



Film  
festival  
invades  
Valencia,

Page 14

# ValenciaVoice

Official Student Media of Valencia College

Volume 15, Issue 5

www.ValenciaVoice.com

Feb. 15, 2012

UCF  
baseball  
season  
starts up,

Page 19



## CSI comes to Valencia

Medical examiner explains job requirements

By Joy Inzitari  
jinzitari@valenciavoice.com

A taste of real life CSI (Crime Scene Investigation) was brought to Valencia students by the Valencia Legal Society this past Thursday evening at the East Campus. Guest speaker, Marie Hansen, M.D., Medical Examiner for the District Nine Medical Examiner's Office, held students captivated as she shared a great deal about how the deceased are handled in the local morgue.

The lecture covered topics like who works there, requirements to become a medical examiner, roles of the medical examiner, what are their responsibilities and legal obligations, how they examine bodies, and much more.

In the District Nine Medical Examiner's Office they have a total of five medical examiners. The Chief is Dr. Jan Garavaglia, also known as "Dr. G: Medical Examiner," from the Discovery Health Channel, the Deputy Chief is Dr. Utz, and the associates are Dr. Irrgang, Dr. Stephany, and Dr. Hansen.

In Florida, medical examiners must be licensed physicians. In addition to their medical degree,

they must have four years of pathology residency and an anatomical clinical and one year of forensic pathology residency, training in death investigation.

There are rural areas in the United States that have coroners instead of medical examiners. The difference is coroners aren't always required to have medical knowledge. They also may be elected officials. The requirements may be a minimum of 18 years of age (old enough to vote), and have no criminal record.

A coroner is a public officer whose primary function is to investigate, by inquest, any death thought to be of other than natural causes. "Some states require coroners to be doctors or medical professionals, but some places out west, they just don't have it," said Dr. Hansen.

Medical examiners are referred deaths under certain circumstances, and they are the ones that make the decisions as to whether an autopsy is needed.

The circumstances include: criminal violence, accidents, suicides, sudden death when in ap-

— 'CSI comes to Valencia'  
continued on page 2



Adele with her bevy of awards at the 54th Annual Grammy Awards at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

## Adele sweeps Grammys

By Geoff Boucher and Randy Lewis  
Los Angeles Times

The 54th Grammy Awards will be remembered as a story of two women with towering, timeless voices, Adele and Whitney Houston, one representing youthful triumph and boundless possibility, the other a reminder of fresh tragedy and a life unraveled.

Adele, the 23-year-old British singer-songwriter, took home six awards including album, record and song of the year, a trophy bounty that puts a gold-plating on a commercial and critical success story that has dramatically defied the grim gravities of today's economically challenged recording industry.

Adele's other victory came when she stepped to the microphone and sang a robust version of her hit "Rolling in the Deep," which suggests that she is past the career scare of throat surgery that came just after Halloween and kept her mute through New Year's Day. It was her first public performance since the operation.

Adele's honors for her sophomore album,

— 'Grammys' on page 16

James Tutton / Valencia Voice; Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice

Allen J. Schaben / Los Angeles Times / MCT



# Medical examiner job explained

— Continued from page 1

parent good health, unattended by physician or practitioner, in any penal or prison institution, those in police custody, criminal abortion, poisoning, possible disease proposing a public health threat, by disease, injury, or toxic agent resulting from employment, when a body is brought into the state without proper certification, when a body is to be cremated and sent to a burial at sea, when they view the death certificate and it doesn't look kosher, or any unusual circumstance.

Medical examiners in Florida must follow the law under Florida Statute, Title 406. The medical examiner's main responsibilities are to identify cause of death and estimate the time of death, collect evidence, give cremation authorizations (the death certificate comes to their office and they have to look at it and make sure it is legitimate). They have to verify the identity of a person which will affect whether proper claims are made on life insurance policies.

For identification of the deceased, they try to use family members to identify photos, fingerprints, dental records, DNA, tattoos, jewelry, and circumstantial evidence. They have the authority to declare that something is an accident. They are the investigators of the actual death.

In 2011 they did 1,151 autopsies, 337 inspection/external exams, and 1,681 CRNAs (cases reviewed not accepted) called in to their investigator to verify if a case should or should not be accepted.

The 2011 statistics for the manner of deaths in Orange and Osceola counties were as follows: natural (most common) 563, accident (motor vehicle and non motor vehicle), non-vehicular drug-related 611, homicide 125, suicide 169, undetermined 45, and pending 45.

When medical examiners are figuring out what happened, "It is sort of like a working algorithm," said Hansen. They speak to family and friends. They find out what symptoms the person experienced before death. "Seventy to eighty percent of people who suffered indigestion and didn't wake



Brittany Rose / Valencia Voice

**Dr. Marie Hansen explains the benefits of her job audience members during her speech at Valencia.**

up in the morning died of heart attacks. It is all context," said Dr. Hansen.

Students attending were drawn into her presentation with photos of real wound patterns made by various weapons or tools to see what differentiating markings are made with each.

Photos of different gunshot wounds were shown in comparison to one another with images showing soot, powder, and the bullet hole.

When asked what the benefits are in working as a medical examiner instead of a regular practicing physician, Hansen replied, "It is the most interesting job. I am able to get stories and answers for families. There is a sense of adventure and I never know what the schedule will bring."

Never forget the "cut" in shortcut. Because when you try to abbreviate an education, critical chapters are skipped. Preparedness suffers. And ultimately, so does your pride. At Columbia College, we don't cut corners, and neither do our students. We simply open our doors every single day and help you **Go For Greater.**



Offering Associate,  
Bachelor's and Master's Degrees.  
Online. On campus. Or both.  
(877) 999-9876 • **GoForGreater.org**

2600 Technology Dr. • Orlando, FL





# Singer dies on eve of Grammy Awards

## Whitney Houston, 48, cause of death unknown

By Malcolm X Abram  
Akron Beacon Journal

The death of Whitney Houston, whose public life and career traversed the highest high to very public lows, has devastated her family and left fans saddened and awaiting the comeback that will never come.

The cause of death is still unknown, so speculation is irresponsible and callous. But whatever the cause, didn't we all think it would end better than this?



Whitney Houston at pre-Grammy party in 2011.

Houston, the Guinness World record holder as the most awarded female artist of all time, was a pop music, pop culture and African-American icon who influenced two generations of singers in many genres. Her surprising death on the eve of Sunday's telecast of the Grammys, of which she owned six, greatly impacted the show's tone and tenor.

But when someone of Houston's stature dies surprisingly, fans and regular folks are often inspired to assess their personal and pop culture's collective relationship with the deceased.

Houston's long and public professional and personal rise and fall saw her go from exulted icon to running gag. But fans and most caring folks hoped she would pull herself back together, show us her trademark toothy smile and allow us to lift her back up to the pedestal she so easily commanded for so long.

When Houston hit the music scene in 1985, she seemed to have all the elements one could want in a superstar.

She had an undeniably prodigious vocal talent and a good musical pedigree as the daughter of gospel singer Cissy Houston and cousin of Dionne Warwick. She was lovely but known as a good girl who didn't lean on her sexuality, and she had the skill to apply her gospel-based style to big pop and R&B hooks.

For the first decade of her nearly 30-year career in music and film, she was an unstoppable force. She churned out massive hits and starred in popular films. She always appeared cool, confident and put together in her videos, and a relatable, easy-to-admire New Jersey girl in interviews.

But as much as our culture enjoys



Whitney Houston performs at the O2-Arena in Berlin, Germany, in May 12, 2010.

basking in the glow of our stars, especially one whose public veneer appears so pristine for so long, we also revel when the cracks and holes appear.

Houston's 15-year marriage to Bobby Brown and subsequent and much-too-publicly documented decline with bad performances, odd, at times too-revealing interviews, and the sad spectacle that was "Being Bobby Brown" provided endless fodder for comics, late-night sketch shows and even disappointed fans.

When Houston finally left Brown in 2007 and entered rehab, her longtime champion and friend Clive Davis signed

### Whitney Houston

**Born** Aug. 9, 1963, in Newark, New Jersey

**Died** Feb. 11, 2012, in Beverly Hills, Calif., at age 48

**Family** Third child of John and Cissy Houston; cousin of Dionne Warwick; divorced from Bobby Brown in 2007; one daughter

**Education** Mount Saint Dominic Academy high school; performs as soloist in junior gospel choir at New Hope Baptist Church in Newark

#### Achievements

- Recipient of 20 American Music Awards, more than any other solo artist
- Sales: 140 million albums, 50 million singles
- Fourth best-selling female artist in the U.S.
- Listed by Rolling Stone as one of the 100 Greatest Singers of All Time

#### Career highlights

1985 Debut album "Whitney Houston"; several No. 1 hits	1990 Third album "I'm Your Baby Tonight"	1992 Marries R&B singer Bobby Brown; stars in movie "The Bodyguard," which features biggest selling U.S. single of all-time, "I Will Always Love You"	1996 Movie "The Preacher's Wife"	1999 Top-selling R&B female artist of the century	2001 Signs biggest record deal in music history with Arista/BMG, worth \$100 million	2009 Comeback album "I Look to You"
1987 Second album "Whitney"	1988 Summer Olympics song "One Moment in Time"; in top 10 highest earning entertainers	1993 Third highest earning female entertainer	1995 Movie "Waiting to Exhale" includes Houston soundtrack	1998 Album "My Love Is Your Love"	1999-2005 Drug allegations and personal struggles almost destroy career	2002 Album "Just Whitney"
2012 Finishes work on film "Sparkle," which focuses on talented musicians whose lives are ruined by addiction						

© 2012 MCT Source: whitneyhouston.com, worldmusicawards.com, MCT Photo Service

her to J Records and got her out of the spotlight and into the studio.

Fans hoped for the classic American comeback, someone in which they could once again believe.

The album "Look to You" and its single "I Look to You" brought hope and debuted at No. 1 with more than 2.5 million fans responding to what appeared to be a triumphant return. But the uneven performances and odd interviews continued and a tour never happened. In 2011, it was reported that Houston was to star in a remake of the 1976 music-driven drama "Sparkle," but now that, too, will never happen.

We don't have the right to expect anything from the people we celebrate and skewer, but even if Houston's singing voice never returned, I think fans would have been very satisfied if her "comeback" had simply consisted of a healthy and happy Whitney, appearing in films and on television and showing us it's possible to survive life's peaks and valleys, even if hers were not like our own.

— MCT Campus



# Federal budget expected to rise

## President Obama's plan projects \$1.3 trillion deficit

By Steven Thomma  
McClatchy Newspapers

President Barack Obama expects the federal budget deficit to reach \$1.33 trillion this year, administration officials said Friday evening, the fourth straight year of trillion-dollar deficits.

