

May 26, 2010

VOLUME 9 • ISSUE 1

VALENCIAVOICE.COM

ValenciaVoice

Official Student Media of Valencia Community College

First ever
Summer Semester
edition!

UCF comes
up short
against rival
ECU,
Pg. 6



Managers
want to be
on your
facebook?
Pg. 3



Go play Red
Dead
Redemption
now,
Pg. 5



A war of local sound invades Daytona Beach

Thousands gather to
hear local bands vie
for band of the year

By Julio Melendez
jmelendez@valenciavoice.com

DAYTONA, Fla. — A sunny day in Daytona was the setting for the 13th annual battle of the bands and Miss Monster competitions held by Real Radio 104.1; over 600 bikers rode into Destination Daytona, a motorcycle paradise equipped with its own hotel and restaurants. They added to the hundreds of spectators already attending the event from all over Central Florida to make this one of the most largest and successful turnouts in past history.

Each year, women vying for the title of Miss Monster strut their stuff amidst the native noise of four local bands looking to become Monster Band of the Year. The four finalists were whittled down from a field of 15 through performances and online voting that

took place throughout the past month on Real Radio's website.

Russ Rollins is the host and creator of the Monsters in the Morning radio show, which broadcasts from 6 a.m. to 11 a.m. Monday through Friday, and has been a Real Radio personality for the past 15 years. Rollins is watching this event become the biggest event of its kind, allowing the concertgoers free reign to meet the bands and women in between music sets and beauty parades. "I love this atmosphere," said Rollins. "This is the biggest it has been thus-far, and it could be so much bigger. Eventually I hope to bring this presentation back onto the beach for an even larger scale celebration." In 2002, Rollins' show got so out of hand, they were banned from producing the competition on the grounds of Daytona Beach, a place they wish to return to for future shows.

The main focus of the afternoon was the battle of the bands, where four bands displayed their musical prowess on stage to win over voters at the event, and eventually be crowned Monster



Collin Dever / Valencia Voice

Tony Rage warms up to the crowd before his fake band 'Slap the Butcher' performs.

Band of the Year. Last year's winner, Full Circle, was looking for a repeat victory again this year, and faced stiff competition from three other local bands, including a farce band, Slap the Butcher, put together on the fly by Tony Rage, a guitarist who used his contacts at the

station to get his makeshift 'band' into the competition as a joke. When questioned about his shady undertakings, all Rage had to say was, "we cut meat."

Aside from the jokesters and last

Continued on page 4

OUR VOICE

...and, how exactly do I know you?

Social networking site Facebook, is usually used as a safe haven for people to communicate with friends and often to vent about their day or complain about something. Facebook invites users to share, 'what's on your mind' as soon as you sign in. This simple little empty space is just waiting to be filled with any details from the user's day.

This blank space allows users to express their freedom of speech. Facebook users have realized, "it's my page, I'm going to post my thoughts." Thusly, most people aren't contemplating who will be reading the post later, they just write what ever they choose. Frequently, I've come across battles of comments between friends below specific posts of mine, relating to ideas on religion, future school plans or even what home remedy I should try for a certain illness.

So when I come home from an annoying day that has intertwined everything from the rudest customers, the dumbest employees, the most obnoxious schoolmates, and my pain in the ass family, I might want to vent a little. Alas, a free space to fill with my sarcasm and wit in a no holds barred out lash of words. Then I notice the little icon that seems to scream, "Hey! Someone knows you!" as curious as

always I click on the icon and expect to see a friend from school or maybe a relative from a few states away. But to my surprise, the six friend requests I have lingering in my inbox belong to; my manager, a few regular customers from my job, a state trooper who visits my store and a professor from one of my classes. My first response is, "Oh cool, my manager found me on Facebook. Sure, I'll add him." Then I sat and thought... this is awkward. My place for venting out frustration mainly in reference to school and work has just been invaded; I won't add them, they won't notice. I let them all sit in my inbox, and still to this day they are there. I thought nothing of it because it's Facebook. I mean, who really cares that much to keep up with that crap. I was wrong.

An early morning opening shift going so swell turned sour when the residential state trooper mentioned above, wanted to get into a 20 minute long complaining rampage and fuss about me not adding them on Facebook. I was thinking, "How old are you!?" "Does my friend acceptance really trout around in your distraught mind all day until you see me". Seriously, I'm working here, don't start whining about Facebook at six in the morning

when I'm on the clock and I can't tell you my honest opinion.

