

Valencia Voice

Official Student Media at Valencia College



Christopher Correa-Ortega, Valencia College representative, was voted 'Class Favorite' at the the National College Media Convention at the Renaissance Orlando at Seaworld with this photo. His second entry earned 12th place.

Volume 14, Issue 9

www.ValenciaVoice.com

Nov. 2, 2011

Great recession triggers return to simplicity

By Fred Lambert
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What is happiness? What does simplicity have to do with it? These were questions that Dr. David Shi, author and former president of Furman University, grappled with on Oct. 18 at Rollins College's Bush Science Center in Winter Park, in his speech titled "The Great Recession and the Revival of Simplicity."

Shi spoke in front of an attentive audience of students and local residents, opening with the concept of happiness in America and the complications the nation faces in trying to reach it amid a culture of frivolous spending and a wounded economy.

"Since the end of World War II, and especially during the last 20 years or so, Americans have increasingly equated the pursuit of happiness with the pursuit of more money and more consumer goods," Shi said. He noted that simplicity remains an enticing ideal, but it has been pushed to the periphery by "America's runaway consumer culture."

The other problem is debt. "All financial crises result from debt, in one form or another," Shi said, explaining how lenders had been giving credit to unqualified people, enabling them to spend far beyond their income levels and allowing the rate of debt to outpace economic growth. "Borrowing has been the

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Hacking College: A guide to getting through

By H Lansiquot
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In a presentation titled "Hacking the Transfer", Dr. Dean Kohrs showed students how to get the most out of college successfully, on Thur. Oct. 27 at West Campus building 11-202 at 1 p.m.

Dr. Kohrs, a professor at St. Petersburg College for the past 10 years, has visited campuses teaching students how to approach the college admissions process for about six or seven years now.

He even told undergraduates what they should and shouldn't do when he was in graduate school. His fresh, comical approach concerning issues that

every college student must face kept the audience laughing, while his passion for what he does held everyone's interest.

Kohrs addressed topics such as the benefits of attending small or private colleges over larger universities, bad reasons most students pick colleges, and how to maximize the amount of money students can get from their schools of choice.

"The best school is not necessarily the best school for you," he said.

He described the three main reasons why universities want students from smaller colleges: to take the place of those who were unprepared, to make current

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‘Speaker’

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only way that many people think they can advance economically,” he said.

“Until the twentieth century, indebtedness in the United States was widely viewed as a moral failure. Since then, it’s become a patriotic virtue.”

The solution? It’s not simple, but in the same breath, Shi explains, simplicity is the answer, slowing down and being satisfied with less. Shi also notes that living a simpler, cheaper lifestyle in America is a knee-jerk reaction to economic dips, and is usually temporary.

“Americans have never embraced simplicity in large numbers for long periods,” he said, explaining that when economic prosperity rebounds, so does the urge to frivolously spend once more.

The real key, according to Shi, is to embrace simple living as a state of mind, rather than a disposable principle that will probably only be as prolonged as the recession. This involves long-term goal processing, and reconstitutes what Americans might consider happiness to be – traditional consumer mate-

rialism versus contention in what one already has, including things that transcend objects and wealth.

“I was working 15 hours a day, but it sucked,” said UCF student Steven McConnen, 23, noting how increased income doesn’t always equal more happiness. “It wasn’t worth the trade-off of having more money.” Evan Schlarb, a 29-year-old Rollins student and the production designer for Rollins’ Who’s Who radio show on WPRK, said the topic of simplicity drew him to Shi’s speech. “I thought he was outstanding and felt he had a very inspiring message and delivery as well,”

“There’s no way to develop something that’s going to fit everyone’s circumstance,” Shi explained about the check-list concept amid roaming guests in a reception room after the speech. “I try to shift people away from picturing something physical, and instead think about a middle process whereby every day you’re thinking very intentionally about, ‘Who am I? Where am I headed? Why am I doing this?’ In other words, most of us just get up in the morning and we just flow. We just drift. So, it’s really a life of intentional simplicity, where you’re calibrating your choices, your decisions, your priorities every day, rather than just occasionally.”

‘Teaching to Succeed’

— Continued from page 1.

students attending their schools put forth more effort, and to bring more diversity to their campuses.

Kohrs advised taking a tour of the campus so a student can get a feel for the school and know if it is a right fit. Find out if getting along with students and professors is attainable, as well as the costs of the college and what the school can do for you.

He also suggested that students who want to major in a specific field should travel where that major could grant them the most benefits, such as Europe for an art history major.

He added that one who has a major should “talk to professors in that department, let them mentor you, and they can give you a letter of recommendation in the future”. Kohrs freely encouraged students to ask any questions they might have while

he was speaking.

Several students listening to Dr. Kohrs’ presentation, most of whom are in Valencia’s honors program, not only enjoyed but heartily agreed with his advice.

Mary Cannon, a 53-year-old hospitality and tourism major, said “I like the fact that he’s done his homework to find out how colleges work”. She believes it “saves people a lot of time” from making mistakes, because “he’s made the mistakes” already.

Psychology major Angela Bardwell-Owens, a member of the honors student advisory committee, said she enjoyed Dr. Kohrs’ lecture on the East Campus the previous day so much, that she encouraged several other students to attend his presentation on the West Campus.

Dr. Kohr believes the entire college admissions process is so complex, that students “need someone who’s already done it to explain it to them”.

Dr. Kohr has a book out called “Hacking College” and a website at www.hackingcollege.com.

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First Valencia Veteran-only class

By John H. Creighton
Special to Valencia Voice

Valencia College's first ever Veterans-Only speech class is underway and doing fine.

There are 13 veterans representing every military branch. Their years of service range from 2 to 20, the mix is four women-nine men and their backgrounds vary from submarines to infantry. All agree the overriding fabric that surrounds the class is the safe and comfortable environment created by people with similar backgrounds.

Although the major emphasis is on becoming a better speaker, we often talk about different things that have to do with the military. Obviously VA benefits come up a lot.

Therefore one class will be devoted to having someone come in and talk specifically about benefits. Ashley Powell (USMC) has everyone bringing in several items that will be packaged up and sent to our soldiers deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan. The class elected to go and listen to a speaker from the Wounded Warrior Project and we had fellow veteran, Mark Bollenback (US Army) come from East Campus and talk to us about Valencia's library resources.

When asked if the class was going to be run every other semester, my response was, "The goal is to have two sections every semester."

The class felt the best time to offer it next semester would be again on Tuesday and Thursday from 2:30pm – 3:45pm. So, that's when it'll be offered on West Campus, Building 5, Room 115. Simply call Sharon Sorrough at (407) 582-1313 to register.

If you know a veteran and they need to take SPC 1608, please tell them about this class, they'll be very appreciative that you did.

John H. Creighton is a professor of speech at Valencia College West Campus

Osceola gets ready for kills, fun at volleyball intramurals

By Jennifer DiDomenico
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Osceola campus will be hosting a girls' volleyball game Friday Nov. 4, at 12 p.m.

Though Valencia does not currently have any formal sports teams, Valencia students like to show their school spirit by coming out and playing against fellow students. Several teams have been formed by students this year.

"The sportsmanship between these students is awesome," said Valencia student Anthony Pierson. "Even though we don't go to a big school, we still have the opportunity to be part of something."

Valencia has been known as the best community college for years. This reputation, the new "Valencia College" title, and student dedication may lead the school to formal, competitive sports teams.

East showcases student talent at 'The House Band Concert'

By Felicia Roopchand
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Jam out with students from Valencia's Commercial Ensemble class this Friday, Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the Black Box Theater at East Campus.

The House Band concert will showcase the students' talents, performing covers from artists such as Stevie Wonder, Flyleaf, Coldplay, Foo Fighters, Wolfmother and more.

"It should be a pretty good show," says Troy Gifford, the Music Program Director at Valencia College.

He also advises concert-goers to get there early because last year's the turnout was bigger than expected.

If you can't make it to the concert on Friday night, check out the "Arty Party" for arts and entertainment students on Thursday at the Black Box Theater at 1 p.m. The band will be previewing a couple of their songs from their set list for the following night's concert.



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Parents daunted by college costs have saving options

By Claudia Buck
McClatchy Newspapers

With three school-age daughters, Rob Lindgren, a stay-at-home dad whose wife is a Sacramento State University professor, is sure that all his kids will attend college someday.

But how to pay for it? That's not quite so clear.

A decade ago, the couple opened an investment account for their oldest daughter, Bonnie, who's now 15, but it got beat up by the stock market's slump in 2000-01. They still have the account, but "when things went south, it was pretty discouraging."

The Lindgrens are now motivated to get going again. "Tuition and fees are rapidly increasing, loan rates are increasing. ... We need to set aside some money to address those future costs," said Lindgren.

That's what officials at California's ScholarShare program like to hear. As the state's official 529 college savings plan, a ScholarShare investment account offers tax-free savings, as long as the money is spent on higher education costs.

Run by the California Treasurer's Office, ScholarShare is one of 117 state-spon-



With three school-aged daughters, Rob Lindgren is sure that all of his kids will attend college someday.

sored 529 plans nationwide.

"It's like a 401(k) for college savings," said Brian Aguilar, a staff analyst in the California Treasurer's Office, who recently discussed 529s with families at the downtown Sacramento Public Library.

"There's no tax on the interest earned, so you could have a sizable pot of money when your child is ready to go to college," he noted.

In most cases, you don't have to be a resident to purchase that state's plan. And it doesn't matter where you live or where your student goes to college. You can live in California, have a 529 plan in Colorado and apply it to your kid's college in Connecticut.

You don't have to be a parent or grandparent, either. You can open a 529 for a friend's child or a niece or nephew, or even for yourself.

You choose the type of investments for your contributions. Some, for instance, are "age-based" funds based on how many years until your child turns 18 and starts college. In younger years, the funds are more heavily weighted in stocks. They shift to more conservative investments as a child nears college age.

Accounts are managed by investment funds like Fidelity, Schwab, TIAA-CREF and Vanguard. As with any investment, there are no guaranteed rates of return. According to Morningstar.com, the five-year returns for 529 plans averaged 3.3 percent.

California's ScholarShare program wants to boost participation beyond its current 277,000 account holders. To that end, it recently announced several changes. As of Nov. 7, it's switching fund managers from Fidelity to TIAA-CREF, part of a routine five-year contract evaluation. All existing accounts will be seamlessly transferred, says ScholarShare, which anticipates more investment options, a bigger marketing budget and larger returns under its new manager.

California also is dropping its second, but considerably smaller, 529 plan, which was sold only through brokers and financial advisers.

John Chan, a retired Sacramento County employee, opened separate 529 plans several years ago for each of his four grandchildren, now ages 8 to 16. He and his wife were motivated by the escalating cost of college tuition.

"If we can help our grandchildren bypass having to take out (college loans), it'll be so much easier for them and their parents," said Chan.

In the past decade, tuition and fees at four-year public universities increased by an average of 5.6 percent a year, according to College Board statistics.

Financial planners say 529s can be a terrific tool for college savings. Cynthia Meyers, a certified financial planner in Sacramento, says the key is selecting a plan "with a good variety of diversified investment choices ... and one with consistently low expense ratios."

Under ScholarShare's new TIAA-CREF manager, fees are projected to range between 0.18 and 0.62 percent, considerably lower than now.

And 529 plans have some advantages over other types of college savings vehicles, Meyers said. Unlike a Uniform Gift to Minors (UGMA) account, where a child has access to the money at age 18 or 21, a 529 stays in the account holder's name and control. And if your child doesn't attend college and you want to take the money back, the penalties and taxes apply only to the earnings, not the full amount withdrawn.

Because 529s are held in a parent's or adult's name, not the student's, they also have less impact on financial aid eligibility, according to FinAid.org, the nonprofit clearinghouse on college savings. On federal financial aid forms, a parent's asset, such as a 529, is assessed at a far lower rate than those in a child's name. That gives 529s an advantage over other types of college savings, including UGMAs.

You can compare 529 plans at websites such as SavingForCollege.com and Morningstar.com.

— MCT Campus

529s at a glance

By Claudia Buck
McClatchy Newspapers

What they are: Created by Congress in 1996, a 529 college savings plan lets you set aside money in a managed investment account to pay for college.

Sponsors: Offered in all 50 states and typically managed by state-selected investment funds, such as Fidelity, Schwab, TIAA-CREF, Vanguard, etc.

Total plans: 117 (some states offer more than one).

Who can enroll: Most 529s are open to anyone, regardless of whether you're a state resident.

What's covered: Tuition, fees, books and most room/board costs.

Minimum amount to open: Typically \$25 to \$50

Fees: Vary by investment plan

Tax benefits: If used for tuition or other qualified education expenses, withdrawals and interest earned are not federally taxed. Some states also offer 529 tax credits/deductions to residents.

What's with the name: 529s are named for the IRS code section that established their federal tax status.