The deficit already was projected to top \$1 trillion when Obama took office in January 2009, as tax revenues dropped because of the Great Recession and spending spiked to bail out banks and auto companies. It eventually reached \$1.55 trillion for 2009, followed by \$1.37 trillion in fiscal 2010 and \$1.36 trillion in fiscal 2011.

The tide of red ink, which started under President George W. Bush, has helped define Obama's entire term and will be a key issue in the fall campaign as he seeks a second term.

With that in mind, Obama on Monday will propose a budget he'll use to portray himself as a deficit cutter, one who would combine \$1.5 trillion in tax increases on the wealthy with \$1.5 trillion in cuts from projected spending increases to slow, but not stop, the rapid increases in the nation's debt.

That \$3 trillion would come atop \$1 trillion in projected savings over 10 years that he and Congress approved last summer.

His proposed budget will call for a 2013 deficit of \$901 billion, or about 5.5 percent of the economy, according to senior administration officials who briefed reporters on condition of anonymity.

Projected deficits would decline to \$575 billion in 2018, about 2.7 percent of the total economy. The total deficit would climb again to \$704 billion in 2022, but administration officials said it would only inch up to 2.8 percent as a share of a fast-growing economy.

His proposed tax increases are the same he's been pushing without success in Congress: ending the Bush-era tax cuts for those making more than \$250,000, limiting deductions to 28 percent of income for the same people, and requiring that



Olivier Douliery, Abaca Press / MCT

**President Obama speaks during a Cabinet meeting.**

any millionaire pays at least 30 percent of their income in taxes.

He'll also urge Congress to levy fees totaling \$61 billion over 10 years on banks and big financial institutions to offset the cost of the bank bailout and to help pay for Obama's mortgage refinancing program.

To pare back spending increases, he'll propose cutting Medicaid, Medicare and other health programs by \$360 billion over 10 years.

At the same time, Obama will ask for \$350 billion to stimulate job growth, including:

\$50 billion to improve roads, railways and runways; \$30 billion to modernize 35,000 schools; \$30 billion to pay teachers and hire new teachers and first responders.

He'll urge a \$476 billion transportation plan over six years to build roads and expand passenger rails.

To promote manufacturing, his budget also will propose spending \$140 billion on research and development.

— MCT Campus

# Will your nametag say, "Nurse?"

**Nurses provide comfort and care with compassion and grace.**

**Herzing University – Orlando** offers a 3-year Bachelor of Science in nursing degree that can help you reach even higher! How about:

- ✓ Personalized attention
- ✓ Hands-on learning
- ✓ Instruction from seasoned professionals who know your name

*"At most schools you don't get the one-on-one attention that you get at Herzing. It helps you get more clinical experience with patients."*

*Larry Whetsell, nursing graduate*

**You've almost earned your first diploma. Keep a good thing going!**

**Realize your career goals with HERZING UNIVERSITY**

**HERZING®**  
UNIVERSITY

**888-NEW CAREER**  
(888-639-2273)

[Herzing.edu/valencia](http://Herzing.edu/valencia)  Find us on Facebook



For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at [info.herzing.edu](http://info.herzing.edu).



# GOP favorite pans deficit plans

## Mitt Romney slams President Obama's budget proposal

By Seema Mehta

Los Angeles Times

Mitt Romney slammed President Barack Obama's budget proposal on Monday, arguing that the president has failed to keep campaign promises to reduce the nation's deficit while at the same time jeopardizing the safety net for seniors.

"The president came out with a new budget today," Romney said, and the crowd of a few thousand at the Mesa Amphitheater groaned. "And you have a reason for that response. He unfortunately came out with another \$1 trillion deficit. And if you recall, back in his election, he said that he was going to cut in half our deficit by the end of his first term. Well, he just did the opposite — he doubled it by the end of his first term."

Romney added that Obama failed to deal with Social Security and Medicare.

"This president miraculously today with his new budget had nothing to say about making sure that those programs are solvent and permanent," he said, pledging that if he were elected president, he would ensure these programs were safe for future generations.

Romney made his remarks in a state with 29 delegates at stake and where early voting has already begun for a Feb. 28 primary. The former Massachusetts governor has the backing of key establishment figures here, including his 2008 rival Sen. John McCain, and the most recent polling shows him winning handily, but the surveys were done before rival Rick Santorum surged in recent days.

Voters who share Romney's Mormon faith make up one-tenth of the GOP electorate in Arizona, and Mesa is a hub. Voters attending the event here cheered heartily when Romney mentioned his faith.

"My conservatism did not come so much from reading the writings of great conservative scholars as it did from living my life, my family, my faith, my business," he said.

He barely mentioned his GOP rivals except to cast them as creatures of Washington. Rep. Ron Paul, the only one Romney mentioned by name, was a physician before becoming a congressman, but "the other guys have spent their lives entirely in government," Romney said.

"We elected in President Obama someone who has never run anything, someone who has never been a leader," he said. "We're not going to do that in the Republican Party. Let's not nominate someone who has never done anything and has not been a leader. That experience counts."

In asking the crowd for their support, Romney emphasized his resume.

"This is a critical time. America has a choice to nominate someone who's actually led, who's led in business, who's been able to lead an Olympics, and has been able to lead in a state, and bring that experience to Washington, not to become like Washington," he said. "I'm going to go to Washington, and with your help, we'll get this country turned around and then I'll go home. I'm not in love with Washington, I'm in love with my family, and I want to be back with my family as soon as we get this nation turned around. With your help, we'll make that happen."

— MCT Campus



Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney reaches over a barricade to high-five a supporter at a campaign stop.

Curtis Compton, Atlanta Journal-Constitution / MCT

# 5th Valencia Brazilian Film Festival

## Head Over Heels De Pernas pro Ar

**THU FEB 9**  
West Campus Room 3-111  
1800 S. Kirkman Road  
Orlando, FL 32811  
6:30pm reception  
7:00pm screening

## Waste Land Lixo Extraordinário

**MON FEB 13**  
Osceola Campus Auditorium  
1800 Denn John Lane  
Kissimmee, FL 34744  
6:30pm reception  
7:00pm screening

## Smoke Gets In Your Eyes É Proibido Fumar

**TUE FEB 14**  
West Campus Room 3-111  
1800 S. Kirkman Road  
Orlando, FL 32811  
6:30pm reception  
7:00pm screening

## If Nothing Else Works Se Nada Mais Der Certo

**THU FEB 16**  
East Campus Room 6-110  
701 N. Eonlockhatchee Trail  
Orlando, FL 32825  
6:30pm reception  
7:00pm screening

## Matraga

**FRI FEB 17**  
West Campus Room 3-111  
1800 Kirkman Road  
Orlando, FL 32811  
6:30pm reception  
7:00pm screening

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

Central Florida Brazilian American  
Chamber of Commerce

Moderated by  
Visiting Filmmakers  
Elisa Tolomelli &  
Malu de Martino

**VALENCIA**



# Arab leaders call for new effort on Syria

## United Nations peacekeeping force oversee implementation of cease-fire

By Patrick J. McDonnell and  
Rima Marrouch  
Los Angeles Times

Arab leaders meeting in Cairo on Sunday called for a renewed United Nations attempt to help halt violence in Syria, asking the Security Council to create a joint Arab-U.N. peacekeeping force to oversee implementation of a prospective cease-fire.

The Arab League request came eight days after a league initiative that called for Syrian President Bashar Assad to cede power was vetoed by Russia and China in the Security Council. Whether the latest Arab League measure would win their approval was unclear.

The Syrian government, a Russian ally, rejected the latest proposal as a "hostile act" and a blueprint for "foreign interven-

tion in Syrian affairs," the official Syrian Arab News Agency reported.

Meanwhile, Syrian rebels picked up an incendiary new supporter: Al Qaeda leader Ayman Zawahiri, who in a video posted on the Internet called on Muslims from neighboring nations to back the almost yearlong uprising against Assad.

The Al Qaeda leader's plea came amid reports in the Arab and Western news media that Iraqi Al Qaeda operatives — with expertise in car bombs and roadside explosives previously used against U.S. forces — may already be fighting in Syria, which shares a long border and tribal ties with western Iraq.

Al Qaeda involvement would present the United States and other nations seeking to oust Assad with a thorny dilemma: Should the anti-Assad "Friends of Syria" coalition, as it is now known, back a side that includes Al Qaeda?

The secular Assad government regularly labels its opponents terrorists, and says it is fighting Islamic militants. The Arab League, Western powers and Turkey say that Assad's forces have repeatedly attacked peaceful demonstrators, turning a protest movement into an armed insurgency. The prospect of Islamic zealots seizing power terrifies many Syrians, especially minority groups such as Christians and members of Assad's Alawite sect, who fear an Iraq-style sectarian bloodletting.

Sunday's Arab League request for international peacekeepers appeared much broader than what many observers had expected. Officials had indicated that Arab League leaders would seek an Arab League-U.N. mission of unarmed observers.

