



Pride on Parade

New York's historic same sex law passes, supporters celebrate in the streets,

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June 29, 2011

Plancher v. UCFAA

Testimony of former teammates of Ereck Plancher conflict with O'Leary's statements,

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Plans for the future

Valencia alters Osceola Campus building numbers

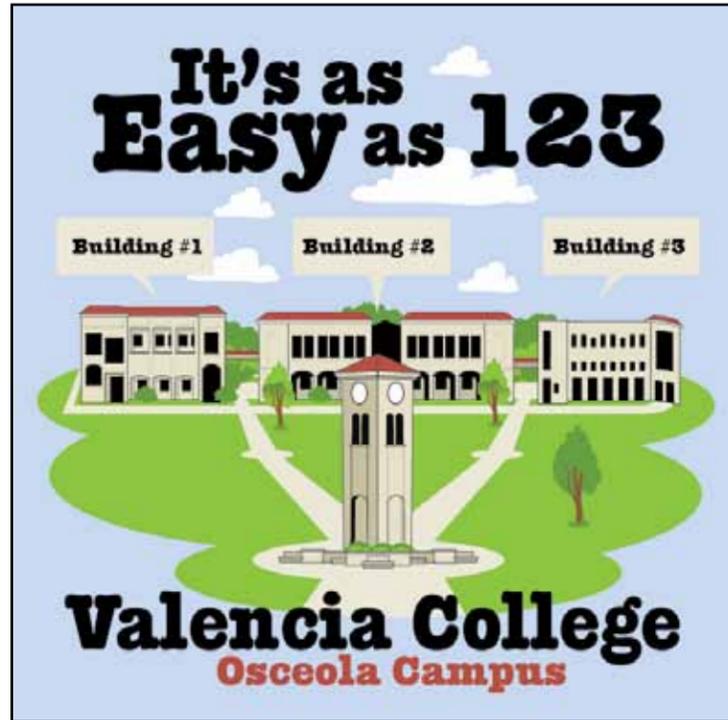
By James Tutton
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Any students currently taking or planning to attend classes at the Osceola campus will notice a change in building numbers.

Building 1 and building 2 are swapping numbers while Building 3 will stay the same, so the buildings will be numbered sequentially from west to east.

This is all in preparation for the \$35 million planned addition of a building 4 on the campus. Construction is set to begin in July 2011 and will be open for classes in the spring of 2013.

The building is set to gain certification from the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) as a Silver



The new building on campus will follow the numbers being set now, and will be located to the west of building three.

level building. It will be the fourth building at Valencia College to be certified by the organization, following the older addition on Valencia's West Campus (AHS building,) and the new Lake Nona building, the groundbreaking for which was held on June 22.

After its completion, the new building will be the largest at the Osceola campus at approximately 150,000 square feet. The 20% increase in student attendance necessitated the need for the expansion. At this time, it is not known exactly which classes will be moved or held in the

From dirt comes progress

Valencia holds groundbreaking for new Lake Nona campus

By Jeff Shedden
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Groundbreaking began on the first of four new buildings at the planned Valencia College Lake Nona campus on June 22.

President of the Lake Nona and Osceola campuses, Kathleen Plinske, sent out an announcement about the event

via Atlas.

"We are delighted to bring a campus to the Lake Nona community that will allow us to expand our course offerings and develop new programs to support the unique economic development needs of the region," she wrote.

Lake Nona high school currently offers core classes, such as English Composi-

tion or Developing Algebra, to Valencia students. College courses are also available for high school students who display a high level of academic achievement.

The new building will be over 85,000 square feet, with three stories and at a cost of over \$21 million.

The Lake Nona campus will offer courses in biomed-

ical and life sciences, and is located within the boundaries of the Lake Nona "medical city" and adjacent to the high school.

The new facility will contain 18 classrooms, six science labs, a library, a bookstore, small café and administrative offices. Classes are scheduled to begin August 2012.



Lake Nona Valencia students will no longer be required to take classes at Lake Nona High School when the new campus is built.



Food Not Bombs is struggling to find adequate volunteers to assist in their Lake Eola feedings amidst arrests.

Food Not Bombs needs hands

Feeding the homeless turning into Lake Eola turf war

By Jeff Shedden & Shay Castle
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The fight between the City of Orlando and Food Not Bombs may be entering its last round as the activist group struggles to find volunteers willing to risk arrest to share food with the homeless and hungry.

No arrests were made at the Monday morning food share. One member, Ryan Hutchinson, served food to 18 people before stepping away from the table and letting the remaining people help themselves to food.

"I have a warrant in New York," said Hutchinson. "If I get arrested, it will take extra money from Food Not Bombs or I will sit in jail for longer. That won't be

helpful to anyone."

A splinter group fed 20 people earlier in the day before halting service to avoid jail time. The remaining crowd was close to the 25 person limit, so Hutchinson wasn't taking any chances. Trespas members of Food Not Bombs stood outside the park's limits looking disheartened.

