



Nikki Namdar / Valencia Voice

Marcelo Alves in November awaiting bond hearing.

Alves released to home confinement

By Nikki Namdar
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After a bond hearing, Marcelo Alves, alleged rapist and former Valencia Community College employee, was released on Feb. 19 from jail to home confinement by judge Walter Komanski.

On Feb. 10, documents were made with the details of his bond and home confinement, signed by Komanski.

In the records, it states he is ordered to have no use of the internet, no direct or indirect contact with the victim, and was forced to forfeit his passport before the bond posted.

Alves' bond set for count one was \$13,000 plus home confinement. His counts two to eight were \$1,000 each. His total bond was \$20,000. In addition to these charges, he must also pay \$42 per week to the county-

Continued on page 2

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ValenciaVoice

Official Student Media of Valencia Community College

Find out if
'Shutter Island'
makes you shudder.
on Page 8...



Courtesy Paramount Pictures

Famed reporters speak at West Campus

By Nelly Morales
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How many people in their lifetime can say they have had the honor and privilege to meet a few of the United States Presidents, quite a few but unlike many, Helene Thomas has had the honor to have meet 10 out of the 44 presidents in her lifetime.

It's always an honor to have distinctive guests appear at Valencia Community College, let alone have the honor to meet renowned journalists Helene Thomas and Craig Crawford. They both have collaborated to bring about their recent book called 'Listen Up, Mr. President: Everything You Always Wanted Your President to Know and Do,' which contains information about Thomas' and Crawford's experiences with the presidents of the United States and their views on them.

Crawford, who is a resident of Washington, D.C, is known as the most celebrated journalist, who has also worked as a reporter for the Orlando Sentinel.

"He always wanted to be a president," said Crawford's mother, Toby



Karen Raffaello / Valencia Voice

Craig Crawford interviews Helen Thomas with questions from the audience.

Crawford, who says she is proud of how far her son has come along and has supported him throughout his career.

"I hope to seek the truth," said Thomas, who is known for the famous saying, "Thank you, Mr. President." As a reporter, she attended many press conferences and has asked the presidents the tough questions that really no one has had the courage to. She says she believes

that every president should be able to handle any question asked.

"The way she asks tough questions," said Patrick Vander Wyden, who is a fan of Thomas and admires how she is able to ask questions that many are afraid of asking.

Thomas and Crawford said they would both would meet up and have lunch and shared each others' stories about politics and presidents. The book idea came along with them

both realizing how much they had experienced with politics and their views on the presidents that they have encountered with.

"People are not open to learn," said Janet Bryant, who is a student at Valencia and who believes that there are many people who don't realize the importance of politics and the issues that are happening with in the United States.

"It's a great privilege to cover a president," said Thomas, now at age 90, has spent 60 of them reporting, having covered 10 presidents in her lifetime and shares the hall of fame with Crawford. They both have had the privilege first hand in the world of politics when it comes to the president of the United States to the issues that happen in the world and their main focus to relate to the public the truth about what goes on in our country.

Both Thomas and Crawford are going out to the public and speaking about their lifetime experience.

Crawford's and Thomas' book may be purchased in bookstores now or visit www.helenthomas.org.

More from this event on page 4

Alleged attacker's bond set at \$20,000

Continued from page 1
for the cost of electronic supervision.

Upon his release, Alves was forced to sign a form, the community surveillance unit, which includes 28 conditions of home confinement and juris monitoring programs, including his agreement to pay the weekly cost of supervision (failure to pay results in removal from the program).

During his time in this program, Alves will be monitored by a temper proof, ankle bracelet, which must be worn 24 hours day. It is a proximity monitor to track his location, to assure he remains in his residence at all times, with disregard to approved and scheduled permission to leave, which is only limited to Orange County. His curfew is between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.

He must submit to a drug, narcotic or alcohol test by the surveillance officer, report to officer as directed, and must contact the Clerks of the Courts weekly to determine case status and notify the officer of any changes.

Alves was not present for the bond hearing, instead his lawyer, Timothy A. Berry was present with counsel.

Valencia presents a play within a play

By Roxy Smith
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Valencia Community College's East Campus is home to many entertainment programs like, "Live Show Production," "Entertainment Technology" and "Music Production." It is also home to the "Theatre Department" where students can learn about the art of theater, gain valuable acting skills and learn stage design techniques.

"This is a student centered program," said professor John DiDonna, who teaches theatre and acting.

"By the time students leave this program I want them to be working professionals," said DiDonna.

The BlackBox Theatre, located directly inside building three on east campus, received a lot of attention this past weekend. Feb. 18 was the opening night for the play 'Marat/Sade,' by Peter Weiss, who is now deceased.

The play's full name is, "The Persecution and Assassination of Jean-Paul Marat as Performed by the Inmates of the Asylum of Charenton Under the Direction of the Marquis de Sade." The 'play within a play' as it is called has a dark undertone and is not suitable for young children and has content matter that may be offensive to some.



Student performers in the Valencia production of 'Marat/Sade.'

Collin Dever / Valencia Voice

Performed by Valencia students, staff and community actors, the play has been in rehearsal since Thanksgiving. In total the cast has 27 actors and about 50 student technicians.

"This production enabled students to learn and practice their craft," said Michael Shugg, a professor and director for the Enter-

tainment Design and Technology program at Valencia. Shugg is also the director for 'Marat/Sade.'

Students were responsible for building the set, props and costumes, as well as hanging lights and setting up audio effects for the show.

Taking place after the French Revolution in France around

1808, 'Marat/Sade,' is about a man named Marquis de Sade who is locked up in an asylum. While in the asylum he decides to put on a play about the life of Jean-Paul Marat. The inmates agree to perform the play but it is only a matter of time before chaos breaks loose among them.

"A production like this is only possible because of our already strong, Theatre, much and Entertainment Technology programs," said Shugg.

Productions of this measure cost Valencia between \$2,800 and \$3,000 to produce. That price includes about \$1,200 spent only on scenery, and another \$900 for costumes. Other funds must be spent on lighting, audio and props used for the play.

"So far we have received two amazing reviews," said DiDonna, who is playing as Marquis de Sade in this particular performance. "The daughter of the playwright attended the performance on Sunday and loved it," said DiDonna.

