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Graphic design seniors showcase final projects

By Sadie Hewitt
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After two years of required program classes, USF St. Petersburg graphic design seniors will have the chance to showcase their final, independent projects at Studio620 May 1-5. The show, entitled, “79/21: USFSP Graphic Design Senior Thesis Show,” will be a collection of the works of 19 seniors.

“The exhibit is a way for the students to showcase their work as they are about to take the leap from school to the professional world,” said Neil Matthiessen, assistant professor of graphic design.

The name of the show, 79/21, represents the percentage of female to male students in the class of 2010. “We had trouble coming up with a name. We wanted something that embodied our class. Our class is mostly female and that has shaped the way we have worked together and formed the way we have interacted,” said senior graphic design major Olga Robak. The soon-to-graduate class consists of 15 female and four male students.

Students spend two years in the program completing an array of assignments that explore the principles of graphic design, including typography, print, web and multimedia design. The show promises a variety of compositions.

One student has explored packaging and how it can be used after it has served its primary function. Another student interested in dentistry, explores sustainable and ecological dentistry tools. One of the thesis projects deals with typography throughout American history. Robak created a beginner’s cookbook for those unable to create their own meals.

“I’m dealing with the fact that making your own food is better for you than going out to a restaurant,” she said. Robak says creating your own meals allows for more control over what goes into your food and “into your body.”

According to Matthiessen, “the work that will be on display has some real personal connections to the students and I think that this shows, and will speak to the viewer.”

This display of the seniors’ thesis work will demonstrate the concentrated efforts and the skills these students have learned throughout the two-year program.

“The work itself is about communications and the students must be able to convey the message in a manner that the viewer will be able to decode the information presented to them and make a connection to it,” Matthiessen said.

The show’s opening ceremony will take place on Saturday, May 1 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.
Was aborting In Vitro Fertilized fetus a ‘waste of science’?

By Lenay Ruhl
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There are some people who accidentally end up pregnant. There are some who plan and prepare for it. Then there are the couples who plan, prepare and try as hard as they can, and cannot ever naturally conceive. Thanks to our progressing technology, these couples have other alternatives: In Vitro Fertilization.

According to an article in the St. Petersburg Times, there has been a major issue involving a couple who turned to In Vitro Fertilization to conceive. The couple had In Vitro fertilization and successfully got pregnant. They ended up pregnant with twins. At 16 weeks it was evident that one of the twins was going to have Down syndrome and congenital defects.

The couple, who tried so hard to get pregnant and wanted nothing more than to have a baby, decided that they wanted to abort this twin. Putting their trust into modern medicine and science, they allowed a doctor in Sarasota to perform selective termination, a chemical injection that terminates one fetus in a multiple pregnancy.

A few weeks after the procedure, they discovered the doctor accidentally terminated the healthy fetus, not the defective one. The couple then decided to abort the remaining fetus.

During In Vitro Fertilization, egg and sperm are combined in a lab dish to form an embryo. It can take a long time and sometimes does not work at all. Once fertilization takes place, the embryo is inserted into the uterus. These are two separate procedures and both involve risk, time and money.

According to the Web site www.americanpregnancy.org, the highest success rate is for women 35 and under and only reaches 30-35 percent. With any pregnancy there are always risks, including birth defects. Birth defects and birth disorders affect over 150,000 children every year in America, according to the same Web site.

If this couple knew all the risks of pregnancy, why were they not prepared to handle them?

It is a wonderful thing that we can tell before our children are born what may or may not be wrong with them and if they are a boy or a girl. Is this technology designed to help parents prepare for what is to come, or be a warning signal to stop a life from being born simply because the baby may not be “perfect”?

This one occurrence brings many different issues to the surface. Has the technology to know ahead of time about birth defects benefited us? Should we be able to control what kinds of children are born into this world and which ones are not? Is it essentially a moral issue. Is a child with Down syndrome less worthy of life than a healthy child? Parents natural instinct are to love their children. Birth is a miracle and should not be taken lightly.

