



Valencia's own has sights on Broadway lights

9

Double overtime thriller at UCF

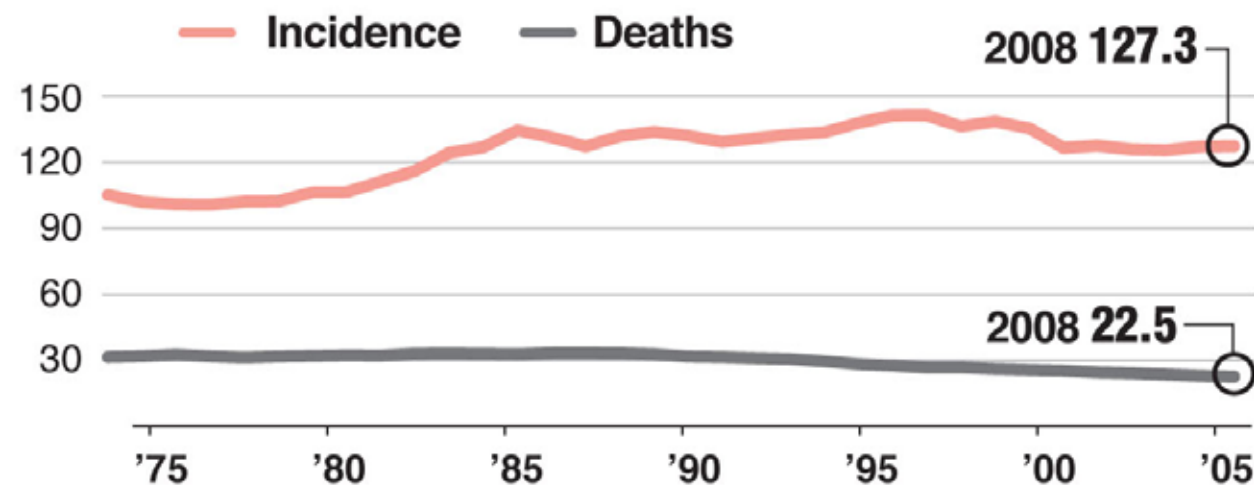
Knights earn their second straight win

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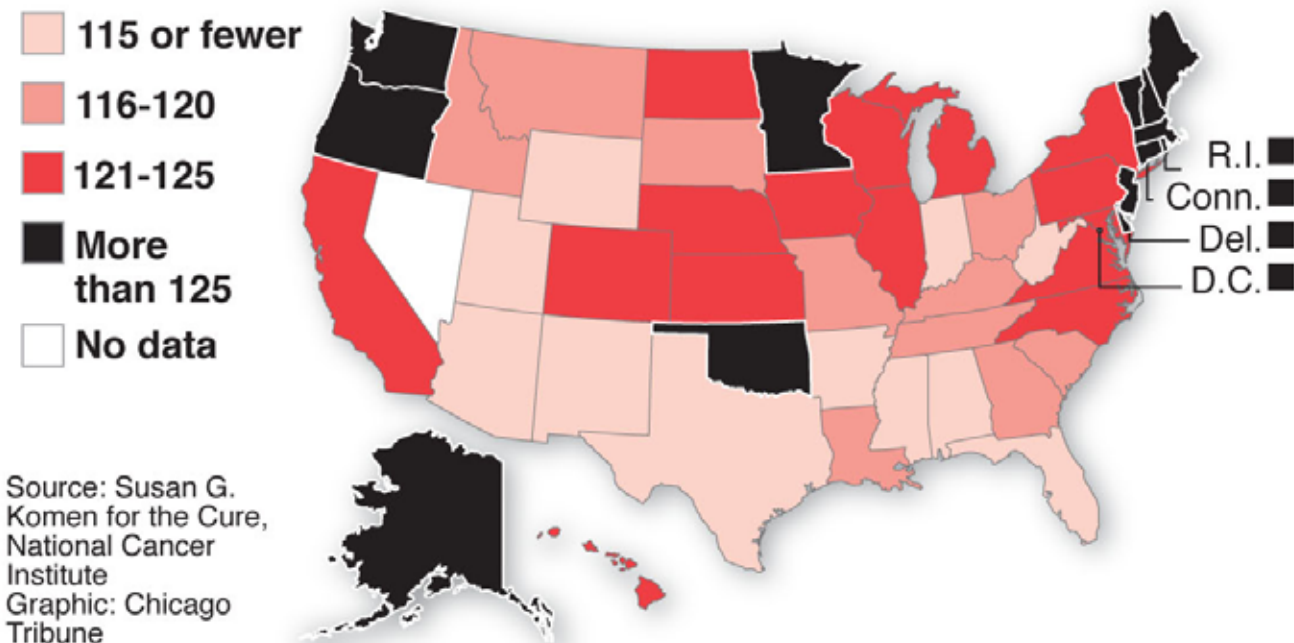
Breast cancer in the U.S.

Fewer American women have been dying of breast cancer in recent years. U.S. female breast cancer rates per 100,000 females.



Incidence rate, by state

Per 100,000 females, 2003-2007



Orlando turns pink

Breast cancer awareness event turns 14

By **Natasha Tetley**
ntetley@valenciavoices.com

ORLANDO — October is an important month. For Floridians, it means slightly cooler weather and a welcome respite from the heat and humidity. For the world at large, it means a month of breast cancer awareness.

Why not combine the two and get walking?

This Saturday morning, the American Cancer Society will host the 2012 "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" 5K walk. The annual event will descend upon Lake Eola Park in downtown Orlando at 9 a.m., with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m.



Courtesy of American Cancer Society
"Put On Your Pink Bra" campaign launched in 2011 to redefine the fight against cancer,

tion beginning at 7:30 a.m.

"It gives us an excellent opportunity to get our message out," said Christy Clelland, manager of the nonprofit Making Strides of Orlando Metro. "Early detection is key."

The walk has already collected upwards of \$300,000 for the cause, with top contributors ranging from Siemens to Full Sail University to the Yum Yum Cupcake truck, according to the society's running list.

Breast cancer survivor Margery Gould Rath originated the concept of walking for the cause with her first event in 1984. She called it a "move-along-a-thon," drawing 200 participants in Boston. In 1993, the event evolved into its current incarnation, officially becoming the "American Cancer Society Strides Against Cancer" walk. One became many, attracting over 4,000 walkers at events in Boston and in New Hampshire in that same year.

Rath passed away in 2001 following her battle with breast cancer, but her spirit lives on in the events that she began.



Courtesy of American Cancer Society

Survivors who participate in the walk wear survivor sashes as they walk for awareness.

According to the American Cancer Society, "Since 1993, eight million walkers across the United States have raised more than \$460 million to help fight breast cancer through 'Making Strides' events. In 2011 alone, one million walkers across the country collected more than \$60 million to help fight this disease."