Mind you, as much as a free spirit I am, you're still a state trooper and I know better than to step on your shiny boots. I laughed and starting pulling out the 'how busy I've been' card thinking that would get me off the hook. You know, Oh school full time blah blah work full time blah blah and bam change the topic and smile. It was a cinch and I was off the hook.

So I thought, until a few days later I received a message from said trooper on Facebook. It went something along these lines, "Hey, why won't you add me on Facebook! Are you

ever going to add me?" There is a fine line between casual conversation between two people when in a place of work and then a friendship level. People obviously get these levels mixed up. Just because I take care of you in my store five times a week and we get into a two minute conversation about your daily plans does not make you my friend, nor does it give you enough insight into who I really am. And plainly, after an average of 10 minutes of conversation a week 99% of the time pertaining to you, you lack any knowledge of who I am or what I think.

Do you really need to be my friend on some website?



Newsroom | 407-582-5040

Advisor | 407-582-1170

For comments or general inquiries
email us at:

opinion@valenciavoices.com

Editor in Chief | Alex Barrett
editor@valenciavoices.com

Managing Editor | Nikki Namdar
nnamdar@valenciavoices.com

News | John Terbeche
jterbeche@valenciavoices.com

Opinion | Russell Griner
rgriner@valenciavoices.com

Features | Jen Stripling
jstripling@valenciavoices.com

Sports | Jolene Krause
jkrause@valenciavoices.com

Sales | Kenny Wagner
kwagner@valenciavoices.com

Photo Editor | Collin Dever
cdever@valenciavoices.com

For advertising information contact
Kenny Wagner at
ads@valenciavoices.com

POLL

If an authoritative figure / student asked to add you on facebook, would you accept?



No, We have Atlas for that. Plus, It is kind of freaky.

— Paula Duran



Yeah, everyone is on there. It is easier to reach them because they are on there multiple times a day.

— Jaime Jones



I guess so, if they were more like a friend in the classroom.

— Lya Chavarria



Depends on how cool I am with them.

— William Green



Depends on who it is and whether they are male or female. I wouldn't want to add a male professor.

— Thanh Vo



Depends on the connection you have in class, because you may want to continue that connection on facebook.

— Berto Garcia



Only if I could create a professor facebook account to communicate with them.

— Professor Kentaya Beeler



I probably wouldn't, I think it would be taking a risk.

— Professor Carinne Fennessy

‘Full Circle’ repeats as fan favorites

Continued from page 4

year’s victors, two ‘real’ bands were to compete to take down crowd favorites Full Circle. The first of those bands was Partners in Rhyme, which boasts two Valencia Community College students, and was one of the fan favorites throughout the competition. Partners in Rhyme is a two-person rap band formed in 2009 by Jessie “Ponyboy” Haus and Vanilla Face Killa, who had been performing together since 2004 and had met each other in kindergarten.

“This really went better than we thought it would,” remarked the



Collin Dever / Valencia Voice

Two-time winners Full Circle brought an entourage of members to entice the crowd to vote for them.

