Do you YouTube?

By: Jessica Herzon

Staff Writer

This is nothing compared to Napster. YouTube is in for the fight of its life. Viacom Inc., the owner of MTV, VH1, Comedy Central and other cable networks filed a $1 billion copyright lawsuit against Google, YouTube's parent company. YouTube, originally founded by Chad Hurley, Steve Chen, and Jawed Karim, is a popular free video sharing website which lets users upload, view, and share video clips, and was purchased by Google for $1.65 billion in stock.

The wide variety of site content includes movie and TV clips and music videos, as well as amateur content such as videoblogging and short original videos. According to Wikipedia, "YouTube policy does not allow content to be uploaded by anyone not permitted by United States copyright law to do so, and the company frequently removes uploaded infringing content. Nonetheless, a large amount of it continues to be uploaded. Generally, unless the copyright holder reports them, YouTube only discovers these videos via indications within the YouTube community through self-policing."

Sometime last month, Viacom asked YouTube to remove some 100,000 video clips that violate copyright and have since found about 50,000 additional unauthorized clips. Viacom is especially at risk because many of its shows are aimed at younger audiences.

Google was prepared for a fight when it bought YouTube last year. It put aside a legal fund to help protect the budding company. YouTube has not garnered much in profits but has an overwhelming amount of traffic. Google hasn't worked out how to use YouTube to turn a profit, and from what's coming, may not ever get the chance.

Daylight Savings time ruining a perfectly good day

By: Jessica Herzon

Staff Writer

Daylight Savings Time: What? It’s the beginning of March! Usually, DST starts closer to Easter when the days are a little longer and perhaps a few rays of sunshine are creeping over the horizon to dispel the sleep from young students’ eyes in the pre-dawn hours. Waiting at the bus stop in the pitch dark does not make for happy commutes at school. However, this year it has started much earlier than in previous years. President Bush decided that, in order to save some energy, America would start DST three weeks earlier this year.

Not only has that wreaked havoc on our personal timeclocks, but our digital clocks as well.

According to the American Sleep Disorders Association, the average teenager needs around 7.4 hours a night. This is far short of the desired quota for healthy teens. And how many of you at Coral Reef actually get that??

What with AP tests, IB projects and the never ending pop quizzes in class, when do we actually have time to sleep? “I don’t like it because it’s too dark and I want to go back to bed,” claims freshman Katie Speicher.

Daylight savings time was first mentioned, jokingly I might add, by Ben Franklin, who thought that people should get up earlier and use more of the daylight to avoid burning candles at night. According to Wikipedia, it is William Willet who is accredited with implementing Daylight Savings Time while on an early morning horse ride through the country. DST was first enacted by a national government by Germany starting April 30, 1916. The United Kingdom soon followed suit, first observing it on May 21, 1916.

On March 19, 1918, the U.S. Congress established DST from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October. To top it off, there was the “time scare” reminiscent of Y2K. All the digital elements in our lives were perfectly happy with DST arriving about the time of the Easter Bunny. Palm Pilots, Blackberries, computers, and many other electronics relying on precise time were overcome with inaccuracies. There were warnings from critical machines that provide life-saving services to Microsoft sending out warnings that meetings scheduled prior to updates might be off.

Same Sex Classrooms

By: Carla Rodriguez

Staff Writer

Single-sex classrooms rooms filled with (depending on what Nature decided to bless you with) masculine or feminine faces; all similar to you. How does it make you feel? Relieved? Angry? Nervous? Happy? Annoyed? Elated? Whatever your internal reaction is, chances are you’re better to get used to the feeling—single-sex classrooms (and, in fact, single-sex schools) may soon become a very tangible reality for us all.

Small examples of and experiments with single-gendered classrooms have spurred a growing nation-wide trend which is threatening to catch fire all too quickly. With prime school experimenting in Washington, DC and Atlanta, Georgia and reporting successful results, many public schools are more than likely to join in on the experimental movement, enlisting themselves in what seems like an ever-expanding list of schools awaiting Title IX’s amendment.

Title IX is a law passed to secure equal treatment for the sexes in education. It states that, of course, there must be equal treatment for both sexes in schools and that no public school district may create any unequal opportunity for either gender without compensation—that is, if a district creates a school for girls only, they must balance it out with a boys-only school as well. The amendment to Title IX, which President Bush is avidly pushing, would give public school districts the freedom to create single-sex schools at will —as of right now, only if they’re optional-enrollment.

Whilst many groups have begun to rally together to advocate the amendment, Civil Rights activists are heartily putting up the argument against the movement. The activists claim that separating the sexes of the same project as boys, who can instead be found working in large, rowdy groups rather than calmly and alone. In a contrast in natural learning habits—as psychologists have learned—that may impact a child’s educational future.

