

# ValenciaVoice

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## Wicked performance mystifies audience

**“Wizard of Oz” inspired play teaches valuable moral lessons at Bob Carr Performing Arts Center**

By Anna Gerrol  
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Stephen Schwartz’ live adaptation of “Wicked” finally arrived in Orlando at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Center last week, bringing with it an incredible cast and tremendous talent in stars Jackie Burns as Elphaba and Emily Ferranti as Glinda, usually performed by Chandra Lee Schwartz.

Based on a book by Winnie Holzman and a Gregory Maguire novel, this musical puts a new twist on the popular “Wizard of Oz” film we grew up with, giving us a socially conscious reinterpretation of the “Wicked Witch of the West.”

Elphaba, also known as the Wicked Witch, was born as the result of an affair, and was an outcast from birth, not only by the public but by her father. As young adults, she and her disabled sister Nessarose go off to a boarding school called Shiz, where Elphaba meets Glinda, the epitome of all that is girly, colorful, and pretty.

The two characters are as different as can be. Elphaba is plain, boring, unattractive, and friendless. Glinda on the other hand is the most popular girl in school and has no problem getting whatever she desires. When they are both paired to room together, they are forced to see outside the box. They learn to open their minds to someone who may look a little different than what they are used to.

**Continued on page 9**



Courtesy of Bob Carr Performing Arts Center

**Chandra Lee Schwartz and Jackie Burns are the actresses behind Glinda, the good witch, and Elphaba the Wicked Witch of the West.**

## Press Party immerses guests in Emerald City

By Tiffany Janiczek  
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“When I meet the wizard, my whole life will change.” Although I didn’t get to meet the wizard, following the performance of the hit Broadway musical “Wicked” on Thursday night. I was fortunate to get to attend a VIP/Press party honoring the cast.

I had no idea that there was a VIP/Press party, as I didn’t even know I was going to get to go see “Wicked” until the night before, however when I picked up my ticket, I found out there was indeed a party which would give me access to the cast and crew of the show.

The party was held at The Mezz, an event space near Lake Eola in Downtown Orlando, and upon entering the room I felt like I had stumbled upon the Emerald City.

Lit completely in green, VIP’s and members of the press filled the room, waiting for the cast to arrive. As the cast arrived, there was no fanfare, and I found myself trying to figure out who was in the cast and which part they played.

After an hour and a half I found myself talking to Napoleon W. Gladney, a featured dancer and member of the ensemble of “Wicked.” Gladney has been touring with Wicked for eight months, and says his experience has been “a wonderful and a really great experience.”

Unlike most touring shows, this production of “Wicked” is staying in Orlando for five weeks. “It’s typical for us to be in the same city for a few weeks,” said Gladney. This production previously spent a month in Wisconsin as well as four to five weeks in other cities across North America.

“Wicked” will be at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre until March 27 with tickets available at <http://www.broadwayacrossamerica.com>.



# The British are coming

## 'King's Speech' reigns over 83rd Academy Awards

By Steven Zeitchik  
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — If you were watching the Oscars on Sunday night, the narrative of "The King's Speech" beating "The Social Network" played out on several levels. The Tom Hooper film won in four major categories: best picture, director and actor, as well as in one of the

two screenplay categories — the first time since "The Silence of the Lambs" 19 years ago that a single movie walked away with that quartet of prizes.

If you were a follower of Hollywood politics, that kind of haul had a David-toppling-Goliath feel. This was a small film with a director whose lone previous feature grossed less than \$1 million, and that starred the

second lead from "Bridget Jones's Diary," triumphing over a movie made by a major studio, directed by the filmmaker behind "Seven" and penned by the creator of "The West Wing."

But it was also hard to avoid a more cultural subplot in Sunday's events: the British-ness of Oscar's biggest prize.

The motion picture academy is sometimes perceived as favoring

movies with a British tilt. But it doesn't, in fact, show them that much love. Productions from across the pond can win at the Oscars, but it hasn't happened much in recent decades: Before "Slumdog Millionaire" in 2009, you have to go back to 1987 ("The Last Emperor") to find a best picture winner with mainly Britain-based producers. (One of the three "King's Speech" producers is Australian-born but is based in London.)

"The King's Speech" was also the first best picture winner in more than a decade to be set in England. ("Shakespeare in Love" did it in 1999.)

And the "King's Speech" win on Sunday night marked the first time the academy chose for its best picture a movie that also won best British film at the BAFTAs (essentially the British Oscars) in the modern history of that organization.

But maybe more important than any of these statistical landmarks were the themes of "The King's Speech." Though universal subjects such as loyalty and responsibility ran through the film, there was also an unmistakable British hue to the movie, what with its exploration



Francis Specker, Landov / MCT

**"I have a feeling my career just peaked" Colin Firth said as he accepts his lead actor award.**

of an evolving monarchy and its view of an British empire believed to be the best bulwark against Nazism. This was a season when movies with a distinctly American tone shone brightly for audiences. "The Fighter" and "Black Swan" took place in highly particular stateside settings and explored quintessentially American themes. And that epitome of American stories, the redemption Western, was one of the season's biggest hits, as "True Grit" tallied nearly \$170 million in box office. Yet the combined Oscar count for those movies was exactly three.

On top of that, of course,

came the "King's Speech" win over "The Social Network," a period movie about kings and prime ministers besting a story of Silicon Valley ambition.

There's been much made in recent months about the rise of British actors in blockbusters, with performers from across the pond, such as Andrew Garfield and Henry Cavill, being cast as American superheroes. True, Sunday night was mainly about one film. But when it comes to calling for the arrival of all things British, the academy is hardly afraid to ride that horse.

— MCT Campus



Allen J. Schaben, Los Angeles Times / MCT

**Presenter Steven Spielberg with Colin Firth, Tom Hooper and Garth Unwin and their Academy Awards for Best Picture for "The King's Speech" at the 83rd Annual Academy Awards.**



# Protests migrate to Libya

## Frustrated citizens attempt to oust long time leader

By Leila Fadel and Liz Sly  
The Washington Post

Forces loyal to Moammar Gaddafi carried out air-strikes and skirmished with rebels in parts of Libya on Monday, but neither side appeared to gain ground, according to accounts of the fighting from residents and officials allied with the opposition.

The loosely organized rebels have so far been unable to push into Gaddafi's Tripoli stronghold and achieve their ultimate goal of ousting him from power - a fact made evident by Gaddafi's hosting of U.S. and U.K. reporters at a seaside restaurant in the capital.

Opposition groups have asked the international community to keep any aircraft still under Gaddafi's control from flying or firing on them.

In what amounted to his first press conference since protests broke out in the country, Gaddafi held court with reporters from ABC, the BBC and London's Sunday Times - a performance U.S. officials promptly labeled "delusional."

He said he could not step down from power because, under Libya's peculiar "stateless" form of socialism, he is not a president or king. He also asserted that there have been no demonstrations against him in Tripoli, the capital city, ABC News reported Monday.

"My people love me," ABC's Christiane Amanpour quoted Gaddafi as saying. "They would die for me." She said Gaddafi also denied ever using force against his people, accused al-Qaida of encouraging young people to seize arms from military installations and said he felt betrayed by the United States.

With opposition groups in control of much of Libya's coast and edging close to Tripoli, fighting

broke out Monday in Misurata, 125 miles east of Tripoli, when residents fired at a helicopter that was trying to destroy the antenna of the local radio station - an important communications tool for the opposition.

According to residents of the town and an eye-witness account, the helicopter was armed with missiles, but flew away after opposition supporters opened fire. It was the third time in as many days that helicopters have attempted to attack the antenna or the radio station, residents said.