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Top 10 states for 529s

Based on five-year investment performance

1. Kansas
2. Michigan
3. Alaska (Univ. of Alaska)
4. Maryland
5. Nevada
6. Wisconsin
7. Alaska (T. Rowe Price)
8. Utah
9. Virginia
10. Ohio

Source: SavingforCollege.com

God is not here; Occupy protest largely secular

By Mitchell Landsberg
Los Angeles Times

On a bright and raucous afternoon outside Los Angeles City Hall, Cornel West was revving up a crowd at Occupy L.A. As he often does, the prominent philosopher and activist peppered his speech with religious phrases, at one point calling for recognition of "our prophetic Mormon brothers and sisters," as well as Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and "black Baptists like myself."

The crowd gamely applauded. But the biggest roars came when West called out "the progressive agnostic and atheistic brothers and sisters" a response that seemed to illuminate the largely secular underpinnings of the Occupy Wall Street movement and a challenge now facing the religious left.

There have been flashes of religious activism, even deeply religious moments, in the protest movement that has spread across the country this past month. Some have suggested that the Occupy camps themselves have some hallmarks of a religious movement, with their all-embracing idealism, daily rituals, focus on something larger than the self.

But as the recent incident involving West suggests, the movement also has served to point out not just the gulf between haves and have-nots in modern America, but between the religious right and not-so-religious left.

Through much of American history, religious forces have been at the forefront of progressive social movements, tugging at the nation's conscience to end slavery, fight poverty and injustice, extend civil rights to African-Americans and end the war in Vietnam.

For more than 30 years, though, the energy in faith-based political activism has been mainly on the right, as conservative evangelicals and others have coalesced around opposition to abortion and to same-sex marriage. Meanwhile, more liberal religious denominations have experienced a loss of membership and what some see as the lack of a coherent social message.

"The problem is and this is true of the religious left in more general terms it's so disorganized right now," said Laura Olson, a political science professor



Dozens of L.A. Occupy tents fill out the southside of City Hall as nightfalls over downtown Los Angeles, California on Oct. 21.

at Clemson University who studies religious involvement in politics. "They have a difficult time articulating a message that's as clear and bounded and digestible as what the religious right offers."

Said Randall Balmer, a Columbia University professor who writes widely about evangelical conservatives: "I think part of it is the whole drift of the culture toward a more conservative direction. But I also think the religious left has lost its voice, has lost its nerve, is no longer articulating the principles in the New Testament."

Some left-leaning religious groups see a golden opportunity in the Occupy movement, whose central message of greater economic equality resonates deeply among faith-based progressives.

"Our tradition and our scriptures are so clear that we're supposed to take care of the poor, the widow, the orphan. ... I think that is a rallying cry for faith

communities that will unite us even when we have disagreements over other social issues," said Jennifer Butler, executive director of Faith in Public Life, a progressive multifaith organization.

So far, though, Occupy is a predominantly secular undertaking.

"Where are the mainline Protestants? Where are the Quakers?" wondered John Green, director of the Ray C. Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron in Ohio and a longtime scholar of religion and politics. Although individuals from those groups are participating in the Occupy protests, "there's been relatively little denominational involvement," Green said.

That appears especially so in Los Angeles, where the primary signs of spirituality at the protest site have been a meditation tent and a sukkah, a temporary structure observant Jews use for dining during

the harvest festival of Sukkot.

"There's definitely a spiritual base here," said Stephen Zeigler, a photographer and downtown gallery owner who sat lotus-style on a meditation pillow in front of his tent one recent day. "But not so much a religious base, and definitely not an organized religious base."

Zeigler said he used to identify as a Buddhist but now finds such labels limiting. He was struck, however, by the dearth of self-identified Christians at the Occupy L.A. site. "Where are they?" he asked.

It is a good question, said Ryan Rice, a 26-year-old who said he left his studies at Chapman University so he could join the "social revolution." He is helping with a newspaper planned for the Occupy L.A. movement.

Speaking of religious involvement in the protest, he said, "There has been an absence of that outreach so far. And I see that as a negative."

"We all say, 'WWJD' What Would Jesus Do?" he added. "He would be here. Martin Luther King would be here. The Dalai Lama would be here. What we're doing is in line with all the major religions."

There hasn't been a complete absence of organized religion at the City Hall camp. Aside from the Jewish group that erected the sukkah, at least two churches All Saints Episcopal in Pasadena and the Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Santa Monica have sent members to show support. But they have been the exception.

That partly reflects the nature of those drawn to the event: young, skeptical, typically leery of organizations. "There's a rejection of the establishment," said Rice, "and that may be why there's a rejection of religion as an establishment."

It may also be a reflection of wariness on the part of churches to ally themselves with a movement that is not clearly defined and is more than a little scruffy around the edges.

"It strikes me as a little bit of a gamble for them," said Mark Tooley, president of the conservative Institute on Religion and Democracy. "I don't see Occupation having a lot of appeal for the average suburban, evangelical churchgoer."

— MCT Campus

Surprise October snow sweeps up East Coast

By Candice Ferrette and Hugo Kugiya
Newsday

A wintry storm swept through the Northeast region on Saturday, stunning parts of New York's Long Island with a pre-Halloween snowfall and leaving a heavy blanket of white on areas of the Hudson Valley, New Jersey and Connecticut.

The storm knocked out electricity to hundreds of thousands as it swept across the Mid-Atlantic states, weighing down or toppling trees still clinging to their fall foliage.

New Jersey and Connecticut both declared states of emergency, with 500,000 without power in New Jersey, including Gov. Chris Christie. New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo activated the state's Emergency Operations Center and opened emergency management offices in Nassau, Orange and Dutchess counties.

"When you talk about snow hitting Long Island in October, it certainly catches people off guard," said Nassau County Office of Emergency Management Commissioner Craig Craft. "I'm hoping that snow this early isn't the start of a trend for the winter."

The National Weather Service said Saturday night a foot of snow had fallen in Harriman and 10 inches in Armonk in New York state, while West Milford, N.J., clocked in at 15.5 inches and Ridgefield, Conn., had 10 inches. Six to 12 inches were expected in the Catskills, and three to six inches around Albany, N.Y., The Associated Press reported.

Central Park set a record for both the date and the month of October with 1.3 inches. The record for Central Park was eight-tenths of an inch, dating back 135 years. Parts of New York City received more than 2 inches.

City parks were closed Saturday night because of the dangers of trees falling from snow and strong winds.

New York City last received a minor dusting in October in 1952.

Powerful winds knocked out power to as many as 5,800 residents in Nassau and Suffolk counties, delayed flights and sent emergency crews scrambling to keep roads clear.

The storm arrived resembling "a good old-fashioned nor'easter," said Mike Layer, a weather service meteorologist in Upton.

Four inches fell in Mineola, with Suffolk getting off relatively easy with .3 inch reported in Oakdale and a trace of snow in Islip and Mount Sinai, according to the weather service.

The record for the month in Upton is a trace of snow.

Sustained winds were as high as 26 mph at Islip, but the weather service warned winds would strengthen overnight to 25 to 35 mph, with gusts of up to 65 mph.

Hypothermia overcame high school football players during at least two games in Nassau, authorities said. At a game at Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School, 15 players in the locker room began shivering, exhibiting heart troubles and "altered mental states" during halftime with Valley Stream Central High, authorities said.

"When they came in, they started shivering and that's pretty much the first sign that you're hypothermic," said Craig Robinson of the Plainview fire department.

Five of the boys were treated at the scene in the 2 p.m. incident; 10 were brought to Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadow for treatment. It wasn't clear which teens were from which high school. The game was canceled.

Players in Merrick were also treated for hypothermia, but more details weren't immediately available.

Forecasters Saturday night expected to see 2 to 3 inches accumulate overnight in Suffolk County, with 6 to 8 inches piling up in Nassau County and Queens.

Flights at MacArthur, Kennedy, Newark and LaGuardia airports were canceled. There were no serious weather-related problems for the Long Island Rail Road, spokeswoman Marjorie Anders said.



Pedestrians trek along a snowy walk way in Pennsylvania.

Snow was expected to taper off early Sunday, with clear skies and temperatures in the mid-40s by afternoon.

Officials in Oyster Bay and Hempstead said they were prepared for Sunday's cleanup whether it involved snow, flooding or felled trees.

"This is really the first call of the winter season," Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto said. Extra workers were on call in case the town needed to put plows on the streets.

Hempstead put 200 employees on call to salt roads if necessary. The town secured 40,000 tons of salt and 40 salt trucks in advance of the storm, officials said.

For some Long Islanders, the early arrival of winter weather was almost too much to bear.

"It's too soon," said Jim McKay, 51, of Northport. "You have to crank up the heat, which is going to be expensive. I think about relocating more and more the older I get."

Kurt Dietrich, 54, of Huntington did his best to shrug it off.

"It is what it is," he said. "I'm just going to hope it melts and goes away."

— MCT Campus



Michael Neiss brushes the snow from his car in Franklin Square, New York as an early snowstorm hit the area on Oct. 29.

Laws ensure salt mouse can't be licked

State, federal agencies spend \$100 million to save tiny marsh species

By Aric Crabb
Contra Costa Times

In a lightning flash of brown, a tiny mouse with big black eyes and a long, thick tail leapt from a pickleweed plant and disappeared in the early-morning light of the marsh.

The movement was nearly imperceptible, but it was a victory for the group of scientists who gathered one recent day in search of clues about the minuscule creature.

The salt marsh harvest mouse weighs about as much as four pennies, but millions of dollars are being spent to try and restore the tidal marsh habitat the endangered species calls home. In the meantime, the mouse is a significant issue for every development being considered in its Bay-side habitat, blocking residential and office projects alike unless significant land for it is set aside.

"You can think of it as just a damn mouse that's getting in the way of construction," said U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist Meg Marriott, who led a group of scientists on a mouse count that day. "But it's actually signaling that the ecosystem is not functioning properly."

Marriott is part of the team trying to figure out how to address the problem, and its study of the mouse and its population is key to determining if restoration efforts are effective.

Each year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sets traps and conducts a survey to gather data on the elusive rodent. This year, 320 traps were deployed at nine locations in the San Pablo Bay marshland. Each trap was baited with a mixture of seeds and peanut butter and opened for three nights. The result: eight salt marsh harvest mice.

Biologists do not have enough data to say if the population is steady or has crashed. Officials don't even know how many salt marsh harvest mice exist. What they do know is that they live only in the marshes of the San Francisco Bay.

About 90 percent of the historical tidal marsh habitat in the bay has been lost. Marshes have been cut off from the bay with dikes built for salt evaporation ponds and filled in to create land for homes and business. In 2003, the state and federal government spent \$100 million to buy 16,500 acres of former salt ponds to restore those areas to help protect the federally endangered salt harvest mouse and other species.

Early one September morning, Marriott worked her way through a field near the Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area. Wearing tall rubber boots, she navigated around barbed wire fences, across train tracks and finally over a narrow but deep slough, arriving at a thick pickleweed marsh.

Pickleweed, a native marsh plant that grows low to the ground, has bright green stems and lush red tops. It has a salty taste, punctuated by a tart flavor and provides essential cover for the endangered mouse.

The salt marsh harvest mouse depends on cover for its survival. With habitat loss, the tiny mouse becomes a bigger target for other animals to prey upon. Foxes, cats, herons and hawks are all threats to the mouse. Even the endangered California clapper rail has been noted as potential predator.

Marriott headed toward traps that were set the evening before. She was not in the marsh alone. The tiny rodent has a fan club. Two interns and two government scientists were along for the trip, and everyone hoped for a chance to see the secretive mouse.

There are two subspecies of the salt marsh harvest mouse. The southern subspecies is found in the South Bay counties of San Mateo, Santa Clara and Alameda. The northern subspecies has been found in Marin, Sonoma, Napa, and northern Contra Costa counties.

Trap after trap came up empty. Finally one was found with the spring door closed. Everyone gathered at the site, circling Marriott as she held the trap above a green carpet of pickleweed. The biologist carefully slid a plastic freezer bag over the trap, held the metal box upside down and



The salt marsh harvest mouse lives in 16,500 acres of wetlands near the San Francisco Bay.

shook its contents into the clear bag.

After a couple of strong shakes, out popped some bait, the cotton batting placed inside to keep any trapped animals warm and a little brown mouse. Marriott held the bag in the air and took a closer look.

"It's a salty," she said. Even better, it turned out to be pregnant.

Smiles were on every face in the marsh that morning. The animal remained remarkably still as Marriott completed the checklist of government data requirements. The mouse was weighed, measured and inspected to determine gender. Marriott gently placed the tiny mouse

onto some pickleweed, and in the blink of an eye, it was gone.

"This mouse specifically is endangered because of habitat loss around the bay," Marriott said. "To see creatures on the verge of going extinct, it signals that something is wrong."

Plans over the next 40 years to spend an estimated \$1 billion in restoration efforts could change that.

Ponds in Menlo Park, Alviso and Hayward have all seen some type of restoration work, said executive project manager John Bourgeois with the State Coastal Conservancy.

— MCT Campus

Scientific Name:
Reithrodontomys
raviventris meaning
"grooved-toothed mouse
with a red belly"

The average salt mouse
weighs .3 - .5 oz., about
the same as four pennies

Salt mice have extremely
short life spans- from
eight months to a year.

Conservationists and
scientists have no idea
how many salt mice exist.