A parent’s love should be unconditional, not changing based on medical conditions.

Budget cuts and lack of use keep library closing early

By Robbie Crowley
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Why does the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library close at 10 p.m. on weekdays? This is a question I asked myself daily while my laptop was recently being repaired.

During this two-week period, the library became my second home for any homework or studying. Although the atmosphere is conducive for work, I found myself frustrated at 9:55 p.m. each night (6:55 p.m. on Sundays), realizing I had to stop whatever work I was doing.

As I craved longer library hours, I thought there must be other students who share my feelings. As a medium sized university, our library hours do not compare to the Tampa campus, now open 24 hours, and Eckerd College, which is smaller than USF St. Petersburg, is open until 1 a.m.

According to Carol Hixon, Dean of Poynter Library, current library hours have remained mostly unchanged since the late 1980s. Recently, the library hours were extended to coincide with the opening of Residence Hall One during the 2006-2007 academic year. These changes extended the hours to midnight Mondays through Thursdays, and to 9 p.m. on Sundays. However, these hours did not last long after budget cuts and lack of use by students.

"On some occasions, there were two or three students in the building at 11:00 p.m.,” Hixon said. “It is not fiscally responsible to keep the building open and provide service for so few students.”

Hixon said financial resources, as well as student need or demand, are two of the principle factors that decide the library’s hours of operation. The most recent data collected on student usage comes from the extended hours during exam week in December 2009. Overall, even during exam week, low student usage during extended hours does not justify extending hours of operation. Other factors in the decisions include the availability of staff, new service demands and safety of students and staff.

The Nelson Poynter Memorial Library has been a victim of recent budget cuts. The annual budget has lower costs not only for resources like books, databases and computers, but also must pay the operating staff. According to Hixon, the budget has declined over 20 percent since 2007. She commented on how they have dealt with the challenge.

"We have cancelled some journal titles, we have reduced the number of scholarly books that we can purchase, and we have not been able to replace some staff positions.” Hixon said. “Up to this point, we have resisted reducing the hours we are open or reducing or eliminating some services entirely.”

If extending the library hours becomes a need for the student body, Hixon suggests that students petition Student Government to work with the library in determining what this measure would entail financially.

"Until that happens, it is log off and shut down at 9:55 p.m."

Library Hours:

- **Monday**: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- **Tuesday**: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- **Wednesday**: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- **Thursday**: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
- **Friday**: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Saturday**: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Sunday**: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Immaculee Ilibagiza is a survivor. Hiding for her life with seven women inside a tiny bathroom for 91 days, Ilibagiza is living proof of both the horror of genocide and the courage of forgiveness.

She brought her story to the USF St. Petersburg Campus Activities Center on Wednesday, April 14. The event, partnered with the Florida Holocaust Museum and Eckerd College’s Flight and Promise of Africa Initiative, was part of the museum’s public awareness campaign for Genocide and Human Rights Awareness Month.

Ula Szczepinska, Curator of Education for the Florida Holocaust Museum, introduced Ilibagiza as her "own personal hero." As Ilibagiza took the stage, she was welcomed with a standing ovation.

Ilibagiza said it was a great joy to share her story and acknowledged how positive changes can emerge from negative life events. She recalled, during one of her first speaking engagements, how she was greeted during her time of mourning with hugs by a tearful Holocaust survivor who told her she had been waiting for someone like her to help her let go and find peace.

"No matter how dark, there is hope, and light will come," said Ilibagiza. Her story begins in April 1994 when she returned home from college to celebrate Easter with her family in Rwanda. Ilibagiza was immediately thrust into a state of turmoil after the President of Rwanda’s plane was shot down. Spiraling chaos ensued as she witnessed members of the Hutu tribe carry out senseless and brutal killings of her people, the Tutsi. Ilibagiza said she knew of tensions, but did not expect it to go that far.

"I never thought they would do us any harm," she said.

