



Potter-mania!!

From movie reviews to Leaky Con coverage, we've got it all,

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Soccer Surges

The U.S. Women's team lifts our spirits despite loss,

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Student to make his plea

Court date set for Valencia firearm suspect

By Jeff Shedden
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Hudson Capi, a suspect in the May 26 gun incident at the west campus of Valencia College, will be arraigned on charges of possession of a firearm on school property on Tuesday, July 26.

The incident occurred in the lobby Building 3 of Valencia's West Campus as students lounged between classes. A male student was attacked by Capi and former student Rony Boyer. Capi pulled out a gun, which fell to the floor and was quickly recovered by Valencia staff.

Boyer and Capi fled the campus in a



Hudson Capi faces felony charges for possession of a gun on school property.

car along with two others, and were subdued by police minutes later. Charges were not pressed against one male and one female in the car.

Boyer originally faced charges along with Capi, for possession of an AK-47 that was found in the trunk of the vehicle, but those charges have since been dropped.

Both men were trespassed from Valencia College.

Capi, a current Valencia student, will plea his case before Division 14 Judge, Walter Komanski. The second degree felony carries a maximum sentence of 15 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Scholarships made easy

Valencia simplifies process, gains donors

By Rofkens Petit-Homme
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Looking for scholarship money could not have been made easier. Valencia College has pointed all scholarship applicants towards their brand new system, courtesy of the folks at the Valencia Foundation, an entity existing to serve students.

"It's a one stop shop where students can fill out one application online, complete all necessary information such as extra-curricular activities, letters of recommendation, and essays," said Celica Cofield, scholarship coordinator. "This automatically populates a query for us."

Once students are signed in and placed into the database, the Valencia Foundation searches for eligible scholarships from the multitude available. Similar to websites such as Brokescholar.com and Fastweb.com, Valencia Foundation's product has been developed over time with different partnerships within the community.

These partners include Bank of America, Universal Studios, Lockheed Martin Corporation Foundation and family scholarships named in honor of loved ones. This makes the process com-

pletely internal to Valencia.

"Scholarships are available for specific majors and disciplines," Cofield said. "However, the misconception is that they're only scholarships available for those majors and that is not true."

The stereotype has been smashed and scholarships are available to all majors. So no matter what career or dream one chooses there is usually a true scholarship tailored to meet the needs.

"We want no barriers for the student to be able to apply for a scholarship," Donna Marino, donor stewardship to the Valencia Foundation said. "There is one fitted for everyone to have an opportunity to apply."

Marino explained that the new system, officially launched July 17, is not just for the fresh-out-of-high-school student. "There is not just a traditional student on campus anymore," she said. "We are as diverse in our student population from age, timing, and the reasons we go back to school."

All applicants must have a 2.5 or higher to apply, but there are scholarships available for the students with learning disabilities.

"We have a husband and wife who have determined to just help those who



Members of the Valencia Foundation Team celebrate at a donotion event.

need people to believe in them," Marino said. "Students are striving for knowledge, a new career, and excellence. We are here to say you can succeed."

This makes the purpose and the need for the scholarship all the more important. To apply online go to Valencia.org/scholarships, and click your mouse to obtain something more than just your standard financial aid experience.

Sunrail moves jobs to town

Construction to start despite concerns over cost

By Dan Tracy
The Orlando Sentinel / MCT

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood turned loose almost \$78 million in federal tax money to help build the much-contested SunRail commuter train during a sun-baked ceremony Monday near one of the system's future depots.

LaHood signed a symbolic document before a crowd of more than 300 people. But the stroke of the pen that counted occurred in an air-conditioned tent a few moments later.

That opened the way for the first 31 miles of the \$1.2 billion train to be running by May 2014.

"When you get your act together, unbelievable things can happen. ... And look what's happening: SunRail is coming," LaHood said.

His comments were greeted with applause from a crowd that had gathered near the railroad tracks and just north of the stop that will serve Florida Hospital Orlando.

The event ends decades of fruitless efforts in Central Florida to build and operate a rail-based transit system. Previously, there were unsuccessful attempts to build a light-rail system linking downtown Orlando with International Drive, and a magnetically levitated train running between

Orlando International Airport and Walt Disney World.

"These are the days we live for," said Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer, who leads a panel of local governments that eventually will own and operate SunRail.

U.S. Rep. John Mica, R-Winter Park, who helped secure the federal money for SunRail, said he had worked with three presidents, three governors and six secretaries of the state and federal departments of transportation to get a commuter train for Central Florida.

"The question now is who will get the next leg? The question of building it is over," said Mica, chairman of the House transportation committee.