This year marks the 14th for the Orlando event. Make a contribution, either through donations of time or of money, this weekend. Attendees are encouraged to don something pink, the official color of breast cancer awareness.

Take it one step further and wear a pink bra to show support. According to the cancer society, "The pink bra is a resounding symbol of how personal the fight against breast cancer is to women."

"The symbol really empowers women," said Clelland.

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Recommendations for early breast cancer detection

The ACS recommends the following guidelines for finding breast cancer early in women without symptoms:

Mammogram: Women age 40 and older should have a mammogram every year and should continue to do so for as long as they are in good health. While mammograms can miss some cancers, they are still a very good way to find breast cancer.

Clinical breast exam: Women in their 20s and 30s should have a clinical breast exam (CBE) as part of a regular exam by a health expert, preferably every 3 years. After age 40, women should have a breast exam by a health expert every year. You can use the exam to learn what your own breasts look and feel like. It might be a good idea to have the CBE shortly before the mammogram.

Breast self-exam (BSE): BSE is an option for women starting in their 20s. Women should be told about the benefits and limitations of BSE. Women should report any changes in how their breasts look or feel to a doctor or nurse right away.

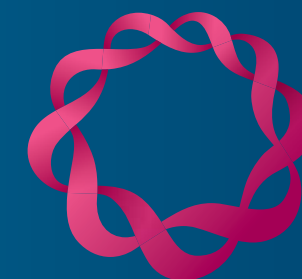
If you decide to do BSE, you should have your doctor or nurse check your method to make sure you are doing it right. If you do BSE on a regular basis, you get to know how your breasts normally look and feel. Then you can more easily notice changes. But it's OK not to do BSE or not do it on a fixed schedule.

The most important thing is to see a doctor right away if you notice any of these changes:

- A lump or swelling
- Skin irritation or dimpling
- Nipple pain or the nipple turning inward
- Redness or scaliness of the nipple or breast skin
- A discharge other than breast milk



But remember that most of the time these breast changes are not cancer.



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Pumpkins take root in crusade

Pink makes its way into unexpected places

By Jean Hopfensperger
Star Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Bert Bouwman doesn't consider himself a trendsetter. But when he planted 15,000 pumpkin seeds at his Brooklyn Park, Minn., farm this year, he became part of a fledgling national campaign to add a new product for Breast Cancer Awareness Month — the pink pumpkin.

"There's a lot of pumpkin farmers out there, but not a lot of pink ones," said Bouwman, standing in a field of light pink

pumpkins last week. "This was a combination of a new product, a new opportunity, and most important, a way to support a cause that affects nearly every family."

After years of blitzing shopping malls, grocery stores and restaurants, the breast cancer charity movement has landed in farmers' fields. At least three Minnesota vegetable growers, and about 50 nationally, are launching the unusual campaign organized by a new foundation prodding farmers to think pink.

The board chairman of the aptly

named Pink Pumpkin Patch Foundation is Don Goodwin, president of Golden Sun Marketing in Minnetrista, Minn.

The fruits of the foundation's labor can be found at some of Minnesota's best-known grocery stores as well as smaller grocers across the metro area. They're among about 900 retailers nationally that have picked up the product during its trial season, said Goodwin.

"It's going surprisingly well," said Gunars Sprenger-Otto, produce manager at Fresh Seasons Markets in Victoria and Minnetonka, Minn., which sold about 80 pumpkins over the past two weeks. Sales picked up after he set up a pink poster announcing, "American Pumpkin Growers have donated a portion of Porcelain Doll Proceeds to Cancer Research."

The "porcelain doll" is the name of the new seed. The poster comes courtesy of the foundation, which has begun marketing the product in earnest.

The pumpkin fundraiser sheds light on how some other pink products wind up on store shelves every October, which is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. A Colorado pumpkin breeder discovered a pink pumpkin in his field about five years ago, said Bouwman, and spent several years developing the seed.

The breeder approached Goodwin, a marketing veteran who had previously worked with Target produce. They decided to associate the product with breast cancer awareness, and to use an October



Jim Gehrz / Minneapolis Star Tribune / MCT

Bert Bouwman, of Brooklyn Park, will donate 25 cents from every pumpkin to breast cancer research.



Jim Gehrz / Minneapolis Star Tribune / MCT

Brownwen, left, and Mac play in their dad's field while helping harvest pink pumpkins in Minnesota.

roll-out to coincide with breast cancer events and Halloween.

Farmers who bought the seeds signed a contract pledging to give 25 cents from every pink pumpkin to breast cancer research. Their donations are funneled through the small foundation, which has a five-person board of directors.

The foundation will evaluate its earnings later this year and solicit grant applications from community groups, said Goodwin, who like most Minnesotans knows friends who have battled breast cancer.

"It's hard not to find an adult who hasn't been affected by this terrible disease," he said.

Bouwman and several of his children were harvesting hundreds of pumpkins on Friday as winds whipped the fields of his farm, which also put on the Twin Cit-

ies Harvest Festival and Maze.

Shivering children clipped the pumpkins from the vines and Bouwman transported large boxes of the picked fruit with a front-end loader.

Bouwman grows other unusually colored pumpkins, such as white and peach. He's been pleasantly surprised by the demand for the pink, which aren't ideal for carving jack-o-lanterns, but make for attractive fall displays.

"I'm shipping them to other states, too," he said. "Missouri wanted two semi loads. I told them they could have one."

Since the pink pumpkins have not been grown in Minnesota before, Bouwman is hyper-alert to such weather stresses as lack of water and cold temperatures. But so far, so good, he said.

— MCT Campus

Islamic leaders raise awareness

Informational event debunks religious bias, stereotypes

By James Tutten
jtutten@valenciavoice.com

ORLANDO — Valencia's Peace and Justice Initiative helped organize an educational outreach event in partnership with the Islamic Society of Central Florida on Friday.

The violent protests that erupted last month as the result of an online film that negatively depicted the Islamic Prophet Muhammad prompted the outreach. The purpose of the event was to open lines of communication and dispel myths that lead to misunderstandings and violence.

"So, as American Muslims, we felt that the response here, instead of reacting negatively to the insulting movie that we should do an educational campaign to reach out to our neighbors in the community," said ISCF president Imam Muhammad Musri.

Following last month's embassy attack, the Islamic Society of Central Florida issued a statement on Sept. 12 condemning the criminal attacks on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya. They also offered prayers and condolences to the families and loved ones of Ambassador Christopher Stevens and the three staff members who lost their lives.

The ISCF rose from humble beginnings, when a small group of families held prayer services in a small trailer on Goldenrod Road back in the early 1970s. The group eventually purchased property on the street and began to build what would become the first official mosque in Central Florida.

Bassem Chaaban, the ISCF director of operations, gave a guided tour of the mosque. During a short question and answer segment, Chaaban explained when and why they pray and the reasoning behind their religious beliefs.

"We believe education is the greatest weapon to eradicate extremism, radicalization, racism and discrimination," said Chaaban.