Concerned for her safety, her father urged her to go to a family friend, a Hutu minister, to seek refuge from the brutality of a genocide that would eventually consume, according to the United Nations, over 800,000 Tutsi.

She said her father told her not to fear because God was giving her a chance. She witnessed her parents' unimaginable strength, even in their last painful moments together. "When you’re strong, you have to truly be, even in the last breath," she said.

Knowing it might be their last moments, she pondered "How do you say yes to the last moment? How do you say yes to this?"

Ilibagiza said she remembers her father’s words: "You never know what God sends you." His last gift to Ilibagiza was a rosary, instrumental in helping her come to terms with loss and forgiveness.

Hungry, tired and confused at the end of the first day, she asked herself, "What have I done?" She did not understand why her people had to suffer for something they had no control over.

"We don’t choose our race or our tribe," she said. "We don’t choose who we are to become."

Unable to speak, change their clothes or find enough nourishment, the women somehow survived on the children’s leftovers. Ilibagiza’s weight plummeted to 65 pounds.

At the end of the first week, she was sure she would die. She did not want to stay there but did not know when it would end. Time stopped for the women that week. Sensing their confusion, the minister tuned on the radio so they could hear it throughout the house.

She heard the radio announcer telling everyone to kill all the Tutsi tribes’ people. “Find the people hiding in homes, don’t forget the children. A child of a snake is a snake,” she remembers hearing.

She stressed the need for others to learn how to create peace. Her family always emphasized the importance of school. However, Ilibagiza said “If you grow your brain without growing your heart, it is truly damage.”

In the darkness of her fear, Ilibagiza heard the voice of God. Day after day, she would pray to God to spare them. There were many times she thought they would be discovered and killed. Prayer gave her hope, but she thought she would come out a killer. “I was so hurt and angry,” she said.

Her defining moment came to her as she recited a line in the rosary, “Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us…” Ilibagiza said she wanted to skip reciting that line but could not escape the guilt. “I have to go in order,” she thought to herself, but she didn’t know how to forgive. She resolved to say the prayer without meaning it.

She reflected on Jesus dying on the cross and his prayer, “Forgive them Father, they know not what they do.” She saw the Hutus, blinded by anger, hatred and selfishness and realized that anger won’t change a thing. "I must do the work that must be done," she said.

Ilibagiza began to experience the freedom within her heart to forgive. "In that second, they weren’t killers," she said. "I embraced evil."

She began to feel hopeful of the future after that moment.

In July, the women emerged from the bathroom. Once thinking she would die, Ilibagiza said God spoke to her with the message, “Life does not end in that bathroom.” She looked around her devastated village and said, “This is my bathroom.” She has emerged from the horror, having lost her family, friends and neighbors, with a message of peace. "If I can forgive," she said, "Anyone can forgive.”

Ilibagiza has written three books, some which have been translated into over 15 languages, and a fourth book entitled Seeds of Forgiveness is in the works.

She closed with these final words; “When feeling conflicted between being right and being kind, always choose to be kind.”
USF Tampa hosts Relay for Life

By Tom Chang
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USF Tampa hosted its ninth annual American Cancer Society's Relay for Life on April 16. The USF student organization committee for Relay for Life worked closely with the American Cancer Society to produce the event.

The events are international community-based fundraisers for the fight against cancer. The events provide communities across the globe with a chance to celebrate lives affected by cancer and remember those who lost the battle.

The events usually last about 18 hours and the teams stay overnight to emphasize "cancer never sleeps." Teams are asked to have at least one representative progressing on the track at all times.

According to Christine Oles, USF Relay for Life event chair, the event is student run. Committees are responsible for finding sponsors and teams to sign up for the event. The American Cancer Society also offers information throughout the year.

The event started with a Survivors Lap, where cancer survivors follow the military color guard for the first stroll around the track. The second lap involved caretakers for cancer victims following the parade. The final lap for opening ceremonies involved the remaining participants joining in.