Notably absent Monday was Gov. Rick Scott, who approved SunRail on July 1 after putting it on hold for six months. Scott told the Orlando Sentinel in a previous interview that he was worried the train would not attract enough riders, but he did not have the legal ability to scuttle it.

Asked about Monday's festivities, he said, "I have plenty of other things to do."

SunRail has been loudly opposed by members of the conservative tea party, many of whom form Scott's key constituency. They contend the train will carry few passengers and cost millions annually in construction overruns and operating subsidies.

James Fraleigh, a 52-year-old day laborer from Casselberry, held a homemade sign saying, "Have A Brain No Train."



Opponents of Sunrail fear the state will spend too much on the project.



PROGRAMS

UCF VALENCIA OSCEOLA

Applied Science (B.A.S.)

- Criminal Justice
- Health Services Administration
- Information Technology*
- Legal Studies
- Supervision and Administration

Business Administration (B.A.)

Elementary Education (B.S.)

Interdisciplinary Studies (B.A., B.S.)

Psychology (B.S.)

UCF VALENCIA WEST

Applied Science (B.A.S.)

- Criminal Justice
- Health Services Administration
- Information Technology*
- Supervision and Administration

Architecture (B. Des.)

Business Administration (B.A.)

Criminal Justice (B.A., B.S.)

Electrical Engineering (B.S.E.E.)

Elementary Education (B.S.)

Interdisciplinary Studies (B.A., B.S.)

Legal Studies (B.A., B.S.)

Nursing (Concurrent, R.N. to B.S.N.)

Political Science (B.A.)

Psychology (B.S.)

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*Web-based

*Subject to course substitutions

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OUR VOICE

Who's who?

By Mary Stevens
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Hollywood has a habit of taking real-life stories and adapting them for the big screen. In the last few decades, hundreds of films have been inspired by true stories. Many have been nominated, and a handful have even won, Academy Awards.

With all of the media attention Casey Anthony has received over the last few months, many people are speculating that a Casey Anthony movie will be made. As a result, I can't help but try to predict which actors would play the main characters.



Casey Anthony



Kristin Stewart



Jose Baez



Andy Garcia



George Anthony



Judge Perry



Forest Whitaker



John O'Hurley



Cindy Anthony



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A magical era comes to an end

The final Harry Potter film is a fitting end for fans

By Anna Gerrol
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From the very beginning 10 years ago, the tale of three best friends making their way through a magical universe has captivated audiences of all ages. We've watched them evolve from new kids at Hogwarts just trying to find their place, to courageous young adults fighting to make things right in the world. Their adventures have taken us to the edge of our imagination and back, and we can only be grateful to have followed.

The seventh and final film in its series, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2" was released at midnight on July 15. Every theater in the Orlando area was sold out for the midnight showings, despite multiple auditoriums showing the film. Some theaters were running the film every hour until 3:00 a.m. and were still having trouble meet-

ing the demand for tickets.

Linda Skywalker, an avid Harry Potter fan, queued up at noon for the midnight showing, just to make sure she was the very first person in line. "Nobody showed up after me for a few hours," Skywalker said.

Skywalker dressed in her Potter best, which consisted of a black robe, three horcruxes around her neck, and a life-size broomstick. "This is a replica Firebolt, just like Harry's," she explained. "I got it at The Wizarding World of Harry Potter."

With the first few films in the series, we got a feel for each character, discovered their background, and learned all of the basics. We discovered Hogwarts, flying broomsticks, invisible cloaks, chocolate frogs, and we can't forget the infamous magic wand.

After "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" came out in 2001, we began to see a turn in the story, and things seemed to have



Friendship was a central theme of the series.

more of a purpose. With every new film, more seemed to be revealed and develop, and the audience became more and more connected to the story and the characters. Now, we face the end of a long journey, and some feel very emotional about the closing of this enchanted tale.

"I've read all of the books and watched all of the films, so I'm really upset that it's actually ending now," said Christen Eaton, local fan. "I can never look forward to watching another Harry Potter movie at midnight again."