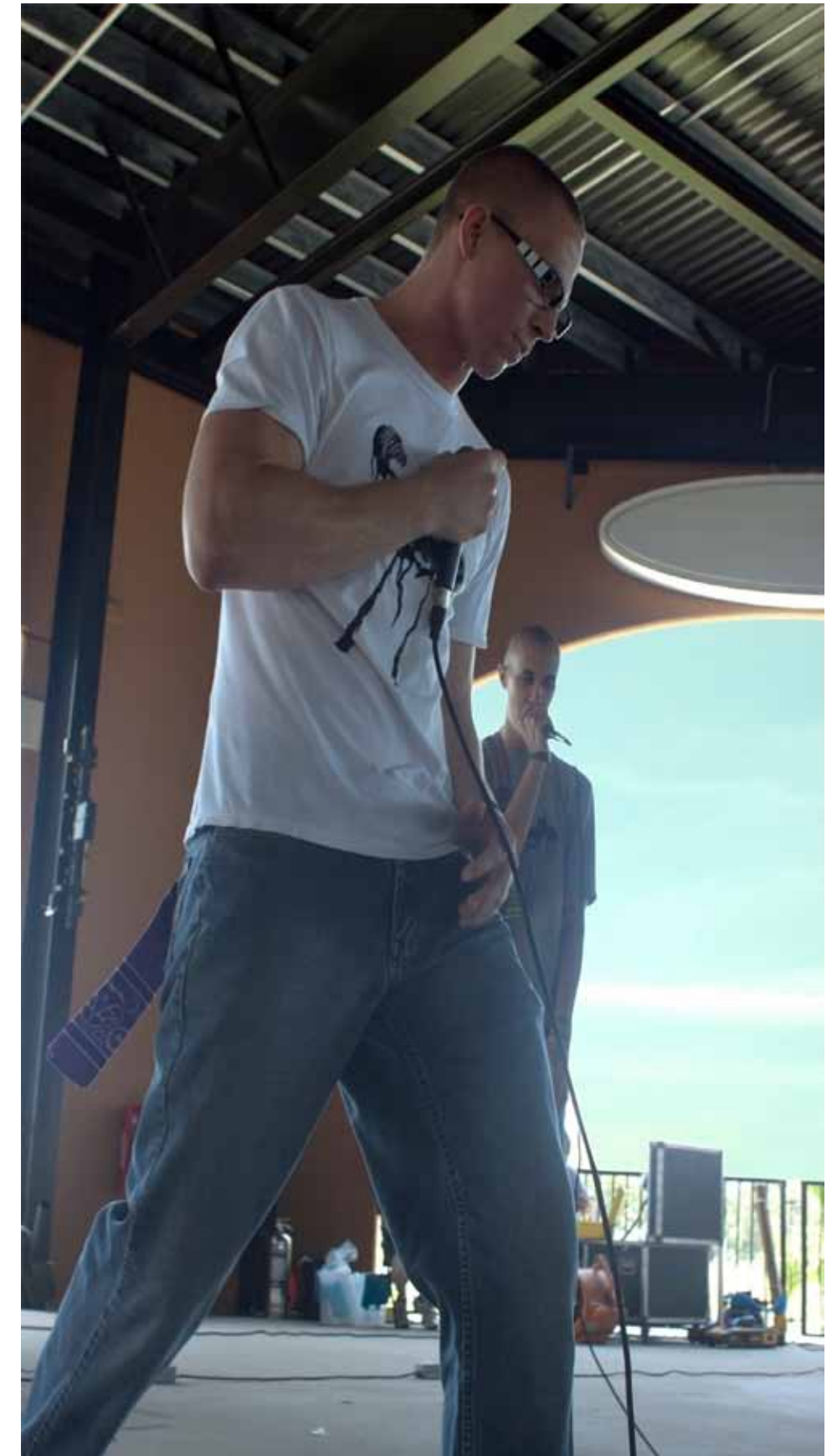
band as they finished their set to cheers from the crowd. “This is the biggest show ever, before this the most people we had performed for was about 150. This was massive for us,” said Ponyboy. “This was definitely a rock-crowd, but they voted us up here, and really got into the show.”

A surprising vote into the competition was Curbside Goodbye, whose elder member, drummer Brandon Tenney, is just 17 years of age, while his other band-mates reside in their mid-teens. Dominique Newcomb, the band’s lead singer described the band as “real chill,” a female-front band that knew how to entice the crowd despite their age.

Being the crowd favorite, and a rightfully large local band having a huge following, Full Circle looked like the princess at the ball, showing up with a harem of women on stilts and performing a booming cover set heavy on Rush songs that was enough for the crowd to select them to retain their title. “This year was better. The first win was great, very special, but this year it’s better,” said Scott Carter, the band’s lead vocalist. “We are an amazing audio and visual band, and its the fans keep us going.”

Fresh off their title defense, it was time for the women to strut their stuff on the runway to decide who would be crowned as Miss Monster 2010. A few of the contestants were already registered to compete, but ladies in the crowd were also eligible to register at the event for a chance to win. With the victory came \$1,500 dollars and the ability to promote whatever they choose on the website and on the air during the Monsters in the Morning show. Just as in the band competition, Orlando local KellyJo Ernst was the repeat winner bringing home the money, the fame, and the celebratory dog tag; Ernst is also a band member for local stage stunners Heroine, an all-girl rock band that also includes Tiffany Martin, the front vocals for the band and member of the Monsters in the Morning show herself.