Though Misurata was overrun by protesters last Thursday, Gaddafi loyalists are still holding out at an airbase and a barracks on the edge of the town. There are daily attacks and counterattacks between the two sides, the residents say.

On Monday night, two people were killed and one injured by sniper fire coming from the barracks, according to hospital officials, bringing to 34 the number killed in recent days. More than 300 have been wounded, the officials said.

A helicopter also attacked a military weapons depot Monday in Heniya, just outside Ajdabiya, a town about 100 miles south of Benghazi, said Idriss Sharif, an adviser to a committee that has come together to manage Benghazi.

A fighter pilot from the air force base in Benghazi, an opposition stronghold 600 miles east of the capital, said weapons and ammunition have been moved from storage units in case of a strike on the base. Over the past few days, the air force here has been setting up anti-aircraft weapons to protect against airstrikes on the town, the center of resistance against Gaddafi's regime.

At 4 p.m. Monday, an airstrike hit just south of



Rick Loomis, Los Angeles Times / MCT  
Libya follows Egypt's example as the people revolt.

the airport, slamming into a weapons depot in Rajma village, said an official at the Benina airport, outside the city. Earlier in the day, fighter jets were circling over the airport but did not strike, the airport official said.

— MCT Campus

## Video contest at West campus library

By James Austin  
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The West campus library is hosting a video contest. The challenge is to create a video that will serve as a sort of orientation for students who have never visited. They are asking students to vote on the winner.

The two submissions are currently posted on the West campus library website. Votes can be cast until March 3rd, and the winner will be announced the week the school resumes session after spring break.

The videos can be viewed at the library website: <http://valenciacc.edu/library/west/announcements.cfm>



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# Welcome The Year of the Rabbit

West campus VISA hosts Chinese festival in celebration of the new year

By Evelyn Ortega  
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Although the new year was already welcomed in January, Valencia students were taught to celebrate it again last Thursday. But this time with some Chinese flair. The Year of the Rabbit was welcomed at our West Campus.

Patio tables were decorated with red Chinese symbols meaning love, peace, and wisdom. Sheng Yi Lui, a member of Valencia Intercultural Students Association (VISA), organized West Campus' first Chinese New Year Celebration.

"I'm Asian, so I wanted to do this, but my advisors and everyone helped put it together," Lui explained. "East Campus celebrates it every year, so I thought about bringing it to this campus."

Students were taught to say "Xin Nian Kuai Le" meaning Happy New Year and "Gong Hey Fa Choy" which means "May the New Year bring you happiness and prosperity." Ti jian Zi, a Chinese game that resembles a game we know as Hackie sack, but instead of a small ball the game piece is a small stone with feathers on top, was attempted by students.

Most students stood in line in order to have their name translated to Chinese. Grace Ren, a native Chinese and member of VISA, taught students not only how to say but also how to write their name.

"That's perfect!" Ren congratulated everyone who attempted or succeeded with rewriting their Chinese names. They were given a fortune cookie and a red hand fan for good luck. "That's exciting!"

I actually learned what my name means, it means luxury!" said Shalon Peoples.

At noon, students were offered a taste of authentic Chinese food. A table was set up displaying a variety of foods including turnip cake, dumpling, mandarin oranges, pork bread, and water, dishes that are a part of the Chinese New Year feast. "The food was interesting. My favorite was the sweet bread with the pork inside." Ariel Gonzalez commented on the food, with which I agree.

It being a Chinese affair, chopsticks made out of bamboo were offered aside from the usual fork. "I wanted to learn how to use chopsticks." Yassir Baroudi requested to Lui, who went on to explain exactly how to use the traditional Chinese utensil.

At 1 p. m., The 'Hung Fut Hung Man Fei Martial Arts and Lion Dance Association' gave performances of the Lion Dance, Traditional Kung Fu, and Tai chi. The Lion Dance is performed every year, it is an essential part of the festival. "The Lion Dance originated in the farmer's villages."

"It is said that the village was attacked by a lion beast every year. In order to save their livestock and themselves, they created a costume just like the lion to scare it away," explained Sifu Charles River, the association's founder and chief instructor.

The dance is believed to bring good luck, happiness, and drive away evil to all that are present. "So every year they perform the dance to keep away the beast and all evil," River said. Aside from dancing, the Lion threw mandarins, candy, and money for good luck to the audience of students, faculty and staff. I was lucky enough to get all three.

"This form of Traditional Chinese Kung Fu has been around for 400 years." River explained to the audience. Members of the association went on to show different levels of Tai Chi and Kung Fu.

River's association has performed in Valencia's East campus before for the Chinese New Year celebration. He believes events like these are a great way to educate and show everyone different cultures

and traditions. "Traditional Martial Arts is more than just fighting, it's mind, health, and spirit."

Traditions like these offer students a glimpse of a different country, it's people and it's culture. These events can be seen and understood by everyone. "It doesn't matter your race. It shows honor and respect," River states. Valencia students, as diverse as they are, discovered their Chinese names, took a taste of China, took a shot at a traditional game played by children all throughout China and welcomed the year of the rabbit!



Photos by Sebastian Arbelaez / Valencia Voice  
Left: The Lion Dance brings good luck to all who watch.  
Above: Dancing masked man provides wisdom, guidance, and happiness to keep evil and misfortune away.



# Conference rewards students

## Valencia's West SGA takes home 3 awards at FJCCSGA

By Eric Rench  
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The once bare, burgundy walls inside Valencia's West Student Government office, now boast three more prestigious awards received at the Florida Junior Community College Student Government Association Conference (FJCCSGA).

On Feb. 3, 10 delegates from the SGA office were selected to represent the school at a conference in St. Petersburg. During the conference, members voted on state wide issues which included: Bright Futures, Undocumented Students, a Local Option Referendum and Florida's State Budget.

After the voting, an awards banquet was held to recognize schools that had made the most impact during the semester. For District 2, Valencia Community College's West campus received most of the awards given out that night. The Spirit Award was received by SGA's West President, Catalina Perez, who humbly accepted the award. She credited her success to the "strength of our organization."

Later that night, the award for most community service performed also went to West



Chris Ortega / Valencia Voice  
**Group picture of SGA after receiving three separate awards.**

campus. The West campus was responsible for the large amount of toys collected for Baby DJ and for all the food and supplies donated to Harbor House, a shelter for the domestically abused.

The last award given to Valencia's West Campus, the Excellence Award, is given to a school that has demonstrated to FJCCSGA that they have excelled in all areas. After the awards, Catalina has this to say, "On behalf of the SGA at West campus, I want to personally thank the students and faculty for their continued support throughout the semesters; none of this would have been possible without you."

Dr. Shugart sent an email to the press secretary stating that

he was "very proud of the organization and that he would let the Board of Trustees know of their success."

In attendance was Kathy Hauser, Assistant Provost, who stated that "they couldn't be more proud of the SGA's success and that if they ever needed anything, to let them know."

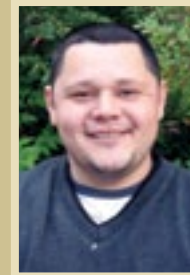
As you may recall, last semester, the SGA office was surrounded in controversy that eventually led to the resignation of the President. The SGA office is going to use these awards as building blocks, a way of severing the past and moving on to a brighter future.

If you have any questions, contact the Press Secretary at sgawpress@gmail.com.

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# Technology and youth pave the way

## How this generation will be affected by the internet and networking

What's on your mind? What's happening? Where are you checking in? These are just a few of the many questions that social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter, and Foursquare are constantly asking today's youth.

Thanks to new technology, like iPads or Blackberrys, people have constant access to a global forum that allows users to intake information about their friends, family, social contacts, and even some of their favorite companies, as well as broadcast their own thoughts and feelings to the world.