Group members ensure that there are volunteers for the upcoming feeding, to be held Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Three members of the activist group were arrested at last Wednesday's public feeding.

Keith McHenry, one of the original founders of the national Food Not Bombs, was arrested for violating his trespass notice by misjudging park boundaries while setting up a literature display.

Douglass Coleman, 27, and Alison Estes, 23, both from Orlando, were arrested as they served food and spoke with local newspapers.

Food Not Bombs members have been criticized by local media outlets as publicity seekers. Earlier in the day, a crew from The Buckethead Show on Real Radio 104.1 came to the park with a permit to feed people, and reported that they did it without arrests or media attention.

Civil disobedience is not the primary goal of the group, according to their members. Amy Wenner has been a volunteer with Food Not Bombs for almost four years and is currently a student at Valencia College.

"I help pretty much in any way I can," she said, "but I can't really afford to get arrested."

He's not sorry

Dyer stands behind defaming remarks

By Shay Castle
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Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer does not plan on issuing an apology to Orlando Food Not Bombs for calling them 'food terrorists.'

"I was exercising my first amendment rights," the mayor said to a Valencia reporter following Monday's city council meeting.

Several members of the activist group attended the meeting, and stood to speak to the council. They called on the mayor to cease arrests and take another look at the city's controversial ban on large group feedings in public parks.

"What is the point of being 'the city beautiful' if we hide away what is ugly and hard?" asked Brock Monroe, a Valencia alum who was arrested on June 6 for violating the ordinance.

Four members of Food Not Bombs, all of whom face charges, spoke. Douglas Coleman called the city's efforts to shut down the feedings a "vindictive battle." Alison Estes, a student at the University of Central Florida, said, "I just wanted you to know the type of person you are arresting."

Estes defended her ac-

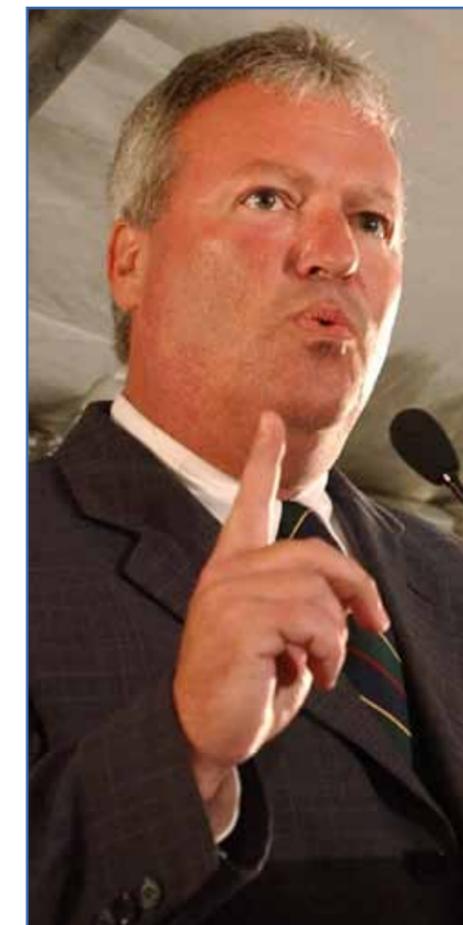
tions, saying, "I am just doing what my mom taught me to do, which is to see everyone equally." She called on council members to open their "eyes and hearts to the issue."

Dyer addressed members' concerns, agreeing that tax dollars are being wasted by the arrests. He recognized the efforts of the members, all in their twenties, to solve the problem of homelessness and hunger, but questioned their motives and actions.

"You are causing us to waste tax payer dollars by subjecting yourself to arrest," Dyer said. "It is so disrespectful to the people who don't garner attention because they are complying with the laws."

Dyer insisted that the city has compromised by offering alternative sites, such as the lot at Sylvia Lane, which the group has condemned as unacceptable. Food Not Bombs attorney, Shayan Elahi, held a press conference at the site Friday, entitled "Hide the Hunger."

Elahi announced the filing of an injunction against the city of Orlando for the continued arrests of Foods Not Bombs members, as well as his intent to file a defamation suit on behalf of the group's media liaison, Ben Markeson, for the



Mayor Dyer defended calling the hunger activists "food terrorists."

mayor's remarks. The organization also hoped to draw attention to the inadequacy of the Sylvia Lane location.

"This site is the antithesis of dignity for poor and working people in our community," said Markeson.

Keyan Were also spoke on behalf of the Florida Civil Rights Association, who issued a letter to the mayor demanding that he apologize for his casual use of the term 'terrorist.'

"These people have not shown that they intend to commit violence in their fight," Were said. "It is sad when our leaders compare peaceful protesters to terrorists."

Orlando election roulette

State-wide redistricting creates election date confusion

By Mark Schlieb
The Orlando Sentinel

One of the first skirmishes in the 2012 Orlando mayor's race took place Monday — over when the election will be held.