Three hours later, as dusk set in, candlelit bags surrounded the entire track for Luminaria Ceremony. Written on the bags were names of those afflicted with the disease. Lit bags were also placed up in thebleachers spelling the word "HOPE" with the "V" replaced by a star. Projectors displayed dedications from families of lost loved ones. The participants then strolled onto the track in silence to remember the fallen. The ceremony closed with a succession of inspirational songs like Sarah McLachlan's "I Will Remember You."

The teams represented each had a carnival-themed attraction for visitors to participate in for the purpose of raising funds. Participants could either enjoy novelty concessions or parlor games.

The goal is to raise $50,000, which continues to July 31. A total of 60 teams and approximately 1500 people participated in the event organized at USF's Soccer and Track Stadium.

"This year, we came up with a bunch of different things," said Janelle Keyes, a community representative with the American Cancer Society.

"The winning vote for them was 'Imagine a world with more birthdays' for this year."

For more information go to http://www.relayforlife.org/usffl.

600 block gears up for block party

By Alimee Alexander
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On Saturday, May 8 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. downtown artists, galleries and storefront owners of the 600 block on Central Avenue will open their doors and barricade the streets for a block party.

The event, set in motion by Sara Stonecipher, owner of MISRED Outfitters, and Johnny Vitale, owner of Vitale Art & Design Studio, plans to incorporate a fashion show, six food vendors, a music venue and a beer truck.

The 600 block, once boarded up and almost forgotten about after a real estate debacle, resurrected as a creative hub open for business and buzzing with excitement. Having experienced a rebirth, the new shops, businesses and galleries on the block appear to have their collective finger on the pulse of the city's creative artery.

Artist Donna Gordon, owner of Donna Gordon Gallery & Studio is thrilled about the current revival of the 600 block.

"I believe that St. Petersburg is finally living up to its reputation as an Arts Town. Before, the only arts here were museums and not-for-profit organizations for the most part," said Gordon. "If you didn't have framing in your gallery title, you weren't going to survive."

Gordon, who retired from a 20-year career in finance in 1999, began sculpting full-time shortly after. She and her husband moved to the area in 2001.

Prior to opening her gallery doors at the beginning of March, as part of what she calls the Crispin renovation, Gordon maintained a home studio where she was able to produce and sell her artwork through galleries, shows and word-of-mouth.

The storefront owners seem in sync with their mutual support of one another.

"There are a lot of really talented artists on this block," said Stonecipher, owner of MISRED Outfitters, a one-of-a-kind clothing and fashion accessories store. "When we originally began planning for this event, we thought it would be three months down the road. But the designers were able to pull it together very quickly, and within 24 hours, we had flyers and vendors. State Theatre has even offered up their stage for the event."

Stonecipher anticipates about four to five clothing stores on the block will participate in the fashion show and Star Booty Salon will lend a hand doing hair and makeup for the 3D models strutting their stuff on the catwalk. Cozette Roche, owner of retail shop 667 Central and self-described world traveler, said the people on the 600 block are a fantastic blend of artists and business owners.

Opened April 1, Roche's storefront offers "ethnic chic" fashion and accessories from around the world. On any given day, one could peruse goods such as colorful printed scarves, bags and dresses imported from India, hand-carved wooden masks from Nepal and an extensive organic body jewelry line consisting of wood, stone, bone, horn, shell, gold and silver.

Roche's shop is one of about 40 businesses on the 600 block expected to participate in the event, which Gordon hopes will drum up local interest and support.

"I invite one and all to come out of all the shops and galleries on the 600 block. Please support our shop and the city as a real arts center actually buying art. There is so much wonderful talent in the 600 Galleries can't survive without the sales," Gordon said.
Play Review: Reefer Madness at American Stage

By Andrew Silverstein
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Who knew American Stage’s best play this year would, quite possibly, be their smallest? “Reefer Madness,” penned and directed by American Stage Art Director T. Scott Wooten, played to a lobby of about 30 Tuesday night. Even so, that sure didn’t stop it from being the most high-larious piece of theater I’ve ever witnessed.