Marat/Sade has already sold out two shows; so don't miss the last shows. The play will run until Feb. 28 and is \$5.00 for Valencia students, alumni and seniors and \$8.00 to the general public.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Local columnist showcases book at VCC

Greg Dawson's 'Hiding in the Spotlight' tells the story of his mother's fight to survive in Nazi Germany.

By Shannon Scheidell
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"Hiding in the Spotlight," the story of a woman with "Steel in her Spine."

Orlando Sentinel columnist Greg Dawson spoke to the students of Valencia, Friday, about one of the most personal aspects of his life: his mother.

Dawson's mother, Zhanna Arshanskaya, is one of 16,000 Jewish

people to survive the invasion of Ukraine by Germany during the Holocaust. Only she and her sister, Frina, are known survivors to escape the clutches of the Nazi Army, during the Soviet era.

The two girls, then 12 and 8 years old, hid in plain sight of the Germans by "entertaining the enemies." The sisters played piano, acted, and sang under commission of the Third Reich.

"By the time I had heard the story, I was about 30," Dawson said. He was not raised by his mother, knowing she had survived the horrors of the Holocaust. "It was almost like hearing a stranger tell you this story."

Arshanskaya was given the chance to jump out of line of the impending death march at Drabitsky Yar through a bribe that her father, Dmitri, made with one of the Nazi soldiers. He gave the soldier his pocket watch and asked to turn a blind eye, so that young Zhanna could escape into the woods.

It worked.

Her father's last words to her were, "I don't care what you do, just live."

Dawson presented a short video outlining some of the trials that Arshanskaya went through, the students in the audience paying rapt attention.

The Jewish were taken from their homes and marched for two weeks, having no food and very little water to survive on. Not all of them survived.

Statues meant to pay homage to famed poets and artists, of the age, hung the corpses of Jewish people, instead. The city of Kharkov, Ukraine would never be the same.

He admitted that it wasn't too easy to write the book, "Hiding in the Spotlight."

"You can be a great sprinter, without being a marathon runner and vice-versa," said Dawson. Essentially, you may be able to write short news stories full of facts and objectivity, but when you try to write a more creative, personal narrative, it can wear you out.

Being a career journalist, he has learned this lesson all too well.

Valencia student Amanda Masri already began reading the book, after picking it up in the bookstore, a few days before the event.

"I wasn't a huge fan of his writing at first, because of his journalistic style," Masri said, "but it is interesting. He's very facts-oriented."

To everyone's surprise, sophomore Richelle Clark, received a copy of Dawson's book, with an exceptional addition within the first few pages.

Arshanskaya, herself, signed Clark's book, without anyone knowing beforehand. She is the only person to have this signature in her copy of the book.

Young Frina Arshanskaya escaped, but to this day will not divulge to anyone how she managed to survive.



Shannon Scheidell / Valencia Voice

Dawson (seated) shared with students the story of his mother, a Ukrainian Jew who survived the Holocaust by performing as a musical act.

The Arshanskayas were reunited several days later, a hospitable couple, the Boganchas, took them in.

In 1945, they were liberated by Americans and taken to a displaced person's camp in Munich, Germany. Larry Dawson was leader of the camp.

Young Zhanna could hide her heritage inside the facade of an Aryan child, but she could not hide her talent for music. Larry Dawson helped the girls organize a concert to perform in New York, where they both gained scholarships to Julliard.

Eventually, Arshanskaya married David Dawson, Larry's brother. By then, he was an established musician and a

member of a quartet at Berkshire University. The student audience was highly affected, in sharing these personal memories with Dawson.

"It was heart-wrenching to see the picture of his mother, standing by the tree," said Carla Rhodes, a sophomore. "It's as if you're right there, with them."

"I came to appreciate just how strong she is," Dawson said. Because she was a concert pianist, he thinks that she gained that "focus, discipline, and fortitude that you need to survive," through her passion for playing piano.

Arshanskaya was made a hero in the telling of her tale. Today, she is 83 years old.



Shannon Scheidell / Valencia Voice

Richelle Clark received an exclusive signature in the book she purchased.

Junior press interviews former reporter

By Tiffany Janiczek
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Wearing their Lake Highland Preparatory school uniforms, and credentials that noted them as "Valencia Junior Press," Lauren Grulich and her older sister Anna listened intently to a legend.

Lauren, 10, and Anna, 11, came with their mother to hear the Dean of the White House Press Core Helen Thomas speak about a book she co-wrote with Craig Crawford titled, "Listen Up, Mr. President: Everything You Always Wanted Your President to Know and Do." They got the opportunity of a lifetime to interview Thomas during a 29-minute press conference before the "Evening with Helen Thomas" event began.

Both aspiring journalists, Lauren and Anna recently started their own newspaper, "The Grulich Gazette," when a project in their 5th and 6th grade class required each class to create a newspaper of their own. "We started our paper, because the one at school missed deadline, we had a paper for October and it was February," said the girls, as they told the story together.

Currently only filling one



Valencia Community College

Junior Press interviewing Helen Thomas.

8.5" by 11" sheet of paper, the newspaper has facts, stories, reviews of books and movies the girls like, as well as drawing contests for the kids in earlier grades at their school.

During the press conference, the girls asked Thomas what advice she had to give aspiring journalists. "Go for it," replied Thomas. After the press conference Thomas asked the girls if they wanted to be reporters, she also asked if they already worked on a newspaper. The girls proudly showed Thomas a copy of their newspaper, which Thomas requested they autograph for her. When the girls told her they wanted to be authors, Thomas said she wanted to read their books.

Watching from the side Maria G. Toumazos, Lauren and An-

na's mother, beamed proudly at her daughters as they talked to Thomas about becoming journalists. Toumazos, a member of the Valencia Community College Board of Trustees, said the girls have their own business cards, each displaying the girls name and their staff titles; Anna works as editor-in-chief, and Lauren acts as the primary researcher and fact checker.

After the press conference, Lauren and Anna had already begun writing their stories while they waited for the event to begin.

Although they only have a few editions under their belts, the girls hope to continue publishing "The Grulich Gazette" and maybe expanding to include more pages in the future.

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OUR VOICE

Observers Effect

As journalists we often wonder if the work we do brings change and alters what we witness, or if we are relegated to the sidelines merely to observe. After a discussion with Helen Thomas, journalist of 70 plus years, she gave the allusion that any career pursued as a journalist would leave us forever impartial, like a scientist observing the processes of nature with no way to change it.

