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The Student Newspaper Serving UCF Since 1968

**GRAD GOODBYES** OH THE MEMORIES

— SEE PAGE A11

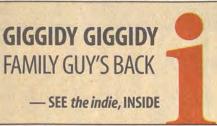


# WHO WILL GET THEM THIS SEMESTER?

— SEE SPORTS, B1

**GIGGIDY GIGGIDY** 

— SEE the indie, INSIDE



# A LOOK BACK

rom acts of God to acts of trustees, the past academic school year has seen its share of newsworthy events.

Loaded with protests and controversy, as well as highs and lows for academic and the second seco Loaded with protests and controversy, as well as highs and lows for academia and athletics, this year tested the patience of many while touching hearts and scratching heads. Not everything that took place in two semesters could be considered important by every student, faculty member and neighbor of the UCF community, but there were certainly events that held the spotlight for the majority of the school year. Here's a look back at the most notable events affecting everyone at and around UCF:

--- COMPILED BY ASHLEY BURNS



The UCF Athletics Association showed proposed renderings of an on-campus football stadium to the Board of Trustees on March 31.

# If you build it, they will come

There was probably no bigger story this year than January's announcement of a feasibility study that would examine building a football stadium on the UCF campus. Scores of fans, students and alumni celebrated the news of a new football home, as some officials had said in the past that a stadium would never happen. UCF President John Hitt and

Director Steve Orsini said the stadium will help create a sense of spirit and pride that the campus has never before seen.

But for every person who praised the idea, there were those in local communities who condemned the idea as an act of UCF bullying because, they said, the school didn't allow enough time for residents to voice concerns. Other residents weren't opposed to a stadium and expressed their appreciation

UCF, but wished the school would consider moving the stadium from the proposed north side of campus to the southwest side due to traffic concerns.

UCF officials answered residential concerns by postponing the Board of Trustees vote on the study and hosting open forums in order to further understand the complaints and worries of UCF's neighbors. The study is still under way, and Hitt said at the March 31 trustees meeting that a vote would come within the next few weeks.

# They rocked us like a hurricane

known how devastating hurricane season could be. However, no one saw coming what took place during three weeks of last August. Three hurricanes slammed Central Florida during the course of a month, taking their toll on houses and businesses throughout Orlando and UCF.

Students and faculty who lived in the area were without power for days after Hurricane Charley swept through, and the slow movement of Hurricane Frances later took care of any damage Charley didn't cause. Then, Hurricane Jeanne reminded everyone that anything was possible ... even three hurricanes in one month.

As for the damage on campus, trees were downed everywhere, but the \$12.5 million Recreation and Wellness Center



Last year's three hurricanes took a heavy toll on campus, damaging trees and buildings.

took the biggest beating. Nearly 85 percent of the building's roof was ripped off, causing the ruin of 73 machines, amongst other damage. The center closed for the semester and needed mil-

dollars in repairs. The Alpha Delta Pi sorority and Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity houses also received significant damage, as both houses lost portions of their roofs and had to displace residents because of flooding.

### Wins don't come easy, or at all

Ask anyone to name the first thing that comes to his mind about UCF football, and he'll likely bring up the perfect season.

The 2004 season was a first and, for most fans, hopefully a last. The Knights finished 0-11 and were the only team in the nation without a

Named by ESPN's Bottom 10 list as the worst team in the nation, UCF also owns the longest losing streak in the country at 16 straight.



George O'Leary was 0-11 in his first year.

As the team looks to end that streak soon, the Knights will have their hands full in their new home in Conference USA this season.

### They danced the Knights away

Helping to kill the athletic depression of the 0-11 football season, UCF men's basketball won its second-consecutive and final Atlantic Sun Conference championship and made a return trip to the NCAA Tournament. As they did in the 2003-04 NCAA Tournament, the Knights faced a considerably higher seed and hung in until the very end. Two years ago, UCF lost by 9 points to Pittsburgh, and this year the men lost by 6 to defending National Champion Connecticut. The turnaround in the men's program over the past decade earned Coach Kirk Speraw national praise from his coaching peers and has helped greatly in recruiting, as UCF enters CUSA. Most recently, the Knights signed one of the top high school point guards in the state.

