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David Eulitt / Kansas City Star / MCT

Confetti showers down on the Olympic athletes during the Opening Ceremony for the London 2012 Summer Olympic Games at the Olympic Stadium on Friday, July 27. The London Games is the first modern Olympics in which women are competing in all events.

2012 Olympic games open with a bang

Ceremony emphasizes whimsy over solemnity

By Philip Hersh
Chicago Tribune

In a city that knows how to do ceremony, from hoary rituals formalized in the Middle Ages to celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee last month partly through the Twitter feed @British-

Monarchy, an atmosphere of whimsy and party won out over pomp and circumstance during an Olympic opening ceremony that allowed an economically beleaguered Britain to pat itself on the back.

Starting from his conviction that Britain "rebooted human existence" with the Industrial Revolution, director Danny Boyle called the entertainment piece of the nearly four-hour ceremony Friday night a "celebration of the creativity, exuberance and, above all, the generosity of

the British people."

It was in the spirit of such generosity that the organizers chose not a single renowned Olympian to light the cauldron that will burn until Aug. 12 but seven young athletes who embody the London Games' idealistic motto and hope to "inspire a generation."

With 260 British Olympic medalists joining them, the seven young athletes touched torches to copper petals that

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2012 Olympics: a historic event for women

By Nobuaki Ono
The Yomiuri Shimbun

As cheers rang out through the Olympic Stadium, female athletes wearing hijabs marched in firmly holding their national flags in the opening ceremony of the London Games.

Qatar's flag-bearer was Bahya Mansour Al Hamad, 20, who competes in women's shooting. It was the first time in Olympic history for

her country to send female athletes. Al Hamad said she was proud to represent her country as a woman.

She was also the flag-bearer for her nation at the first Youth Olympic Games held in 2010 in Singapore. She looked tense at that event, and said she was therefore determined to smile while marching in the Olympic opening ceremony.

The International Olympic Committee asked

Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Brunei, which had not sent female athletes to previous Games for religious and other reasons, to allow women to participate in the London Games.

The London Games is the first modern Olympics in which women are competing in all events and in which all participating countries and territories have sent female athletes.

— MCT Campus

Opening ceremony

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rose to form a cauldron at the center of the stadium floor. It will be moved to another position before the track and field events begin Friday.

Before the torch arrived inside the Olympic Stadium in the hands of five-time British rowing gold medalist Steven Redgrave, Boyle had leavened the proceedings in a variety of ways, so the ceremony took on the overall air of frivolity that usually prevails at the closing rather than the opening.

The Sex Pistols' sardonic "God Save the Queen" played in the countdown to the official start of the extravaganza _ well before Queen Elizabeth II arrived. Rowan Atkinson, aka "Mr. Bean," hammed it up with the London Symphony Orchestra for the "Chariots of Fire" theme and did a Rosie Ruiz turn by jumping into a car in a video send-up of the movie's famous beach running scene.

The 86-year-old queen herself took part in a video skit with Daniel Craig, aka James Bond, in which she and Bond entered the stadium by "jumping" from a helicopter.

The ceremony could not have been more of a contrast from that in Beijing four years ago, replacing Chinese militaristic precision with British fancy. Hospital beds for a scene honoring the National Health Service were rolling onto the stage while a children's choir sang the British national anthem, "God Save the Queen."

A pastoral tableau of this "green and pleasant land," complete with sheep, cows, thatched-roof houses (and, on cue, a couple of brief rain showers) gave way



David Eulitt / Kansas City Star / MCT

Drummers and volunteers perform before a scene of Industrial Age Britain during the Opening Ceremony for the London 2012 Summer Olympic Games at the Olympic Stadium on Friday, July 27.

to belching smokestacks and pounding music announcing the Industrial Revolution and the advent of modernity, with its wonder and terror.

As actors on the stadium floor depicted the forging of one ring, four others floated in like UFOs, linking into the five Olympic rings and setting off a blaze of

fireworks. That was followed by a long, loud tribute to British pop (done with music and video at the dizzying pace of the Twitter generation), Kenneth Branagh as Caliban in Shakespeare's "The Tempest," JK Rowling reading "Peter Pan," Lord Voldemort being conquered by a pack of Mary Poppinses and an appearance

by Tim Berners-Lee, the British scientist who invented the World Wide Web.