"I don't think I've really had an impact," said Thomas. "We carry a big responsibility to at least bring out an issue put it front of them and let them think about it."

So changing the world may be out

of the question, but maybe we can inspire someone else to. We see it on every stage from what goes on here at Valencia to international coverage, people asking questions. The Press is sometimes referred to as the fourth estate. A reference to british government, it would be equivalent to calling the press the fourth branch of the government. Another level of checks and balance society has built into the system.

A journalist's job, first and foremost, is to be impartial, outside of this section no opinion can exist, just the reporting of facts.

So our job will always be to stay impartial inside the A section, but that does not mean we don't have the abil-



Public outrage following Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans was fueled by images of the suffering and devastation coupled with a perceived lack of action by U.S. government.

Ide / MCT Campus



National Archives / MCT Campus

Media coverage of the Vietnam War informed public opinion and is credited by many with the unpopularity of the war effort in the United States.

ity to make change, it just will never come from our hands.

We saw how the flood of news coverage on Vietnam descended the American sentiment into negativity. It was the first time the horrors of war were broadcast into living rooms across the country, and forced us to reevaluate our opinion on war. It was the journalist work that fueled American reaction.

The exposure of Governmental shortcomings in the handling of hurricane Katrina made the American people so distrusting of the Bush administration that we saw a democrat become president, a filibuster majority in the senate, and majority in the house.

There are some who believe that just by witnessing an event it changes just by you being there. It is called the ob-

server effect. Arguably, a part of that is true. We can see a change in how people react when questioned. Everyone puts on a front. A persona of how they want people to read them.

That is why one of the first tricks we learn as journalists is to let the people speak for you. Use the quotes that support the sentiments of the event. That is where the observer effect comes in. We can get as much commentary as can fit inside quotation marks.

We must also acknowledge the concept of observer effect. Anything you witness is changed just by nature that you were there reporting. So although we can make an impact, albeit a small one, we must begin to agree with Ms. Thomas: We can't make change on our own, we must hope to inspire it in others.

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POLL

Should don't ask don't tell be changed?

Living Under Don't Ask Don't Tell

By Ashley Gonzalez
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"It's the reason I didn't re-enlist. It's aggravating," said Donald Gibson, 24, referring to the "don't ask, don't tell" (commonly known as DADT) policy currently in place for the U.S. Military.

Gibson served for many years in the United States Marine Corps. He is a gay individual that had to take extra measures to serve in the United States Marine Corps.

"It wears down morals and ethics", said Gibson. He later got married to a lesbian to have the same freedoms as everyone else who served.

"It was an easy out for both of us," said Gibson. "I did a lot of research on what was and wasn't allowed under the DADT policy and once all my research was done I would push as many boundaries as I could."

He would visit gay bars and socialize with others. He was careful not to draw attention to himself because many of his associates and higher ranking officers would patrol the area and hide in bushes outside of the venue in search of those individuals in the military that were gay. Sometimes those who were caught would get beat up

He did not find it fair that heterosexuals would get awarded for supporting their spouse and gays would never receive anything of the sort.

Gibson underwent many investigations and questioning by higher ranking officers.

He had an honorable discharge from the Marines and would re-enlist if the government got rid of DADT.

He has already tried to re-enlist twice but was denied due to the Marines not letting previously enlisted veterans back in during certain times.

"Without an honorable discharge I wouldn't have been able to sit at the Veteran Affairs desk here at VCC," Gibson said.



I think it's just a matter of privacy. They shouldn't do away with it.

—Sophia Ciieri

It should just be left the way it is

—Maddie Fosmo



Absolutely! They should be able to fight for the same freedoms as everyone else even if they're not granted them.

—Daniel Sandoval



Keep it. It's best to just leave it things the way they are.

—Claudine Jean



They shouldn't get rid of it. If you're gay don't just come out and say it. They should keep their business to themselves. It's been fine so far.

—Janisa Simmons



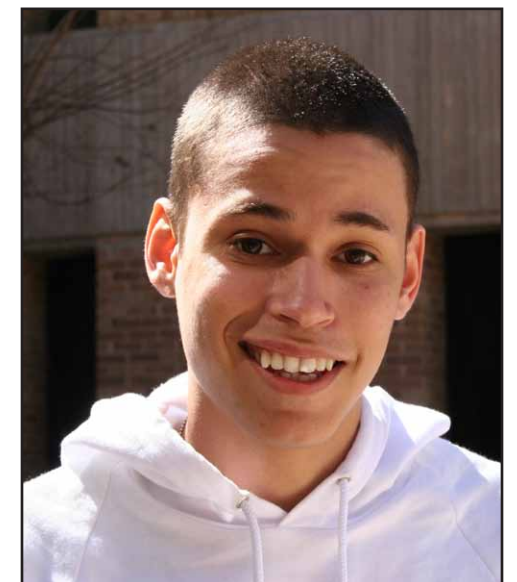
It wouldn't be the best thing. If they go to war you don't want them killing each other. It should be eliminated but it's just not really possible.

—Merline Louis



If gay individuals want to tell they should be able to but if not they shouldn't have to.

—Lorraine Catarata



Yes. They should do away with it. It kind of makes for gay people to feel like they can't be themselves. I'm gay myself.

—Danny Colone

Photos by Arleen Franco, Reporting by Ashley Gonzalez

YOUR VOICE

America still reads, but in different ways

Daniel Asparouhov
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An hour in front of a lava lamp does wonders for concentration, but alas I lacked direction. My father shares tidbits of wisdom with me regardless of whether I asked for them or not, but I needed advice.

Plato answered questions with questions and such was the response I got. "Since I can remember I have always heard how things are going downhill," he said. "After riding on the back of failure for so long we still haven't reached the last stop. Do you think we are just getting lucky and the driver is forgetting to break, or is that we aren't racing downhill?"

In contrast to the newest Apple announcement, Steve Jobs critiqued America's love for literature in '08.

"It doesn't matter how good or bad the product is, the fact is that people don't read anymore," Jobs said. "Forty percent of the people in the U.S. read one book or less last year. The whole conception is flawed at the top because people don't read anymore."

As my father pointed out, he has heard the primo uomo sing this sad tune his whole life. Every once in a while we go into a self bashing euphoria.

The latest trend I've noticed; Americans can not read. While not as bad as Mr. Jobs paints it, according to a survey conducted in '07 by Ispose Public Affairs 24 percent of Americans had not read a book in the previous year.