When asked about the show as it was winding up, Rollins was laid back and extremely happy at the turnout. “We started off with a bad rep, but we’re older now and have grown up a bit. So has our audience. We’re out to have a good time responsibly and still entertain Central Florida.” Rollins hopes to keep getting larger every year, and has sworn his commitment to the local music scene, helping to get lesser-known bands in the spotlight and get them exposure to the masses.



Collin Dever / Valencia Voice

Ponyboy (front) and Vanilla Face Killa of Partners In Rhyme perform.

‘Red Dead Redemption’ re-discovers the West



c/o Rockstar Games

Main character John Marston rides away on his steed.

By Jonathan Terbeche
jterbeche@valenciavoice.com

If someone mentioned to you that Grand Theft Auto makers, Rockstar's next game would take place in the your reaction might not be the best one. Despite the studio's pedigree, Western-themed games are very difficult to undertake and have quite a poor track record with critics. But whether you're a fan of Rockstar, Grand Theft Auto, the Read Dead series, or Western games, you'll be pleased to know that Read Dead Redemption delivers one of the best gaming experiences of the year.

From the amazing opening sequence of the game, Rockstar envelops the player in the living environment. It starts with a train rolling into the Armadillo station. It's filled with numerous characters, including the main character, who doesn't even speak yet. But with ques from the environment, and overheard conversations, much of the back-story and setting are delivered. This goes a long way in immersing the player in this western world.

The huge, desert setting is beautiful and perfect for an open-world game. As expansive and seemingly empty as the world is, it truly isn't. It is instead filled with wildlife and populated with countless towns and people. All of these elements of the world serve the narrative, but also provide hours of extra game content in the form of animals to kill, loot to gather, and people to help out (or not).

The story for Read Dead Redemption is

incredibly well-done, and has even been compared to famous Western movies by other critics. It serves to motivate the player's actions as farfetched, or unnerving as they are. You play as John Marston a seasoned gunslinger who was abandoned and left for dead by his gang. Years pass and John finds a wife and has a child. Being the family man that he is, they serve as his new motivation as he must now bring in his old gang. This leads him to numerous locales and meet various characters, some of which are very strange. In order to catch his old crew, he needs to undertake requests his leads ask of him, which

fits perfectly with the setting. But in following the story players have the option of being as much of a hero, or antihero as they wish, doing absolutely anything in the world as they want.

For many people this is their first video game experience in a Western setting. For those people they could not have picked a better place to start. For those long-time fans of Westerns this is a title not to be missed. For those fans of GTA, whether you still love that exact experience, or were feeling burnt out by the same formula, you owe it to yourself to try Red Dead Redemption. This game simply can't be missed.



Rockstar Games / MCT

Freedom is a key point to the game, while able to complete any mission, players are also encouraged to explore.

‘Iron Man 2’ is a hard sell

The summer sequel is a visual spectacle, leaves fans wanting more

By Jonathan Terbeche
jterbeche@valenciavoice.com

It was two years ago that comic book and super hero fans were treated to the fantastic cinematic experience known as “Iron Man”. On May 7, 2010 it’s sequel was released for viewing audiences. With expectations set quite high following the success of the first film, “Iron Man 2” would have to introduce new characters, follow new plot points, and crank the action to 11. Well “Iron Man



Marvel Comics, Paramount Pictures / MCT

Mickey Rourke stars as villain Ivan ‘Whiplash’ Vanko in ‘Iron Man 2.’

2” thankfully delivers on all of these, if perhaps a little too much.

Robert Downy Jr. reprises his role as Iron Man/Tony Stark and is just as convincing, if not more. This time around the entire world knows Tony Stark is Iron Man and Robert Downy Jr. applies the appropriate amount of narcissism and is quite convincing doing so. The American government wants the Iron Man technology, but fear of it getting in the wrong hands prevents Tony from handing it over. While all of this is going on, Stark is slowly being poisoned by the energy source of his arc reactor, meaning the very thing that is keeping him alive is slowly killing him. He thusly appoints his assistant, Pepper Potts (Gwyneth Paltrow), as CEO of Stark Industries, replacing her former position with Natalie Rushman (Scarlett Johansson).

This is just one of many plots the film has. There is also the introduction of Ivan Vanko/Whiplash (Mickey Rourke), the son of Tony Stark’s father, Howard Stark’s partner who has a grudge against the Stark family and develops his own arc reactor. He is defeated and sent to jail, but then quickly broken out by Justin Hammer (Sam Rockwell), Stark’s rival business competitor who needs Vanko’s help in developing his own line of armored combat units.