Sites like these have broadened connectivity, sparked social debate, given rise to blockbuster films, and they have even been credited with helping overthrow tyranny in the Middle East. But having such an open and connected world might be as much a curse as it is a blessing.

Many people use Facebook as a form of personal expression. They post their thoughts, dreams, goals, triumphs, and failures, as well as pictures and videos of themselves and their friends. While some are extremely careful to filter what they post, consider that in cyberspace there is no such thing as privacy. A great number of people post with impunity thoughts or pictures that might be embarrassing or sometimes damaging to their careers and their lives.

Students have been kicked off campuses for online rants or pictures that universities have deemed inappropriate, career applications have been denied because a quick search on Facebook revealed an embarrassing photo. Even Christopher Lee, a former republican congressman, was forced to resign his office after he posted a shirtless picture of himself in order to get a date on Craigslist.



Craig Kohlruss, Fresno Bee / MCT

social networking does provide a good way to connect, share, broadcast and communicate there are always going to be inherent dangers. Sites like Facebook and Twitter will always be used for nefarious purposes, but that's true about almost all technology. The advantages that these social networking sites provide vastly outweigh their detracting qualities.

A community has to communicate well to be able to function properly. Good communication can unify a group against oppression, allow business to flow in an orderly fashion, and provide a marketplace of ideas with which the world can be made better.

In the past we have used cave drawings, soapboxes, books, newspapers, telephones, letters, or television to share our ideas and beliefs. Today, thanks to social networking sites, complex and effective communication is as easy as booting up and logging in.

People will always look for new ways to connect with others; it's a hardwired instinct ingrained within most of society, but as we seek new ways to reach out, we should always be aware of the risks involved with anyone's open access to our personal information and the information of others. And besides, what would we do in class if we didn't have Facebook to waste our time with?

The Internet can also be a dangerous place. Predators are constantly looking for ways to get in contact with potential victims, and social networking sites are unfortunately making it a little easier. According to CyberTipline, the nation's hotline for reporting sexual exploitation of children, in 2010 there were over 220,000 reported cases of sexual exploitation of children, almost doubling the 2009 statistic.

The seedy underbelly of the Web is not a pretty thing to think about. While

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## Bringing back the pride

By Victor Ocasio

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With a student population of well over 50,000 students, four campuses state-wide and a multitude of educational programs, Valencia Community College is finally ready to make the move from a community school to a certified college, offering four year degrees in certain disciplines.

While this move, set to occur soon after this semester's end, will certainly bring about changes to the way in which academic programs on campus will work, perhaps now is the time to look at offering something that has become standard procedure at most colleges in the country: sports.

As far as higher collegiate education is concerned, the name of the game is legitimacy. Aside from having the necessary tools to educate students, having a sports program is one of those big indicators that students are attending an opportunity bound school.

Because Valencia operates in the way a community college generally does, its student base is relatively inactive when it comes to extracurricular activities and as a result appears to have absolutely no school pride or spirit.

But simply walk onto any other college campus wearing the colors of another team and the student body there is sure to show you how much spirit they have, and its not always to an unknowing visitor's benefit for that matter.

It may come as a surprise to many that at one point during Valencia's 44-year long history, there was a point in which college level athletic programs for both males and females were offered and did rather well for themselves against other teams.

Bringing back sports could completely revitalize the way in which both students and the community at large view our school. A sense of pride, even with a mediocre sports team, would be unavoidable.

With so many changes already occurring on campuses, now seems as good a time as any to make official Valencia's move to a four year college. And nothing does this better than the American college staple of a full blown sports team. Maybe the day when students will proudly wear school colors and letterman jackets are not so far from us afterall.

## Should Valencia set a sports program in place?



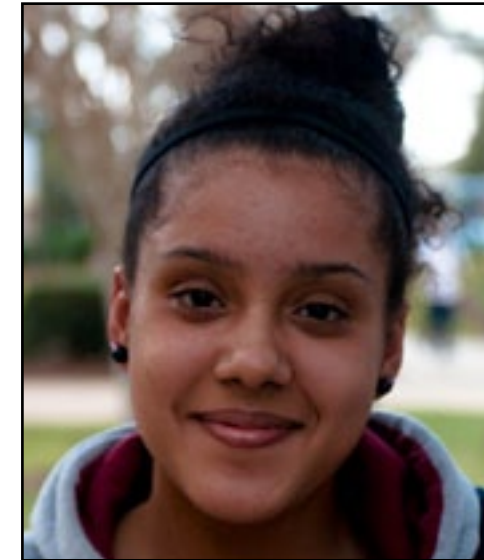
"Yes, definitely. It would get people to get to know each other better by doing things they love."

— Darlene Cordova



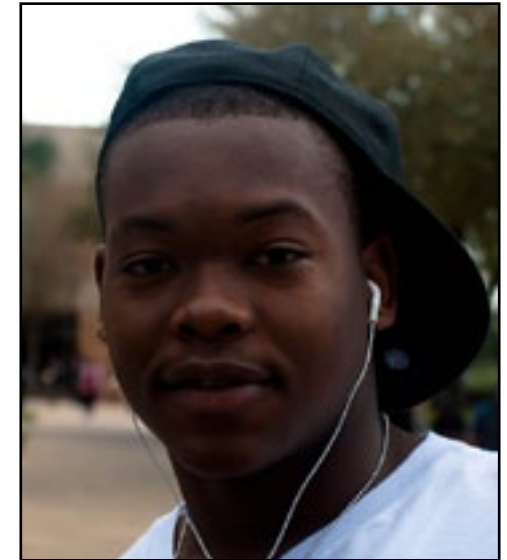
"Yes, because I feel it'd be important for the whole student body."

— Brandon Judd



"Yes, because it would give people that experience they get at other schools."

— Tania Roland



"Yeah, it'd be fun."

— Peterson Napoleon



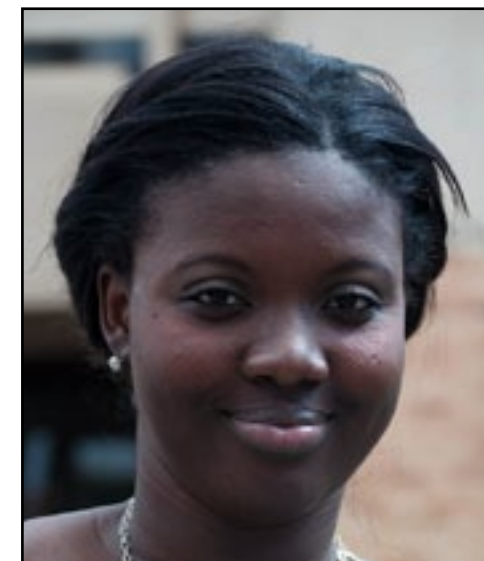
"Yes, because I think they need a football team."

— Maxwell Saint Clair



"Most definitely. More students will come if we play sports."

— Garemey Miller



"I'm not a big sports fan. It doesn't really matter to me."

— Josette D'meza



"I think they should because a lot of kids don't come here because we don't have sports."

— Coralys Acosta



# On the fast track to nowhere

## Governor Scott shoots down speed rail proposal

By Emmanuel Colon  
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With Governor Rick Scott rejecting the 2.4 billion dollar federal incentive for a high-speed rail that would run from Orlando to Tampa Bay, many people have voiced their opinion in protest.

The reason behind his decision last Wednesday? He said in his weekly radio address that it pretty much came down to economic reasons.

He also claims that it would take another 3 billion dollars to finish this project, money that would come from tax-payers. This may be so, but there's also the chance of private industries funding the rail, or even operating it.