If you turn towards the National Endowment for the Arts, Americans aged 15 to 24 spend only seven minutes of their daily leisure on reading, reading scores for 12th-grade readers fell significantly from 1992 to 2005, and employers rank reading comprehension as very important, but consider most high school graduates deficient in this basic skill.

While all of these statistics look abysmal, there is something rotten in Denmark. They do not take into account the amount of online reading people do.

This is the 21st century and Americans are going to the internet. The truth is that while books will probably never be phased

out, people are spending a lot more of their time in the digital.

According to Emarketer there are supposed to be about 128 million blog readers by 2013 in the United States.

People get their reading material from different sources than the traditional book and newspaper. In '08 publishing brought in about \$15 billion in revenue.

Why would Americans buy so many books, if we will not read them?

We are consuming more digital text, while still having a healthy amount of original print. It seems to me that the doomsday views on our country's literacy, while ground in some truth, are slightly exaggerated.

We should not sit and pat ourselves on the back regarding our reading habits, but at the same time we should not discount the glaring positives.

What do the cynics think of the hugely popular Harry Potter series and its acceptance by

American households? Is it some strange phenomena or a pure stroke of luck that book publishers show increase in revenue?

I think in one hundred years Americans will still be able to read just fine, though it may be in a different context. As with all references to opera it ain't over 'til the fat lady sings.

VP smackdown hits sunday circuit

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times on Tuesday, Feb. 16:

One television commentator referred to it as a smackdown worthy of World Wrestling Entertainment, but, to be honest, Sunday's talk-show back-and-forth between Dick Cheney and Joe Biden was a surprisingly substantive exchange on how best to bring terrorists to justice.

For the most part, the current vice president had the better of the argument, but on one issue — whether Khalid Shaikh Mohammed should be tried in a civilian court — Biden ominously signaled that the administration might be moving toward Cheney's view.

We were not surprised when Cheney said that alleged Christmas bomber Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab should have been treated as an enemy combatant, not a criminal with the right to remain silent; nor were we shocked to hear him say that Abdulmutallab should have been turned over to interrogators who could decide how best to win his cooperation — even employing waterboarding if necessary.

Biden rightly countered that skilled FBI interrogators "got all the information they could get from him prior to him going silent" and noted that Abdulmutallab has continued to cooperate.

The fact is that interrogators did question Abdulmutallab before advising him of his right to remain silent — and could have continued for even longer. Since 1984, the Supreme Court

has recognized an exception to the Miranda rule when required by "overriding considerations of public safety." That would apply when an arrested terrorist might know of impending attacks.

Biden also neutralized Cheney's larger complaint that the Obama administration doesn't believe it's at war.

Biden cited not just President Obama's statements but recent U.S. successes on the battlefield. T

o the argument that a state of war doesn't permit treating terrorists as criminal defendants, Biden had a devastating reply: Even under President Bush, he noted, hundreds of terrorists — or "enemies," if you like — were successfully prosecuted in civilian courts.

It's distressing, however, that Biden indicated that — in light of congressional opposition — the administration might be rethinking its decision to try Mohammed and other alleged 9/11 plotters in federal court rather than before a military commission. Such a retreat would be unwise not because military trials are inherently unfair — as Biden observed, "We have improved military commissions considerably" — but because civilian trials are both demonstrably effective and an affirmation that even this country's enemies will be afforded due process of law.

Making that statement would be a victory for the United States on another battlefield — that of world public opinion.

—MCT Campus

'Shutter Island' strikes a too familiar tone

By Roxy Smith
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Michelle Kung of the Wall Street Journal called Dennis Lehane "The author who ached Hollywood."

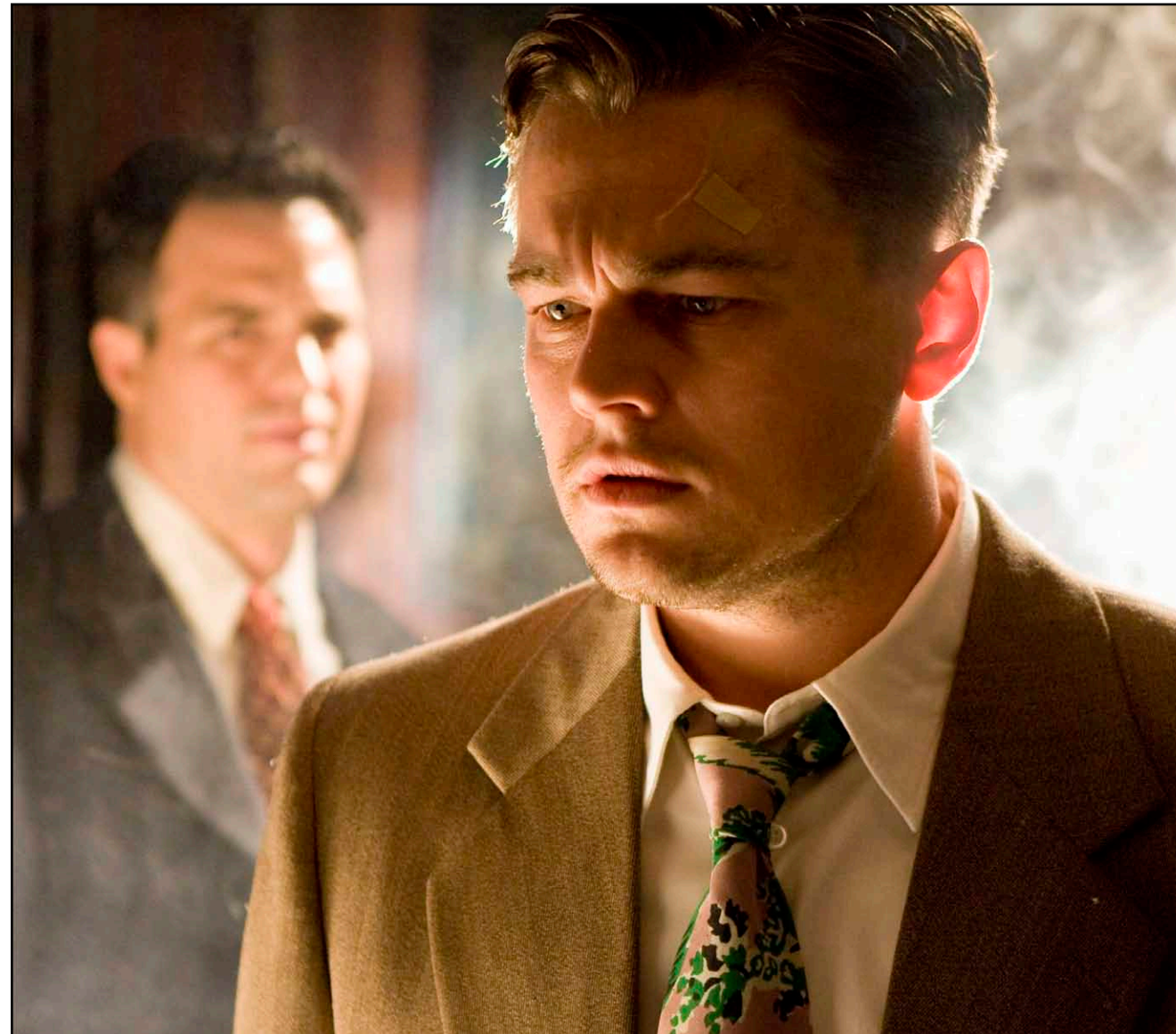
Lehane, has already had two of his novels hit the silver screen and now his 2003 novel "Shutter Island" has followed in the same footsteps. Shutter Island released Feb. 19 and was directed by Martin Scorsese.

