

Black Friday madness; a retailer's tale,

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Knights end poor season with big win,

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Body found near Valencia's West Campus

Corpse found floating face-down in pond; homicide unit currently investigating death

By Brittany Rose brose@valenciavoice.com

The Orlando Police Homicide Unit is investigating circumstances surrounding the discovery of a dead man in a retention pond on property adjacent to Valencia College's West Campus.

The body was found Monday, floating in a pond behind an office building owned by Turnstile Publishing at 1500



Park Center Drive, east of South Hiawassee Road and immediately west of the Valencia property boundary. An autopsy was planned for late Monday.

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The OPD identified the man as William Justin McCay, 33. Police said that McCay lived in the area, and Valencia Voice reporters found an address for McCay on South Hiawassee. Voice reporters did not find any connection between McCay and Valencia College.

Employees at the publishing offices called 9-1-1 around 9:30 a.m. Monday, saying that they saw the body of a man floating face down in the lake. McCay's body was recovered and turned over to the District 9 Medical Examiner's Office in Orlando.

An Orlando Fire Department source told the Voice that OFD responded to a call on Thanksgiving night, Nov. 24, from a nearby apartment complex to report screaming and splashing by a man in the pond. A helicopter and ground search followed the call, but nothing was found. (The source was not authorized to speak on behalf of the OFD and requested anonymity.)

Turnstile Publishing, founded in 1990, specializes in publishing magazines and websites, including Golfweek and Golfweek. com. The building on Park Center Drive has been the company's headquarters since 2000.



Above: Wiiliam Justin McCay's body was found in a retention pond adjacent to Valencia College's West Campus on Monday morning. He was 33-years-old. Left: His Facebook profile shows particular interest in underwater activities. His favorite sports are listed as underwater wrestiling and underwater hockey.

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More students face charges in SAT cheating scandal

Ongoing investigation uncovers 9 additional students who paid others to take test

By Ann Givens, Chau Lam and Kery Murakami Newsday

Several students and former students turned themselves in to the Nassau County district attorney's office Tuesday to face charges in the Long Island college admissions test cheating scandal, officials said.

Nassau County District Attorney Kathleen Rice said 13 additional current and former high school students face arrest for their alleged roles in the scandal.

At a news conference, she said an investigation into cheating at Great Neck North High School uncovered nine more students who paid four test takers to take the SAT or ACT for them from 2008 to this year.

She said the test takers are Joshua Chefec, 20, a graduate of Great Neck North; Adam Justin, 19, a graduate of North Shore Hebrew Academy High School; Michael Pomerantz, 18, who attended Great Neck North; and George Trane, 19, a graduate of Great Neck South High School.

They took the test for payments ranging from \$500 to \$3,600, the district attorney's office said in a news release.

There is no evidence that the students' parents provided the money to hire the test takers, but the investigation is continuing, Rice said at the news conference.

Chefec, Justin and Trane surrendered to investigators Tuesday morning and were charged with first-degree scheme to defraud, a felony, and falsifying business records and criminal impersonation in the second degree, both misdemeanors. They each face up to 4 years in prison if convicted and were scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday. All

have surrendered except Pomerantz, who is expected to surrender Monday because of a medical condition and will face identical charges, officials said.

Seven other students who paid others to take the test face misdemeanor charges and were scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday in First District Court in Hempstead. One of the paying students is also expected to surrender Monday because of a medical condition. Officials said those students include five alumni of Great Neck North, two who attended North Shore Hebrew Academy and one who graduated from Roslyn High School, officials said.

Another student who attends St. Mary's High School in Manhasset, N.Y., declined to surrender to investigators Tuesday, and officials said they plan to arrest that person.

The seven defendants will be prosecuted as youthful offenders and their cases will remain sealed, officials said.

"Educating our children means more than teaching them facts and figures. It means teaching them honesty, integrity, and a sense of fair play," Rice said in the news release. "The young men and women arrested today instead chose to scam the system and victimize their own friends and classmates, and for that they find themselves in handcuffs."

At Roslyn High School on Tuesday afternoon, Maccabi Schneider, 16, a junior, said he was not surprised that there had been more arrests.

"A lot of rich people think they can buy anything, and they tried to buy this, too," he said.

Shon Shalit, 16, a junior at Great Neck North, said he was concerned for the school's reputation.

"At the end of the day, any SAT test or any SAT grade will be taken with a grain of salt because of these kids," he said.

Michael DerGarabedian, an attorney who is representing one of the seven students who allegedly paid others to take the test, told reporters at the district attorney's office in Mineola, N.Y., that his client, a college student, is not guilty.

"We teach our kids it's all right to cheat. I don't think it's right to prosecute them. That's the rule we're setting for them," Der-Garabedian said. "If we teach them that, we shouldn't prosecute them. We need to take responsibility ourselves."

Chefec's attorney, Brian Griffin, said Chefec was charged with taking a test for a student in 2008, and that Chefec's school had already looked into the allegations and deemed them "unfounded."

"Whatever the agenda may be, the criminal justice system should not be used on the backs of school students to forward it," Griffin said.

Griffin also said he is representing a younger suspect, but he did not identify that person.

Another attorney, Eric Sachs, said Trane, his client, denies the accusation that he took two tests for someone else in 2008. "He's a nice kid. He's a good kid," Sachs said.

He said such accusations could be disastrous for a defendant.

"If they are in school, they could get kicked out of school. If they have a job, they could lose their job," said Sachs, of Bellmore, N.Y.

Sachs said the statute of limitations may have run out on the charges. Hs also attributed the prosecution to Rice's "agenda," which he described as "publicity."



Test taker Adam Justin, left, is led out of the Nassau District Attorney's office in Mineola, New York.

Trane's father escorted his son out of the courthouse after his arraignment. They did not speak to reporters.

Sachs and Griffin said Rice did not name the students she said paid Chefec and Trane to take the tests.

Justin's attorney, Arnold Kriss, of Manhattan, said, "Notwithstanding this frenzy, the presumption of innocence applies in this case."

At First District Court in Hempstead, attorney Melvin Roth of Garden City, N.Y., called the prosecution "overkill" and added, "It should have been handled creatively, not criminally."

Roth said he represents a 17-year-old being charged with a misdemeanor and said his client will plead not guilty. He did not give the suspect's name. This is the second round of arrests in an SAT and ACT cheating probe.

In September, prosecutors arrested seven current and former students from Great Neck North, charging they are part of a cheating ring. Sam Eshaghoff, 19, of Great Neck, pleaded not guilty to charges of first-degree scheme to defraud, six counts of second-degree falsifying business records and six counts of second-degree criminal impersonation. If convicted, he faces up to 4 years in prison.

Rice also has convened a special grand jury to investigate cheating on the tests, sources close to the probe have confirmed. That probe could result in criminal indictments, a report or recommendations on the panel's findings, sources and experts said.

- MCT Campus

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Veterans returning to college face unique challenges

Isolation is one of many struggles troops face at home

By Phillip O'Connor St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Army veteran Ben Miller remembers the isolation he felt when he enrolled at the University of Missouri-St. Louis in the fall of 2009.

"I would show up on campus, talk to absolutely no one and go home," said Miller, 27, who did three tours in Iraq as a counterintelligence specialist. "I didn't feel like I really belonged."

With wars in Iraq and Afghanistan winding down and enhancements to the GI Bill, colleges and universities are expecting a surge in veteran enrollment unseen since World War II.

But some academics and veterans' advocates are warning that many colleges are unprepared to deal with the unique needs of former service members. Many veterans face a difficult transition to civilian life, ranging from readjustment issues to recovery from physical and mental injuries. And they say without special attention, many will fail to graduate.

"If colleges are not prepared to help transition soldiers from combat you do run the risk of losing an entire generation," said Tom Tarantino of the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America.

"The GI Bill isn't a thank you for your service. What it really is is a readjustment benefit. It is giving them the opportunity to do something that is constructive for their mind and their body, that gives them a mission and allows them to move forward in life. It's a backstop so you're not walking right off the plane from combat in to the civilian world. It was designed to be a soft landing."

Studies show that some strategies work to keep veterans in school. They include specialized orientation programs, helping veterans connect with one another, training faculty and staff on challenges veterans face and offering more counseling and financial aid. But surveys show that many schools are lacking in such efforts.