There was no immediate reaction from

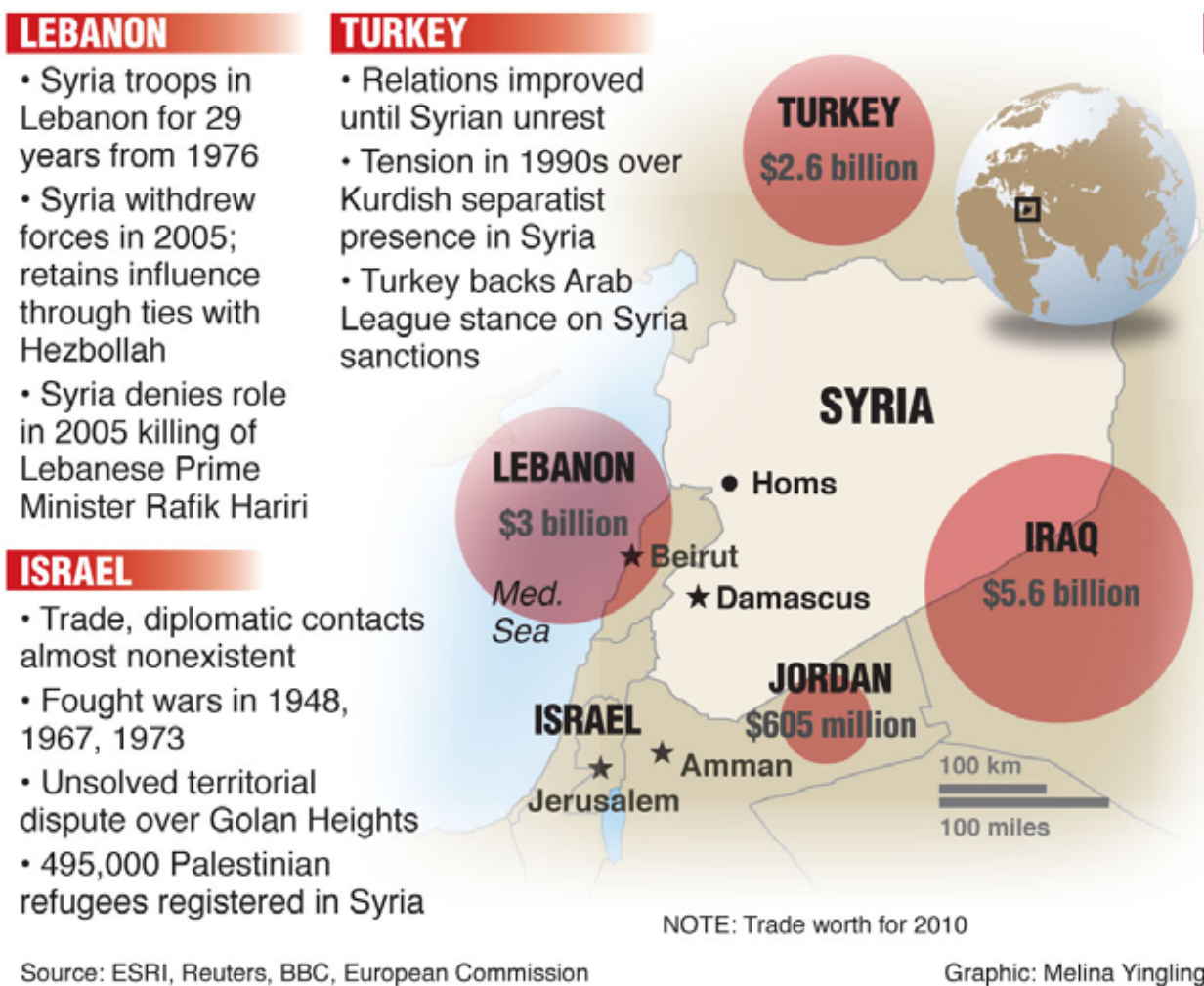


David Enders / MCT

Sunni Muslim fighters have a long-standing animosity toward the Syrian government, clashed with Lebanese supporters of Syrian president Bashar al Assad in Jebel Mohsen, an adjoining neighborhood.

## Surrounding Syria

How the uprisings may impact Syria's relationships with its neighbors:



### LEBANON

- Syria troops in Lebanon for 29 years from 1976
- Syria withdrew forces in 2005; retains influence through ties with Hezbollah
- Syria denies role in 2005 killing of Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri

### TURKEY

- Relations improved until Syrian unrest
- Tension in 1990s over Kurdish separatist presence in Syria
- Turkey backs Arab League stance on Syria sanctions

### ISRAEL

- Trade, diplomatic contacts almost nonexistent
- Fought wars in 1948, 1967, 1973
- Unsolved territorial dispute over Golan Heights
- 495,000 Palestinian refugees registered in Syria

Moscow, but it seemed improbable that Russia would embrace a call for the deployment of international peacekeepers, who would presumably be armed, though the Arab League plan does not specify whether they would be.

It was also unclear from the Arab League plan how a cease-fire would be imposed in the conflict that features both a bloody government crackdown on protesters and an armed insurgency against security forces.

Moscow has indicated enthusiasm for an expanded deployment of unarmed observers in Syria. But on Sunday, the Arab League formally ended its observer mission.

The Arab League also called on nations to cut diplomatic ties with Assad's government and vowed "political and financial support" for the Syrian opposition.

The Arab League also called on the Security Council to pass a resolution calling for an end to the violence in Syria and demanding access for humanitarian groups,

including the Red Crescent and the Red Cross. The United Nations is expected to consider the proposals this week.

Meanwhile, opposition activists said fighting continued in various parts of Syria, including the central city of Homs, where five were reported killed, according to the Local Coordination Committees, an opposition network. Nationwide, the group said, 23 people were killed. There was no way to verify the casualty figures because media access is limited.

Despite the violence, an amateur video posted online indicated that some residents of Homs, where entire neighborhoods have reportedly been under siege for more than a week, took advantage of a pause in the conflict to line up amid the rubble for a bread distribution truck. The city has been short on food, water and electricity as government forces have besieged opposition strongholds, the opposition says.

— MCT Campus



# War with Iran only has negative effects

## Media, propaganda instills Americans with fear of nuclear bombs

By Neda Hamdan  
nhamdan@valenciavoices.com

History tends to repeat itself. That phrase is entirely true in this situation: the potential chance that we will go to war with Iran, which will not only put us further in debt, but also put us in considerable danger.

“Even though war costs a lot, and we may be in debt over our heads, but I do think war is necessary in this case,” General Studies major, Jeremy Williams said. “It’s no secret that Iran and U.S. aren’t the best of pals, and as a world super power we can’t let them become a loose cannon.”

Another repeat in history is propaganda, which is what has been happening for the past three years. Stories being published that claim that Iran has already planned on making nuclear weapons are not credible.

The rumor that Iran will give the U.S. a ‘twelve hour warning’ before launching a nuclear bomb at America is also not true. Given what we know about the Iranian program, it’s impossible for Iran to have a complete nuclear bomb by Nov. 2012.

“I don’t think going to war will solve anything,” said Valencia student, Deiondra Carey-Sullivan. “They should talk about it, and try to resolve it with a press conference.”

The media that is biased is doing what it does best: instilling fear in the citizens of America with stories and persuading them that Iran is going to make a nuclear bomb and attack us. When really we don’t know for sure about either one.

With a high Islamic population in Iran, there’s is a good chance that a war there will be taken as a religious one. That will put other Islamic countries against us;

they will ally with Iran, adding more fuel to the anti-American tirade that has been building for decades.

“Instead of learning, we repeat our mistakes, it’s the exact same as Queen Victoria’s ‘Little Wars,’” said Professor O’little, of Business and Social Science. “We’re no longer the super power and we need to think before we rush into anything.”

There’s always a hidden motive behind every war, and Iran, being the second largest producer of oil, coincidentally has the power of cutting off our supply of it. That is something that the U.S. government does not like. Though President Obama was leaning toward diplomacy when he first became president, settling things outside of war. Now he’s been pressured into the exact opposite.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta is cutting hundreds of billions of dollars from the Pentagon budget, and we are \$15 trillion in debt. It would be impossible to involve ourselves in another war. Looking back at history, the major jumps in our debt have been because of wars, such as World War I where it jumped \$9 billion, World War II adding an extra \$58 billion, and the Korean War which costed \$13 billion.

We do not have the luxury of spending any more money we do not have on another war. Since Israel is our ally we will have to aid them also, and it’s something that will affect the taxpayers of America.

As in World War II, when America refused to join the war against Nazi Germany, Britain did everything they could to pressure the United States, and succumbing into pressure, we did. The same thing is happening here, Israel is putting pressure on America into joining their decision to go to war with Iran.

### Stemming the flow

Efforts to reduce the world’s dependence on Iranian oil have had mixed results. How major importers have reacted:

#### Iranian oil export destinations, Jan.-June 2011

22%	China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has called sanction efforts against Iran unproductive</li><li>• A recent vist to Saudi Arabia by Chinese officials could signal the possibility of China shifting its dependence from Iran</li></ul>
18%	European Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Announced oil embargo on Iran that will be phased in during coming months</li><li>• Also agreed to freeze assets of Iran’s central bank in the EU</li></ul>
14%	Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Committed earlier this month to reduce purchases from Iran, then gave conflicting accounts of what it agreed to do</li></ul>
13%	India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Announced it would not stop the import of Iranian oil and will only accept sanctions made by the U.N.</li></ul>
10%	South Korea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Is in discussions with U.S. officials to find alternative sources</li></ul>
7%	Turkey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Looking for alternative sources</li></ul>
16%	Others	

Source: Energy Information Administration, BBC  
Graphic: Chicago Tribune

© 2012 MCT

There are options other than war. By freezing Iran’s oil exports and financial assets, we can let Iran’s money deplete. That will show how reliant they are on the United States and other countries, and potentially could convince them to settle, rather than go to war.

Though there is no easy answer to this situation, going to war has more disadvan-

tages than benefits. Our taxes will be increased to fund the war, rather than more important things like education or health care. Our \$15 trillion debt will sink even further into an un-payable abyss. And there will be no turning back. We could also potentially make ourselves enemies toward the entire Arab world. It doesn’t necessarily seem worth it to me.

### Rising prices

West Texas Intermediate crude oil traded on the Nymex



Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, AP

Brent crude oil traded on the ICE



© 2012 MCT



# Iran: An old threat stays hostile

## Nuclear assault would spark a regional conflict, possible exchange of warheads

By Fred Lambert  
flambert@valenciavoices.com

Iran's nuclear development gets a lot of press, and without doubt this is the top reason they are a threat. But nukes aside, there would still be a ton of micro-reasons to hold Iran at bayonet's length.

While it is widely believed that Iran is seeking uranium enrichment for the purposes of atomic weapon manufacturing, the theocratic republic claims to only be interested in using it for energy technologies.

Regardless of whether this is true or not, one blatant fact makes it irrelevant: Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has denied Israel's right to exist.

This should be a concern even for non-supporters of Israel; a nuclear assault on the state would spark a regional conflict and a possible exchange of warheads. Ahmadinejad has also suggested that the Holocaust was a myth.

Whether Iran is developing nukes or not, their likelihood to use them on a sworn enemy holds water.

Iran's ever-evolving uranium program has incited economic sanctions against it to prevent pathways toward weapon development, and this should have been something Ahmadinejad saw coming after his harsh words on Israel.

But besides the nuclear threat, the overall foreign relations the United States holds with Iran have been frayed and chipped away by several other incidents over the decades.

Besides the unpleasantness of the 1979 hostage crisis, Iranians have directly supported organizations like Hezbollah and Islamic Jihad, a Shia terror-group who was responsible for the 1983 barracks bombing in Beirut, Lebanon, killing over 200 U.S. Marines.

Iran's complicity to U.S. troop deaths extended into the Iraq War as well, when E.F.P.s (Explosively Formed Penetrators) found their way into insurgent arsenals. The E.F.P. is a roadside explosive that replaces an I.E.D.'s (Improvised Explosive Device) shotgun blast of random shrapnel with a shaped charge that shoots a bolt of molten copper through armored vehicles.