PLEASE SEE A LOOK ON A8

# Will economy shortchange liberal arts?

In education shift, Florida universities are told to push more students toward workforce needs

> KATE HOWELL Senior Staff Writer

The liberal arts could lose a little of their luster as Florida's universities are molded to fulfill the state's workforce needs, as dictated in proposals working their way through the Board of Governors and the Florida Legislature.

The Board of Governors plan, called Y-Axis, would require universities to shift 50 percent of their students by the 2012-1013 academic year into degree areas deemed crucial to the economy. The qualifying undergraduate majors would include hard sciences, such as physics and chemistry, and all forms of engineering, optics and education. Also included are health and public affairs majors such as nursing, physical therapy, public administration and health sciences, along business management, accounting and management information systems.

All were chosen because they fall into one of three categories: emerging technologies, high wage/high demand or critical needs.

In a similar vein, two nearly identical bills are floating around the Florida Legislature that, if passed, could change the way state universities are funded by basing future allocations on workforce needs.

Under the current system, the dollars that fund growth go directly to the schools. For example, in the Florida House's general appropriations bill for the next fiscal year,

state universities received \$31.6 million for enrollment growth, community colleges received \$38.7 million and post-secondary workforce education programs received \$21.8 mil-

However, if Senate Bill 1260 and House Bill 437 are adopted, all future enrollment growth funds will be given to the Department of Education or a trust fund, and schools will be required to petition for money. Funds will be distributed according to the institution's success and commitment to awarding degrees and certificates in "fields vital to the citizens of the state."

According to the bills, by the start of each legislative session, the chairman of Workforce Florida, Inc., a 45-member board appointed by the governor that oversees and monitors Florida's workforce policy, will be required to advise the legislature on the state's "most pressing workforce needs for post-secondary instruction and the geographic loca-tion of those needs." The legislature will then establish a "priority list" on which to base funding.

"There has always been, in terms of university funding, attention paid to workforce planning," Maribeth Ehasz, UCF's vice president of Student Development and Enrollment Services, said. She added that the legislation "parallels" the Y-Axis plan. "I think this is something the legislature has been moving towards."

PLEASE SEE HOSPITALITY ON A2

# On a victim's journey, more than a few bumps

Woman alerts others to challenges that can follow an attack

> **NAOMI RINGER** Senior Staff Write

Alphia Morin is speaking out. It's a decision that will affect her relationship with her family, but she says she's tired of lying — tired of saying everything is OK when friends and family ask how she's doing.

Though she doesn't wear it on a Tshirt and looks like just another student, her words are blunt and heartrending. "I'm Alphia Morin, and I'm a rape victim," she wrote in an e-mail. Morin will talk about her astrono-

my class, cramming for finals and looking forward to summer, and nothing seems out-of-the ordinary. But what she looks forward to most, she said, is being able to fall asleep at

"The doctor prescribed sleeping sedatives," she said. "But I stopped taking them because I didn't want to get addicted to them."

That move, coupled with her decision to go public, is an effort to bring closure to the confusing emotions and consequences of being a sexual assault victim. It's also timely, given the report that a UCF student was abducted and sexually assaulted as she walked to her campus apartment in the early hours of April 16.

Morin said she wants other students to know that they don't have to be afraid to get help.

Last fall, she said, another UCF student sexually assaulted her in his campus apartment. Morin had gone with him to watch a movie and stayed



CHARLIE BENTON / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTUR Alphia Morin ran into several unexpected hurdles after alleging she was the victim of a sexual assault.

to spend the night sleeping on his couch, where she said she was assaulted. She tried to forget and to push the feelings away, but she couldn't sleep, stopped going to classes and stayed in her apartment until her roommates became concerned.

"I decided to get counseling and get tested," she said.

But Morin, who was 17 at the time, didn't realize her decision meant involving her family and the police.

"I went to the health center first," she said. "The ob-gyn who ran tests didn't know whether or not she had to report my incident. She asked if I wanted to proceed, and I told her

She went back the next day to get her results, and the gynecologist informed her that she was obligated to tell the UCF Police.