At UMSL, the number of students enrolled on the GI Bill from 2000 to 2009 fluctuated between 180 and 200 depending on deployments. Since 2009, when eligible veterans were provided significantly more for tuition, housing and books, that number has risen to 270 and the school expects it to go up even more.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch recently met with four veterans attending UMSL on the GI Bill. Their experiences mirrored those facing many service members entering the college ranks.

All said they had felt isolated, and had difficulty adjusting to the campus culture and trouble relating to younger students.



'The transition is hard. I know I have thought about quitting a few times,' said Ben Miller.

Three said they were bored with college life.

"It's the mundaneness of it," said Scott Ury, a nursing student who traveled the world and did two Iraq tours as a security officer during six years in the Air Force.

All four said they missed the action and camaraderie of the military and had considered returning.

"You were part of a group, where the big brother was looking out for the little brother," said Patrick Barry, 25, who grew up in Kirkwood, Mo., graduated from Christian Brothers College high school and did two tours in Iraq as a Marine combat engineer. In addition to a full course load, Barry also works full time as a truck dispatcher. At UMSL, he joined a fraternity. Even so, like the other veterans, he said he's had trouble making connections with younger students, who he sees as less disciplined and unable to relate to his experiences.

"A lot of times I feel alone," he said.

Miller said that was part of the reason why he helped establish a veterans student organization at UMSL.

"It's a great support network," said Miller, who is studying business. "It gave me the friends I do have in St. Louis."

A campus veterans' organization or office that helps service members feel more engaged in student life is one key indicator of whether they will be academically successful, said Kathy Snead, director of Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges, a government-funded organization that helps veterans complete their degrees.

"Working as a group they help push each other," Snead said. "That support group keeps them in school."

The UMSL veterans' headquarters in



A small group of people attends a flag-raising ceremony at the University of Missouri St. Louis.

the Millennium Student Center is a single desk decorated on a recent day with a small American flag.

Ury, who arrived at UMSL in 2009, said he could sometimes pick out the other veterans walking on campus but never introduced himself. He stopped by the veterans desk a few weeks ago after learning the group was planning a Veterans Day commemoration. Now, he stops every day. He said his wife told him he's seemed much happier since.

"I sit in the chair and hope somebody walks by," Ury said. "For me, being around other vets who have experienced the same thing is comforting or calming. You don't have to worry about what they're thinking. If I'm sitting around a college student I'm worried about whether what I'm doing, thinking saying is different, normal."

"We understand each other," Miller said.
"We all know we've been through

something," Barry said.

Navy veteran Joe Gomez recalled his first daunting days of college, crisscrossing campus to sign up for class, line up his financial aid and attend to details that are part of enrollment.

"Sometimes it's frustrating when you get out of the service and don't know how to do these things," said Gomez, 27, who spent six years learning about ballistic missiles as a submariner, but received only a week of Navy training to prepare him for his return to the civilian world.

As head of UMSL's veterans student organization, Gomez, a political science major from Pacific High School, is pushing for an on-campus veterans' center and college credit for military training.

"We realize the problems and being the trouble shooters we are, we're trying to fix our own problems," Gomez said.

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Apps help higher education

Prospective college students use technology to learn about colleges

By Daniel Vasquez **Sun Sentinel**

Students are finding clever ways to take a bite out of the cost of going to college, many getting help from local companies and the latest Web-based technologies. Some are doing so before they even settle on a school.

After choosing the path to higher education, the biggest decision for college-bound students and parents is what campus to select and how to pay for it.

Some students earn A-pluses for using the Web to cut down on time spent selecting colleges as well as costs for applying and attending from travel expenses to book fees. High school senior Karina Newman of Boca Raton, Fla., has turned to YourCampus360. com, which provides virtual tours and insider information, to research colleges she's considering.

"There are so many options and it's pretty hard to choose," Newman said. And the website is a convenient and cheap way for the 17-year-old and her parents to learn more about different colleges. "You get an overall feeling of what it is like to be there," she said. "You even see what the weather is like."

Newman most recently traveled via the Internet to Ohio University, Mississippi State and Oregon Tech. They are among her top considerations in addition to Miami University, where an older sister graduated and another still attends. "I will be using the site to check out other colleges, too," she said, without having to ask her parents or airplane tickets.

YourCampus360, with offices in Aventura, Fla., and New York City, is free to use and offers an interactive and comprehensive experience via iPhone or Android smartphones, a computer or Facebook. Via all three platforms, take virtual walking tours, which include stops at dormitories, dining halls and football stadiums. Check out videos and photos with 360-degree panoramas while learning about everything from class descriptions to campus clubs, on-campus housing to nighttime cam-



Karina Newman, high school senior uses MyCampus360, an app to take virtual tours of colleges she is considering.

pus escort services. Visitors can even apply online.

Jaclyn Sarnese, a junior at the University of Miami, plans to trim book costs with the help of a new locationbased app called Yapik, which works like a Craigslist for college students, allowing them to trade or barter for goods and services. "It's really convenient, and I can sell my current textbooks after the semester and even buy new ones for next semester," Sarnese said.

Sarnese said she has used Yapik to monitor what other students are offering for trade, such as sneakers and football game tickets. "I even found an offer from a student selling car wash services," she said. Based on what she has seen so far, Sarnese believes she will be able to sell her old class books for more on Yapik than she could if she sold back to the campus bookstore. "And it looks like I will be able to buy a lot of next year's books for less than at the bookstore, which always has the highest prices."

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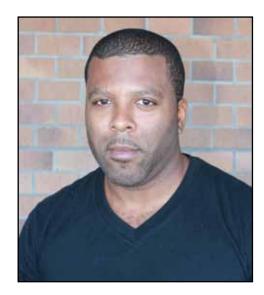
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OPINION Nov. 30, 2011 www.ValenciaVoice.com



Should the library be open later for finals?

Photos by Joseph Morrison / Interviews by Wesley Thompson



"Absolutely, because if it's not, it's not doing its job. The library is not as beneficial as it should be."

-Clinton Thomas

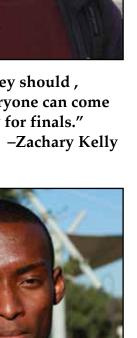


"It should be, because people work, not giving them the time to study later."

-Luis Augusto



"Yeah I think they should, because not everyone can come in early to study for finals."

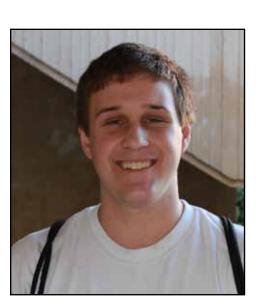


"Last time I was there, we didn't have much time to study. Some people don't have internet." -Mike Morrisset



"Yeah, because it can be useful for people who don't like crowds."

-Melanie Hunt



"Of course we need to, because people have busy schedules." -William Charles Nelson



"I think that it should be open later, because I have classes at 9:30 p.m."

-Marlena Ubel

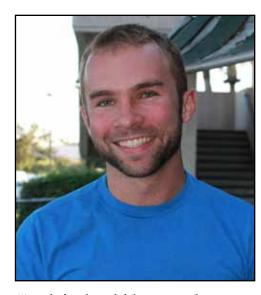


"I think it's a good idea. It's fine the way it is, convience-wise." -Meaghan Schlifken



"It should be open later, especially for students who have late classes."

- Bekka Santos



"Yeah it should be open later, because the computers are usually full."

-Ryan Medeiros

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Tweets of the Week

Best of Andy Borowitz



@BorowitzReport Andy Borowitz 📀

BREAKING: Cain Quits Race; Cites Total Ignorance About Everything a President is Supposed to Know



@BorowitzReport Andy Borowitz 📀

Rapture would actually be kind of awesome if it means that all the people who believe in it would suddenly be gone.



@BorowitzReport Andy Borowitz

#CyberMonday: I worry that all of this shopping at the office today is going to distract people from porn.