Part hodgepodge, part head-shaker, respectful of tradition and given to irreverent pokes in the eye, all this was seen live by billions of viewers worldwide _ with the exception of the United States, where NBC refused to embrace moder-

nity and held the telecast until prime time.

While there were two solemn moments of remembrance, one for those killed in conflicts, neither made reference to the 11 Israeli athletes and coaches murdered by Palestinian terrorists at the 1972 Munich Olympics.

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For the first time, the parade of athletes included a woman in every country's team. Two of the three Muslim nations that finally included women, Brunei and Qatar, marked the occasion with female flag bearers. The third, Saudi Arabia, chose a man.

The British team wore white uniforms with gold trim, a touch the ancient Greeks who began the Olympics would have seen as hubris.

Two-time Olympic fencing champion Mariel Zagunis bore the flag for the U.S. team, while Muhammad Ali, who lit the cauldron at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, was among the nine people who carried the Olympic flag. Because Ali was too infirm to walk half the stadium with the flag, he waited for the others at the foot of the hill where it was raised.

Queen Elizabeth declared open the third Summer Games to be held in London, Paul McCartney led the crowd in a "Hey Jude" singalong and the world's largest harmonically tuned bell tolled intermittently as the 80,000-seat stadium emptied.

The only thing missing was a few choruses of "Rule, Britannia."