Getting drunk while wearing the Iron Man armor, Stark becomes a danger requiring Lt. Colonel James Rhodes (Don Cheadle) to intervene by donning the Mark II armor and then takes it to the military. The day after Nick Fury (Samuel L. Jackson), director of S.H.I.E.L.D. reveals his assistant, Natalie Rushman, to actually be a spy named Natasha Romanoff and that his father helped found S.H.I.E.L.D.. Then at the Stark Expo, Hammer unleashes his new drones and Stark and Rhodes, wearing an upgraded version of the



Francois Duhamel, Paramount Pictures / MCT

Robert Downey Jr. returns as Tony Stark in ‘Iron Man 2.’

Mark II armor, participate in a final epic confrontation.

With so many plot points and new characters being introduced, the movie struggles to find its place and is only able to keep your attention thanks to all of the pretty visuals and awesome action sequences. The acting is quite good with entertaining dialogue. Even the wrting is done very well, something that has plagued super-hero movies before.

Though the movie is by all standards good, it’s hard to enjoy the movie solely for what it is due to all of the advertising and marketing associated with it. It results in making the movie feel like just a step to get to further Marvel movies like “Iron Man 3” or the “Avengers”. With this in mind, “Iron Man 2” certainly isn’t a bad movie and can be enjoyed, especially by fans. It’s perfect for summer and definitely shouldn’t be missed.

UCF tossed overboard by ECU Pirates 11-6

By Will Santiago
wsantiago@valenciamvoice.com

ORLANDO, Fla — The UCF Knights took on their conference foes, the East Carolina University Pirates on Friday, May. 14 in a one sided affair.

The Knights came into the game with an overall record of 30-19 and a conference record of 7-11 to the Pirates overall record of 28-21 and a conference record of 8-10.

The Pirates dominated the game, scoring first in the second inning with a homerun by senior catcher Jared

Avchen and after that there was no looking back.

Avchen led the Pirates in scoring with 1 homerun and 5 RBI's and Trent Whitehead followed with 1 homerun and 2 RBI's.

Devin Harris also had 2 RBI's and Phillip Clark and John Wooten each had 1 RBI.

Not to mention the surprise of the night, Kyle Roller, who got hit by the Knights pitchers 4 times throughout the game.

Although the Knights had scoring opportunities, they couldn't capital-

ize and though they did attempt to make a run for it within the last couple innings, time had just seemed to run out on them.

The Knights left a total of eleven men on the bases throughout the entire game. Their pitching skills were poorly executed, and starting pitcher Johnny Sedlock only lasted the first 3 innings before being yanked. Bryan Brown came in to relieve him and pitched the next 4 innings for UCF.

The Knights offense began the 5th inning with a RBI double by Chris Taladay. This spurt of executed plays let fans grasp hope for a comeback but it was short lived and the Knights could not out battle the Pirates.

The rest of the Knights offense plays were implemented by seniors Chris Duffy and Shane Brown. Duffy had 5 hits and 1 RBI and Brown had 2 hits and 2 RBIs.

"We didn't play to our full ability," said Taladay, the Knight's 3rd baseman.

The fans on the other hand were more tolerant to the Knights performance.

"It wasn't bad, Brown pitched good but we couldn't get hits," said Jeff Adkins, a Knights fan.

The Knights ended the game with 6 runs, 12 hits and 1 error, compared to the Pirates 11 runs 14 hits and 3 er-



Russell Griner / Valencia Voice

Junior Owen Dew pitched 2 scoreless innings in relief, but it wasn't enough for UCF to overcome ECU.



Russell Griner / Valencia Voice

Outfielder Chris Duffy reached base successfully five times in the contest.

rors.

This was the first game of a three game series that continues Saturday May. 15 and ends on Sunday May. 16. The game on Saturday will feature Senior Day, where five UCF seniors will be honored before the game, and the series finale will wrap up on Sunday. UCF will try to build on the effort it has put forth, accumulating 10 hits in a game for the 35th time this year.

Duffy and Taladay will attempt to extend their hitting streaks as well, they sit at 7 and 16 games respectively, although Duffy may want to step out of the batter's box for a bit; he has been hit by opposing pitchers 21 times this season, which ties him for eighth in UCF history for beamed batsmen.

Fellow outfielder Brown owns the record with 53 HBP's over his career at UCF.