And so, the crowds are split in two—pro-segregation and anti-segregation. Both sides have their own unique pros and cons… so where does one hear of a compromise? Does a compromise even exist as of yet? It seems as though none have been found so far, regardless of the fact that a middle ground would be so simple to envision and, possibly, carry out. Why not simply offer certain classes with a same-sex option, rather than create whole schools? Why not hold normal class, separating genders when projects or assignments are handed out? What ever the alternative, the general school-attending public should be prepared to propose them, for it seems as though we may very well be looking to a future of similar faces and anatomies all throughout the academic day.

“there are distinctive differences in the way girls’ and boys’ brains learn”
The results are in, this years nominees have been chosen. Every year, seniors at every high school are eligible to apply and become a Silver Knight Nominee and represent their school. But, the question remains: what does becoming a Silver Knight nominee entail?

Well, this prestigious award recognizes students with a great record of service to the school and the community which best exemplifies an unselfish and continuous use of talents in selflessly helping others. There are 15 different categories to choose from. This year, as well as last year, a talented and dedicated senior has been nominated for each category.

Coral Reef’s nominees for this year are as follows: Raquel Kailil for the Art division, Helena Ramirez for Athletics, Matthew Hovde for Business, Gabriela Tejedor for Drama, Cristian Calle for English, Megan O’Connor for Mathematics, Likan Gong for New Media, Husam Wahdan for Science, Iris Zhang for Social Science, Sarah E. Martinez for Speech, and Karrina Sharp for Vocational Technology.

Each nominee has benefited the community in countless different ways.

Martine Powers, nominated for the Social Science award, has created a dance-a-thon to raise money for the Save Darfur Coalition.

Silver Knight Nominees Pose Above. Nominees in category order: Art, Raquel Kailil; Athletics, Helena Ramirez; Business, Matthew Hovde; Drama, Gabriela Tejedor; English, Christopher Kailil; Foreign Lang, Nicole Pegguro; General Scholar, Joanna Perdomo; Journalism, Megan O’Connor; Mathematics, Likan Gong; Music, Mauricio Perez-Rosas; New Media, Husam Wahdan; Science, Iris Zhang; Social Science, Martine Powers; Speech, Sarah Martinez; Vo. Tech., Karrina Sharp.

“Dance for Darfur” is a way to raise money to end the genocide in Sudan. “It’s extremely satisfying to feel that you’re actually making a difference regarding an important event occurring halfway around the world. Dance for Darfur has made me feel empowered and effective” said Martine.

Our general scholarship nominee is Johanna Perdomo. Johanna co-lead a tutoring program for dyslexic children brought recognition to Art nominee Raquel Kailil. The comic books were made to improve the kids reading and writing skills as well as phonemic awareness.

“I felt as if I made a difference in the children’s lives. The most rewarding part is the development of a child’s confidence and the participation in their success. All of the Silver Knight Nominees committed themselves to help the community through challenging activities. It was evident through the nominees’ responses that these activities have had the most rewarding outcome.

“I really enjoyed working with the youth group. Just going to work there is worth enough” says Business nominee Johanna Perdomo.

“Hearing my name on the announcements was surreal. I knew I had a chance but actually realizing I would have the chance to compete with students out of the district gave me an incredible feeling of gratitude” said Medical Senior Sarah Martinez. To be eligible as a Silver Knight nominee, candidates had to submit a complete application and then turn it in to the two Sponsors: Mr. Cohen and Dr. Sertatos. This was followed by a long deliberation to decide which student would represent Coral Reef Senior High.

“Learning about all the amazing things people are doing and what my fellow nominees have done was the most rewarding part of the entire process” said IB Senior Iris Zhang.

There is no doubt that Coral Reef students are those that will shape the future. With all the activities and projects that are being accomplished, the future will be bright and successful.
Senioritis: We’d fight for a cure, but we’re too lazy

By Kim Kerrick
Staff Writer

Midterms are over, obligations are being paid off, community service hours are yet to be turned in, applications to be completed (finally)—the second semester has definitely started when you see seniors carrying pillows from class to class. At this point in our lives, Senioritis has to be the most dangerous disease. Most are tired, can’t focus anymore, and can’t make up our own mind; this could be a set back once we realize we aren’t in college yet, still risking that that letter that once accepted us can still reject us for lack of participation.

Not everyone has given up completely; some are putting in enough work, “Just to get the 5 points so I can graduate,” said Engineering senior, Phil Varona.

Other students have had a pretty backwards case of senioritis that started out freshman year. “I’ve been so set on not going to college that I haven’t been focusing since freshman year,” said Medical senior, Adam Marin.

“I’m actually working; for the past three years I’ve slacked.”

Many students have received acceptance letters already, but have they read the fine print? The part that states their acceptance is pending until this year’s final grades are up? “I could probably pull off straight C’s, D’s, and F’s, and still get into FIU. It’s my transfer school, two years and I’m going to UM,” said Business senior, Vassilis Mavridis. “After I got in, I dropped two grades in all of my classes,” said Jason Portal, Business senior. What seniors don’t seem to realize is that harsh realities do hit some hard in the end. It’s only half way through the year, colleges can just as easily send a letter denying students acceptance if their grades slip too much. At this point in the year, some seniors are looking back and wishing they had done better even if they have already been accepted.

