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Official Student Media of Valencia College

Potential college-wide smoking ban continues to move forward

Work plan claims this will benefit both employees and students health and wallets

By Emmanuel Colon
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Valencia's District Board of Trustees has built a work plan to ban smoking on school property.

The plan came to be in September 2010 and the work team has been working on developing it since.

According to the work plan it is stated that this policy was created to: "Strengthen the College's existing policy on smoking in order to promote the health, well being and safety of students, faculty, staff and visitors while on the campus by ensuring protection from secondhand smoke exposure."

In addition, this charge, as a result, would include assistance for employees and students who want to kick the habit.

This policy would also "make it less attractive for new personnel and students to start smoking."



Sebastian Arbelaez / Valencia Voice
Krisey Lopez enjoys perhaps one of her final nicotine fixes at Valencia.

The Valencia Voice recently conducted a survey on all campuses in which 349 students and staff members were asked if they were for or against the smoking ban policy.

According to this study, 59% were against this policy while

also agreeing that the current smoking policy should be better enforced and the smoking areas should be more limited.

"Our main goal in SGA is to enforce the current policy and designated smoking areas," said West campus SGA President Catalina Perez.

"I wonder how it is going to be enforced," said English professor Jill Sebacher. "If a policy were in effect, what would be the repercussions? Would they fine students and staff for smoking on property?"

It is also included in the work plan that if employees and students successfully quit smoking, insurance costs for the school will decrease.

"The school can save money by passing this policy," said former SGA President Robert Stio. "That money can then go to expanding the roads, and we can even reduce book costs at the store."

Many students and faculty/staff are concerned about not being able to smoke in a stressful environment.

Sebacher adds, "You have a stress situation that affects students. Are you going to tell them not to smoke because they are nervous before a test?"

Details as to the adoption of this policy are yet to be known but according to the work plan, the team is still in the process of passing the new smoking ban, and the effective date of implementation is yet to be determined.

For more information on this policy, the work plan document can be found at: http://www.valenciacc.edu/generalcounsel/documents/Smoke_Free_Policy_Work_Plan.pdf. For other resources and information go to: http://www.valenciacc.edu/generalcounsel/hot_topics.cfm.

Visiting students watching, waiting

Libyans living in America fear what comes next back home

By Lauren Unger
WXMI-TV

For those from Libya living here in the United States, it's a time of worry, watching and waiting to see what direction their country will take.

Recently, the U.S. joined a United Nations operation in the country, attacking the military there in order to protect civilians from their own government run by Mummar Ghadafi. Reports say the longtime leader has been using deadly force to quell protests in the county.

Closer to home, some Libyans in the U.S. are rejoicing. "This is a very good thing. This shows this

man is not welcome, this man is not a legitimate leader anymore," said Ali Gebril, who fled Libya.

But other Libyan nationals including some here in west michigan are worried about their families back home.

"It's scary, and they didn't take into consideration that there are kids. They are bombing all night and there are girls, women, babies that are scared, they hear the bombing," said Ali Abomdas, a Libyan.

Abomdas and Yasin Imhimad are Libyans going for their masters here in the U.S. They and their families support Ghadafi, an opinion they say is far more common than what's being shown on international media.

Now as they watch the intervention, they're worried about their scholarships from Libya and the direction of the country, which they say has grown and thrived in recent years. "We have seen more than 40 years of progress. Now they are putting us 40 years back," said Imhimad.

And even though they admit there are things that could be better, they say they're worried about what will come next if Ghadafi is ousted.

"We have no guarantees and even if they are good, they were the ministers of defense, of securities, the military the same people as were with him, so why are they going to be better people than him? I don't believe so," said Abomdas.

"Those who are coming for change, as they believe, look at what this change has brought — casualties and killings from the beginning. So I don't expect too much from them and I don't want them," said Imhimad.

Now those abroad wait and watch, hoping the country they love will somehow come through all the military action to be whole again.

—MCT Campus



Erika Bolstad / MCT

Libyans in America still make their discontent heard.



Luis Sinco, Los Angeles Times / MCT

Protestors carry large Libyan revolutionary flag to the courthouse after the city's airport was bombed.



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Commissioners seek reappointment

Difficulty in Miami calls for a series of special elections

By Martha Brannigan and
Matthew Haggman
The Miami Herald

The Miami-Dade County Canvassing Board made the ouster of Mayor Carlos Alvarez and Commissioner Natacha Seijas official Friday morning, certifying the results of Tuesday's recall election.

Both officials are now out of office. The three-member canvassing board met for 27 minutes before certifying the results of the election.

The final tally: 183,652 voters countywide voted to recall Alvarez, and 24,796 voted to keep him in office. In Seijas' district, 17,677 people voted to oust her, while 2,485 voted for her to keep her seat.

It will now be up to the county commission to decide whether to call for a special election to replace the two politicians, or to appoint replacements. A majority of commissioners have told The Miami Herald they are poised to set a special election for voters to pick a successor to ousted Alvarez, rather than appoint a mayor themselves. But when they will meet to set the date remains undecided.

The consensus comes against a backdrop of intense voter anger that makes the option of a mayoral appointment politically toxic.

In recent days, a rising chorus

of voices -- including billionaire businessman Norman Braman, who spearheaded the movement to recall Alvarez after he pushed a budget that raised the property-tax rate -- is urging the commission to quickly meet to set a special election for mayor. Voters in District 13, which covers Hialeah and Miami Lakes, would also have to pick a county commissioner following the overwhelming recall Tuesday of veteran Commissioner Seijas.

"This is America, the place of elections. This is a democracy," Commissioner Javier Souto, whose District 10 includes Westchester, said in a telephone interview Thursday. "The people want an election, and it should be held as soon as possible."

Besides Souto, commissioners who have told The Herald they support a special election include: Rebeca Sosa, Sally Heyman, Carlos Gimenez, Lynda Bell, Jean Monestime, Dennis Moss, Jose "Pepe" Diaz and Commission Chairman Joe Martinez. Commissioners Bruno Barreiro, Barbara Jordan and Audrey Edmonson could not be reached for comment.

Sosa, whose District 6 cuts across sections of Coral Gables, Hialeah, and Miami, said in an interview Thursday that she doesn't "feel comfortable at all with pick-

ing who will be serving as the next mayor."

"A special meeting should be called as soon as possible to select a date for the election," she said.

To be sure, some voters favor an appointment over yet another election, which is more costly and means a longer period with an interim government without a mayor.

"I felt the recall was a travesty," said Allan Hall, 75, of Miami Beach. "We spent a great deal of taxpayer money because Braman and friends were having a hissy fit. Now we will spend more money to have another election during these austere times when vital services are being cut."

Under the county charter, the commission is tasked with deciding within 30 days whether to set a special election or to appoint a mayor. If commissioners opt for an election, as a majority says they favor, they must schedule the nonpartisan vote within 45 days of the decision.

An elected mayor would serve the balance of Alvarez's term, which was set to end in November 2012.

"The people have spoken," said Moss, whose district covers a large swath of South Dade. "We should hold a special election and have the citizens of Miami-Dade elect a



Robert Duyos, South Florida Sun-Sentinel / MCT
Mayoral recall shakes up the political landscape in South Florida.

new mayor."

"The people removed this mayor, so the people have to elect the mayor," said Bell, a freshman on the panel who represents District 8, which includes Pinecrest, Cutler Bay and Homestead. She said that despite being a fiscal conservative, she can't imagine appointing a mayor to save on the cost of an election in the current political environment. "If the mayor had resigned, it might be different. I'm for doing what the will of the people is."

"Let the people make the decision," agreed Heyman, of District 4, which includes swaths of the

northeast county, such as Aventura and portions of Miami Beach and North Miami. Heyman said "the people empowered themselves for change" by mounting a recall. "People are very unhappy with government at all levels right now."

But precisely when the commission will meet to set a date is unclear. Commission Chairman Martinez said Wednesday that commissioners will convene, at the latest, by April 4, when the next regular commission meeting is scheduled. But some are urging commissioners to meet sooner than that.