The fight involved a proposal to set the municipal election on April 3, and all three candidates running for mayor waded into the fray.

The law now requires that the city election take place the same day as the presidential preference primary. But the Legislature still

hasn't decided when the primary will be in Florida, and there might not be a decision for months.

Mayor Buddy Dyer said the city shouldn't wait for the Legislature to act and should instead have a city-only election. That would give the committee redrawing Orlando's City Council districts more time, provide voters with some certainty and give potential candidates time to campaign.

"Elections are probably one of the more important things we do here, so getting it right is certainly the most important aspect," Dyer

said. "I think this gives certainty to our citizens and assurances that we will conduct a fair and balanced election."

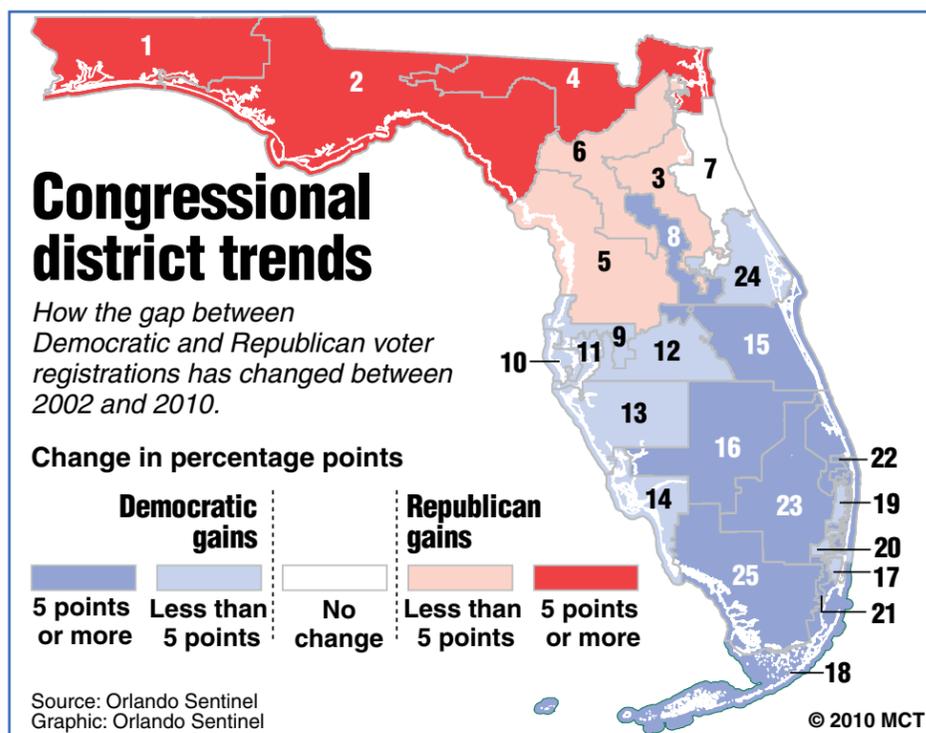
But Commissioner Phil Diamond — who is running against Dyer for mayor — said having a city election so soon after the presidential primary would be a waste of taxpayer money. Ten years ago, the cost of a city-only election was estimated at \$123,000, a bill that could be substantially reduced if Orlando piggybacks on the state-wide election.

"This is going to cost taxpayers a lot of money, and I think it's inexcusable," Diamond told the Orlando Sentinel. "I don't think there's any need to have two separate elections within a month of each other."

Dyer and Diamond are both Democrats, and city elections are nonpartisan. Even so, Republican voters — who are expected to turn out for the presidential primary in greater numbers than Democrats — could find Diamond's image as a fiscal conservative more appealing than Dyer's.

"A standalone election doesn't benefit an incumbent or a challenger," Dyer said. "It's actually the fairest possible election you can have because it's not influenced by outside issues."

— MCT Campus



Redistricting central Florida will have a large swing in state trends.



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*Web-based
*Subject to course substitutions