Of course, Iran denied supplying these weapons, but U.S. intelligence claimed otherwise. An August 2007 C.R.S. (Congressional Research Service, or "think tank") report described an incident in which the Department of Defense reported capturing three Iranian terrorists accused of smuggling weapons into Iraq.

The report said U.S. military officials suspected the Quds Force, an extension of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard, of smuggling E.F.P.s and other high-grade weapons into the country.

More recently, covert activity has been detected in both the U.S. and Iran. Last year a plot was uncovered to kill Saudi Arabia's ambassador to the U.S. in a bomb attack on a restaurant in Washington D.C..

Two Iranian men had attempted to hire a Mexican drug cartel to carry the hit out, but the assassin turned out to be an undercover U.S. agent. The suspects named Quds Force members as string-pullers and financiers in the plot.

In a public statement in October of last year, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holden said the attack "was conceived, was sponsored and was directed from Iran."

Iran denied this. As officials have noted, even if the Iranian government had no knowledge of the scheme, this incident shows a glaring inadequacy of accountability. Given the Iranian government's other

denials, complete lack of connection to the plot seems implausible.

In Iran itself, a recent slew of nuclear scientists have met mysterious demises, incidents Iran claims Israel and the U.S. are behind. Both nations have denied responsibility, and U.S. officials condemned the assassinations.

This is all besides the dozens of American hikers snatched from the mountains of Iran and accused of espionage.

Iranian-American and former U.S. Marine Amir Hekmati was arrested and sentenced to death for espionage in January. Hekmati's family claimed he was just in Iran to visit a grandmother.

And despite all of the spiraling diplomatic erosion between both nations, President Obama had already extended the hand of reconciliation to Iran in a 2009 video statement.

"I would like to speak clearly to Iran's leaders," he said. "We have serious differences that have grown over time. My administration is now committed to diplomacy that addresses the full range of issues before us, and to pursuing constructive ties between the United States, Iran, and the international community. This process will not be advanced by threats."

This invitation to negotiate has been squandered by the Iranian regime ever since, and now even the Obama administration is keeping a keen eye on a military option.

And while an all-out invasion of Iran is probably not the wisest course of action in any regard, a calculated use of partnered force with Israel or other nations should not be ruled out when dealing with an unstable and markedly hostile regime, especially one which is on its way toward harnessing the killing power of the atom.

## Nuclear program under attack?

A series of deaths and explosions at sites that are significant targets related to Iran's nuclear weapons program has led to speculation about possible sabotage. Some of the incidents:



**1. Jan. 11, 2010** Massoud Ali Mohammadi, a physics professor, killed when bomb detonated near his car

**2. Nov. 23, 2010** Computer virus Stuxnet stops uranium enrichment several times

**3. Nov. 29, 2010** Majid Shahriari, nuclear engineering professor, killed by car bomb; another scientist, Fereydoon Abbasi Davani, future head of Atomic Energy Organization of Iran, hurt in separate attack

**4. May 24, 2011** Explosion blamed on technical problem reportedly causes fire at oil refinery during visit by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who is not hurt; one killed six injured

**5. July 23, 2011** Dariush Rezaeinejad, member of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, shot dead

**6. Nov. 12, 2011** Explosion at military base reportedly kills missile expert, 16 other Revolutionary Guards

**7. Nov. 28, 2011** Explosion rocks city that is home to key nuclear facility

**8. Dec. 11, 2011** Explosion kills a least seven people at steel mill linked with nuclear program

**9. Jan. 11, 2012** Mostafa Ahmadi Roshan, deputy director of Iran's enrichment program, killed by bomb placed on his car

© 2012 MCT

Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau



# Should the U.S. get involved with any Iranian conflict?

Photos and Interviews by James Tutton



"I think we probably would, I don't know if we really have a choice if there is a war."

— Don McCrum



"No I don't, because we have enough problems of our own over here that needs to be solved."

— Meshell Newsome



"Yes, If there is a war with Iran over nuclear concerns we would have to get involved."

— Cecil Stone



"No I don't think we should, because look how long it took to finally end the Iraq war."

— Judenie Placide



"I don't think so because it's not our decision to go after another country if we don't have to."

— Sam Resende



"It's hard to say because when we stayed out of the second world war Japan came and attacked us."

— Elizabeth Greer



"Honestly we wouldn't want to, but we can't have Iran advance with nuclear weapons."

— Kameel Sylvester



"I don't think we should send soldiers out there, but maybe support the war with weapons."

— Alyson Shafan



"No they shouldn't, it's just a bad idea. Sending troops over there will not solve anything."

— Chris Phillips



"I think the U.S. should not get involved. Honestly it's not our war and we need to fix our debt."

— Fernando Marin



# Tweets of the Week



**Chris Colfer** @chriscolfer  
After a long search I was finally reunited with my birth mother...



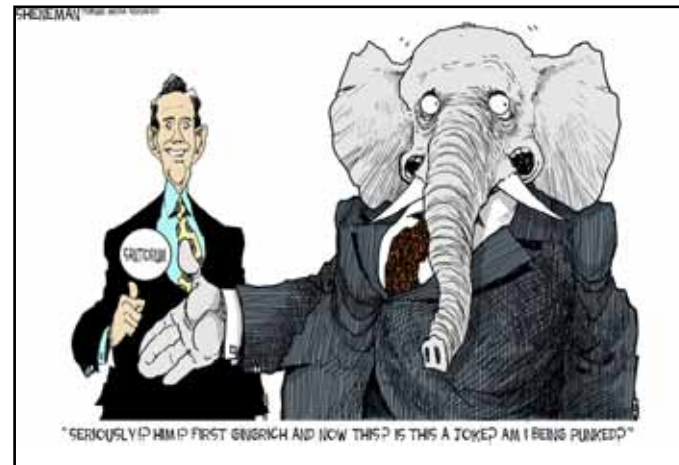
**braden graeber** @hipstermermaid  
The only way Adele could write a better album about a horrible relationship would be by dating Chris Brown.



**Jesse Tyler Ferguson** @jessetyler  
For the Emmys this year I am fully wearing a face net and a sandwich board that reads: "Of Course I Know Who Adele Is."



**David Spade** @DavidSpade  
This picture of springsteen last night could have been taken in 2005. Or 2000. Or 1984 [pic.twitter.com/Vsv5XusS](http://pic.twitter.com/Vsv5XusS)



## ValenciaVoice Spring 2012 Editors

Editor-in-chief Mary Stevens

News Editor James Tutton

Sports Editor Bryan Levine

Editorial Director Jeff Shedden

Events Editor Felicia Roopchand

Copy Editor Fred Lambert

Advertisement Director Jeremy Williams

Web Editor Brittany Rose

### Staff

Shay Castle	Lawrence Laguna
Sarah Flores	Gabe Lozada
Juan Gallargo	Shannon Metherell
Britanny Gil	Edward Mueller
Juan Gutierrez	Jordan Reynolds
Neda Hamdan	Jazmin Rodriguez
Luis Herrera	Michelle Saddic
Joy Irzitari	Anisha Tandon



Member, Associated Collegiate Press

The opinions expressed are those of the Valencia Voice, its staff members and contributors, and are not necessarily those of Valencia College, its staff, faculty, or student body.



# Jeff doesn't always hate

## It's impossible for one man to dislike everything

By Jeff Shedden  
jshedden@valenciavoice.com

People ask me all the time, "Jeff, you're so full of hate, is there anything you actually love?" The answer is, a firm, resounding "NO!"

I kid, I kid. Of course there are things I love.

Most readers of the Voice have never seen me in person (I'm always available to sign autographs!), but I'm kind of a big guy, so it's quite apparent that I love food. I'm not Italian, but I'm crazy for a good lasagna.

I adore Stouffer's original lasagna, and might well be willing to consider violence if they ever change the recipe. Chef Boyardee changed the recipe for their canned



Courtesy of MCT

Jeff's current favorite soda helps curve calories.

lasagna a few years ago, and my life has never been the same.

I, like many others, also have an unhealthy relationship with Oreo cookies. I finally came to the realization that they were also single-handedly the worst thing a person can put into their body via the ham-hole, so I quit them. Haven't eaten an actual Oreo in over five years. Those things are basically a liposuction in reverse.

I also love Diet Dr. Pepper. It's kind of a half-assed attempt at curbing the calories, but really it just means that instead of being a 35-year-old man, I'm actually a 65-year-old woman. Oh well, with the amount of sodium benzoate I've consumed, I'll at least live to triple digits.

I'm also a huge animal lover. Not to the extent of joining PETA, mind you, but definitely to the extent of filling my house with things that basically just eat money and excrete nightmares.

For starters, we have three cats. I do like cats, but I'm not exactly a cat person. I like the idea of having a cat, but three has been a new experience for me.

The oldest is a grey mix named Sparklebug. Short version is we thought she was a male at first and named "him" Sparkplug. It didn't take long for us to discover our mistake, though, and rather than give her a new name, my nutty mom decided to just "girlie" the name up, and now she sounds like a reject from "My Little Pony." Bug is bulimic, and reacts to anything she doesn't like with regurgitation. She's ralphed on everything from brand new clothes, all the way up to a perfectly good Xbox.

Then there's the twins, Nathan Explosion and William Murderface. For simplicity, we call Nathan "Binky," because he's the



Richard Tsong-Taatar, Minneapolis Star Tribune / MCT

How couldn't you love faces like this? Jeff has always had a soft spot for K9s and recently adopted one.

runt of his litter and very small, and William goes by either "Yum-Yum," as in Will-YUM, or "Shrimpkins," because of his extremely long tail which curls under like a shrimp.

All three cats were born to one of the 27 million strays living under my mom's house in the country, and it shows. They're like something out of "Deliverance." William even has a Southern drawl when he speaks, and it sounds something like "me-y'all." Nathan, on the other hand, has this surprisingly deep voice, and it's startling to hear something resembling Barry White coming out of a cat the size of a field mouse.

It's a good thing we rescued them, because none of them retained anything remotely close to a hunting instinct. Nathan accidentally killed a lizard that had somehow snuck into the house, and required therapy for months.

I've always been a dog person. Over the years I've had numerous dogs, mostly border collies and German shepherds, but for some reason, I've always been a sucker for the "underdog," so to speak.

We've recently added a new addition

to our household. We had been planning on getting a dog for some time now, and finally adopted one from A New Beginning in Altamonte Springs. They had so many wonderful animals needing homes, from Labradors to a charming little dachshund/mini-pinscher. So what did we pick? The 6-month-old beagle with a skin disorder... and we named him Dr. Egon Spengler.

