

That's right, it's Battle of the Barrel week and our Braves are ready to defend the Barrel. We are in the heart of football season and it gives me goose bumps to even think about it.
Dusty Johns, letter from the principal

JACK of all trades



Jack Rummler, column

The road ahead

With almost three months of the school year completed, the repetition of daily activity feels solidified. Teachers and students are well acclimated with one another, students understand the expectations of classes and rules and procedures are set in stone. However, there were roadblocks that did not ease the process.

In early September, Hurricane Irma swept over the northeastern Caribbean, Florida and other Southern states. While Central Florida did not face as much destruction as the Keys and Caribbean islands, the community still faced a plethora of damage. Driving down roads two months later, one may still see fallen poles, branches and limbs clustered together. A large amount of debris polluted the sidewalks that was nonexistent prior to Irma's landfall.

After Irma passed over Central Florida, it took nearly three weeks for all homes to experience restored power. According to the Orlando Sentinel, energy companies' prices, such as Duke, nearly doubled, and real estate sales for Orlando homes dropped nearly 30 percent, proving that even less affected areas such as the counties of Central Florida are still struggling.

Irma's shock wave continues to leave the community in a state of uncertainty. There is still a hunch that the content of learning is behind schedule or that there are still setbacks to the problems faced in the aftermath. This can seem concerning because every day of academic progression matters for standardized testing.

Additionally, Irma threw a wrench in college applications. When Harvey, Irma and Maria made landfall in three different parts of the U.S. and its territories, colleges proved to be accommodating towards student needs. University of Florida pushed back its application deadline and Texas Christian University offered fee waivers.

As a senior, college applications surmount extra stress on an already rigorous and busy schedule. In a time where safety and recovery from after the hurricane trumps all, college applications took the back burner.

For most schools, applications were due November 1, so the weight of applying is nearly over. Now comes the waiting game of acceptance.

Overall, this year may feel like one that started with insecurity and unfamiliarity. The atmosphere of the school year after a slow start seems unfulfilled. However, students should strive to not only live day-by-day, but to keep their future in mind.

The future for every person means something different. Whether it is a long term goal of a successful career, or a short term goal like acing a test, each student must bear in mind what he wants from himself. Even though minor setbacks occurred in the beginning, restrictions should never exist.

*news2note

school

Boone has first pep rally in five years

In honor of the rivalry game against Edgewater, there will be a pep rally today. There will be a Wednesday bell schedule and after seventh period, the pep rally will begin in the stadium. There will be contests, prizes and performances. The Orange Army tailgate will be at the freshman, sophomore patio at 5:30 p.m.



local

Principal Dusty Johns is named OCPS Principal of the Year finalists

Principal Dusty Johns was named an OCPS Principal of the Year finalist. In the Orange Peel, an OCPS employee publication, Johns reveals his motivations and competitiveness. "First, I know God put me here to change lives. I have that chance every day, and you don't find that in many career fields. If you take that seriously and believe it, that's really the only motivation you need," Johns said. "Second, I get to serve the community that I live in, which is pretty special."

UCF President John Hitt announces retirement

University of Central Florida President John Hitt will retire in 2018. After 25 years in his role, the 76-year-old, announced he will retire next year. A committee will conduct a search for a candidate and Marcos Marchena, chairman of the UCF Board of Trustees, said they hope to have a "new president approved by the Board of Trustees and confirmed by the Board of Governors by June 30," according to the Orlando Sentinel.

state

Hurricane Irma FEMA assistance deadline extended

The deadline to apply for assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency has been extended to Nov. 24. Assistance is available to renters, homeowners and business owners in the counties that were declared disaster areas, according to Florida Today. Those interested should visit DisasterAssistance.gov.

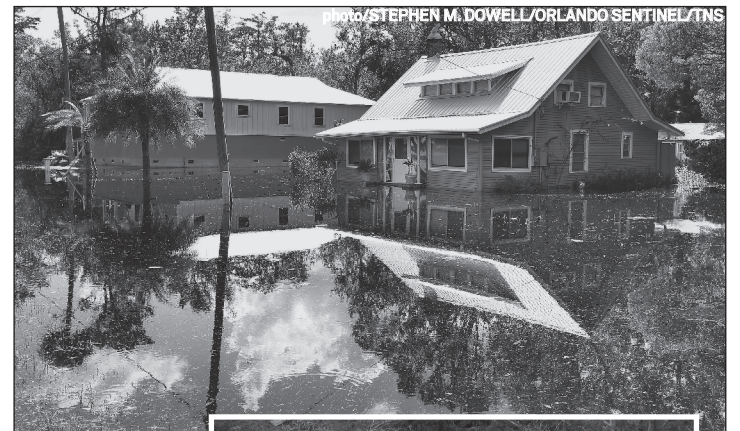
national

Majority of Puerto Rico remains still without electricity

Although more than a month has passed since Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, citizens from Puerto Rico are still fleeing the island. "Since Oct. 3, more than 73,000 individuals arrived in Florida from Puerto Rico through Miami International Airport, Orlando International Airport and the Everglades Port," Florida Gov. Rick Scott's office said in a statement. The majority of residents in Puerto Rico are without power and are likely not to regain it for months, according to CNN.



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world

Catalania fights for independence

The Catalan Parliament voted to declare independence from Spain. The motion, which calls for the transfer of legal powers from Spain to an independent Catalonia, was approved in October. However, the Spanish Constitutional Court is likely to declare it illegal. Thousands have been protesting. Several countries like U.S., Germany and France have expressed support for Spanish unity, according to BBC.

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*letterfromPrincipal



We are ready! That's right, it's Battle of the Barrel week and our Braves are ready to defend the Barrel.

Beginning in 1952, with an Edgewater win (14-0), this tradition is 65 years old and one of the most storied rivalries in Central Florida.

With playoff implications for the Braves, and a much improved

Edgewater team from last year, this game is sure to be one for the record books.

This will also be the first year for the rivalry game to be played on our beautiful new turf field at the McCoy Federal Credit Union Athletic Complex.

I can't wait to hear the sound of

that drum beating in the courtyard all day, combined with a pep rally and "Orange Out" tailgate before the Orange Army load the stands at kickoff.

We are in the heart of football season and it gives me goose bumps to even think about it.

Go Braves!

*beheard

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