“When FSU accepted me, I got an e-mail from them about how they were worried about the D I received for AP Chemistry last year; yeah at first I was worried, but I realized that as long as I don’t let my grades slip too much I’ll be fine,” said Engineering senior, Eddy Galindo. All that’s left for them is words of encouragement.

“I know ‘senioritis’ can be a problem but I try very hard to remind these young adults of their responsibilities. Colleges look at final transcripts, core classes still must be passed. All seniors have to keep in mind their ultimate goals,” said AP Lit teacher, Mrs. Arnold. Seniors aren’t out in the clear yet, and their not untouchable——to everything that is, but we’re surviving. To put it simply: leave your pillows at home for a little while longer.

Library rules

By Amy King
Staff Writer

Students know that you can go to the school library and use a computer to do any school related work. The library has useful materials that can be beneficial to any student; from the books, to the databases, and the computers. The computers seem to be the most useful resources, therefore most students bombard the library trying to get a computer. There are a limited amount of computers in the library, twenty to be exact, and hundreds of students that are trying to get their projects done.

Most students wait until the last minute to try to get big projects done. Having waited until the morning that the assignment is due, to work on it or print. Students try to squeeze the whole 45 minute lunch period into the worst case of last minute procrastination. That is when the long lines of trying to get a computer begin.

This year the library is run by Ms. Stacey Fradera who is very organized and responsible in her computer distribution system. “I know that the system that we use is very efficient. I don’t want students who do not have to do homework to use a computer for the a whole 45 minutes doing nothing productive when there is a student who needs to do a project or has to do a homework assignment waiting to use the computer. I just want to advise students to get here on time and if you don’t want to wait then don’t try to procrastinate at the last minute,” said Ms. Fradera.

So are the new computer rules truly efficient? “I think the system is efficient. I do come to the library to use the computer and I get my work done. I actually come in to study for my Anatomy class. I am glad she thought of this new system because, without it I would be waiting to study or to do my homework.” says junior Legal Rebecca Stamos.

Students can get access to the school library before school at 7:00 am, during lunch beginning at 11:45 pm, however the library is not opened after school. Nonetheless, the basic rules of getting a computer or, checking out a book is still the same.

Congratulations to Coral Reef’s Girl’s Soccer team for their achievements in District Competitions!
Making it through rough times

By Elyse Mercado
Staff Writer

Right now a lot of people seem to be giving their life with something. Mostly a cough, sore throat, or if you’re really unlucky, the full blown cold. It is a fact that we cannot count our blessings that a small, curable cold, is all we have. Others around us have not been so fortunate. Take our very own Mr. Menasche, AP English teacher and treasured friend.

As we have all heard, Mr. Menasche has been through a lot in the past four months. He’s had to fight a rough battle, finding out about a cancerous brain tumor that has been affecting him for a little over three years now.

The problem was, he didn’t find out about this problem until this past November. Since 2003 he has been going to all sorts of specialized medical doctors in order to find out what’s been ailing him, but his search was never successful. Then, the truth came. The day before this past Thanksgiving, while we were all preparing food and setting the table with our finest china, Mr. Menasche was diagnosed into a difficult situation. He broke the news to his family, friends and students and surgery was set for December 20, 2006.

“My entire life, I counted upwards: when I was three years old, I looked forward to being four. When I was eight, I wanted to be ten so I could have two numbers. When I was thirteen so I could be a teenager. The few then sixteen and onward and onward but this horrible thing happened lately where I have to count backwards. Where I wish I could be going in the future, to the past. To go back, but to go back, it would be cutting the brain matter which would have a lot more side effects. So, the best estimation the surgeon could give me was around 20% or a bit more but even he was unsure about what was brain and what was tumor.”

All who know Mr. Menasche don’t find it hard to believe that he broke all sorts of recovery records. Just five days after his surgery he was able to leave the hospital; returning to normal activities, including work, just after winter break.

“The day that I came to school was absolutely miraculous. During first block I was a little bit confused about everything I had been through, everything I had seen and felt, I would still be able to do what I do here. But by the end of first block, I realized that I could. And not only that I could, but that I wanted to.”

And not only that I wanted to; but that I really enjoyed it. By the end of the day, I was legitimately happy; and it was the first time that I had been happy in a month. It was the first time I had felt good in a month. And I came to realize that this place, for me, is really a wonderful place and that I love what I do and that being sick, even though it unto itself was the real crime was that it took away from me this place which I love so much. Being able to come back, being able to reclaim it, was in my own small way, like beating cancer.”

Upon arrival to school, Menasche had countless friends visiting to hug away the pain and cry their tears of joy. It was a true life situation where he really got to see how many people care for him.