"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1" served as the set up for this film. It gave us the crucial information we needed and allowed us to mentally prepare for the emotional overload that we would encoun-



More magic from Harry

Harry Potter's box office wizardry prevailed on opening weekend for the eighth and final film in the series, breaking all U.S. and international records. Films with the all-time, highest-grossing opening-weekend box office, in millions:

U.S. box office	Foreign box office	Worldwide*
"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2" \$168.6	"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2" \$307.0	"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2" \$475.6
"The Dark Knight" \$158.4	"Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides" \$260.4	"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" \$394.0
"Spider-Man 3" \$151.1	"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" \$236.0	"Transformers: Dark of the Moon" \$382.4
"The Twilight Saga: New Moon" \$142.8	"Spider-Man 3" \$230.5	"Spider-Man 3" \$381.7
"Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" \$135.6	"Transformers: Dark of the Moon" \$219.8	"Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides" \$350.6
"Iron Man 2" \$128.1	"Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End" \$216.0	"Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End" \$344.0
"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1" \$125.0	"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1" \$205.0	"Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" \$332.7
"Shrek the Third" \$121.6	"Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix" \$193.0	"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1" \$330.0
"Alice in Wonderland" \$116.1	"2012" \$165.2	"Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith" \$303.9
"Spider-Man" \$114.8	"Avatar" \$164.5	"The Twilight Saga: New Moon" \$274.9

Source: Box Office Mojo, MCT Illustration Bank

Graphic: Pat Carr

*U.S. plus foreign box office

© 2011 MCT

'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2' is expected to gross \$1 billion globally.

ter in Part 2. In the big finale, Part 2 finally pulls all the small details together into one epic ending.

We finally see Harry and Voldemort battle it out in an elaborate scene. The action in Part 2 makes everything in Part 1 seem boring by comparison. The bottom line is that "Deathly Hallows Part 2" is the best of the eight films.

"It was definitely better than I expected," said Chelsia Mcguire, Full Sail University film student. "There was a lot going on compared to Part 1."

In the final installment of the Harry Potter series, all of these key aspects were thrown into one final hurrah, taking the audience on a trip down memory lane to reminisce over the good old days. Many memorable characters were brought back. Throughout the film, we are reminded of the

past and enlightened by what we may never have known before. We learn much about Professor Snape's history that sheds new light on Potter's journey through the years.

As with all of the Harry Potter films, there is a lesson to be learned. The love friends and family have for each other is something that can always overpower evil. Bonds are strong and when people band together for one greater good, the possibilities are endless, no matter how weak you may feel.

When the credits rolled, sniffles could be heard throughout the theater. Young and old were moved to tears by the end of the film. As the saying goes, all good things must come to an end. Although Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 is the final film in the Harry Potter franchise, the story will remain in our hearts and our memories for many years to come.



The evil villain, Lord Voldemort, meets his demise in the final film of the series.

Not just a fantasy

Legions of Leaky Con attendees add to the Potter phenomenon

By James Tutten
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Thousands of Harry Potter fans from around the world met at the Lowes Royal Pacific Hotel at Universal Studios Florida for the Leakycon 2011 convention last week. This annual charity event was bolstered by the release of the final Potter film, 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2,' and a variety of guest speakers, entertainers, live shows, and much "Pottermore."

Costumed fans and players from the International Quidditch Association, Inc, a nonprofit organization promoting the sport of Quidditch in colleges and high schools around the world, give the impression that this was simply a mass gathering of Potter-heads sharing in "fandom," but this event is much more about promoting and encouraging a love of literature and the art of storytelling and inspiring children to read.

The opening events' "Lit Day" centered on several literary discussion panels. The first involved a group of five young adult authors speaking about how books and being obsessed with books fostered their writing and inspired their lives.

"I love the fact that people are coming together about books, and that doesn't happen often" said Libba Bray, a New York Times best selling author. "I have to say that Leakycon is 12 kinds of awesome."

In addition to the focus of literature, attendees were treated to interviews and a question and answer session which included 10 actors from the final Harry Potter film.

"I want to make Leakycon its own country, I never want to leave" said Evan-na Lynch, who played the character Luna Lovegood in four of the Potter movies.

The five day extravaganza also featured a performance by "Team StarKid," a group of theater students from the University of Michigan. Their productions of two Harry Potter-themed musicals have received millions of views on YouTube, and helped spark the career of new Glee cast member Darren Criss.

Potter fans in attendance were all very passionate about the overall message of the book and film series.

"Magic is real, as long as you have the imagination to think of a better world, then you can make this a better world" said Lucy Stambaugh an enthusiastic fan with bright pink hair and dressed in young wizard garments.

All the events of this convention worked to raise money for two main charities focused on literacy awareness. Book Aid International has been promoting literacy for disadvantaged people in Sub-Saharan Africa since 1956. Funds also go to The Harry Potter Alliance, a non-profit organization, which inspires youth around the world to get involved in social issues, such as protecting women and children in Darfur and Burma.



Andrew Bates dressed as Mad eye Moody.



Nigel Taylor impersonates Severus Snape.