Mayoral candidate Marcelo

Llorente said in an email to supporters Thursday that it was "arrogance" on the part of commissioners to wait until next month. Llorente called for an emergency commission meeting to "allow voters the opportunity to elect their next mayor now."

Hialeah Mayor Julio Robaina, also a candidate for county mayor, said in a statement Thursday that the county commission "should move swiftly to schedule a special election so that our community may elect the leadership that will guide the county through these urgently needed reforms."

Commissioner Gimenez, himself a candidate for mayor, said he intends to call for a special meeting after the mayoral recall vote is certified Friday by the county canvassing board. Seven commissioners must agree to hold a specially scheduled meeting. "I would like to see the meeting happen early next week," Gimenez said.

Among those pushing for appointment: former mayoral candidate Helen B. Williams. In 2008, Williams lost to Alvarez, but she did better than many thought she would: She garnered 60,191 votes, amounting to 34 percent of ballots cast.

"I think I've earned the right to be appointed," Williams said in an interview Thursday. "Carlos' voters were recognized and he got in. Now, mine should be recognized."

—MCT Campus

Forest fires frighten Floridans

Blaze destroys 500 acres of land in McIntosh County

By Terry Dickson

The Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville

A state helicopter dropped water on a fire burning in a McIntosh County swamp Tuesday finally dousing -- officials hoped -- a fire that since Sunday had burned 960 acres, destroyed one mobile home and damaged three others.

The dozen tractors working the fire had built breaks around it but were unable to get into the

swamp that is less than a mile east of U.S. 17 and just north of McIntosh Academy high school, said Paul Robertson, a Georgia Forestry Commission spokesman. With the ongoing drought, the swamp is dry enough to burn but still so wet underneath that tractors bog down trying to get in, Forestry Commission rangers said.

The helicopter hovered low over the swamp Monday and dumped its loads of water precisely on the hot spot. The fire had been a "spot over" from the main fire.



Stephen M. Dowell, Orlando Sentinel / MCT

Thanks to Floridas recent droughts even controlled fires, such as this one, carry much more risk of spreading.

It appeared the water drops had done the job, but Robertson said, "We're not packing up and going home."

Also, smoke from spots still smoldering could settle close to the ground overnight and remain this morning as it did Tuesday, Robertson said. The smoke resulted in reduced visibility that caused the closure of U.S. 17 and delayed the opening of McIntosh Academy until 9 a.m.

The fire did its worst damage Sunday afternoon in Poppell Farms, a subdivision of mobile homes some of which set on lots in pine thickets.

County volunteer firefighters stood their ground around homes as the fire swept through burning from the ground into the tops of the trees, Robertson said.

"Those guys did a jam-up job. They probably saved 50 structures," he said.

They couldn't do much for a vacant double-wide that sat close to thickly growing pines. The pines were closest to the southern end of the mobile home and that's the direction the fire came from, he said.

The house also had very little room for a fire truck to get in and out, he said.

"There's no way to defend it," Robertson said.

Neighbor Delores Breland said she had been telling the owner he needed to clean out some of the trees as her husband had done. Across the dirt cul-de-sac from her house, her daughter and son-in-law's house sat in the middle of a treeless lawn with burnt grass, buckled siding and charred lattice beneath their back deck.

"Everybody made fun of me for cutting all the pine trees," her son-in-law Donald Rook said, "but it didn't burn."

He also has an above-ground pool in the back yard the firefighters drew water from to spray around his house.

"When I saw the ashes falling in the pool, we got out of here. They did an awesome job of keeping it away," he said of firefighters.

Forestry officials are urging residents to use



Joe Burbank, Orlando Sentinel / MCT

Firefighters work to keep the blaze away from homes.

restraint in outdoor burning after they had to battle several recent wildfires.

Frank Sorrells, manager of the Forestry Commission's Satilla District in Waycross, said wildfires had burned about 500 acres over a two-day period. Two of the fires were in marshes, both of which had escaped from upland property where people were burning debris, he said.

Sunday's fire burned about 150 acres of marsh and the one Monday burned about 125 acres, but both threatened structures on the uplands, he said.

Eleven other smaller fires accounted for the 225 acres burned.

"We just ask people to give us a call if they want to do any outdoor burning," Sorrells said.

The Forestry Commission was issuing burn permits Tuesday, but Sorrells cautioned all outdoor burning can be suspended at any time during a particular day, especially if afternoon winds strengthen.

— MCT Campus

Proposition sure to go up in smoke

Valencia administration pulls for futile smoking ban across all college campuses

There have been talks since September of last year about a policy that bans smoking on campus.

Yes people, Valencia is considering taking a stance against smoking by expanding its current policy that can range from prohibition on campus to even a full ban on school property.

According to the college's "Smoke Free/Tobacco Free Campus Policy Work Plan," the ban can extend all the way to smoking in parked cars and public walkways and roads within Valencia property.

Sure they can claim that they're doing this for the benefit of students and college employees, but there could be ulterior motives to this policy (saving money on insurance) as well.

Ultimately, this plan will fail. People will still be smoking cigarettes regardless of whatever policy is in effect.

This plan may work for campuses that are small like Osceola and Winter Park, but for the larger ones like East and West, there are too many students to keep track of. They will get away with it, not to mention any protests that may occur whenever this policy is implemented.

Another big problem with this policy is enforcing it. There are many students who don't smoke in the designated areas who also happen to smoke in the breezeways.

Our question here at the Valencia Voice is: Where do we draw the line between a culture of health and individual choice?

If Valencia was really interested in promoting healthy lifestyles to its students and employees, why not remove the vending machines? Why not get rid of Cabin Creek and contract healthier food services? That's right. No more pizza or Philly cheese steaks, or hamburgers.

Instead of taking extreme measures in banning smoking, Valencia's work plan should focus on actually enforcing its current policy. It may also want to include getting rid of some of the ashtrays that are inconveniently located in front of building entrances, and set up locations that are generally isolated yet accessible.

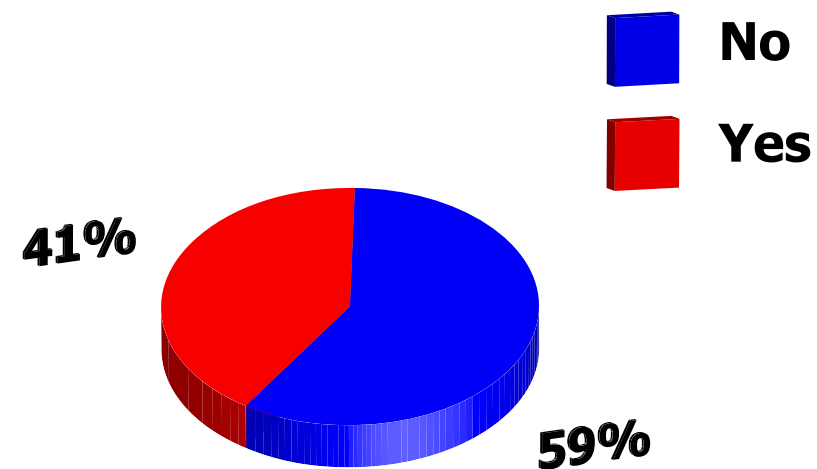
Don't take away their freedom of choice. Keep a status quo between smokers and non-smokers.

Help those trying to kick the habit by providing counseling. Take the University of Iowa as an example which provides reimbursement for prescription medicine to aid in smoking cessation and even for nicotine patches and gum.

The bottom line is that school is a very stressful environment, and unfortunately there's nothing anyone can do about it. If smoking a cigarette helps them relax, then by all means let them have one! And if they want to quit, help them with more rational and active means. A ban on smoking simply won't do.

For more resources regarding this policy and other related information, go to: http://www.valenciacc.edu/generalcounsel/hot_topics.cfm

Should Smoking Be Banned On Campus?