The group does community outreach on a regular basis via open house events. Friday night offered a new event that focused on Valencia students and faculty. The night hinged on a presentation and the sharing of a free dinner of Middle Eastern cuisine.

"Peace and Justice is trying to bring people together to focus on our commonalities and not our differences," said Yasmeeen Qadri, professor of education and social sciences at Valencia's East Campus.

A highlight of the event was the number of people in attendance; hundreds came out to participate. It wouldn't have been possible if not for the interest and initial outreach of Valencia professor of humanities, Rachel Allen.

"This is really for everybody, clearly it's about educating our students, but I think it's about educating all of us," said Allen. "Because we are a community college it's important that we all have an understanding of our neighbors in the community."

Many in attendance openly stated that they felt inspired after receiving information about the religious beliefs of Muslims. This event wasn't about recruitment; its primary goal was education and working towards peace through greater understanding.

For more information on the Islamic Society of Central Florida and its upcoming events, visit their website at www.iscf.org.

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Tweets of the Week



CollegeHumor @CollegeHumor
 If my life flashes before my eyes when I'm dying, it's gonna be a pathetic montage of pretending to check my phone in various settings.

The Funniest Tweet @Funny_Actor
 I'm not lazy, I'm on energy saving mode.

Men Humor @MenHumor
 So if we lie to the government it's a felony. But if they lie to us its politics.

Ash Ketchum @AshOfPalletTown
 Paranormal Activity 4 seems almost as scary as a level 9 Magikarp.

Damn Its TRUE! @damnitstrue
 #WhyYouOnTwitter I love Twitter more than Facebook because I can update my status every 5 minutes without people thinking I'm crazy.

Tommy Wee @TommyWee
 Should I feel bad that kids are furiously studying around me at Starbucks while I'm enjoying a fresh mocha blended and tweeting away? NAH.

Cassidy Cave @cassm0ney
 Why can't our school ever just be at a normal temperature?

ghost stefan @boring_as_heck
 I cover my naked body in pink ribbons and run onto the field at a nationally televised NFL game. Breast cancer is eradicated within the hour

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Official Student Media of Valencia College

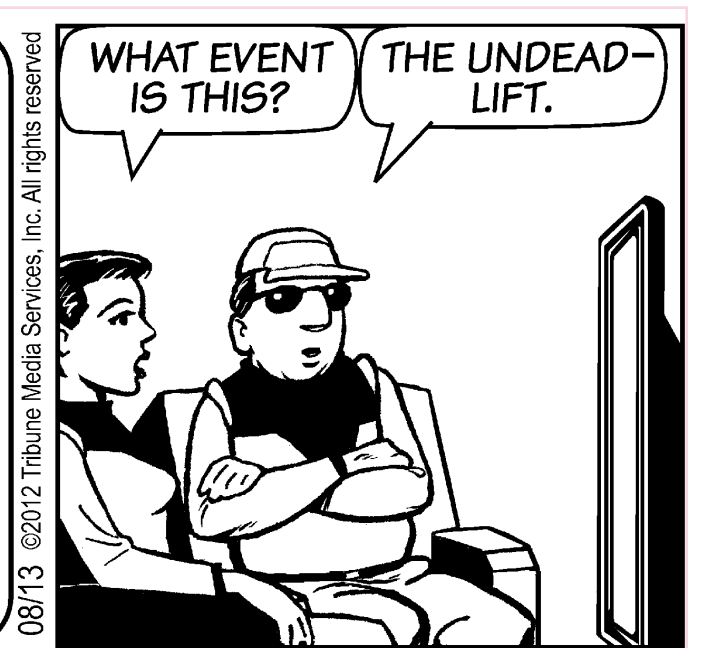
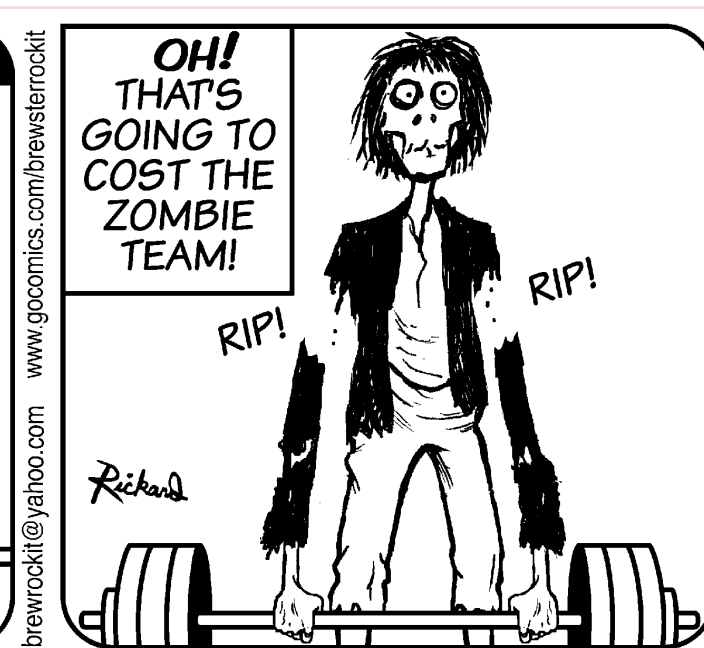
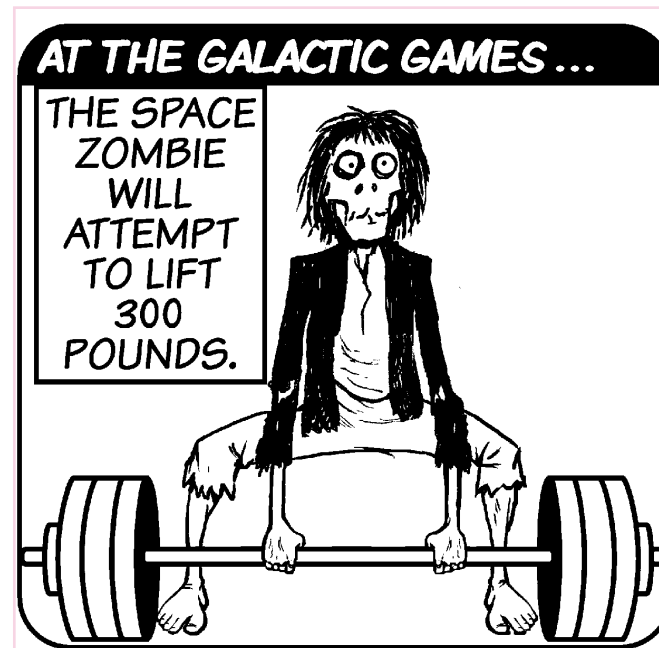
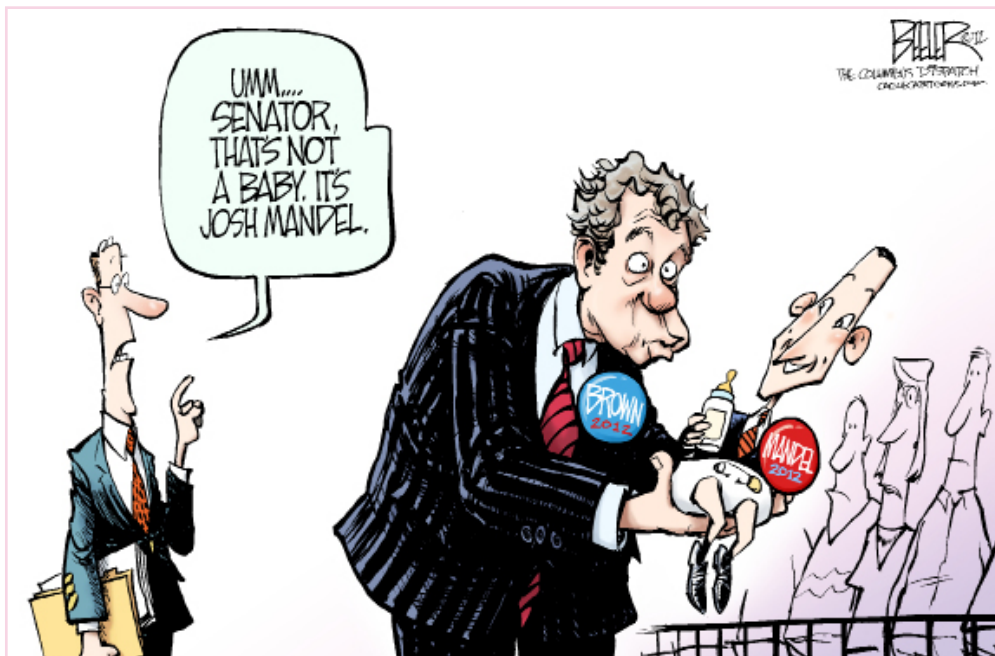
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Ben Affleck's 'Argo' earns high marks