The problem with all this? Gov. Scott had promised that he would consult a new feasibility

study this month before coming to any conclusions concerning the high-speed rail.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Florida's unemployment rate is at a staggering 11.5 percent, the highest rate in the country.

The construction of this rail would require approximately 23,000 employees. Those are much needed jobs for people in a mediocre economy. Not to mention all the jobs available once the rail becomes operational.

Sure Gov. Scott can claim on the radio all he wants that, "If the project becomes too costly and is shut down, Florida would have to return the 2.4 billion dollars to D.C.," but the reality of the matter is he didn't analyze the study he was supposed to examine.

How is it that one can determine the fate of a well needed project without looking at the proper sources that could further shed light to a situation.

There's still, however, hope for some that this rail will be built and provide jobs that can boost Florida's economy.

Personally I believe that my generation and other generations to come will benefit from this project in the future, especially with the volatile fluxuation of gas prices. It's cheaper to take a train than to ride a car to school.

The fight is not over. In fact, it could be the beginning since there are many windows available to make the high-speed rail idea come to fruition regardless of the decision the governor makes.

It all depends on whether the powers that be do the best they can to make this work, or having the private industries have a hand at its shaping.



Joe Burbank / MCT

# A 'King' is crowned

## British Film receives four academy awards

By Sebastian Arbelaez  
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When it comes to commemorating the dedication and brilliance found in filmmaking, the Oscars are still recognized as the pinnacle of award shows. Despite expanding to a wider audience the academy has been known for giving the award for best picture to film's that have been produced in the United States. To no avail, 2010 was a year devoted to harboring sequels and remakes. As a result, it was a major surprise that the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) awarded *The King's Speech* with the coveted Academy Award for Best Picture at the 83rd Academy Awards.

Directed by Tom Hopper, the British historical drama tells the story of King George VI (played by Colin Firth), who with the help of a speech therapist named Lionel Logue (played by Geoffrey Rush) overcomes a stuttering problem to lead his country in the hostile environment that was World War II.

Even with a well rounded cast and various accolades from all parts of the world, "*The King's Speech*" was among those that Director Steven Spielberg considered to be in the same list as "*The Grapes of Wrath*," *Citizen Kane*, *The Graduate*, and *Raging Bull*." Nevertheless, Tom Hopper's film



Allen J. Schaben, Los Angeles Times / MCT  
Colin Firth won Best Actor for "*The Kings Speech*."

outshined the nine other films nominated for the award. What makes the film's awarding so special is that it became the third motion picture in over ten years to have won the coveted best picture award with an original screenplay.

The film also took the awards for Best Director in a motion picture and Actor in a Leading Role. Surprisingly, this marks the first time a director and actor born outside the United States have won these awards on the same night since Geoffrey Rush and Anthony Minghella won in 1996. The academy has finally realized that an international presence is very significant in the film industry.

Ultimately, this victory serves audiences and incoming filmmakers around the country a reason to rejoice the dedication and hard work presented by these gifted artists. For a film that had a decent box office run in America, this uplifting tale of friendship and perseverance allowed moviegoers across the nation to see a different side to the underdog story.





courtesy of Playlist Live

## Viral stars arrive at Playlist Live

### Florida's first YouTube convention loads up in March

By Veronica Figueroa  
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The world of social media is constantly growing, due greatly to this generation's desire for instant, interactive connectivity, and as a result, YouTube. The YouTube community is coming to our backyard through a convention called Playlist Live 2011 in March.

Playlist Live 2011 is a two-day convention that brings the YouTube community and its fans together to celebrate new media. There will be meet-ups with the celebs and vloggers, performances, autograph signings, and merchandise for sale.

It will be held at Orlando's Marriott World Center Resort during the weekend of March 26-27. The hotel is even lowering

their rates to 124 dollars per night for this event! Guests of the hotel who are attending Playlist Live 2011 will also get 10 percent off of the day spa and golf course at the hotel; but honestly, who is going to be worried about working on their backswing when they get to hangout with their favorite YouTube celebrities?

Sophie Eriksson, a fan of YouTube star KassemG since 2008, is traveling all the way from Sweden to attend this event. "The thing is that I am staying in New York from March 18 to April 18, so that's why I can attend this awesome gathering," Eriksson said.

The lineup of Playlist Live includes Julian Smith, Timonthy DeLaGhetto, Mystery Guitar Man, Meekakitty, Andrew Bravener, ThoseGuys and many more.

"I am expecting it to be honestly one of the best days of my life. The people at this event are amazingly and talented. I've wanted to meet all of them from the first time I saw their stuff," Sarah Obariski said about her expectations.

Tickets for Playlist Live run from the Standard \$69.99, the Standard ticket+line pass \$119.98, and the Collector's ticket \$134.98.

Want the easy way of getting tickets? You can enter your Twitter, YouTube, Facebook and e-mail accounts into their contest in order to get free tickets to the event. You can even enter your Facebook and Twitter accounts every day for a better chance at scoring free tickets!

For more information on Playlist Live visit <http://www.playlist-live.com/>.

### Continued from page 1

The story develops and the two girls become the best of friends, defying the odds and helping each other grow as individuals. When the Wonderful Wizard of Oz turns the town on Elphaba and spreads lies about her, she flees, leaving Glinda behind and vowing never to return.

"It was amazing. It touches you even before you saw the show if you heard the music. When you see the show, it hits home for you," stated former Valencia Community College student Mitchell Roynolds.

"Wicked" has a ton of very valuable lessons that we should always remember. The main theme of the entire story is that we shouldn't judge someone based on physical appearance before getting to know who they really are.

Other messages are expressed as well, such as overcoming obstacles and not letting anything get you down. "Defying Gravity" is all about freeing yourself from what's typical and ignoring what others say you should conform to. "It always gets me emotional even though I've seen it before. It's nice to have dreams and go above and beyond," said audience member Stacey Pearson.



Courtesy of Bob Carr Performing Arts Center  
**Elphaba soars above the stage as she performs "Defying Gravity."**

Through songs like "For Good," the play expresses the message that although people come and go, they have a purpose. "The friendship between Glinda and Elphaba is really beautiful how two different people can still get along," said Sherrita Alexander. We learn from everyone that comes into our lives, and even if they leave someday, they leave an impression on us forever.

This play is a must see for everyone, young and old. You'll laugh, you'll cry, and you'll be moved by the performance. "The audience has been way more enthusiastic here than in previous cities," commented Colin Hanlon who plays Fiyero, the lead male role and love interest of both Glinda and Elphaba. No matter who you are or what you're into, there is something for everyone.

"Wicked" will run until Sunday, March 27. For more information on current and upcoming performances coming to the Bob Carr Performing Arts Center, visit: <http://www.orlandovenues.net>.



# ‘Toro y Moi’ stays inside the box

## Chaz Bundick’s release doesn’t stray far from first

By Christine Saraceno  
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“Chillwave” innovator and South Carolina native Chaz Bundick, better known by his stage name Toro y Moi (which roughly translates to Bull and Me), has finally released his highly anticipated follow up to 2010’s “Causers of This” and he definitely delivers.

His new experimental album, “Underneath the Pine” from Carpark records, takes listeners on a mellow journey with the help of his ethereal wail. All you need to do is put your headphones in, recline, close your eyes and enjoy the ride.

Songs like “How I Know” reinforce his knack for producing up-tempo pop grooves drenched in ‘80s flavored synths.

More intricate pieces are tracks like “Good Hold,” with its jarring piano or the stealthily seductive instrumental song “Divina,” which heavily imitates sounds from his first release. Bundick lets listeners absorb every single note and doesn’t clutter the songs with unnecessary bells and whistles.

Overall, the stand out song of the album is clearly “Talamak.” Bundick’s hypnotic whisper framed by a dreamy kick drum beat makes you zone out and feel like you are taking a stroll through a crystal cave for two and a half minutes. It is one you will definitely want to listen to on repeat.