Because she was a minor at the time of the attack, her parents also had to be informed. "That was a big

PLEASE SEE VICTIM ON A5

More than 4,800 are set to graduate

**ASHLEY BURNS** 

Next Thursday marks the beginning of the end for UCF seniors, as they will walk the stage sporting caps and gowns for three days of graduation commencement at the UCF

More than 4,800 students have declared their intent to graduate, with the majority receiving their bachelor's degrees. A total of 877 students are scheduled to receive their master's degrees and 76 will receive doctorates. Also, 19 students will earn education-specialist degrees.

The commencements begin at 10 a.m. Thursday as soon-to-be graduates of the College of Health & Public Affairs and the Burnett College of Biomedical Sciences will walk the stage. Retired U.S. Ambassador Harriet Elam-Thomas will serve as the keynote speaker to the graduates in attendance. Elam-Thomas was recently honored by UCF with an honorary doctorate at the March 31 Board of Trustees

Graduates of the College of Business Administration will walk beginning at 2 p.m. Thursday and will hear from that commencement's keynote speaker, Lynda Keever. Keever is the publisher of Florida Trend, a magazine devoted to business issues throughout the state.

Friday's graduation ceremonies kick off at 10 a.m., as departing seniors from the College of Arts and Sciences will hear from Florida Secretary of State and former Orlando mayor Glenda Hood.

The Rosen College of Hospitality Management, as well as more graduates from the College of Arts and Sciences, will hit the stage at 2 p.m. Sen. Mel Martinez will serve as that session's keynote speaker.

Saturday's final graduation commencement ceremonies will again begin at 10 a.m. for graduates from the College of Education. U.S. Rep. Ric Keller is slated to speak for the early proceedings. Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control President Stanley Arthur will speak at 2 p.m. to graduates from the College of Engineering and Computer Science and the College of Optics and Photonics.

With the impending graduates of next week's commencements, the total number of students to graduate from UCF in the school's 37 years will increase to nearly 148,700.

Guests of the graduates cannot attend without tickets, but there will be a live broadcast in the Classroom I building Room 121 or at http://webcast. oir.ucf.edu.

### Publishing schedule

Today's issue of the Central Florida Future will be the last for the spring semester. After a brief break, the Future will return on May 11, when it will only be published on Wednesdays for the duration of the summer term.

### Let us know

The Future wants to hear from you! If you have a club, organization or event and want your information to be considered for the Around Campus column, send a fax to 407-447-4556 or an e-mail to editor@ucfnews.com. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Tuesday for the Thursday edition, and 5 p.m. Friday for the Monday edition.

# Faculty putting bookstore in a bind

The sooner teachers order books, the more you get for buyback

The UCF Bookstore is offering a \$500 catering credit to the department that turns in all of its textbook order forms on time in an effort to give students the opportunity to receive more money for used textbooks.

Textbook orders are currently being accepted from all departments for the summer and fall terms.

Denise Berrios, general manager of the UCF Bookstore, said that it is very important that faculty send their orders in as soon as possible.

"Early receipt of the textbook order [before finals week] allows us to pay students 50 percent of the book price at buyback," she said. "The more textbooks we buy this spring, the more students save in the fall. Used books are 25 percent off the new book price."

Despite the efforts that the UCF Bookstore has made by placing signs and reminders around campus for faculty to

### Want to get the most money for your books? Here are five tips for selling back the tomes

1. Even though the UCF Bookstore buys back used textbooks year round, the best time to sell used textbook is during finals week, at the end of a term. By this time, most professors have turned in book requests for the following term. The books requested are in demand on campus, and that means more buyback money for used

2. Current edition books are generally requested from professors and are most in demand for buyback. The bookstore pays 50 percent of the selling price for all the current-edition books that are being used next semester if they are in good condition and there is no overstock.

3. At times, when enough used

textbooks have been sold back to fill the professors' book orders or when the current edition book a student owns is not being used for the next term, the bookstore will pay the current price offered by the national market.

4. All books sold back must be in good condition, which means the bindings must be in good shape, with covers and all pages intact. There must be no excessive highlighting, underlining or notes that might make the text illegible. Some workbooks and study guides are not eligible for buyback.

