizing two-track trials that send some Guantanamo cases to federal court, the 9-11 case would stand the scrutiny of a civilian judge and jury.

“I have access to information that has not been publicly released that gives me great confidence that we will be successful in the prosecution of these cases,” he said. Mohammed and his co-accused have bragged about “the fall of the towers on the blessed 9-11” in letter to their Army judge at Guantanamo.

They allegedly directed, financed and trained the 19 hijackers who piloted airplanes into the Pen-

tagon, the World Trade Center and a Pennsylvania field on Sept. 11, 2001.

President George W. Bush ordered the 9-11 accused and other high-value detainees moved to Cuba from secret CIA custody in 2006 to go before his administration’s special tribunals.

But President Barack Obama said while in Tokyo on a trip to Asia that the 9-11 accused “will be subject to the most exacting demands of justice” in civilian court. “The American people will insist on it and my administration will insist on it.” Administration officials said, broadly, that it would mostly use federal court for terror suspects accused of crimes on U.S. soil and reserve military commission trials for more classic battlefield or overseas cases. As if signaling that policy, Holder announced five military cases would go forward at Guantanamo because no U.S. site has been chosen yet for the war crimes trials.

He approved reactivation of the death penalty prosecution of Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri, a Yemeni man and former CIA detainee who is accused of conspiring in the October 2000 al-Qaida attack that killed 17 American sailors on the USS Cole. Al-Nashiri, like Mohammed, was waterboarded by the CIA, and his volunteer civilian lawyer accused the Obama administration of subjecting him to second-class justice. The FBI investigated the Cole bombing “as a criminal case,” said criminal defense lawyer Nancy Hollander of Albuquerque, N.M. “The fact that this is going to a commission is a travesty. They don’t have the evidence to convict him in a real court.”

There were no immediate plans to move Mohammed or any of the other accused to U.S. soil. By law, the White House must notify Congress 45 days before a Guantanamo transfer to U.S. trial.

— MCT Campus



Collin Dever / Valencia Voice

The UCF Knights beat the Houston Cougars 37-32 to give the program its first ever victory over a ranked opponent.

UCF scores big conference win

Continued from page 1

together. "We controlled the ball because we executed."

The Knights' defense forced a key turnover for the second game in a row as junior cornerback Justin Boddie picked Keenum off and returned the ball to Houston's 7-yard line.

Harvey ran the ball the remaining 7 yards on the next play, giving UCF a commanding 17-point lead with 8:27 left to play.

The Cougars were able to put together two consecutive scoring drives late, with Carrier catching a 31-yard

Keenum pass for six and Chaz Rodriguez bringing in a 15-yard Keenum pass for a touchdown.

Both scores were marred by failures to add points, however, as Hogan missed an extra point and Keenum failed to complete a pass for two points, respectively.

An onside kick attempt failed and, with 8 seconds left, UCF took a knee to seal their historic victory.

"This was a total team victory. Coach [Charlie] Taaffe, his staff and those offensive

kids fought their butts off. Our special teams gave us great field position.

This was just a total team victory and an amazing win for our program," said UCF defensive coordinator Dave Huxtable.

UCF's next game is at home against the Tulane Green Wave (3-7, 1-5 C-USA) Nov. 21. It will be the final home contest of the regular season for the Knights, who close out the year Nov. 28 at UAB (5-5, 4-2 C-USA).

Obama urged to bolster program to curb layoffs

By Tony Pugh
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — As job losses continue to slow the nation's economic recovery, labor experts and economists are urging Congress and the Obama administration to boost funding for a little-known program that 17 states are using to avert layoffs and keep workers in their jobs.

Mass layoffs of 50 or more employees claimed 278,000 jobs in the third quarter alone, according to new government data. All the laid-off workers were idled for at least a month and only one-third of their employers expected any of them to be recalled.

In the face of continuing business slowdowns, however, thousands of employers are forgoing layoffs and taking advantage of state "work-sharing" programs in which they cut the hours of full-time workers, who then recoup a portion of their lost wages — usually 50 to 60 percent — from unemployment insurance benefits.

The rules vary by state, but work sharing typically helps reimburse employees for wage reductions ranging from 10 to 60 percent.

For example, an employer that needs to cut 20 percent of its full-time work force could do so through layoffs. If those laid-off workers earned an average of \$500 a week, they probably could expect roughly \$250 a week in unemployment benefits.

However, if instead of layoffs those workers' hours were cut by 20 percent through the work-sharing program, they'd each earn \$400 a week. They would also be eligible for the program's jobless benefits, which would make up about half of



Joe Barrentine/Tacoma News Tribune/MCT Campus

John Ackerman, of Puyallup, welds together a construction platform at Streich Bros., Inc., in Tacoma, Washington

that \$100 wage cut, or \$50. With this approach, the worker's earnings would be roughly \$450 a week, a 10 percent cut instead of a 50 percent cut.

Employees like the program, which is sometimes called "short-time compensation," because the wage reductions are absorbed equally among workers, avoiding the stress and income loss of layoffs. Employers like it because they can reduce payroll and retain experienced workers and don't have to pay to recruit, hire and train new workers when the economy improves.

Work-sharing programs are available in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, New York state, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont and Washington state. Their popularity has skyrocketed since the economy tanked in December 2007.

— MCT Campus



Nikki Namdar / Valencia Voice

Frederick Quarterman and his cousin Xavier (above) won the Talent Tuesday finale with their blindfolded performance.

Talent Tuesday crowns top act

By Miguel De Leon
mdeleon@valenciavoice.com

Six acts competed for the \$200 grand prize in the long awaited finale of Talented Tuesday contest on Valencia's West Campus. The finale was hosted by Courtney Wilson and judged by SGA representatives Joe Bragg, Shanna-Kay Jibbs, and Kevin Kissoon.

The finale drew a large crowd and Wilson was very pleased with the event when it was over.

"It was outstanding," said Wilson. The winning act featured Valencia student Frederick Quarterman and his 15-year-old cousin Xavier who blindfolded themselves as they rocked out on the

drums and guitar. When asked on how they felt about winning, Frederick responded that "It feels great. We don't just play instruments, we live with our instruments." The duo plans to use their winnings to buy more band equipment. Another high point saw two acts competing head to head in a dance-off.

Joe Easley who danced to Michael Jackson's "Wanna Be Startin' Somethin'" and Yves Jeanfils who did a self-choreographed routine that he dedicated to his mother and girlfriend that mixed interpretive to hip-hop dance genres. The crowd was highly involved through all six performances with Easley's King of Pop

inspired dance drawing loud applause from the audience.

Other acts featured included Julia Parmer who made it to the finals by dancing and rapping. But chose to give a comedy performance in the finals that featured an impersonation of MADtv character Ms. Swan.