Salt mice feed mainly on
vegetation and insects.
They are able to eat food
with extremely high levels
of salt without dehydrating.

At least 13 U.S. soldiers killed during Taliban suicide bombing

By Habib Zohori
McClatchy Newspapers

Thirteen American soldiers were among at least 17 people killed in Kabul, Afghanistan, Saturday when a Taliban suicide bomber rammed his explosives-laden vehicle into an armored NATO shuttle bus, officials said.

The U.S.-led International Security Assistance Force said in a statement that 13 of its soldiers had been killed, and news services reported that all were American. It was the deadliest day for U.S. forces in Afghanistan since August, when 30 soldiers died in the downing of a Chinook helicopter in the eastern part of the country.

U.S. Marine Gen. John R. Allen, commander of ISAF, said he was "saddened and outraged" by the attacks and said that the insurgents were trying "to hide the fact that they are losing territory, support and the will to fight."

The attack took place in front of the American university not far from a U.S.-run military base on a route often used by coalition forces. Gen. Mohammed Ayob Salangi, the police chief of Kabul, said that at least four Afghans were killed, including two schoolchildren, a bicyclist and a police officer.

An eyewitness at the scene saw thick plumes of smoke rising from a burning military bus that contained the badly mangled bodies of soldiers in uniform. The blackened wreckage of vehicles littered the area. At least two ISAF helicopters landed near the site and evacuated the bodies and wounded.

"They were all Americans," Khalil Al-Rahman, a 35-year-old shopkeeper at the scene, said of the dead.

Afghan and NATO security forces cordoned off the bombing site.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack through its spokesman, Zabiullah Mujahid, who said that the car bomb carried 700 kilograms of explosives more than 1,500 pounds. He claimed 25 NATO soldiers were killed.

The Taliban also confirmed that civilians had been

killed and wounded. The insurgent group often exaggerates the extent of its attacks and almost never acknowledges civilian casualties.

NATO officials say that the insurgent group is weakened and on the run, but it nevertheless remains capable of carrying out spectacular attacks in the heart of Kabul, as it has done multiple times this year.

In a similar attack in May 2010, in the same area of Kabul, a Taliban suicide bomber struck a U.S. military convoy, killing 18 people, including five U.S. soldiers.

Saturday morning's bombing was one of several violent incidents around the country targeting either the U.S.-led coalition or Afghan government offices.

As Taliban insurgents continue their attacks across the country, NATO and the United Nations are giving sharply different pictures of the violence in Afghanistan. While NATO officials announced a significant drop in attacks on Afghan and foreign forces over the summer, a United Nations report released in September showed that violence against civilians had risen to its highest levels of the decade-long war.

In the southern province of Uruzgan, an insurgent wearing an Afghan national army uniform killed three Australian service members, according to an ISAF statement. The shooter was also killed in the incident.

In the eastern province of Kunar, a female teenage suicide bomber struck near the provincial office of the National Directorate for Security, the main Afghan intelligence agency. One civilian was killed and seven others were injured, including five police officers, provincial officials said.

A police official who wasn't authorized to be quoted by name said that a second female suicide bomber in the area managed to escape.

It was at least the second case of a female suicide bomber in Kunar.

Last June, a woman detonated a suicide vest concealed beneath her burka, a full-body cloak worn by many Afghan women, killing two U.S. soldiers and injuring scores of civilians.

— MCT Campus



Floods continue in Thailand

By Rex Crum
MarketWatch

Continued flooding in Bangkok, and throughout Thailand is resulting in higher prices for computer hard drives and is expected to affect PC distribution channels through the end of the year.

Companies such as Seagate Technology and Western Digital Corp. have hard-drive manufacturing facilities in Thailand, which is second only to China as a supplier of hard-disk drives.

Western Digital recently warned that its operations in the country have been impacted by plant closures resulting from the nation's worst flooding in decades.

Technology research firm IHS iSuppli has estimated that worldwide shipments of hard drives could fall by 30 percent during the last three months of the year. Reuters reported that some retailers contacted have raised the average price on a hard drive to \$90 from \$60.

In addition to closing the operations of several tech manufacturers, the flooding in Thailand is blamed for causing the deaths of 377 people since July.

In Bangkok Saturday, volunteers raced to shore up the city's defenses against a massive flow of water that has already inundated parts of the capital and a vast swath of countryside, The Wall Street Journal reported.

Swelling high tides, expected to peak this weekend, on the Chao Phraya River that winds through the heart of the city make the weekend critical, the Journal said.

Rising water levels sweeping in from the Gulf of Thailand were flooding riverside districts such as Bangkok's Chinatown and making it difficult to channel floodwaters from upstream out to the ocean, according to the report.

Samsung Electronics Co. warned on Friday that sales of personal computers could be affected by a shortage of hard-disk drives, while Taiwanese computer maker Acer Inc. said it is raising PC and notebook prices as hard-drive prices rise, the Journal reported.

With floodwaters not expected to recede for weeks, Acer Chief Executive J.T. Wang said fourth-quarter sales could fall 5 percent to 10 percent compared with the third quarter, according to the Journal.

— MCT Campus



Flood victims try to return home, as rising waters threaten parts of Bangkok, Thailand. Hundreds of factories closed in the central Thai province of Ayutthaya and Nonthaburi as the floodwaters began to reach Bangkok.

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Do you feel stores are pushing Christmas too early each year?

Photos by Joe Morrison / Interviews by James Tutton

Retailers can't wait for holiday shoppers

By Dan O'Brien
Boston Herald

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas three days before Halloween.

At Home Depot in Dorchester, a huge display of Christmas trees and inflatable Santas greets shoppers near the front entrance -- right next to a sign for a children's Halloween workshop scheduled for Saturday at the store.

"You get a lot of people saying, 'Wow, Christmas already?'" said assistant store manager Paul Perlatonda. "They've been doing it earlier and earlier every year."

You can't even escape the seasonal onslaught at home. National Lampoon's "Christmas Vacation" is already airing on Country Music Television.

Bargain shopping is a big reason why nearly 40 percent of Americans shop for Christmas gifts before Halloween, according to the National Retail Federation.

And as Chantal Nicolas, a shopper at Home Depot, points out, "If you wait closer to Christmas, things are going to be out of stock."

Tom Aiello, spokesman for Sears and Kmart, which are rolling out Christmas specials this weekend, said customers want the early sales.

—MCT Campus



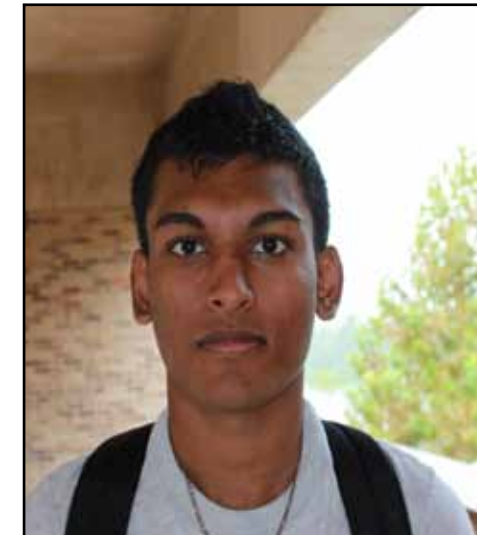
"Absolutely, you can't even go in a store now without seeing Christmas stuff already."

— Kendra Marsden



"They push Christmas not for the holiday, but just for the money they will make."

— Jessica Szemple



"It's not even near that time yet and they keep showing a bunch of Christmas stuff."

— Jason Mohabir



"It's just stores trying to get people to buy things ahead of time to make the most money"

— Meghan Peckempaugh



"It's all about money; they skip Thanksgiving and start pushing Christmas on us."

— Joshua Ortiz



"I think people want to get their shopping in early and the stores are helping them out."

— Stacy Johnson



"It's missing the message. It's about Christ not this fake commercialism today."

— Doug Lambert



"Thanksgiving is this month and we should focus on that, not look so far ahead."

— Reggie Blaise

Christmas carols, marketing in October too early for some

By Ike Wilson
The Frederick News-Post, Md.

Shoppers heard Christmas carols such as "O Holy Night" and "Joy to the World" on Thursday at the Family Dollar store on West Patrick Street in Frederick.

"Christmas carols on Oct. 27? That's way too early," Frederick resident Katie Byrd said.

Retailers should wait at least until after Halloween and Thanksgiving before piping Christmas carols down on their customers, she said.

"We are rushing every season, in my opinion, so how do you get to enjoy individual seasons?" Frederick resident Berna-

dette Emerson said. "You can't enjoy what's in the present. Everybody keeps moving frenetically and keeps buying and buying."

Some people don't mind the fast pace, but they are oblivious to everything, said Emerson, a retired principal, headmistress and president of Visitation Academy in Frederick.

"We took it easy" when she was in charge of the school, Emerson said. "We allowed the kids to enjoy each season. Every season should have its day."

Retailers should "wait at least until after Thanksgiving" before playing Christmas carols and pushing Christmas marketing, Wolfe said.

"People forget about Thanksgiving and why we celebrate Thanksgiving,"

Wolfe said. "We should stop going from Halloween straight to Christmas. There's Thanksgiving. There's the need to give thanks for what you have."

After Thanksgiving is the right time to begin holiday shopping and carols, Frederick resident Kris Carey said.

"Christmas carols when Halloween isn't over yet just doesn't seem right," Carey said. "I don't start shopping until Black Friday, and even then, I don't do Black Friday shopping; it's too hectic."

But not everybody has a problem with early Christmas shopping or the music.

"The stores wouldn't be putting things out if there wasn't a demand," said Christina Steinbrenner, spokeswoman for

Francis Scott Key Mall.

Steinbrenner said some people, including her, prefer to shop early.

Even though Theresa Pouokam thinks it's too early to be spreading Christmas cheer in September and October, the Frederick resident said she understands why some people do it.

"When you shop earlier, things are cheaper; if you wait until close to Christmas, things become more expensive," Pouokam said. "It's that old supply-and-demand thing going on."

Seeing Christmas items in stores before Halloween "is ridiculous," Knoxville resident Lorraine Bush said.

Bush admits to "overdoing it" when it

comes to holiday shopping, but not this year.

"Instead of throwing money down the tubes" with gifts that will sooner or later deteriorate, Bush said she will put some money in an investment fund for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Signs at Nordstrom department store tell customers "we won't be decking our halls until Friday, Nov. 23. Why? Well, we just like the idea of celebrating one holiday at a time."

That's music to the ears of Consumerist.com, which believes that the commercialization of the holidays has gone too far and is devoted to shaming retailers into patience.

— MCT Campus



OUR VOICE

More snow, more dough for Florida

We're getting near the end of the year and closer to the start of the winter season. Freak snowstorms in the north-eastern states have already broken half-century old records. This hints at a continuing record breaking winter season like the "snowpocalypse" of 2010.

Born and raised Floridans like myself often brag about never having to deal with extremely cold weather or snowy, icy roads, plus the joy of going all year wearing only shorts.

We may get a small hurricane once or twice every-other year, it's so nice in the Sunshine State year round, we all just learned to dodge the rain drops.

During the late fall to early winter season, many northern states are getting inundated with blizzard-like conditions.

At the same time here, all the beaches

stay open, with high to mid 70 degree temperatures, and lows that never even get close to freezing.

Deep inside I have a strong philosophical craving for Arctic winter up north. Brutally cold, with feet upon feet of snow, and blizzards and cold fronts followed by more blizzards and cold fronts.

It's hard for me to imagine six months out of the year walking outside to either dead or dying foliage, or a blinding white tundra that sings the delicate receptors of my optic nerve.

While it's a horrible experience, and one might even ask why I would wish this on anyone, the only real reason is that it would be a good advertisement for the state of Florida.

We need to be broadcasting our chamber of commerce weather report, along

with stock footage of beautiful women lounging on the beach or rollerblading at the park. I would be up for paying for this to run in northern states on a 24 hour loop.

When the day comes that "them Yanks" can no longer take the madness brought on by cabin fever, the next thought that pops into their irrational mind will be, "I'm gonna use my Christmas bonus this year to take my family to Florida."

So I pray to Al Gore and the Gods of global warming, 'let this winter be yet another Arctic apocalypse.' Let it ruffle the feathers of the snow birds up north so much so all that is left is to sell all their worldly possessions, pack the rest up, and bring it down south. We've got some houses down here we need to sell and an economy to fix.

Tweet of the Week

"Things longer than Kim's marriage: The life span of a black person in a horror movie."

— @ToiyaRaynae



ValenciaVoice
Official Student Media of Valencia College

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Depp gives rum-fueled toast to Thompson

An entertaining film about nothing

Director: Bruce Robinson

Starring: Johnny Depp, Aaron Eckhart, Michael Rispoli, Amber Heard, Richard Jenkins, Giovanni Ribisi.

Rated: R



By Marianella Zapata Noriega
mzapatanoriega@valenciavoice.com

Johnny Depp gets in the mind of writer Hunter S. Thompson's character, journalist Paul Kemp in "The Rum Diary."