"Shutter Island," is about U.S. Marshals Teddy Daniels, played by Leonardo DiCaprio, and Chuck Aule, portrayed by Mark Ruffalo, who are both assigned to investigate the disappearance of a patient at Boston's Ashecliffe Hospital on the secluded Shutter Island.

Ashecliffe Hospital is an insane asylum where almost all of the patients have murdered someone. Daniels is anxious to get to the island because he feels he can solve some of his own personal problems, but once he gets there he realizes that there is much more going on than the doctors, patients and workers are willing to tell him.

While watching the film I felt as though I was watching some weird mesh between, the 2006 version of "The Wicker Man" starring Nicholas Cage and the 2004 film "The Butterfly Effect" starring Ashton Kutcher.

In the article by Kung, author Lehane confesses that the idea for this book came



Courtesy Paramount Pictures

Leonardo DiCaprio and Mark Ruffalo portray the detectives investigating Shutter Island.

from the movie "The Wicker Man." I think that the movie didn't just give him the idea for the book, but it created the entire book because the plot seems ridiculously similar.

In both stories the main characters are people of authority and they are both assigned to solve a missing person case. The characters are then summoned to some reclusive island that either no one has even heard of, or the people who have heard of it don't want to talk about it.

In "Shutter Island," Daniels begins to question everyone. He even begins to second guess his partner and his own sanity.

This is where "The Butterfly Effect" comes in. Throughout the course of the movie you get to know Daniels and you think that a particular scenario has happened, but then the doctors tell him that the things he is saying isn't true and he is a patient and you see different scenes happening. Daniels then begins having memories that make what the doctor says to be true.

At the end of the film I felt totally cheated because it leaves you on cliff hanger and you are left wondering what scenario actually happened. After two hours I didn't know which version to believe and now I guess I never will.

Lehane strikes again

By Danielle Novak
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Massachusetts born author, Dennis Lehane, strikes again with a third movie adaptation coming out of his seven novels. "Shutter Island" is the book that has this honor. The book, written in 2004, is a little over 400 pages long and written with great detail. The only downside is perhaps the length of it.

The novel, set in 1954, tells the tale of two federal marshals, Teddy Daniels and Chuck Aule, who are assigned the task of investigating a disappearance from a mental hospital for the criminally insane, Rachel Solando. Lehane begins the book with the information that Daniels' father was a fisherman, who had taken Daniels close to the island in 1928. A young boy at the time, Daniels became sick with the thought that there was so much water that could surround them, leaving them virtually alone.

In 1954, Daniels jumped on the assignment, so that he could find the man that started the apartment fire in which his wife was killed. The two marshals must take a ferry to the island, which leaves Lehane open to throwing in an introduction scene where Daniels is throwing up, after first meeting his new partner, Aule.

Lehane relies on in-depth descriptions and certain word choices to give readers the suspenseful feeling they are looking for.

An example of such detail is given right at the beginning, when Lehane states "Teddy saw small, pastel-colored shacks lining the beach of one [island], a crumbling limestone estate on another."

This description is coming from an eight-year-old Teddy who is on a boat with his father passing the islands. It is hard to believe that this description would come out of the mouth of an eight-year-old, especially when he is a distance away from the objects.

"Shutter Island" takes on every suspense novel that I have ever read, in that you will not want to put the book down. There is constantly something going on to make you want to read the well-written story. By the end of the novel, however, the reader is left with some confusion, as to how everything happened in such a short period of time. As the marshals go about finding Solando, we realize that something is obviously going on at this institution. When Aule disappears, Daniels realizes that his life is at risk, and that he may soon become a patient inside the hospital.

All in all, if you can make it to the end, you will be happy that you did so. "Shutter Island" is an excellent novel that leaves the reader wanting more of Teddy Daniels, Chuck Aule, and Lehane himself.

Buzz around Google Buzz

By Jonathan Terbeche
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Currently there are around 20 million people using Twitter these days and that number seems to be growing continuously.

This shows a phenomenon in social networking on the Internet and, not to be left behind, giant companies like Google are jumping on the bandwagon.

Considering how Twitter was started for free by a couple of guys (Jack Dorsey, Biz Stone, and Evan Williams) and is itself a test for future prospects, it's no surprise major web companies can follow the same formula to provide a similar experience for their own audiences.

Google Buzz is the latest iteration of social networking to be able to share updates, photos, videos, and more.

The thing that separates it from other services is its connectivity with Google and Google owned companies. In fact it's built right into Gmail.

Considering how many people are already using

Gmail, Buzz already has a large prospective install base. But what are its features?

First, it uses the friends and contacts you already have in Gmail and allows you to automatically follow the people you email and chat with the most.

You can set your profile to private and only share updates and messages with close friends, or be as public as you want. Instead of just being able to post messages and pictures, it automatically pulls images from links and plays videos inline (much like Facebook does).

Also, it lets you flip through photos quickly in large image displays. You can connect other websites like Picasa, Flickr, Google Reader, and Twitter to

Google Buzz like a central hub where anyone can see what you're doing or what's going on all in one place. It puts a focus on important messages, putting all messages you receive in an inbox, much like Gmail does, but displaying comments/responses right on the posts.