@BorowitzReport

The NBA deal is an inspiring story of millionaires finding common ground with billionaires. #NBA

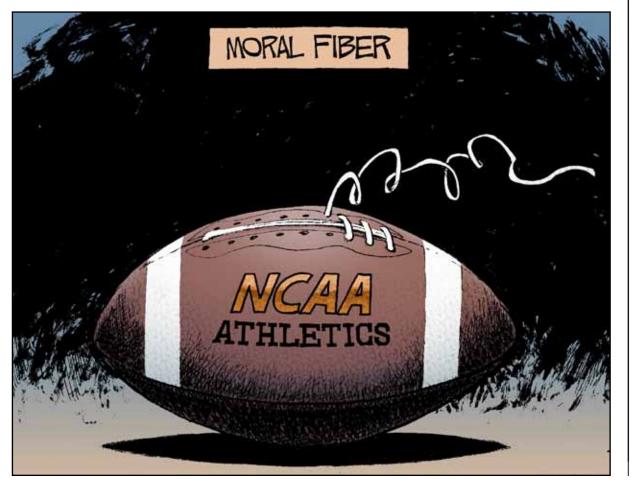


@BorowitzReport

Andy Borowitz 📀

Cain denies affair allegations: "I have never heard of this woman. She is like Uzbekistan to me."





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Page 3: Laurie Skrivan, St. Louis Post-Dispatch / MCT,

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Page 7: Top right: Christian Geisnaes/ courtesy of Magnolia pictures / MCT; Bottom: The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn (MCT), courtesy of Disney Pictures, Courtesy of Warner

Bros. Pictures; Right: Courtesy of Ambush Entertainment, Courtesy of Icon Entertainment.

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Page 9: Susan Tripp Pollard, Contra Costa Times; Top right: Anne Cusack, Los Angeles Times / MCT

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Depression affects sisters

'Melancholia' explodes the very extreme of fatalism

By Jeff Shedden jshedden@valenciavoice.com

Director Lars von Trier is well known for making surreal, artistic films and controversial statements. His series "The Kingdom" was a surreal romp through a haunted hospital, and "Anti-Christ" dealt with scenes of marital cruelty and graphic depictions of genital mutilation. His newest film, "Melancholia," is a more mature, polished film, and is von Trier's best to date.

Von Trier's films are known for having a unique style of opening, and in the case of "Melancholia," the entire basic story is told through dreamy, slow-motion shots set to music by Wagner.

The movie itself is about the ability to cope with depression, set against the background of Earth's imminent collision with a rogue planet. It's not a sci-fi disaster film, though, and the destruction of Earth is actually just an ancillary plot object. The opening even shows the disaster early, so the audience won't be fixated on whether the rogue planet hits or misses, and can concentrate on the characters.

"Melancholia" is divided into two parts, each based around one of two sisters dealing with their own crises. The first part, "Justine," is based around a newly-wedded advertising executive (Kirsten Dunst) who is suffering from severe depression. Her sister, Claire (Charlotte Gainsbourg), and her scientist husband, John (Keifer Sutherland) are hosting the wedding party at their European castle, complete with dozens of guests and lavish decorations.

Justine tries to put on a happy face during the festivities, but can't cope and often removes herself to be alone. She's fixated on the star Antares, and often disappears outside to gaze at it. Justine's melancholia causes major conflicts with her family and her new husband. Justine finally sinks so far into depression that she burns all bridges and is even rejected by her husband.

The second part, called "Claire," has Justine so depressed that she can't even bathe or feed herself. She's in the care of her Claire, John and their young son, Leo. Claire is obsessed with the rogue planet, Melancholia, that has appeared from behind the sun and is scheduled to pass the



Kristen Dunst, right, plays Charlotte Gainsbourg sister who is suffering from severe depression.

Earth very closely. She's convinced that Melancholia poses a real threat, but John tries to comfort her by pointing out that it's acted as predicted, and will just pass by.

As the threat of Earth's destruction looms near, Claire becomes more and more helpless, but Justine begins to show strength resulting directly from her depression. When you already expect the worst, it's easy to cope with horrible events.

"Melancholia" explores the very extreme of fatalism. Fatalism can involve things like deciding there's no higher power, or that we're alone in the universe. "Melancholia" takes this a step further and decides that not only is there no other life in the universe, but the Earth is also going to be destroyed. Life

only got to exist for a few million years; an eye blink in the span of universal history.

"Melancholia" is a very polished, well edited film, and feels like a maturation of von Trier's skills. It's like he's gone from using crayons and finger paints to watercolors and pastels.

This film is not for everyone, and some might find it a little boring if they expect a crazy disaster film. It's a rich film dealing with severe mental disorders and a loss of hope in a very visceral fashion.

"Melancholia" is currently available on demand from your cable and satellite providers, through various Internet ondemand services, and will be playing at The Enzion in Maitland on Dec. 2.

Opening Dec. 2

'Answers to Nothing'



Director: Matthew Leutwyler

Starring: Dane Cook, Elizabeth Mitch-

ell and Julie Benz

Rated: R

Genre: Drama, Mystery

'Coriolanus'



Director: Ralph Fiennes

Starring: Ralph Fiennes, Gerard

Butler and Brian Cox

Rated: R

Genre: Drama, Thriller

Box Office



1.'Breaking Dawn 1'

Rated: PG - 13

This weekend: \$42 million

Total Gross: \$221.3 million



2. 'The Muppets'

Rated: PG

This weekend: \$29.5 million

Total Gross: \$29.5 million



3. 'Happy Feet Two'

Rated: PG

This weekend: \$13.4 million

Total Gross: \$43.7 million

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Black Friday makes a comeback

Shoppers don't mind fighting the crowds for bargain deals

By Neda Hamdan nhamdan@valenciavoice.com

I walk into the Millenia Mall at 5 a.m., maneuvering my way around countless customers scrambling to shop. Wearing my shirt specially designed for Black Friday by Pacsun, I walk into the store to prepare for the mob standing behind our glass doors, waiting for us to open at 6 a.m. We discuss strategies on how to handle and control the customers as much as possible, though it seems easier in words rather than actions.

I was unlucky enough to be chosen to be in charge of the fitting rooms. The job entails not only putting customers into the fitting rooms, but to regularly check on them, get different sizes, colors, or styles of the clothes that they've tried on, and even make suggestions; anything to get the customer to buy more clothes than they anticipated.

"I'm excited to work my first Black Friday," said Haley Morris, a sales associate at Pacsun. This is also her first time not shopping on Black Friday as she used to every year. "I just have to make sure I'm prepared."

Attempting to walk to the other side of the store under thirty seconds was nearly impossible. The store is not very big, and with the cash registers in the middle of the store, it creates a long line wrapping around the clothes and other areas of the store. I learned how to squeeze between people instead of hoping they'll move out of the way, realizing that the customers weren't going to be that generous.

The store manager, Suzy Durre, has been in retail for ten years, and this was her ninth Black Friday. Her outlook on the biggest day of a retail store's year was positive. "I think it's fun," she said. "It can be busy, but I don't mind working it."

Durre recounted a Black Friday when all the cash registers at her store crashed, forcing the staff to use manual slips to complete transactions. Many angry customers, frustrated by the circumstance, left the store. "It was the most difficult thing to do, not know-

ing when the registers were going to start working or if they were going to start working at all."

Throughout my shift I had encountered all types of customers, and I could easily pinpoint the impatient ones since each customers' patience was tested when they had to wait in a line for a long time or if we were out of stock of an item they wanted. Most were kind, and we had enough fitting rooms where the line was not long (or maybe it was my top notch skills).