Political thriller notable rating among film critics

By Amy Kaufman
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Ben Affleck's "Argo" failed to win the top spot at the box office this weekend, but the political thriller may have scored a victory on its path to award season.

"Argo" had to settle for the runner-up position behind Liam Neeson's "Taken 2," which ruled the multiplex for the second consecutive weekend and grossed an additional \$22.5 million, according to an estimate from distributor 20th Century Fox.

That film has now collected a robust \$86.8 million, or 62 percent more than the original "Taken" had collected after two weeks in theaters back in 2009.

The Warner Bros. film Affleck di-

rected and stars in, meanwhile, opened with a respectable \$20.1 million and performed better than four other new films debuting in wide release.

Moviegoers who saw "Argo" this weekend loved it, assigning it a rare A-plus, according to market research firm CinemaScore.

Pundits believe the film, which earned excellent reviews, has a shot at best picture at next year's Academy Awards meaning the movie now has a chance at becoming one of the few Oscar nominees that is also a commercial success.

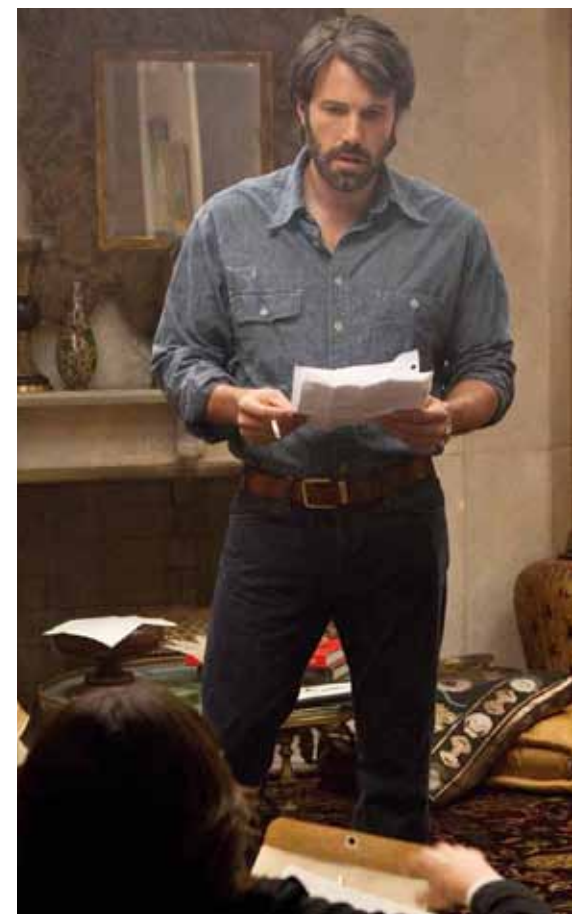
"Commercial films have not always done well with the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences," said Dan Fellman, Warner Bros. president of domestic distribution. "It's a tricky situation, but this movie fits the bill pretty well and

plays to the academy's core audience."

According to a Los Angeles Times study published in February, the median age of academy members is 62. And "Argo" based on the true story of a CIA agent who rescued six U.S. State Department employees from Iran during the 1979 hostage crisis appealed to an older audience this weekend.

Roughly 52 percent of the film's crowd was older than 50. The well-reviewed . Comedian Kevin James didn't have much luck at the box office this weekend, as his new mixed martial arts comedy "Here Comes the Boom" started off with a ho-hum \$12 million.

At least those who saw the PG-rated "Boom" this weekend a 45 percent family crowd liked it, assigning it an average grade of A.



Olivier Douliery / Abaca Press / MCT

Ben Affleck as Tony Mendez on the set of "Argo" which was also directed by him.

Opening Oct. 19 Paranormal Activity 4



Rated: R
Running Time: 1 hr. 35 mins.
Genre: Horror
Director: Henry Joost
Starring: Katie Featherston, Matt Shively, Brady Allen

Alex Cross



Rated: PG-13
Running Time: 1hr. 41 mins.
Genre: Crime/mystery/ thriller
Director: Rob Cohen
Starring: Tyler Perry, Matthew Fox, Rachel Nichols

Box Office



Taken 2

Rated:
PG-13

This Weekend:
\$ 21,873,127

Total Gross:
\$ 86,131,979

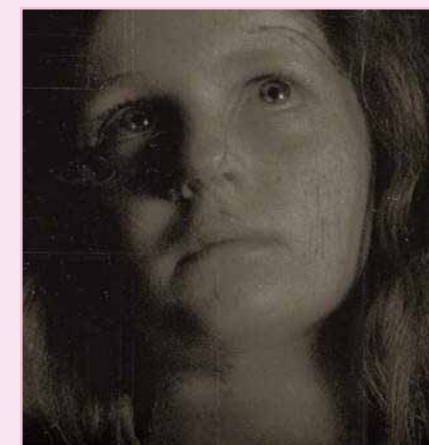


Argo

Rated:
R

This Weekend:
\$ 19,458,109

Total Gross:
\$19,458,109



Sinister

Rated:
R

This Weekend:
\$ 18,007,934

Total Gross:
\$18,007,934

Valencia's own has sights on Broadway lights

By **Natasha Tetley**
ntetley@valenciavoice.com

EAST CAMPUS — Singer. Dancer. Actress. Broadway aspirant. Knows sign language. Soft yet well spoken and appears eerily wise beyond her years. Currently performing downtown. Rings in at 18-years-old. Humble.