Upon clicking on a message in your inbox you can

respond immediately keeping the conversation flowing in its own page like a forum post. By replying to a comment with an "@reply" you can post it directly to their inbox.

You can recommend any posts or messages to anyone of your friends/followers even if they aren't following them, as well as see any recommended posts. It also has a feature which recommends posts that may interest you or your friends based on previous posts or conversations.

Being compatible with your phone and anywhere you are, makes it's intent to "...say something about where you are in the world," feasible and easy.

Already, Buzz is being used by many celebrities and even more so online (youtube) personalities.

It's tough to say whether Google Buzz will see the rampant success of other social networking spaces. Seeing as how it's not a competition, but a supplementary resource to provide for a growing need, I'm sure the new Buzz will be the new rage.

Presidential handbook great for voters

By Karen Raffaello
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Helen Thomas has a resume that could write a history book. She has been reporting on presidents since 1960.

Starting on the campaign trail with John F. Kennedy, she has covered Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, both Bushs, and Barack Obama.

She is well known for asking the hard questions and pushing all the right buttons.

She came to Valencia with co-writer Craig Crawford to discuss their new book "Listen Up, Mr. President."

Crawford is a political commentator who has worked in radio, print, and television. He has a degree in law and has worked on the

Orlando Sentinel as a legal affairs and politics reporter. He is frequently a correspondent for NBC, MSNBC, and CNBC.

These two have watched presidents come and go and witnessed the glory and the demise. Now they have written a how-to guide on being a good president, what it takes, and what responsibilities the voters have.

The book is filled with chapters on following the constitution, being honest with the voters, staying informed as a president and as a voter, and the cautious behavior everyone should have with YouTube and sites like it.

The advice seems almost too easy and yet they cover everything that people seem to complain about. They talk about staying down to earth, laughing when it hurts, listening, and being open to ideas and people.

They also have a Top-10 "List of Shame," featuring shameful things done by ten of our presidents. The list includes involvement in the Civil War, WWI, and the Vietnam War, the Watergate scandal, the Bay of Pigs, and the Monica Lewinsky scandal.

It's an easy read, with very funny anecdotes from two people who have seen it all. They have a section at the end on how to be a great president.

It seems a little unrealistic that a future president would be able to follow the simple ideas Thomas and Crawford have laid out, since 44 presidents have made just about the same mistakes over and over again.

Whether or not this book makes anyone a better president, it will make people better voters.

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Courtesy 20th Century Fox

Logan Lerman, center, Brandon T. Jackson, left, and Alexandra Daddario star in "Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief."

'Jackson' is too much like 'Potter'

By Andrea Fuguet
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Greek mythology meets "Harry Potter" in the latest fantasy movie "Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" released last Friday, Feb. 12.

The film focuses on the adventures of Percy Jackson (Logan Lerman,) the son of Poseidon, god of the sea.

Set out to clear his name after being accused of stealing Zeus' lightning bolt, Jackson finds himself in a series of mishaps and must defend the world from war. Jackson must train his newly found pow-

ers and fight against hell itself to save his mother from her doom. Sound familiar?

"Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" has the same pattern as movies from the "Harry Potter" series.

In each film, the young hero finds out he has powers and now he must set out to save the world from evil.

With a cast of highly known actors such as Uma Thurman, Pierce Brosnan and Rosario Dawson it's almost shocking to say that the movie lacked personality. It could have been a hit if it wasn't such a cliché and so comparable to "Harry Potter."

From the weird creatures to the three

best friends fighting off evil, this movie doesn't leave much for the imagination and it definitely doesn't bring something different to the table.

Though, I have to say, I haven't been this entertained by a Greek Mythology related movie since maybe "Hercules," the Disney version.

This movie fell flat, if its intention was to take fans away from the wizard tale.

Perhaps, the sequel will be different and more action packed.

"Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" wasn't exactly what I thought it would be.

Story of the Year shifts the narrative

By Christine Saraceno
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St. Louis natives, Story of the Year, are back with their second Epitaph Records release, "The Constant".

This album certainly has a more mature sound than 2003's moderately successful "Page Avenue" but the quintet has definitely lost a bit of the edge that allowed them to be called a post hardcore outfit.

I've never been much of a SOTY fan but I did love vocalist's Dan Marsala's raw screaming vocals on their old hit "Until the Day I Die".

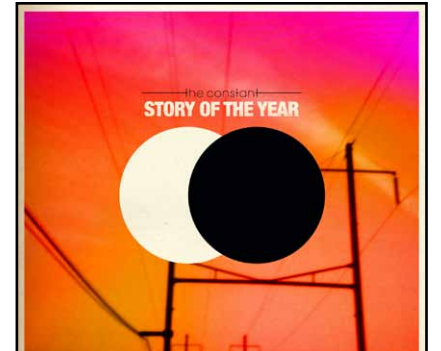
But, I was pretty disappointed when I listened to this album and realized they had decided to do away with the piercing howls that made "Page Avenue" as good as it was and helped garner them a loyal fan base among hardcore listeners.

Regardless, "The Constant" as a whole pleasantly surprised me.

I would say the song "The Dream Is Over" is the best display of the band's growth.

The guitar work on that song was shockingly good and is incredibly similar to Epitaph label mates Escape the Fate's shredding technique.

The track "Ten Years Down" sounds like it could be their next hit since it incorporates their usual message of looking past angst and hardship and bettering yourself,



Marsala's melodic vocals, and fairly heavy drumming.

"Remember a Time" was a thoroughly confusing song that I didn't believe meshed well with the rest of the album.

The song's different parts work individually but when put together it sounds like an odd Lostprophets song with jazz elements.

"Holding On To You" made up for that peculiar song though. Then again, any hardcore or alternative band that makes a love song (especially one that includes piano like this one) scores major points with me.

My only wish would've been that the song had stayed consistently mellow throughout though.

I think that people who may have listened to Story of the Year before and been unimpressed should pick up "The Constant" and give them another chance because although it's nothing spectacular it does adequately deliver on a level some may not have expected from them.

Killswitch Engage redoes show after cancellation

By Ashley Gonzalez
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Killswitch Engage lead vocalist Howard Jones was hurt before performing at a House of Blues concert on February 8th.

Fans were disappointed to say the least.