Chairs and tables were scattered and occupied throughout the lobby, all centered on a ground level stage consisting of a small black curtain, a boom box and a few Home-Depot bought floodlights. It was like a boom box and a few Home-Depot items they had hanging around in the garage.

While the setup was a little haphazard, everything contained within – the wild script, the comedic excerpt, each of the four actors – were completely on point.

Tuesday
April 27: Pictures in the Park 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.; Studio620 An exhibition of photographs created by students celebrating our separation. Experience their beauty and influence on people at age.

Wednesday
April 26: Loot to Kids 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; Coliseum
For more information call 727-441-5200.

Vista at Boyd 5 – 9 p.m.; Boyd Hill Nature Preserve
Uncle Knacker and Harlot concert
7 p.m.; State Theater

Thieves vs. Oakland Athletics 7:10 p.m.; Tropicana Field

Thursday
April 27: Dining Out For Life 11 a.m.; Coliseum
For more information call 727-441-5200.

CRAFTSMAN HOUSE JOINS EQUIPMENT SITE 6300 CENTRAL AVE.
CRAFTSMAN HOUSE PICKS RESTAURANTS IN OVER 65 CITIES ACROSS THE US & CANADA TO CELEBRATE THEIR BEAUTY AND YOGA AT BOYD

Friday
April 30: Espresso Jive 8 p.m.; State Theater

TB Rays vs. Kansas City Royals 7:10 p.m.; Tropicana Field

Saturday
May 1: Funk Foot 7 – 11 p.m.; St. Petersburg Shuffle/Ballroom
Join us. The rental is $67 and we celebrate more. The schedule is full of creative

One day outside Old School Music Festival.

TB Rays vs. Kansas City Royals 8:10 p.m.; Tropicana Field

Sunday
May 2: Florida Folk Concert Series 1 – 5 p.m.; St. Petersburg Museum of History
Green Grass Boys, California Raisins, Uncle Kracker, Good Food & Good TB Rays vs. Kansas Water Courts: 559 Mirror Lake Drive N.
Cause, Cole Porter, while raising money for people living with AIDS.

Tropicana Field

The thing is, the Carroll character does not intend to be funny. We are supposed to believe he is truly passionate about eradicating the "evil cheeba" from the hands of our innocent youth. The "play" he creates just delves deeper in the psyche, and breathes more life into, the communist-era paranoia and foolishness about it, which it could’ve easily. "Reefer Madness" just airs for the gut and hits pretty hard. In the end, sometimes that’s all you need.

"Reefer Madness" is headed to the Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival May 21st through 30th at Loch Haven Park in Orlando. Head to OrlandoFringe.org for more information.

Photo courtesy of American Stage Theater Company

Wooten played Dr. Alfred Carroll, a concerned community college professor presenting us his own play on the dangers of "the devil’s cabbage." So, "Reefer Madness" is essentially a play within a play. This provided the perfect structure for the actors to go off the cuff, mess up, and watch, or have heard about, the 1936 movie "Reefer Madness" the play is loosely based on, you’ll get it; pot is public enemy no. 1, will make you go mentally insane, and should be eradicated at all costs.

Both T. Scott Wooten’s script and acting are absolutely fantastic. He shaped his character, Dr. Carroll, in the form of the noir-ish, articulate and deadpan style of many leading men in the ’30s and ’40s. Walking across the dimly lit stage in his tweed suit, hair slicked back, and barking voice, you almost feel like you are watching a paranoid PSA from that era.

The thing is, the Carroll character does not intend to be funny. We are supposed to believe he is truly passionate about eradicating the "evil cheeba" from the hands of our innocent youth. The "play" he creates just delves deeper in to the psyche, and breathes more life into, the communist-era paranoia and overblown-ness Carroll displays so precisely.

