

Variety

Central Florida Future

The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

www.CentralFloridaFuture.com • Thursday, July 31, 2008

this weekend

Comic RELIEF

A shop sends more than 2,000 pounds of comics to soldiers

TODAY

Radioactive Hero at BackBooth
9 p.m.
with Rich Mission, Atoms Eve and Betty Fox, \$6

Pop off Party, The Social
9 p.m.
with Rob Wonder, Rocksteady Soundsystem, Fishdick & Harder-sauce and Visual by VJ Jay, \$10

Friday
Matt Butcher and The Revol, Taste Restaurant
7:30 p.m.
with Tim Easton, Nathan Bond, The Holden Boys and Roppongis Ace, \$10

Immortal Technique at BackBooth
8 p.m.
with Poison Pen, The Circle, J Arch, DJ GI Joe, \$15

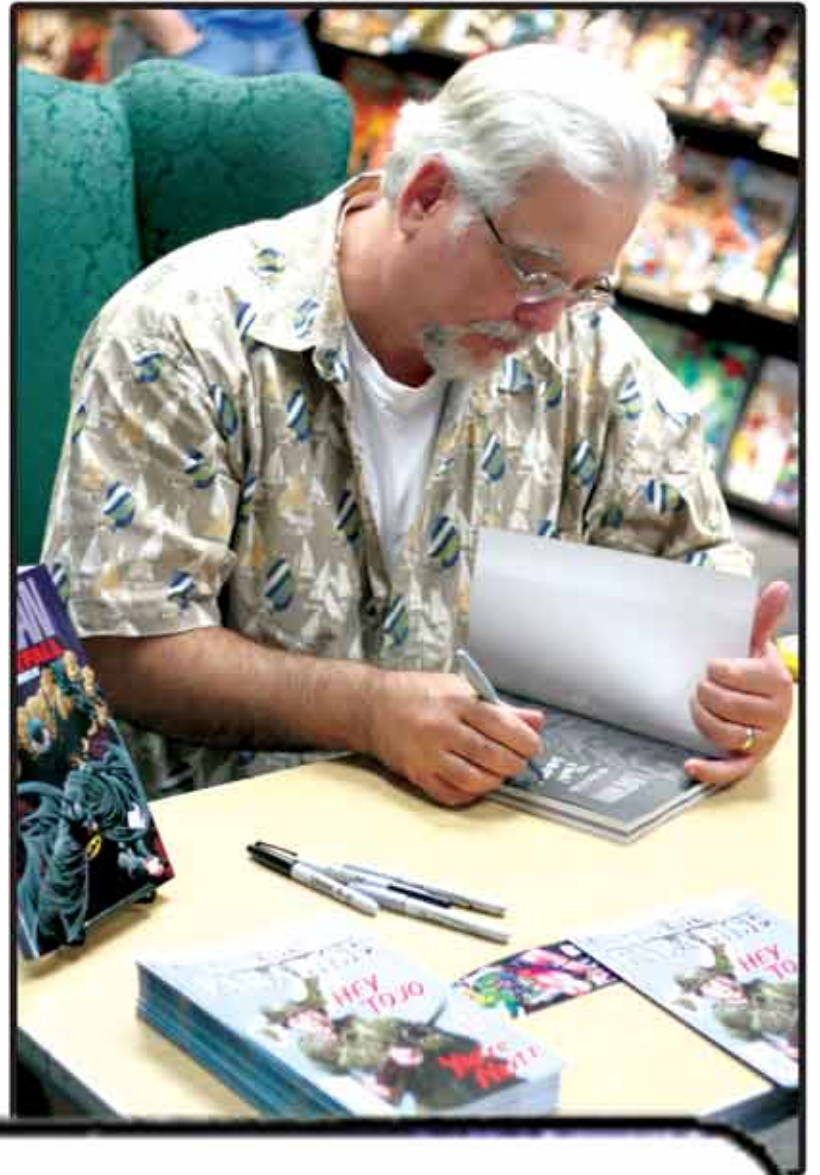
Saturday
Valient Thorr at BackBooth
7 p.m.
with Early Man, Skeletonwitch and Six Dead Horses, \$12

Kill Hannah, The Social
8:30 p.m.
with The White Tie Affair, Medic Droid and Liam & Me, \$13



(Top) Guests write personalized letters to send along with donated comic books. (Bottom Right) Legendary Batman author and illustrated novelist, Chuck Dixon, signs autographs and talks with guests.

GREGORY TERRITO / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE



ALEXA LASH
Contributing Writer

Comic book collectors and military men united for a unique cause last Saturday: to fight the war on boredom for their troops overseas.

A Comic Shop held a donation drive July 26 called "Operation Sequential Art" to provide troops in Iraq and Afghanistan with donated comics, sci-fi books and graphic novels.

There was a final box count of 65 30-pound boxes — which equals about 15,000 comics — all donated in a single day.

With the added 400 pounds of comics donated in the month before the event, A Comic Shop will send more than 2,000 pounds of comics to the troops.

A Comic Shop was attempting to create a record for most comics donated in a single day to a charitable cause. The hope is to create a competitive spirit between other shops, A Comic Shop co-owner Aaron Haaland said.

There are already other shops interested including Famous Faces and Funnies, Tate's Comics and Apocalypse Comics, Haaland said.

"I wish more people thought about the troops the way he [does]," said Bruce Yberg about A Comic Shop's co-owner, Jason Blanchard. Bruce Yberg donated about 200 comics that he used to collect with his son.

Bruce Yberg's son, 29-year-old Bryan Yberg, has been in the service for 12 years.

"He's a classic example of be-all-you-can-be. That's my son," Yberg said.

But why donate comic books?

"I know that they're still following 'hurry up and wait.' Now they have something to do while they wait," said Blanchard, a former combat cameraman for the Army.

"Hurry up and wait" is when a soldier is called to go somewhere immediately, and then forced to wait extreme lengths of time before any action takes place, Blanchard said.

Blanchard got creative with his other reason for donating comic books as he placed

another stack of comics in a box.

"Comics are great because they don't need batteries," Blanchard said.

Charles Bowman, another donator, believes that the literature will be a good distraction.

"When you get into a good book — everything else goes away," Bowman said. Besides Yberg, other donators were also associated with the military.

"I'm ex-service too," said Joey Culotta, another comic book donator. "I know how hard it is for those guys there."

When he was abroad, his mother sent him comics every couple of months.

"Any little bit of home is something," Culotta said.

While there were donators with a connection to the service, others were just glad to help.

UCF graduate Joe Carey donated four long

PLEASE SEE ALL ON A10

SATURDAY THURSDAY • EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT
THE HOTTEST PARTY IN ORLANDO.

578 N. ORANGE AVE. | ORLANDO, FL | 32801
HOTLINE: 407.872.0066
VIP: 321.251.8059



UPCOMING EVENTS • CLUB FIRESTONE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 - BT LIVE W/ BURUFUNK
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 - HYBRID & FREESTYLERS
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - UBERZONE VS BASSBIN TWINS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 - FRICTION & SPICE

BUY TICKETS ONLINE:
ticketweb.com,
ticketmaster.com or
clubfirestone.com

TICKETS BY PHONE:
866.468.7630