

STUDENT LIFE

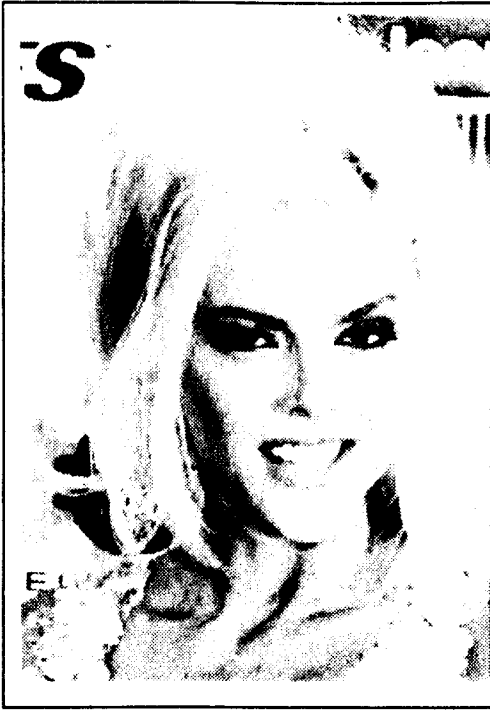
Anna Nicole Smith found dead at age 39

By Joshua Lane
student life editor

Anna Nicole Smith is dead at age 39. She was found collapsed in her hotel room on the sixth floor of the Seminole Hard Rock Cafe Hotel and Casino in Hollywood, Florida. There is an ongoing investigation at this time. Officials are not releasing a cause of death yet, but they are saying that they are not treating the incident as a crime.

Anna Nicole Smith was born Vickie Lynn Hogan in Houston Texas on November 28, 1967. She was originally a waitress and then did some modeling before she was a Playboy centerfold and playmate of the year in 1993. She has been the source of much controversy and has been in-and-out of the tabloids for most of her adult life. She is perhaps most well known for marrying billionaire Howard Marshall, an 89-year-old oil tycoon. They met at a strip club she was working at shortly before her appearance in Playboy. Marshall died 14 months later and Smith was in the center of a legal battle with Marshall's children over his estate.

Last year, Smith's 20-year-old son Daniel died from an overdose of anti-depressants and a mix of other drugs. He was found in her hospital room in the Bahamas shortly after she gave birth to her now five-month-old daughter. She has been in an ongoing legal battle with the alleged father of her infant daughter since the child's birth.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Smith died in Hollywood, Florida.

Brandy sued for \$50 million after accident

By Sheri Kroski and Joshua Lane
staff writer/student life editor

Popular R&B singer Brandy is being sued for \$50 million. She caused a car accident that killed a mother of two. Brandy was driving her 2007 Land Rover in Los Angeles, CA when she struck Awatef Aboudihaj, 38, who was on her way to one of her two waitressing jobs. According to the report by the California Highway Patrol, on Dec. 30 Brandy was driving down the interstate 405 when the traffic slowed and her vehicle struck the back of the Honda driven by Aboudihaj. The collision caused Aboudihaj's car to hit another vehicle, slide sideways into a divider, and then was hit by another car. According to the coroner's office, Aboudihaj was pronounced dead due to blunt-force force injuries.

The driver's parents, Ahmed Aboudihaj and Zohra Labridi, filed the wrongful-death suit against the 27-year-old singer, alleging that "Brandy was driving recklessly" when the collision occurred. One day later investigators recommended that Brandy be charged with misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter without gross negligence. The suit has been filed.

The victim's parents are seeking both punitive and compensatory damages. If convicted, Brandy could face up to one year in county jail and a \$1,000 fine. "The accident was a terrible tragedy, and Brandy's heart goes out to Awatef Aboudihaj's family," spokesman Allan Mayer said on Brandy's behalf.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Brandy is being sued for manslaughter.

"Lost" gets found again in third season premiere

By Scott Muska
contributing writer

The critically acclaimed and wildly popular television show "Lost" has finally returned from a long, mid-season hiatus that dates back to early November. The show airs Wednesday nights on ABC at 10 p.m., and has been ranked among the highest-rated shows on network television since it burst onto the primetime scene in September of 2004.

"Lost" may attribute its astounding success to the fact that it is an extremely unique show, based on a brilliant idea and foundation of a plot. From this idea the show is made (and kept) interesting through great writing that includes countless obscurities and plot twists that create an inordinate amount of suspense. It is also maintained by above average acting by a cast that consists of actors and actresses that were basically unknown before the commencement of the show.

The general plot of "Lost" centers around a group of strangers that were involved in a plane crash on

a remote tropical island and are stranded with no means of escape and no idea where exactly this aforementioned island is even located. The problems that these people begin to experience are problems that one would expect from a group of total strangers that are stranded on a tropical island: the obtaining and rationing of food, distribution of medicine and other possessions left from the crash, and other tri-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"Lost" begins its third season at a new time, 10 p.m., on Wednesdays.

als that are often associated with being marooned. Things have since become much more sophisticated, difficult, and ultimately dangerous for the inhabitants of the island. They have found that the island has certain mystical and magical qualities that have influenced the inhabitants in both good and bad ways, which has given the show a sort of science-fiction twist and enhances the suspense and element of sur-

prise.

The crash victims also have also that they are not the only people living on the island. They live amongst another group of people that they refer to as "the others." they are an extremely enigmatic group. For lack of a better term, these two groups are waging a war against one another. The crash victims are simply trying to survive and get off of the island and back to their homes, but "the others" have their own agenda that has not yet been revealed to the audience of the show.

This may be confusing, but this is the only way to attempt to explain this extremely complex television show. It is, however, extremely entertaining. There will be 16 new episodes airing consecutively, and they started last night. If you are interested in watching this show but have not seen it before, a synopsis of the previous episodes that have been aired from all three seasons can be found on the official "Lost" website: <http://abc.go.com/primetime/lost/index>.

Editors picks: Hi-Fi Top 5 pop culture list

Top 5 tracks on my iPod

By Jason Juniewicz

1. Hatebreed - "Defeatist"
2. Frank Sinatra - Theme From "New York, New York"
3. Weird Al - "Trapped in the Drive-Thru"
4. Slayer - "Cult"
5. Avenged Sevenfold - "Beast and the Harlot"



Top 5 Local Concerts Coming Up

by Christopher LaFuria

- 2/10 - Apples in Stereo - Grog Shop, Cleveland, OH
- 2/24 - Daphne Loves Derby - Agora Theater, Cleveland, OH
- 3/4 - Wolfmother - Agora Theater, Cleveland, OH
- 3/6 - The Ataris - Rex Theater, Pittsburgh, PA
- 3/30 - The Decemberists - UAB Center of the Arts, Buffalo, NY



Top 5 television shows

By Janet Niedenberger

1. Any "Law and Order"
2. "The Daily Show With Jon Stewart"
3. "Scrubs"
4. "South Park"
5. "The Colbert Report"



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