“I actually have the whole album on my iPod. I only got to listen to a couple of songs but they’re beautiful. I know I am going to love the rest of it,” said Valencia Community College student, Renee Guerny.

And indeed all of the listeners will love the rest of it.

Even if you’re not a fan of minimalist indie pop, giving Toro y Moi a chance would be in your best interest. While low key hipster tunes can sometimes be obnoxious to the senses in just how plain it is, Bundick finds a way to combine simplicity with interesting.

His latest CD does not stray far from his first though. It’s hard to imagine how he’ll find a way to top his first two releases, but it will be exciting to see and his fans will be waiting anxiously in the meantime.

Check out his music on <http://www.myspace.com/toroymoi>.



# Patrick stumps on new record

## Lead singer from ‘Fall Out Boy’ releases a solo EP, but falls short of the bands previous success

By Christine Saraceno  
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As of lately Patrick Stump has had a lot of time on his hands. With the future of his pop-punk band Fall Out Boy unknown, he had to find something to do with all his newfound freedom. Unfortunately, the thing he chose to do was make a solo EP, “Truant Wave.”

It would appear that the Fall Out Boy lead singer, who has also established himself as a talented producer, simply has too many ideas floating around in his head. With those ideas he didn’t selectively combine certain elements together to make a cohesive sounding album.

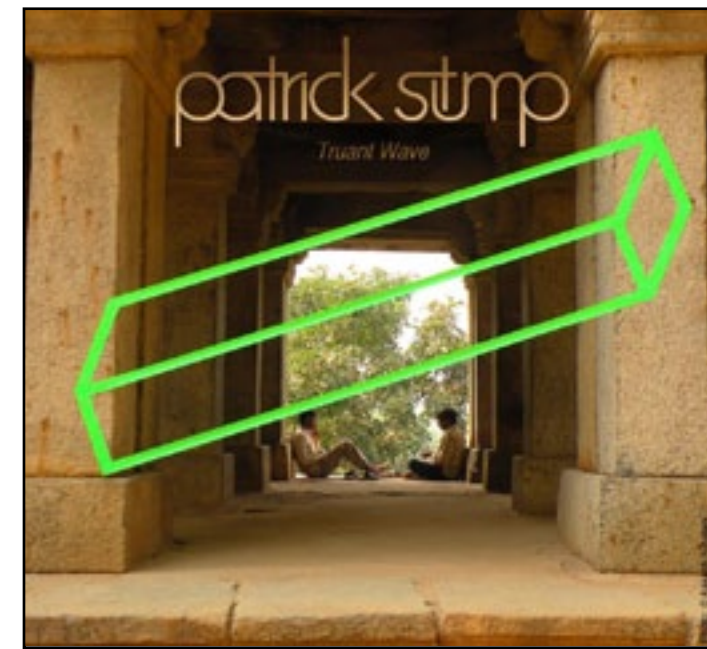
Rather he frantically mashed all of the ideas together like a less fascinating, musical version of Dr. Frankenstein.

On the EP’s lead single, “Cute Girls,” he channels his hero, Michael Jackson, with a smooth 80’s R&B beat which becomes heavily distorted upon the commencing of the vocals with an awkward reverberating synth.

On the song “Big Hype” he displays a heavy, bass backdrop which would’ve been perfect for a more anthemic pop song, but not this one.

No, rather Stump’s jazz scatting gives the song an unbalanced, chaotic feeling and makes it hard to follow.

“Porcelain” sounds like a truly awful lost 90’s pop track with it’s lazily thrown together lyrics, “I don’t ever want to meet you/cause you’re like porcelain/and I think it would crack/if I found you out a brat/stay perfect/stay perfect.”



The whole album’s full of tired aphorisms and cheesy pickup lines that Fall Out Boy’s known for.

When asked about her opinion on Stump’s solo effort, Valencia student Angela Romano said, “I heard ‘Cute Girls’ and ‘Spotlight.’ They sound okay I guess. I heard that the whole thing was just reject songs from Soul Punk (Stump’s unreleased full length album).

A vital task Stump needs to complete is finding his own voice as a solo artist. “Truant Wave” feels very much like Fall Out Boy tried to make an R&B album and failed miserably.

The album is listed under alternative on iTunes but there is not a true path following a set genre. There are also guest appearances by Alph-a-bit and D.A. from the band Chester French on the album. We can only hope that when Soul Punk is released it’ll offer something more aesthetically pleasing.



# Nostalgia now comes in the form of DVDs

## Oldschool Nickelodeon series gains recent popularity

By Maraya Figueroa  
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Attention kids of the 90's. Remember all of those hit cartoons that seemed to always play everyday on Nickelodeon?

There are numerous Facebook pages dedicated to 90's Nickelodeon shows full of people remembering "the good days." One of which is called

"I want my 90's Nickelodeon back" and it has over 1,115,299 people who "liked" the page.

Among those shows is one that only lasted two seasons called "Invader Zim." It's a series about an alien who poses as a human child to not only learn about Earth, but to conquer it. It was a show that was cancelled 10 years ago but on

Feb. 22, "Invader Zim: Operation Doom" was put on sale for the first time.

Fans, for years, have fought for the re-airing of shows, even the revival of some. Invader Zim is one of those shows loyal fans will not give up on.

"Operation Head Pidgeons" is not an official group, but they believe that if enough DVDs are bought they will green-light new episodes of "Invader Zim." Their website states "we are trying to resurrect the show Invader Zim. It aired on Nick up until 10 years ago, when it was canceled due to lack of fan-base."

It's not common to see a cartoon that was cancelled 10 years ago with a new DVD release. What is the reason behind this? Is it because of its small, but persistent, fan base?

Despite whether that's true or not, fans have something to say about it. "When I first found out about the DVD I thought we had little to no chance of bringing the show back. But once I

got the DVD, I realized that it was because of us this got released," said Billy Olivas.

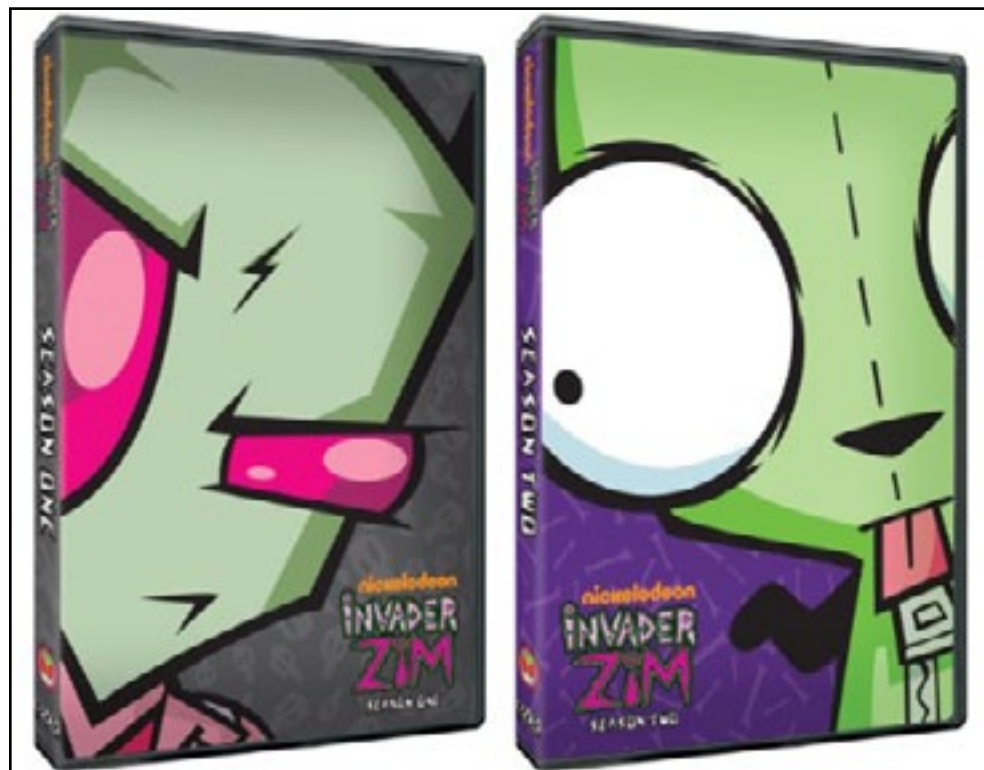
"In my opinion, Nick didn't spend much money on making the DVD. Although the quality of the episodes is great!" said Maegan Crew.