Could this be a list of talking points on the resume of a theatrical wunderkind? It's possible. Though these attributes belong to Tess Carr, who on Wednesday, in the failing afternoon glow of East Campus' performing arts building, projected average teenage girl.

"People judge me all the time. They make assumptions that because I'm in the theater world I'm a certain way and it's not necessarily true," said Carr. "It's kind of a generalization of a group of people. Just because I'm in theater I don't act a certain way or am a certain way."

First time Valencia student Carr recently landed her second professional theater role with "Sunday in the Park With George" at the Mad Cow Theatre Company in downtown Orlando. Her first was with the Orlando Repertory Theatre in Loch Haven Park with last year's "A Wrinkle In Time."

Since beginning her acting career as an 8-year-old, Carr has performed in upwards of 25 shows.

"I think I probably knew that I wanted to be an actress from the time I was about 3 when my mom would catch me

in front of my full length mirror singing," said Carr. "Growing up I've always performed everywhere I've went. It's always what I wanted to do.

"I hope to be on Broadway one day. That's probably every performer's dream."

Currently, the Sondheim musical is in full swing downtown, allowing Carr to be totally immersed in the student-performer lifestyle. Having graduated high school just last May, she intends to attend Valencia in order to remain close to both her base of contacts and to her family, whom she loves spending time with.

Carr intends to participate in Valencia's acting program as soon as her schedule allows and is currently enrolled in an acting class with Professor John DiDonna.

"I think the hardest part about being a student in the world of professional acting is that you have to balance work and school and your professional life while still learning about everything," said Carr.

"I always bring all of my homework with me and all of my books with me so everytime that I'm not on stage I'm backstage studying anything I can do with school."

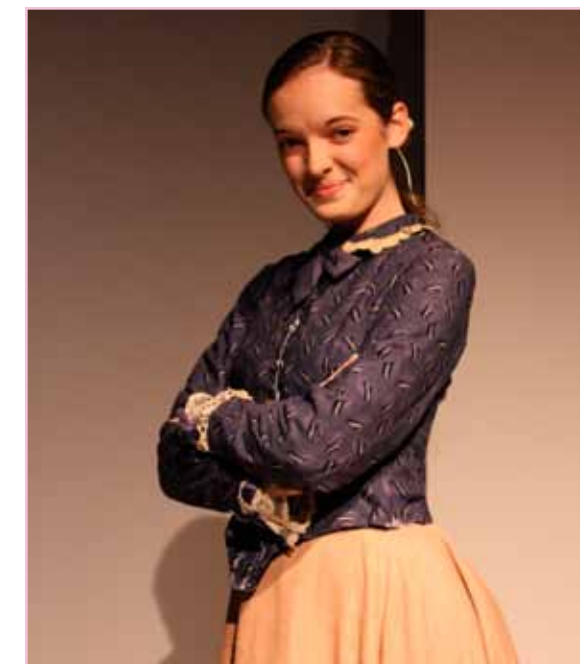
"Sunday" follows the creation of painter Georges Seurat's quintessential park scene, "A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte." Carr cites long nights and talented players for the success of the production at Mad Cow.

"It's been very long nights but it's been a very condensed and quick process. We put everything up very fast and then we went back through it working it

over and over and over again until it was perfect," said Carr.

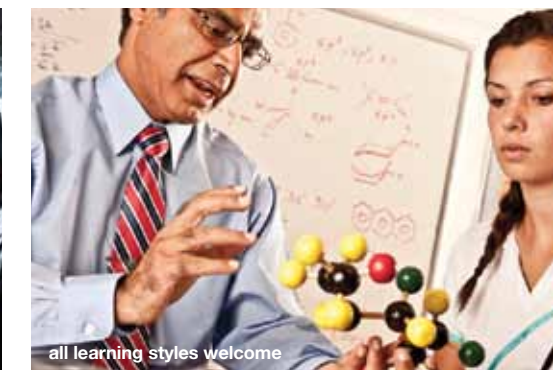
"I really didn't know much about the history of the actual painter himself but I studied as much about the time period, about how certain people would act during that time period."

Carr plans to finish a degree in acting following completion of a degree in sign language, which she says is her other great passion alongside theater. In the long run, she says, "I really do see myself performing."



Marianella Zapata Noriega / Valencia Voice
 Tess Carr made her Mad Cow Theatre debut in "Sunday in the Park with George" on Oct. 6.

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'Phantasmagoria' thrills

Third year brings new style to acclaimed show

By James Tutten
jtutten@valenciavoice.com

ORLANDO — "Phantasmagoria III" is a theatrical world of its own design, unique in theme and boundlessly creative as a manifestation of fantasy-horror in a bizarre assemblage.

"It feels good to be back after three years running, to step back into the same world and recreate it again," said writer, creator and director John DiDonna. DiDonna also teaches acting at Valencia's East Campus.

The play focuses on a traveling troupe of twisted centuries-old storytellers. They present wildly imaginative stories intended to delight and terrify any who dare bear witness. Lines from these tales are read between alternating storytellers and other cast members. The full cast of 18 players chant a few key moments in unison to add emphasis.

Cast members stay in motion throughout the performance, often catching audience members off guard. As you watch the action in front, occasionally you'll hear an ominous whisper from behind you.

As eyes adjust to the darkness that engulf the rotunda, the low light created an ambiance intended to transport the minds of the audience. The unique characters and detailed Victorian steampunk-themed costumes will delight lovers of fantasy.

Three sets of scaffolding were erected

within the space, allowing cast members to climb to the ceiling and disappear into the darkness.

"I feel like my track within this show is some sort of insane carousel, and you have to hit it immediately and let yourself get taken away," said Joshua Geoghagan, who played a reluctant storyteller named Leon. He is new to this year's cast.

Another notable addition to this year's production is a hanging screen which contains an overhead atmospheric projection. Several months of work went into timing the array of images and video used to highlight the action below.

The pace of each of the seven stories feels quite brisk and is a delightful treat to those familiar with the tales. The classic Edgar Allan Poe story "The Tell-Tale Heart" was most easily recognized and the actors brilliantly captured Poe's madness with their rendition.

"'Tell-Tale Heart' stood out for me, classic Poe," said audience member Chris Wilcox. "Definitely frightening and kept up with the concept of Halloween, very dark elements throughout and you couldn't ask for a better show this time of year," said Wilcox.