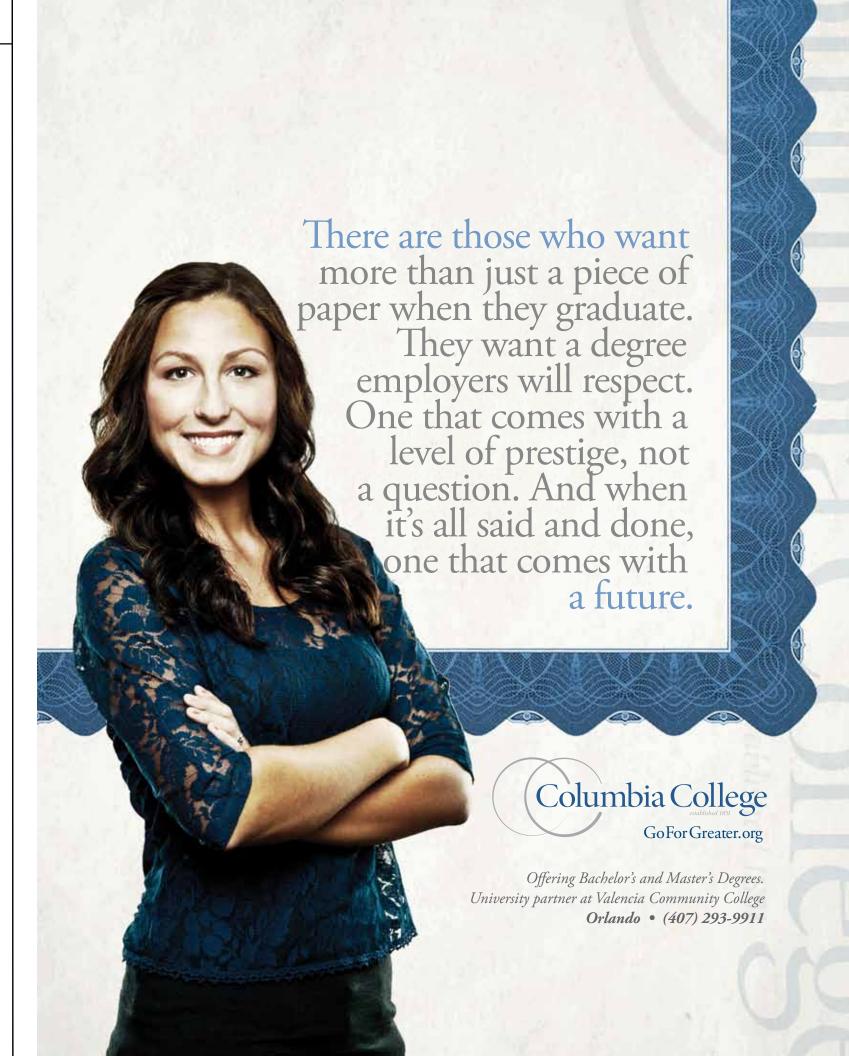
I was able to talk to a lot of customers, asking about their opinion of Black Friday and whether they'd do it again. Most claimed they would not come back, but I'm sure when the next Black Friday rolls around they'll be waiting for the doors to open. They were also eager to share their tips and tricks for a successful haul.

"What I usually do is come to the stores a couple days in advance and see what I like and put them on hold for black friday," said Macy Gray, a veteran Black Friday shopper. "I don't have to go looking and I can just jump in line."

I was too exhausted, physically and mentally, by my shift to do any shopping of my own. I refused to look at another store or stand in line, and the last thing I wanted to see was another fitting room.



Shoppers carry bags and seek out bargains on Black Friday.



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Jeff hates: The holidays

By Jeff Shedden jshedden@valenciavoice.com

The holiday season is blending together so much nowadays, that pretty soon we'll just combine the months of October, November and December into one chewy lump of Halloweensgivingstmas.

I realized something was amiss when I discovered that I was able to buy eggnog at the same time as Halloween candy. I love

eggnog; I would freebase it if I could. But finding it in early October kinda throws off the internal clock.

Halloween seemed to be a little more low-key this year. Stores set up smaller displays with the intent of yanking them down as quickly as possible. Candy was more plentiful and less costly than I'd ever seen. One could enter one end of the aisle in perfect health, and need a toe amputated by the other end.



Santa Claus is experimenting with outsourcing using underage workers from thirrd world countries.

We bought a large amount of candy this year, knowing that we'd end up with most of it for ourselves, but we were wrong. We got the usual gaggle of Batmen, Disney Princesses, Henry Kissingers ringing our doorbell, but we also got a disturbing amount of older kids.

If you're old enough to shave, you're too old to trick-or-treat.

On to Thanksgiving! The average American is only thankful to have had enough foresight to save up a few hundred bucks to bail out Uncle Mike when he drinks his dinner (the Southern Comfort that was supposed to go into the cranberry sauce), and punches out cousin Lisa's vaguely ethnic husband during an argument about socialism, Obamacare and the role of FOX Ne2ws.

I've discovered the joys of having a girlfriend whose family celebrates Thanksgiving in a less traditional fashion. Instead of eating early and sleeping it off just long enough to wake up, eat pie, and get drunk, they just shift everything by several hours. They eat late, drink while they eat, nibble desserts right after, and then dance and sing until everyone passes out. It's magical.

This year, we visited my mother. She lives in the country and basically resembles a porcupine, except instead of quills, she has guns. So for Thanksgiving this year, we had something that used to be alive, a few things that once grew in the ground, and a pie from Cracker Barrel. Then we all got drunk and she sang a Reba McEntire song about some sad trailer-park resident in roach-covered high-heels. I miss her already.

It didn't take long this year for the Christmas music to trickle out. I swear, as soon as the calendar flipped over to Nov. 1, the radio stopped in the middle of "Monster Mash" and went right into "Little Drummer Boy."



All was going well until Aunt Marge advocated the beating of Occupy Wall Street protesters.

There's a few songs I don't mind, like "Wonderful Christmas Time" by Paul Mc-Cartney, or "Shove This Up Yer Rear" by some crazy homeless guy who stood outside the store for a few hours. But then there's songs like "Christmas Shoes" about a little boy trying to buy shoes for his dying mother, or "Dear Mister Jesus" which are letters to Jesus from children whose parents beat them. John Denver's lucky he's already dead, because if I hear "Please Daddy (Don't Get Drunk This Christmas)" ever again, I'd be tempted to dig him up and renew his pilot's license.

And people wonder why the holidays see a spike in suicides.

There's a special place in hell reserved for George Michael for writing and singing "Last Christmas." He'll be sharing it with anybody who ever cov-

ered the song, and they will only be able to communicate by using the lyrics.

Christmas itself is just an excuse for people to remember to spend money on things they can't afford on people that they don't even like in the first place. Kids spend all year talking up this action figure or that video game, only to be done with it by Dec. 28, and all they want now is the new version.

The thing I'm always most thankful for during the holidays is that it will eventually end. If it weren't for the fact that there's still work to be done, I'd board up the doors and windows as soon as the last trick-or-treat-er is poisoned and hide away until some time after the New Year. In the meantime, with my help, Jack Daniel's distillery will not be going out of business any time soon.

FEATURES 10 Nov. 30, 2011 www.ValenciaVoice.com

'Orlando Alive' helps locals

Artists perform at 'The Social' in hope of stardom

By Jonathan Daniels jdaniels@valenciavoice.com

Here in Orlando, there's not really any musical talent that has blown up out of the city. Many people only think on Miami or even Tallahassee when they talk about musical talent. However, at Orlando Alive, you can see that the city is full of talent ready for the big time.

"There's so much talent here," said local artist Amanda S. "It makes no sense why big time a&r's (artist and repertoire, responsible for scouting) aren't in attendance."

Orlando Alive is a monthly forum for local artists, held at the Social in downtown Orlando. From hip-hop, to r&b, to country, all types of genres were welcomed and able to share their music with the people in the crowd.

There were some people they're promoting their clothing line as well as a man and his wife promoting their artwork.

Hosted by local rapper, Prote-J, the event is a platform designed to get artists noticed and for them to develop a buzz among the city. Local artist Kiddzzy Kidd was in attendance ready to perform. "Orlando Alive is a great place for artists to keep our skills sharp while gaining a small cult following, as long as you kill it," he said.

Between the times that one artist leaves stage and another enters the stage, the host constantly promotes for the other talents, like art and fashion. The equal time that is allowed for everything to be talked about gives off a sense of fairness and respect that is required to keep people coming back.

The event also gives off a feeling of companionship as everyone shows support and gives off positive reinforcement so that everyone feels good about his or her music or artwork. That's not to say that people sugarcoat their feelings, but the talent level is high.

"Although I feel like I'm one of the best artists in Orlando, everyone here is on the same level," said local artist, Jet. "No one was whack and I want to work with everyone that performed". When it comes to talent in Florida, Orlando Alive is making sure that you never forget to mention the City Beautiful. "Our city is filled with so much talent, If you're not checking for talent here then you must be asleep," said Amanda S.