Snapshots from Leaky Con

Fans prove they are ultimate Potter-maniacs



Dozens of Leaky Con guests dressed up as their favorite characters from the movies. Joshua Madruga used robes, body paint, and fingernail polish to portray Voldemort.



Cast members from 'Deathly Hallows:Part 2' shared their experience with fans.

Young stars shine bright

'Harry Potter' actors delight fans of all ages

By Jeff Shedden
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Some of the youngest members of the cast of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Pt. 2" were in attendance at Leakycon 2011. A few older actors attended as well, including Chris Rankin, who has performed the role of Percy Weasley since the first film.

The children talked about what it was like to work on the film and how they were discovered in the first place. Most of the children auditioned or were discovered by casting directors at their schools. But 12-year-old Helena Barlow, who plays Rose Weasley, wrote

a letter to Warner Bros., and was lucky enough to receive a phone call, asking her to audition.

The kids all described the experience of working on the film as an amazing experience, and were all bitten by the acting bug during the process. Ellie Darcy-Alden, who plays young Lily Potter, felt particularly passionate about her acting future. She feels a natural desire to act, and said, "You don't just learn acting."

A couple of older, returning faces were on the panel as well. Evanna Lynch, who plays the kind-yet-spacey Luna Lovegood, and Scarlett Byrne, who plays Pansey Parkinson, a 7th-year Slytherin girl. Byrne actually tried

out for the role of Luna, but is glad she was picked for Pansey. "It's so much more fun playing a villain," she said.

The panel turned a little more light-hearted as the topics of discussion turned towards more fantastical subjects. The kids discussed what their "patronus," or magical protective animal, would be. Will Dunn, who plays James Potter II, received the most sympathy from the audience, when he revealed that he'd pick a cocker spaniel, in honor of his recently deceased dog.

Later, a brief, good-natured argument broke out amongst the kids as to who was the biggest Harry Potter fan amongst them. It came down to an impromptu trivia challenge between Dunn and Barlowe, with questions asked by Arthur Bowen, who plays Albus Severus Potter, and Benedict Clarke, who plays young Severus Snape. The children declared the contest a draw.

The kids also discussed the difference between watching the film with a regular audience at the premiere, and watching it with the Leakycon attendees. Rohan Gotobed, who plays Young Sirius Black, laughed and said, "It was crazy, bloody hell! Everybody was sobbing."



Evanna Lynch plays the kind-yet-kooky Luna Lovegood in four of the films.



A muggle Quidditch team, complete with live Golden Snitch, poses for pictures.



Quidditch, a sport from the Potter-verse, has become popular among high school and college students, who are fighting for official recognition as a sport.



Members of Starkids performed numbers from two Harry Potter-themed musicals.

Starkids rock Leaky Con

Musical cast brings magic of movies alive on stage

By Jeff Shedden
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Any Harry Potter fan worth his or her salt is familiar with Team StarKid and their show, "A Very Potter Musical." But Leakycon isn't the place you'd find the average Potter fan. As such, Team StarKid has the same effect on this level of fandom as The Beatles had on 1960's teenyboppers.

Team Starkid are mostly confined to Internet stardom, with the bulk of their fans coming from their Youtube videos. The most notable of these are, of course, "A Very Potter Musical," and its follow-up, "A Very Potter Sequel."

Team Starkid's most well-known member is Darren Criss, who many people will recognize from ABC TV's hit show, "Glee." Criss was one of the songwriters for "A Very Potter Musical," and channeled a post-WHAM! George Michael on the stage.

Team StarKid launched into their repertoire of Potter-based tunes, accompanied by A.J. Holmes on keyboards and Criss on guitar. Criss appeared to stumble at first, but quickly regained his momentum. "He always forgets his lyrics," giggled a voice from the audience.

A deafening cheer blasted through the ballroom as Team StarKid began

playing fan-favorite, "Goin' Back to Hogwarts." The crowd remains excited as the group tears through song after song, ultimately ending in a song about, surprisingly, "Pigfarts." The style is reminiscent of Disney-esque productions like "High School Musical," but with more mature lyrics.

"It was awesome!" said conventioner Jessi Stephens. "They played every song from the two shows!"

One of the biggest questions on the minds of attendees was whether or not any of Team StarKid's songs would make their way to "Glee." Criss pointed out that actors are little more than peons, and as such don't really get to make creative decisions.

Many wanted to know if the group has plans to do a third "Potter" musical, and chants of "Threequel, threequel!" echoed through the room. Criss mentioned that they are busy with their new show, "Starship," and also projects unrelated to Team Starkid. But he took care not to completely disappoint the audience, saying, "We'll see," with a laugh.