Each of the other three actors — Katie Castonguay, Jan Ray and Michael Tione - play a rotating cast of dope fiends, dealers, and innocent "victims" to the terrible torture of THC. The plot twists and weaves with each character being affected by the action(s) of another. For such low-brow comedy, the storyline is surprisingly advanced – kind of like "Babel" if it smoked a big bag of grass.

From start to finish, "Reefer Madness" is a smart, insane and loveable play. The comedy is varied - sometimes full-out and in your face, sometimes subdued and surprisingly clever, which leads to a nice, equal-opportunity laugh for everyone. There’s nothing really deep or political about it, which it could’ve easily touched upon. "Reefer Madness" just airs for the gut and hits pretty hard. In the end, sometimes that’s all you need.

"Reefer Madness" is headed to the Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival May 21st through 30th at Loch Haven Park in Orlando. Head to OrlandoFringe.org for more information.
SEAS celebrates first Earth Week at USF St. Pete

By Amy Blanton
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From Tuesday, April 20 to Thursday, April 22, Student Environmental Awareness Society (SEAS) hosted the first annual Earth Week on the USF St. Petersburg campus.

The three-day program took place on Harborside Lawn from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On Tuesday, April 20 or "Art for the Earth Day," there was yoga on the water, henna artistry, fun eco-art, a drum circle and Indian cuisine served.

On Wednesday, April 21 or "Sustainability Education Day," there was organic gardening, composting and rain barrel workshops and a recycling demonstration. Vegetarian food was served.

On Thursday, April 22 or "Earth Service Day," there was a Harborside clean up and beach renovation, a native species demonstration, a Green Showcase, music and food. The three-day event ended with an Environmental Justice Panel Discussion with the Uhuru Solidarity Movement that was sponsored by N.A.T.U.R.E.

All of the food for the event was provided by the Vegetarian Society. SEAS is a student organization on campus that is "open to anyone interested in promoting awareness of environmental issues, outdoor activities and taking steps towards a greener campus, community and world." This includes USF St. Petersburg students, faculty, staff, affiliates and members of the surrounding community.

Britten Cleveland, SEAS president and a senior majoring in environmental science and policy with a minor in political science, said that she was in charge of the budget, booking vendors, booking space and equipment, faculty staff, affiliates and members of the surrounding community.

Lawler said, "Part of this included collaborating with the local Publix who graciously donated $150 for food."

Lawler also helped with the beach renovation.

"I met with Student Government and the campus administration in order to gain approval to work with the beach," Lawler said. "I worked alongside Stephanie Costant and others with our ideas and vision for the beach were slowly designed and enacted."

"We have been working so hard and for this reason I hope our campus will take time to see and understand our purpose. We are hoping to show students that there are cleaner and more sustainable ways to rescue the beach," Lawler said. "My only hope is that people become more involved and are excited to make a difference in any way they can."

"I would like students to walk away with a new outlook on sustainability; one of the major solutions rests in the decisions we make on a daily basis. Caring for the environment does not require a huge change in lifestyle, just making different choices," said Tiffany Knowles, vice president of SEAS and a senior majoring in environmental science and policy.

"I would like to see this event continue to grow over the years and become an indispensable USF St. Petersburg tradition," Cleveland said.

"Going Green" doesn't just entail recycling or turning off lights. It is literally a way of life and I hope students adopt some of these lifestyle changes," said Cleveland.

If you would like to join or be in contact with the members of SEAS, you can e-mail them at seas_usf@yahoo.com or join their group on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/seas_usf.

Sean Silverstein, not your typical video gamer

By Andrew Silverstein
Staff Writer
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24-year-old Sean Hinsinger, or "LeGeNdPirnPss" as most know him, is living the dream. The pimply-faced, socially awkward dream of every basement dwelling, controller mashing, and soda-chugging Xbox extremist across the country. He plays video games for a living...and probably makes more than you doing it.

We got a chance to talk to Sean before the Major League Gaming Pro Circuit tournament in his hometown Orlando this weekend. Let the awesomeness commence...