Breakdown

West Campus 100 Votes: 42% Yes 58% No
East Campus 100 Votes: 26% Yes 74% No
Osceola Campus 100 Votes: 55% Yes 45% No
Winter Park Campus 49 Votes: 43% Yes 57% No

Total Votes 349: 41% Yes 59% No

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We're all adults here

By Victor Ocasio

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It comes as no surprise to anyone in the modern world, thanks to the billions of dollars spent yearly on anti-smoking campaigns of course, that smoking is an unhealthy lifestyle choice that carries with it risk for serious diseases such as lung cancer and emphysema.

With that said, the choice to smoke is exactly that: a choice. All responsibility from negative effects lie solely with the individual and despite this editor's suggestion that readers should refrain from picking up the habit, ultimately the decision is not mine.

College campuses worldwide are bustling institutions with strict deadlines and challenging course work and each carries within them an underlying stressful tone as it prepares people for a complicated job market.

Some deal with stress differently than others and if lighting up a cigarette is what they choose to do, then as long they do so in the appropriate designated areas, far be it for me to obstruct their rights to do so.

At the collegiate level administrations and faculty members are dealing with students that, with the exception of some dual-enrolled high schoolers, are adults and thus should be given the same respect regardless of what personal actions they take in their private lives.

Their education is something that is not simply given to them; while financial aid has, for many, offered the opportunity to pursue higher learning, the very real responsibility to pay for their time in school falls upon them.

Keepinh that in mind, and with consideration to what other areas in life mandate, catering for paid services, the issue with smoking on campus is something that really isn't one.

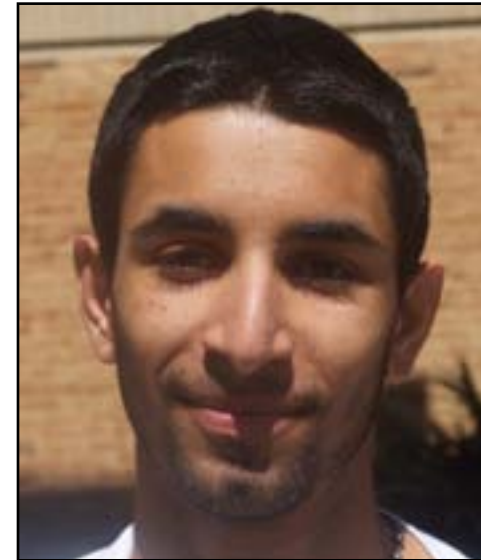
As long as someone is a registered student, employed staff, or faculty member and has every legal right to be on campus, there should be no doubt regarding their right to engage in the unhealthy but nationally accepted act of cigarette or cigar smoking at school.

What do you think about smoking on campus?



"I think it's fine. Some people do it for stress, so as long as they do it in the designated area."

— Monique Jones



"I don't like it (smoking). I don't like the smell of it."

— Joel Pinero



"As long as they do it in the smoking areas, it's okay."

— Theresa Bonch



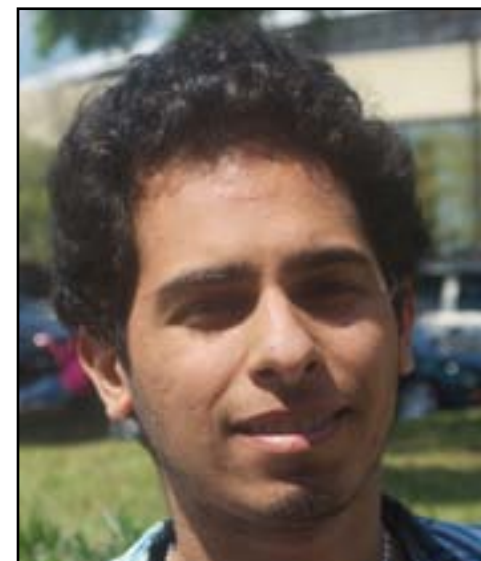
"I'm all for it."

— Brandon Stevens



"I don't like the smell of it. It's unhealthy."

— Marisol Nava



"I think it's terrible for personal reasons. I've lost family members because of smoking."

— Juan Valle



"I'm not a smoker. I'm annoyed if I'm around it and have to breathe it in."

— Kate Jacobs



"As long as they're not around me, I don't care."

— Javier Rodriguez

Photos by Emanuel Colon, Reporting by Jonathan Terbeche

The price some pay for the freedom of speech

How the world of journalism and open information has battled with world leaders

By Camilo Echeverri Bernal
cecheverribernal@valenciavoice.com

Our revolutionary tools are the press and our freedom of speech. We like being heard. Loud and clear. We like being heard, because we feel our words are often times silenced, censored, and blocked by the governments and by the media outlets that are subservient and blindly loyal to the potentates of our world.

The Libyan police have shot journalists. Authorities in Japan have incarcerated reporters. Presidents have shut off websites and censored them, for they are the voice of the people. Despots like Muammar Gaddafi take no hostages. They

seek to terminate, annihilate, cut off and sever any and all visible threats to their power.

Like in the Church of old, there are no alternatives, only dissenters and heretics to be immolated and burnt. How do they get away with it? Fear tactics. Fear is the greatest tool and weapon these absolutists have against the vox populi. Fear and manpower. Fear and guns, torture, extradition and death.

Yet what do the rulers of the world do in the face of such atrocities? Do they charge against these corrupt men? Do they seek to remove the crowns off the heads of these cunning monsters? No. They let others do that. The people have to take justice into their own hands. Like in Egypt

with Mubarak or Libya with Gaddafi.

Fellow oppressors revel in the fact that these leaders can exert such levels of dominion over their countrymen. We do not tolerate the killing of one nation by another. But when it comes to a people killing their fellows, we almost applaud. It is too much to process, and we avert our eyes, plug our ears and play dumb.

“For the writers of WikiLeaks, the only way of liberating the people is by showing them what their governments dare not.”

In light of recent events and also past ones, WikiLeaks has shown to be the epitome of freedom of speech. For those involved in the project, the only way of liberating the people is by showing them what their governments dare not. By uncovering the programs, genocide.

The writers of WikiLeaks open the windows and let the pestilence out, for everyone to breathe and wake in. They have leaked cables from Egypt, Russia, the U.S., the crimes our military committed against civilians in Iraq and Afghanistan, amongst others that are too foul to even mention.

Many heads of state as well as their citizens would have the Chief Editor of WikiLeaks, the Australian journalist Julian Assange, tried for high treason and espionage, brought to the U.S. and put on death row.

Another victim is Private Bradley Manning, who has been in jail since last year and has been humiliated daily by being forced to strip down and



Courtesy of Bradley Manning Support Network

Private Manning has been imprisoned since 2010.