The House of Blues Orlando was filled with adoring fans. Killswitch Engage was scheduled to perform on February 8th, but due to “unforeseen circumstances,” as quoted on their website, the concert did not take place.

Bands called Devil Wears Prada and Dark Tranquility performed as the opening acts.

As with any normal rock concert the usual head banging and chaos took place. Objects such as shoes, beer cans, beer bottles, and alcoholic drinks were thrown. People pushed and shoved to get a good look at the bands and mosh pits were present throughout the entire perfor-

mance of the opening acts.

The curtains closed. Fans of the bands in the opening act left and the place, filled with Killswitch Engage fans, became silent.

It seemed as though the band would set up as usual, the curtains would open up again and Killswitch Engage would give a good show.

Fans anxiously awaited the appearance of Killswitch Engage for over an hour and a half of what seemed to be setup time. After about thirty minutes of ‘setup time’ fans had become irritable. Many shouted obscenities, while others threw objects toward the stage. A few left.

The band finally opened the curtains to inform their fans that the show had been cancelled, that ‘Howie’ (nickname for Howard Jones) had been hurt and that they would gladly return the next night to give an extended performance to the fans that were able to attend.

The band indeed returned

the next day to perform. All tickets from the previous night were honored. Everything, except for one small detail, had gone as planned.

Fliers were posted all of the walls of the House of Blues Orlando stating that the lead vocalist of All That Remains, Phil Labonte would be the stand-in for Jones.

“For this performance we will be called ‘Philswitch Engage’” said lead guitarist of Killswitch Engage, Adam Dutkiewicz, on the night of February 9th, 2010.

Killswitch Engage has updated their website to say “All That Remains vocalist Phil Labonte will be filling in for Jones for a few shows in the interim, until the KsE guys can determine what the plan will be for the remaining tour dates, which are currently scheduled to run through until the end of March.”

The website does not have any information on what happened to Jones, or if he is doing better.

music downloads

Week ending Feb. 23, 2010

#1 Album



The E.N.D.
Black Eyed Peas



Glee
Glee Cast

Top tracks () Last week's ranking in top five

United States		
<i>Imma Be</i> • Black Eyed Peas	(2)	1
<i>Need You Now</i> • Lady Antebellum	(4)	2
<i>Hey, Soul Sister</i> • Train	(3)	3
<i>TiK ToK</i> • Ke\$ha	(5)	4
<i>We Are the World ... for Haiti</i> • Artists for Haiti	(1)	5

United Kingdom		
<i>You ... Dirtee Love</i> • Florence + the Machine		1
<i>In My Head</i> • Jason Derulo		2
<i>Empire State ... Broken Down</i> • Alicia Keys	(4)	3
<i>Rude Boy</i> • Rihanna		4
<i>If We Ever Meet Again</i> • Timbaland	(3)	5

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'Dante's Inferno' is on fire

By Jonathan Terbeche
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If someone asked what you would think if a 14th century poem would be a good backdrop for a video game, you probably wouldn't have been too enthusiastic. Well EA's Visceral Games, the studio behind the critically acclaimed Dead Space, has done just that. Surprisingly, the question on everyone's mind is not if the game crosses too many lines, but whether it lives up to its God of War inspired gameplay. The answer just might surprise you.

The game opens with a tutorial level that effectively explains some of Dante's backstory. Apparently, he was a soldier in the Crusades, which sets up many of Dante's conflicts that will play throughout the game. The first boss fight pits you against Death, and when he's defeated you obtain his scythe as your main weapon. Soon after you also obtain a cross that fires holy light to provide ranged combat. Now you're outfitted with all you need to tackle the forces of Hell. But, there is something to be said about the fact that you do only get those two weapons in the game.

It's a little disappointing considering how other games in the action-adventure genre provide a plethora of different weapon options. They make up for it by providing collectibles called Relics which are essentially power-ups, as well as an intricately large upgrade system for both weapons. This system also provides a source for the games morality gameplay.

Making decisions in video games has been around for ages, and including multiple endings and branching story points depending on player's actions is by no means new. Dante's Inferno takes this to heart by implementing 'Holy' or 'Unholy'

finishing moves on enemies to obtain 'Holy' and 'Unholy' points respectively. You then use these points to advance further up the upgrade tree for either Dante's cross or scythe, making new magics, combos, and upgrades available for purchase by using the souls you've collected. It's a very basic set-up, but one which requires a little planning and suits the game quite well. One point to make though, if it's your first time playing through, you're going to want to upgrade your 'Holy' powers in order to obtain a very helpful regeneration magic which is essential to beating the final boss.

So you know you've got a healthy amount of attacks and combos, but is it fun to use them? Well, the crux with many action games is that the one element needed to make them great games is also the most important: gameplay.

Dante's Inferno thankfully provides fun, intricate gameplay in the form of heavy action/combat sequences transitioned with platfroming and light puzzle moments.

Combos are deceptively easy to pull off, allowing for interesting and unique fighting styles. Also the necessary moves of dodging and blocking are incredibly quick and responsive, making the game much easier to get through. But you'll do much more than just get through the game, you'll want to keep playing.

Honestly the pacing in Dante's Inferno is one of the best I've seen in a video game; wanting to see the next circle of Hell, or what kind of crazy enemies await, or what movie-like scripted events will take place all motivate you to keep going.

That is until you get to the eighth circle, Fraud. Whether it's a clever ploy from the game's creators, or truly just a lack of time spent on level design, the level of Fraud is nothing more than



Gamespress

Dante's Inferno takes you straight to hell, but the gameplay is nearly heavenly

combat rooms where you must complete 'trials' in order to progress to the next one. This would not be so bad if it did not last so long.

There are more than ten trials and with some taking more than ten minutes, this is easily one of the longest levels in the game, and that's not a good thing. Until this point all of the levels are unique, amazing to look at, and themed very well. But once you get to Fraud it's literally like you've been gypped.

Overall Dante's Inferno is a great game filled with unexpected, horrific moments and blends easy-to-use-hard-to-master combat with unique platforming. But the question on everybody's minds is: How

does it fare against it's action-adventure counterparts? Well the good news is that fans of the genre are going to be pleased because it provides staple mechanics in a unique setting. However, seeing how similar the game is to God of War, many others are going to be disappointed to know that the game is not nearly as refined or enjoyable.