Contrary to popular belief, I also do love movies. I'm a movie snob, though. If I'm going to pay to see a film, I want to know that at least some talent and effort went into it. For example, I'll watch anything the Coen Brothers release without even seeing a trailer. At the very least, it needs to feel like someone had fun making the movie. I'm one of a small percentage that liked "Cloverfield," and it may be because they went to great lengths to make the audience physically uncomfortable to the point of yakking all over the theater.

I'm also a sucker for "cult classic" films, almost to the point of annoyance. I love everything from "Rocky Horror," to blaxploitation films like "Foxy Brown,"

to campy weirdness like Roger Waters' films, even down to pure cinematic feces like Tommy Wiseau's "The Room." The annoyance comes in when I pretty much force most of my friends to sit through these films. Hell, I've lived in Orlando for a couple of years now, and I still haven't been to "Rocky Horror" at CityWalk.

I love gory horror films, the more gross-out, the better. I'm the kind of guy that can eat a big bowl of spaghetti while watching a grotesque ax murderer slowly eviscerate some hapless co-ed. The talent, effort and fun rules still apply, though, because I thought the "Hostel" movies were garbage.

Hollywood has kind of neutered the horror film these days, to the point where many studios are releasing PG-13 rated "scary" movies, which are, of course, all bad. But luckily, there's still a huge back catalog of great horror classics, like Lucio Fulci's 1979 movie, "Zombie," in which a zombie actually fights a gee-dee shark! Or Dario Argento's 1977 movie, "Susperia," which is basically "Black Swan" with better acting and Satanists.

So it's plain to see that I do have plenty of capacity for love, and I do love many things. It's just that all of the things that you like are crap.



JAMES F. QUINN, CHICAGO TRIBUNE / MCT

Like Garfield the cat, Jeff loves some lasagna.



# Seasoned actors shine in action flick

## Denzel Washington partners with Ryan Reynolds in ‘Safe House’



By Edward Mueller  
emueller@valenciavoice.com

A high-level terrorist leads a junior agent on a chase across South Africa in the Daniel Espinosa film, “Safe House.” Denzel Washington explodes onscreen once again, infiltrating the minds of thrill-seeking moviegoers.

Washington plays the part of Tobin Frost, a renowned CIA agent gone rogue who makes his way into the U.S. Consulate in Cape Town after escaping a band of assassins who snipe his MI6 contact during the chase.

The CIA begins their investigation into his reappearance by transferring him to a safe house in Johannesburg where young agent Matt Weston (Ryan Reynolds) is stationed awaiting a senior-level posting. Frost anticipates a rough interrogation, showing no fear as his escorts prepare him for water-boarding.

Weston’s handler at the CIA headquarters in Langley, Va. is a big man in the agency named David Barlow (Brendan Gleeson). Barlow stands behind Weston’s reputation when the junior agent is suspected of turning and aiding Frost after the safe house is assaulted by his pursuers.

Vera Farmiga stands opposite to Barlow in regards to Weston in her portrayal of agent Catherine Linklater. It is Linklater that distrusts Weston’s allegiance after ordering him to secure Frost and stay off the grid.

Multiple encounters between Frost and Weston provide the master of manipulation plenty of opportunities to convert the young agent to his own traitorous ways. Discussions about life as an agent throughout the movie as well as the many life-threatening situations Weston finds himself in begin to alter his view of the agency and his own future.

Weston’s love life shows strain as he begins to regret lying to his French nationalist girlfriend, Ana Moreau (Nora Arnezeder). Frost contributes to Weston’s change of heart with a lecture on the difficulties of

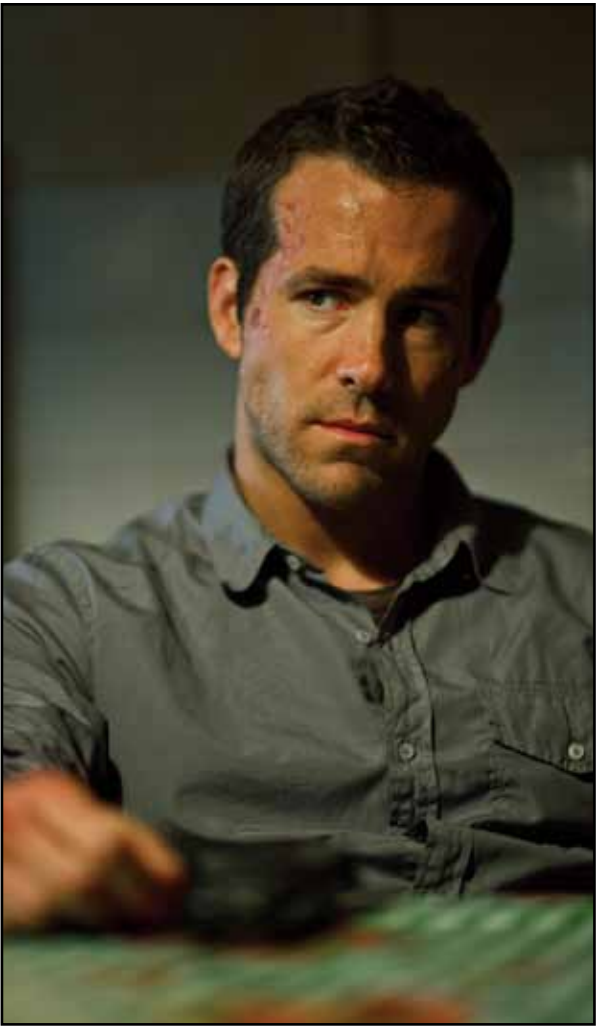
agents maintaining relationships.

Frost continues to manipulate Weston throughout the film as he urges the newbie to question the motives and orders of his superiors. Weston is quick to appreciate the lessons passed on to him by Frost.

The suspense-thriller consistently draws the attention of audiences as twist after twist unravels the truth behind Frost’s emergence from deep cover. “I liked how most of the ‘good guys’ turned out to be crooked,” said movie-watcher Jessica Jeppesen.

Car chases, gun fights and hand-to-hand combat merge in the many action scenes for nearly the entire duration of the movie. “First, you saw Denzel in the bathroom busting that one dude up in the beginning,” started spectator, Jorge Ruiz. “Then, later on, you find out Ryan Reynolds can do it too.”

Even with “Safe House” keeping thrill-seekers entertained, the popular family title, “Journey 2,” and the 3-D remake of classic film, “Star Wars: Episode I,” will offer strong competition at the



Ryan Reynolds as rookie operative Matt Weston.

box office.

“‘Journey’ and ‘Safe House’ are running toe-to-toe this weekend here,” remarked Dolores Jerez, manager at Touchstar Cinemas in the Southchase Plaza.

## Opening Feb. 17

### ‘This Means War’



**Director:** McG  
**Starring:** Tom Hardy, Chris Pine, Reese Witherspoon, Chelsea Handler  
**Rated:** PG-13  
**Running Time:** 2 hrs.  
**Genre:** Romantic Comedy / Action

### ‘Ghost Rider 2’



**Directors:** Mark Neveldine, Brian Taylor  
**Starring:** Nicolas Cage, Idris Elba, Ciaran Hinds  
**Rated:** PG-13  
**Running Time:** 1 hrs. 35 min.  
**Genre:** Action / Horror

## Box Office



Courtesy of Kerry Hayes SMPSP/MCT

### ‘The Vow’

**Rated:**  
PG-13

**This Weekend:**  
\$ 41,202,458

**Total Gross:**  
\$ 41,202,458



Courtesy of Universal Pictures/MCT

### ‘Safe House’

**Rated:**  
R

**This Weekend:**  
\$ 40,172,720

**Total Gross:**  
\$ 40,172,720



Courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures

### ‘Journey 2’

**Rated:**  
PG

**This Weekend:**  
\$ 27,335,363

**Total Gross:**  
\$ 27,335,363



# Memory loss tests relationship

‘Vow’ sticks to rom-com roots



By Neda Hamdan  
NHamdan@valenciavoices.com

What would you do if the love of your life suddenly couldn't remember who you were? "The Vow" is based on a novel and true story about Kim and Krickitt Carpenter, who only months into their marriage suffered a car accident. This sends Paige (Rachel McAdams) into a coma, erasing her memory of their entire relationship. The partnership is put to the test when Leo (Channing Tatum) has to decide whether he should keep fighting for his wife, or leave it up to faith to bring them back together.

"I liked it a lot because I think it is original to have Paige not be able to remember and have to fall in love with Leo all over again," said Manuela Garcia. "You get to see a romance movie in a backwards-flashback kind of way in a sense where they are already married but have to do everything all over again."

Being based on a true story, there seemed to be some fabricated details implanted into the movie in order to create an almost too-good-to-be-true relationship. The major factor of their faith in God and religious views were conveniently left out of the movie. An advantage of it being based on a true story is that it has details that were extensive, showing the hardships of dealing with memory loss and not sugar-coating it.

Like any true rom-com, their love is generously romantic and blissful, until a tragic event occurs. They eventually find their way back to each other, ending on a happy and tearful note, the only difference is that this is a true story, which raises questions of credibility throughout the entire movie in regards to this happening.

"I think it is a good movie, very cute," said Elly Abraham. "The story is what really got to me, and made me emotional."

There is a touch of comedy, which brightens the



Courtesy of Sony / Screen Gems

'The Vow' stars Rachel McAdams and Channing Tatum.

serious undertones throughout the film. The music, though it was slightly dark, had a hopeful sound to it, hinting at the eventual happy ending. It hit all the right spots, assisting in emotional moments as well as funny ones.

"The movie was overall pretty good, like any other movie. The trailer made it seem better than it really was, so I expected more," said Haneen Mubarak. "The ending was okay, but I really liked the story along with the acting."

The leading actors seemed to be chosen purely for obtaining viewers, and though their chemistry appeared real, the acting chops fell short. It seemed as though the characters were not written with enough depth, wasting the actor's talents as they portrayed shallow characters.

However, Jessica Lange seemed to steal the show with what was only a few sentences, as well as Sam Neill who also made a large impact on the movie compared to the leading actors. One can't help but wonder how different the movie could have been if the entire cast was filled with actors as talented as them.

Though the movie seemed to promise a lot more than it delivered, it is a film sure to make tears flow and set high expectations for any girl watching. This movie is a good Valentine's Day date, but not much else.

## A ROLLINS EDUCATION IS WITHIN YOUR REACH



Designed for working adults, Rollins Evening program is competitively priced with other schools in Central Florida. At Rollins, your classes will be small, and you'll be taught by professors who are dedicated to your success. You'll also have full access to the Rollins library, internships, writing tutors, academic advisors, and career counselors.