CN: What was your favorite game?
SH: Halo was my favorite game when I was a little kid. It was the only game I knew. My parents bought me a Nintendo and I stuck with me ever since.

CN: The original Nintendo?
SH: The original Nintendo with Mario, yes.

CN: What was your favorite game?
SH: I want to say my favorite game was [was] Mario. That was the only game I had. I remember a lot of my childhood was during the Jaguar/Nintendo 64 era. My friends were typically surrounded between these two camps and, naturally, argued about which system was better all the time.

CN: Were you more of a PlayStation or Nintendo 64 kid?
SH: To be honest man, I was such a gamer I just went ahead and got both.

CN: Was there a point you knew you were hooked, that you wanted to pursue this as more than a hobby?
SH: Well, actually, it was just one day that my friend introduced me to this game called Halo for the original Xbox and he said, "Hey man, you should try this out, they have tournaments for this game and whatnot." I said, "OK, I'll give it a shot." So I played some of it and I thought it was, like, probably the funnest [sic] game I've ever played.

There was some local tournament in Orlando called Game City which is no longer open. There were two guys who were undefeated, one of them actually wound up being one of the best Halo players ever. Anyways, they were undefeated three times in a row and I went there with a friend of mine who wasn't even really good at Halo and these other guys were amazing. Well, we knocked them out of the tournament because I was just so good that I didn't really need my teammate. Pretty much the whole crowd at the game center was watching my screen so, at that point, I just felt like, "Well, I can beat those guys and they're undefeated I should try to compete, do whatever I can to make money off the game."

CN: Had you been practicing a lot at that point or did you just jump in as a natural?
SH: I mean, at that point, it was really still a hobby. I wanted to play at my leisure and whenever somebody else, you know, was around to play I was available. Anytime I could I was trying to play.

CN: In terms of income, is gaming the only thing you do now?
SH: Actually, I've done quite a few things. I've got a real estate license in the state of Florida. I started a web site that's totally relevant to gaming and I actually wrote an e-book about Halo 3; pretty much like a strategy guide. -- continued on page 8
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2 Sailor's septet?
3 "Chicago" lyricist
4 Ball prop
5 Tony Martin hit
6 Exceptional companion
7 Stare open-mouthed
8 Alpha follower
9 "Chicago" lyricist
10 Sticky stuff
11 Branch
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14 Congregant's cry
15粘性物质
16 Classic sitcom
17 "Chicago" lyricist
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21 Mineral-hardness scale name
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50 George's brother
51 Oke
52 Historic time
53 Water (Fr.)
54 Spring mo.
55 Nay undoer
56 Exceptional
57 Stare open-mouthed
58 Arias
59 Culture
60 Mongol tent
61 Trio from Cincinnati?

Weekly SUDOKU

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: * Moderate ** Challenging *** HOO BOY!

"I don't have to have one--but I think I drive much better than a lot of people who DO have licenses!"
By Greg Lindberg
Section Editor
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"And down the stretch they come!"
The announcer shouts as a parade of horses gallop toward the finish line, each vying for their one and only chance at winning the Kentucky Derby.

The 136th running of this American tradition takes place Saturday, May 1 at historic Churchill Downs in Louisville. Some of the world’s speediest thoroughbred racehorses will compete in this year’s version of the “fastest two minutes in sports” on NBC. It is the first jewel of the coveted Triple Crown, which also comprises the Preakness and Belmont Stakes held later in the summer.

To compete in the race, horses must be three years old the year it is held. Contenders for the 2010 derby include Eskendereya, Sidney’s Candy and Lookin at Lucky.

Not to take anything away from these superstar stallions, but what is the deal with some of these bizarre racehorse names? They are definitely not ones you would give your dog or cat.

Last year, major underdog – or “underhorse” – Mine That Bird was the 2009 derby champ. Yet the name of the horse hardly makes sense. If the first word was “mind,” it might make the name grammatically correct. But what exactly does a bird have to do with a horse? And why would a horse even mind a bird if it is 100 times its size?