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Thursday 1	Friday 2	Saturday 3	Sunday 4	Monday 5	Tuesday 6	Wednesday 7
'Tis the Season West Campus 9 A.M.	Blood Drive East Campus 9 A.M.			The Nutcracker Ballet The Plaza Live 10:30 A.M.		Annual Student Art Sale East Campus 10 A.M.
National World Aid's Awareness Day WP Campus 9 A.M.			Gospel Brunch House of Blues 10:30 A.M.			Stress Free Finals Massages WP Campus 10:30 A.M.
Math Fair WP Campus 12 P.M.		Grinchmas Islands of Adventure at Universal Studios		Learn about Volunteering! East Campus 2:30 P.M.	Adopt An Angel (Student Edition) East Campus 11:30 A.M.	
Career Center Outreach East Campus 12:30 P.M.	Festival of Seasons Downtown Disney	The Holidays Universal Studios	Anything Cole! Winter Park Playhouse 2 P.M.	Winter in the Park Winter Park 3 P.M.	Gothic Restoration East Campus 1 P.M.	Ten Highly Effective Student Habits East Campus 1 P.M.
Creating a Civil Campus East Campus 1 P.M.	Holiday Laser Light Show Orlando Science Center			Leu's Holiday House Harry P. Leu Gardens 3:30 P.M.	Intramural Sports Bowling at Boardwalk East Campus 4 P.M.	
Mastodon House of Blues 7 P.M.	Wale The Beacham 7 P.M.	A Very Hairy Xmas w/ Dokken House of Blues 7 P.M.	The Devil Wears Prada House of Blues 5 P.M.	Now Snowing Nightly Celebration Town 4 P.M.	Fall Symphonic/Jazz Band Concert East Campus 7:30 P.M.	The Movement The Social 8 P.M.
The Rocket Summer The Social 7 P.M.	MistleToe Jam w/ Staind House of Blues 7 P.M.	Yelle The Social 9 P.M.			7.00 7.114	
Winter Choral Concert East Campus 7:30 P.M.	A Night of Hope w/ Joel Osteen Amway Center 7:30 P.M.					

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11



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*Honestly."

— *Lime press*

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COMMUNITY

Knights play spoiler in season's finale

UCF's 31-14 victory over UTEP is positive end to 'Knightmare' year

By Mary Stevens mstevens@valenciavoice.com

The Knights played for pride against the Miners last Friday, ending their roller coaster football season on a positive note with a win against UTEP, 31-14.

UCF junior Latavius Murray ran for 233 yards and two touchdowns, breaking his previous rushing yard record of 146 yards.

"He's a tough kid to tackle; makes defenders miss," said head coach George O'Leary.

UCF was the dominant team throughout the game, keeping UTEP scoreless until the fourth quarter.

"I thought the kids went out today and executed on offense, made big plays on defense minus the end of the fourth quarter," said O'Leary.

UTEP needed a win to become bowl eligible. Both teams will now stay home during the bowl season.

UCF lost every game on the road and had one loss at home against Tulsa. With seven

losses, the Knights will stay home during the bowl season for the first time since 2008.

"We weren't as successful as we would've liked to be but I do think we played well, just came up a possession or a stop short each of those games," O'Leary said.

Sophomore quarterback Jeff Godfrey only played the first quarter; freshman Blake Bortles played the last three.

"Godfrey went a couple series and then I put Bortles in, giving us the best opportunity to win the game," said O'Leary. Bortles had a total of 158 yards passing and one touchdown pass and one rushing touchdown.

Senior Josh Linam had nine tackles and a third-quarter interception while senior Darius Nall had his 16th career sack.

"I'm happy for the senior class on Senior Night to go out winners. As I told the team, I thought they played hard all year, but we just weren't as successful as we'd have liked to have been," said O'Leary. "We only lose 12 kids, three on offense and two on defense for the whole team. There is a lot of work to be done in the off-season but a great nucleus to work with coming back."

A total of 15 seniors played their last game as Knights at the Bright House Networks Stadium. Some notable seniors honored before the game were LB Josh Linam, P David Bohner, WR A.J. Guyton TE Adam Nissley, PK Nick Cattoi, DE Darius Nall, OG Cliff McCray, and RB Ronnie Weaver.

"I wanted to help the seniors a lot because I would hope if I was a senior, the underclassmen would do the same for me," said junior Latavius Murray.

The Knights hope next season will bring more luck for them as they will be a new member of the Big East Conference, which means better games and more television exposure.



Junior Latavius Murray, UCF running back, rushes for one of his two touchdowns on his way to 233 yards and a win for the Knights in the final game of the season at Brighthouse Networks Stadium on Friday, Nov. 25.



Senior Khymest Williams celebrates Senior Knight with his mother before his last game with UCF on Friday, Nov. 25. The Knights finished the season 5-7.

So long, seniors

Departing Knights end career on win after mediocre season

By Amanda Smith asmith@valenciavoice.com

The 15 departing UCF seniors wanted to make sure their season ended on a good note when they beat UTEP 31-14 last night at the Bright House Stadium. UCF closed their season with a 5-7 record, losing all their away games as well as their last home game against Tulsa (17-24).

"I'm happy for the senior class on Senior Night to go out winners," said Knights' head coach George O'Leary after the game. "I thought they played hard all year, but we just weren't as successful as we'd have liked to have been."

Seniors who played their last game of their UCF career were hopeful for future seasons, feeling that the baton has been passed to the right people.

"Those guys are going to do great before they leave," said senior wide receiver A.J. Guyton, referring to the underclassmen. "They've got that confidence to keep going."

Guyton is one of seven seniors who opened the Bright House Stadium in 2007, a season where the team went on to snag their first Conference USA title.

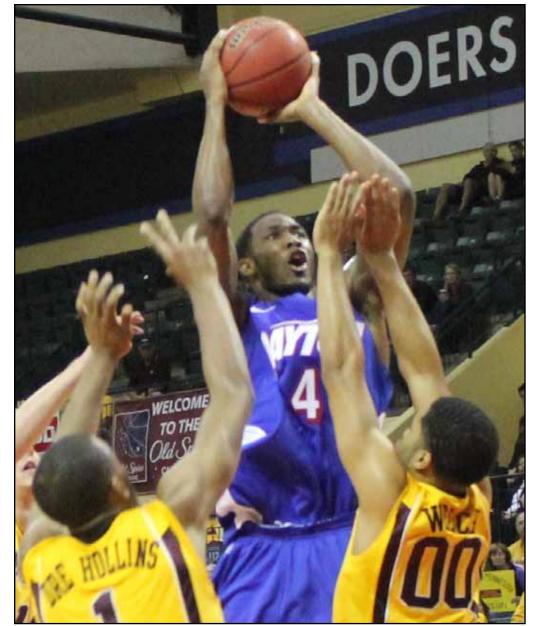
O'Leary called the senior class one of the best classes in UCF history. "I'm happy for the senior class on Senior Night to go out as winners."

Dayton wins in Old Spice Classic

Dillard leads Flyers to victory in tournament held at Disney

By Juan Gallardo jgallardo@valenciavoice.com

Lake Buena Vista, Fla. — Dayton Junior Point Guard Kevin Dillard may have not been the most valuable player in the Old Spice Tournament that took place at Disney's Wide World of Sports, but he was the most valuable player in its final game an 86-70 beating of a Minnesota



Dayton went undefeated in the Old Spice Classic and won the tournament.

team that was diminished by injury.

After picking up wins against Wake Forest and Fairfield in the earlier rounds of the tournament Dayton was supposed to face literally a bigger challenge from the Golden Gophers, led by two future NBA players in Center/Forward Ralph Sampson III and Power Forward Trevor Mbakwe.

But Sampson only played 10 minutes because of a previous ankle injury and Mbakwe, the team's leading scorer and re-bounder, went down three minutes into the second half with an apparent knee injury and never returned to the game leaving the Gophers with a much smaller and inexperienced lineup.

"Trevor is a tough guy, so when he is down there writhing in pain you know it's serious," said Minnesota Head Coach Tubby Smith of the injury.

With Mbakwe and Sampson gone Dayton Forward Josh Benson was able to dominate the paint scoring 14 of his 16 points from inside the painted area and deflating the Gophers spirits with two back to back dunks shortly after Mbakwe left the game.

The injuries weren't the only problem Minnesota had a problem with; ball possession and defending the three point shot is what eventually doomed them as they committed 21 turnovers and allowed Dayton to shoot 44 percent from beyond the arch.

According to Dayton Head Coach Archie Miller, who is in his first year with the team, that is what allowed the Flyers to get back in the game after going down 23-12 in the first half.