Darren Criss, best known for his role on 'Glee,' performs with Lauren Lopez.



Robes and wands were standard wear for fans during festivities at Leaky Con.



Fans re-enact an emotional scene from the final film in which Fred Weasley dies.



Alexander Terry, creative director of the International Quidditch Association, strikes a pose during a match.



Below: Fans duel with character-appropriate wands and costumes.

Sports Nuts

By Rofkens Petit-Homme
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Bryan Levine
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RPH: Wow, you do not know how disappointed I am right now. Ask me how disappointed I am.

BL: You got me all excited to watch these girls play soccer and I end up with nothing but heart-break. I know I'm disappointed, but how sad are you?

RPH: I am not sad, just disappointed. The U.S. team did not want it bad enough. They were playing for themselves, not the nation. Now Japan, they were playing for their nation.

BL: Japan winning the world cup right after the tsunami is right up there with the Saints winning the Super Bowl after Hurricane Katrina. I think the USA realized they had the entire nation behind them, but they just caught a few bad breaks in that game. It really wasn't a matter of only playing for themselves.

RPH: Why is it that the team going against the "nation of hope" feels too guilty to win? Not to take anything away from the well deserved win by Japan, but feelings of sympathy should not be felt in the field of play when playing for any title of any kind. That makes the title worthless.

BL: You're crazy if you think anyone on the field for USA was thinking about anything other

than getting the win. They left everything they had on the field but just came up a little bit short. In the first half alone the score could have easily been 4-0 if the net was a few inches bigger.

RPH: Don't act like you care about football now. And stop calling it soccer, it is time to globalize. I am still suffering from basketball and 'American' football withdrawal. I was watching the British Open; golf on a Saturday afternoon! When does college football start again?

BL: Let's talk golf. Three of the last six major winners hail from Northern Ireland. Why are the Irish suddenly ruling the sport?

RPH: What do I care? Everybody knows golf does not exist unless its Tiger versus the field. Plus its a game of gimmicks. Why would anyone want to spend \$564.74 on a new set of clubs to shoot 30 over par and slice every tee shot. Or how about using a vice-grip rather than a baseball grip when putting. I tell you nobody cares about golf.

BL: Tell that to Rory McIlroy, Graeme McDowell and Darren Clarke. Just because you're bad at golf doesn't mean the whole world is.

With a loss comes a gain Team captures country's attention despite defeat

By Bryan Levine
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Mia Hamm, Brandy Chastain and Brianna Scurry were all household names in 1999. On the way to a World Cup gold medal, all eyes were on women's soccer for the first time in US history.

Twelve years later the U.S. Women's National Team has roared back to the national spotlight with new names such as Hope Solo, Alex Morgan and Abby Wambach.

Though failing to capture their third gold medal in six world cup chances, by losing to team Japan in the World Cup finals in a shoot-

out, this group of women captured the hearts of millions of Americans throughout the country.

When the women won in 1999 it inspired young American girls and revolutionized the sport, but this amazing run seems to have had a different effect. Not only are young girls watching, but men and women of all ages paid close attention to the rise and fall of team USA.

Hockey, a sport that's been shown similar disinterest amongst Americans, gained comparable national attention during the 2010 Winter Olympics, but quickly went back to being disregarded.

Even the men's World Cup last year drew unfamiliar attention from

America, but also drifted away following the national tournament.

This rapid growth in popularity looks more promising than in years past.

The difference between hockey and soccer, is that Americans have already given hockey a chance. It was extremely popular in the past, but following the NHL strike which wiped out the entire 2004-05 season, Americans seemingly gave up on the sport.

Soccer, while widely popular throughout the entire world, is still in its infancy stage in America. Its still trying to grow as a sport, and with every Fifa World Cup, men's or women's, the sport takes one gi-



USA's Rachel Buehler is tackled by a North Korea player during play.

ant step into American significance.

Who's to say that soccer won't surpass the NBA and NFL in popularity within the next few years. Both of those leagues are in the middle of huge issues and are risking not playing in the upcoming season.

The MLS on the other hand is only expanding. Orlando City Lions owner Phil Rawlins expects his club to be an expansion team in MLS within the next few seasons. This move would bring a huge amount of attention to the sport in the Central Florida area.

Not only will Orlando feel the effects of the growth of soccer, but the 2014 men's Fifa World cup is just around the corner. Imagine our country filled with people chanting "Ole, Ole, Ole, Ole" or blasting Vuvuzelas in stadiums everywhere.



Team USA celebrates after scoring against North Korea. The team lost on penalty kicks to Japan on Sunday.