5. For the protection of all students on campus, the bookstore requires a student ID when selling back used textbooks.

get their forms in, only 30 percent of fall textbook orders and 70 percent of summer textbook orders are in. Although this is a 10 percent improvement from last year at this time, students could potentially be saving more money.

"The lack of forms means we will not be able to offer the

students as much cash back at the buyback counter as we could," Berrios said. "If we don't have an order, we can offer only the national value of the book, which is between 10 to 15 percent of the new book

Desperate times call for desperate measures, and the lack of response from teachers has propelled the bookstore to offer a reward for turning in textbook forms: up to \$500 in catering credit from the Bookstore Café to each department that turns in all of their textbook orders on time for every course being offered in that department.

This is the first time the bookstore has offered such a promotion, and Berrios believes that this will help motivate teachers to get the forms filled out.

Also, in an attempt to make the buyback process easier for students, the bookstore is setting up remote buyback locations around campus, where students can avoid long lines and get quick cash for their returned books.

Last spring during finals, the UCF Bookstore purchased \$437,844 in used textbooks from UCF students. Those textbooks were recycled and reflect a \$291,896 savings from the new textbook price to the students who purchased them the following terms.

### Nation & World

Investigators seek clues into Japanese commuter train wreck

AMAGASAKI, Japan -Hopes of finding more survivors from Japan's worst train crash in decades evaporated Wednesday as workers lifted more than a dozen bodies from the tangled wreckage, bringing the death toll to 95. An unknown number of dead remained trapped.

A probe into possible negligence by operator West Japan Railway Co. has focused on the actions of the 23-year-old driver, his lack of experience and suspicions that the commuter train was speeding before it derailed and slammed into an apartment building Monday.

At least 458 people were

Workers at the crash site in Amagasaki, about 250 miles west of Tokyo, removed at least 17 bodies Wednesday, Hyogo state police said. They found a body seated at the front of the train believed to be driver Ryujiro Takami, but that had not been confirmed,

### Man convicted of trying to sell shoulder-launched missiles

the Kyodo news agency said.

NEWARK, N.J. — A federal jury convicted a former British clothing merchant Wednesday of attempting to sell shoulder-launched missiles to what he believed was a terrorist group planning to shoot down airliners.

Jurors reached their verdict on Hemant Lakhani on their second day of delibera-

Lakhani has been held without bail since his arrest in a hotel room near Newark Liberty International Airport on Aug. 12, 2003.

The sting operation, involving undercover agents from several nations, became the first terrorism prosecution in New Jersey since the Sept. 11 attacks. The government claimed Lakhani had agreed to arrange the sale of 50 more missiles.

### Man discovers \$100,000 in buried treasure in his own back yard

METHUEN, Mass. — It's the stuff of fantasies, and Tim Crebase found it buried under two feet of earth in his own backyard.

There, he and friend Barry Villcliff found a box stuffed with cash and gold and silver \* certificates, some more than a century old. The buried treasure is worth more than \$100,000, according to a coin shop owner.

Crebase said the find came three weeks ago when he and Villcliff were trying to dig up a small tree. Crebase, 23, heard a thud and saw that he'd hit a piece of wood. Another look, and he saw the wood was part of a two-foot-wide box.

He ripped the top off and found nine rusted cans that he and Villcliff, 27, cracked open to find about 1,800 bills, including more than 900 \$1 bills, 200 \$2 bills, and 300 \$20 bills dated from 1899 to 1929. There were also piles of gold and silver certificates and scores of notes from local banks in Methuen, Haverhill, Amesbury, Newburyport and beyond.

### New Jersey police answer call to

SAYREVILLE, N.J. Police were in a bit of a pickle was no cat - try a bear.

PLEASE SEE NATION ON A4

# Particle man manages to earn award

The prestigious scholarship pays for books, school

> RACHEL BAUMBACH Contributing Writer

When UCF junior Sohang Gandhi was in high school, he caught on to the theories of science quickly. These days, he's coming up with a few theories of his own.