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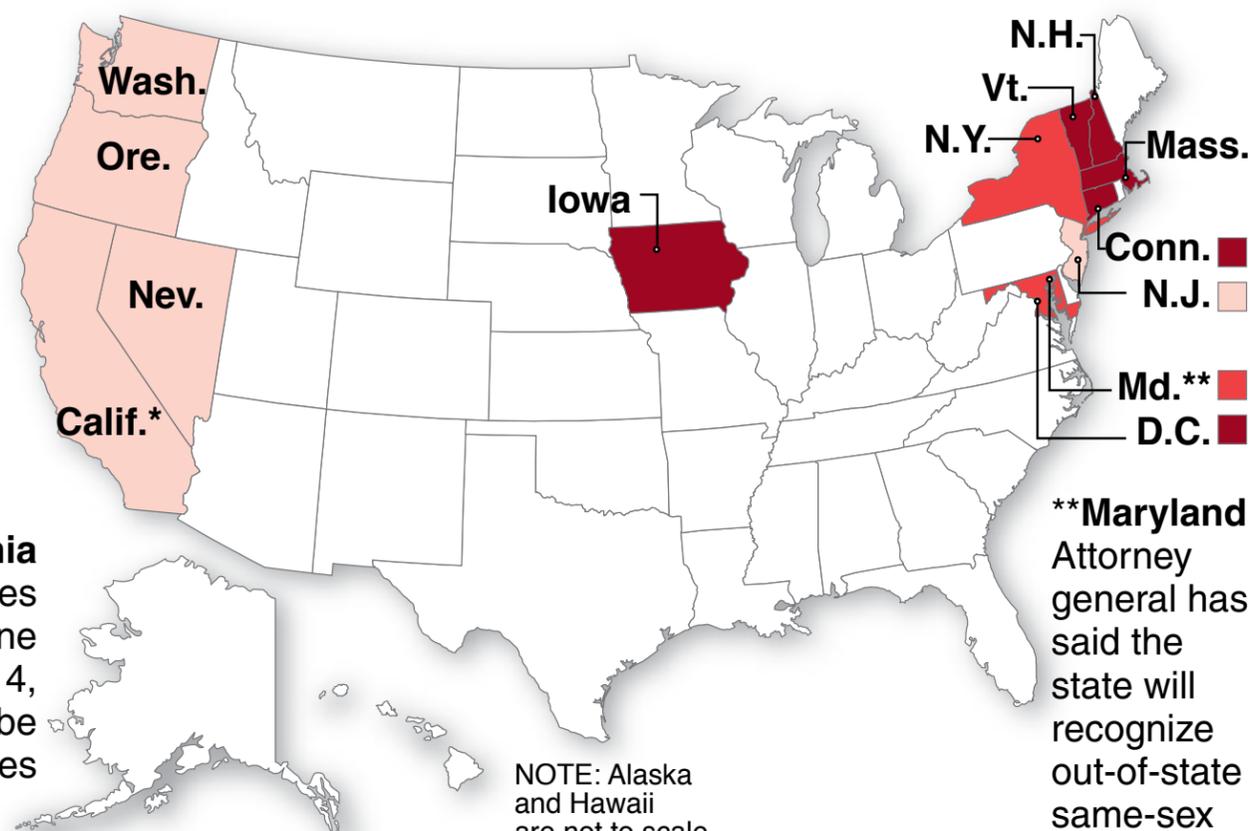


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Same-sex marriage laws

The District of Columbia has joined five states in legalizing gay marriage.

- Same-sex marriage legal (five states, District of Columbia)
- Recognize same-sex marriages from other states (two states)
- State law provides the equivalent of state-level spousal rights to domestic partnerships/ civil unions (five states)



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Source: Human Rights Campaign
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

Pride in the streets of New York

Governor Andrew Cuomo signs gay marriage act, begins July 24

By Jake Palmateer
The Daily Star

There are still a few unknowns about how the Marriage Equality Act will be implemented.

City Clerk James Koury said there should be no procedural changes.

Koury, who is gay and the editor of Diversity Rules magazine, said same-sex couples will have to adhere

to the same rules and regulation set in the state Domestic Relations Law as heterosexual couples.

Applications for marriage licenses cost \$40; there is a 24-hour waiting period, and the license application is good for 60 days.

Koury, who handles license applications, said he expects the forms will change.

"They will not say 'bride' and

'groom,' but I would envision something like 'applicant 1' and 'applicant 2,' or something to that effect," Koury said Monday. "I just got off the phone with the Department of Health. They have no information yet."

The act, passed by the state Senate on Friday night and signed into law by Gov. Andrew Cuomo, will go into effect July 24, which is a Sunday.

"I do not envision doing that

and will begin taking same-sex marriage license applications on Monday, July 25," Koury said. "It's hard to know what to expect in a small, upstate community. I hope a lot of people show up. Nothing would gratify me more."

He is compiling a list of people who will be willing to officiate same-sex marriages in case the couple doesn't have an officiator selected.



The Golden Crown Fancy Brigade walks in celebration of equality down 54th st. in New York on June 26, 2011.

He said anyone who can perform marriages and would like to be added to the list can contact his office.

Koury said he doesn't know if New York's passage of same-sex marriage will encourage other states to legalize it.

"I really think that it's probably motivated a lot more people to work toward it," Koury said.

"While couples married in New

York will have access to the same rights, privileges and benefits that straight married couples enjoy in New York, they still will be denied the many federal benefits according to straight couples due to the DOMA," Koury said in a statement he released Sunday. "This is a travesty and must be rectified with DOMA's repeal."

— MCT Campus

Private prisons pocketing profits

Fight against the homeless and destitute only filling privatized coffers

By **Jeff Shedden**
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We are waging a war on the poor in Florida.