Kemp takes a job at the San Juan Star, a newspaper based in Puerto Rico made for English speaking audiences on the island under the direction of editor Lotterman, played by Richard Jenkins.

"So what I'm looking for is some enthusiasm, some energy, some fresh blood," said Lotterman when he met Kemp. "And the question I'm asking myself is how much alcohol is in yours?"

As a struggling alcoholic, Kemp discovers that San Juan is not the best place to quit drinking, especially after he becomes friends with Bob Sala, a rum-obsessed photographer.

The friendship becomes Kemp's life-line as he must decide between money and what is right.

Kemp meets Chenault, an impulsive beauty who belongs to someone else and is desperate for freedom.

She loves to entertain, which makes Kemp fall for her from the beginning. They toy around, knowing they can't be together, but a later issue brings them together, signaling the turning point in the film.

The movie has strong moments which lead to great quotes like, "Liberals are communists with a college education thinking negro thoughts," and "You know what makes this place a Goldmine? Something that doesn't exist . . . land."

The disappointing part comes at the end, when nothing happens.

The movie seems to build up toward



Johnny Depp stars as a journalist and struggling alcoholic in 'The Rum Diary,' who takes a job at the San Juan Star, a newspaper in Puerto Rico geared toward English speaking audiences.

an awesome ending, but instead falls apart as characters go their separate ways.

Even after the disappointment of the ending, the movie is still worth seeing for its entertainment value and great cast,

which provides an opportunity for the audience to fall into the story.

The movie was dedicated to the book's writer Hunter S. Thompson who died in 2005.

Opening Nov. 04

'Harold and Kumar 3'



Director: Todd Strauss-Schulson

Starring: John Cho, Kal Penn, Neil Patrick Harris

Rated: R

Running time: 90 minutes

Genre: Comedy

'Tower Heist'



Director: Brett Ratner

Starring: Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy, Casey Affleck, Matthew Broderick

Rated: PG-13

Running Time: 105 minutes

Genre: Comedy

Box Office



1. 'Puss in Boots'

Rated: PG

This weekend: \$34 million

Total Gross: \$34 million



2. 'Paranormal 3'

Rated: R

This weekend: \$18.5 million

Total Gross: \$81.3 million



3. 'In Time'

Rated: PG-13

This weekend: \$12 million

Total Gross: \$12 million



By Felicia Roopchand
froopchand@valenciavoice.com

Unlike anything Orlando has experienced before, a two day musical festival that shies away from the typical top 40 and into the indie music scene is coming.

Orlando Calling is a musical festival jam packed with around 100 different artists varying from Kid Cudi to Kid Rock. Starting on Saturday, Nov. 12 and ending on Sunday, Nov. 13, both days going from 11 a.m. to midnight.

The festival's first ever appearance will be at the Citrus Bowl, which will include four different stages. Head over to the website www.orlandocalling.com to create a schedule so you don't miss out on any of the bands you want to see.

One of the biggest bands on the line-up are international superstars, The Killers. The Nov. 12 Orlando Calling date will be their first and only US tour date this year. Other acts for that day include The Raconteurs, The Pixes, The Roots, O.A.R., Kid Cudi and more.

Headliners for the Nov. 13 date include Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band, Kid Rock, Blake Shelton, the Doobie Brothers, Los Lonely Boys and others.

Melvin Benn, the CEO of Festival Republic, a British-based production company who is very much responsible for the thriving European rock festival scene, is also responsible for bringing their loved festivals across the Atlantic.

About 40,000 people are expected to attend the much anticipated event. Tickets are being sold on Ticketmaster, where you can choose between a single day pass for \$87.50 or the multi-day pass for \$160.



The Killers



Bob Seger



Kid Rock



The Raconteurs



The Roots



Pixies



Kid Cudi



Blake Shelton



Michelle Branch



Gavin DeGraw



Buddy Guy



Iron & Wine



O.A.R.



Doobie Brothers



Brandi Carlile

The Drums return to Orlando

By Sebastian Arbelaez
sarbelaez@valenciavoice.com

For a lot of bands, the second album is difficult to make. With expectations at an all time high, artists concentrate on making the single that will help them emerge to a mainstream audience. However, for a band like The Drums, their sophomore album demonstrates a driving force that has helped indie music. Last night's concert at The Social made this evident.

The band consisting of Jonathan Pierce (vocals), Jacob Graham (guitar/synthesizers), Connor Hanwick (drums/guitar), Myles Matheny (guitar/bass) and live drummer Danny Lee Allen originally formed in Florida, but moved to New York in 2009.

That same year, The Drums released the Summertime! EP, which helped them emerge as a contender for the BBC Sound of 2010 poll.

Starting the show off with "What You Were," Jonathan Pierce's swift movements on stage made it evident that the band wanted to give their fans an upbeat show. The band also felt close to home. By the third song, "Best Friend," which was written in Orlando, The Drums presented the audience with a danceable song about surviving without your closest friend.

Despite the melancholic lyrics found in some of their songs, the band constantly liked to joke around on stage. "The following song is dedicated to the Girl Scouts of America," said Pierce, a gag which brought laughter throughout the whole venue.

The band continued their set-list with the song "Money." The lead single off their sophomore album "Portamento," demonstrating a strong bass line from Matheny and a melodic guitar riff from Hanwick. By "Book of Revelation" Pierce's stage presence and intelligent lyrics presented a shift in sound reminiscent to that of New York counterparts The Strokes.

Nevertheless, the band kept their Floridian roots by play "Down by the Water" a song they dedicated to the city of Orlando. The slow tempo track which focuses on being there for someone no matter what, fueled the crowd with excitement, moreover it helped transition to the encore smoothly. Starting off with "It Will End In Tears" Jacob Graham's fusion of synth with Danny Lee Allen's soft percussion demonstrated a post-dubstep sound. The closing song "The Future" once again presented the audience with the upbeat Indie rock sound that



Jonathan Pierce and Myles Matheny playing 'What You Were.'

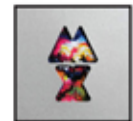
gave The Drums recognition in 2009.

With a concert that brought hundreds to The Social, The Drums presented their fans with a dynamic sound that has aided the revival of Indie music. As Louie Diaz put it, "An awesome show, they sound better live than on the albums."

music downloads

Week ending Oct. 25, 2011

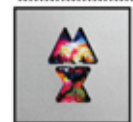
#1 Album



Mylo Xyloto
Coldplay



The Ultimate
Collection
Steps



Mylo Xyloto
Coldplay

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

United States

We Found Love • Rihanna	(3)	1
Sexy and I Know It • LMFAO	(1)	2
Mistletoe • Justin Bieber		3
Someone Like You • Adele	(2)	4
Pumped Up Kicks • Foster the People	(4)	5

United Kingdom

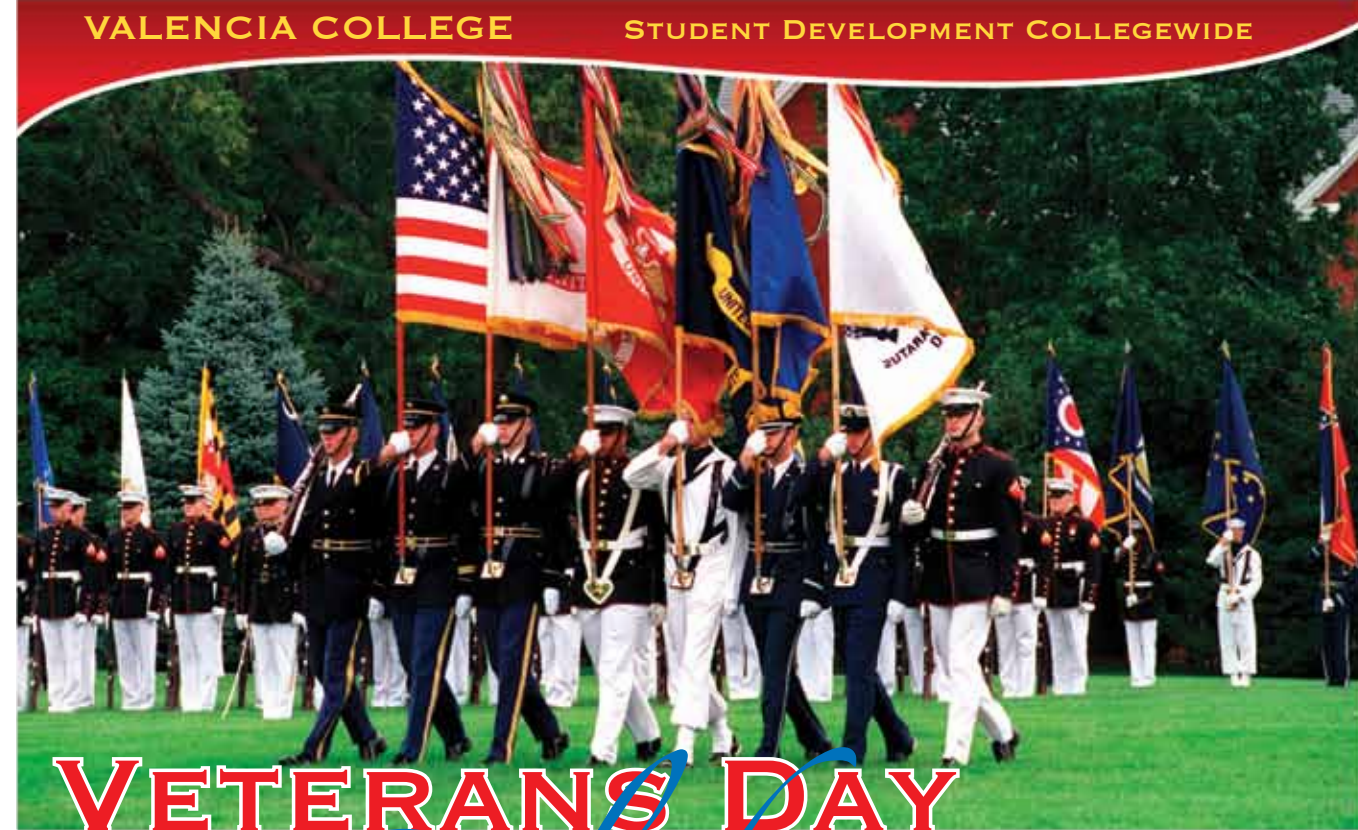
We Found Love • Rihanna	(1)	1
Wherever You Will Go • Charlene Soraia	(3)	2
Lightning • The Wanted	(2)	3
Moves Like Jagger • Maroon 5	(4)	4
Stereo Hearts • Gym Class Heroes		5

Spain

Moves Like Jagger • Maroon 5	(1)	1
Como un Fantasma • Chenoa		2
We Found Love • Rihanna		3
Lo Quiero Todo • Manolo Garcia		4
Perdoname • Pablo Alboran	(5)	5

Source: iTunes

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VETERANS DAY Celebrations

WEST CAMPUS NOVEMBER 8TH (6-202) 10:00AM - 12:00PM

featuring

COFFEE FOR VETERANS, VETERANS SLIDE SHOW TRIBUTE &
DISTRIBUTION OF VETERANS RIBBONS

WINTER PARK NOVEMBER 9TH (PORTICO) 10:30AM - 1:30PM

featuring

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DISTRIBUTION OF VETERANS RIBBONS & FACULTY AND STAFF SLIDE SHOW

LAKE NONA NOVEMBER 9TH (ROOM 408) 2:00PM - 6:00PM

featuring

VETERANS DAY CUPCAKES, DISTRIBUTION OF VETERANS RIBBONS &
VETERANS DAY CARD MAKING COLLECTION FOR CARE PACKAGES

**OSCEOLA CAMPUS NOVEMBER 10TH (BLDG. 2 ATRIUM)
8:30AM - 10:30AM**

featuring

VETERANS BREAKFAST, DISTRIBUTION OF VETERANS RIBBONS &
VETERANS RESOURCE / INFORMATION TABLE

EAST CAMPUS NOVEMBER 10TH (MALL AREA) 12:30PM - 2:00PM

featuring

DISTRIBUTION OF VETERANS RIBBONS
VETERANS RESOURCES INFORMATION TABLE
PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS & VETERANS LUNCH

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NOV. 9TH: EAST CAMPUS 10:00AM (5-112) & WEST CAMPUS 2:00PM (1-230)



get involved with your future!

Fitz and The Tantrums: Breaking the chains of sound in Orlando, indie-soul band makes sunshine state debut



'A hot sweaty mess party.'
— Michael Fitzpatrick
Lead vocalist & songwriter



By Marianella Zapata Noriega
mzapatanoriega@valenciavoices.com

'Fitz and The Tantrums' took over Orlando's indie scene on Sunday, Oct. 30 in their first visit to the Sunshine State.

After purchasing an old Conn electric organ in 2008, Michael Fitzpatrick was inspired to write the song 'Breakin' the Chains of Love' after which he contacted saxophonist James King and 'Fitz and The Tantrums' came together.

The band clicked from the beginning, booking their first show at Hollywood's Hotel Café only a week after their first rehearsal.

Their big break came after they were invited to join the Maroon 5 'Back to School' tour to replace 'K'naan' who canceled due to fatigue.