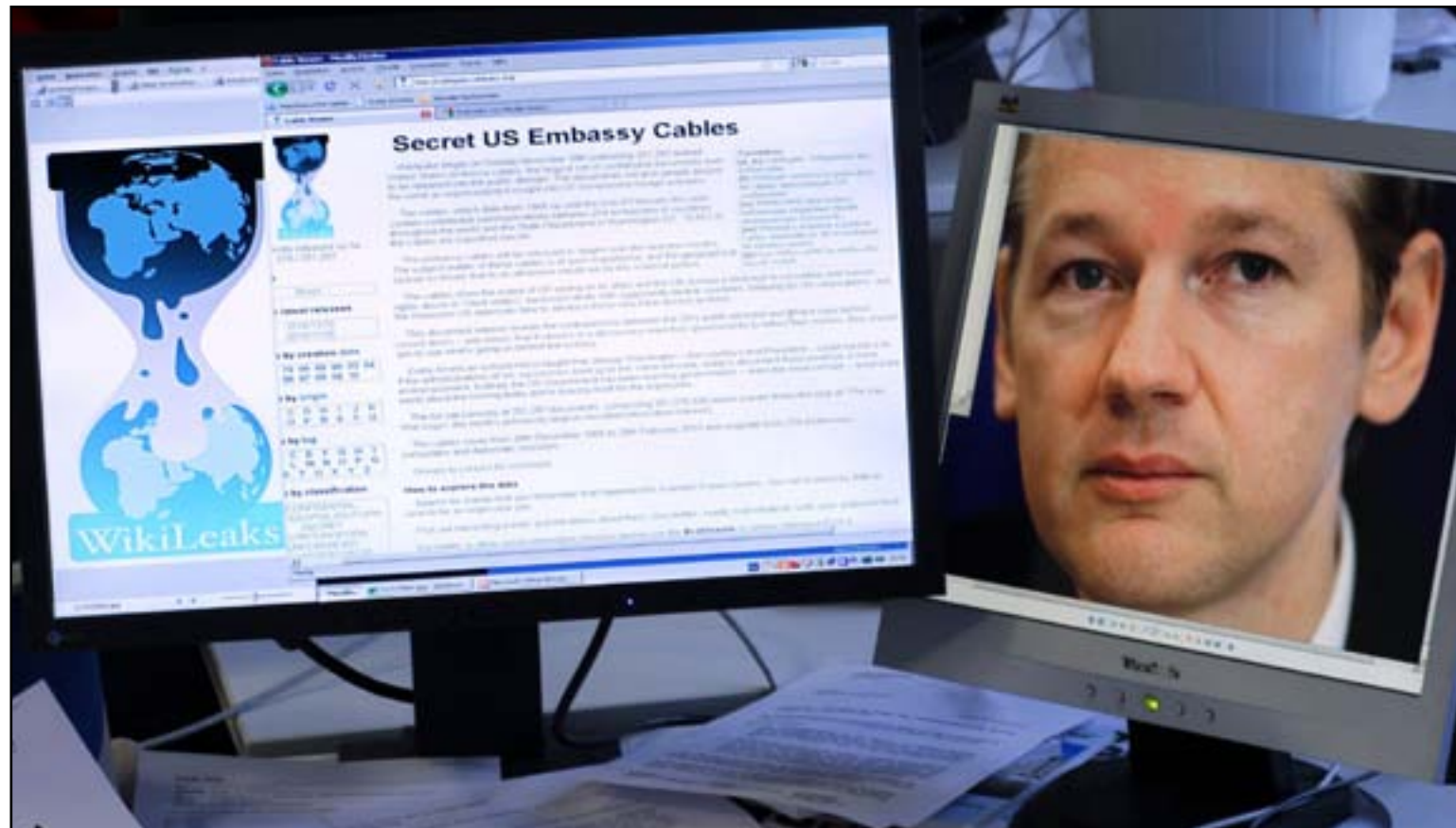
sleep without any clothes on for allegedly leaking military documents to WikiLeaks. For a country that holds up the constitutional values presented in the First Amendment, we are very quick to put an end to rumors and ‘threats.’

As we observe banks rise up and second chances being given to Wall Street, the middle class struggles with mortgages, finding jobs, keeping unions, as was proven in Wisconsin. We have but to wonder where the interests of our senators and elected officials lie.

Why are they not being interrogated by reporters, why are they not being put under the spotlight? We elect them, yet, do they represent our best interests? The interests of the citizenry, of Florida and elsewhere? Or do they represent the interests of corporations and lobbyists? Of the Federal Reserve?

When will this deceit end on both sides?

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” — First Amendment of the Constitution, of this United States of America.



Jens Buettner, Abaca Press / MCT

WikiLeaks' Chief Editor Julian Assange has been tried for high treason for using the site to divulge secret information.

Charlie Sheen is definitely not winning

There is nothing funny about the situation this actor presents with

By Shay Castle
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I have absolutely no interest in writing an opinion piece about Charlie Sheen.

Being a working college student, I don't have the time or desire to form an opinion about the latest drug-crazed celebrity. The only opinion I have is my opinion about other people's opinion of Charlie Sheen.

But there was the assignment, up on the board for next issue's story call: write an opinion piece about Charlie Sheen. Its very presence made me cringe. I wanted to know who was going to write that story, and what their judgment would be.

As it turned out, according to the opinion editor, no one had volunteered yet. The features editor jumped in with her thoughts on Sheen and his extracurricular

activities. Turns out, she finds him hilarious. She follows him on Twitter just to keep up with all crazy axioms he spews.

In that instant, I knew I couldn't let anyone else write this piece.

I had to save Charlie.

Many would argue that he doesn't need to be saved, or even want to be. Andre Taylor, an engineering major, thinks that "he is faking everything," presum-

ably for the media attention.

A fair assessment, considering that Sheen has now planned a 20-show tour he's billing as "My Violent Torpedo of Truth/Defeat is Not an Option." The show has sold out in several venues, including the enormous Radio City Music Hall.

To think that people would pay as much as \$80 to see, and \$750 to meet, a drug-addicted celebrity is a sickening thought, at least to me.

Pre-meltdown, I defended Sheen's antics. Cocaine and hookers are not my style, but I don't begrudge them to anyone else. His lifestyle might have been questionable, but he seemed to be managing, and I could honestly enjoy a joke at his expense without remorse.

That was before he lost his job, putting his career, and those of his co-stars, in jeopardy.

According to Health Canada, the Canadian government-run health website, "drug use becomes a problem when use of a drug results in negative consequences for the person who uses the drug."

Sheen has gone from use to abuse, and there is nothing funny about watching someone struggle down that long road. It



Lawrence K. Ho, Los Angeles Times / MCT

Sheen appearing at the CBS session of the television critics press tour.

ends only one of two ways, recovery or death.

As I walked around Valencia's West campus listening to students' and their opinions on Sheen, the word now synonymous with the man kept popping up: "Winning."

The word has become his catchphrase. Say it in a crowded room and chances are someone will associate it with Sheen. But Charlie Sheen is not "winning."

Winning is recovery. Winning is a steady job and healthy relationships. Winning is relying on friends and family to help you overcome a powerful addiction.

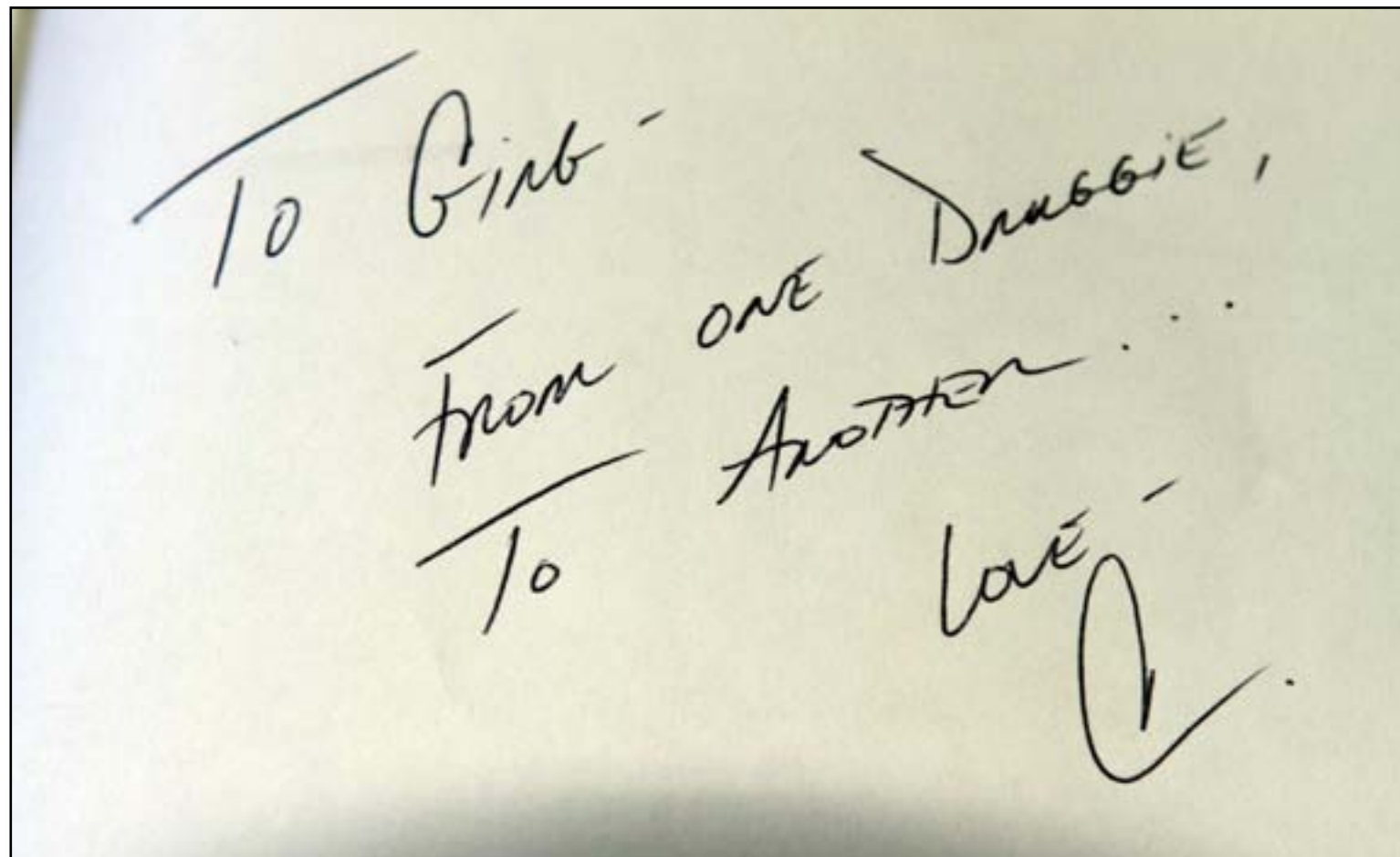
As long as people continue to encourage his antics by following him on Twitter and buying tickets to laugh at his drug-fueled ranting, he will never be