Between stories, dancers acted as an enchanting transition. Each dance number was portrayed in varied styles.

And then there were the puppets.

These go beyond an average person's preconceived understanding of puppet-



James Tutten / Valencia Voice

Serafina Schiano as Seraphia in the new show, 'Phantasmagoria II' at the Shakespeare Theater.

ry. Several of them were brilliantly used to create moments of sheer terror. Of all puppets used during the production, the most frightening was saved for last.

"I think the message is much more clear this year. There has always been a message between us in the troupe, but it's never been as clearly communicated to the audience," said actress Cameron Gagne, who played the enchanting Isabella.

Tickets are \$15-\$20 at the door and can be reserved by calling 407-328-9005. More information about this show and other updates can be found on the group's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PhantasmagoriaOrlando.

Spotlight: Samantha O'Hare

By James Tutten
jtutten@valenciavoice.com

Samantha O'Hare is one of "Phantasmagoria III"'s shining stars. She works with Orlando's own Empty Spaces Theatre Company. Like many young college students, she is balancing her responsibilities to try to define the life she wants for herself.

"I'm still figuring it out. It's hard to navigate sometimes, my levels of interest are huge for a lot of different things," said O'Hare.

The acting bug first bit her at the age of 15 with a role in "The Odd Couple" while attending Apopka Senior High School. She decided early on to focus on theater because it deals with many of the fundamentals of acting that she considers vital to a well-rounded education.

She credits her education at Valencia College under the guidance of theater professor Kathleen Lindsey-Moulds for helping her fix some of the personal problems she had faced along the way.

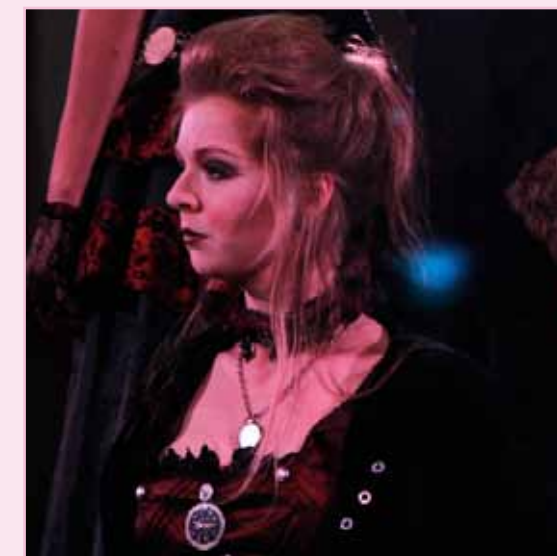
"For me it's the technical things, it's the small things. My speech and my speed are probably the most difficult," said O'Hare on her biggest challenges as an actress.

She learned that she tended to speak too fast and not open her mouth wide enough to make certain sounds loud enough.

Valencia theater professor John DiDonna has worked with O'Hare for nearly eight years on several productions and feels strongly about how she has progressed over that time.

"Her energy, her focus, her talent, her ambition and her perfection," said DiDonna on what inspires him about O'Hare as an actress.

O'Hare credits her love of reading for



James Tutten / Valencia Voice

Valencia Student Samantha O'Hare returns as Alice Liddell in new Phantasmagoria version.

shaping her desire to become an actress. Her fascination with literature helped O'Hare escape into a world of her own when she was younger.

Part-time jobs have also been a diverse experience for O'Hare. She has driven an ice cream truck, been a nanny, delivered food and even worked as a bank teller. Her favorite job was working with the ice cream and her worst job was working in the bank because of the stress levels that came with the job.

"Right now I'm focusing on substitute teaching and I just became a tutor," said O'Hare. She teaches anything and everything for middle school aged students including English, math, statistics and biology.

Fellow cast members are also inspirations for O'Hare.

"I just think it's important that people take an interest in the work we do as a whole more than one actor. You really have to for theater, there's no celebrity culture around this at all," said O'Hare.

Romney, Obama education strategy

Competing ideas increasing quality, decreasing tuition

By **Renee Schoof**
McClatchy Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Should money for federal student grants for college be cut back?

Should parents be able to spend local tax dollars to pay for private schooling if they don't like their public schools?

Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama agree that a good education for all Americans is essential for democracy, individual success and the national economy.

The areas where they disagree such as on school choice and federal spending make education another of the stark public policy choices in this presidential campaign. Their divide was evident Tuesday at NBC's Education Nation Summit in New York.

In an interview for the summit, the president said that the big difference between them on education reform was paying for it.

Romney and his supporters "talk a good game about reform," Obama said, "but when you actually look at their budgets, they're talking about slashing our investment in education by 20 to 25 percent."

Romney, speaking at the sum-

mit, said he would not support more federal spending for education but would leave that to the states.

"I think we all know what it takes to improve schools invest in great teachers," he said.

Romney has said during the campaign that a "world-class education" for American students was paramount to boosting the economy. His top reform would be a dramatic expansion of school choice.

Obama has called education a "gateway" to the middle class, saying the United States must be able to "out-educate and out-compete" every other nation.

He wants Congress to approve more spending for his key reform, Race to the Top, a competitive grant program that rewards schools that improve.

The nation's needs for education improvement are plain.

Federal data show that a quarter of all high school students fail to graduate in four years, low-income students lag academically, and many students are struggling in reading and math.

Romney wants to restrict Pell grants, the main source of federal financial aid for college, to just

the poorest students. "Flooding colleges with federal dollars only serves to drive tuition higher," a Romney campaign education policy paper says.

But campaign spokeswoman Amanda Henneberg declined to provide details about where Romney would set the limits.

Under Obama, Pell Grants have more than doubled, from \$16 billion in 2008 to \$36 billion last year. The size of the grants increased, as did the number of recipients, from about 6 million to 9 million.

In addition, Congress passed an Obama-backed effort to remove commercial banks from the federal student loan business. The savings, in the form of subsidies that had been paid to the banks, paid for the increase in Pell Grants, Obama has said.

Romney and Obama also have different ideas about K-12 education.

The federal government provides about 10 percent of the money spent on K-12. State and local governments pay the rest.

The Obama administration has used money and waivers from the requirements in the 2002 No Child Left Behind education law to influence what happens at the state

and local level.

The grants and waivers provide incentives for states to agree to improve school, like raising standards, rewarding good teachers and removing poor ones. They amount to less than 1 percent of what the nation spends on education, according to the Obama campaign.

Romney would urge Congress to revise the No Child law to eliminate the federally required steps designed to improve failing schools. Instead, he'd require that states grade the schools so that parents could easily tell how they're doing.

Romney also would push Congress to change legislation to give parents of low-income and special-needs children the ability to decide how tax dollars for their children's educations should be spent. Under his plan, parents could use their child's share of public education funds to send their children to public charter schools or apply it to private-school tuition in states that permit vouchers.