Omar Kannon, performed a rap song titled "I Like Them Girls" and Latin Singer Wilbur Bermudez serenaded the crowd with his version of Marc Anthony's "Nadie Como Ella."

After the judges tallied the votes, Wilson announced the results as follows: Bermudez in third, Jeanfils in second, and the Quartermans in first.

Students make contact

By Shaneece Dixon
sdixon@valenciavoice.com

ORLANDO, Fla. — Thousands of students here at Valencia Community College graduate every semester, with aspirations to get straight into the working environment, however, the choices that students have to gain some hands-on experience in their field can be very limited. For the past year, Contact Centers of America (CCA) has worked alongside the college to provide students with such opportunities.

Despite the fact that CCA is located right next door to Valencia's West Campus, only 32 of the company's employees are Valencia students, and Joe Jacoboni, who is both CEO and President of the company has aspirations to seek out more students to join the team.

CCA is a contact center service based in Orlando. By the term "contact center", we mean that the company is able to assist customers through most, if not all, means of modern communication. Whether it be through email, social networking, telephone, or video conferencing, employees at CCA strive for extreme customer satisfaction. It is a haven for students interested in getting into the workforce related to their field of study. It signs up



Collin Dever / Valencia Voice

Ashley Moss, a business and english major works at CCA through their hiring partnership with Valencia Community College.

various companies to provide "employees" for, and then looks for students majoring in those respective programs. Take for example someone who is currently majoring in Nursing.

This student, while working for CCA, can take after-hour calls for hospitals, doctor's offices, and any company related to the health field. CCA can then inform the company about the student's performance rates with their customers, thus assisting them in getting a real paying job after graduation.

"We want to hire representatives that want to do the job," said Jacoboni, a high-tech industry pioneer who created his first contact center overseas in the early 1990's, "Someone that's excited to be on the phone; attitude is key."

As we mentioned before, CCA strives for extreme customer satisfaction—where it isn't just about selling the product, but providing good service to customers, making them believe that the company that they contacted gave them the best deal.

Considering the fact that the company is currently looking to hire more Valencia students, they are working with Joelynn Look, who is a dean from East Campus, who also teaches Introduction to Customer Service and Help Desk Concepts, where students can take the same assessment that CCA uses at the beginning of the semester, and then once more at the end—after learning the various concepts that it takes to pass such a rigorous test.

Colleges respond as more students seek mental help

By Susan Snyder
The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — Mental health counselors at La Salle University were feeling overwhelmed, their appointment books packed with students in need of help, seemingly more so than ever.

Counseling director Suzanne Boyll recently ran numbers and confirmed her suspicion. They were busier.

As of Oct. 16, the number of counseling sessions had spiked 48 percent to 204, up from 137 the same time last year, a jump not solely explained by the school's record freshman enrollment.

"There are trauma-related problems, death of a family member, bad news about a class, other family stresses, boyfriend/girlfriend issues, conflict with a roommate," said Boyll, a 30-year veteran and one of four psychologists on staff.

Counseling centers at many schools in the region and nationally note the same trend: more students seeking help for routine and severe problems.

Still shaken from the Virginia Tech shootings in 2007, campuses are responding to the demand by adding counselors, reorganizing how they assess students to get to the most acute cases quickly, and training workers to deal with newly emerging problems.

Rutgers University's main campus in New Brunswick, N.J., opened a new \$5 million, 35-room counseling center this fall with all mental health services consolidated there. It also has overhauled how it responds to students.

"If a student calls for help and they need urgent help, they're seen the same day or same moment," said Jill Richards, counseling director.

At Rowan University in Glassboro, Pa., an increased number of students are "coming in with heightened symptoms of depression, anxiety and suicidality, as well as students with developmental disorders, specifically Asperger's disorder, as well as attention-deficit disorder," said David Rubenstein, counseling and psychological director.

Gwynedd-Mercy College in Gwynedd Valley, Pa., has treated students with deeper problems, too. Counselors in 1999-2000 saw 133 students for 227 sessions; last year, the numbers were 126 students for 610 sessions.

Increasingly, students are requiring hospitalization, some schools say. Temple University last year had 37 students hospitalized, up from 16 in 2007-08.

"We don't know if that's a trend, but we're going to monitor it," said



Sharon Gekoski-Kimmel, Philadelphia Inquirer / MCT Campus

Rutgers student Justine Grosso, 20, is an intern at the new Counseling Center at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey.

John DiMino, Temple's counseling director.

And more students are coming to campus already with a mental diagnosis.

Nationally, nearly 15 percent of college students in spring 2008 said they had been diagnosed with depression, up from 10 percent in 2000, the American College Health Association says.

A report by Pennsylvania State University's Center for the Study of Collegiate Mental Health found that one in four students who showed up at a sampling of college counseling centers last fall had seriously considered suicide. One-third had previously taken psychiatric drugs.

The influx comes as advances in psychiatric drugs allow more students with serious mental problems to attend college.

Students also find less stigma in seeking help; they routinely see commercials for psychiatric drugs on TV and billboards, experts say.

"These kids want to be in therapy today," said Ian Birky, counseling and psychological director at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, where the number of students seeking individual or group counseling has crept up in the last decade to 841. "They're growing up in a little bit of a different culture."

Add to that the stresses of a bad economy, uncertain environmental conditions, and more "hyper parents" who haven't allowed their children to develop their own coping skills, counselors say.

"If you have a parent who is so hyper-concerned that they 'rescue' them, you don't allow them the time that they need to sort of struggle," said La Salle's Boyll. "They're really cheating their child out of their ability to learn to manage their own stress."

Consequently, Boyll said, her center is getting more calls from parents asking about their children. By law, counseling centers can't reveal information or acknowledge that a student is a patient without written consent from the student, she said.

"We tell them to have their child sign a release," she said.

Also contributing to the rise in demand is the better job that counseling centers are doing of advertising their services and making students feel welcome, no matter the severity of their problem.

"We say you don't have to be sick to come. If you broke up with your boyfriend or have a roommate problem, you can come," said William Alexander, counseling and psychological director at the University of Pennsylvania, where the percentage of students seeking service has risen from about 9.5 to more than 11 in the last decade.

To respond to the increased demand, schools are adding staff. Temple hired three more counselors over the last five years, at a cost of about \$250,000.

Lehigh University got two doctoral interns.

Some schools have taken the unusual step of adding specific fees to help cover burgeoning costs.

Emory University in Atlanta a year ago tacked onto bills for all students a \$50 fee for mental health and counseling. The reason wasn't only to bring in more revenue for counseling. The university also wanted to reduce the stigma, said Mark McLeod, director of student counseling for the 12,000-student school.