The 22-year-old physics major was recently awarded the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for his research of theoretical explanations regarding particle physics.

The highly coveted award was given based on academic merit and only 320 select students in the nation received it. The scholarship, only for students who plan to pursue a career in the fields of science, math and engineering, will

cover up to \$7,500 of the cost of Gandhi's tuition, fees and books for the 2005-2006 school year.

Gandhi, who began working on research projects with professor Costas Efthimiou in the spring of 2004, said he was surprised when he found out he was being awarded the distinguished scholarship.

"It's pretty prestigious, very prestigious," Gandhi said. "I don't know of many other scholarships for undergrads that are more prestigious than the Goldwater."

Efthimiou agrees. The award, he said, "is only given to a few students in the state and is highly competitive." But Efthimiou believes Gandhi has what it takes to stay in the

Describing a career in particle physics as difficult to obtain, Efthimiou said most students hoping to achieve success in the field aren't up for the challenge.

"However," Efthimiou said, "that was not the case with Sohang. I started giving him [research] projects, and his progress was amazing, I must say. I'd given projects to other students, and they never finished them. He not only fin-ished the projects, he did very good work."

While Gandhi is proud of his hard work and accomplishments, he said he owes his good fortune to his profes-"He's been extremely influ-

ential," Gandhi said. "I think the amount I do, most of my successes, are due to him or his pushing me. He challenges me and opens up a lot of opportunity and puts a lot of time into it."

Efthimiou is pleased that Gandhi recognizes him for his help but said his student's dedication to research is the real reason he succeeds. He describes Gandhi as "an exceptional student" who has become a respected particle physicist. During his last year at UCF,

the skills and determination to

Gandhi will continue his research alongside Efthimiou as part of the requirement for the scholarship. "It's a very ambitious project, so I don't know if I'll make it anywhere," Gandhi said. "I've made some progress, but it might turn out to be impossible." Gandhi plans on attending

graduate school and hopes to continue his research of particle physics by obtaining a career in academia.

Gandhi, who is a Burnett College Honors College student, is affiliated with several campus organizations. He is president of both the Society of Physics Students and the Campus Freethought Alliance, and secretary of UCF's Sigma Pi Sigma chapter, the national physics honor society. He is also a member of the Astronomy Society and Phi Kappa Phi.

# Hospitality training not yet on needs list

At the moment, however, the Y-Axis plan is what UCF's administration is focused on.

"As we are right now, about 39 percent of our students fall within the programs listed by the Board of Governors," John Schell, UCF's dean of Undergraduate Studies, said. "We're going to have to change the enrollment status of 11 percent of our students. We don't know how we're going to do this."

Among the "options" UCF is considering: limiting enrollment in programs not on the list; practicing selected admission, where preference would be given to students planning to study the targeted areas; and providing incentives such as cheaper tuition to students who agreed to major in the selected areas, Schell said.

He admitted that limits on programs not on the list such as English literature, communications, psychology and theater - may be inevitable.

For now, though, UCF is lobbying to add programs from the Rosen School of Hospitality Management to the list. "The service they provide this area is important to the economy," Schell said, "If we don't add the Rosen School, all of those students count against

Agreed Ehasz: "It is distressing to know that Central Florida produces and supplies the hospitality industry and that they're not included."

The hospitality school's situation is just one of the concerns Student Body President Kevin Peters has with the Y-Axis plan.

"UCF boasts one of the best hospitality colleges in the nation," he said. "Hospitality is not one of the 'acceptable' degrees in the Board of Governor's proposed plan. This is just one example of how this program will negatively affect students at UCF.

Peters sees cutting programs as the only option for complying with Y-Axis.

"If you think about it mathematically, there's only one way to increase the number of acceptable degrees as a percentage," he said. "You would need to either increase the numerator - the number of acceptable degrees - or decrease the denominator the number of total degrees and if you can't force students to study something they don't want to, the only other way is to potentially offer fewer degrees."

Yet Ehasz insists that is not necessarily the case.

