

A 21st-century miracle on ice

How about this: It's hockey time. The NHL Stanley Cup Playoffs commenced last week, and with the indelible image of the toothless grin is brought into our living rooms once again. Hockey, old friend, how we missed thee.



SAM ROSENTHAL
A GARDEN STATE OF MIND

After the NHL's 2004-2005 lockout and ESPN's decision not to renew its contract with the league, professional American hockey skated — pardon the pun — on thin ice.

An afterthought in the sports world in the years that followed, NHL games aired on the Outdoor Life Network, and snippets of highlights on SportsCenter represented all the pucking coverage fans saw.

But in light of this year's playoffs, a new hope gleams for the Neglected Hockey League — if someone decides to take a chance on it once again.

Now, the league still faces many of the problems it did prior to the lockout, such as a number of teams in markets that could support their teams much better.

But the NHL now stands in a superior position to succeed than it did prior to the lockout, for two main reasons: new rules and new players.

After the lockout, the "new NHL" began to take shape. Knowing their product needed some revamping to overcome the fans' apathetic attitude toward the sport, the league's officials devised a number of regulations which changed gameplay significantly.

The new NHL rules instituted shootouts if games remain tied after regulation and a five-minute overtime period. Additionally, the rules allowed for two-line passes, increased the area of the offensive zones and reduced the dimensions of goalies' equipment.

All of this created a faster speed of play and higher scoring games — two aspects that appeal more to the American public, which prefers score-a-thon sports such as football and basketball to chess matches such as soccer and the old NHL.

As the new NHL rules successfully energized the game and opened the nets, so too did a generation of incoming players revitalize the league's talent corps and image.

Young guys such as the Carolina Hurricanes' Eric Staal and the Ottawa Senators' Dany Heatley, along with a slew of others, quickly established themselves in the NHL's upper tier of players.

But three names, especially,

impacted the league. The surnames Crosby, Ovechkin and Malkin mean as much for the NHL's future as James, Paul and Oden mean for the NBA's.

Two years ago, the Pittsburgh Penguin's Sidney Crosby and the Washington Capitals' Alexander Ovechkin each surpassed the 100-point plateau — as rookies.

The next season, the Penguins added Evgeni Malkin, who scored 85 points in his freshman campaign while Ovechkin scored 92 and Crosby — thanks to a 120-point year — won the league's Most Valuable Player Award.

Which brings us to the 2008 playoffs: Watch them, and you might see hockey in a new light.

The new rules and young stars, combined with lots of parity in both conferences, have made for excellent postseason play.

People always claimed that watching hockey in person makes true fans, and that holds true, but the old NHL struggled because it translated poorly to television — one of the main reasons the NFL took off in the past couple decades stems from football's excellent compatibility with TV.

Now the NHL is more boob-tube friendly than ever before, but a family of meerkats on Animal Planet receives more exposure than the league's regular season.

The playoffs almost entirely left off major networks, but they are getting enough airtime for people to notice the sport's new attitude.

Ideally, the major networks will notice as well, as one of them should try at least a tentative contract to air the NHL all year long.

The league stands poised to make a comeback, but it needs the proper coverage to flourish.

So, ESPN, what do you say ... eh?

Contact Sam Rosenthal at samrose@email.unc.edu

'Dark Side of Oz' will rise April 20

CUAB sponsors synched film show

BY BENNETT CAMPBELL
ASSISTANT ARTS EDITOR

The question has puzzled the uninitiated for years: What really happens when you sync up the film version of "The Wizard of Oz" with Pink Floyd's 1973 album *The Dark Side of the Moon*?

On Sunday, thanks to Carolina Union Activities Board's fun committee, students can find out the answer, as the two — known as "The Dark Side of Oz" when played simultaneously — will be screened at 8:30 p.m. on Polk Place.

"It's such a great urban legend," said freshman Jesse Rice-Evans, who said she plans to attend. "The first time you hear it, you're like, 'Let's check this out!'"

And adding to the mystique of the evening's festivities is the very date of the screening itself. April 20 has historically been celebrated as a day for the use of marijuana. The substance was a major social phenomenon in the years surrounding the release of *Dark Side*, and the syncing of the album and "Oz" is steeped in drug culture.

"We were looking at all the upcoming holidays and thought it would be funny to have something on that day," said Amanda Kao, chairwoman of CUAB's fun committee. "But I don't think this is an event that really is centered around the date. If it were January, I'd still want to do this."

But the ties to April 20 will be hard to ignore. The event's Facebook page explains that "munchies" will be served, and students discussed what foods they'd like to have available at the screening.

"My committee and I went to Costco last night and just started pulling things off the shelf," Kao said. "We were going for variety — we grabbed everything from Reese's Cups to cheese puffs."