We are forcing welfare applicants to undergo drug testing, arresting people for feeding the homeless, crippling the public school system, and discussing cutting Medicare benefits.

It seems unthinkable and when you crunch the numbers, but it doesn't save taxpayers a dime. But those numbers do lead to one of Florida's largest industries: prisons.

Florida currently has over 100,000 people incarcerated in prisons statewide. With 2 million people in prison in the entire U.S., Florida contains 5% of the entire prison population. Only California and Texas have more inmates, and they have a considerably larger overall population.

Prisons can drive local economies by hiring guards and assorted support staff, and create opportunities for outside services such as laundry and produce supply. But the creation of these prisons drives a demand to fill them with inmates. The result is harsher laws and sentences, which brings up the level of inmates, which creates the de-

mand for more prisons, and so on.

Now we have a problem with too many prisons and no way to support them. If each inmate costs an average of \$30,000 a year to house, the prison in-



Private prisons receive large amounts of government funding.

dustry costs Florida taxpayers around \$3 billion a year.

Governor Rick Scott's current solution is for more privatized prisons.

We currently operate seven private prisons in Florida. Scott plans to privatize nearly a dozen more. By shifting \$600 million to these private institutions, Scott figures the state will save \$40

million a year, a number which he has not been able to back up with data.

Another problem with privatizing is the level of professionalism and care we can expect from these prisons. It is not im-

possible that we'll end up with a new era of rehabilitated criminals, but it's not likely.

Ken Kopczynski, a lobbyist for the Florida Police Benevolent Association, paints it as a numbers game.

"There is no way they can do it cheaper than the state without cutting corners on safety and services," he said.

The chance for poorly trained employees and improperly supervised inmates is a big concern.

There is already a problem with specially trained prison employees abusing inmates both physically and sexually, and it's not expected to be any better using private employees in the privatized system.

Additionally, there is a major concern about inmates engaging in sexual behavior, primarily non-consensual, when improperly supervised, and has even been reportedly used as punishment by corrupt guards. There has been no mention of how private prisons aim to stop prison rape, an issue that has kept Florida on Amnesty International's radar.

When California faced a similar problem, the best solution was to simply release those inmates who were non-violent and least likely to re-offend.

The state decriminalized marijuana and is less likely to convict simple users of other drugs to prison time. The decision is expected to save hundreds of millions of dollars.

There's no use throwing good money after bad. We need to reduce the need for prisons, rather than feeding a machine that recycles human misery.

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OUR VOICE

Is Judge Belvin Perry too harsh on Baez?

Sustained objection rate staggering

After three long, confusing years and a circus-like trial, Casey Anthony might finally receive a verdict sometime soon, but this likely won't be the end.

Judge Belvin Perry has said that he is trying to maintain a just and fair trial for Casey Anthony, the 25-year old mother accused of killing her daughter, Caylee Marie, in 2008. After five weeks of testimony, the pretense of fairness has gone out the window.

The prosecution has repeatedly objected to and has gotten nearly every other question by the defense stricken down, yet any objections by Baez are instantly overruled, as if his objections are merely an annoyance to Perry.

Baez, while questioning one of his own witnesses, apologized and offered to withdraw the question that the state objected to without even waiting for the judge to sustain. (Surprisingly enough, though, Perry actually overruled the state's objection, giving Baez a small, unexpected



Judge Belvin Perry

victory.)

Perry seems to allow all of the state's evidence in while throwing roadblocks at the defense for evidence and opinions, even if not properly reported, leaving one to wonder where the proposed fairness is.

When all is said and done, the defense does have one solid fact on their side: If Anthony is found guilty of first degree murder, they are rightfully justified in appealing the jury's decision. Perry might want the accused child killer in jail but he may also have given her hope for freedom.

Increasing fees harm more than students

Ballooning tuition costs compound with nation-leading increase in housing prices

By James Tutton
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Tuition rates for all of Florida's public universities can now be increased by 15 percent, the maximum allowable amount. This was a result of the decision by the Florida Board of Governors last Thursday, and marks the third consecutive increase in state tuition rates.

Drastic budget cuts to education are to blame for the increase, but the long term affects are going to be far worse for the state's overall education standards.

The argument has been made that Florida has one of the lowest tuition rates in the country, currently 48th, but Florida was ranked number one last year as the state with the highest rising cost of living expense.

Many working class people are under-employed and experiencing little to no increase in annual salaries, while the cost of living continues to rise. In this economic climate, current students are more likely not to pursue extended degree programs.

The State government needs to be fiscally responsible, but also balanced with the decisions they make concerning budget and maintaining an eye toward the country's growth. Less funding lowers the quality of education, and produces fewer students who are able to seek a higher education. That correlates with a lower standard in the overall quality of life.