It's hard to say where Dante's Inferno fits on the spectrum of action games. It's not exactly a clone of God of War, but it's similarities are unmistakable. It's not perfect by any means, but it is enjoyable. Perhaps the best way to describe it is with an analogy: God of War is to Mario as Dante's Inferno is to Luigi.

Tiger speaks out

By Wilnifred Santiago
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Tiger Woods spoke Feb. 19, at the PGA Tour headquarters in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

The point of this speech was for Woods to express himself, and clear speculations on the events that occurred in December in his Orlando, Fla., home.

I believe that he expressed himself very well, even though he had his speech written out. I mean you are not going to remember what points you want to hit on unless you have notes, right? If he hadn't written out the speech it would of run the chance of becoming vague and unflattering.

Despite rumors that someone wrote the speech for him because it seemed too perfect, I don't think this is true because the way Woods spoke during the speech. He was very emotional and I saw the sincerity when he spoke; all that was needed was for him to cry. I mean, the guy went to Stanford University, he probably knows how to write a speech.

I believe Woods because he really seems like a good person. Previous to this Woods was the athlete you wanted your son to become, people around the world looked up to Woods and

he worked really hard to get that recognition.

That is my next point; think of it like this, Tiger Woods plays golf, not basketball, not baseball, not football but golf. Golf has always been dominated by caucasian men. It is not until recently back that different cultures started to play in the PGA Tour or the sport really. It was extremely hard for an half African American half Asian boy to play golf when most of his competition is white. Woods was looked down at and the opportunities were less. But Woods did it and with the help of his father he became the face of the sport.

That is another point, he loved his father and his father taught him well enough to get Woods where he is now. Adding up all these factors, what is the reason for Tiger to be lying again or to be fake, besides the fact then that he is a bad person, which I don't believe.

I mean, he made a few mistakes but I do believe that was because the fame got to him. His way of thinking was probably "I am Tiger Woods, I am the most recognized athlete in the world, right now, and I can get away with things," but he didn't and he was wrong for even trying it.

And now he is paying for his



Lori Moffett, Bloomberg / WP Bloom

Woods spoke about his infidelities and plans for 13 minutes on Feb. 19. mistakes and he is going to therapy to become a better person that is focused on his family and his career and not let fame control him, he even stated it in his speech.

I say "overall therapy," because "sex therapy," like it has been speculated, sounds so fake. It sounds too obvious, like "Woods is having sex so he needs sex therapy." Sex nowadays is so common that it seems kind of out of place there. I do believe there is a problem Woods, but it is something deeper or different from sex.

I believe in Tiger Woods' speech and I believe he is going to change for better. He is going to come back to Golf as a champion outside the golf course. It is Tiger Woods, he has never done anything wrong, that we know of, and after this there is no reason for me to believe that he will again ruin his and his family's life.

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Wet and wild day at the races

By Neil Tredray
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The 6th Annual Winter Nationals came to a close with a double-header of races at Orlando Speed World Saturday, Feb 13.

Rain on Friday cancelled that day's races, forcing the double-header. Practice runs on Saturday were delayed as well due to water seeping onto the track.

The first race of the day was a head-to-head race between Junior Bandits drivers Joe Graf and Macy Causey, both age 8.

Graf was relentless, constantly pushing for an advantage, but his aggressive driving ensured he had difficulty following a good line around the track and frequently spun out. Causey took an easy win as a result.

The second race was the Semi-Pro class; featuring drivers aged 16-40 who have won less than three races in the season.

Austin Leither, driving the 05 car, won the race with a time of 13:04, less than one second ahead of Nick Tucker and more than two seconds ahead of Jake Morris.

Because Leither made the transition to Semi-Pro mid-week, his point total wasn't enough to win the class despite his winning twice on Saturday.

Morris took first in points, followed by Tucker and Adam Gilbert. Tucker managed to score 80 points out of a possible 100 in the second race, despite his 70 car exploding in the 12th lap. His was the 10th car to explode during the week of racing.

The third race was the Bandits class, featuring drivers aged 8-11. Clayton Weatherman took first in both races Saturday, with times of 7:31 and 8:46 respectively.

Garrett Biggers was less than a second behind

Weatherman in both races, and Payton Ryan took third; both times 4 seconds behind Weatherman.

The trio also took the same positions in points overall.

The fourth race was the Pro class, featuring drivers aged 16-40 with three or more wins in the season.

Scott Hensley took first in both Pro races, with times of 16:25 and 20:02 respectively.

Last year's Pro champion Daniel Hemrick took second in the first Pro race, but retired after just one lap in the second.

Nick Pistone took third in the first race, three seconds behind Hensley, and took advantage of Hemrick's absence in the second to move up a spot, half a second behind Hensley.

Jimmy Heavlow took third in the second Pro race.

Hensley, Pistone, and Heavlow finished in that order in points for the week.

The fifth race was the Young Gun Outlaws class, featuring drivers aged 12.

Ryan Shattack took first place with a time of 7:48 in the first of his class' races, but fell to last in the second race.

Riley Halverson took second in the first race, and first in the second race with a time of 6:56.

Mike Alcaro took third in the first race but did not compete in the second. Taylor Martin took third in the second race.

Shattack, Halverson and Ryan Mac finished in that order for points in the week.

The sixth race was the Young Lion class, featuring drivers aged 12-15.

Sean Shalvoy took first place in the first of the class' events with a time of 26:44, and second in the next race.

Sean Rayhall was second in the first race, and first in the second with a time of 20:14.



Russell Griner / Valencia Voice

One of the days many crashes at Orlando Speed World, Feb. 13.

Cody Humphreys and Jacob Heavlow took third respectively.

Shalvoy, Rayhall, and Heavlow finished in that order in points for the week.

The seventh race was the Masters class, featuring drivers over the age of 40.

Clay Hair took first in both events with times of 14:31 and 22:05 respectively.

Fan-favorite Tim Brockhouse, driving the Rooty-Tooty, Fresh and Fruity 88 car finished second in both races, but was disqualified in the last race for deliberately driving his car into another

after the race.

Ira Laughy took third in the first race.

An accident in the second race shook up the field, allowing Kevin Foisy to move two spots up to second, and Thomas Gray to move two spots to third. Laughy fell four spots to finish seventh.

Hair, Gray, and Foisy finished in that order in points for the week.

Orlando Speed World has yet to set a definitive schedule for the 2010 race season, but the next event is the Florida All-Stars Tour, tentatively scheduled for March 6.