"Adam Levine from Maroon 5 was in New York to get a tattoo, and his favorite tattoo artist had downloaded the record after hearing us on KCRW," said Fitzpatrick. "He told Adam, 'you gotta hear this band.'" A week and a half later we're opening for Maroon 5 on their college tour.'

They started their Orlando visit by playing at, and judging, the Park Ave. Cds pumpkin carving contest, after which they stayed to sign autographs and talk to fans before leaving for their sound check at The Social.

The show was packed with fans from all over Florida and some even flew from other states.

It was the energy in the room that was the most impressive thing. As soon as the band took the stage it became tangible just how excited people were to see them.

The concert became a sing-along as the audience was more than happy to help the band with their favorite songs.

The band will stay in Florida for their next two shows, one in Ft. Lauderdale's Culture Room and the next in St. Petersburg's the State Theatre.



'The most excited person in the world right now.'
— Noelle Scaggs
Vocalist



'... trying to influence indie pop.'
— Ethan Phillips
Bassist



'Never be afraid to make mistakes.'
— John Wicks
Drummer



'I like to make people smile with music.'
— James King
Saxophonist



'An awesome considerate, nice person.'
— Jeremy Ruzuma
Keyboardist

Avatars teach college students

By Heather Somerville (MCT)
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

In a dark room lit only by the razor-thin beams of infrared cameras, University of California at Merced graduate student Carlo Camporesi spends most days, and many nights, in the company of avatars.

This isn't the next big sci-fi movie in the making or the latest Nintendo Wii video game. Camporesi is part of a research team working to solve a very real problem, how to overcome an expected shortage of physical therapists who will work with aging baby boomers.

UC Merced received a \$75,000 grant through the UC system for five graduate students to begin creating a software program this year that uses avatars to provide physical therapy to the elderly.

Professors say the project has the potential to improve the health of thousands of people. It offers a blueprint for future projects that college administrators hope will bolster UC Merced's reputation as a research institution and help it compete better for its share of the dwindling supply of federal research dollars.

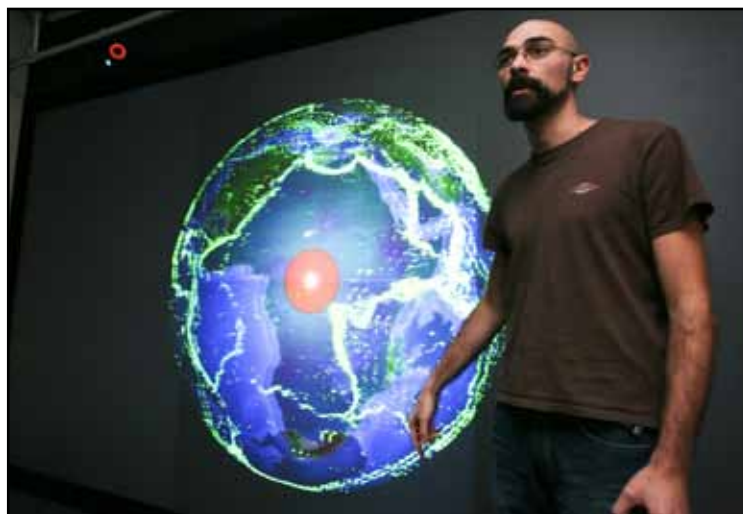
There isn't much budget talk in the cramped room where Camporesi works, immersed in a world that teeters between fantasy and reality. Camporesi positions himself in front of a 3D, floor-to-ceiling projection screen, researchers call it a "powerwall," wearing sensors so the infrared cameras can track his every movement.

On the screen, an avatar stands in a virtual reality kitchen. Each time Camporesi moves, so does the avatar. He's training the avatars to mimic people so perfectly that, on a computer or TV screen, they could be mistaken as human.

Suddenly, the avatar's right hand bends at a precipitous angle. The sensor strapped to Camporesi's hand had fallen off.

Camporesi and fellow computer graphics and animation doctoral student David Huang chuckle. This is still a work in progress, they say.

But give them three to five years, and the students say they could have the next breakthrough in deliv-



Camporesi uses 3D images to lecture to students at UC.

ering health care through wireless technology.

Imagine this: A patient with a shoulder injury stands in front of a computer or TV screen, where an avatar is performing an exercise. The patient mimics the exercise, and the avatar lets him know when and how to adjust his shoulder. (That's why the avatars must have natural, humanlike movements.)

The idea germinated with UC Davis associate professor Dr. Jay Han, an expert in physical medicine and rehabilitation, and UC Merced computer science associate professor Marcelo Kallmann. Han asked Kallmann for help finding a virtual way to deliver health care into the homes of aging baby boomers, whose demand for care is expected to outstrip the supply of doctors and other health-care providers.

In addition, many elderly patients have difficulty getting to the doctor. Transportation may be unavailable or too expensive, Han said, and home visits drain hospital resources. The avatar program would eliminate these challenges for some patients.

Han said there are a couple of possible drawbacks to the avatar program: security concerns about sending patient information over Internet video, and the lack of personal interaction between patient and doctor.

"It's not flesh to flesh," Han said.

UC Davis Medical School is partnering on the program, and doctors there will help develop therapy exercises over the next couple years. Students hope to renew the grant, which is through the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society, a collaboration between four UC campuses, to pay for a few more years of work on the avatars.

— MCT Campus

App of the Week: Daily Horoscope

By Jennifer DiDomenico
jdidomenico@valenciavoices.com

The Daily Horoscope app is an application that I find myself using daily. I'm an Aquarius, whose life can be predicted by a silly horoscope.

My personal results have always been extremely accurate. If there is something going on in my relationship, at school, or at work, this app knows about it.

Out of all of the horoscope apps that I have used before, this one is the most accurate. The accuracy is actually pretty weird.

This application also matches compatibility between signs. You can find this tool by clicking on the grid at the bottom of the main menu.



Suffer with frequent belly pain and in the bathroom many times a day because of diarrhea?

Diagnosed with or have the symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)?

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Anson Mount; Maybe not the best-looking guy, but that's OK

By Luaine Lee
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Most actors wouldn't admit it, but for at least one, life was just too easy. Anson Mount was kicking back in Los Angeles, auditioning for roles and soaking in his suntan the natural way.

"It was so easy to just roll out of my bed and go for a jog on the beach and go to an audition and go to the beach, it was a lovely lifestyle. But I wasn't struggling against anything," he says, perched on the corner of a banquette in a cafe here. With all that ease, something



"Hell on Wheels" is about the transcontinental railroad.

had to change, he says. "I moved back to New York City from Los Angeles a few years ago ... To move back to New York from a place that's so comfortable, that's hard. It was time to get back to where I had a community, and it was time to stop competing for work I was not interested in. I just felt bored," he sighs.

"I found myself being 36 years old and found myself dyeing my hair and trying to be the best-looking guy in the room. I just couldn't live with it. I wanted to be back in New York and grow my hair out and start pursuing the roles I wanted to pursue."

He may not be the best-looking guy in the room, but he's the man you want to watch in AMC's rollicking Western, "Hell on Wheels," premiering Sunday.

The network that already dished up "Broken Trail" to massive appeal has done it again with this saga about the building of the transcontinental railroad and the tent city (dubbed Hell on Wheels) that accompanied it across the plains.

Mount ("Conviction," "Crossroads") plays a Johnny Reb fueled by revenge for his wife's murder who winds up foreman on the railroad line with all the wrong enemies. It's a gritty role that suited the man with the steely eyes and trimmed beard. "It's hard for me to do anything unless I put myself into it 150 percent, so it's all or nothing for me," he says.

That doesn't mean he's a perfectionist. "You give it 100 percent then you have to let it go. I wouldn't be sane if I were a perfectionist," he says. "You have to be able to get to the point as a professional to walk into an audition and throw your pages into the trash and go on. Otherwise you'll go nuts."

He leaned that through necessity, he says, "Just realizing when I was mentally healthy and spiritually healthy and when I was not, then realizing I had to rearrange my priorities. Now if I decide, you know what? I've got some downtime, there's a part of the world I haven't seen. I've got a little extra cash. When I first started out I would say, 'Oh, I've got a job. I've got to be really careful.'"

"But I'm actor, I work for myself. So now I plan my life the way I want to live it, and if a job comes up I decide if I want to do the job. And if I want to do the job, I do the job. There are times when I've canceled my vacations and times when I've turned down jobs.

You've got to live your life."

Mount describes himself as a studious late bloomer as a boy. "I was a glasses-braces-nerd, stuffed in trashcans when I was a kid." He was 13 when his father died.

He says watching his mother grow strong under the burden of loss taught him a lot. "I think it allowed me to develop my own personality with a little more freedom, which is the ironic thing. And to get to a place in your life where you're adult enough to not feel guilty about realizing that maybe there were benefits in growing up in a single family. I definitely think it was a pivotal part of who I am."

It may be why he's so determined not to settle. Even a master's degree from Columbia didn't arm him for the fight, he says. "When you're in school until you're 25 and you get out and suddenly structure is not handed to you, if you're smart you realize that you need to create structure for yourself," he says.

"The most important thing I did was I had to force myself to find things in my life that helped to identify me other than acting. So the downtimes I could go rock climbing. I would write a play. I could travel and I started to cultivate parts of myself that had not been cultivated because I'd just been in school, in a place where I paid tuition and they gave me structure."

Acting school is academic and doesn't teach the hard-knocks part of the equation, says Mount.

"It's one reason I decided to start teaching a professional preparation course. ... I'm sort of passing it on now because it's becoming just too many hours. They had me come in and create it, it's an academic environment and there's a disconnect between acting training in most schools and really preparing your students to be professionals, which is a totally different thing. So that's kind of become my job there. It's been very rewarding, but it is a lot of hours."

Mount is not married nor does he have a girlfriend. Next up is a feature film, "Cook County," due Nov. 11. "I'm so proud of this film," he says. "I dropped 25 pounds and play a meth addict."

As part of its arts festival PBS will be offering "Give Me the Banjo" on Friday (check local listings), narrated by Steve Martin. Tony Trischka, one of the nation's top banjo players, serves as co-producer and music director



Mount stars as Cullen Bohannon in AMC's "Hell on Wheels."

on the documentary. Trischka says he hopes the show will convince people that the banjo is a real musical instrument: "It was not that long ago that you'd walk down the street with the banjo, and people would go, 'Yeehaw,' picture bales of hay and that whole thing ... The tunes that are most associated with the banjo were 'Deliverance,' not exactly a great image for the banjo; 'The Beverly Hillbillies' also not necessarily a great image for the banjo; 'Bonnie & Clyde,' a little violent. But in more recent years, with people like Bela Fleck if you're familiar with him, he's recorded with Chick Corea. He recorded the whole classical album, ("Perpetual Motion") which I think was the best classical album of the year for Sony, which is pretty amazing."

Jennifer Love Hewitt, Blair Underwood, Dylan McDermott, Dean Cain and Ed Burns are just some of the stars enlisted in the History Channel's six-part series on "Vietnam in HD" set to premiere Nov. 8. With the tagline: "It's not the war you know. It's the war they fought," the series scoured the world for unseen footage of the war and retooled it in HD. There are first-person accounts from veterans of the conflict and tales of heroism not told before. Michael C. Hall ("Dexter") narrates.

— MCT Campus

South Korean Olympics moving mountains in 2018

By John M. Glionna
Tribune Newspapers

I'm peering over the edge of the Olympic ski-jump platform here, hundreds of feet above ground, shuddering at the track's suicidal 45-degree descent. It's the end of summer, and the tower affords a commanding view of the area known as Keunteo, or the Big Land Valley, with its lushly green fir and pine trees and neatly rowed potato fields framed by several distant mountain peaks.

On this warm afternoon, the coming winter seems a lifetime away, and certainly the 2018 Winter Olympics, to be held at various venues across Pyeongchang County, seem further still.

One has to wonder if the Koreans can do it: Can they turn a newly built resort, set amid a middling winter wonderland terrain that wouldn't look out of place in New York State's Catskill Mountains, into a legitimate Olympic venue? At this point it seems nothing short of an Olympian task.

After all, this ain't the Alps. The region's highest mountain peak is less than 6,000 feet above sea level, not much higher than the Denver skyline. Pyeongchang lost out in its first two attempts to host the winter Olympics; to British Columbia's Whistler for the 2010 games and to the Russian Black Sea resort of Sochi for 2014. Now officials want to show the International Olympic Committee that they didn't make a mistake in finally giving Pyeongchang its chance, that the third time is the charm.

The heart and soul of the games will be the Alpensia resort, finished in 2009, which will serve as the Olympic Village. The landing area for the ski jump, with 30,000 spectator seats, will be the site of the opening and closing ceremonies.