"Our board of trustees wanted to say ... it's OK to talk about this," he said.

— MCT Campus

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WHEN: Thursday, Dec. 3,
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OUR VOICE

States should give prisoners practical punishments

Capital punishment has been around since the dawn of man. It's in our nature to destroy those who go against our social contract, however, this shouldn't be the case.

It's not because that two wrongs don't make a right, or it's simply unethical. Prisoners are more valuable alive than dead.

When someone is sent to prison, they are sent to be isolated from society. Sitting in a cell, reading a book, lifting weights to kill time is most definitely not an efficient way to pay their debt to society. Killing them is even more of a waste.

Capital punishment in America is not really an ethical issue, it's an economic issue. One of the economic problems that this country faces is outsourcing. When a country imports many goods and doesn't export any, there's obviously going to be money problems.

This is where the inmates come in. The creation of labor camps and factories will put these outcasts to good use. It would help build our economy by producing goods and sell them to domestic and foreign businesses.

Sure it may sound like slavery, but these people deserve it for committing their crimes.

Not to mention the constitutionality of this punishment, which is provided by the 13th Amendment saying that it prohibits slavery, but it perpetuates the concept of "penal servitude."

Besides there would obviously be rules and regulations for these camps to the point where they should not work their prisoners to death, defeating the purpose of this punishment.

Think of all the money spent keeping these prisoners tidy in their cells, and even more money spent by going through the long and drawn out process of the capital punishment game.

This is our money being thrown away; the government should put it to better use, but that's too much to ask for our fine politicians.

Texas has prison farms where the inmates work to serve their time. I think the country should follow their lead and expand penal labor to all prisons. Killing them won't really do much for the people other than feeding the immediate lust for vengeance.

Instead of thinking short term, primal urges, let's think long term, fruitful benefits. If these prisoners truly want to pay their debt to society, they better work it off.

— *Opinion@valenciavoice.com*

Tim Goheen



"Palin is much less interested in substantive, meaningful change than she is in glib self-promotion and monetary enrichment."

— U.S. News and World Report

"A good number of these folks who adore Palin delight how she drives liberals batty."

— Charles Cooper, CBS News

"Palin is perceived not as another cynical politician or self-promoting celebrity, but as a kind of magical helper, the God-fearing glamour girl who parachuted into backwater towns to lift people from the drudgery of daily life, assuring them that they represented the 'real America.'"

— Max Blumenthal, Los Angeles Times

ValenciaVoice
Official Student Media of Valencia Community College

Newsroom | 407-582-5040

Advisor | 407-582-1170

For comments or general inquiries

email us at:

opinion@valenciavoice.com

Editor in Chief | Shaneece Dixon

editor@valenciavoice.com

Managing Editor | Alex Barrett

abarrett@valenciavoice.com

Design | Robert Navaille

rnavaille@valenciavoice.com

News | Reese Wallace

rwallace@valenciavoice.com

Opinion | Kenny Wagner

kwagner@valenciavoice.com

Features | Ashley McBride

amcbride@valenciavoice.com

Sports | Neil Tredray

ntredray@valenciavoice.com

Sales | Jackie Minto

jminto@valenciavoice.com

Photo Editor | Collin Dever

cdever@valenciavoice.com

For advertising information contact

Jackie Minto at

ads@valenciavoice.com

POLL

House narrowly passes health bill with little support from Democrats

By David Lightman
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Any momentum from the Mov.7 historic House approval of a sweeping health care overhaul is likely to be short-lived as the focus moves to the Senate, where progress has been stalled for weeks. Washington lawmakers had two views of what the House's 220 to 215 vote means. One was that the narrowness of the vote, with 39 Democrats opposed, showed the weakness of the bill. President Barack Obama, whose top lieutenants lobbied furiously, including a presidential visit to the Capitol 11 hours before the vote.

"Most of our constituents agree we have a very serious problem with the health care system, but in terms of how you fix it, the country is very divided," said Rep. Allen Boyd, D-Fla., one of the Democrats who voted no.

The other was that the House vote was a major victory, the furthest any proposed health care overhaul has gotten since Medicare was created in 1965. No final health care overhaul will be easy.

Obama, in a Sunday statement, praised "a courageous vote for many members of Congress."

"For years we've been told this couldn't be done," he said. "After all, neither chamber of Congress has been able to pass a comprehensive health insurance reform bill for generations. But last night, the House proved differently."

The bill would create a government-run health care insurance plan to compete with the private sector, bar insurers from denying coverage because of pre-existing conditions and require most people to obtain coverage.

Do you support the public option?

Photos by Kenny Wagner



>> **The public option is a good option. It's hard for everyone to have proper health care.**

— Stacy Dawes



>> **I think it's important for everyone to have access to health care regardless of how much they make.**

— Josh Gimbel



>> **People shouldn't ask something from the government, they should be more responsible for themselves.**

— Shirley Ruiz



>> **It's garbage, we'd have to raise taxes in the middle of a recession, prolonging the economic downturn.**

— Adam Scharlau



>> **The country is already in so much debt, there has to be another way to cut down on the costs of health care.**

— Phillip Lambert



>> **I am against it. They'll make up for the cost in taxes, like Canada.**

— Kelly Richardson



>> **So far it looks like a good thing. I'm waiting for congress to actually pass it first.**

— Cleef Ponincy



>> **I support it, there are people out there who need it. We should help the needy; that's what America is all about.**

— Kaneesha Webster

YOUR VOICE

Death penalty is not a solution, but an empty threat

By Roxy Smith
rmith@valenciavoice.com

“An eye for an eye.” That is what Valencia student Carly Maddux said when asked for her opinion of the death penalty. “I believe in it, but it depends on the situation,” said Maddux.

I think the death penalty is more of a joke than a horrific thought for anyone, even those not already sitting on death row, however, I wouldn’t be too worried about it because some people sit on death row for years before a verdict is reached.

If evidence is compelling enough to convict someone for committing an especially heinous crime such as murder, then I feel why should I place mercy on them? Kill and be killed, not kill and maybe be killed.

A plentiful amount of our tax dollars goes towards the prison systems, feeding the lives of felons and killers.

If you are in prison you not only have a roof over your head, but you’re in a building that has modern heating and cooling ventilation, in most cases access to a gym and library and you receive three square meals a day.

Other than being confined to a cell and wearing the same state issue uniform as the person next to you, where is the suffering in that?