### EVENING B.A. DEGREE PROGRAMS

- Computer Science
- Economics
- English
- Environmental Studies and Civic Urbanism
- Humanities
- International Affairs
- Music
- Organizational Behavior
- Organizational Communication
- Psychology

### B.A. INFORMATION SESSIONS

Tuesday, February 21, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 20, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 10, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 26, 2012, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Galloway Room,  
Mills Memorial Hall, Rollins College

RSVP: 407-646-2232 | [www.rollins.edu/evening](http://www.rollins.edu/evening)

 **ROLLINS** | Evening

A ROLLINS EDUCATION  
GREATER CONNECTIONS



# Fantasy lives at MegaCon

## Comicbook legend, Stan Lee set to return

By Michelle Saddic  
msaddic@valenciavoices.com

It is that time of year again when MegaCon, Florida's largest comic book, anime, sci-fi, and gaming convention, starts up again. MegaCon will be at the Orange County Convention Center this weekend, Feb. 17 through Feb. 19.

For those who are not familiar with MegaCon, it showcases dozens of booths ranging from comics, tattoos, video games, art, and more.

"Megacon was awesome! So full of energy and it's nice to see people having fun and dressing up and not caring what other people think and just being themselves! It was really fun," said AnnMarie DeCarmo, commenting on her experience of MegaCon last year.

"There are so many people who wear costumes that sometimes I feel out of place at MegaCon if I don't wear a costume, but MegaCon is a lot of fun," said Jessy Missigman who has been to MegaCon for the last few years.

MegaCon also hosts quite a few celebrities. This year, MegaCon is inviting Stan Lee, who is a comic book legend and is executive producer for most Marvel movies, Tom Felton, who played Draco Malfoy in Harry Potter, several actors from the cast of Star Trek, and more.

Not only are there several celebrities attending, but there are dozens of booths to look forward to, for example "Ink Fusion," a tattoo group that will be there creating origi-



James Tutton / Valencia Voice

Star Wars, R2-D2 roams around at 2011 MegaCon.

nal tattoos for people, there will be a MovieStop booth, several artists will be there to showcase their work, booths with toys and figures will be displayed, as well as life-sized weapons from cartoons and video games.

Throughout the weekend, there are contests that people enter each day, on Friday some of the contests are the "Quick Draw," which is a twenty minute drawing session where there are two rounds, round one on Friday and round two on Sunday, and whoever the judges deem is the best artist wins a prize. On Saturday is one of the most popular events - the "Anime Costume Contest."

Saturday has the most events planned and celebrities are normally out signing and taking pictures with their fans. The show room is also open longer during Saturday, while at night, after the show room hours are over, there is also a large rave that takes place, but one can only go if they pay for their Saturday ticket.

Friday tends to be the day to "scope out" what to do for the rest of the weekend and to take a look at the shops, while Sunday is the day that everything for sale gets a bit cheaper and people buy more from the shops.

Ticket prices for MegaCon are \$25 for one day or \$60 for the whole weekend. Check out megaconvention.com for places to buy tickets and to find out more about what will be available throughout the weekend.

# Brazilian film festival starts strong

## Taboo subject addressed through high humor with opening film

By James Tutton  
jtutton@valenciavoices.com

The 5th annual Brazilian Film Festival at Valencia College kicked off with a roller coaster ride of comedy, and great numbers of cinema fans turned out thanks to the largest advertising campaign yet.

"I feel very proud that it's been so successful," said Richard Sansone, a professor of Portuguese and English as a Second Language at Valencia and organizer of the event. "It brings together the Brazilian community and gives the community at large a chance to understand Brazilian culture."

The first film featured in this year's multi-day festival was "De Pernas Pro Ar," which translates into "Head over Heels." This film, which contained an advisory that viewers be at least 14-years-old, was marketed as a sex comedy.

The film stars Brazil's much be-

loved comedic actress, Ingrid Guimarães, who plays a determined businesswoman having trouble balancing her personal and professional life.

She finds herself at a crossroads after her husband leaves due to a lack of attention, and loses her job because of a major mishap at the office. She then finds herself going into business with a former rival in an adult sex shop. Throughout the film there is constant humor from the clumsy and sexually inexperienced protagonist. She fights to rebuild her family relationships, all the while dealing with her surprise success in the taboo market she finds herself in. The film has some nudity and skates the line of what is acceptable for young viewers with many occasions of heavily sexually charged situations.

It's apparent that this film would easily be rated R by American standards with a large number of stimulating

adult sex devices, scantily clad ladies showing off their goods, and even a few simulated orgasms. There is so much sex throughout this film, that any foul language and excessive nudity would easily bump this film into an NC-17 rating.

"I've always wanted to come out to this film festival but couldn't make it before. I'm real excited to share that connectivity with my Brazilian family," said student Mariana Brum.

This film has not been screened outside of the Rio International Film Festival where it won several awards.

Students and the general movie going public that came out for this event were treated to not only a free movie, but also live entertainment and free Brazilian delicacies. There was the sweet passion fruit dessert of mousse maracuja, chocolate treats like brigadeiros, different types of the popular coxinha, and much more.

Along with word of mouth and social media, this event has never seen bigger crowds and is sure to set a new record for funds raised for the Valencia Foundation.

"This is a great event every year and the movies they show are very good," said SGA president at West Campus, Patrick O'Connor. "Great writing, great actors, comedy is there, and action is there. You really get to see prime examples of another culture."

The Brazilian film festival at Valencia College strongly reflects the driving desire of international understanding and cooperation with the world community. It all can start with cultural events like this festival, and the several study abroad programs that Valencia is internationally known for providing to students.



Keith Baumbaugh / Valencia College

Current and former Valencia College students help the Brazilian film festival as volunteers.



# App of the week: Eden

By Neda Hamdan  
NHamdan@valenciavoices.com

Were you a fan of Minecraft? Well here's a new, basic, but still highly addictive version. Eden, World Builder is exactly as the name describes; it's a game where the objective is to build your own world. Though it is odd that this game has no rules or purpose, it allows you to stretch creativity.

You can build forts, castles, trees, bushes and all other sorts of things, but they are in the shape of blocks. You can create or destroy; both change the landscape of your world. The blocks vary in color, with textures of wood,

shrubs, crystal and stone. To increase interest the game is in zero gravity, so yes, you can build a castle in mid-air.

There even is a TNT block that you can use to create destruction and underground tunnels. You have the basic controls of walking and looking at every angle and jumping, but there are also a variety of tools to build, such as a hammer to break apart blocks or fire to fuel the TNT block. You can also use the fire tool on the flammable objects such as the shrubs, or wood.

The graphics in Eden, World Builder are quite poor, but believe it or not this was done on purpose. The controls, such as jump and destroy,



tend to stick out compared to the rest of the app. Looking past the graphics, the game is still quite interesting and entertaining. Who can resist an unlimited supply of blocks to create any world desired?

Eden - World Builder is like a mobile version of LEGOs, attracting those who enjoy using their creativity. Granted, the graphics are not the best; but if you want to pass time by using your imagination, this app is the perfect way.

# Film festival to hit Valencia

## Former, current students produce award winning shorts

By Shannon Metherell  
smetherell@hotmail.com



Two feature-length films will be showing at Valencia's Film Festival on Thursday, Feb. 16 and Friday, Feb. 17. The films were made by Valencia Film Production Technology Program students and graduates. Music, and other award-winning short

films will also be featured.

"My Fair Lidy," will be showing on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. on Valencia's East Campus. Craig Lideman, nicknamed "Lidy," is a blue collar worker who has fallen on hard times due to the economy. A chance meeting with Miss Sal, a drag queen, exposes Lidy to a new world, one that puts him on a strange journey toward becoming a queen himself. Upon taking the challenge, Lidy finds himself coming out of his tough guy shell and begins accepting people for who they are, but then finds out that he is having a difficult time being accepted by others. Through his journey, his old life meshes with his new life and Lidy starts to find out about his true self.

"My Fair Lidy" was produced by veteran Florida casting director Sandi Bell and directed by Ralph Clemente, who started the Film Production program. It also features local actors Leigh Shannon, Tom Nowicki, Dennis Neal and Rus Blackwell.

Thursday's entertainment will also include musical performances from Jazzmin and locally affiliated DJ Blood Eagle, which will show off their genre of "dethelektro/trash/

maximal/rave music."

"The Loch Ness Monster from Outer Space," will be screening on Friday at 7:30 p.m. In this sci-fi comedy, Nessie from space returns after 20 years of hibernation and its mission is to invade all of Earth.

The setting is Neptune Beach, Fla. during the 1960s. Who's going to try and stop this 400 foot monster from attacking? Surfers Kip Steele, his girlfriend Trixie, and friends Betsy, Bingo and Speedbump plan to give it their best shot. As they try to save the world, villain Veronica and her Bad Girls gang try to stop them. The film contains surfing and 1960s rock-and-roll to go along with the destruction of the beach community.

After each featured film screening, the producers and cast members will participate in a question-and-answer session with the audience.

Both films were produced by Valencia students in conjunction with industry professionals.

Some short films will also be premiering at the two-day festival: "Thomas Sterling Cole," directed by Tommy Scoggins, Bobby Arnold's "Blue Line," and "The Journal," created by Alex Bright.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center on the east campus. Admission is free for Valencia faculty and staff and \$5 for general admission. For more information and an inside look at the film festival, please visit <http://www.valenciafilmcelebration.com/> or call Valencia's Film Production office at 407-582-2413.

To purchase tickets by phone, please contact the Performing Arts Center Box Office at 407-582-2900.

All proceeds will benefit the Valencia's film production program and help with the production of student-made films and shorts.



## See what Webster University has for u!

### EARN YOUR BACHELOR'S DEGREE

- Business Administration • Human Resources Management • Management • Psychology
- Generous Transfer of Credit Policy • Terms begin in January, March, June, August or October
- Small Classes Meet One Evening Per Week • Convenient Free Parking

**Webster**  
UNIVERSITY

North Orlando: Sanlando Center • 407-869-8111  
South Orlando: Westwood Corporate Center • 407-345-1139  
1-888-302-8111 • [webster.edu/orlando](http://webster.edu/orlando)





# Grammys honor best artists

## A rising star affirmed, a fallen one grieved

— continued from page 1

"21," were juxtaposed against the dazed grief and still-raw reactions to the death of Houston on Saturday. The 48-year-old singer was found in a bathtub in her room at the Beverly Hilton Hotel and, while the determination of cause of death could take weeks, Houston's history of drug addiction is a likely starting point for the investigation.