— MCT Campus



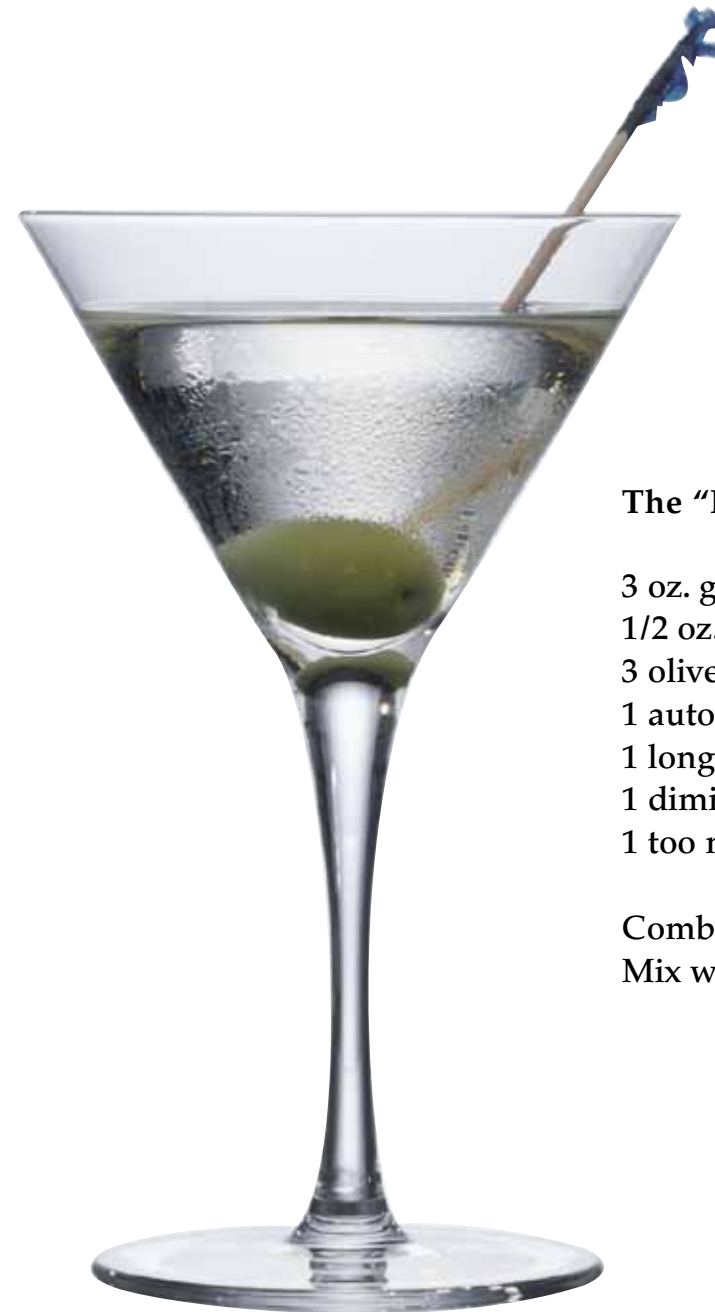
David Eulitt / Kansas City Star / MCT

Mary Poppins descended on to the stage during Opening Ceremony.



The Olympic flag is raised in Olympic Stadium during the Opening Ceremony for the London 2012 Summer Olympic Games.

David Eulitt / Kansas City Star / MCT



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Female fencer leads USA in London opening ceremony

New campus president weighs in on Olympics

By Fred Lambert
flambert@valenciavoice.com

Female fencer Mariel Zagunis bore the U.S. flag on Friday's opening ceremony for the London Olympics, something Valencia's new East and Winter Park campus president, Stacey Johnson, said is historic for special reasons.

"It's very special," she said. "I've gotten emails and texts from all over the country because of this."

When Johnson, herself an Olympic fencer in the 1980s, became president of the U.S. Fencing Association in 2000, she led an international campaign to allow women to compete in "Sabre," the most macho of the three fencing weapons, which also includes "Foil" and "Epee." The effort passed by seven votes out of 88 countries which cast ballots.

Coincidentally, the first woman in decades to earn a gold medal for America in Sabre fencing was Mariel Zagunis at the very next Olympics at Athens in 2004.

"Winning those medals really broke it open for the U.S., and we started to win a lot more," said Johnson.

Zagunis earned an additional gold medal for the same in Beijing in 2008.

Another reason why Zagunis is a wonderful selection, Johnson said, is because of the anniversary of Title IX, congressional

legislation from 1972 which barred gender-based exclusions from participation and benefits in educational programs and activities receiving federal financial aid.

"Title IX changed my life," Johnson said. "I was one of the first of 200 women in the state of California to get an athletic scholarship. Before that, women could not get athletic scholarships."

Johnson is a two-time college champion fencer from San Jose State University, and was on the U.S. team in the 1980 Olympics in Moscow. Then President Jimmy Carter boycotted American par-



David Eulitt / Kansas City Star / MCT
The United States Olympic team led by fencer Mariel Zagunis in London Opening Ceremony.

ticipation in the games due to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, something Johnson opines as a mistake, since Eastern bloc nations boycotted the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984.

Competing in some events in China before joining the administrative side of the sport to prevent future boycotts, Johnson became an athlete's representative for the U.S. Olympic Committee.

"The silver lining for me in all of that was that it really made me become involved," said Johnson. "And to represent athletes' rights and to try and make policies and get involved and become an officer of a national governing body -- which is what you call all the different Olympic sports; they're each national governing bodies -- to help make sure those types of decisions didn't happen in the future."

She worked her way up to the vice presidency of the U.S. Fencing Association by the time the 1996 Olympics came to Atlanta, Ga. By then women were allowed to participate in both Foil and Epee fencing, but still not Sabre. Regardless, Title IX "changed things radically," according to Johnson, as about half of the participants in 1996 were women for the first time.

"A lot of changes have occurred in the fight for women's equity," Johnson said. "It's very exciting to have had the opportunity to help U.S. fencing move that issue of equity for women forward in our sport, and to now see our fabulous Mariel Zagunis, who is a wonderful athlete, carry the flag for our country."



Brian Peterson / Minneapolis Star Tribune / MCT

Susie Scanlan of the United States, left, faces Olena Krybytka of Ukraine on Monday, July 30.

Stacey Johnson: Differences of fencing

By Fred Lambert
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Fencing is divided into three different weapons, Foil, Epee and Sabre. We got the break down on the varying disciplines from Valencia's new East and Winter Park campus president, Stacey Johnson, who is a two-time college champion and former U.S. Olympic fencer.