Ted Bundy admitted to killing 30

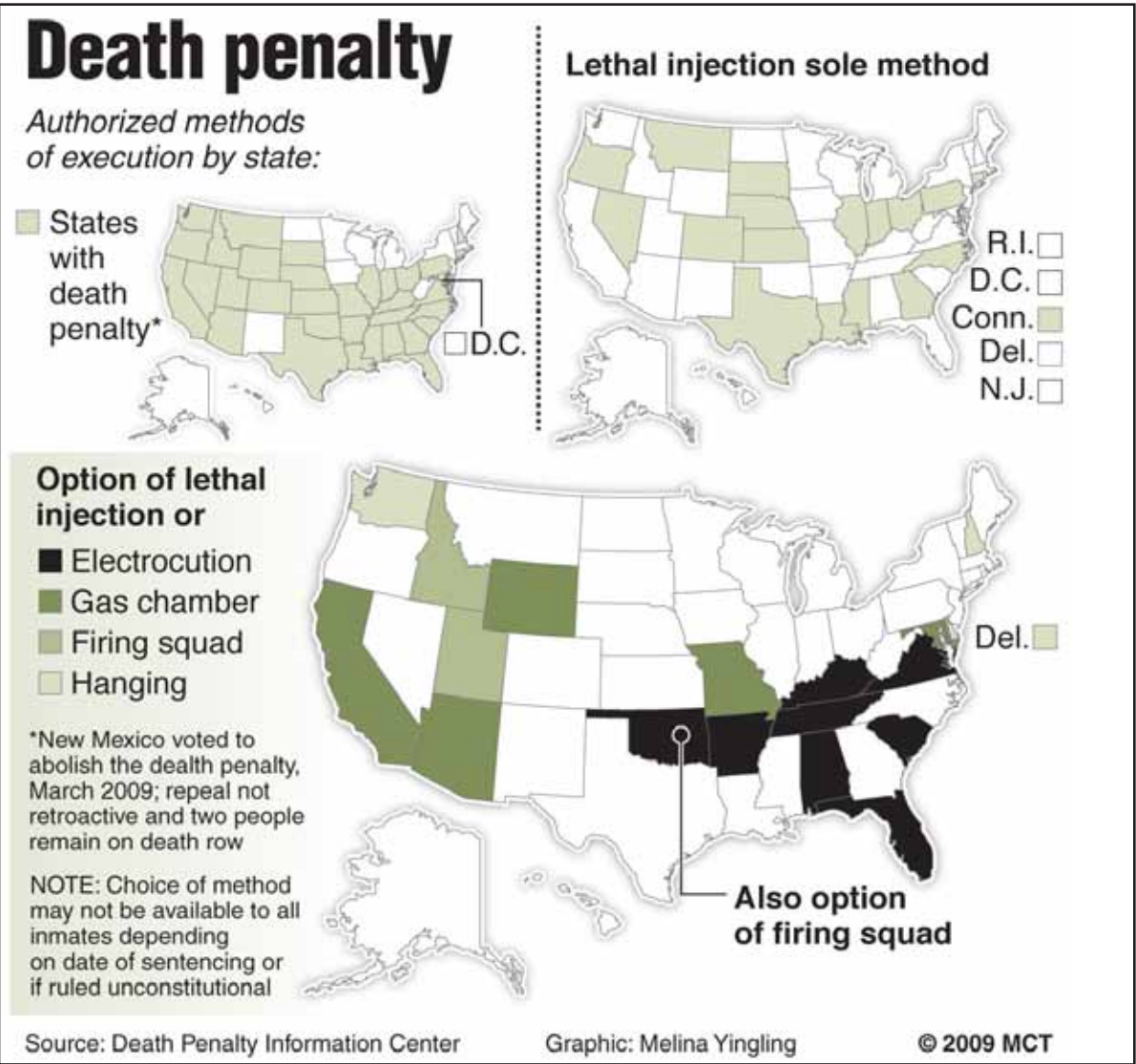
women, but police believe there were more victims not accounted for. Bundy died of electrocution under the death penalty in 1989.

John Normal Collins raped, tortured and murdered seven woman in Michigan and he was only sentenced to life imprisonment.

The famed Charles Manson was the ring leader of a group which killed nine people. Although he didn’t actually “kill” anyone, he was responsible for their death and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Where is the justice in stone cold murderers still getting to live?

Capital punishment should be less of a threat and more of a consequence.



Youths should remain free from life in prison

By Tiffany Janiczek
tjaniczek@valenciavoice.com

Should a 13-year-old be sentenced to life in prison from raping an elderly woman? Should a 17-year-old serve the same punishment for committing armed robbery while already out on parole? Do these punishments violate the 8th Amendment.

These questions have recently been under scrutiny by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The 8th Amendment prohibits cruel and unusual punishment, which includes “torture, degradation or punishment too severe for the crime committed.”

So the question lies, is it cruel and unusual to sentence a minor to die in prison in a non-homicide crime? If it is a violation of the 8th Amendment, then where is the line drawn as to which crimes deserve this sentence?

Take Joe Sullivan, at age 13 he was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole

after violently raping an elderly woman. Twenty years later, Sullivan is appealing to have his sentence overturned, using the fact that he has multiple sclerosis and is confined to a wheelchair as part of his defense.

Sullivan’s lawyer, Brian Stevenson argues “it’s important for the criminal justice system to recognize that inmates are going to change biologically, physically and emotionally as they grow up in prison. We should not assume it is a change for the worse.”

This may be true, but while in prison Sullivan has had more than 100 incidents of fighting, threatening inmates and guards, as well as having contraband and weapons. This doesn’t sound like someone I want released; in fact it seems like he hasn’t changed one bit.

While the Supreme Court is currently hearing 13 cases of minors sentenced to life in prison, they are considerably divided in what should be done, as no precedent has yet been set.

Is it cruel and unusual to sentence a minor to die in prison?

CGI-crammed '2012' enjoyable

Emmerich's latest film destroys world using Mayan calendar

By Roxy Smith
rsmith@valenciavoice.com

Roland Emmerich, the director for "2012" has killed off the greater half of humanity once again. When it comes to films, this seems to be the director's M.O.

Emmerich was also the director for "Independence Day" and "The Day After Tomorrow" which were also so-called doomsday films.

"2012" is about the ancient predictions made by the Mayan civilization's calendar. The last day of the calendar is December 21, 2012. The Mayan calendar doesn't say that the world will come to an end at this time this is just the last date in the calendar, although the movie portrays it as being the end of the world as we know it.

A scientist in India, Dr. Satnam Tsurutani (Jimi



Joe Lederer, Columbia TriStar Marketing Group / MCT Campus

Director Roland Emmerich has destroyed the world before in films, "The Day After Tomorrow" and "Independence Day."

Mistry) is an astrophysicist researcher who discovers that the Earth's core is heating up and could lead to cataclysmic events. Dr. Tsurutani teams up with geologist Adrian Helmsley (Chiwetel Ejiofor), who pushes forth the matter to the government, so they devise a plan to try and save humanity.