winning. Sheen needs to take that all-important, and nearly impossible, first step; admit that he has a problem. There is no way he can move forward when his focus is on performing for fans who paid to see him high and incoherent.

I know that Sheen has made his choices, and I bear no responsibility to him or his recovery, except that which every human being owes to one another: to be decent, kind, and empathic, and to wish the best for someone in a terrible situation.

Although she was speaking ironically, nursing major Edita Sehic summed up my hope for Charlie Sheen when she spoke of him:

"I think Charlie Sheen is going to end up winning."



Barbara Binstein, Abaca Press / MCT

A note from Sheen to porn star Ginger Lynn reveals his drug habits and acceptance of them as early as 1991.

Young filmmaker speaks about his beginning journey

'World of Jenks' star encouraged UCF students to not give up their dreams

By Amanda Gonzalez
agonzalez@valencivoice.com

Andrew Jenks, a young filmmaker with a hit show on MTV, made an appearance Wednesday, March 16 at the University of Central Florida. Jenks told the audience of his journey to where he is today and encouraged at-

tendees to never give up. Success was not instant for Jenks.

Jenks spoke about his first documentary, "Room 335," and the ups and downs that it brought for him. No nursing home in New York would allow Jenks to live in the home for a week to follow and document the lives of the elderly. As the "no's" kept

rolling in, Jenks decided to make some calls to Florida, where a Port St. Lucie nursing home finally allowed him to move in, live with, and document life for the residents at the home.

The task of putting the documentary out was just as hard for Jenks. "I started submitting it randomly to film festivals, I just

wanted to get on screen somewhere," said Jenks of the documentary he made. "I got rejected from a lot of places. Some of those film festivals even called and said it wasn't even a good movie, stop submitting it to film festivals."

Jenks said that one of the biggest things he learned professionally, "was not taking no for an answer." Jenks made it a point to inform that he would not be where he is today had he accepted the "no's" from the nursing homes in New York and the film festivals.

"World of Jenks," which is Jenks' MTV show, seemed to be a topic of interest with the audience. Jenks says he agreed to do the show because he wants to give the younger generation in America a voice. Jenks lived with and filmed people in the age range of 19-25. Each subject had a different life from the other, but it was all real and all happening to these young kids.

Jenks said that he cannot choose a favorite because each person opened his eyes to something different. Jenks moved in with each subject for a week, whether it meant staying in their room, on their couch, on the floor



Photo courtesy of MTV

This documentary series starring Jenks features inspirational young people from different parts of the United States.

or on the streets in one particular case.

"I thought this would be a cool way to still be able to work and kind of engage with what is my audience, the people who watch the show, and talk to them and get a feel for. You have the show, but it's on TV and you don't get that same experience," Jenks commented about his college speaking tour.

Adam Hill, a longtime friend of Jenks and law student at Florida Coastal in Jacksonville, was in attendance at Jenks' speech. "He's a down to earth guy, the same guy you see on TV. That's why he's doing this right here, to put a face behind it," said Hill. "You see an episode and don't actually get to see that this is what he's really all about."

After Jenks' speech students were given the opportunity to

line up and ask him questions. Most questions were based on "World of Jenks" and the different subjects from different episodes, some of whom Jenks still keeps in contact with.

UCF student Alexis Acosta stuck around for the entire two hour speech. "I've seen him before in St. Louis at a convention," said Acosta. "It was just about the same speech, but both times it was so awesome because he speaks for people our age."

"Amazing crowd here at Orlando," said Jenks afterward.

Casting for the second season of "World of Jenks" is currently taking place. Information on the show can be found at http://www.mtv.com/shows/world_of_jenks/series.jhtml. Information specific to Jenks and his college speaking tour can be found at <http://andrewjenks.com/>.



Photo courtesy of MTV

In the series, Jenks moves in with a different person for a week to experience life from their perspective.

Lyricism on 'Lasers' is at an all time high

Listeners will appreciate Fiasco's diversity

By Christine Saraceno
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After releasing two critically acclaimed albums, Lupe Fiasco found himself under immense mounting pressure to duplicate the results a third time. Between trying to appease his dedicated fans who wished to see him keep his edgy approach and going head to head with his record label (Atlantic) who wanted a modern, radio-friendly, hip-hop release, the rapper struggled to find common ground.

"Lasers" is the final product of that exhaustive creative tug-of-war, but the controversy surrounding the album is just beginning. Many listeners have bashed "Lasers" as being another casualty of big labels cashing in on over produced hip-hop and have criticized Fiasco for conforming to mainstream standards.

The first two opening tracks, "Letting Go" and "Words I Never Said" set an ominous tone for the otherwise generally upbeat record complete with distorted, anguish-filled vocals.

"Til I Get There" is a laid back homage to his first CD "Food & Liquor" and is the start of a string of up tempo songs such as "Out of My Head" which features Trey Songz's R&B vo-



cals drenched in a synth beat, and the album's lead single "The Show Goes On" whose chorus gives a nod to indie rock band Modest Mouse's hit "Float On."

In addition to Trey Songz, there are numerous other collaborators such as Sarah Green, Eric Turner, MDMA, and the incomparable John Legend.

Fiasco's lyricism is at an all time high and he pulls no punches in who he chooses to slam, like on the aforementioned "Words I Never Said" where he raps: "Murdering is not Islam/ And you are not observant/ And you are not a Muslim/ Israel don't take my side 'cause look how far you've pushed them."

Long time fan and Valencia student Josh Fernandez said "Everyone should buy it. 'Beautiful Lasers' is one of the best songs I've ever heard. It's definitely something to listen to on repeat."

While on a large scale, fans and critics seem to be divided in their opinion of "Lasers," there's no getting past its universe appeal. Some tracks do have a club vibe to them which is very popular in mainstream music today, but as a whole the songs are very versatile.

Still like that old time rock and roll

New York Dolls chose to record an album of simplistic rock

By Christine Saraceno
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If most of the youth of today were asked if they had ever heard of the New York Dolls (NYD), their general response would probably be no. Although having a career that dates back to 1971, these glam rock pioneers have flown under the radar for four decades. Their influence on a wide spectrum of modern rock bands,

"I like a few of their older ones, so I'll give the new ones a listen sometime."
—Dan Cartwright

although often overlooked, is undeniable and frequently cited by the bands themselves.

They inspired the androgynous look of hair metal groups Motley Crue and Twisted Sister, the sound of legendary punk bands The Clash and The Ramones, and the stage presence of alternative rock outfits R.E.M. and The Smiths.

Since their reunion in 2004, original members David Johansen and Sylvain Sylvain have been consistently proving that even in their 60's they have still got it and their new release "Dancing Backwards in High Heels" displays that as well.