Foil

"Foil is the traditional teaching weapon," Johnson said. "The target area is the torso, not the arms legs or head."

Epee

"Epee is the traditional dueling weapon," Johnson said. "The target area is the entire body. So you can touch

somebody on their toe and score a point. When you see old movies, they would duel with Epee."

Sabre

"Sabre is traditionally connected with the military, because the target area is the waist up," Johnson said, explaining that officers on horseback carried sabres. "Foil and Epee are with the point, and Sabre is like a slashing weapon. You can hit with not only the point but with the sides of the weapon."

Johnson said that Sabre is the quickest of the three styles. "Sabre is very fast and very exciting to watch, I think," Johnson said, adding, "All the weapons are beautiful and different. I don't want to say one is better than the other, but they're different."

Casey Anthony judge visits UCF

Criticizes cuts in funds for U.S. justice system

By James Tutton
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Chief Judge Belvin Perry Jr., who gained national attention as the judge for the Casey Anthony murder trial last year, visited the University of Central Florida last Wednesday to speak about the major issues facing our local criminal justice system. The importance of voter turnout and awareness were the key topics, as well as a reminder from Perry to attendees about his upcoming reelection bid on August 10.

"I'm afraid with the climate we have in our country today and with the cuts

the courts around the nation have sustained, that we are on a path of no courts, no justice and no freedom," Perry said during his nearly two hour address.

Born and raised in Orlando, as a child Perry was inspired to go into law by occasionally visiting the courtroom with his father Belvin Perry Sr., who was the second ever black police officer hired for the city of Orlando back in 1951. Now as the Chief Judge for the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida serving Orange and Osceola Counties, Perry Jr. manages a \$42 million budget, 65 judges, 225 employees and the additional court cases he oversees as a judge.

Perry addressed the framing by some media outlets and others in politics that the court system is just another government agency, so they want to diminish

the courts to make them less important. There is also talk about retooling the courts to better support public policy and further downsize them to help deal with spending and funding problems.

The state of Florida has the fourth largest populations in the United States, with nearly 19 million residents, and almost one-third of them have had some contact with the court system in the last five years. But in the ratio of judges to population, Florida ranks 45th in the entire nation, according to Perry.

Two unnamed felony division judges in Osceola County were mentioned by Perry because they are currently dealing with 250 to 350 cases within a two week trial period. Another local judge is currently scheduling cases for people that want to go to trial for September of 2013, which is jeopardizing swift judicial action for individuals, like for insurance claims and other cases.

Only 0.7 percent of the entire state budget is given to Florida's court system, which has created drastic shortcomings. To keep one courthouse from closing its doors between May and June of last year, the court had to borrow \$99 million, which has to be paid back this year.

Aside from the legal system concerns, other political issues facing student financial aid were discussed as issues that can bring about higher young voter turnout in the upcoming elections.

"Bright Futures scholarships are being cut by the state and on the federal



James Tutton / Valencia Voice

Judge Perry spoke to students at the University of Central Florida Wednesday about the courts.

level education is also under attack," said Jordan Allen, Director of Political Affairs for College Democrats at UCF. His group featured this speech as a non-partisan event to inform students about issues with the court system and hear from the notable Chief Judge Perry.

Perry admits that his life has significantly changed since the trial of Casey Anthony, and he is recognized everywhere he goes in public. On the way to this event he was being followed by two local T.V. news vans and a helicopter, who believed he was heading to weigh in on a high profile case.



Joe Burbank / Orlando Sentinel / MCT

Lawyers Jose Baez, left, and Cheney Mason, right, confer with Perry during the Casey Anthony trial.

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Tweets of the Week



The Colbert Report @ColbertReport

"I always keep up with the latest dieting trends. I'm on the Subway Diet -- I only eat things I find on the subway." on.cc.com/lezonc



The Associated Press @AP

BREAKING: Official: Greece sending 1,800 more guards to Turkey border as Syria refugee crisis grows.-PP



Conan O'Brien @ConanOBrien

The Olympics are being streamed online, so last night at 3 a.m. I tried to convince my wife I was on the computer watching archery.



nick kroll @nickkroll

I just dropped my iPhone & the screen cracked. I appreciate your support. Pls respect my family's privacy in this difficult time.