Separated novelist and limo driver Jackson Curtis (John Cusack) plans a camping trip in Yellowstone National Park with his children when he first hears about these prophecies from a hippie radio broadcaster, Charlie Frost (Woody Harrelson) who does his radio show from his camper in Yellowstone.

Curtis is a skeptic when Frost tells him what he knows about the government and their plans to build top secret spaceships in China that will save a small portion of humanity as Earth meets its destruction and comes to an end.

As he realizes that Frost really was onto something, he quickly grabs his family as they fight for their life to make it to China before they are struck with doom as the end of the Earth comes closer.

People fight for their life as the world is coming to an end but it doesn't matter because unless you are one of the lucky few that manage to get aboard the ship, only the rich are going to survive because they could afford a ticket to get aboard.

The film is a sci-fi thriller with a high budget for special effects. The film cost \$200 million to make and made \$225 million at the worldwide box office opening weekend, grossing about \$65 million nationwide.

I personally enjoyed the film even though "2012" follows every stereotypical standard Hollywood picture. "2012" mixes every possible disaster; earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes into one film and I feel if the world is coming to an end then it should be more depressing.



Joe Lederer, Columbia TriStar Marketing Group / MCT Campus

John Cusack and Woody Harrelson star in "2012."



Columbia TriStar Marketing Group / MCT Campus

Lilly, Kate and Noah Curtis try to stay alive in the film.

OTHER VIEWS

"'2012' shamelessly suffers its lack of serious plot and acting by overwhelming the senses with CGI porn"

— Duncan Riley, The Inquisitor

"The film is a triumph for its genre and will not disappoint those looking for to see some major destruction."

— Mali Elfman, ScreenCrave

"Beware '2012', which works the dubious miracle of almost matching 'Transformers 2' for sheer, cynical, mind-numbing, time-wasting, money-draining, soul-sucking stupidity."

— Peter Travers, Rolling Stone

"If the world can't come up with better movies than "2012," maybe it is time for us all to pack it in."

— Tim Miller, Cape Cod Times

"It's the end of the world as we know it, and I feel . . . like I have a headache. After 158 minutes of watching continents flood, cities sink and an aircraft carrier destroy the White House — by landing on top of it — you won't want popcorn. You'll want an aspirin."

— Bill Goodykoontz, Arizona Republic

"'2012' goes on so much longer than it should, even its third-act endlessness becomes sort of entrancing."

— Michael Phillips, Baltimore Sun

‘Radio’ rocks with fans

Star studded film, killer soundtrack excites

By James Austin
jaustin@valenciavoice.com

Another pirate movie is making it's mark on theaters, but this one has even better music. "Pirate Radio" is a story about a ship (Radio Rock) anchored off the coast of the United Kingdom and the disc jockeys that live and broadcast rock and roll from the ship despite the government's disapproval, who tries to shut them down without any sort of legal cause.

We're introduced to all the characters when Carl (Tom Sturridge, "Being Julia") comes aboard

to live with his godfather Quentin (Bill Nighy, "Shaun of the Dead") who owns and captains the ship.

Throughout the movie young Carl learns about the rock and roll culture of the 60's, and becomes friends with all the DJs. Their lifestyle is threatened, however, when a British government official Sir Alistair Dormandy (Kenneth Branagh, "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets") and his right hand man Twatt (Jack Davenport, "FlashForward") try to silence the ship by making them outlaws.

This is a textbook right of passage story, focus-



Alex Baily, Focus Features / MCT Campus

Rhys Ifans stars in rock and roll film, "Pirate Radio."

ing mainly on Carl and his growth as he experiences life aboard Radio Rock.

This does open some very funny segments of Carl trying to learn about love, and how to deal with women.

Even though Carl was the focus, there is still plenty of time with the other slightly odd characters like Thick Kevin (Tom Brooke, "The Young Victoria") who spends most of the movie in a confused and befuddled state of mind, and Quentin's oddball way of management. But the comedy wasn't limited to just the ship.

The government officials were so ridiculously proper that they were comedic. Plus the discussions between Sir Dormandy and Twatt were funny simply due to the causal use of Twatt's name.

In fact, it's very hard to find one character who was the comic relief in this movie, only because they were all good for a laugh at one point or another and every part was acted very well.

I would be remiss if I didn't talk about the music in this movie. The soundtrack is a homage to 60's rock, with names like The Who, Jimi Hendrix,

Cat Stevens, and Otis Redding to name a few. The music was also paired very well with scenes in the movie and always seemed to be queued up by one of the DJs.

All in all this was a very good movie. It has a killer soundtrack, fantastic characters who are played by great actors, and a feel good story that keeps you smiling.

CAMEOS IN 'RADIO'

— **Rhys Ifans**, (plays Gavin in 'Radio') plays Xenophilus Lovegood in 2010's, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" and was seen in 2000's, "Little Nicky."

— **January Jones** (Elenore) plays Betty Draper in the AMC drama, "Mad Men."

— **Phillip Seymour Hoffman** (The Count) won an Oscar for his portrayal of Truman Capote in the 2005 film, "Capote."



Alex Baily, Focus Features / MCT Campus

Bill Nighy, plays Carl's godfather, Quentin. Emma Thompson plays Charlotte in "Pirate Radio."

Classic tale gets Disney revamp

‘Christmas Carol’ sparks holiday spirit with beautiful animation

By Cristina Bonura
cbonura@valenciavoice.com

Jim Carrey is amazing and did a great job playing four of the characters in “Disney’s A Christmas Carol.”

If you know the classic story of “A Christmas Carol”, then you know that Ebenezer Scrooge is a bitter man.

He isn’t nice to anyone and definitely does not believe in being merry during Christmas time, because why should you be?



Abaca Press / MCT Campus

Robin Wright Penn lends her vocal talents to “A Christmas Carol.”

Scrooge is visited by three ghosts; the ghost of Christmas past, Christmas present, and Christmas future, to get him to change his ways.

He learns that he is going to be visited by these ghosts from his partner Marley, who died seven years before.

Marley arrives in chains explaining that if Scrooge doesn’t change the way he is, he will be chained up in his afterlife, which is something that he wouldn’t want.

That same night, Scrooge is visited by the first ghost who takes him through his past Christmases, bringing back many memories for him.

After that emotional journey, he is visited by the ghost of Christmas present who takes him through what is going on now on this Christmas.

He then realizes what is going on in his life and that he is a terrible man.

Later on that night, Scrooge is visited by the ghost of Christmas future.