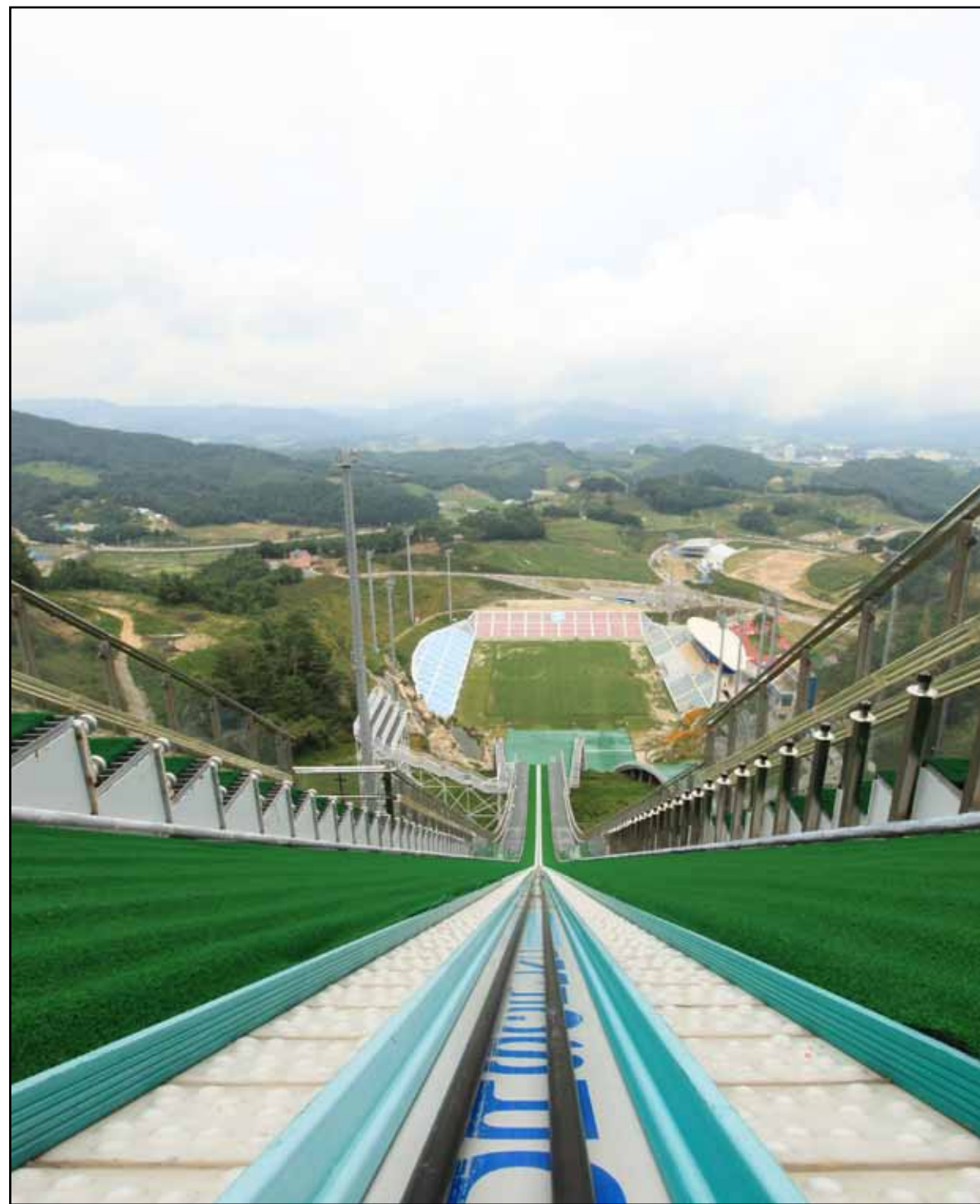
But the South Korean winter games will offer something previous sites haven't: a compact environment. A high-speed train, to begin service in 2017, will whisk visitors from Seoul in 50 minutes. Most of the snow and sliding venues will be within a 10-minute bus ride from Alpensia. Curling, skating and ice hockey competitions will take place a 20-minute drive away in the coastal city of Gangneung.

The Big Land Valley region was the site of South Korea's first ski resort in 1972 and is known throughout the nation for its mystical natural charm, the misty mountain views and rolling forests.

But as he walks down the steps of the Alpensia's welcome center, French national Etienne Dorival shakes his head when asked if the resort can pull off the Olympics.

"Look around you," he says with a sigh. "There are only a few small low-altitude slopes, nothing compared to the Alps or North America. There's not much of a real mountain feeling. But don't underestimate the Koreans; they'll be ready."

Local skiers say the local mountains suit them just fine. "There are some things we lack, the mountains could be higher, we could have more snow — but this is still the best place in South Korea," says Kim Yong-



The ski-jump platform at the Alpensia Resort in Pyeongchang, site of the 2018 Olympics.

woon, mayor of a nearby village who also competed on South Korea's 1988 Olympic biathlon team in Calgary.

Kim, who has skied at resorts around the globe, said the snow is different here. "There's less powder; it's more humid and wet; it takes getting used to. But we've also got modern snow machines."

Tooling around the valley, I realize it

will offer something else that's typically Korean: a colorful local culture.

Standing atop the 400-foot-high ski-jump platform, glad I never took up this sport, I have another thought: South Korea may just be able to pull off its first Winter Olympic Games after all, and maybe even go for gold.

— MCT Campus



Very Superstitious

Frequent flyers use lucky charms, quirks, old habits to deal with fears

By Ellen Creager
Detroit Free Press

It's not the engines that make the airplane fly.

It's James Steinhagen's finger circles. "As the plane begins the takeoff roll, I whirl my finger around in a small circle faster and faster as the plane accelerates down the runway," the Troy, Mich., man, 62, said.

"My thinking is that this will help keep the engines running as we prepare to climb into the air. Fortunately, I have not had a situation where this didn't work, at least not yet."

It may sound crazy. It may sound strange. But Steinhagen is definitely not alone in his flying superstitions.

Flying superstitions help otherwise-sensible travelers gain an illusion of control when they are in a tin can suspended in the sky, experts say.

Liz Walters, 71, brings an elephant for luck.

"I have a gold elephant charm on a chain, which is the first thing I put on the day I am flying," said Walters of West Bloomfield Township, Mich. "If I got to the airport and did not have it, I don't think I would get on the plane."

— MCT Campus

Oldest movie camera rental shop auctions off film cameras

By Richard Verrier
Los Angeles Times

Call it film's last gasp.

Birns & Sawyer, the oldest movie camera rental shop in Hollywood, made history last week when it auctioned off its entire remaining inventory of 16- and 35-millimeter film cameras.

Owner and cinematographer Bill Meurer said he didn't want to part with the cameras but had little choice as the entertainment industry has largely gone digital.

"People aren't renting out film cameras in sufficient numbers to justify retaining them," Meurer said in an interview at his North Hollywood warehouse, where he rents out cameras, lenses, lighting

equipment and grip trucks.

"Initially I felt nostalgic, but 95 percent of our business is digital. We're responding to the market."

The auction underscores just how rapidly Hollywood is transitioning to digital. Theater chains are increasingly converting their multiplexes to digital projectors because studios are soon expected to stop releasing film prints altogether.

And major camera manufacturers such as Arri and Panavision have for now halted production of new film cameras (although they are still doing upgrades on film equipment).

Today, virtually all television production and about one-third of all feature films are being shot digitally.

The auction at Birns & Sawyer marks another milestone because the shop has been a fixture in Hollywood since its founding in 1954 by Life photographer and war correspondent Jack Birns and fellow Korean War veteran Cliff Sawyer. Within a few years, it began renting equipment used on such movies as "Lawrence of Arabia," "Easy Rider" and the Steve McQueen classic "Bullitt."

Meurer, a former cinematographer and gaffer, acquired Birns & Sawyer in 1998, merging it with his lighting and camera rental business.

Like other camera equipment suppliers such as Panavision, Birns was hard hit by the sharp falloff in demand for film cameras and equipment.

The shift to digital accelerated rapidly in 2008 when labor unrest within the Screen Actors Guild prompted a number of producers to sign deals with its sister union, the American Federation of Television & Radio Artists.

AFTRA traditionally represented shows shot on video rather than film.

Company sales have plummeted to \$5 million from a peak of about \$10 million a year in 2006, Meurer said. To cut costs, Birns & Sawyer consolidated its operations, leaving a second 9,000-square-foot office space it had leased in Hollywood.



An Aaton A-minima super 16mm film camera is the only camera that sold for its true value - \$15,000 at the auction.



Pete Anway, left, and Jason Stuckey, general manager, talk in the room holding all the film movie cameras and lenses that were sold in an auction at Birns & Sawyer, Inc., which rents, sell, and services professional motion picture equipment.

Still, unlike other service providers that have fallen by the wayside, Birns & Sawyer has survived by adapting. It was among the first camera rental houses to offer digital video cameras from Sony and Panasonic in 2000. The company also manufactures camera shoulder supports, matte boxes, lens mounts and other products that have helped to diversify its business.

In last week's auction, Meurer sold 15 film cameras used on such movies as "Anaconda," "Silver City" and the original "X-Men" to other cinematog-

raphers and camera houses. The equipment sold for \$225,000 only about a quarter of its original value.

But Meurer said he was happy with the outcome, adding that proceeds will help his company complete its digital transition.

"It was a little bit upsetting for some of the employees with the prestige of losing our film cameras," he said. "But it gives us the ability to buy all these new 35-millimeter lenses that can be used for digital cameras."

— MCT Campus

Rancic raises awareness

By Jennifer DiDomenico
jdidomenico@valenciavoices.com

Giuliana Rancic, 36, announced that she was recently diagnosed with the early stages of breast cancer during an interview with Ann Curry on Oct. 17.

Rancic, E! News host, and her husband Bill were given their own reality show in 2007. The show features several seasons of their lives together, including their struggle to conceive a baby.

Rancic told the powerful story of how she was

diagnosed in the Today Show interview.

After several visits to several doctors, Rancic has decided to try in vitro fertilization (IVF). During an appointment with an IVF doctor, she was asked to schedule a mammogram. Being so young, the Hollywood star did not believe she needed to go for the procedure. Her doctor told her that he could not continue the fertilization process until she had followed his instructions.

During the mammogram the nurse gave her the bad news. If she hadn't gone, she would have found out at a later stage.

Rancic has no family history involving breast cancer. According to statistics, 85 percent of women who have breast cancer do not have a family history of the disease.

Rancic believes that all women should go for mammograms, whether they believe they need to or not. She also said that she will get pregnant one day, and she will be able to tell her baby that he or she saved her life.



Above: Giuliana Rancic's husband, Bill was the first to get hired in Donald Trump's show 'Apprentice' in 2004.

Left: Giuliana Rancic at the 63rd Annual Primetime Emmy Awards on Sept. 18 at Nokia Theatre in California.

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GREATER CONNECTIONS

Jeff hates: Nostalgia

By Jeff Shedden
jshedden@valenciavoice.com

There's a trend I've seen in which a lot of the younger crowd are liking things from when I was a kid. And like the new things that are popular now, most of this stuff was crap then, too. Nostalgia is an understandable if not ugly thing for people who actually remember the things being obsessed about. It just becomes sad and weird in the hands of anybody else.

Hollywood is a prime culprit in foist-

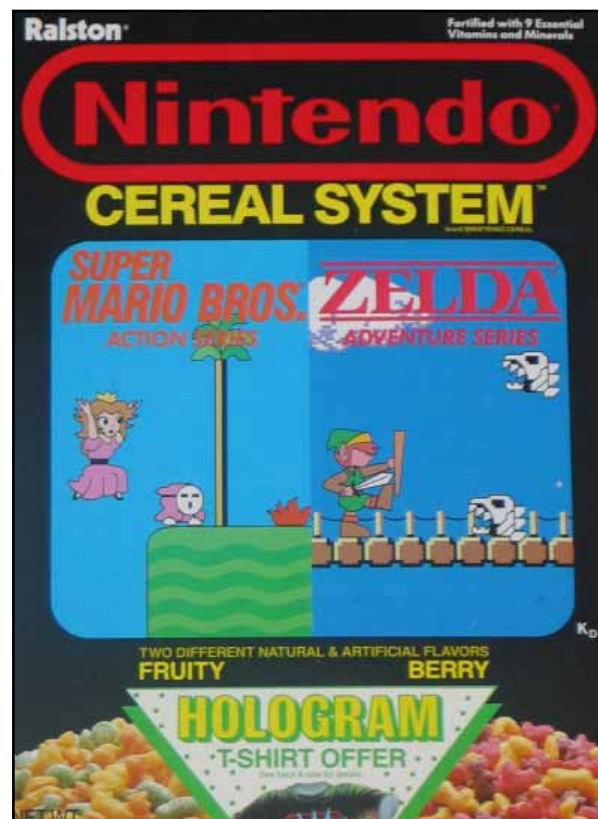
ing nostalgia on to the general public. This summer, we got a movie version of "The Smurfs" about little, blue communists who stopped being relevant in 1985.

What was the ideal audience for this? I know it wasn't people my age who grew up and out of them when more awesome cartoons came around.

They've been reduced to a one-word joke, in which you can simply plug in the word "smurf" for any of your favorite obscenities. As in, "I'd rather take a smurf and jam it up my smurf until smurf comes out of my smurfing smurf than sit through this smurfing pile of smurf."