Rising college costs

How tuition and fees have increased*:

Type of college	2009-10	2010-11	% change
Two-year public	\$2,558	\$2,713	+6.0%
Four-year public	\$7,050	\$7,605	+7.9%
Four-year private	\$26,129	\$27,293	+4.5%

*Does not include room, board

Paying for school

Public and private sources of funding, in billions
2009-10 figures are preliminary

Federal aid

1999-00 \$62.1
2009-10** \$146.5

Non-federal loans

1999-00 \$5.2
2009-10** \$8.5

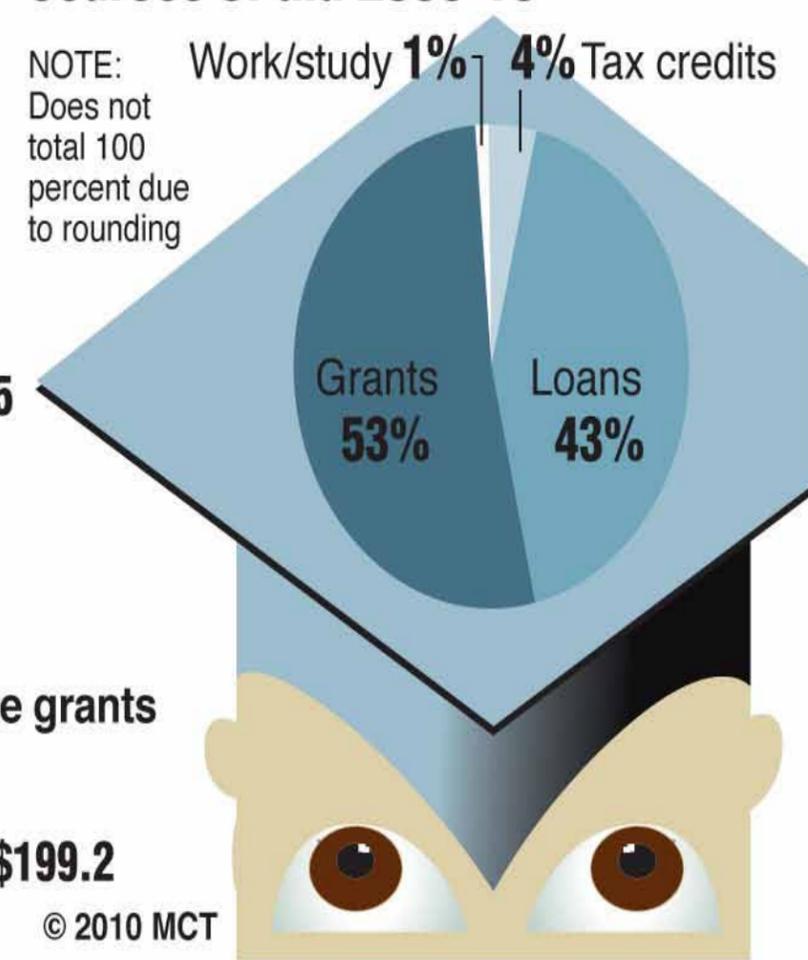
State, institutional and private grants

1999-00 \$94.0
2009-10** \$199.2

Source: The College Board

Sources of aid 2009-10

NOTE: Does not total 100 percent due to rounding
Work/study 1% | 4% Tax credits



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Take a peek at Orlando's unique Dandelion Communita Cafe

By Melissa Lane
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A funky and flavorful cafe sits amidst busy downtown Orlando. Dandelion Communita Cafe brings an authentic, creative flavor to its atmosphere and food. Dandelion serves only hand-made, gluten-free food, and specializes in vegan fare and organic teas, coffee, and beer.

Owner Julie Norris grew tired of the corporate world and decided to follow her dream of creating a place to bring unity and awareness to the community. After a year of planning, Dandelion opened its doors in 2006 and has been going strong ever since.

"There's no place like Dandelion, not just in Orlando, but anywhere," said Norris.

Dandelion's ornateness is certainly not to be missed. The building is painted bright green with colorful lanterns hanging from the front, surrounded by an organic garden. The inside is even more fabulous, and the front room with its exotic ceiling creates a warm invitation for conversations between friends.

During my visit to Dandelion, I decided to or-



The Dandelion Cafe offers vegan tastes, as well as vegetarian cuisine in a casual environment.

der something foreign to me: tempeh, an Indonesian alternative to tofu. I decided on the Fakin Lettuce & Tomato, a combination of organic lettuce, tomato, and tempeh, and basil aioli with a side of blue corn chips.

From the first bite, I could taste the different flavors blending together harmoniously in my mouth. The basil aioli didn't overpower, but rather complimented the soybean tempeh. The lettuce and tomato was seasoned lightly and layered in excellent proportions inside the sandwich. The wheat bread was toasted perfectly and not too thick.

Bringing it all together were the blue corn chips, served with home-made couscous. I finished my meal feeling healthy and satisfied.