Instead of showcasing the raunchy punk swagger of their previous releases, the Dolls chose to record an album full of simplistic rock tracks reminiscent of classics from the 1960s.

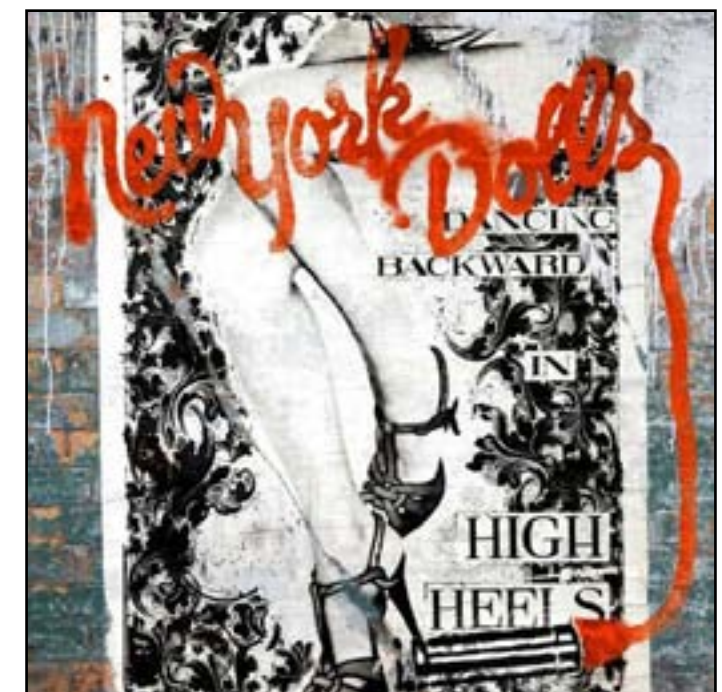
"Streetcake" combines perfect backing harmonies similar to that of The Ronettes with Jo-

hansen's bluesy wail. Both wonderful and sleazy, "I'm So Fabulous" is a full-on attack on the hipsters who have tried to distance New York from it's classic punk roots, complete with saxophones galore.

The lazy "Kids Like You" combines Hawaiian melodies with an organ riff similar to that of Procol Harum's classic "A White Shade of Pale" and drones on about the apathetic attitudes of the teens of today.

When asked if he planned on listening to NYD's new release, Valencia student Dan Cartwright said "Yeah, I'll probably check out a few of [the songs]. I like a few of their older ones, so I'll give the new ones a listen sometime."

Even if you've never heard of them before, "Dancing Backwards..." would be a great place to start in your education on the New York Doll's music. It's timeless, good old fashioned simplistic rock and roll and that's just what this world needs.



'The Strokes' reasserts itself at the South by Southwest festival

After a five year hiatus the band unveils five new tracks from their latest album

By Todd Martens
Los Angeles Times

Midway through a 90-minute set to open the third night of showcases at the South by Southwest festival and conference, Strokes frontman Julian Casablancas took a pause between songs. For a band

with meticulous determination, even a brief between-song hesitation feels suddenly off-script. The singer, performing to an Austin crowd that was estimated by SXSW organizers to top 10,000, looked down at the setlist and said, "Just checking off the list."

Passion has never been the

Strokes' strong suit. Tension, however, the band can master, Strokes songs aren't written to be tinkered with in a live setting. They are pieces of work, expertly crafted arrangements in which a note shall never be out of place. The no-frills band can be surprisingly commanding in a major, non-club

setting. Casablancas isn't one for movement, but he holds on to the microphone stand as if it's the only thing that can save his life, and his backing band stays close, teasing to go off the rails but never actually doing so.

It's been five years between Strokes albums, and when the band locks in and takes aim, it's riveting. The multi-tiered aggression of "New York City Cops" and the anxious groove of "You Only Live Once" are enough to illustrate why the band is adored. A new album, "Angles," arrives Tuesday, and there's no telling how big the Strokes could be if they hadn't taken a lengthy hiatus.

Make no mistake, the Strokes have headliner status. Fans began lining up at noon for Thursday's outdoor free show, and traffic snarled to a halt anywhere near the Austin park in which the band performed. With such a large crowd swamping Austin's bridges near the stage's riverfront locale, SXSW organizers had a brief panic. Gates opened at 5 p.m. for the 8 p.m. show, and three songs into the band's set, the crowd was still slowly piling in. On a whole,



Heather Kennedy / SXSW

South By Southwest brings tourism from all over the states to local bars and restaurants on 6th street.



SkyHigh Photography / SXSW

Huge crowds gather around Auditorium Shores in Austin, Texas for a South by Southwest concert in 2010.

however, the crowd appeared to be well-behaved and a crisis was avoided.

With a festival-like atmosphere, the band unveiled five tracks from "Angles" during its 19-song set, tentatively spacing them apart. Single "Under Cover of Darkness" went over strongly, thanks to its criss-crossing guitar build and shout-along chorus. Others, however, felt like they were taking just a slight dip into the experimental pool. "Life is Simple in the Moonlight" was a curious mix of styles, with guitar handiwork that felt more Steely Dan than rock 'n' roll.

Yet moments like new cut "Taken for a Fool," which plays out like a study in momentum, already seem perfectly familiar.

An industry- and media-centered event such as SXSW could have been the prime opportunity for the band to play "Angles" from start to finish. Instead, the band offered up a set that could easily be the same one it performs at the Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival next month. It was the move of a band carefully reasserting itself rather than attempting to seize the moment.

Getting into good habits

Learning how to study efficiently can be a difficult process

By Maraya Figueroa
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When students graduate from high school to college there are many changes that must be made. In high school there were multiple assignments, homework, projects, tests and extra credit provided. In college it's a whole different story. The majority of the grades depend on tests and there is little room for big mistakes.

If you weren't a great test taker in high school you have to either adapt and learn how to study or fail. Sometimes students can't adapt, and it's not because of their intelligence or because the professor's are out to get them.

The simple answer to the question is that they

just don't know how to study, manage their time, or even how to keep a consistent study pace.

At Valencia's East campus there was a skill shop provided called "10 Highly Effective Study Habits" on Wednesday, March 16 with Professor Anna Saintil.

"I teach education classes and student success classes. I enjoy doing skill shops and I get to interact with students outside of my classroom," said Saintil.

This wasn't just a lecture but a session that got students interacting and realizing what their weaknesses were. The session started off with asking students what one word described their study habits.

"My word is crazy. I want to learn how to isolate my thoughts," said Esther Nova.

Brad Odell said, "My word is inconsistent. It's hard putting time in being able to study."

The most common problem student's have is time management. "Make a schedule you can stick to but take breaks when you need to. Keep healthy and balanced. Don't stress out because it eats at the brain and that's what happens when you cram," said Saintil.

Rewards are great, make short-term goals because it's much easier to reach and better at encouraging you to continue.

Don't just study when you have a test. Continuously look over, outline and rewrite

your notes. Another tip that can help is memory games like acronyms or affiliations with certain subjects.

"You need to know what to

bring and what to study," certain objects in the room such as phones, computers, T.V, or games can be distracting. "You want a great location that doesn't distract you" said Saintil.

If you prefer to study in your room don't get too comfortable such as studying on your bed. Then studying doesn't appear as enticing. Next thing you know is it's already ten in the morning and there is a pile of drool on your books and notes.

'Make short-term goals because it's much easier to reach and better at encouraging you to continue'

Procrastinating is a big issue. Everyone has done it at one point or another, so try this: "do what you have to do now and what you want later" said Saintil.

"What are the questions you need to ask about studying? What is your approach and attitude towards studying?" Students may not realize it but attitude can make a difference. If you approach something thinking the task at hand is impossible then you make it impossible for yourself.

Find ways to believe it's not impossible because in reality it's not. Studying isn't an intimidating monster wanting to bring you down; it's supposed to be a technique to help you succeed.

Make time, don't procrastinate, don't cram, review your notes when you can, think about where you're studying, change your attitude into a positive one, set short-term goals, if you have a problem figure out where your weakness is coming from, don't stress, and really learn what you're being taught, don't just memorize.