Rich Eisen @richeisen

Breaking Bad sits on TiVo and yet I'm held hostage by a balance beam. Send help.



MLB Stat of the Day @MLBStatoftheDay

Mark Teixeira is the only switch-hitter in @MLB history to hit at least 20 homers in each of his first 10 seasons.



Happy Gilmore @_Happy_Gilmore

Tim Tebow set to star in a remake of the classic film "Wizard of Oz". He won't be asking the Wizard for a heart or a brain, just an arm..



Top Conservative Cat @TeaPartyCat

Mitt Romney told Jewish donors they are richer than Palestinians "because their culture allows it". In other words: Jews good with money.



james stassen @scrappy

the whole USA basketball team went over and hugged Michelle Obama after the game, Thats awesome!



The Daily Show @TheDailyShow

#TDSBreakingNews Twitter suffers service disruptions. U.S. productivity soars, but everyone agrees it's not worth it.

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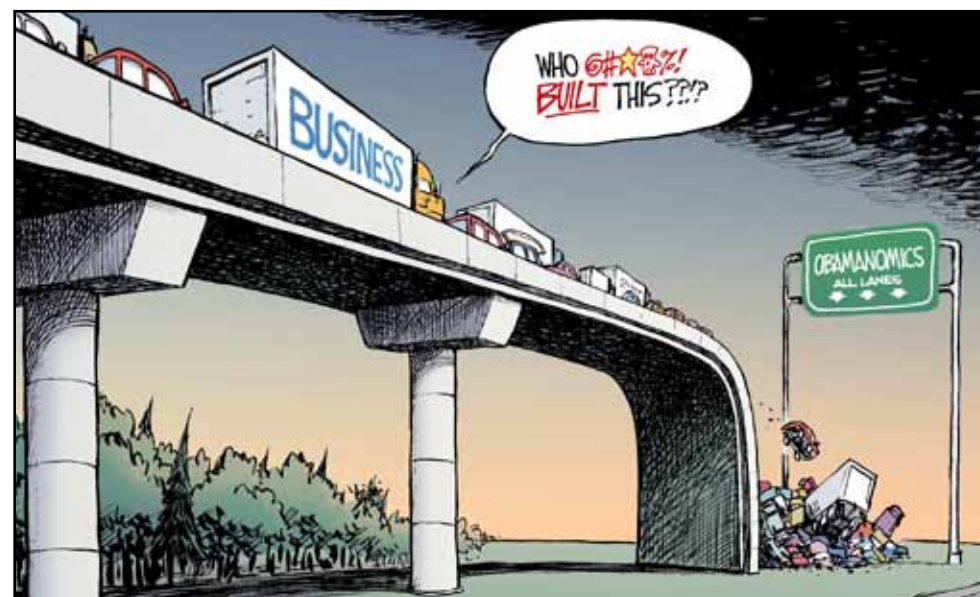
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Annual music tour comes to Orlando

Multiple bands perform, heat wave creates an issue

By James Tutten
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The Vans Warped Tour 2012 soldiered on through a breakneck tour as it arrived at the Central Florida Fairgrounds in Orlando, Florida on Friday July 27. A fast paced musical gauntlet burning through a record setting heat wave couldn't stop the multi-

tudes of fans and bands from rocking out.

Along with headlining acts like Yellowcard, New Found Glory and Taking Back Sunday, was a plethora of up and coming groups with dedicated followers. Over 75 acts performed at multiple stages creating the typical cossos atmosphere that come along with outdoor music festivals.

The relentless summer sun baked the live music fans in attendance, but cooling areas and a high number of EMS workers helped concert goers beat the heat.

Austin Carlile, lead singer of the

group Of Mice & Men performed late into the concert and paid homage to those that couldn't take the high temperature. He demanded that everyone in the audience to take a knee to honor those that have fallen out due to the heat. This was quickly broken up during several insane mosh pits during the next thrashing song performed.