Kao and Rice-Evans both said

that the screening is a harmless event and that those who worry about any overt ties to drug use are worrying too much.

"I don't think there's anything harmful about this event," Rice-Evans said. "I think it emphasizes the idea of community. It's just such a weird pop culture phenomenon."

Kao shared similar sentiments, adding that the event is in no way intended to encourage any kind of mischievous behavior.

"It's really a pretty innocent

event," she said.

Sophomore Dane Kemp agreed, saying he expects the event to draw something of a cult audience.

"I think it will kind of be a niche crowd," Kemp said. "Especially because Pink Floyd are a little out there themselves."

Rice-Evans said she wasn't so sure about that.

"It's the end of the semester, and everyone loves free food," she said. "Especially when you're out of Easy Mac. I view it as a day to hang out with your friends and chill out."

Kao said she hopes it turns out

ATTEND THE SHOW

Time: 8:30 p.m. Sunday
Location: Polk Place
Info: www.unc.edu/cuab

like that.

"The weather outside has been so great lately, although we will show it in the Union Auditorium if it rains.

"All I know is that I ordered 28 large Poky Stix, and if they don't all get eaten, that's just going to be devastating."

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

Sudoku

By The Mepham Group

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Level: 1 2 3 4

		7				5			8
6	5		3	2			4	1	
2			1		3				6
			1				8		
7			4		6				2
8	2		5	1				9	4
3		9			8				

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Solution to Thursday's puzzle

1	2	5	3	4	6	7	9	8
4	7	8	1	5	9	3	6	2
3	6	9	2	7	8	1	4	5
2	8	4	5	1	7	6	3	9
9	3	6	4	8	2	5	1	7
7	5	1	6	9	3	2	8	4
8	4	3	7	6	5	9	2	1
6	1	7	9	2	4	8	5	3
5	9	2	8	3	1	4	7	6

Clinton vs. Obama

Viewpoints break down Hillary Clinton's and Barack Obama's stance on the issues. See pg. 6 for analysis.

Advising plans

Student Body President J.J. Raynor has ideas about advising. Will they work? See pg. 5 for story.

Conditional ruling

Supreme Court wrote seven opinions for its 7-2 ruling on a Ky. lethal injection case. Go online for story.

Wii in the UL

Seniors can play games this evening in a special event at the library. See pg. 3 for story.

Reading is fundamental

A town task force is lobbying for a Carrboro library. Go online for story.

WANT TO GIVE PAID CAMPUS TOURS THIS SUMMER?

Pick up an application at Jackson Hall.

Deadline to apply: April 18

E-mail toursdesk@admissions.unc.edu with questions.

Varsity 967-8665
123 E. FRANKLIN

"A BRISK NEW COMEDY."
S.M.A.R.T. PEOPLE

7:15, 9:20, SAT-SUN 2:15, 4:20

"A SHIFT AND SUSPENSEFUL THRILLER."
THE COUNTERFEITERS

7:00, 9:10, SAT-SUN 2:00, 4:30

Chelsea Weaver Dairy
Timberlyne 968-3005

ESSENTIAL A MUST-SEE!

7:10, 9:30, SAT-SUN 2:10, 4:30

JOE STRUMMER

THE BANK JOB

7:10, 9:30, SAT-SUN 2:10, 4:30

THE BAND'S VISIT
7:00, 9:10, SAT-SUN 2:00, 4:30

MARRIED LIFE
7:20, SAT-SUN 2:20

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Big name in book publishing
- Minerals scale
- Cut with an ax
- Actress Garson
- Reebok rival
- At this place
- Stunt pilot's maneuver
- Deuce follower, perhaps
- Wet thoroughly
- Puzo book, with "The"
- IRS payout
- Dole's 1996 slate-mate
- Tavern order
- Courtroom declaration
- Actor Estevez
- "Jude"
- Anti-DUI org.
- Robertson of CNN
- Japanese wrestling
- Winter weather
- Classic Jaguar
- Actress Hedren
- Vitamin-bottle data, briefly
- humbug!
- Straddle
- One-time link
- Leon lady
- Bennett of Random House
- Bad French
- Kentucky fort
- Spanish neighborhood
- Makes allow-

DOWN

- Soviet CIA counterpart
- Gun lobby
- "the land of the free..."
- Won over
- Refrigerant gas
- Sluggo McGwire
- Lacto-vegetarian
- Ancient Jewish rabbi
- Seasoned sausages
- Casual talk

11 Louella Parsons' rival
12 Bobolink's cousin
13 J.C. follower
18 Heavily burdened
22 Gush forth
23 Turning figs.
24 Israel's airline
25 Roe v. Wade, notably
26 Fight with feet
30 Shuffle
35 Wrongdoer
37 To-do list stuff
39 Corn serving
41 -mutuel