This is when he truly wakes up

and knows that he has to change the way he chose to be. When he wakes up the next morning, he is relieved that he has a chance to fix everything and really turn his life around.

It is full of ghosts, and loud noises because the man is being haunted.

Most children fear ghosts and death and there is a way that Disney could have portrayed those things without it being scary, but I don’t think they did a very good job of that.

There were actually a couple of parts in the movie that made me jump!

I wouldn’t take my little brother to see it because I know he is terrified of ghosts and I think that the movie would affect him because he would think that he might be haunted since Scrooge was.

Another part of the movie that I did like was the animation. I think they did an amazing job with the scenery and how the characters looked.

It seemed realistic, which made it interesting.

Also, the characters that Jim Carrey (“Yes Man,” “The Mask”) played resembled him and I think that is a good quality to have in an animated film.

The end of the movie was actually the only part that I enjoyed watching. I don’t think it was really a movie that should be seen by children.



Lionel Hahn, Abaca Press / MCT Campus

Jim Carrey stars as Ebenezer Scrooge in “A Christmas Carol.”

OTHER VIEWS

“There are still too many characters whose faces (particularly the eyes) look as lifeless as animatrons from the Pirates of the Caribbean ride at Disneyland — but Zemeckis manages to imbue the most crucial character, Ebenezer Scrooge, with eyes that are alive from start to finish.”

— Marshall Fine, *Huffington Post*

“The story is still the same, but computer animation makes this an energetic visual treat, graphic eye candy worthy of praise.”

— Adann-Kennn Alexander, *Valdosta Daily Times*

“I would be lying if I said this super-high-tech update of Charles Dickens’ classic ‘A Christmas Carol’ didn’t put me in the Christmas spirit. In truth, it was unexpectedly decent.”

— Lane Blevins, *Kingsport Times*

“Poor little Tiny Tim looks like Chucky. Mr. Fezziwig resembles Bob Hoskins (oh, wait, it is Bob Hoskins) and Scrooge looks like Jim Carrey minus the Botox.”

— Bruce Miller, *Sioux City Journal*

“The script sticks so closely to the Victorian speech patterns of Dickens’s original that it may prove a challenge to audiences used to today’s dumbed-down dialogue, but Carrey bites into the cadences with relish.”

— Ty Burr, *The Boston Globe*

Backlash of 3-D films

Movies suffer if effect becomes selling point

By Daniel Sandoval
dsandoval@valenciavoice.com

Initially, digital 3-D movies appeared to simply be a trend, now it seems that more and more films are being presented in this format.

Theaters all around the world are changing their standard projectors over to digital. There are several benefits to this transformation, however the pricing is not one of them.

To compensate for the projectors, ticket sales are about 30 percent more expensive for the 3-D showings compared to the typical format.

The costs of a movie are high enough even before concession snacks are purchased, another three dollars for a pair of plastic glasses is just unreasonable. The content of the film is the same whether or not it's literally jumping out at you. Is it really worth the additional expense?

Audiences worldwide aren't helping the situation in preventing the gimmick from going stale. A 3-D screening outsells the typical showings by almost ten-fold.

When Tim Burton's "The Nightmare Before Christmas" was re-released and presented to a fresh generation in 3-D, it was a financial success.

Theaters cannot be blamed for wanting to make the extra money, especially when services like Netflix are being offered at a better value and provide a more comfortable movie experience.

Throughout the holiday season, try to count the number of films coming out each week that are shown in 3D. The second half of the year alone has more than nine 3D releases including "Ava-

tar" and "The Princess and the Frog." Some movies, like "My Bloody Valentine 3-D", are even starting to incorporate the presentation into the titles.

While it is unlikely that every single movie will be available in 3-D in the future, the growing phenomenon can have a potential backlash.

Will movies be filmed around the idea of creating the best possible 3-D event instead of telling a worthy story?

Does this mean that audiences now judge with their eyes instead of their minds? Can 3-D become so popular that consumers will need to incorporate the technology into home televisions?

Undoubtedly, the real dilemma begins when 3-D becomes a bigger selling point than the film itself.



Fox / MCT Campus

James Cameron's film, "Avatar" which opens next month, will be offered in 3-D.

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Fantastical 'Academicals' centers on football

Pratchett's latest novel deals with wizardry and reinvention of well-known sport

By Jimmy Tater
jtater@valenciavoices.com

"Unseen Academicals" by Terry Pratchett follows the convergent story of the talented kitchen crew, basement dwelling candle makers, and an ensemble of wizard professors from Unseen University as they try to reinvent the image of football.

Mister Nutt is a shy new employee in the basement, where the candles that light the university are made, and tries to assimilate by overworking while hiding a dark secret — he is an Orc.

For reasons that are unclear, it is expected for

him to transform into a feared wild animal.

Later Trevor Likely, a basement supervisor, befriends Nutt and introduces him to football and the kitchen staff. Of which, he becomes passionate for the kitchen's leader and motherly figure: Glenda Sugarbean.

Fun is made of authority figure like the panel of wizards and Archancellor Ridcully who try to start a football program at Unseen University.

The professors are adults in positions of authority, but act like they are kids at summer camp.

It seems that they lack the leaderships necessary to start and organize a functioning team at the university, so they enlist the the story's protagonist, Mister Nutt, and Trev Likely as team trainers.

Really, the interaction among the wizards could be best described as a parody of NBC's "The Office" except with wizard; the people portrayed are in a professional environment, but at times at just the opposite.

Although Unseen University is described as a school, students are almost nonexistent and even the school's athletic team is made up of school's finest professors, not students.

For sports fans, the insight into the training process the Unseen Academicals endured as well as the unadulterated coverage of their important debut game can be enjoyable for those who like a text version.

The game in this fictional world is the equivalent of an overly aggressive game of street soccer,

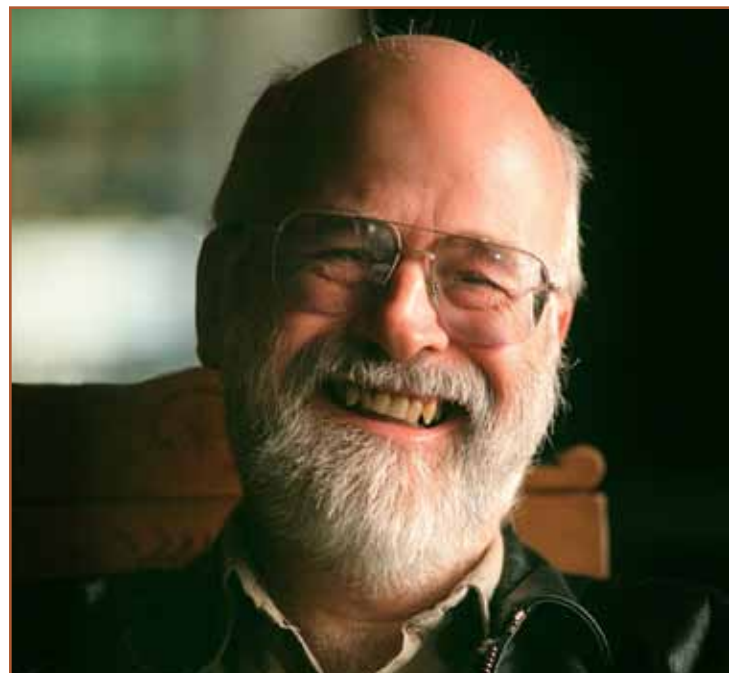
but the university is trying to add good sportsmanship and civility to a sport that won't stand for it.