Dandelion Communita Cafe spotlight:

618 N. Thornton Ave.
407-362-1864

Mon - Sat. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Price range: \$5-\$10

www.dandelioncommunitaef.com

SUPER INVASION

1. 'IRON MAN 3'

May 3, 2013

The real threat: Rust. A meddling Marvel Studios made "Iron Man 2" a muddled mess, with too many characters. Ol' Shellhead's rogues gallery is fairly limited, and the first two films used parts of his best comic stories.

Cast: Robert Downey Jr. — that's it, so far.

2. 'THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN'

July 3, 2012

The real threat: Spider-fatigue. Sam Raimi's first two Spideys were exemplary, but No. 3 lowered the bar so much that the franchise had to be rebooted. Also: Spidey's next foe is the human-sized Lizard. Fierce!

Cast: Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone

3. 'THOR'

Opened May 6

The real threat: Cheese. No need to wonder if audiences would identify with a spoiled "god" who speaks with Shakespearean formality and throttles punks with a hammer. The movie has raked in over \$170 million and remains in the box office top 10 ... for now.

Cast: Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, Anthony Hopkins

A GUIDE TO THE ONSLAUGHT OF SUPERHERO MOVIES

Superheroes are muscling their way into the multiplex like never before. Comic book fans are thrilled — and afraid. How will their beloved idols fare in Hollywood's hands? Here's a guide to the heroes coming our way and the real threats that await them.

— David Frese, McClatchy Newspapers

Illustration by Hector Casanova and Neil Nakahodo/Kansas City Star/MCT

4. 'CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE FIRST AVENGER'

July 22

The real threat: Nationalism. This tale of a 98-pound weakling who becomes a shield-slinging Nazi fighter shows great promise — in the U.S. The studio is toning down the "America" thing for overseas audiences, which can make or break a film. Also: Joe Johnston's last film was "The Wolfman." 'Nuff said.

Cast: Chris Evans, Hayley Atwell, Hugo Weaving

5. 'HULK'

Sometime in 2012

The real threat: Likability. Here's a guy who smashes stuff when he gets mad — essentially he's a big green Charlie Sheen. Two previous Hulk films underwhelmed. Now Guillermo del Toro is making a Hulk TV show.

Cast: None yet, but Mark Ruffalo plays the Jade Giant in ...

'THE AVENGERS'

May 4, 2012

The real threat: Too much of a good thing. This is a dream project of fangirls and fanboys everywhere. Thor, Hulk, Black Widow (the redhead next to Hulk, above), Captain America, Iron Man all in one movie. It's being directed by Joss Whedon, who, like the Hulk, is loved intensely by a few and totally ignored by everyone else.

Cast: (In addition to Ruffalo) Robert Downey Jr., Chris Evans, Scarlett Johansson, Samuel L. Jackson, Chris Hemsworth

6. 'WONDER WOMAN'

Lost in limbo?

The real threat: Interpretations. David E. Kelley, who brought us TV's "Ally McBeal," hoped to

turn the Amazing Amazon into a corporate shill who worries about the breast-size on her action figures. A pilot was filmed, but NBC, the network reportedly most interested in the project, turned it down, confirming our fears about the project. How this affects the chances of a big-screen movie, tentatively scheduled for 2015, is anyone's guess.

Cast: (TV pilot) Adrianne Palicki, Elizabeth Hurley, Cary Elwes

7. 'THE DARK KNIGHT RISES'

July 20, 2012

The real threat: Unrealistic expectations. We have high hopes, but maybe they're too high. Seriously: How do you top "The Dark Knight"? Christopher Nolan is keeping the story under wraps, and that's cool, but even

non-Batfans have to be underwhelmed by the villains — the thief Selina Kyle (aka Catwoman) and a guy named Bane who, in the comics, is little more than a steroid-slaming luchador.

Cast: Christian Bale, Anne Hathaway, Thomas Hardy

8. 'SUPERMAN: MAN OF STEEL'

December 2012

The real threat: Bryan Singer and Zack Snyder. Singer directed the languid "Superman Returns," in which the universe's most powerful man never punched anyone. When Snyder was hired to direct a reboot of that reboot, we were all excited until we saw "Sucker Punch," which was just icky.

Cast: Henry Cavill, Amy Adams, Michael Shannon

9. 'GREEN LANTERN'

June 17

The real threat: Obscurity. Who is this guy? A test pilot with a magic ring and green pajamas? Green Lantern is among the top-selling characters in comics, but few outside the comic shop know who he is. So now the cast is repeatedly comparing the film to "Star Wars." OK ...

Cast: Ryan Reynolds, Blake Lively, Peter Sarsgaard

OTHER COMIC BOOK SUPERHERO MOVIE PROJECTS WE'RE HYPED TO SEE



'THE FLASH'

2013

A police scientist in his crime lab is zapped by lightning to become the fastest man alive.



'AQUAMAN'

2013

HBO's "Entourage" featured a fictional film about the king of Atlantis, and thus, life imitates art.