“Up until then, everything in my life had been a choice. Whether I want to do this, whether I want to do that but with this whole experience, things had been forced on me and it made me miserable. That is such a massive part of me being back, and the joy in being back. I’m in control, I have choices, and I have power again. This school, my students, my friends; they mean so much more to me now then they’ve ever meant before. It’s sort of like that old cliché ‘you don’t realize how important things are until they’re gone.’ Well, for a month or so, they were all gone, and then I was given an opportunity to get it back. Now, I value them more than ever before.”

On February 9 he returned from a 3-day trip to the experts at Duke University. Since what he has is so rare, the doctors here in Florida don’t really know what to do next. He hopes that after they reach a conclusion, they will be able to give a diagnosis and the doctors back here will be able to cure him.

Not many of us have stories to beat this. Most of us have experienced through, a loved one go through a serious illness and know how on edge all of Menasche’s students, friends, colleagues and staff felt. All pulled together and gave him the love and support he needed. His students cooperated with the substitutes they had to endure and worked hard to make life easier for him when he returned. It was an incredible journey for all of us, but we hope, that the worst is over.

Mr. Menasche has been teaching for 11 and a half years, 10 of those years being here at Coral Reef. Nothing could take him away from his love of teaching. Mr. Menasche is the kind of teacher that motivates and captivates you. He leaves a lasting impression on his students that keeps them coming back to visit years after they’ve graduated. It is because of this that so many people care about him and continue to pray for his full recovery.

MAGNET SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION

Coral Reef Senior High School has been selected for a Magnet Schools of America (MSA) Award as a Magnet School of Distinction. This national award is based on a commitment to high academic standards, curriculum innovation, successful desegregation/diversity efforts, and the consistent desires of all school stakeholders. Mrs. Leal has been invited to receive the Magnet Schools of Distinction award a the MSA 25th annual conference hosted by the Clark County Public Schools on Tuesday May 1 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The National Merit Scholarship Program has narrowed down its semifinalists to students who meet all requirements as Finalists.

Congratulations to Alan Hudson, teacher in the Visual and Performing Arts Academy, who has been inducted into National Honor Roll’s Outstanding American Teachers. This program was established to provide positive recognition to educators who have been identified by their students as having had the greatest influence on their lives, either as a student or an individual.

Coca Cola ART in HARMONY

Congratulations to The Reef for taking first place in the Coca Cola Art in Harmony Competition. Winning entries by Visual & Performing Arts Academy photo students and International Baccalaureate Academy Tech/Art students have netted $2000 to instructor Colette Semple who will use the funds to supplement her outstanding program.

FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE

Congratulations to senior Adriana B. Alonso and freshman Caroline K. Ramos, members of the Agriscience and Engineering Technology Academy who received scholarships through The Fairchild Challenge to spend the day with environmental experts at Biscayne National Park, Advanced Placement Environmental Reef instructor and sponsor is Lorrie Scordilis.
Grey's Anatomy

By Rashelle Tepe
Staff Writer

ABC's hit show Grey's Anatomy and Desperate Housewives have turned out to be the latest in teen-age television obsessions. And of course, with two awesome shows capturing so much attention and fascination, comparisons and competitions are going to arise. Some prefer this one, while others prefer that one. But it’s easy to see that Grey’s Anatomy is way better than Desperate Housewives.

With its shocking drama in every episode combined with the fascinating medical mysteries and solutions involved, it think it’s pretty obvious why it’s better. Of course, I’m certainly not going to completely demean Desperate Housewives, because obviously it’s gotta be good to have so many fans. But it’s simple: Grey’s Anatomy deserves and wins the title of Best TV Drama.

"Grey’s Anatomy and Desperate Housewives are almost equal, but I really think Grey’s Anatomy is better," says Agriscience sophomore Sarah Totty-Mead. "Plus, the characters and humor are way hotter than any of the actors in Desperate Housewives!"

In my opinion, the story lines in Desperate Housewives are a little predictable at times. I mean, come on. The cheating husband, the backstabbing friend, the violent divorce and the unruly children. How cliché. Okay, so sure, there may be a bit of predictability in Grey’s Anatomy, but mixed with the medical drama and somewhat more realistic story lines, it beats Desperate Housewives.

"The real life feel of Grey’s Anatomy makes the drama superior to Desperate Housewives. The actors in Grey’s Anatomy may not be considered "sexier," but they sure are better at playing their roles," says Business academy sophomore Damien Rigol. "Besides, the medical aspect of Grey’s makes the show more engaging."

Another reason why Grey’s rules over Desperate Housewives? The script is brilliant. Each character, through their sarcastic and humorous words, expresses a personal philosophy on life. Most of the characters, jaded as they are, have been through real life-changing issues and hold a somewhat wise outlook on life.

The main character, Meredith Grey’s life has definitely been made up of quite a few unfortunate incidents. Her mother suffers from amnesia, her father abandoned her, and her boyfriend turned into the unruly children. How much to unexpected. These experiences are more unique than the Desperate Housewives characters’ usual backgrounds which seem to only involve ex-husbands and catty neighbors.