"Our team is most dangerous when we do get stops and off of turnovers, that's when we are cashing in. Once we were able to get some stops and some turnovers, in particular I thought Kevin made a couple of great kick out passes," said Miller praising his MVP who finished the night with 19 points, 10 assists, seven steals, and three blocks "and I thought that's what opened us up and gave us some confidence."

Once the Flyers were able to take the lead they never gave it back mostly because of Dillard's nice passing and the shooting of Senior Forwards Chris Johnson and Luke Fabrizius who combined to shoot seven of 12 from the three point line.

"Coach has a lot of confidence in us to take the shot and make the shot," Dillard said of the three point shots. "Everybody on the wing can shoot. I just have to keep penetrating and trying to find them."

Minnesota was able to get solid contributions from guards from Julian Welch and Austin Hollins, whose father Lionel ironically played



Dayton forward Josh Benson scored 14 of his 16 points from the paint in the finals.

for Dayton, but it the end it wasn't enough to overcome the injuries.

This was the third time the teams have played with the Golden Go-

phers leading the series 2-1.

The 5-1 Flyers were able to hand Minnesota their first loss of the season and take on Buffalo next on Wednesday the 30th. While the Golden Gophers now 6-1 must rest and piece together a starting line-up for their Wednesday night matchup against Virginia Tech in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge.

UCF stuns No. 4 UCONN in Bahamas, 68-63

Knights beat reigning national champions; end their 16-game win streak

By Kevin Duffy **Connecticut Post, Bridgeport**

PARADISE ISLAND, Bahamas — A colossal lategame meltdown ended the nation's longest win streak and simultaneously raised some serious questions forthe UConn men's basketball team.

How will this team respond to tight situations? Furthermore, who can step up in a time of need?

"It was the first close game we've had that Kemba wasn't there," center Alex Oriakhi said. "Last year, we



UCF Guard, Isiah Sykes, goes up for a lay up during the Knights' 68-63 win over the UCONN Huskies in the Bahamas.

gave Kemba the ball and moved out of the way."

On Friday, the fourth-ranked Huskies, returning seven scholarship players with national championship rings, had zero answers.

UConn squandered a 17-point second-half lead and lacked any semblance of defensive prowess -- its staple for years -- or offensive organization down the stretch as it fell to unranked Central Florida 68-63 in the Battle 4 Atlantis semifinal.

"That right there, that wasn't UConn defense," Oriakhi said.

Jim Calhoun told the media the same thing he told his team: Look at the numbers. Central Florida scored 16 times in its final 22 possessions. Conversely, UConn scored in three of 15 times down the court. The Huskies, seemingly rattled by UCF's zone defense, went scoreless from the 7:38 mark of the second half until 1:03 remained. By that time, UConn had already surrendered the lead, and unlike the Huskies, the Knights never eased up.

"It was almost surreal to watch how we played, or how we didn't play," Calhoun said.

With 16 minutes remaining, Oriakhi -- who had been parked on the Huskies bench for the majority of the past few games -- grabbed an offensive rebound, muscled through a defender, converted the layup and drew the foul. The Huskies bench exploded; Kevin Ollie gave a fist pump you'd expect to see in an NCAA Tournament -- not the Battle 4 Atlantis.

Tyler Olander pounded his chest and screamed.

Simultaneously, UCF guard Marcus Jordan -- the son of Michael Jordan -- was assessed a technical foul. Jeremy Lamb (team-high 15 points) knocked down both free throws and Oriakhi hit his to complete the five-point play and give UConn a commanding 50-33 lead.

Jordan, living up to the family name, never lost his cool again. And, as Calhoun put it, UCF's "run turned into an avalanche." The Huskies were outscored 35-13 the rest of the way.

In practice, Jordan said the Knights play "four-

minute segments" to simulate the media timeouts. When the Huskies lead grew to 17, the Knights "wanted to win every four minutes" and, eventually, win the game.

A Jordan lay-up with 5:33 to play gave Central Florida a 57-56 lead, its first advantage since the score was 8-7. For most of the second half, he attacked the basket with ease and, most importantly, calmly iced six free throws in the final 3:11 -- just as his father did countless times.

"Somebody at the end of the game, they said I was going to miss one," Jordan said. "I made them and told them that 'it was in my blood' just joking around." Although he's not a believer in the "clutch gene," Jordan wasn't too fazed by the importance of his late-game free throws.

"I'm never thinking about who we're playing," Jordan said. "I'm just thinking about knocking two free throws down."

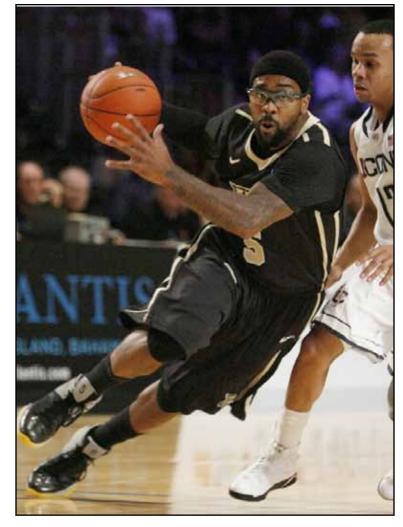
Jordan also helped limit UConn's backcourt duo, magnificent through five games -- to 7-of-23 shooting from the field and 2-for-13 from behind the arc. In previous games, Shabazz Napier and Lamb bailed out a stagnant Huskies offense with 3-pointers as the shot clock winded down. On Friday, they took those shots, but they simply didn't fall.

Napier committed seven of UConn's 13 turnovers (the Huskies have had more turnovers than assists in five of six games) and fully accepted blame for the loss.

"Most of the time guys won't get blamed individually, but I think this loss is on me," Napier said. "Honestly, I lost the game for the team. I made a lot of bad turnovers and a lot of bad plays."

UConn, which had trouble closing out its first five opponents -- "we're up 19 or 20 and instead of getting it to 30, we let it get down to 10," Calhoun said, lacked that killer instinct again.

"(People say) 'Why are you yelling at them when they're up on Coppin State by 20 in the second half?" Calhoun said. "Today, they were up 17 and it



Marcus Jordan's 20 points helped lead the Knights to a victory as he helped his team overcome a 17-point deficit.

got them a loss."

In the end, UCF forward Tristan Spurlock was the one yelling. When he was fouled with nine seconds remaining, he stood in front of press row, looked out to the UConn fans scattered about the right side of Imperial Arena, and screamed in exhilaration. UCF big man Keith Clanton, who scored 20 points against Oriakhi and Andre Drummond, embraced his teammate.

And, in that moment, a 16-game win streak -- a run that included NCAA tournament and Big East tournament championships -- snapped. There will be no trophy-raising for UConn at the inaugural Battle 4 Atlantis.

"We have a lot to learn," said Oriakhi, who broke out of a slump with 14 points, 10 rebounds and five blocks. "Hopefully, we can take this and bounce back from it."

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Voice staff predictions



Brees picks apart Giants Saints score 7 touchdowns on way to victory

By Tom Rock, Newsday

NEW ORLEANS — Somewhere in the great frozen north Monday night, Aaron Rodgers likely turned the TV off at halftime and fell asleep with a smile.

Drew Brees picked apart the Giants' defense with the point-and-click efficiency of a Cyber Monday shopper, putting touchdown after touchdown in his shopping cart and leading the Saints to a 49-24 win over the Giants at the Superdome. It was the third straight loss for the Giants, who keep talking about preventing a second-half slide but are doing little to prevent it. Now the Giants have a short week to prepare for Rodgers and the undefeated Packers on Sunday, a game that could drop the once 6-2 Giants to .500 and possibly two games behind the Cowboys in the NFC East.

Defensive captain Justin Tuck warned of a "historical" collapse if the Giants did not win Monday night. The team's performance did little to dispute that claim as they head into what could be a very long December.

Brees went 24-for-38 for 363 yards and four touchdowns. He also ran 8 yards for a score.

Brees went into halftime having put up numbers that most quarterbacks would take in a full game: 17-for-25 for 265 yards and three touchdowns. And the Saints left points on the field on their first drive when they tried a fake field goal from the Giants' 19 but came up short. Jason Pierre-Paul made an outstanding play to stop a first down.

Eli Manning and the Giants had

the chance to jump out early after that, driving to the 18, but his pass for Jake Ballard in the end zone was underthrown just enough for linebacker Will Herring to intercept it.