Some others are more skeptical about the matter, maybe this sudden burst of popularity isn't about satisfying the loyal fan's wishes but about what they will pay up for it. "Some people are just trying to make money. If they think people are going to buy it, they're going to sell it," said Matthew Vetterick.

Most of the "Invader Zim" merchandise can be seen at "Hot Topic," but out of all the cartoon merchandise which one has the most sales?

Kristina Hilton is an employee for "Hot Topic" and said "for the past several years Invader Zim sales have done the best, well, besides Hello Kitty." The age group who buys the most "Invader Zim" merchandise tends to be ages "10-20, but mostly 13-15."

Perhaps "Invader Zim" was not released during the right time and if it had premiered recently, the future of the show would have been different; maybe even lasting for more than two seasons.



## Creative palette for your craving palate

By Melissa Lane  
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Orlando's International Drive offers a wide selection of restaurants. A few evenings ago, I was craving something small that would satisfy my hunger, and have a lively environment, but that was also intimate.

I knew exactly where to go: Cafe Tu Tu Tango. A tapas restaurant influenced by the art, cuisine, and culture of Barcelona, Spain. I could enjoy a late night snack and soak in the diverse atmosphere.

I started off with a dish that had a little spice, cajun chicken egg rolls. Each one is filled with roasted corn, cheddar and goat cheese, and cajun chicken. Served on a colorful dish to accent the bright colors of the food and garnished with diced tomatoes, every bite of the egg roll was better than the first.

The taste was exotic, not overpowered with spice, and the creole dipping sauce added to the flavor of the corn and cheeses. Definitely a must try on the menu. The egg rolls were quite filling so I decided to go straight for the dessert menu. I wanted something sweet but not too rich.

I am a huge banana lover so I decided to order a banana pizza. A cinnamon flat bread topped with sliced bananas, streudel, banana-walnut ice-cream, caramel, and whip cream. From the first bite I knew I was going to enjoy this dessert. The different combinations of banana, with streudel, and ice-cream worked extremely well. It wasn't too rich, just the right amount of sweetness to end my meal.

The environment is bohemian inspired. They feature artists who sell their art. Other entertainment includes opera singers, tango dancers, interpretive dancers and magicians.

Cafe Tu Tu Tango is located on 8625 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819 and is open Sunday to Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Friday to Saturday 11:30 a.m. 12 a.m.



# Mardi Gras hits Universal Studios

## Thousands of guests come out for the floats, food, and performers

By Anna Gerrol  
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One of the largest and most outrageous parties in the country is being held right around the corner. For the past 16 years, Universal Orlando Resort has hosted their own family oriented version of Mardi Gras, packed with everything that you'd find in New Orleans; authentic Cajun cuisine, hand-picked

bands and performers, colorfully decorated floats, and plenty of beads.

"We bring all of what makes Mardi Gras great together with national-level musical artists to create a family-friendly celebration that fills the entire theme park," said Jim Timon, Senior Vice-president of Entertainment for Universal Orlando Resort.

The most spectacular part of Mardi Gras is definitely the parade. A lot of time and effort goes into building the floats and making sure they are designed as elaborately as possible. Blaine Kern Artists from Kern Studios, who also builds many of the actual New Orleans Mardi Gras floats, has a large part in the production of Universal's parade.

"It takes about a month for our artists to design and create it, and then we work hand in hand with Kern Studios in New Orleans," said Lora Wallace, member of the creative department.

As soon as Halloween is over, construction of the floats begins, which is a full 4 months ahead of time. Each year, the team tries to outdo the previous parade, and improve on anything they can.

"This year, out of the 12 floats, 11 of them have two levels. We also added affects. On the fire float we have actual live flames. On the water float we have bubbles. On the earth float we have a lot of smoke to make it kind of look like

a morning dew," added Wallace.

The theme this year is Earth, Wind, Fire, and Water. In addition to these four new floats, some of the same floats from previous years are still featured, such as the Gator float and the King and Queen float. They each make their way through the park, while carrying hundreds of riders who toss out pounds of colorful beads to anxious spectators.

The actual parade performers are very important as well. According to Wallace, "Six-hundred people auditioned for the parade, and we hired about 100 people." With so many individuals interested in being a part of the parade, it's no wonder why this event is so popular.

Following the parade every, guests can keep the party going with a live concert. This year's line-up consists of all types of performers, from Rock to Pop to R&B. Newer acts such as Pitbull, Sean Kingston, and Neon Trees are set to perform along with older groups like The Beach Boys.

"There's something about the music. When I hear it, all I want to do is dance. It just moves me and takes over," Canadian resident Andria Dopp explained in regards to her first visit to Mardi Gras. With 15 different and unique headliners, there's bound to be something to please everyone.

Along with these big names also comes a select group of New Orleans bands performing the best of "The Big Easy's Blues, Jazz, and Zydeco." These performers have been pulled straight from Louisiana and brought to Orlando exclusively for Mardi Gras. They perform every Saturday night in the



Guests dance to a Zydeco band with Mardi Gras atmosphere talent.

"French Quarter Courtyard," where the festivities continue. Here, you can find a variety of New Orleans inspired foods such as Jambalaya, Shrimp Po Boy sandwiches, beignets, King's Cake, and more.

Whether you're a food connoisseur, a music buff, or just a regular party-goer, Universal Orlando's Mardi Gras is sure to keep you entertained.

The festivities continue every Saturday and select Fridays through April 23, so do not miss out! For more information or to purchase tickets, visit <http://www.universalorlando.com/mardigras>.



Photos by Shannon Scheidell / Valencia Voice  
Elaborately decorated floats fill the streets during Universal's Mardi Gras.



Shannon Scheidell / Valencia Voice  
King's Cake and beignets, two of the most talked about desserts featured, are served each and every Saturday night in the French Quarter Courtyard.





Gary W. Green/Orlando Sentinel/MCT

Orlando Magic guard, Jameer Nelson, is tripped up driving past New York guard, Chauncey Billups.

# Don't believe the hype

## New York Knicks fall to Orlando's Magic

By Rofkens Petit-Homme  
rpetithomme@valenciavoice.com

A note to all the 'band-wagon' New York Knickerbocker fans, one win does not mean that your team has won the NBA championship.

Orlando Magic fans got to witness their team posterize the New York Knicks, 116-100, improving their record to 39-22 placing 4th in the current standings for the NBA eastern conference.

From the beginning of the game the tone was set; it was tied four-four for about five minutes. The teams did pick up offense at the end of the game, with a total of 97 free throws attempted.

New York Knicks head coach Mike D'Antoni was not surprised by the Orlando Magic offense, "They played well. They hit a couple of shots."

With three of the Knicks ( Chauncey Billups, Amar'e Stoudemire, Carmelo Anthony) sinking most of the shots during the game, 85 out of 110; they somehow allowed Jameer Nelson to make big plays when they mattered.