Some of the other head-scratching names include Closing Argument, Invisible Ink, Casual Lies, Bold Arrangement, Spend a Back and TV Commercial. These short phrases seem like things somebody would come up with off the top of their head. And none seem to apply to horses.

There are also names that have a double entendre attached to them. There once was a horse named Honest Pleasure and another named Foolish Pleasure – both apparently unrelated. One might assume that honesty trumps foolishness, but it was Foolish Pleasure who was the big winner by capturing the 1975 derby.

Big Brown, the 2008 derby winner, probably has the most appropriate name for a racehorse. It’s easy to understand a horse, which is large in stature and has a brown coat, being called this.

Other names that seem to fit include Afleet Alex, who won the Preakness and Belmont races in 2005, and Awe Inspiring, which is a good way to describe a competitive colt.

Believe it or not, there are several strict rules owners must follow when naming their horses. This might explain some of this naming madness. All race horses must be registered with the Jockey Club, an organization that supports American thoroughbred breeding and racing. Each name goes into the club’s American Stud Book. According to the club’s Web site, names cannot exceed 18 letters, may not contain initials and cannot end in horse-related terms, such as "filly," "mare" and "stallion.”

Names of people may not be used unless they give written consent. For example, actor Jack Klugman allowed his namesake to be used for a horse in the Kentucky Derby. Former tennis star Chris Evert had a horse named after her as well. In addition, names of "notorious" people may never be used, nor can nameakes of racetracks, races or stable names. Trademarks, copyrighted names and obscenities are also off-limits. The club protects names of currently active horses and previous winners of the major races.

With all of these guidelines to follow, it actually seems logical to see every racehorse out there with a somewhat obscure name attached to it. Who knows, maybe someday USF St. Petersburg can sponsor a horse named Crow’s Nest. It definitely meets the criteria.

Sean Hinsinger, not your typical video gamer, continued from page 6

CN: So you’re kind of a self-made man…

SH: Exactly. I wanted to do something for myself that had to do with gaming and could help people out in the sense of, you know, not everyone can be pro, but we can all learn from the pros and, you know, utilize the tools they give us. I just wanted to help a lot of people out and make some extra income while doing it.

CN: What do your parents think?

SH: Well, my dad’s definitely ecstatic about the fact that I probably make more money than he does now. They’re happy for me.

CN: Do you succumb to the prototypical gamer diet of Mountain Dew, Ramen Noodles, Hot Pockets, etc. or do you try and keep it pretty healthy?

SH: No sir! I try to avoid any fast food, any food like that. I definitely don’t want to be the stereotypical gamer.

CN: What’s the typical daily routine for a pro gamer like yourself?

SH: Well, the gamer schedule always lasts into the late night hours. I usually don’t fall asleep until about 4 or 5 in the morning. If you want to practice you have to be up at those times when everyone else is practicing. But, basically, I wake up around noonish and I try to get some exercise in before I ever start gaming. That’s really important. We have the fattest nation in the world so I really try to keep my health intact. Then I’ll run errands, do a few things around the house. Usually when that’s done I’ll start gaming around 4 or 5. It can go from 30 minutes up to 10 straight hours of gaming.

CN: As far as the future, how long do you see yourself competing?

SH: Well, to be honest with you, I mean, my reaction time, my awareness, you know, all these senses that I have now – I don’t know how long it’s gonna carry over – so I’m going to try and take advantage, capitalize, while I still have these abilities because I know it won’t last forever. I’d give it 10 years or less before I’ll completely retire from any sort of video game competition.

Sean Hinsinger’s Gamer Profile
Player Name: LeGeNd Pimps
Current Teams: Classic
Highest Kill: 50 in Lone Wolves, Team Doubles, Team Slayer and MLG playoffs
Best Placing: 2nd – Meadows L 2008 – Classic

Photo courtesy of the community.def.com