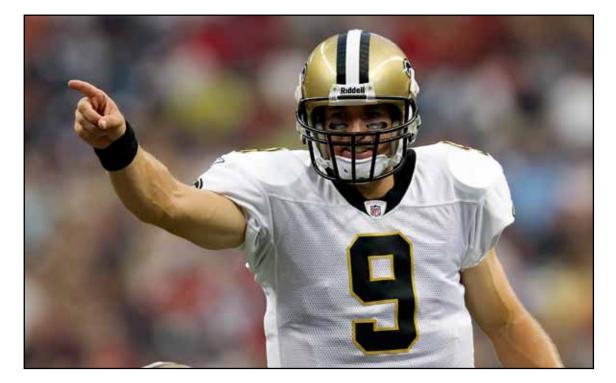
They didn't let that chance slip away at the start of the second half, driving 67 yards on six plays. After weeks of ineffective running, Brandon Jacobs showed a flash of excitement when he cut in the backfield and ran over Roman Harper for an 8-yard scoring run to make it 21-10.

All that did was make it interesting for a few minutes because Brees returned serve with a 73-yard drive that allowed him to show off his legs as well as his arm. On first-and-15 from the Saints' 46, Brees escaped a potential sack by Tuck, rolled to his right, side-

stepped the pursuit of Linval Joseph, and found Pierre Thomas for a 15-yard completion. Three plays later, Brees scrambled 8 yards for his first rushing touchdown since 2009, giving the Saints a 28-10 lead. A fumble by rookie running back Da'Rel Scott on the ensuing possession gave the Saints the ball at the Giants' 29 and Brees went back to throwing for scores, this time finding tight end Jimmy Graham for a 29-yard score and a 35-10 lead.

The Giants scored twice in the fourth quarter on passes to Victor Cruz. The first was a 72-yarder and after the Saints answered with a 12-yard TD run by Thomas, Cruz scored again on a 4-yard pass from Manning.

Mark Ingram's 35-yard run completed the scoring for the Saints.



Drew Brees threw for 362 yards and four touchdowns as the Saints beat the Giants 49-24.

Fantasy Update

Start

Eli Manning (QB) - NYG

The Giants are coming off three disappointing losses, but look for Eli to have a big game Sunday against the Packers. Eli tends to shine in big games.

Frank Gore (RB) - SF

Gore and the 49ers go up against the St. Louis Rams this week. Let's face it, the Rams are terrible. Expect Frank Gore to be one of the highest performing backs this week.

Sit

A.J. Green (WR) - KC

Its crunch time for the Steelers, so don't think they're about to fold and miss the playoffs. Their defense will most likely shut down Green.

James Starks (RB) - GB

The Giants have a great front four, and a terrible linebacker core. Expect Aaron Rodgers to pick apart the Giants defense, and not rely on the run.

Sleepers

C.J. Spiller (RB) - BUF

Spiller earned the starting role with the injury of Jackson. The Bills like to include him in the passing game, so he'll probably be a good option.

Roy Helu (RB) - WAS

Helu goes up against the Jets. Normally known for their defense, the Jets have been just an average team against the run this season.

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Former UF head coach moves to Ohio State

Buckeye nation excited over Meyer's contract

By Tim May The Columbus Dispatch

Urban Meyer was introduced today as the next head coach at Ohio State.

The assistant coaches were informed this morning there will be a change at head coach. Meyer is an Ohio native and was a two-time national championship winner at Florida before taking a hiatus this year to be an analyst for the network.

The six-year contract for Meyer includes \$4 million in annual pay, plus bonuses based on achieving certain milestones, including academic accomplishments for the football program and retention payments of \$450,000, \$750,000 and \$1.2 million if Meyer is still employed as head coach on Jan. 31, 2014; Jan. 31, 2016; and Jan. 31, 2018, respectively.

The agreement was reached based on benchmarking of comparable contracts, OSU officials said. The assistant coaches had not been made aware of the school's plans until this morning.

Luke Fickell, who had been elevated to head coach May 30 after Jim Tressel was forced to resign in the wake of an NCAA investigation, will remain on the Ohio State coaching staff under Meyer as defensive coordinator, the Dispatch has learned.

The news caused excitement in Buckeye Nation today. "I am beyond elated about this hire," said former OSU quarterback Kirk Herbsteit, long-time college football analyst for ESPN. "I have always privately wondered what Urban Meyer would be like at Ohio State, just because of his Ohio ties, and because of his personality.

"He will recruit at a level that I think will be exciting to a lot of people in the Buckeye community, just how intense he is when it comes to recruiting. Talk about some wars between Michigan head coach Brady Hoke and Urban Meyer, it's going to be outstanding to see how that goes. That's because you know the first thing Urban Meyer is going to want is to own the state of Ohio in recruiting.

"He also will put together a staff that will be outstanding. I think that is one thing he really learned in his time at Florida, how important the coordinators and the staff are. That's something he mentioned to me a couple of weeks ago when we were talking, of making sure the staff is taken care of in a good way (financially) to make them want to stick around in Columbus."

Former OSU and all-Pro lineman Jim Lachey, analyst for the Buckeyes' radio broadcasts, was just as elated about the hiring of Meyer.

"He's an outstanding coach. That's proven," Lachey said. "We had the chance to see him go head to head with Ohio State in the national championship game, and obviously they were pretty impressive in that game.

"I also got to see him in the week building up to that in the press conferences and things like that, and in the back of your mind you're kind of thinking, 'That guy's pretty good.' Certainly the results are there."

And as Herbstreit alluded, Meyer has proven to be stout in the bringing in of talent.

"He's got a name out there nationally that's huge, that will certainly help recruiting, and that's the name of the game," Lachey said. "When you can get the best players, it's going to make the coaches appear to be a lot better."

The 47-year-old Meyer, who won two national championships in six seasons at the University of Florida before spending this season as an analyst for ESPN, has been unavailable for comment. He spent the Thanksgiving weekend off the air and with his fam-



Meyer's six-year contract includes \$4 million in annual pay, plus bonuses based on certain milestones.

ily. The OSU sources previously said that current head coach Luke Fickell, elevated on May 30 to replace the forced-out Jim Tressel, will be taken care of after Meyer takes over.

The Buckeyes lost to Michigan 40-34 on Saturday, and Fickell maintained before and after the game that his focus was on the team.

Funds used to hire Meyer or his assistant coaches would come from the self-sustained OSU athletic department. Tressel was paid an annual total of \$3.7 million before his ouster.

Ohio State still is awaiting word from the NCAA committee on infractions concerning final penalties from an NCAA investigation over the past 11 months that, among other

things, caused the school to seek the resignation of 10-year coach Tressel on May 30.

Fickell, 38, was elevated from assistant head coach to interim head coach that day. At the same time, the university made it clear that at regular season's end it intended to reassess the head-coaching position and that it would consider candidates — including Fickell — for the permanent job. However, it also said it would honor Fickell's two-year contract as assistant head coach, which runs through February 2013.

Fickell was a nose guard for the Buckeyes in the mid-1990s who became an OSU assistant coach in 2002.

Like Fickell and Tressel before him,

Meyer would bring an Ohio-native feel to the job. Meyer grew up in Ashtabula, went to the University of Cincinnati and was a graduate assistant coach at Ohio State in the mid-1980s under Earle Bruce before leaving on a journey to several assistantcoaching jobs, including at Notre Dame.

After becoming a head coach for the first time at Bowling Green in 2001, he swiftly turned the Falcons into a winner, going 17-6 over two years before leaving for Utah. He worked the same magic with the Utes, leading them to an undefeated season in 2004, including a win over Pittsburgh in the Fiesta Bowl. Utah was the first team from a non-Bowl Championship Series conference to earn a spot in a BCS bowl.

Meyer tried to step away from coaching in December 2009 because of health concerns, but he quickly changed his mind. He took a leave of absence but returned for the 2010 season, only to retire again in December. "I have been a Division I football coach for the last 25 years and, during that time, my primary focus has been helping my teams win titles," he said. "I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it, and I am a fierce competitor to my core.

At this time in my life, however, I appreciate the sacrifices my 24/7 profession has demanded of me, and I know it is time to put my focus on my family and life away from the field. The decision to step down was a difficult one.