"We lost him in the defensive transitions, they did what they had to do to win," said Coach Mike D'Antoni, who finished his interview in a sincere mood, late in the fourth quarter, Guard, Chauncey Billups went down with a bad injury.

Ryan Anderson said, "Don't pay too much to the hype."

Anderson and Nelson were two of the key factors that brought the Magic back from a bad second quarter.

Head coach Stan Van Gundy said, " That was-I think our worst second quarter of the season." Then again that second quarter helped place cen-

ter Dwight Howard into the record books as the youngest person in NBA history to obtain 7000 career rebounds. Howard is 25 years and 183 days in front of Wilt 'The Stilt' Chamberlain ( 26 years and 128 days).

Continuing on to the fourth quarter where the 'magic' happened Van Gundy had this to say, "We made it tough on Anthony, we gave him tough shots."

Thanks to forward Hedo Turkoglu getting ejected by referee Jason Philips in the second quarter, guard Quentin Richardson stepped up to play defense against Anthony.

"Melo (Carmelo Anthony) plays bully ball, he uses his height and physical strength to get to the basket." When asked about how he felt about getting into the game, "It makes me feel proud...my strength is one of my best attributes and I love cheering from these guys off the bench; I am glad I got a chance to play."

Richardson finished with ten points and five rebounds, Van Gundy seems appreciative towards his pinewood guys, "I tell you what, I've always had great respect for guys who do what Q (Richardson) and Chris (Duhon) did tonight. These are veteran guys who, Q was starting and Chris was playing every night early in the year. They've been out of the rotation now for a long time."

Jameer Nelson finished the night with fourteen points in the fourth quarter. I now know it is safe to steal the nick name 'Mr. Big Shot' from Billups and bestow the honor to Nelson. What do you think? Am I right or am I right?



# Knicks trade proves worthy

## First night shows good business for Anthony

By Alan Hahn  
Newsday

NEW YORK — He was at Madison Square Garden in the morning, when it was still and the buzz was merely a reverberation of the lights that shone down over the stage he was about to take. And it still hadn't sunk in yet. "I still felt like a visiting player," Carmelo Anthony said.

But his image on the famed Seventh Avenue marquee was not just a welcome to a new team, it was a welcome home. And when he ran through the tunnel amid a raucous ovation, wearing blue and orange and sporting a new number, 7, and took the stage in prime time for Wednesday night's 114-108 win over the Milwaukee Bucks, it finally sank in. "It's a dream come true for myself," Anthony said. "I'm ready to get down to business."



New York Knicks' newly-acquired Carmelo Anthony, reacts to the game action during the second half against the Milwaukee Bucks.

Business was good. Anthony scored 27 points and grabbed 10 rebounds in his Knicks debut, including a game-clinching jumper with 26.8 seconds left that gave the Knicks a 108-102 lead and ensured the Bucks wouldn't spoil his night. Amid a chorus of "Me-lo, Me-lo," he stepped to the line and drained two free throws to give the Knicks a 112-106 advantage.

Amar'e Stoudemire, who now shares the stage he has owned all season, was almost an afterthought for most of the night, as his touches were limited with Anthony (25 field-goal attempts to 13 for Stoudemire) on the floor. Plus he was hit with some early foul trouble.

Stoudemire finished with 19 points, fouled out with 1:01 left and picked up his league-leading 15th technical foul as he roared his displeasure. Stoudemire's next technical will result in an automatic one-game suspension.

Chauncey Billups had 21 points and eight assists in his Knicks debut and also heard a chorus of "Chauncey Billups!" Toney Douglas had 23 points off the bench for the Knicks (29-26), who have won three straight. John Salmons had 27 points for the Bucks (22-35).

On the day Anthony was officially introduced and joined Stoudemire to form one of the most lethal offensive tandems in the NBA, Anthony talked about defense. What? No really, defense.

"Defensively, I really want to focus in on that at the end of the day," Anthony said. "I think that's one thing that takes a lot of effort. If we can get everybody to buy into that, the challenge, we'll be good to go."

Defense is going to be a major question for this team, especially with a lineup that doesn't have any players taller than 6-10. "We all know this is a high-power offense, we know that we can score 120 points a game if we really wanted to," Anthony said. "But that's not going to win games at the end of the season."

Even the offense is a work in progress. With no time to practice before Wednesday night's game, coach Mike D'Antoni said he installed "four or five plays" during the pregame walk-through and said they would be "playing like an All-Star Game almost." And that's what makes the addition of Billups so important. The veteran point guard, a former NBA Finals MVP, has been overshadowed by the magnitude of Anthony's arrival, but his presence is crucial. And while Anthony may have longed



New York Knicks' newly-acquired Carmelo Anthony (7) drives to the basket during the second half against the Milwaukee Bucks at Madison Square Garden. The Knicks defeated the Bucks, 114-108.

for New York, the 34-year-old Billups was crushed to have to leave his hometown of Denver, where his wife and three daughters will remain for the remainder of the season. But Billups sees opportunity here in the latter stages of his prime. "I'm excited about this challenge," said Billups, who later added, "we came here with a lot of very high expectations."

"New York needed a moment like this," Anthony said. "Like Amar'e said, 'New York basketball is back.'"

—MCT Campus





Oklahoma City Thunder's Eric Maynor (6) passes in transition during the Orlando Magic's 111-88 victory over the Thunder.

# Magic shakes down thunder

By Darnell Mayberry  
The Oklahoman

Kevin Durant knew Orlando wouldn't feel sorry for his shorthanded Oklahoma City Thunder. He said so at the team's shoot-around Friday morning.

But when the Magic intentionally humiliated the Thunder, well after the game had already turned into a head-kicking -- on national television no less -- it became clearer than ever where the incoming intimidator fits in.

While Kendrick Perkins was busy undergoing his mandatory physical back in Oklahoma City, his new Thunder teammates were busy getting throttled, 111-88, in Orlando by his old nemesis Dwight Howard.

The Magic's big man scored a game-high 40 points with 15 rebounds and six blocks. Howard made 16 of 20 shots in 42 minutes. But it was his

final bucket that came with exactly two minutes showing on the clock that piled on and played the Thunder like a bunch of chumps.

With his five-time All-Star and MVP candidate sitting on 38 points, Orlando coach Stan Van Gundy opted to leave Howard in the game coming out of a timeout with 2:27 left to play. It was clear the Magic were trying to get Howard one final score. Howard spun off his defender from the left block and threw down one of his patented high-flying alley-oop dunks with 2:00 remaining.

It put the Magic up 22. The Magic called a timeout on their next offensive trip to get Howard out of the game, only after he tied his season high for points.

Thunder coach Scott Brooks and his players took the high road after the game.

"He got 40 points. He's a good player," Brooks said before adding that his players shouldn't necessarily have taken exception after the fact. "If you're that up-

set, stop him from getting 40 points. I don't worry about that. We didn't play well." Howard's final play was the least of the Thunder's concerns Friday. But it highlighted the team's glaring need for more toughness, which Perkins is expected to supply plenty of. The Thunder was called out by Josh Smith and the Atlanta Hawks on Dec. 31, when Russell Westbrook forced a last-second pass to Serge Ibaka for his 10th assist and a triple-double. OKC took the high road then as well, admitting Westbrook made an unwise decision.

"I guess that's how they play. We can't blame them for it," insisted Kevin Durant. "They're killers. They want to destroy every opponent. I'm not sure they would have done that to somebody else. But we beat them at our place, so I guess they wanted to get us back."