Grover "Russ" Whitehurst, a Romney education policy adviser, but who was not speaking for the campaign, said that while Obama supports regulations, waivers and incentives, Romney favors a market approach to school reform.

— MCT Campus

On education issues

Where the presidential candidates stand:

	 Romney	 Obama
Pell grants	Restrict only to poorest students; no details on how much he would cut	Increased spending from \$16 billion to \$36 billion, grants are bigger, more students receive them; says expansion paid for with savings from moving student loans from private banks to Dept. of Education
Federal role	Would want Congress to revise the education law to eliminate the federally required steps that failing schools must take to improve; instead, he'd require that states grade the schools so parents could easily tell how they are doing	Has used money and waivers from 2002 No Child Left Behind law to provide incentives to states to do such things as raise standards, reward good teachers and remove poor ones; says costs are less than 1 percent of total U.S. education spending
School choice	Would allow parents of low-income and special-needs children to decide how tax dollars for their children's educations should be spent	Supports school choice within the public school system; has encouraged investments in public charter schools but opposes vouchers
Cost of college	Wants to return student lending to private banks	Wants student borrowers to be able to cap loan payments at 10 percent of income; started tax credit for low-, middle-income families paying for college; wants incentive plan to get colleges to hold down costs

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 Graphic: Judy Treible, Robert Dorrell

Students need more than financial aid to succeed

Pell Grants boost college access for low-income students but money is only half the story

By **Arnorld Mitchem**
McClatchy Newspapers

It's ironic that just as the U.S. poverty rate rises to its highest level in more than four decades, the Pell Grant program the most important source of federal aid for low-income students aspiring to a college education celebrates its 40th anniversary.

To be sure, there is good reason to celebrate the Pell Grant's huge impact on expanding college access. Named after the late U.S. Senator Claiborne Pell, D-R.I., the program's need-based assistance has made it possible for 60 million students to pursue their dream of higher education, young people who otherwise would not have had the opportunity.

And according to the U.S. Department of Education, the number of recipients is skyrocketing up 52 percent since 2008, to an expected 9.4 million in award year 2011-2012 which is a direct result of the economic downturn and the growing ranks of students and families needing assistance. In New York State alone, more than 520,000 students received a Pell Grant award this year.

Despite a recent increase in the maximum value of the Pell Grant to \$5,550 next year, its value remains half of what it was decades ago, compared to the rising cost of college. The average Pell Grant now covers just 21 percent of the cost of attendance at a post-secondary



Genaro Molina/Los Angeles Times/MCT

Students wait in a line for financial aid on the Santa Monica College campus in Santa Monica, Calif.

institution, and with recent changes that reduce student eligibility to 12 semesters from 18, tens of thousands of students will be left without enough financial support to complete their education.

Why this erosion in value? We have seen an unfortunate shift by policymakers and institutions of higher education away from emphasizing need-based aid to ensure that college remains open to all students, regardless of their economic circumstances, and an accompanying move in favor of education tax credits and merit-based aid. The problem is that the populations historically underrepresented in higher education—low-income,

minority and first-generation students are the same populations that most depend on need-based federal assistance.

Yes, it is important to balance the need to provide financial aid to large and growing numbers of underserved students with other considerations. We must ensure that this enormous investment of taxpayers' resources is used efficiently and effectively, including providing incentives for students to complete college within a reasonable timeframe.

But increasing financial support is only half the story. Equally important is providing Pell Grant recipients with other types of support and guidance.

Many of these students face multiple barriers—academic, socioeconomic, cultural, informational—to post-secondary education, not just a lack of funds.

Merely providing them with financial aid is not enough to get them through college.

U.S. Department of Education data show that six years after beginning their undergraduate program, students who have received a Pell Grant and participated in TRIO Student Support Services another federal program that provides counseling, tutoring, mentoring and other guidance to underserved students have a higher rate of earning a baccalaureate degree (30.9 percent) than other low-income college students who only received a Pell Grant (21 percent).

With poverty rates rising and the U.S. slipping to 16th among OECD countries in the percentage of college graduates, federal and state policymakers and college leaders need to do everything possible to support and encourage students from all walks of life who aspire to a post-secondary degree. Instead of shrinking that opportunity, we should be working together to guarantee access to higher education by ensuring that rising tuition and student debt are held in check and that assistance—financial aid combined with other types of proven support—is focused more on those with the greatest need.

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Double overtime thriller at UCF

Knights earn their second straight win

By Danny Morales
dmorales@valenciavoice.com

The UCF Knights were able to win their second straight conference game, Saturday night, while also winning their first overtime game in school history.

The 38-31 double overtime win came at the expense of the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles, in front of 34,514 fans at the Brighthouse Networks Stadium.

UCF got on the board first, scoring a touchdown on their opening drive of the game. The Knights drove the ball 93 yards on 15 plays, to take an early 7-0 lead over the Golden Eagles. UCF would add three points to their lead with a Shawn Moffitt field goal at the beginning of the 2nd quarter.

"We all wanted this game really bad after last year's lose," said J.J. Worton.

Southern Mississippi responded with a touchdown of their own, thanks to a 16-yard run by quarterback Anthony Alford halfway through the the second quarter, cutting the UCF lead to three. The rest of the quarter was very defensive until the winding seconds of the half, when the Knights would extend their lead to 17-7 with just five seconds remaining in the quarter on a QB sneak by quarterback Blake Bortles.

Defense was the theme in the first half



Robert Van Deering / Valencia Voice

UCF Runningback Latavius Murray scoring the game-winning touchdown in double overtime.

with Southern Mississippi only gaining 113 yards of total offense.

UCF went into the fourth quarter holding onto 17-14 lead, but were able to extend that lead to 24-14 when Storm Johnson ran 32 yards for a touchdown with 11:45 left to play.

Southern Mississippi was able to score a touchdown on their first overtime drive, when quarterback Anthony Alford ran two yards for his second touchdown of the game. The touchdown gave Southern Mississippi a 31-24 lead, marking their first lead of the game. UCF responded quickly with a 10-yard touchdown run

by Latavius Murray, tying the game at 31-31, leading to a second overtime.

The Knights started the second overtime with the ball and were able to jump out to a 38-31 lead following another Latavius Murray touchdown run. UCF quarterback Blake Bortles gave credit to the offensive line after the game when he said, "The offensive line took over when we went to overtime."

UCF improve to 4-2, while also improving their record in C-USA to 2-0. They visit Memphis on Saturday, Oct. 20, in hopes of extending their winning streak to three games.

No sophomore slump for UCF

By Juan Gallardo
jgallardo@valenciavoice.com

When you win a job from a player that was named the C-USA player of the year, much is expected from you and UCF quarterback Blake Bortles has taken the pressure in stride. Four-to-two in his first full season as the Knights starter, and he has shown the grit that led George O'Leary to name him the starter after playing sparingly as a freshman.