There is no secret that can help you acquire the grade you want. The motivation comes from you. Push yourself to study and get involved.

Image by Carl Vaughan, Bradenton Herald / MCT Campus

True believers

Megacon hits Orlando this March

By Jonathan Terbeche
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It's that time of year again. The birds are singing, the sun is shining, and the subtle sound of marching Stormtroopers fills the air. You've guessed it, Megacon, Florida's largest comic, anime, movie, gaming, and anything your little nerd heart desires convention is back in town.

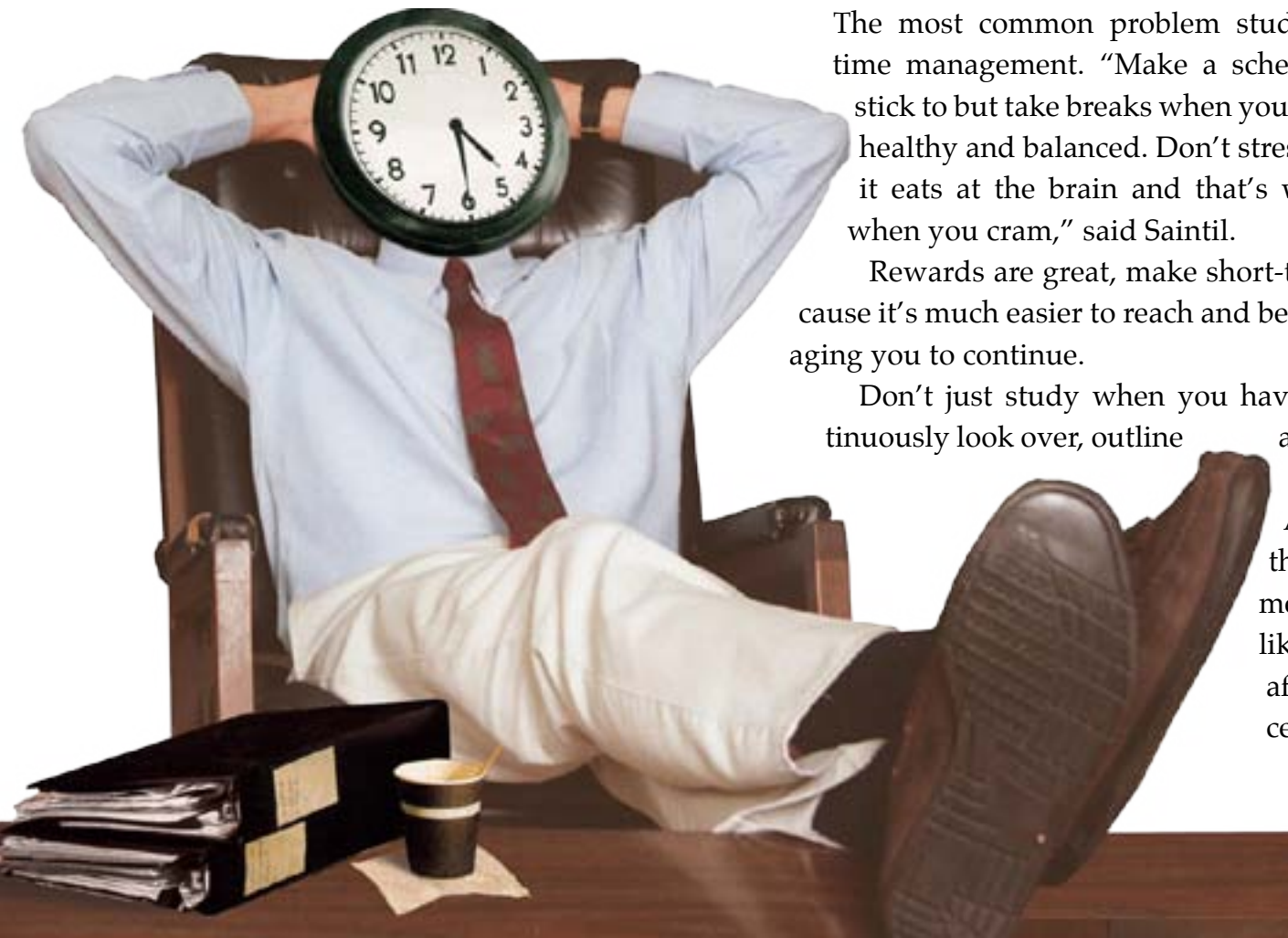
Traditionally bringing in fans by the thousands, this year's convention will certainly be no exception and the Valencia Voice will be bringing readers all the costumed Pocky-filled news.

This year, as with years past, Megacon will be held at the Orange County Convention Center. Aside from the giant dealer's room where all kinds of trinkets and collectibles can be purchased, their will be cosplay contests, role-playing tournaments, video game competitions, special guests, discussion panels, and even a dance rave Saturday night.

Among the many industry names from famous nerd culture in attendance this year will be the godfather of comics himself, Stan "The man" Lee.

What could top that? Maybe the original captain of the U.S.S. Enterprise and Boston Legal star William Shatner. Both will be there this Saturday taking photos and speaking to fans during limited access events at the convention, along with numerous comic book artists, voice actors, and TV stars.

Fans will be arriving Friday, March 25, at 1 p.m. Megacon hits Orlando this March Entry for one day access to Megacon will be \$25 and special 3 day passes are \$60. Children under 10 will be admitted for free. For more information regarding pricing and parking, visit <http://www.megaconvention.com>.





Results/Standings

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| 03/09/11 vs. Boston College | Orlando, Fla. | W, 18-0 |
| 03/11/11 vs. Wagner | Orlando, Fla. | W, 13-4 |
| 03/12/11 vs. Wagner | Orlando, Fla. | W, 5-1 |
| 03/13/11 vs. Wagner | Orlando, Fla. | W, 2-1 |
| 03/15/11 vs. USF | Orlando, Fla. | L, 6-5 |
| 03/18/11 vs. Columbia | Orlando, Fla. | W, 9-8 |
| 03/19/11 vs. Columbia | Orlando, Fla. | W, 5-2 |
| 03/20/11 vs. Columbia | Orlando, Fla. | W, 4-2 |
| 03/22/11 at Miami | Coral Gables, Fla. | 6:00pm |
| 03/25/11 at Rice | Houston, Tx. | 7:30pm |
| 03/26/11 at Rice | Houston, Tx. | 3:00pm |
| 03/27/2011 at Rice | Houston, Tx. | 2:00pm |
| 03/29/11 vs. Stetson | Orlando, Fla. | 6:30pm |
| 03/30/11 at Stetson | DeLand, Fla. | 6:30pm |

UCF vs. Columbia March 20, 2011

From Orlando, Fla.

| Team | R | H | E |
|----------|---|---|---|
| Columbia | 2 | 6 | 2 |
| UCF | 4 | 9 | 1 |

WP: Hanson (2-0), 7.0 IP, 4 H, 2 R, 1 ER, 2 BB, 1 K

LP: Bracey (2-1), 5.0 IP, 8 H, 4 R, 3 ER, 1 BB, 3 K

SV: Rogers (3), 2.0 IP, 2 H, 0 R, 0 ER, 0 BB, 1 K



Bobby Wert / Special to the Valencia Voice

Knights tame Lions, take division lead

UCF sweeps 3 game series at home against Columbia team wins 4-2

By Brian Levine
blevine@valenciavoices.com

Following a heart-breaking loss to the USF Bulls, a game which went until the eighth inning, the UCF Knights set their sights to last weekend's series against the Columbia Lions. Backed by solid hitting, the Knights' pitching was dominant throughout the entire series.

The Knights swept the Lions with ease, scoring a combined 18 runs and only allowing 12. Led by Sat-

urday's starter, Ben Livley, starting pitchers for UCF combined for 15 innings pitched, seven earned runs, eleven hits and eight strike outs. Livley is responsible for six of the innings, two earned runs, five strike outs, and only three hits.