"Grey’s Anatomy is much better because the characters areyoung, and as opposed to the middle-aged housewives who all have problems with their kids and husbands," says IB sophomore Nija White. "The Golden Globe award winning show Grey’s Anatomy attracts many fans of both genders, and all ages. It’s no wonder it’s such an obsession among so many people. Even teachers put aside time on Thursday nights to watch it. There’s just so much to love: An awesome plot, catchy and cynically humorous script, and even unique and cool background music to go with it. All these characteristics add up to make it one of the best shows on TV, and beating Desperate Housewives in the Battle of TV Dramas.

WHEN WILL WE TAKE ACTION? The ongoing Darfur Genocide in Sudan is no accident, no local tribal conflict.

The World's Pain

Genocide in Sudan

By Andrew Rodriguez
Guest Writer

You may have heard of the genocide in Darfur, Sudan. However, you probably have also realized that what separates this genocide from the genocide in the Balkans or Rwanda is that this genocide is ongoing. It’s in full swing, people are being lined up, shot, hacked to pieces, raped, sold into slavery and tortured everyday. Why isn’t anything being done? In 1998, President Clinton said (in regards to the Genocide in Rwanda) that the United States would “increase our vigilance and strengthen our stand against those who would commit such atrocities in the future.” Why have such promises failed to materialize?

Although the answer may seem simple: send in the troops, whether they are American, NATO or UN peacekeepers- the reality of the situation is far more complex and deeply intertwined in the geopolitics of the region.

The basic facts about Sudan are as follows: an oil producing nation in Northeast Africa, just south of Egypt and across the Red Sea from Saudi Arabia. Ethnic tensions have always existed; Sudan is on the border of the United States would “increase our vigilance and strengthen our stand against those who would commit such atrocities in the future.” Why have such promises failed to materialize? Although the answer may seem simple: send in the troops, whether they are American, NATO or UN peacekeepers- the reality of the situation is far more complex and deeply intertwined in the geopolitics of the region.

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2006 was a year filled with movies that brought a rush of people into theaters. 2007 is not only going to do the same, but it is said to be the year for movies. Marvel, a title many of us are familiar with, are bringing in their heavy hitters in 2007. This includes titles such as Spider-man 3, The Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer, and Ghost Rider. These three titles are said to be Marvels strongest movies thus far and it is claimed that they will sell more tickets than any other title released by Marvel Studios. Spider-man 3 stars Tobey Maguire as Peter Parker/Spider-man, Kirsten Dunst as Mary Jane Watson, Topher Grace as Venom, James Franco as Harry Osborn, and Thomas Haden Church as Sandman. In this addition to the Spider-man series, Peter Parker finds himself in an epic battle against his uncle's true killer who gets genetically enhanced and becomes a powerful foe known as Sandman. He also faces an internal battle against the symbiotic suit known as Venom which is slowly taking over him. Peter Parker also finds himself fighting to maintain his relationship with Mary Jane Watson and struggling to rekindle his friendship with Harry Osborn, who not surprisingly, is the killer’s father, but knows Peter’s secret, that he is Spider-man.

The Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer, and Ghost Rider. This sequel to the Fantastic Four the group must confront the Silver Surfer, an intergalactic being who has come to prepare Earth for destruction, and to top it all off, they also have to confront their mortal enemy DR. Doom. For he has a surprising return on bringing destruction and havoc against Reed, Sue, Johnny, and Ben. Sticking to the Sci-fi Comic book feel, movies come a classic story about two different races of robots locked in a prolonged war against one another. Transformers. In this title Earth is once again in a war of an intergalactic war between the Autobots and the Decepticons. The faces of robot have the ability to change into practically any form of technology allowing them to hide in modern day Earth while continuing the fight against another. In this title, Shia LaBeouf plays Spike Witwicky, Josh Duhamel as Lennox, Jon Voight as Keller and Megan Fox as Mikaela. Spells, curses, potions and wards, these items are to be referred to as your every day sorcerer spy. This year another installment to the series is coming entitled Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix. In this title Potter is fifty year old Hogwarts, Harry is set to face the evil Lord Voldemort and avenge his parents. The Black Pearl and The Dead Man’s Chest, names that can be referred to yet another big hit, Pirates of the Caribbean. And this year the third addition to the series will be coming out called Pirates of the Caribbean: At Worlds End. In this title, the band of pirates including Elizabeth Swann, played by Keira Knightley, Will Turner, played by Orlando Bloom, and Captain Barbossa, played by Geoffrey Rush, will attempt to sail to the end of the world in order to recover the life of the infamous Captain Jack Sparrow, played by Johnny Depp, from the clutches of Davy Jones. As that didn’t seem like a difficult task already, the band of pirates and friends must avoid Davy Jones, played by Gary Oldman, the Flying Dutchman and the East India Trading Company and their new pet, the Kraken. Horror movies also come in a variety of shapes and sizes. This year the same is true with the coming of various different horror/thriller titles that will haunt your dreams and have you quivering with fear. Hannibal Rising is an addition to the Hannibal series that features Gaspard Ulliel as Hannibal Lecter, Gong Li as Lady Murasaki, Rhys Ifans asGranted Ivan Marchevich as Gentz, and Charles Maquignon as Paul “the Butcher” Mormund. In this addition to the Hannibal series that follows young Hannibal Lecter as he escapes his war-torn home country of France and uses his brutal and gruesome skills to pursue war criminals and “dispose” of them in the classic Hannibal way. The Messengers is said to be an epic horror film in which a family moves into a run-down sunflower farm, and as the repairs to the farm begin, the family begins to notice strange and alarming changes in their father. The behavior is suspected and is caused by spirits. This film stars Kristen Stewart as Jess Solomon, Dylan McDermott as Roy Solomon, Penelope Ann Miller as Denise Solomon, and John Corbett as John Burwell. Lighting things up a bit comes the very needed joy of comedy films, that bring smiles to our faces and can have laughing till we cry. Hot Fuzz is a film created by the makers of Shaun of the Dead. The film is based on a London cop that gets sent into a small town where he suspects that a series of accidents are actually murders, while making fun of a classic cop movie in a variety of ways. The film features Simon Pegg as Nicholas Angel, Jim Broadbent as Frank Butterman, and Timo- thy Dalton as Simon Skinner. As we take a glimpse at the movies set to come out in 2007, we find that without a doubt, this year is truly the year for movies. Whether its sci-fi, horror, or comedy, this year is truly going to be a big year for the box office.
Going retro, you dig?

By Karl Castaneda Tech Editor

While video games have undoubtedly gotten more popular in the last ten years, chances are the most recognizable characters are still Mario, Pac-Man, and Sonic the Hedgehog. Whether it’s nostalgia, or perhaps the simplicity of it, retro gaming is gaining steam. And with the newest generation of consoles, it’s looking to become a staple of your play experience.

First to the plate was Microsoft’s Xbox Live Arcade (XBLA) where, in addition to new content, many classic games are readily available to be downloaded. For ten dollars or less, you can pick up a new, to be downloaded. For ten dollars or less, you can pick up a new, 2D sprites are even re-drawn, allowing for a much more crisp and clean picture. Online functionality is also fairly common, with games like Street Fighter II now offering up worldwide multiplayer.

Unfortunately, games haven’t been releasing as frequently as Microsoft’s promised, and for the most part, Arcade is dominated by new releases from small developers. While it’s great to see new content, it doesn’t look like the Xbox will be able to capitalize much on the retro scene.

Sony is also looking to get in on old-school gaming, with their Playstation Network (PSN). So far only a handful of titles have been released, like Jumping Flash and Griphuit, but in the coming months, we can look forward to more games from the PS1 era to make an appearance.

The biggest problem with PSN is the way it’s forced you to play, however. Unlike competitors, you can’t actually play these games on your PS3, and are forced to instead upload it to your PSP’s memory stick. Those of you without Sony handholds are left out in the rain, which is severely limiting the service’s potential.

Last up at bat is Nintendo, whose archive of classic games surpasses both of the aforementioned with a 20+ years backlog. Called Virtual Console, Wii owners can tap into digital representations of the Nintendo Entertainment System, Super NES, Sega Genesis, TurboGrafx-16, and Nintendo 64, with the MSX and Commodore 64 rumored to be coming soon. Every Monday, a new set of games are added to the list, usually in sets of three or more, until the complete library of games are complete.

So far, there are around two dozen releases on Virtual Console, but the list isn’t as solid as it should be. Quite a few clunkers, like NES Baseball and Donkey Explorer, have been put out in place of certifiable classics like Metroid, Super Mario Bros. 3, etc., which is quite a bit of criticism from fans.

In the case of all three set-ups, there are ups and downs, but one fact remains clear: next generation games soar in price and gameplay becomes more complicated, while customizers are elevating towards older games. The world’s going retro, and doesn’t seem to be stopping anytime soon.

It’s a Whole New MacWorld

By Karl Castaneda Tech Editor

January is a special time for Apple fans. The company’s annual MacWorld Expo is the largest event concerning Macintosh and iPod products, and will often host the “next big thing” for the company. 2007 was no different, and on January 9th, CEO Steve Jobs introduced two new products to their line. Oddly enough, neither was a Mac or an iPod.

The event started with a bang: the final unveiling of the company’s digital media bay, AppleTV. At a relatively cheap $299, it can wirelessly stream content directly from your iTunes library to your television, whether it’s a podcast, movie, or your latest song addition. On the chance that you’d like to keep a few files on-hand permanently, it also includes a 40 GB hard drive. To top things off, it can output at a resolution of up to 1080i – the current standard in high definition.