"I thought this year was great because it was so sunny out," said Chelsea Bixler, attending her sixth Warped Tour. "Last time I went there was a torrential downpour."



James Tutten / Valencia Voice

Tomas Kalnoky, the lead singer of Streelight Manifesto and the rest of the band perform at the Vans Warped Tour 2012 at the Central Florida Fairgrounds.



James Tutten / Valencia Voice

Reminiscent of past years, skateboarders show off their skills on a half pipe on Friday, July 27.

Another notable performance was from Florida natives, Yellowcard, a commercially successful pop-punk band from Jacksonville, that attract a strong reaction from fans when they gave props to the state they grew up in.

Though this tour is based on skateboarding and punk rock culture, this newest tour featured a wider variety than in years past.

"I've been to three Warped Tours before, and I think this year had more laid back bands than recent years," said Brooke Scruggs. This attributed to a younger crowd who were less aggressive than in years past, making the whole experience more enjoyable for her.

On top of hard metal, ska punk, emo and more, their multiple stages offered freestyle rap battles, smooth jamming reggae beats and much more. And like years past a classic vans half piped featured up and coming skateboards grind-

ing rails and showing off their kickflip maneuvers near the two main stages.

"He's only nine-years-old and the kid can really rip," said Katt Tracy, talking about her son Christian Frazier. This was his second year skating at the Vans Warped Tour and she hopes he will be the next big name professional skater because he is a solid competitor at skateboard competitions.

Many bands also capitalized on merchandise sales with vendor stands scattered throughout the fairgrounds. Many young fans after seeing their favorite bands live rush to pick up keepsakes to remember the experience, be it a sticker or a T-shirt.

As summer concerts go, the Vans Warped Tour has been loved and hated just like most live traveling concerts. As music genres evolve, so will the selection of featured acts for this annual music tour nearing 20 years of providing punk rock music and more.

Disney fails to impress

Typical family movie, acting less than average

By Neda Hamdan
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Disney has come out with another family movie, and this latest installment, called “The Odd Life of Timothy Green,” includes a bunch of leaves. After countless attempts at getting pregnant, Cindy (Jennifer Gardner) and Jim (Joel Edgerton), start to lose hope.

Then one day, after few bottles of wine, they decide to write down what their child ought to be, put it inside a box and bury it.

“I thought it was pretty good,” Pamela Jenkins said. “I didn’t have much expectations because it was a disney movie.”

The same night a boy miraculously comes out of the garden claiming to be

their son. Writing that sentence even feels ridiculous, but in order to tolerate the movie you have to look past the implausibility.

“I thought it was a great family movie and it certainly made me cry,” audience member June Worth said. “It showed their problems as a family, since no one is perfect.”

Jennifer Gardner is always good in movies that don’t require much intensity or emotion, but as a mom in real life, she is convincing as one on screen.

David Morse, along with the other actors, did a mediocre job, as if knowing that their talent was going to be overlooked in this Disney movie. Nevertheless, the child actor, CJ Adams, did an excellent job portraying a kid beyond his years.

“It was a little cheesy, but I still liked it,” Kurt Jameson said. “The movie is a great one to bring your kids to.”



Jennifer Garner, Joel Edgerton and CJ Adams star in Disney’s “The Odd Life of Timothy Green.”
Courtesy of Disney

This movie does a good job of bringing real-world issues, such as the economy or disadvantages of a small town, onto the big screen. Filmed entirely in Georgia, the film was almost an advertisement, convincing you to move there. Being that the scenery was so beautiful, it

almost looked fake. “The Odd Life of Timothy Green” does not have the type of ending I expected, although it still reeks of Disney. I would have preferred the typical “happily-ever-after” route over the one the film took, because it left on an awkward note.