We've also had movies about the Chipmunks, Garfield, and I wouldn't be surprised if someone wasn't sitting on a script for "The Snorks," a cartoon so saccharine it makes "Shirt Tales" seem like "Fritz the Cat."

Toys have also been getting the Hollywood treatment, and I covered this in my trashing of the most recent "Transformers" film. But we've also had a movie based on



Ya got no Nintendo cred if you didn't eat this.

G.I. Joe, which was thankfully so bad as to nip the trend in the bud. Otherwise, I fear we'd end up being subjected to a Gobots movie, based on a toy so awful that you made the kid you didn't really like play with them, while the rest played with actual Transformers.

Television hasn't made things any better. It's become a trend to bring back animated series from the 1980s. Most recently was "Thundercats." When I was a kid, I didn't really like Thundercats. I thought they were unoriginal, and was convinced that He-Man could beat Lion-o's ass any day.

My best friend, who actually was a fan of the old Thundercats, has been trying to get me to watch this new series, and I finally relented and watched a couple of commercials for it.

My first reaction was, "Hmm, this doesn't look too bad." Then I came to my senses and realized that I, a 34-year-old man, was actually contemplating a kid's show. I managed to forcibly remove these

thoughts by beating myself in the eyeball with a piece of rebar.

It gets worse.

Someone actually decided that what the world needed was a new cartoon series based on "My Little Pony." The creator of this new series, Lauren Faust, gets quite psychotic whenever anyone insinuates that her "My Little Pony" series is just girly fluff. No, in her mind, the series is serious business and has a more mature feel to it.

Yeah.

It's hard to fathom the issues that characters named "Twilight Sparkle" and "Pinkie Pie" might have to face. I doubt we'll ever see an episode dealing with the tragedy of having to cope with the deaths of the ponies, "Giggles Gluefactory" and "Stinky Wrinkle."

It would be fine and dandy if this show just sat in the background as fodder for your average seven-year-old girl. Tragically, "My Little Pony" has spawned an entire culture of punchable people. Basically, there is a group of males ranging anywhere from teenagers to full-on adults who are fans of this show. They call themselves "Bronies."

I'm sensitive to the anti-bullying efforts going on these days, but COME ON. Even Richard Simmons would be tempted to give your average Brony a swirlie.

The worst source of unwanted nostalgia seems to be video games. I can't go a single day without seeing someone under the age of 21 wearing a shirt with the Atari logo or displaying a tattoo of the green "1-up" mushroom from the original "Super Mario Bros." for the NES.

Pretty much every game on the old Atari VCS system was awful, so there are no actual fond gameplay memories to cling to.

And then there's this obsession with everything 8-bit. I will say that there's a few games from the old NES that managed to become timeless. They're almost

as fun to play now as they were when they were new. But we've moved on. The reason NES games looked and sounded the way they did was because that's what kind of technology we had.

But now, we've got actual modern bands that incorporate something called "chiptunes" into their music. They actually try to sound like an old Nintendo game. This basically means that they are trying to sound horrible on purpose.

The worst part of all of this is that the bulk of the people who eat up this game nostalgia are kids who not only weren't alive during the 8-bit age, but missed the 16-bit age as well. Nostalgia really needs to be earned, and unless you spent a weekend in 1990 trying to find the last key in "Shadowgate," or had to reconcile the fact that the Power Glove you just had to own just made any game an exercise in anger management, you haven't earned that pixel-art tattoo of Mega Man.



A three inch smurf was scary enough in 1983, but a thirty foot smurf is terrifying in 2011.



Where are the Mario World tats and T-shirts?

Calendar of Events

Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5	Sunday 6	Monday 7	Tuesday 8	Wednesday 9
	18th Annual Founders Day Festival 7:30 a.m.	Give Kids the World 5K Gingerbread Run 8 p.m.				
The Very Queer Portraits of Heyd Fontenot	Mid-Century: A Photographic View 11:00 a.m.	41st Annual Fall Fiesta in the Park 10 a.m.	41st Annual Fall Fiesta in the Park 10 a.m.		Florida Artist Group Exhibition 11 a.m.	UCF Faculty Show UCF Art Gallery 11 a.m.
Career Center Outreach 12:30 a.m.	Orlando Puppet Festival 11:30 p.m.	Holidays at the Waterhouse Noon	Central Florida Jewish Film Festival Enzian Theater	Central Florida Jewish Film Festival Enzian Theater	Skills Shop; Tis The Season 12:30 p.m.	
HIV Testing 1 p.m.			Behind Closed Doors Gallery on First		Fall Learning Support Services Fair 3 p.m.	AS to BS UCF Workshop 2 p.m.
Meet-and-Greet with Ghost Hunters International Crew 6 p.m.	La Strada Southeast Museum of Photography 1:30	Between The Buried And Me - The Beacham 5:30 p.m.	Blues and BBQ Jam The Alley 5 p.m.	Eat to the Beat! Epcot 5:15 p.m.	Bayside & Saves Day - House of Blues 5:30 p.m.	
J. Medicine Hat - Orlando Improv Comedy Club 7:30 p.m.	House Band Concert 7:30 p.m.	Social Distortion House of Blues 7 p.m.	Driving Miss Daisy The Pointe Performing Arts 7 p.m.	Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays 7:15 p.m.	Taste of Comedy Open Mic 9 p.m.	West Side Story: 50th Anniversary Various theaters 7 p.m.
Science Fiction Discussion Group 8:00 p.m.	Chris Cornell House of Blues 8 p.m.	Poison Hard Rock Live 8:30 p.m.		Food Not Bombs Food Sharing 8:30 p.m.		Something Wild Southeast Museum of Photography 7:15 p.m.
Odd Future - The Beacham 9 p.m.	The Boomers Post Time Lounge 9:30 p.m.					The Absinthe Trio 10:30 p.m.

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NCAA Football



Last: vs. Memphis W 41-0
Next: vs. Tulsa, Thurs. Nov. 3



Last: vs. Georgia L 24-20
Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Sat. Nov. 5



Last: vs. NC State L 34-0
Next: @ BC Thurs Nov. 3



Last: vs. Virginia L 28-21
Next: vs. Duke, Sat. Nov. 5

NFL



Last: @ NY Giants L 20-17
Next: @ Kansas City, Sun. Nov. 6



Last: @ Houston L 24-14
Next Bye Week



Last: Bye Week
Next: vs New Orleans, Sun. Nov. 6

NHL



Last: vs. Carolina Nov. 1 (late game)
Next vs. Chicago, Fri. Nov. 4

Gators fall to Bulldogs in Jacksonville

By Joseph Goodman
McClatchy Newspapers

The bad news for Florida: The Gators haven't played this poorly this consistently since Ron Zook was served his walking papers.
The good news for Florida: The season is two-thirds over, and UF's nightmarish month of October is finally gone.

It ended Saturday at Jacksonville's EverBank Field with a 24-20 loss to rival and 22nd-ranked Georgia. The game will be remembered as one of Florida's ugliest in recent memory in the series, which Georgia now leads 47-40-2. The Bulldogs' victory snapped UF's three-game winning streak in the rivalry. UF is 18-4 against Georgia (6-2, 5-1 SEC) since 1990.
UF is 4-4 to begin the season for the first time since 2004. Zook was fired that season the Monday before UF played Georgia. Furthermore, Saturday marked the first time the Gators have lost four games in one month since 1979.

Florida, which is 2-4 in the SEC, entered the game the loser of three in a row but appeared the better team in the beginning. Injured quarterback John Brantley was back, and the Gators led 17-10 at halftime thanks in large part to two monster plays from running back Jeff Demps, who also was returning from injury.
It felt like a midseason resurgence of sorts. Rallying to win the SEC East title didn't seem so farfetched after all.

Then came the second half. That's when UF's offense shriveled up and died.
Florida managed just 32 yards of offense on 24 plays in the game's final two quarters. Time and again, the Gators were placed in a position to win the game, but time and again, it was clear the Gators really had no chance.
UF's subpar offensive line, combined with the immobile Brantley, was a mix the Gators' offense couldn't overcome. Brantley was sacked six times for minus-43 yards. UF's running backs, Demps and Chris Rainey, combined to rush for 30 yards on 13 carries.
"John did well," UF first-year coach Will Muschamp said. "We just need to figure out how to run the ball."
So far, UF offensive coordinator Charlie Weis can't



Florida defensive tackle Sharrif Floyd tackles Georgia quarterback Aaron Murray during the Gators 24-20 loss to the Bulldogs.

solve the riddle. Weis' offense entered Saturday having scored just 17 points in the previous 10 quarters. Normally on the field during games, Weis called plays from the press box Saturday in an attempt to change things up.
The different vantage point didn't help. Muschamp doesn't allow his assistant coaches to speak with the media after games, and he bristled when asked if Weis might need direction from the team's head coach.
"We've got to evaluate ourselves, first off starting with me," Muschamp said. "I'm always involved, and obviously I didn't do a good enough job of that (Saturday)."
Muschamp said repeatedly during his postgame news conference that the Gators' running game must improve, and that the offense "can't be so one-dimensional."
That especially seemed to be true for a team with an injured quarterback playing in his first game in four weeks. Brantley's accuracy was off throughout the game "he completed just 12 of 34 attempts" and he literally fell

to the ground every time a defender came near. The Gators altered their offense because of Brantley's sprained ankle, running plays mostly from the shotgun. But that proved counterproductive.
Brantley was on his way to beating Georgia for the second year in a row when he completed an improbable 31-yard touchdown pass to tight end Jordan Reed on fourth-and-19 with 7:34 left in the first quarter. UF went ahead 14-3 in the second quarter after a 99-yard kickoff return for a touchdown by Demps. A 43-yard field goal by backup kicker Brad Phillips helped give UF a 17-10 lead entering halftime.
UF's Andre Debose answered immediately with a 63-yard kickoff return, but the Gators could only manage a 40-yard field goal from the favorable field position. It was a common theme throughout the game. Georgia made it 24-20 on the first drive of the fourth quarter, and UF couldn't score despite its final drives beginning at the Georgia 45- and 36-yard lines.
— MCT Campus

UCF mauls Memphis, 41-0

Knights extend home winning streak to five games

By Bryan Levine
blevine@valencivoice.com

The University of Central Florida Knights are ready for the Tulsa Golden Hurricanes following their blow out win against Memphis.

The Knights lost 49-19 the last time the two teams faced off, despite taking a 19-14 lead into halftime.

"We've got a big, big, big, game here on Thursday night," said head coach George O'Leary. "It's not only big for us, but for Tulsa too."

The home game against Tulsa comes five days removed from a UCF trouncing over the Memphis Tigers 41-0.

The win snaps a two game losing streak for the Knights and also extends their home winning streak to five games, dating back to last season. With an overall record of 4-4, all four losses have come on the road for UCF.

"Well, it was a good win, really on all three phases," said head coach George O'Leary. "It was a good total team effort. We got a chance to play a lot of players tonight, which is important because of the short week."

QB Jeff Godfrey led the Knights in rushing with 99 yards and a touchdown. His lone rushing touchdown gives him nine on the season, which is just one shy of his career high.

"I saw on film that they would drop back and make sure the quarterback didn't beat them deep, so I took advantage of that with my legs," said Godfrey, who's first quarter 19-yard touchdown was all the Knights ended up needing.

Godfrey still managed to throw for 200 yards on 14 completions despite sitting out the entire fourth quarter, and UCF rushing the ball 49 times as a team.



UCF QB Jeff Godfrey rushes the ball during the Knights' 41-0 win over the Memphis Tigers, last week.

Of Godfrey's 200 yards, 49 of them went to WR Quincy McDuffie, who also got his first rushing and receiving touchdowns of the season.

"I think he was a lot more aggressive and a lot more decisive," said O'Leary. "He's making plays and that's what the quarterback is supposed to do."

The shut out against Memphis gives the Knights' defense their second of the season. Not only have the Knights outscored their opponents 149-9 this season at home, but the defense still hasn't allowed a touchdown.

Linebacker Jonathan Davis consistently applied pressure in the backfield, getting seven tackles including one sack of Memphis QB Taylor Reed.

Along with Davis, DB Josh Robinson held

the Tigers in check allowing just 134 total yards.

"We take pride in everything on defense. Just getting sacks or tackles for a loss. Its big when you're at home and you can defend your place. We definitely take pride in that," said Robinson, recent recipient of all-American fourth team honors in the mid-season awards.

The Knights know they have a tough challenge ahead of them with a shortened week. Tulsa enters Thursday's game undefeated in conference play and are coming off a commanding 38-7 win over division rival SMU.

"We've just got to pick up on things quicker. You don't have as much time to go into depth on every play," said Robinson. "We've just got to make sure we execute on things when the time comes."

UCF homecoming

By Anisha Tandon
atandon@valencivoice.com

As students piled into the Brighthouse Network's Stadium after a week of homecoming festivities, the goal was clear; a win is a must. The black and gold spirit was high as UCF took on conference rivals, Memphis,

The week was full of traditional homecoming events, including the spirit splash, concert 'Knight', and something no homecoming would be complete with out; the crowning of king and queen. A parade of the 2011 court strolled through the streets of UCF's campus before the homecoming game, as students cheered them on.