"But after spending more than two decades motivating and celebrating the young men I've been so proud to coach, I relish the opportunity to cheer for my three terrific kids as they compete in their own respective sports. I know how fortunate I am to be in a position to make this choice and to have a family that is as loving and supportive as my amazing wife and children have always been."

- MCT Campus

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NBA lockout is over

Season set to tip-off Christmas Day

By Alan Hahn Newsday

Across the NBA, preparations are hastily being made for a season that almost was lost.

A tentative 10-year agreement between the NBA and the players was reached at shortly after 3 a.m. EST on Saturday after a 15-hour bargaining session between commissioner David Stern and NBA Players Association executive director Billy Hunter.

The framework of the deal includes a virtual 50-50 split of an estimated \$4 billion in revenue, compared with 57 percent in the previous pact. That translates into \$300 million less for the players to share in the first year of the agreement, which covers almost all of what the league said its teams lost last season.

Players could get as much as 51 percent if revenues exceed expectations, but their share also could be cut to 49 percent



NBA commissioner, David Stern, following a meeting with the owners on the lock-out.

if revenues fall short of projections.

Once details are ironed out, the season will open on Dec. 25 with the Knicks hosting the Celtics at Madison Square Garden.

"We are very pleased that we have come this far," Stern said. "There is a lot of work to be done in a lot of places, with a lot of committees and player groups and the like, but we are optimistic that it will hold and we will have ourselves an NBA season."

The agreement signaled the end of the NBA lockout, though it will not officially end until a deal is finalized. Neither Stern nor Hunter believes the ancillary issues will be a major stumbling block to finishing the process in time to begin training camps Dec. 9 and start a regular season on Christmas Day.

The salary-cap system will remain a soft cap, meaning teams can go over the cap but will be penalized for doing so with a more punitive luxury tax than before. The owners made several concessions to allow more player movement in free agency. Teams may sign a player to a full mid-level exception contract (five years, \$5 million per) as long as the contract keeps the team less than \$4 million over the luxury-tax threshold. Beyond \$4 million, the mid-level exception is three years for \$3 million. Signand-trades also are universally permitted.

"I think that there is still a lot of, shall we say, other issues to finish because we have the broadest outline," Stern said, "but I think both sides are optimistic that this will yield a full-blown series of agreements."

In the previous CBA, the players received 57 percent of league revenue, but to acknowledge heavy losses by a majority of the league's teams, the players initially were ready to reduce their share to a 53-47 split. The owners, however, were looking for a more dramatic



Kobe Bryant goes to hug his teammate Derek Fisher. Fisher was one of the most vocal players during the NBA lockout, as he met with the owners many times.

change, with the owners getting 53 percent of the revenue on top of the implementation of a hard salary cap to promote competitive balance among the 30 NBA teams.

The sides took four months to move on their respective stances, as the players reduced their take to 52.5 percent to 51 percent and finally to a 50-50 concept. The owners moved off the hard cap and agreed to maintain the soft cap from the previous agreement, with added restrictions to curb payroll spending. The owners also have discussed a revenue-sharing program that is not a part of this agreement but will be more robust than in previous years. High-revenue, big-market teams such as the Knicks and Lakers will kick in as much as \$50 million each per season to assist the low-income small-market teams.

Before the deal can be completed, there are some small hurdles. There is a union to re-form, lawsuits to be withdrawn and workouts for players to organize before they are allowed back into team facilities.

After the exhausting negotiation that began Friday and went into yesterday morning,

the sides went their separate ways later yesterday to get their respective houses in order.

The NBA held a conference call with the league's labor relations committee in the afternoon to go over the framework of the deal. The committee is expected to unanimously recommend that the deal go before the Board of Governors for a vote.

The league already has begun the process of putting together a regular-season schedule, using most of the dates already in place from the original 2011-12 schedule. The league will extend the regular season into late April and the NBA Finals will start a week later than usual. The NBA All-Star Game, hosted by the Orlando Magic, will take place as scheduled in February.

On the players' side, there is a lot more work to be done. First, the NBPA has to reform as a union and the deal has to be ratified by the 420-plus members. The players also are expected to request a voluntary dismissal of the class-action antitrust lawsuit filed last week in Minnesota district court against the NBA and its owners.

Hunter and the players' legal team, led by David Boies, began that process Saturday.

"We are going to turn it all over to the lawyers here and let them work out the details and we'll then be able to talk further as that process proceeds," Hunter said. "It could be a matter of three days to a week."

History may prove that after the collectivebargaining process broke down, the move to dissolve the union might have helped push the sides together for an agreement.

"For us, the litigation is just something that has to be dealt with," Stern said. "It was not the reason for the settlement. The reason for the settlement is we've got fans; we've got players who would like to play; we've got others who are dependent on us. And it's always been our goal to reach a deal that was fair to both sides and would get us playing as soon as possible. But that took a little time."

And it was resolved just in time.

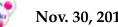
The Dolan family owns controlling interests in the Knicks, MSG and Cablevision. Cablevision owns Newsday.

- MCT Campus











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Room for rent: 2 /1 in Windmill Pointe Apts on Alafaya Tr. \$298/mo, 850 sq. ft. Female preferred. Internet, no cable. \$50 to \$100 electric bill split. \$40 application fee, and clean record required. 5 min from UCF. Chris. 407-431-5210.

Roommate wanted: \$376/mo. utilities not included. Individual bathrooms. W/D. dishwasher. 5 min from Valencia: 10 min from UCF. Kendall Stepien. 727-992-6981.

Room for rent: \$450/mo, utilities included. Fenced in yard, Internet available. Easy going, clean student looking for a female roommate. Patti. 305-546-4719. patklein01@aol.com.

Room for rent: Kent. 407-545-0140.

Male or female roommate wanted for Spring term. \$450/mo, W/D, utilities included. Residents bilingual (Spanish and English). 15 min. from East Campus, on Curry Ford and Semoran. cclg90@gmail.com, cliscanogonzalez@mail.valenciacollege.edu.

Room for rent: \$400 per month uncludes cable, internet, laundry, utilities. No pets. No smoking. John 407-294-0517 or 407-489-4952.

Third roomMate needed for 3 /2.5 house. Master bedroom/private bath. 1 year lease. \$600/mo and a third of all utilities, including a \$600 security deposit. Walking distance from Valencia East. Erika. 407-212-8552. modelerikas1234@aol.com.

Room for rent in 2/2.5 condo: \$350/mo for a non-smoker. Master bedroom with private bath and large closet. Gated community with pool and sauna. W/D. \$40 up-front fee. Free TV and internet. \$150 deposit, electric split. 436 and Curry Ford Rd. Gonzo. 407-459-3282.

Room for rent: 4/2/2 house. Waterford area, 772-940-3994.

Room for rent: \$450/mo. Female. University and Dean. 407-628-2267.

Room for rent w/private kitchen and large bath. \$550/mo, includes utilities. 9 or 12 month lease. \$200 security deposit. First and last month's rent required. 407-719-2745.

Room for rent: Female preferred. Christian, non-smoker. Nice community, pool, gym. Waterford area, near UCF and Valencia. Louise. 407-306-8136. Call between 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

One room for rent: utilities and Internet included. 407-272-3686.

Room For Rent. Winter Park area. Females only. Call Nicki at 407-692-3414.

Room for rent: Private bath. \$425 per month. \$500 deposit. No pets. Not furnished. Kiki. 407-545-1129.

Room for rent for female: all utilities included, near Valencia College. Gloria. 305-305-4625.

Looking for a room to rent. Female with respectful child. Clean, hardworking. 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 uncluded. No pets. No smoking. Background check required. Tanaire Soto. Tanaire Soto@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

3 Bed/2 Bath townhome. Universal Resorts. Boggy Creek. \$975 per month. Sonya Brown. 407-532-0309. sbrown@watsonrealtycorp.com

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.

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.

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.

RENTALS

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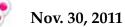
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Polos East Apts leasing. 1,2,3 bedroom apartments. Security deposits \$100-\$300. Pet fee \$250-\$350 depending on weight, limit 2 pets per unit. Liability insurance required. 407-382-1407. www.equityapartments.com.

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Sun Key Apartment Homes1 and 2 bedroom apartment homes starting \$790-\$955. 7502 Sun Key Blvd. Winter Park FL, 32792 1-888-539-7919

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