Opening August 3 “Celeste and Jesse Forever”



Rated: R
Running Time: 1 hr. 31 mins.
Genre: Comedy
Director: Lee Toland Krieger
Starring: Andy Samberg, Rashida Jones

“Total Recall”



Rated: PG-13
Running Time: 1 hr. 49 mins.
Genre: Action/ Adventure
Director: Len Wiseman
Starring: Colin Farrell, Kate Beckinsale, Jessica Biel, Bryan Cranston

Box Office

‘Dark Knight’
Rated: PG-13
This Weekend: \$ 64M
Total Gross: \$ 289.1M

‘Ice Age 4’
Rated: PG
This Weekend: \$ 20.42M
Total Gross: \$ 88.84M

‘Spiderman’
Rated: PG-13
This Weekend: \$ 10.89M
Total Gross: \$ 228.61M

Magic finally hire new head coach

Jacque Vaughn chosen to run Orlando side-show

By Juan Gutierrez
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Jacque Vaughn spent 12 years in the NBA as a player. During his playing days Vaughn learned from some of the best to coach the game including Roy Williams, Doc Rivers, Jerry Sloan and

Gregg Popovich. Vaughn was a student of the game as he studied, analyzed and learned about the game on a daily basis under these men as a player.

Vaughn, 37, is hoping that everything he has learned as a player will translate into success as the head coach for the Orlando Magic.

"Some would say I'm inexperienced, but I've played 12 years and I've coached two years. Would my resume look a little nicer if it said 14 years of

experience? Maybe so," said Vaughn. "I've sat in the seats that the guys I will coach have sat in. I'll be able to relate to their personal, physical, mental stresses that they come across everyday because I've been there. I think they'll relate to that and they'll appreciate that, and they'll know that I'm fighting for them and I believe in them."

Vaughn, now the NBA's second-youngest coach, becomes the 10th coach in the franchise's history and will leave the San Antonio Spurs after being an assistant coach there for the past two seasons. He will take over for Stan Van Gundy, who was fired in May.

One situation Vaughn will have to handle sooner or later will be the issue involving all-star center Dwight Howard, who recently reiterated a trade request from the Magic.

Part of Vaughn's plan is to reach out and meet with every Magic player face to face in the coming days, including Howard, whom Vaughn would like to share some his visions of the future with and the direction the team is now going.

Vaughn said he currently has no relationship with Howard but still looks forward to the opportunity of communicating with every Magic player.

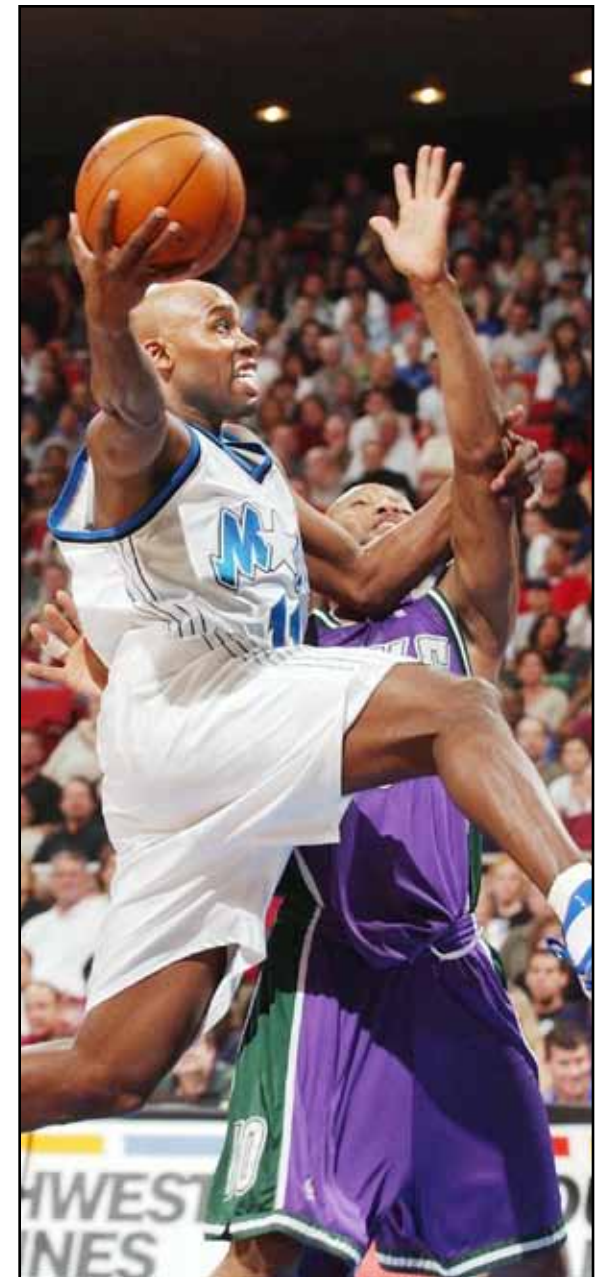
"I just embrace the challenge and whatever the situation ends up being I'll embrace the challenge," said Vaughn. "I reiterated throughout the hiring process that that's what makes me unique.