After splitting time with now-wide receiver Jeff Godfrey, Bortles was handed the keys to the Knights' offense in the last game of his freshman season, based on his production in limited action, including almost leading UCF from a 14-point deficit against the University of Southern Mississippi only to fall one point short.

In his first full season as a starter, he has had his high moments, notching 267 yards and two touchdowns versus FIU while his low points consisted of a three-interception performance versus Ohio State,

but the consensus is that he is the present and future for the quarterback position for the Knights.

"He hasn't been out there for three years, he hasn't been out there for one year," said coach George O'Leary. "Everyone looks like that until you have enough experience."

And he is gaining experience rather quickly now that his stats have been better since the Ohio State game, never tossing more than one interception. Recently, the Knights haven't run much of the "Wild Knight" offense senior Rob Calabrese displayed during his quarterback position as they did at the start of the season. This has helped Bortles maintain a rhythm as the head of the offense.

In his latest game against Southern Mississippi, he showed his athleticism and size rushing for two touchdowns and converting several fourth and shorts into first downs for the Knight offense.

"I have the utmost faith in him controlling the offense and getting things done right," O'Leary said.



Robert Van Deering / Valencia Voice

Sophomore quarterback Blake Bortles showed no pressure versus SMU on Saturday, Oct. 13.

Buccaneers join fight



Photo credit g

Tampa Bay wore pink as a part of breast cancer awareness Raymond James stadium.



David Eulitt / Kansas City Star / MCT

Tampa Bay Buccaneers strong safety Mark Barron intercepts a pass that deflected off of Kansas.



David Eulitt / Kansas City Star / MCT

Both the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Kansas City Chiefs wore pink on Saturday, Oct. 14.

Orlando City debuts pink jerseys

Awareness comes to soccer with new shirts

By Nick Lawro
nlawro@valenciavoice.com

Orlando City Soccer Club is participating in breast cancer awareness month with the sale of pink jerseys. Owner Phil Rawlins and his wife, Kay, dedicate this month to the promotion of cancer research and support for the search for a cure.

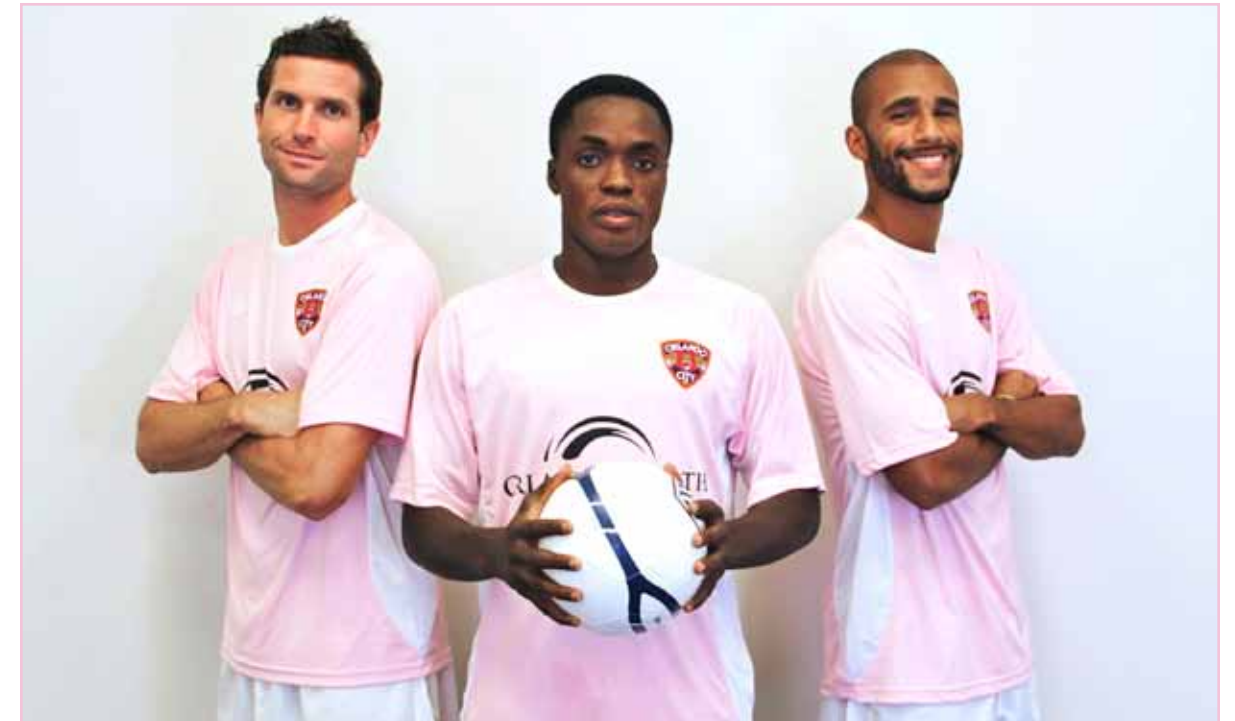
For the second year, the club sported pink jerseys in their match against the Rochester Rhinos. Following the 1-0 victory, the player's jerseys were auctioned off. Participants in the auction had the option of having the item signed by the players.

Kay Rawlins, an awareness enthusiast, is optimistic: "The sale of the jerseys so far, including the money raised at the auction, is around \$4,500 and we hope to sell more before the end of this month," she said.

Ten dollars of each pink jersey sold will be donated to the group Women Playing for T.I.M.E.

The acronym stands for technology, immediate diagnosis, mammography, and education. This grassroots volunteer organization helps raise awareness and provides financial resources to the MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Supported by the Charles Lewis Institute, the MD Anderson Cancer Center is a subsidiary nonprofit of the renowned University of Texas Cancer Center. This



Courtesy of Orlando City Soccer Club

Ian Fuller (left), Jerome Mechack and Matt Luzunaris sporting Breast Cancer Awareness jerseys.

institute is one of the largest clinical and basic cancer research centers in the world.

Women Playing for T.I.M.E. is based out of Central Florida and has been a prominent figure in breast cancer education since 1993. The organization actively engages women through events and promotes public services offered by Orlando Health.

Orlando City is taking a much more involved approach to this year's month of awareness. As mentioned earlier, Rawlins is more dedicated to the cause than ever before. Her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer this past year, just finished surgery and is now undergoing chemotherapy.

"Having my mom be afflicted with this horrid disease and seeing the awful effects

of chemotherapy has made this so much more personal for me," said Rawlins.

Phil Rawlins is also a prominent male figure in the efforts to find a cure. He has been selected as one of five men participating in "Pink Tie Guy," an event which shines light on influential male figures determined to help eradicate this disease.

Nominated by the Susan G. Komen foundation, Phil, along with the selected others will be given recognition on their admirable efforts and donations to cancer research. This ceremony will be taking place in Baldwin Park on Thursday, Oct. 18.

The pink jerseys are available online.

For more information on both events visit www.womenplayingfortime.org.