The Grammy broadcast on CBS began with Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band performing its new hard-times anthem, "We Take Care of Our Own," and then host LL Cool J addressing the loss of Houston, a six-time Grammy winner



Jennifer Hudson performs a Houston tribute during the Grammys at the Staples Center in Ca.

Robert Gauthier, Los Angeles Times / MCT

who tumbled from the pinnacle of the pop charts into the pit of a tabloid life.

"We ask ourselves," the rapper and actor said with the crisp tones of a Sunday sermon, "How do we speak to this time, to this day? There is no way around this. We've had a death in our family. At least to me, the only thing that seems right is to start with a prayer for our fallen sister, Whitney Houston." He then read a prayer while the audience went silent, many with bowed heads.

Country singer Glen Campbell, who is battling Alzheimer's disease, was given a warm ovation after his engaging, high-energy performance of "Rhinestone Cowboy."

Meanwhile the applause for Chris Brown's daring dance work (he performed on a hulking prop of giant cubes) may have echoed with a sense of redemption. Brown's future seemed uncertain at the Grammys in 2009 when he missed the show and was arrested on suspicion of felony assault on his girlfriend, Rihanna, but on Sunday he won best R&B album for "F.A.M.E."

"First and foremost, I gotta thank God, and thank the Grammys for letting me get on this stage and do my thing," Brown said. "All my fans, I love you. We got one. Thank you."

The best new artist award went to Bon Iver, the folk-pop project of mastermind Justin Vernon, who used his time on the Grammy stage to thank "all the non-nominees who never will be here." Although the likes of Kanye West have endorsed Bon Iver, the Midwestern act was competing against bigger names such as rapper Nicki Minaj and dance music sensation Skrillex.

"It's really hard to accept this award," Vernon said. "There's so much talent out there and on this stage. There's so much talent that's not here. ... When I started making songs I started for the inherent



Paul McCartney closes the show with Bruce Springsteen, Dave Grohl, and Joe Walshby singing a blend of 'Golden Slumbers,' 'Carry That Weight' and 'The End.'

Robert Gauthier, Los Angeles Times / MCT

reward of making songs."

The 3-hour show also featured cross-generational pairings, most notably a Beach Boys reunion that came bundled with the newer falsettos and harmonies of Maroon 5 and Foster the People.

Brian Wilson wasn't the only 1960s legend on stage, Paul McCartney performed twice on the show.

The 69-year-old McCartney performed a new song, "My Valentine," with an orchestra, Eagles guitarist Joe Walsh and jazz pianist Diana Krall. The song was written for Nancy Shevell, his new wife, and he also crooned it on their wedding day.

He was back on stage at the end of the show to perform the climatic "Golden Slumbers/Carry That Weight/The End" medley from the "Abbey Road," the swan-song studio album by the Beatles. Springsteen, Dave Grohl of the Foo Fighters and Walsh joined in for the intense guitar volleys of "Carry That Weight" before the final line of "The End" brought the show to a close: "And in the end, the love you take is equal to the love you make."

That may have been the timeless music

moment of the night, but the most timely was the performance of "I Will Always Love You," a tribute to Houston by Jennifer Hudson, one of the many young singers who saw in Houston a career and stylistic template.

The song was written and recorded by Dolly Parton in the 1970s but became a mega-selling signature hit for Houston with the release of "The Bodyguard" film and soundtrack.

On Sunday night, the soaring and epic song came at the end of the "In Memoriam" sequence as the photos of recently deceased music luminaries filled the screen behind Hudson. She blew a kiss at the end of the song, which was subdued but still packed with emotion, especially for the audience at the arena.

Adele's album "21" finished as the best-seller of 2011 with 5.82 million copies sold in North America. Her rousing hit "Rolling in the Deep" enjoyed the best year of sales of any song since "Candle in the Wind: Princess Diana Tribute," Elton John's charity single in 1997.

Adele also won best new artist in 2009, and her new shelf of trophies will make her

a key figure to watch in the years to come.

The drama of her night was heightened by a moment of silence, just after she started singing "Rolling in the Deep" she and her band paused for a long beat, which caused a flicker of anxiety for audience members fretting about her throat condition. It was just a pause for drama amid a fairly flawless night. Adele joined Beyonce as the only woman to take home six Grammys in one night.

"This is ridiculous," Adele said on accepting record of the year, and then broke into tears when "21" was announced as the album winner to cap the show.

"This record is inspired by something everyone's been through, which is a rubbish relationship," she said. "It's gone on to do things I can't tell you ... It's been a life-changing year."

Adele shared the award for song of the year, the category honoring songwriters, with Paul Epworth for "Rolling in the Deep."

The Grammys are determined by about 13,000 voting members. The eligibility period for nominated recordings was Oct. 1, 2010, to Sept. 30, 2011.

— MCT Campus



# Top 4 awkward moments at Grammy Awards

By Margaret Wappler  
Los Angeles Times

What would the ceremony be without its weird moments, its awkward collaborations or puzzling choices? Here are six of the most notable of the evening's slip-ups, gaffes and other "I don't get it" moments:



Wally Skaliy / Los Angeles Times / MCT

Nobody could've predicted the awkwardness of the ceremony's opening line, gearing up to perform "We Take Care of Our Own," Bruce Springsteen asked the crowd, "Anyone alive out there?"



Robert Gauthier / Los Angeles Times / MCT

Did we need to see him perform twice? Are we ready to embrace him so full-heartedly? Three years after assaulting then-girlfriend Rihanna, Brown was embraced by the academy, which invited him to perform his own music on top of some sort of Cubist contraption seemingly designed by Atari.

The Foo Fighters was omnipresent at the show, from playing in the parking lot outside, maybe they'd torn up too much of the furniture inside already, to inexplicably joining the late-hour dance-music collaboration with Chris Brown, Lil Wayne, DeadMau5 and David Guetta.



Kirk McKoy, Los Angeles Times / MCT



Robert Gauthier / Los Angeles Times / MCT

Nicki Minaj's performance, Catholic nightmare overload or inspired frightfest? Wait, notice how those two things aren't that different? It might take us years to process all the ideas at work in Minaj's performance, and while we applaud her for presenting them all with gusto, it seemed a case of too much, too late. So there was a video in there? And a cross she was hanging from? Or did she levitate? That's a start, Nicki, but if you want to do "The Exorcist," your head has to spin around, not ours.

— MCT Campus



Feb. 16  
Battle of the Sexes/  
Ministry Event  
East Campus  
Mall Area  
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Feb. 16  
SWAT Information  
Session: Lt. Weipper,  
SWAT Commander  
East Campus  
8-102  
1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Feb. 16  
Humanities Speakers  
Series  
East Campus  
3-113  
1:00 p.m. -2:00 p.m.

Feb. 16  
“A War For Your Soul”  
Documentary  
East Campus  
Bldg. 3 Atrium  
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Feb. 16  
Freedom of Press:  
Adam Longo Reporter,  
Anchor CFNEWS 13  
East Campus  
5-112  
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 17  
Valencia Volunteers  
Presents: Luna der  
Rouge  
Osceola Campus  
6:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Feb. 22  
AA vs. AS: What’s the  
Difference - Valencia  
Skillshop  
Winter Park Campus  
Room 107  
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Community

2/16  
Smart Answers to Tough Questions  
Career Services Experiential Learning  
Building 140 on Memory Mall  
3:00 p.m.

2/16  
Gar Alperovitz  
Mills Memorial Hall  
7:00 p.m.

2/18  
Seasonal Night Sky Viewing  
Orlando Science Center  
5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

2/20  
Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra: The Democratic Ideal  
Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre  
7:00 p.m.

2/21  
How to Survive and Recover in a Bad Economy  
Seminole State College Fine Arts Concert Hall  
5:00 p.m.

2/22  
March for Jobs and Freedom: College Democrats  
at UCF - UCF Location: Student Union  
12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

On-going

2/16 - 03/4  
Florida Biennial VI  
The Museum of Florida Art  
Sundays 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Courtesy of museumoffloridaart.org

2/16 - 3/18  
William H. Johnson: An American Modern  
Mennello Museum of Art  
Sundays 12:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Tuesdays - Saturdays 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Courtesy of smponline.org

2/16 - 4/22  
Surfland  
Sundays Saturdays 1;00 p.m. - 5:00  
p.m.  
Tuesdays Thursdays - Fridays  
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

2/17 - 2/23  
A New Beginning  
Gallery on First  
Sundays 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Tuesdays Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Concerts

2/16  
My Ticket Home  
The Social  
6:00 p.m.



Courtesy of thesocial.org

2/16  
Yonder Mountain String Band  
The Beacham  
7:00 p.m.



Courtesy of thesocial.org

2/17  
Matt Nathanson  
The Beacham  
7:00 p.m.



Courtesy of thesocial.org

2/18  
Passafire  
The Social  
8:00 p.m



Courtesy of thesocial.org

2/19  
Ovrkill  
The Social  
10:00 p.m.



Courtesy of thesocial.org





Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice

Dale Irving (15), Tommy Williams (14), and other Knights tried to find how many balls they can throw around the circle without dropping one.

# High hopes for 2012 baseball season

## During media day players, coaches expressed interest in hosting regionals

By Anisha Tandon  
atandon@valenciavoices.com

After finishing the 2011 season in regionals for the first time since 2004, the Knights have made it their goal to host regionals this year.

The starters have been named for this weekend's game against Long Island University, with junior Brian Adkins taking the mound for Friday night's season opener.

"It's definitely a great honor," said Adkins of his starting position. "All of our guys have been working really hard and I think we have the chance to have a really great staff this year."

This weekend's three-game series against LIU will be held in the newly renovated Jay Bergman, which has added roughly 1000 seats in the first of a three phase process. The new renovations have the team prepared for a full house in its season opener.

"It's awesome," said CF Ronnie Richardson of the new renovations. "I'll be ex-

pecting a packed house, I want to see this place sold out with new stands."

As 1B, DJ Hicks was named this year's NCBWA All American honors 2012 pre-season player of the year, he explained what this would mean the start of the season.

"It means you've got to work harder, you can't just show up and play. With our new coaches everyone has elevated their game, I think we are going to take it from good to great this year." This year, the team has made it their goal to get to Omaha, NE, where the College World Series is held annually. Coach Rooney has stated that the way to do it is not to be good but great.

"What it is, is pretty simple, last year what this team and program accomplished was good, and by no means do I want to diminish what they accomplished," Coach Rooney also said. "We have the type of team that can take the next step."