Unfortunately, it’s not all sunshine and roses. Critics cite that, while you’re able to create a replica of iTunes, you can’t actually purchase anything from the Music Store. Furthermore, they say that 40 GB simply isn’t enough for copious amounts of hi-def content.

When the device launches later in February, we’ll see if these issues are taken into account.

Undoubtedly, though, the biggest announcement of the show was the second presentation. Saying that they’d actually come up with three products, Jobs highlighted that they were about to introduce a portable phone, a widescreen iPod, and a “breakthrough Internet connection device.” Of course, it turns out that all three were actually the same thing: the iPhone.

After years of rumors, Apple showed off what has likely been their most sleek and ergonomic product yet. With a 3.5-inch 480x320 touch screen, you can navigate all of your media instantaneously with the tip of your finger - simply drag up and down to navigate through iTunes. And due to its internal accelerometer, you can switch the display from a vertical to horizontal simply by rotating it 90 degrees.

What’s perhaps the most impressive, however, is that the device runs a (curiously sophisticated) version of Mac OS X. The desktop screen shows that you’ll be able to keep your widgets, a full-featured Safari Web Browser, and other great applications on the go, all of which are navigated via the touch screen. In fact, there’s only one real button – the Home Button, which takes you back the desktop.

Jobs also highlighted the fact that they haven’t forgotten about the iPhone’s central service – making calls. You’ll be able to synchronize it with your PC or Mac’s address book, keeping all of your contact information in its original form. Again, this is navigated through the groundbreaking touch system.

The gadget is not without its detractors, though. The only wire less provider on-hand at this time is Cingular, and they require a two-year contract. Also, they’ve only committed their Edge service, so you won’t be able to surf as fast as someone on a 3G network. Luckily, the iPhone also has a Wi-Fi receiver, so you’ll be able to tap into wireless hot-spots when available.

The big blow is definitely the price tag, though. For $499, you’ll be able to purchase a 4 GB model, while the 8 GB model is currently priced at $599. Considering that the storage space is relatively low compared to iPods, which retail for much less, it seems the iPhone is beting on convergence to make up for its shortcomings as a portable media player. You’ll be able to make the decision yourself in June when the iPhone ships to retail.

With the AppleTV and iPhone, it’s clear that Jobs and Co. are moving into the living room and into your pocket. They emphasized this themselves with a surprise third announcement: they’re changing their name. No longer will they be known as Apple Computer, but rather as Apple Inc.

It’s a whole new MacWorld, folks.
Batter Up!

By Kerina Pecina
Staff Writer

For the past few years, our base-
ball team has been held to high ex-
pectations but has not fully deliv-
ered. This year, the Coral Reef
Baseball team is going to live up to
their standards.

"We are going to be better than
ever before. We have a team
that will hold the ropes and nev-
er give up," said Business senior
Samantha Grice. Overall, last year the team was a young team. Now the team is led by six starting seniors and a couple of juniors.

Captains on the team are senior
Eryk Dees and junior Christian Es-
teve. They have really stepped up to
the plate and are great leaders for
this team. They are the ones that encourage the team and keep them focused," said Coach Bisceglia.

"Christian has stepped up tre-
mendously and has proven himself and Eryk Dees has always shown great leadership," said Businesses
senior David Ar-
guelles. It seems to be an overwhelm-
ing feel-
ing of excitement for all the players of this years team.

"I am very ex-
ered because this is our year. We work together
like never before. We have a really
good chance of winning a champ-
ionship" said Engineering ju-
rinner Christian Estervo.

These feelings of excitement and
confidence have developed over
long days of conditioning and prac-
tice. Conditions take place on Mon-
days, Wednesdays, and Fridays. On Tuesdays and Thursdays there is a team meet-
ing and weight training. These are the days that the team fo-
cuses on mental approaches to
the game.

"A lot of teams are underesti-
mating us. We are going to prove
that we are a good team," said Legal senior Eduardo San-
tamaria.

Through tough practice sched-
ules, the varsity players are able
to conclude that this year is go-
ing to be like no other.

"These kids believe in them-
selves. They have heart. We are
going to accomplish a lot more
this year," said VPA senior Eryk
Dees. High expectations from the stu-
dent body as well as from each
individual player are expressed
as well.

"This year we aren’t going to
lose to Palmetto in the first round
of play offs. That is a guaran-
tee" says starting pitcher Tommy
Prongue.

"With such a great mesh of
talent and personality, this is the
best team I have been apart of in
a really long time" says Engineer-
senior Kevin Parsons. Each player is very optimistic about this year and so should the entire student body. With great
leadership, talent, and determina-
tion, the team is bound to bring a
goal to the next level.

This year should prove to be one like
never before.

"This is a lot easier to play a game
with support from fans so I think
that everyone should try to go out
to games as much as possible. You
are actually down if you do," says Eryk Dees. This school year has been
a positive one for our Cuda Sports.
Our team went on to win Christmas Holiday Champs over Christmas break and our football team pro-
duced more wins then last year. Now our Varsity baseball team seems to be a promising team as well.