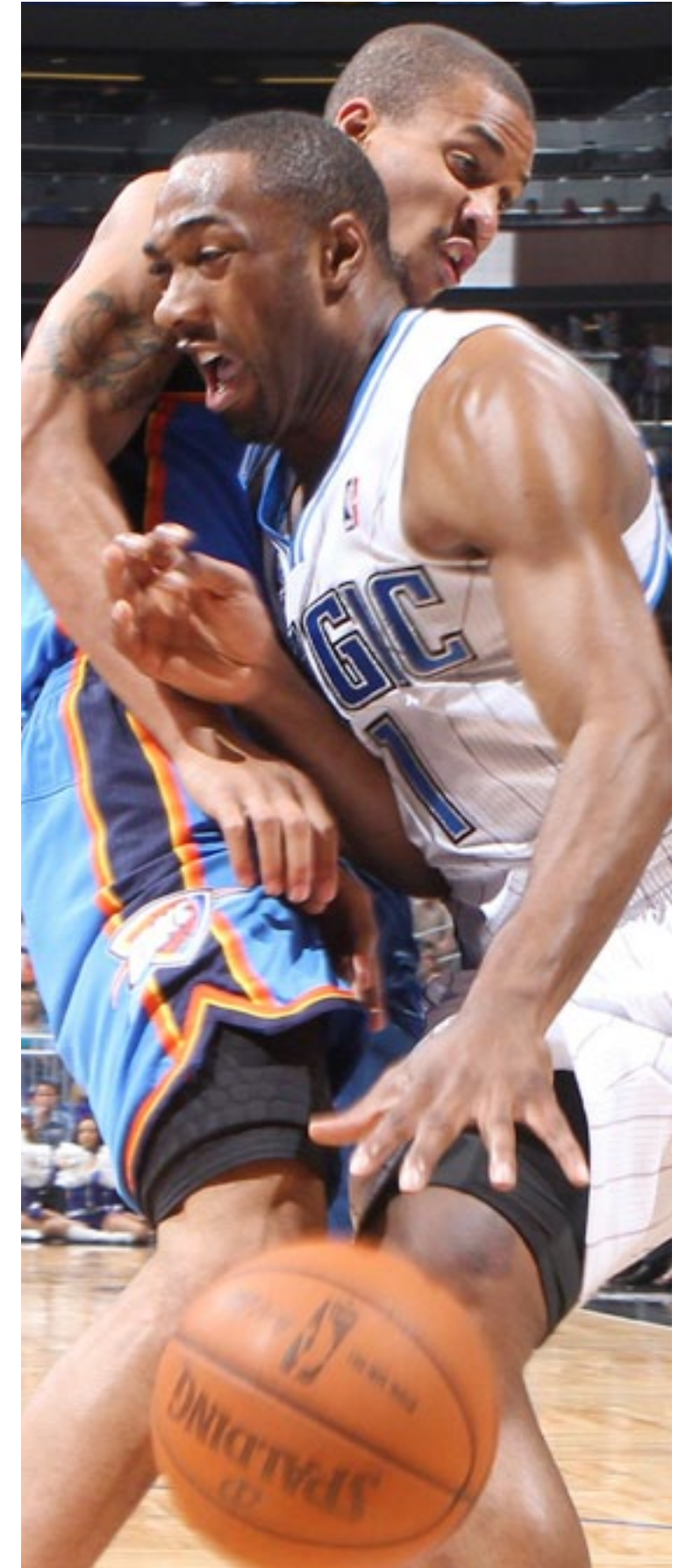
With two starters missing following the trade that sent power forward Jeff Green and center Nenad Krstic to Boston in exchange for Perkins, the Thunder barely could put up a fight.

The Thunder lost its last lead when the Magic took a 3-2 advantage with 9:15 left to play. Dribble penetration and dead-eye 3-point shooters, as it has throughout the season, again proved to be a deadly combo for the Thunder to contain. Orlando nailed 10 of 22 3-pointers off a stream of drive-and-kick sets that left the Thunder stumped.

Jason Richardson made five of seven 3-pointers, and guards Jameer Nelson and J.J. Redick combined for four treys. The Thunder tried to withstand the onslaught, even cutting an 18-point, third-quarter deficit to 10 at the start of the fourth quarter behind strong bench play. OKC maintained the same margin midway through the final period, but backbreaking back-to-back 3s by Redick and Nelson put the Magic ahead 16 and sparked a game-clinching 13-2 run.

The Thunder, meanwhile, couldn't put the ball in the hole all night, making just 29 of 87 shots (33.3 percent). Durant and Westbrook, the league's second highest scoring duo, went a combined 14-for-41 from the field. Help, however, is on the way.

—MCT Campus



Orlando Magic's Gilbert Arenas (1) drives into Oklahoma Thunder's Eric Maynor (6) during the first half at Amway Center.



# Knicks extinguish Heat

## New York holds off Miami; wins 91-86

By Steve Adamek  
The Record

Welcome to the Knicks, Mr. Big Shot. And welcome back, Knicks-Heat rivalry.

With five All-Stars on the floor Sunday, three of them scoring 20 or more points, Chauncey Billups strutted his championship chops and demonstrated why he owns the aforementioned nickname.

With a huge hand from Amar'e Stoudemire whom swat away LeBron James' shot for the lead in the final seconds,

plus 29 points from Carmelo Anthony (who steered LeBron to his teammate for that block), the Knicks stole out of Miami with a 91-86 victory.

That, plus plenty more helped Mike D'Antoni's team grab a game that seemed firmly in the hands of James (27 points), and Dwyane Wade (a mere 12), Chris Bosh (20 points, 12 boards) and the rest of the "Heatles."

And after completing a split of their four-game season series, they could meet again in April, in the postseason's first round, after what D'Antoni

called the biggest win of his two-plus season tenure as Knicks coach.

"Because we don't know who we are," D'Antoni said of its importance after what was Anthony's and Billups' third game as Knicks. "This gives us a little glimpse of what we can be and what we strive to be."

"On one of the better teams in the league, on their home court, and to win it the way we win it not being a good offensive night, that says a lot."

And Billups, the only other player with a championship ring in the Knicks' rotation and an aftethought to some in last week's Anthony deal, showed why when Sunday's game was to be won he also quarterbacked the Pistons to six straight East finals.

The Knicks were down six with 3:05 to play, but Billups' right-side runner (following two Anthony free throws) at 1:43 made it a two-point game.

After a right-baseline miss by Wade, the point guard came down a launched a three from well beyond the arc, again from the right side, to give the Knicks an 85-84 lead with 1:01 left.

"Melo (had) posted up and



Charles Trainor Jr., Miami Herald / MCT

**Stoudemire and Anthony trap LeBron James and force turnover. Billups, bottom, defends the basket from Mario chambers in the second quarter from American Airlines Arena in Miami, Florida.**

when I picked the ball up, I dropped back a little bit like I wasn't going to shoot it," Billups said of the shot. "But that's a shot I like to shoot."

He then stole a Bosh pass and turned it into two Shawne Williams free throws that extended that lead to 87-84 with 43.2 seconds to go.

"I'm always locked in. I always feel like the fourth quarter is a whole new game," Billups,

just 2-for-6 for nine points in the first three quarters, said.

"He's just a competitor, knows how to play, picks his spots and sticks the dagger in," D'Antoni said. But Stoudemire was the one who twisted it.

Two James free throws at 33.2 made it a one-point game again and following a turnover in the Knicks' ensuing inbounds play, James got the ball in his hands again and took it straight to the

rim and scored.

"I was watching the whole way," Stoudemire said. "I was going to contest the shot."

"I know those guys," D'Antoni said of his team's new "big three."

"They have big hearts. Big moment, big game, big shoulders, they have them. The bigger the stage, the bigger the game, the bigger they play."

— MCT Campus



Hector Gabino, El Nuevo Herald / MCT