"It was the first game I really enjoyed," said sophomore Natalia Joyce.

The Knights began the game strong, with a 24-0 lead going into half time. The UCF marching band proceeded to play as the homecoming court was introduced and brought out on the field. The 2010 homecoming king, Adam Brock, crowned this year's winner, David Lynch, as is tradition. The emotions were high on the field.

"It's surreal," said Lynch after winning. "I can't believe it, I was so shocked."

Proud mother, Arlene Lynch, was there to watch her son's crowning moment. "I'm ecstatic," she said. "There's a picture posted on Facebook of me crying in the stands." The traditions of homecoming reside closer to some, as Lynch showed in his feelings about the event. "It's an amazing experience," he said. "There is so much school pride. I love UCF."

Lynch was thrilled with the Knights 41-0 victory, describing the Knights as "killing it."

The Knights have lost two road games. Quarterback Jeff Godfrey was excited about the win. "We didn't want to let our fans down in homecoming, not our coaches or ourselves," he said. Godfrey also was clear about the team feeling good being back at home.

As the Knights prepare to take on Tulsa next week, the UCF spirit is high. The Knights have yet to lose on home turf, and after a win in their homecoming game, there isn't much that can break their school spirit and drive.

Voice staff predictions

 Week 9	 Bryan Levine 77-39	 Mary Stevens 70-46
		
MIA @ KC		
CLE @ HOU		
ATL @ IND		
SEA @ DAL		
SF @ WAS		
NYJ @ BUF		
TB @ NO		
CIN @ TEN		
DEN @ OAK		
NYG @ NE		
GB @ SD		
STL @ ARI		
BAL @ PIT		
Monday Night CHI @ PHI		
BYE WEEK		

Rookies make Pro Bowl push

By Daniel Brown
San Jose Mercury News

While rookie quarterbacks Cam Newton, Andy Dalton and Christian Ponder dominate the headlines, two youngsters on the other side of the ball are making a strong first impression, too.

Linebackers Von Miller of the Denver Broncos and Aldon Smith of the 49ers could threaten their franchise marks for rookie sack totals.

Miller, taken No. 2 overall, leads NFL rookies with six sacks and is poised to challenge the Broncos' mark of 10 set by Mike Croel in 1991.

Smith, the No. 7 choice, has 5 sacks and could make a run at Charles Haley, who posted 12 as a 49ers rookie in 1986. Haley and Dana Stubblefield (10 in 1993) remain the only 49ers rookies to rack up double-digit sack totals since the statistic became official in 1982.

Here's the scary part: Smith is the youngest player on the 49ers' roster. And he's just a baby in football terms. He didn't play organized sports until he was 15, when his father permitted him to join the Raytown (Mo.) High School football and basketball teams _ under the strictest of conditions.

"He had to make good grades. Nothing less than a 3.0 GPA," Thurston Smith told 49ers.com. "And he had to be responsible and respectful."

Aldon got the grades. Opposing quarterbacks aren't so sure about the "respectful" part. His takedowns this season include Michael Vick, Josh Freeman (twice) and Matthew Stafford (twice).

In all, the 49ers are holding opposing quarterbacks to a 77.7 passer rating, fifth best in the NFL.

"We're excited with the success

we've had. But we've still got so much more we can do," Smith said during the team's bye week. "Once we really reach all that, you all are going to see some really excited people, some crazy-excited people."

Miller, meanwhile, has a sack in five consecutive games. He has a shot at the NFL rookie sack record of 14 { set by Jevon Kearse in 1999.

"Von is a special player," Broncos defensive end Elvis Dumervil told reporters. "I'm very thankful to have a



Denver Broncos rookie, Von Miller, attempts to make a tackle against Detroit Lions running back Maurice Morris.

guy like that on the opposite side."

The Raiders blew it by trading for Carson Palmer. So says another former Bengals quarterback, Boomer Esiason, who delivered a blunt assessment on CBS Sports' "The NFL Today" last weekend.

"In my estimation, this is a coach that's making decisions above his pay grade, to be honest with you," Esiason said. "This is why general managers general manage and why coaches coach. Coach wants a quarterback. He wants him there now because he knows it's about self-preservation in this league having a good quarterback.

The overmatched Indianapolis Colts (0-7) could face a conundrum next April if they land the No. 1 overall draft pick. Draft Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck? Or trade the choice for roster depth elsewhere and pray that Peyton Manning makes a full recovery?

"I have to say, I would draft him," analyst Cris Collinsworth said on Showtime's "Inside the NFL." "I just don't think that you could take a chance on missing the next franchise quarterback.

A tip of the cap to NFL Network analyst Deion Sanders, who delivered the best line on Tim Tebow after the quarterback rallied the Broncos to a comeback victory over Miami:

"If you went with this guy to the fair, you know that little round thing that you throw the ball into? He may never get it through the hole, but he's going to walk away with all of the stuffed animals."

The Eagles head into their Sunday night game riding a streak of 12 consecutive victories after a bye.

— MCT Campus

Fantasy Update

Start

Arian Foster (RB) - HOU
Foster seems to be getting back into last season's form. It also doesn't hurt that he's going up against the Cleveland Browns.

Matt Ryan (QB) - ATL
Ryan has put up decent numbers this season, but look for him to be great on Sunday as he goes up against the Colts.

Sit

Ryan Fitzpatrick (QB) - BUF
The Bills are continuing to be the biggest surprise in the NFL, but the Jets defense has given up the least amount of fantasy points to quarterbacks this season.

Ben Roethlisberger (QB) - PIT
This week is not a good week for you to depend on Big Ben. The Ravens defense has given up the second least amount of fantasy points to QBs this season.

Sleepers

Matt Cassel (QB) - KC
Cassel looked great in OT on Monday night. His Chiefs have won the last four games, and don't look for them to slow down against the Miami Dolphins.

DeMarco Murray (RB) - DAL
With Felix Jones missing time due to an injury, Murray has been getting a decent amount of carries and should put up some good numbers against Seattle.

VP of player safety tries to limit 'Shanabans'

Brendan Shanahan makes increased discipline his mission in 1st year as NHL executive

By Rob Rossi
The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

Oct. 24--Penguins coach Dan Bylsma wants his players watching all the disciplinary videos from NHL vice president of hockey operations/player safety Brendan Shanahan, not just the one from Wednesday that featured an illegal hit by defenseman Kris Letang on Winnipeg forward Alexander Burmistrov.

Bylsma said he has started many meetings by viewing the videos -- including the one in which Shanahan explains his reasons for suspending Letang

two games -- that are new this season to the NHL's disciplinary procedure.

"I think guys would watch them anyway," defenseman Brooks Orpik said. "Whether or not it's you or another guy who gets suspended, to hear the reasoning, you can learn from these."

"The one thing guys complained about before was (clarity), and that isn't a problem right now because of what Shanahan's doing with these videos."

In his first campaign as the league's disciplinary czar, a designation previously held by Colin Campbell, Shanahan has suspended 11 players dating to the

exhibition season. Even if some of his rulings have been debatable, the videos that he suggested become part of the discipline process have drawn rave reviews.

"It's a good idea because you definitely want an explanation. Everybody wants an explanation," Montreal forward Max Pacioretty said, acknowledging he often was scared to make a hit because he didn't want to face a suspension.

Still, he said, "Everyone has their own opinion on different hits. I still feel like there is that gray area because no one really agrees. I haven't heard everyone (agreeing) on what's legal and what's not."

Pacioretty missed time late last season after being injured on a hit from Boston defenseman Zdeno Chara, one that drew neither a fine nor suspension.

That ruling was one of many controversial ones during Campbell's tenure. Orpik said Shanahan's recent experience as a player carries clout with those competing in a league that features bigger, faster participants than during Campbell's playing days in the 1970s and mid-'80s.

Shanahan, who last played during the 2008-09 season, said the videos are geared for players, but if media and fans gain a better understanding of his thought process regarding a ruling, all the better.

"The intent is not necessarily to get you to see it how we (at the NHL) see it but to show you the work and thought process that went into the decision," Shanahan said. "When (NHL commissioner Gary Bettman) talked to me about the job, the one thing he described was a need for more communication, and we talked about a need for transparency, even if it



Shanahan, as a player with the New York Rangers, lays on the ice following a collision with Philadelphia Flyers right winger Mike Knuble. Shanahan suffered a concussion from the incident.

left us more open to criticism.

I was involved in a lot of these types of hits, delivering many of them, when I played, and I told him that as a player, transparency would be not only appreciated but helpful."

The implementation of disciplinary videos was never suggested at annual general manager meetings, the Penguins' Ray Shero said. But he is pleased to have them in the game.

"When Brendan announced he was going to have the videos come out and we saw the first one, you could see how useful it was going to be," Shero said. "There's a library of all the videos for players to go back and look at, so players

have those examples at their fingertips. It's been real beneficial."

Letang was the 11th player suspended by Shanahan but only the second during the regular season.

Letang, who returned from his suspension Saturday, said he recognized some of the language Shanahan used in the video about him and admitted the video was helpful.

"Even if you don't mean to hurt a guy, and I didn't, (the videos) make it so you learn what (the NHL) wants," he said. "It's still a fast game, but they're trying to make it safer."

Puckspeak with Brendan Shanahan
— MCT Campus



VP of hockey operations/player safety, Brendan Shanahan, attends former NHL enforcer Derek Boogaard's funeral. Boogaard died from an accidental overdose of pain medication.

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Cruz tablet. Similar to iPad. \$150. Brand new; still in box. Greg. 407-480-6353.
Microsoft Word 2007. \$50.00. Rupa. 407-733-7115.
Valencia’s RN students uniform. \$5. Blue top. Medium. Nina. 407-334-4365.
GRA 2210c. Photoshop CS5. \$15. Lee. 352-872-9077.
Valencia’s RN students white uniform, \$50. Medium. Used. In great condition. Nina. 407-334-4365.
Microsoft Office 2007 Enterprise Edition. \$40. Maria. 407-535-5067.
Keyboarding 1. \$70.00. Rupa. 407-733-7115.
ROOMMATES
Room for rent: Male or female. \$300 per month. No smoking, no pets. Furnished. Internet, utility, cable included. 560 N. Har. Blvd. Orlando. Altagracia. 407-739-9640.

Looking for a room to rent. Female with respectful child. Clean, hard-working. Sheema Forbes. Sheema-Forbes@yahoo.com. 352-348-6613.
Room for rent: Female. \$125 per week, plus half of utility bill. Cable and water included. One private bath. No pets. No smoking. Located on 436 by Altamonte Mall. 917-346-7677.
3 Bed/2.5 bath. \$500. Includes cable, internet, electric. No smoking. No pets. Ana. Nanamiller.45@gmail.com. 407-453-8073.
Room for rent. Female. \$400 per month. No smoking; no pets. Universal Studios Area. Heidy Garrido. 407-575-3664.
Room for rent in house. Fully furnished. Near Osceola campus. Debbie J. 407-891-9634. debbiej9@yahoo.com.
Room for rent: female. Windsor Oaks. Near Osceola campus. Fetima. 407-860-4575. dafaje24@hotmail.com.
2 Bed/2 Bath. \$400 per month. Lights, water, cable & internet included. No pets. Smoking is allowed. No couples, please. Maleek. Michaeux.Higgs@gmail.com. 786-245-1419.
Room for rent: Female. \$500 per month. Utilities unclued. No pets. No smoking. Background check required. Tanaire Soto. TanaireSoto@yahoo.com. 561-729-3005.
1 or 2 rooms for rent. Male or Female. Price negotiable. Private bathroom. No pets. No smoking. McKenzie. 407-816-6795.
Room for rent. Spacious. Utilities and internet included. 407-272-3686

Room for rent: Private bath. \$425 per month. \$500 deposit. No pets. Not furnished. Kiki. 407-545-1129.
3 Bed/2 Bath townhome. Universal Resorts. Boggy Creek. \$975 per month. Sonya Brown. 407-532-0309. sbrown@watsonrealtycorp.com
Room for rent: \$400 per month uncludes cable, internet, laundry, utilities. No pets. No smoking. John 407-294-0517 or 407-489-4952.
2 rooms for rent. House within walking distance from Valencia east campus. 1 room is \$400 per month. \$400 security deposit. 1 year lease. Expect your total monthly bills to be between \$480-\$520, depending on the heat. Erika S. 407-212-8552. modelerikas1234@aol.com.
Female roommate. Waterford area. Community with gym and pool available. Louise. 407-306-8136. Call between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.
Dean Road between University and Colonial. House. \$600 per month, including all utility costs. Storage space available in garage. Glen. 407-864-8969. gfinnerty1@cfl.rr.com.
JOB
Position: Part time Saturday. Title: Front desk at a doctor’s office. Major in accounting in billing and coding. Send Resume to red90640@gmail.com or call 407- 355-3120.
Position: Full time Monday thru Friday 8-5 p.m. Title: Front desk at doctor’s office. Responsibilities: answer phone, check patients in and out, mail, copy and scan. Send Resume to red90640@gmail.com or call 407- 355-3120.