Support our Cuda baseball
team by going to the games and
wearing school colors (and i.d.s) to
get in free. GO CUDAS!!

ATTENTION: Coral Reef Girls!s

By Sheila Anasseri
Staff Writer

Lacrosse is no longer just for
the boys. In the past, there have
been some attempts at starting a
Girls’ Lacrosse Sport Club but un-
fortunately none of those attempts succeeded. Since Lacrosse is not a Miami Dade public school sport it seems now, Chelsea Boorman and Francisca Brauning, two IB fresh-
men, are willing to do whatever it
takes to make girls’ Lacrosse an official club and keep it that way.

Along with all lacrosse league in 2006 both Chelsea and Francisca really wanted to be more
involved with lacrosse and continue
going as play.

"Since this school does not have a Girls’ Lacrosse club, we figured we should start one," said Chelsea
Boorman. They both knew it’s a difficult task but the hard work would be worth it in the end.

For those that do not know La-
crosse is a mixture of basketball,
hockey, and soccer and was
first played by the Native American. Lacrosse offers an extreme work-
out, considering the amount of running and cading (the process of
moving your stick from shoul-
der to shoulder while running with the ball to protect it from the other

"If you do not make the team
the first year you can always
continue the practices to help you get bet-
ter for next year," said Chelsea
Boorman.

Girls interested in joining
Lacrosse do not need any experi-
ence since it is a club. However,
if after some practices you do not
know the basics it doesn’t neces-
sarily mean you will play on the
team. Even though you’d be a
member of the club you might not be a part of the actual team come
match time.

"If the club really takes off
then we might have to make re-
quirements in order to join but
for the moment I think that anyone
can join will stay the same," said Chelsea Boorman.

In order to join, any interested
girl would need a physical form
and should e-mail either Chelsea
Boorman or Francisca Brauning for becoming a member. They will
then send e-mails in reply stating
certain details or when meetings
will be held. If everything goes as
planned, meetings will take place
every other week on Tuesday. When a larger and a strong group of
girls are formed the days for
practices will be decided and will
be held on either school grounds
or at a park.

"We really need to stay back in the cor-
er and hope the ball comes our
way," said Francisca Brauning. If you are a serious member want-
ing to play on the team and par-
ticipate in matches there are cer-
tain skills you will need to have
or learn. Coordination is the most
important skill you will need. Building up their stamina is also necessary in order to be able
to handle all the running involved
in Lacrosse.

"I remember when I first began
Lacrosse I had not been playing
sports so I built up my stamina as well as confidence in my abili-
ties," said Chelsea Boorman. You
also have to learn to be confident because this sport does require
getting involved and going for the
ball.

Equipment is not provided for
any of the members so the mem-
bers in the club who are accepted
to play on the Girls’ Lacrosse
team will need their own equip-
ment. Equipment consists of a
stick, mouth guard, goggles, and
cleats.

At our last meeting we de-
cided we should start fundrais-
ing because lacrosse is a pretty
expensive sport," said Chelsea
Boorman. Since lacrosse isn’t an
official sport, the members have
to fundraise in order to pay for
everything. With the cost of trans-
portation to games and uniforms
it will be difficult to maintain the
court with out a plan to fundraise.

A sponsor is the main thing on
all the members’ minds. A will-
ing sponsor is needed in order to
make the Girls’ Lacrosse Club
an official Coral Reef club. Once
they find one the Lacrosse Club
can take off and practices with a
coach can finally begin. Bas-
sic drills and a few scrimmages
will be practiced at first and as
the members learn more and feel
ready, their goal is to play games
against other high schools in the area such as Palmetto, Killian, and
Palmetto Trinity.

The excitement and the fun is the
reason many girls are interest-
ed in joining the Girls’ Lacrosse Club. They have to be willing to
step into the game, yell for the
ball, and if they have to, they’ll
have to get out there! Lacrosse is
also a mental workout: Having
to be ready to make a decision
about the fastest way to get to the
ball is just one of the things to
consider while playing. They
do have to decide who to pass
to, whether they are going to do
a dodge, or just run for the goal.

"It is sort of discriminating
how we don’t have a Girl’s Club
yet we have a Boys’ Lacrosse Club.

Have the boys kept a club but all the girls who had at-
tempted to start a Girls’ Lacrosse Club have no willing sponsors?" said Chelsea Boorman.

All interested girls should join
the club. What can they lose? They’ll gain friendships and be
a part of a group of determined girls wanting to play Lacrosse. This Girls’ Lacrosse Club will show that they can make it in
Lacrosse and it’s not just a sport for
the boys. So as a teacher or coach
consider the Girls’ Lacrosse Club
as a student consider joining. The
ultimate goal is to become a team
with enough players, who are de-
determined and have the drive to
get out, have fun and win.