As great as the starters were, relievers were that much better. Dominant in every aspect of the game, they shut down Lion batters all weekend even when handed the ball with inherited trouble. Bryan Brown came into Friday night's game in the third inning when the

Knights were down 4-2. Five innings, five hits, and seven strikeouts later, the Knights were up 9-5 which was enough to clinch a win in the series opener.

"Story of the game: Bryan Brown," said Coach Terry Rooney after the game. "Brown did an unbelievable job for us, MVP of the night."

Prior to this weekend, UCF's batters one through five have been the same all season long. Rooney decided to change up the order for this three game set, partially

Continued on next page

Conference USA Standings

| | W | L |
|---------------|-----------|----------|
| UCF | 13 | 4 |
| East Carolina | 13 | 4 |
| Tulane | 13 | 4 |
| Southern Miss | 12 | 3 |
| Memphis | 10 | 4 |
| Rice | 10 | 9 |
| Houston | 9 | 9 |
| Tulsa | 5 | 3 |
| SMU | 5 | 4 |
| UTEP | 5 | 4 |

Continued from last page

due to the struggling middle of the lineup but more specifically because of catcher Beau Taylor's lack of production.

The new look lineup, led by now clean up hitter Ronnie Richardson, combined for a total of 18 runs scored on 30 hits. Four of those hits were credited to Richardson who also had four RBIs to boast.



Chris Talady fields a ball at third base.

"I told you guys last year, I said Ronnie Richardson is as clutch as there is. Which is why I moved him around," said Rooney after the game about why he moved Richardson into the four hole.



Photos by Bobby Wert / Speical to the Valencia Voice
Beau Taylor gets thrown out at third base after planning to run to score.

Before heading to Houston to take on the Rice Owls to begin conference play, the Knights will head down south to play in state rivals Miami Hurricanes. Last season the Knights stole one from the then 12th ranked Hurricanes, 6-3. The Knights are very optimistic heading into conference play, as they currently are in second place with a 16-4 record.

The Knights are coming off a 13 game home-stand in which they went 10-3 and are looking forward to hitting the road and testing their team..

"I am ready to get on that plane to go down to Houston, and if you survey 33 players in that locker room I bet they say they're ready," said Rooney about ending the home-stand and heading into the most important stretch of the season.

Following the Rice series they come back to Florida for a home-at-home with the Stetson Hatters.

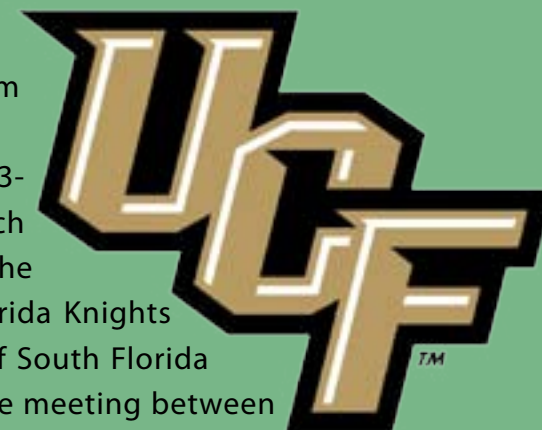


Beau Taylor attempts to bunt the ball for a hit.

Knights beat Bulls

Coach makes game winning decision

By Brian Levine
blevine@valenciavoices.com



In the midst of a 13-game home stand in which they've gone 7-2, the University of Central Florida Knights took on the University of South Florida Bulls in the 107th all-time meeting between the two in-state rivals.

The Knights held a 4-2 lead until the Bulls exploded for a four-run eighth inning, courtesy of the small ball. The bulls were led by outfielder Jimmy Falla who came off the bench in the seventh inning and had two hits and four RBIs in just two at-bats.

D.J. Hicks, who started the game as the designated hitter, came into pitch in the seventh inning when starter Brian Adkins found himself in trouble. With a run already surrendered in the inning, Hicks came in the game with two men on and allowed one of those runners to score. Hicks came out to start the next inning and allowed four runs on four hits.

When faced with the decision on whether or not to take Hicks out of the game or not, Coach Rooney felt it was an easy decision. "D.J. has been very good, obviously, all year and I thought he was the best option," said Coach Rooney. "You've got to be careful bringing in Nick (Cicio) with runners on base, he's got one of those great change ups and if he gets it up guys have a chance to hit it far."

Though struggling on the mound, Hicks had a great game at the plate. He went two for three with two long balls and three RBIs. One of his home runs came two batters after Jonathon Griffin went yard when the Knights opened up for a three run fourth.

This weekend the Knights take on Columbia University, who are riding a four game win streak, as they come to town for a three game set. The Lions are 6-3 this season and have a 4-1 record in the state of Florida.

FSU advances into the madness

Florida State uses three-pointers to stun Notre Dame

By Adam H. Beasley
McClatchy Newspapers

CHICAGO _ The line on Florida State all year has gone something like this:

If the Seminoles' offense ever caught up with its ridiculous D, watch out. Hey San Antonio: Watch out.

On its biggest stage of the year, Florida State _ the Southwest Region's 10th-seed _ buried nine three-pointers to shock Notre Dame, 71-57, on Sunday night,



Florida State players surround Notre Dame Tim Abromaitis during first-half action in the third round of the men's NCAA basketball tournament.

earning the upstart Noles' first Sweet 16 appearance in 18 years.

"Even though we play great defense, we struggle so much on offense," said FSU guard Derwin Kitchen. "We made a few shots early, and the confidence grew from there. "If we can stay consistent on the offensive end, I like our chances."

And if that's not enough to make you go hmmm, here's this: Florida State will be the second-highest seeded team to lace them up when the Southwest Region's semifinals get under way in San Antonio Friday.

FSU will face No. 11 Virginia Commonwealth, while top-seeded Kansas gets No. 12 Richmond, setting up the ultimate Cinderella bracket.

The Rams advanced Sunday by roughing up Purdue in the early game 94-76. In a span of three days, the Colonial Athletic Association representatives throttled both Georgetown and Purdue by 18.

Of course, it's early, but the Noles' relative fortune already has some thinking there might be a bit of magic surrounding the team.

"It does kind of feel that way," said forward Bernard James, who gutted out 21 minutes despite spending most of vomiting and hooked up to an IV. "The teams we've played this year have been great matchups."

On this night, Florida State (23-10) simply shot its way into the Sweet 16. Michael Snaer buried three triples for 13 points, while Bernard James led FSU with 14 points and 10 rebounds – much to the chagrin of the pro-Irish United Center.

With Notre Dame's campus roughly 100 miles from Chicago, there wasn't even the illusion of it being a neutral-court game. Irish fans outnumbered FSU partisans some 20-to-1.

Mike Moreau, father of FSU sophomore guard



Florida State Seminoles guard Derwin Kitchen (22) drives to the basket against Notre Dame's Tim Abromaitis during second-half.

Joey Moreau, made the trip from Los Angeles for the weekend, and was one of the few decked in Seminole red Sunday. "We're way outnumbered," Moreau said with a chuckle. "This is a Notre Dame home game. Hostile crowd. "But I think Florida State knows what they're walking into," he added. "All these teams play in tough conferences and they're used to playing in more hostile environments, so I think it makes it more fun for everybody."

Rowdy? Indeed. But FSU had the perfect equalizer. The Noles came out chucking fireballs.

FSU buried five of its first eight three-point attempts, including three in a row _ capped by an effort by Luke Loucks that struck the front rim twice before somehow going in. Loucks' luck stretched FSU's lead to 23-11 with 8 minutes remaining in the first half.

Meanwhile, the Noles' defense was as good as ever. The Noles swarmed Big East player of the year Ben Hansbrough with four different defenders in the first half alone. FSU harassed Hansbrough into missing four of his five first-half shots, and his frustration bubbled over during a timeout, slamming his towel to the floor.

Overall, Notre Dame missed 20 of its 29 attempts in the first half _ including nine of 10 from three-point range allowing the Noles to lead 34-23 at the break.

"Florida State flat out beat us," said Irish coach Mike Brey. "The combination of their defense in the first half and their seven three-point shots was too much."

—MCT