For those who don't like stories about fantasy, magic, and wizards, this book should be avoided.

The reader isn't bombarded with a long list of spells in Latin or too many surreal images but, there is so much jargon about fantasy creatures like trolls and orcs, it may become uninteresting.

Otherwise, it can be likable for the story it tells about teamwork and the light that it holds authority figures.

Even those interested in the culinary arts can enjoy the conversations in the kitchen about pie and those into fashion can enjoy comedic look at fashion trends when a secondary character, Juliet, gets a contract to model dwarf micro-mail for ladies.



Chris Walker, Chicago Tribune / MCT Campus

Terry Pratchett, the author of "Unseen Academicals."

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Q & A: Minnesota Wild coach, former Orlando Solar Bear, Todd Richards

- VV** : Reflect a little bit on your experience in Orlando with the Solar Bears.
- TR** : It was great, a great time in my career, It was really special to be a part of the championship Solar Bears team the last year it was active before it folded, I guess that is what I will take with me the most.
- VV** : How much did your experience with the Solar Bears contribute to you going into coaching?
- TR** : A little. I guess some of the right people saw some things in me that I didn't see in myself, that helped me out a lot.
- VV** : Who are some of your influences, or mentors, in coaching?
- TR** : Honestly, my father. He pushed me to become a hard worker, and helped me along all the steps in my life. I wish I would have had someone pushing me in my career like he did in my life, I feel I could have been a much better player.
- VV** : How would Todd Richards the coach evaluate Todd Richards the player? Could a player like Todd Richards help the Wild?
- TR** : (Chuckles,) Well, let's just say there was a game on ESPN Classic I was in, and I sat down to watch it with my wife and just saw how horrible I was playing, I would have benched myself in that game in the second period. I needed a push in the right direction, and a little honesty, I think I would have been able to give myself that.
- VV** : Does your experience in hockey's minor leagues encourage you to take a little longer look at a minor-league guy trying to make your team? Maybe consider a guy who's a half-step slow, or a few inches too short?
- TR** : Not especially, I try to evaluate new talent in all shapes and forms now, regardless of the source of the talent, equally, but I do look at a broader range of individuals.
- VV** : Have you been back to Orlando since your playing days?
- TR** : My children were both born here, so I have a special feling for Orlando, the kids love the parks, and we come back every once and awhile to take them in.
- VV** : Any final thoughts about the Solar Bears or Orlando?
- TR** : It's a great city, ful of life. I definitely miss playing there for the Bears, but I will always remember my path through Orlando in my career.

Minnesota Wild — Alex Barrett



RDV Sports

Iverson is the answer

By George Diaz
The Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO, Fla. — Be bold, Orlando.

There's no satisfaction in second place. Been there, done that. Isn't that the first loser, anyway?

Break free from your image as a goody-two shoes franchise run by the Amway king, and bring some attitude into the huddle with the dysfunctional king of the NBA.

Sign Allen Iverson.

The Answer is your answer.

Anybody else know of another 10-time All-Star and league MVP who is available at the moment? Cheap, too. We're talking Dollar Store prices in the NBA economy, because Iverson becomes an unrestricted free agent tonight after his release by the Memphis Grizzlies.

All Rich DeVos has to do is cut a check for \$1.8 million, take a deep breath, and not get too caught up in the specifics of Iverson's problems. Selfish, disruptive, petulant, among other adjectives, come to mind.

So what? Orlando doesn't need him for the whole year. The Magic just need him to fill in for point guard Jameer Nelson, who is now officially one of the most fragile players in the NBA. He is expected to miss four to six weeks after undergoing arthroscopic surgery today to repair a torn meniscus in his left knee.

Anybody else see a pattern? Nelson missed the last 35 games of the regular season in 2008-09 because of a shoulder injury. He was on the inactive list for 11 games the previous year for various ailments. Maybe Jameer is just a fragile fit in a big man's world, but there's been a lot of snap, crackle and pop in his NBA career.

So who do you want behind the wheel — erratic Jason Williams, who turns 34 on Thursday, 35-year-old Anthony Johnson, or a 10-time all-star and league MVP?

Iverson is indeed Mr. Crazy Pants. He hates practice and wears on coaches because of his stubbornness. But here's what General Manager Otis Smith should tell Iverson.

"We will sign you for the minimum. If you play nice, you can stick around even after Jameer gets healthy. You want an NBA title? This is the place to be. But if you're a jerk, we'll drop you off at the Amtrak station and send you to Nowhereland. Pout all you want. Guess what? Nobody cares."

High reward. Little risk.

Face it, it's going to be a fun ride. The Magic will officially lead the league in tattoos (swallow your pride Mr. DeVos, it's a generational thing) and Magic time outs are going to be the place to be in the NBA. Think of the convergence of combustible coach Stan Van Gundy with combustible player Allen Iverson. Oh-ya!

Iverson will ratchet up this team's defensive intensity. Iverson will force teams into making tough decisions on the break. Iverson will shake things up in the locker room.

All of this is good.

If Iverson lapses into his petulant rants, then cut him loose. But Iverson should realize that this is his last shot at redemption, a chance to make people forget about much of the other nonsense that's been pervasive in his career. It's happened before with other misfits. Anybody heard any noise from Randy Moss since he joined the New England Patriots? Wasn't Stephon Marbury a good guy for the Boston Celtics last year in the playoffs? Ron Artest has gone from bad seed in Indiana to a solid (and tough) citizen in Houston and Los Angeles.

The Magic and Iverson need each other. They both need redemptive makeovers. Iverson needs to be softer. The Magic need to be tougher.

Work with me on this, give it time to percolate.

The Answer is your answer.