I look forward to the challenges. Whatever it may be, I'll deal with it and we'll go forward as an organization."



Juan Gutierrez / Valencia Voice

New head coach Jacque Vaughn poses with Orlando Magic general manager, Rob Hennigan.



John Rouax / Orlando Sentinel

Jacque Vaughn during his playing days with the Magic, in 2003 against the Milwaukee Bucks.

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Lions lose international friendly

Stoke City beats Orlando; fresh off USL title victory

By Juan Gallardo
jgallardo@valenciavoice.com

The English Premier League's Stoke City Potters proved to be too much for the Orlando City Lions Saturday night, in a 1-0 loss for the Lions at the Citrus

Bowl. 10,441 fans attended the match -- the biggest crowd of the season -- which was a friendly that was a part of a month-long tour Stoke City is taking through the United States this month.

It was also a match-up that placed the Lions' head coach Adrian Heath against his former club.

"That is a club that holds a lot of memories for me, and it's great to have them here and I'm absolutely pleased

with our performance, seeing how we have played three games in four days," said Heath.

The first half was very defense-oriented. Both teams were able to make long runs down the pitch, only to be stifled when reaching the final third. It showed just how much different EPL play is from USL Pro. Orlando relied on its quickness and long passing on the attack, and the Potters used size and strength to their advantage as they made their way down the pitch.

On defense it was the much of the same; the Lions swarmed the ball on the defensive end. When they couldn't make last minute stops, they were bailed out of tight situations with timely saves from keeper Miguel Gallardo.

Meanwhile, Stoke City's larger players were able to take advantage of the Lions' smaller forwards Dennis Chin and Rodrigo Lopez, whom Orlando chose to start the match, and out-muscle them for possessions relatively easily, rarely being caught out of position.

It took Stoke City all 45 minutes of the first half to get on scoreboard, notching their first goal in extra time when forward Peter Crouch was able to head a cross to the wide open Jon Walters, who was able to set up and send a shot across the box into the upper left corner of the net, beating Gallardo for the first goal of the match.

Both teams kept in mind that the match was a friendly, and came out of halftime with numerous substitutions to both sides. Most notably, Crouch, a



Courtesy of the Orlando City Lions

The Lions lead the USL Pro League with 50 points so far. They lead 2nd place Rochester by 2 points.

former superstar for England's national team, was removed from play just a few minutes into the second half.

The second half of the match was similar to the first, with both teams struggling to crack the others' defense in the final third of the pitch. Orlando City was able to make a few more runs in the second half, most notably a two where defender Erik Ustruck was able to bring the ball down the right side of the pitch only to have crosses to the middle easily broken up.

While Stoke City was never really able to get off a clean shot in the second half, they still maintained control of the match. They were able to control posses-

sion of the ball and rarely lost a one-on-one battle for it

"It would have been nice to have gone into the game with a full week of preparation, but that wasn't to be," Heath said of the final result. "I'm just glad that Stoke is here and they realize we are a good team."

Orlando City figures to rest key players in their final three matches of the season, as they already have the regular season championship clinched, as well as a first round bye in the playoffs. They face off with the Harrisburg City Islanders and the Rochester Rhinos before coming home for their final match of the season against the Dayton Dutch Lions on August 17.



Courtesy of the Orlando City Lions

Despite losing to Stoke City Saturday night, the Lions clinched the USL regular season championship.