'JUSTICE LEAGUE: MORTAL'

2013

Recently announced, it's comic publisher DC's superteam answer to Marvel's "Avengers."



'LUKE CAGE AND IRON FIST'

Unknown

Partnered in comics, but separate projects. Cage is super-strong and invulnerable; the other is a martial artist.



'ANT-MAN'

2014

A biochemist creates a size-changing formula and communicates with ants. Edgar Wright ("Shaun of the Dead") is attached to direct.



'DR. STRANGE'

Unknown

An egotistical surgeon seeks mystic advice to repair his injured hands — and becomes the world's sorcerer supreme.

O'Leary's refutes players' recall

UCF head coach's testimony in direct conflict with other statements

By Bryan Levine
blevine@valencivoice.com

UCF head football coach George O'Leary says he did not order water or trainers to be removed from Ereck Plancher's final practice, despite what former students testifying to the contrary.

O'Leary testified on Thursday in the Plancher v. University of Central Florida Athletic Association trial, relaying his version of the events that occurred on March 18, 2008, when the 19 year-old football player died due to complications of his sickle cell trait.

O'Leary said that it would be a "reckless act" to withhold

water from students engaged in exercise. Former UCF football players Cody Minnich and Anthony Davis both testified that O'Leary ordered water out of the Nicholson Field House, University of Central Florida's semi-outdoor covered practice facility.

During a running exercise, Plancher's legs gave out on him and he fell. This caused the wide receiver to finish behind the team's offensive linemen, as stated by Minnich. O'Leary says he was roughly 35 yards away from Plancher at this time and only saw Plancher stumble, but did not see him hit the ground.

In a team huddle after the workout, O'Leary told Plancher that "he was better than that," and he expected more. According to O'Leary, Plancher had not shown any signs of distress at that point. It wasn't until after the team huddle, when O'Leary noticed two players assisting Plancher, that the coach realized something was wrong.

"I basically saw two players help him to the side," stated O'Leary. "Robbie Jackson came into the picture at that time."

Jackson was the team's assistant Athletic Trainer in 2008. O'Leary had assumed Jackson and two of the 16 coaches at the practice knew about Plancher's illness, though Jackson has said that he did not. Jackson called



George O'Leary allegedly with-held water and trainers from practices.

Head Athletic Trainer, Mary Vander Heiden, to to the scene once he considered the situation to be a "medical emergency."

In a video deposition shown to the jury, Vander Heiden said she could not say for for certain if Plancher was notified about possessing the sickle cell trait. She also says that once she got to the scene she didn't immediately consider it to be a medical emergency. According to O'Leary, whenever a player becomes ill they treat it as a medical emergency.

After a while, Vander Heiden called 911. Before UCF police and

paramedics could arrive at the scene, Plancher's heart had stopped and Vander Heiden attempted to perform CPR. Plancher was unable to be revived and was pronounced dead at 11:51 a.m.

Neither O'Leary nor Vander Heiden are currently being charged with criminal negligence, but both of them appear to bear the brunt of fault in this tragic case.

UCF's Athletic Association is being sued by Plancher's parents for the wrongful death of their son. The estimated three week trial is 10 days in, and the prosecution wrapped up their case last Thursday.

Talented women serve up Wimbledon with criticism

By Chris Tortise
MCT Campus

There are many critics of the women's game, and there have been for many years. Despite us seeing great players such as Justine Henin, Maria Sharapova and the Williams sisters in recent years, people just aren't satisfied. The criticism can be explained by the depth of the WTA tour, rather than a lack of talent.

Steffi Graf, Monica Seles, Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert...they have all been on top of the world, some with more absolute supremacy than others.

So why aren't people satisfied at the moment? The game changed when Venus and Serena Williams came on the scene. Power became the force du jour, and those without it struggled to cope. Purists became disillusioned with what seemed to be a move away from the classic play of tennis. Yet, the interest in the men's game has continued to gain momentum, despite a similar turn.

Big serves and short rallies are commonplace, and the excitement of gruelling points is generally left to the women.

There's no doubt in my mind these women deserved to be number one, though there are many critics that disagree. I believe the best tennis of recent months has been played by the women. In the first five rain-delayed days of Wimbledon, the best matches by far have been in the women's draw. Venus taking on Kimiko Date-Krumm, Sabine Lisicki edging past French Open champion Li Na with "the serve of a man"...fantastic matches that deserve all the excitement they've generated. Then there have been the trials of Serena -- who could face German Lisicki if both reach Tuesday's quarter-finals -- coming back from her injury and illnesses. Every tie has been a rollercoaster.

In terms of the men, well -- Marco Baghdatis and Novak Djokovic have done their best to scupper my argument with their titanic contest on Saturday.

Who will win the women's? Surely it's testament to the depth of the game when there is no clear favorite. And I don't think there needs to be. It's fascinating to look at the long list of those who could challenge, and it will only encourage a higher level of play.



Plancher's parents seated in court.