42 Skinny, sort of
44 Five Nations tribe members
46 Convent attire
48 "Cocoon" star
49 Accountant's concern
51 Snacks
56 Oscar org.
58 Refs' kin
59 General chicken
62 Direction suffix
63 Hughes' airline
64 Tooth topper
65 Monarch's letters

The Lumina 620 Market St. Chapel Hill 932-9000

Take 15/501 South towards Pittsboro Exit Market St. / Southern Village

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL... 1:20-4:10-7:20-9:45
88 MINUTES... 1:25-4:10-7:20-9:45
STREET KINGS... 1:30-4:15-7:15-9:40
LEATHERHEADS... 1:15-4:00-7:15-9:35
NIMPS ISLAND... 12:45-2:50-4:55-7:00-9:15

REGAL CINEMAS

TIMBERLYNE 6 933-8600
Weaver Dairy at Airport Rd. 802-PANORAMA 1214

Adv. Tix on Sale IRON MAN (PG-13) *
Adv. Tix on Sale CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN (PG) *
FORBIDDEN KINGDOM (PG-13) (130 415) 730 1005
FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL (R) - ID REQ'D (145 425) 740 1010
PROM NIGHT (PG-13) (155 435) 735 1000
NIM'S ISLAND (PG) (135 410) 710 945
LEATHERHEADS (PG-13) (150 430) 715 955
UNDER THE SAME MOON (PG-13) (140 420) 720

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Sublets

SUMMER SUBLET: A great house within walking and biking distance of campus! 516 Merritt Mill Road. The lease starts June 1, and I need two people to sublet two of the three bedrooms for the summer. Each bedroom has its own full bathroom. I will take girls or guys. Email Abbey Caldwell if interested. accaldwe@email.unc.edu.

Sublets

SUMMER SUBLET Available May 15 thru mid-Aug. Great 2 BR/1BA duplex 1 minute from Franklin, 8 minutes from campus walking! Sublet 1 or both rooms, \$500/mo, MAY FREE! The best deal you will find anywhere. natefriedman@unc.edu or call 240-620-3345.

Summer Jobs

SUMMER SUBLET 1 room in Mill Creek 4BR/2BA condo. Available mid-May to July 31. \$425/mo +utilities. Walking distance to UNC and on 4 buslines. ashley191@gmail.com.

Summer Jobs

CARRBORO \$465/mo. Summer sublet. Furnished room in 4BR house available May to August. Internet, AC, WD, dishwasher, on J busline. leblanc@email.unc.edu, 919-971-1021.

Summer Jobs

SUMMER CAMP HEAD COUNSELOR

Stoneridge Club in Chapel Hill now hiring a head camp counselor. Great work environment. Competitive pay. Call 967-0915 or email ssarc@mindspring.com.

Summer Jobs

CAMP COUNSELOR

Durham's favorite traditional summer day camp, located on 100 acres of scenic countryside is looking for counselors to teach swimming, athletics, archery, canoeing and nature. Do you enjoy being outside in the summer, creating fun activities for groups of children and meeting other people who enjoy working with kids? You are invited to be a part of the team at Camp River Lea. Must be available weekdays, June 9 thru August 8, 2008. To learn more, check out: www.campriverlea.com. Call 919-724-9449 or email campersupport@campriverlea.com.

Summer Jobs

SUMMER CAMP STAFF are needed at the Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA. Full-time and part-time day camp opportunities from early June thru late August. Programs serving youth ages 5-15 through traditional camps (ljloyd@chycma.org), sports camps (mmyeay@chycma.org), teen leadership (jawinson@chycma.org) and other special interests (www.kahnh@chycma.org). Group interviews are scheduled for April 13th and May 13th. APPLY TODAY! Email or call (919-442-9622) for additional information!

Summer Jobs

CHECK IN AND SNACK BAR ATTENDANTS needed at Meadowmont Swim Club. Flexible hours, great environment. Call 945-0640 for an application.

Summer Jobs

LIFEGUARDS AND SWIM INSTRUCTORS needed for Meadowmont Swim Club. Current certifications required. Competitive pay, flexible hours, lively atmosphere. Call 945-0640 for an application.

Summer Jobs

LOVE BASEBALL?

Fun, easy, summer job opportunity. Need companion for a well behaved 10 year-old LHP/1B. Catch for him, take to batting cages, pool, keep him busy. 3 days/wk M/W/T/F, 9:30am-5:30pm starting 6-12-08 thru mid-August. karenwest@gmail.com.

Summer Jobs

Wheels for Sale

ACURA MDX TOURING SPORT SUV 2001. Excellent condition. Only 35,300 miles. Silver green, leather. \$16,000. Call 968-8339.

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Sat: Time TBA Service Projects
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