Another goal has been to host regionals at Jay Bergman field in the first week of June. In 2011 the Knights finished fourth

in their conference with a 14-14 conference record (39-23 overall).

"Everyone's talking about hosting a regional here, everyone would love that. Playing in Orlando," said pitcher Ben Lively. "Playing in our hometown, home fans and everything would be awesome."

Rooney announced Monday who would be pitching for the Knights opening weekend, with

Adkins starting on Friday, Ben Lively starting Saturday, and Chris Matulis making his UCF debut Sunday against LIU.

UCF is hoping for a sold out crowd this Friday for their home opener against the Blackbirds.

"We want people to come out here, not only to have great crowds, but to enhance the program. Youth baseball in Orlando is awesome," explained Rooney. "I want kids that live around here to grow up wearing the UCF hats. That's all part of the process, so hopefully we will get that great crowd on opening night."

## Key players returning this season

By Bryan Levine  
blevine@valenciavoices.com

### HITTERS:

\* **D. J. Hicks - 1B - RJr** : Leads all returning Knights in batting average (.351), hits (80), home runs (14) and RBIs (66).

\*\* **Ronnie Richardson - CF - Jr** : Leads all returning Knights in Runs (59), Finished playing in all 62 .

**Travis Shreve - 2B - Sr**: Leads all returning Knights with 22 stolen bases. Finished last season with a .309 BA, 51 runs and 69 hits.

\*\* **Darnell Sweeney - SS - Jr**: Leads all returning Knights in doubles (17), 2nd on the team in RBIs (45) and also had 69 hits.

### PITCHERS:

**Ray Hanson - RHP - Sr**: Posted a 4-2 record with a 3.47 ERA and 35 strikeouts. He also held opponents to a .258 BA and threw a CG.

**Brian Adkins - LHP - Jr**: Leads all return-

ing pitchers with 88 IP, wins (6), and strikeouts (45). He also allowed the most hits (100).

**Ben Lively - RHP - So**: Impressive 5-1 record his freshman year, second on the team in SO (41), and leads the team in opponent BA (.257).

**Joe Rogers - LHP - Jr**: Full-time closer now, lead the team with 9 saves last season, and struckout 38 opponents in 41.1 innings of work.

### NOTES:

\* D.J. Hicks was voted as the pre-season conference player of the year. In addition to that honor, he was also voted to the first-team all-conference.

\*\* Ronnie Richardson and Darnell Sweeney were also voted to the first-team all-conference. With three selections, they ranked second in the conference. These are the first preseason C-USA awards for the Knights since Kiko Vazquez and Tyson Auer were named to the all-conference team in 2008.

## Breaking down the Knights' 2012 baseball home schedule

UCF baseball fans should be happy, because the Knights drew a great home schedule this season. They'll begin the 2012 campaign, this weekend, with a three-game series against Long Island University. The Knights, who earned their first pre-season ranking (21) in school history, will face four other ranked teams this season, three of which will be at the newly renovated Jay Bergman Field. Their first real test at home will be Mar. 6-7 when FSU (20) comes to town for a two-game set. The series comes right in the middle of a 12-game homestand, which includes games against Miami (18) and Harvard. The Knights will begin conference play with a home series against East Carolina. They have a total of four home series against conference foes, and end the season with a tough three-game set against Rice (4), which very well could decide the final standings of the Conference-USA. UCF has a 59 game schedule this season, 38 of which are home. They'll be playing 14 games against other teams from Florida, eight of which are in Orlando.



# Knights guard reaches milestone

Aisha Patrick becomes 15th woman to score 1000 points at UCF

By Fred Lambert  
flambert@valenciavoice.com

Knights women's basketball guard, Aisha Patrick, led her team in points on Sunday's game against the University of Alabama Birmingham's Blazers, but she'd already proved her mettle in scoring.

Patrick was honored on Jan. 12 with a commemorative team ball, recognizing her as the 15th UCF women's basketball player in school history to score an accumulative 1000 points. The recognition came during an away game at UAB when she hit her mark. The awarded ball had "1000 points" and her name printed on it.

"The significant thing about me getting a thousand points is that I don't look to be a shooter; I like defense," said Patrick after the Knights' victory over the Blazers. "I try to get the steals and I get the easy points, and teams don't look at me as a scoring threat."

The tally after Sunday's game puts her at an added total of 1,109 points. Patrick, who played for the Knights since 2008, holds the number nine spot in total points for the school's women's basketball program, along with number three for most rebounds at 770, number four for assists at 343, number two for steals at 270 and number six for most free throws made at 243.

A 5-foot 9-inch senior from Rockledge, Fla., Patrick averages

13.9 points per game. She scored 12 for her team on Sunday's matchup, along with 10 rebounds.

"Really proud of Pat, because she led the way tonight," said Knight's coach Joi Williams. "She played 40 minutes and no turnovers, a double-double – we couldn't ask for more from her."

Sunday's double-double puts Patrick in the top five slot for the UCF women's basketball program's all-time double-double list. She is the only guard out of six players in the Conference USA to record at least 10 double-doubles,

and she's led her team in steals for eight out of the last 12 games.

Outside of point scoring, Williams gave Patrick high praise on defense, leadership and rebounds.

"I'm just extremely proud of her," said Williams. "She's meant a lot to our program since she was a freshman. For her to be able to achieve that milestone means a lot, and she's a player that does a lot of different things. The ball was for a 1000 point scoring, but she affects the game in so many different ways, so it's really neat to see her get that award."



Aisha Patrick controls the ball during a game earlier in the season against Rice.

Bryan Levine / Valencia Voice

JOIN FLORIDA'S PREMIER MEN'S

WOOD BAT  
BASEBALL  
LEAGUE

2012 SEASON STARTING SOON!



# Guillen, Marlins; volatile combo

## 4 all-star free agency signings, a different skipper, a \$515 million ballpark

By Phil Rogers  
Chicago Tribune

New name. New stadium. New manager. Four new players, all of whom have been to at least three All-Star Games.

There is no shortage of topics to consider when looking at the Miami Marlins, who couldn't wait to say good riddance to their home for 19 seasons, which went by so many names it could have been in witness protection.

Never mind that the Marlins won four World Series games in the multi-sport abomination alongside the Florida Turnpike. They never really became a South

Florida summer destination, and without the still-to-be-named new home near downtown the Marlins might be drifters looking for a better place to make a living. That was then, Ozzie Guillen is now.

The Marlins successfully raided the White Sox's cupboard to grab an excellent manager, who was signed through 2012 but lost interest in trying to win with a team lacking dynamic young talent.

He was wooed to Miami, where he had been a coach when the Marlins stunned the Cubs and Yankees in the 2003 playoffs, and then sat back to watch with delight as President Larry Beinfest successfully enlisted Jose Reyes, Mark Buehrle and Heath Bell.

Beinfest even sweetened the pot for Guillen, trading for close friend Carlos Zambrano, who like Guillen would like nothing better than to make the Cubs look bad for failing to halt his steady self-destruction.

There will be an abundance of stories on Guillen, Reyes, Buehrle, Bell and "Big Z" after the Marlins report to the Jupiter, Fla., complex they share with the Cardinals.

We'll leave a thorough discussion of those topics for another time.

For starters, and knowing the point will be overlooked later, let's examine this question: Is the Marlins' situation as good as the one Guillen inherited in Chicago?

He probably would tell you it's a lot better. After all, he's walking into:

A four-year, \$10-million contract. His original deal with the White Sox was for two years plus a club option, at less than \$1 million per season. His longest was three years and a club option.

A chance to open a \$515-million palace that could be a turning point in baseball's future in the state of Florida (the stadium is a public-private partnership, with the

Marlins obligated for \$155 million).

A chance to work for a front office that built the 2003 World Series championship team and has kept a steady pipeline of talent bubbling in its farm system.

A roster that includes Mike Stanton, Hanley Ramirez, Logan Morrison and Gaby Sanchez.

A starting rotation that is expected to include homegrown ace Josh Johnson, who made only nine starts last season because of injuries.

But when Jerry Reinsdorf approved Ken Williams' surprising choice of Guillen as a successor to Jerry Manuel, Guillen received: The chance to work for pro sports' most loyal owner, whom he had been close to for almost 20 years.

A team that had averaged 83.5 victories the previous two years (compared to the Marlins' 76-win average the last two years) and featured a strong farm system.

A pitching staff led by the 25-year-old Buehrle and 24-year-old Jon Garland, not the 33-year-old Buehrle and 28-year-old Johnson.

The Marlins have had only two 200-inning seasons from starting pitchers the last three years; the White Sox had five from their's in 2001-03. A team that just had taken its payroll down, not maxed it out.

In 2004, Guillen's first season, Williams traded for Freddy Garcia and Jose Contreras, who would play huge roles in the White Sox winning the 2005 World Series.

A roster that was built around a 28-year-old Paul Konerko, one of baseball's most consistent run-producers.

He was coming off a horrible season in 2003 but would average 98 RBIs over the eight years he played for Guillen (Stanton might do better but it will be hard to be more consistent). A division lacking a big-



Ozzie Guillen speaks to the media after being introduced as the manager of the Miami Marlins.

spending, perennial power. Of most importance, when Guillen took over the White Sox, he didn't face immediate expectations. This is a whole different gig entirely.

Then again, Guillen is a different guy too. He has shown himself to be one of the game's best managers (witness the White Sox's plus-19 Pythagorean standings figure in his eight years).

He and the Marlins could be the perfect storm. It should be fascinating to watch them try to take down the Phillies and the Braves. The Marlins' payroll was \$57.7 million at the start of 2011 and will soar beyond \$100 million.

It would be bigger except for owner Jeffrey Loria's voodoo economics. The contracts for Reyes, Buehrle and Bell were heavily back-loaded.

They will make a combined \$24 million in 2012 and \$52 million at the peak of their contracts. Zambrano, oddly, will be the Marlins' highest-paid player this season. The Cubs will pay \$16.45 million of his \$19-million contract, however. Bill James projects Stanton will hit 39 home runs and have a .933 OPS this season, the sixth best in the majors.

Guillen believes Ramirez will be fine playing third but it's still possible he could be traded if spring training reveals opposition to the Reyes-generated move. Matt Dominguez, a whiz in the field, will be an option at third if his bat comes around.

Loria is looking for a big splash selling season tickets and almost certainly will reduce the payroll in future seasons if the team isn't a big winner.

— MCT Campus



New Miami Marlins pitcher Mark Buehrle is all smiles during a news conference at Marlins HQ.

David Santiago, El Nuevo Herald / MCT

Walter Micot, Miami Herald / MCT