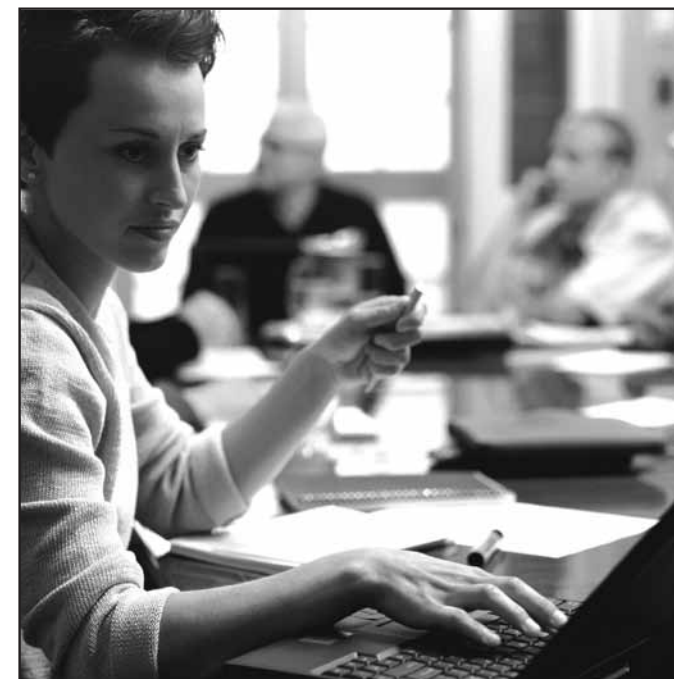
— MCT Campus



J. Conrad Williams Jr., Newsday / MCT Campus

The embattled star Allen Iverson offers extreme ability and absurd attitude issues, but he may fill gaps for the Magic.

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(Picks are winners, they do not take odds into account.)

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| IND @ BAL |
| WAS @ DAL |
| CLE @ DET |
| SF @ GB |
| BUF @ JAX |
| PIT @ KC |
| SEA @ MIN |
| ATL @ NYG |
| NO @ TB |
| ARZ @ STL |
| SD @ DEN |
| CIN @ OAK |
| NYJ @ NE |
| PHI @ CHI |
| MIA @ CAR |
| MONDAY NIGHT HOU @ TEN |



Alex Barrett

108-34
7-8



Reese Wallace

84-58
8-7

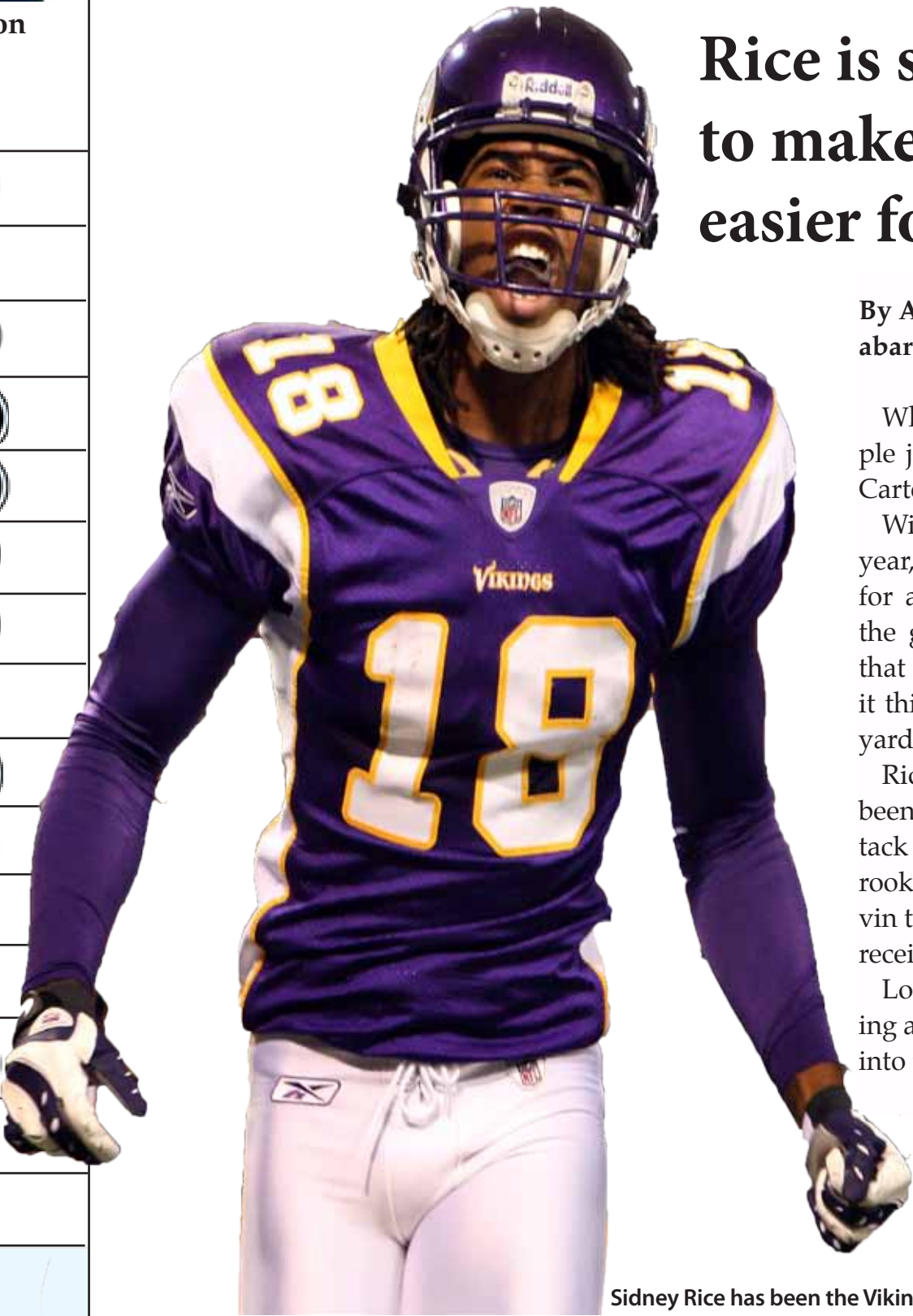


Manny Colon

82-60
8-7

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Bombs over Sidney



Rice is starting to make things easier for Favre

By Alex Barrett
abarrett@valenciacc.edu

While Sidney Rice may wear the purple jersey of the Vikings, he is no Cris Carter.

With only two touchdowns on the year, Rice may be kind of an odd choice for a spotlight, but the work done on the green field is just as important as that done in the paint; and Rice proved it this last week in his seven catch, 201 yard performance against Detroit.

Rice's ability to stretch the field has been invaluable to the long passing attack of Minnesota, as he teams with rookie of the year candidate Percy Harvin to give Old Man Favre a young stud receiving corps.

Look for the new Rice to start emerging as a legitimate threat downfield, and into the red zone as the year continues.