"There is a downside to Y-Axis," she conceded. "Limiting degree programs is a possibility, but we're less ready to do that. Students major in a lot of things and become very successful in something not related to their degree." Student Development and

Enrollment Services is exploring ways to spark interest in the targeted programs, mainly by looking at students with undeclared majors. "We estimate that there are probably 500 to 750 students at the sophomore level that are undeclared," Ehasz said. "We're going to target those students."

UCF hopes to do so by providing supplemental instruction and tutoring programs that focus on courses in the desired fields, as well as providing more career development assessments earlier and presenting more opportunities for externships by holding a major fair once a semester. Ehasz also wants to help

students in the targeted areas graduate. One way her department hopes to make this happen is through "cohort groups." This summer will see the start of an experimental program that will take 30 freshmen education majors and put them in the same living environment and in many of the same classes.

Ehasz describes this as "people of like interest living and learning together."

Finally, Student Development and Enrollment Services plans to work closer with community college transfers. "Community college transfers are more settled in their majors," Ehasz said. "The sooner students go into a community college and show interest, the sooner we can help them."

find 240-pound bear in tree

when they responded to a call about an animal up in a tree. It . The 240-pound male bear,

about 2 years old, was rescued and later freed. Karen Hershey, a spokeswoman for the state Department of Environ-

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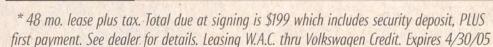
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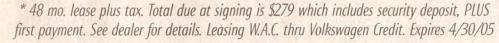
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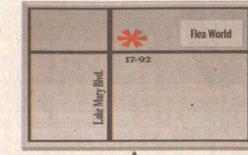
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### **Higher Education**

What's in the news at colleges around the country

#### **Bob Jones University seeks** accreditation for first time

GREENVILLE, S.C. Bob Jones University has sought out accreditation for the first time in the school's 78-year history.

The university said the accreditation by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools will make it easier for students at the fundamentalist Christian school to transfer credits to another institution or get into graduate school.

But other things won't change. The school still won't accept federal student financial aid and will maintain rules such as chaperoning all dates and requiring women to wear knee-length dresses and men to wear ties until noon.

### College student dies in fall from dorm window

ITHACA, N.Y. — A 20-year-old Ithaca College student died after apparently falling from a window in his eighth-floor dormitory

Morgan Potter, a sophomore computer-science major from Montrose, Pa., was found dead outside the West Tower residence hall early Tuesday morning and pronounced dead at the

"When he was found, the window was open and the screen had been removed from the window," said Dave Maley of the college media relations office. "The window does not extend very close to the floor. There's no indication there was any foul play involved and there doesn't appear to be any mechanical failure with the window or the screen."

#### Black student accused of threatening other minorities

BANNOCKBURN, Ill. — A black college student who authorities said wanted to leave her college is accused of sending threatening letters to minorities on campus in hopes of convincing her parents the school wasn't safe.

Alicia Hardin, 19, of Chicago, was charged Tuesday with disorderly conduct and a hate crime and was released on bond. The hate crime charge carries up to five years in prison.

She confessed Monday, saying she was unhappy at Trinity International University, a small Christian school in suburban Chicago, and wanted to leave.

The letters were sent to two black students and a Hispanic student over the past three weeks. One contained a threat to use a weapon.

#### Professor charged with sexual abuse and assault of student

NEW PALTZ, N.Y. - An English professor for the State University of New York at New Paltz was fired Tuesday after being charged with sexually abusing a student.

Wade Thompson, 81, faces charges of seconddegree assault and thirddegree sexual abuse. Police said he beat the woman with a blunt object and subjected her to unwanted sexual contact.

Thompson, who is married, had taught at the school for 40 years. He maintained his innocence, saying the April 19 incident

at his home was consensual Police said the woman was injured but would not elaborate.

#### Suit filed over federal funding for tiny Christian college

ANCHORAGE, Alaska A group advocating the separation of church and state has sued the federal **Education Department** over funding for a tiny Christian college with a predominantly Alaska Native or American Indian student body.

Alaska Christian College in Soldotna has just 37 students, but has received more than \$1 million in federal money in the past two years.

- ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Nation & World



**ODED BALILTY/ASSOCIATED PRESS** 

Israeli children play as Jewish settlers and opponents of Israel's planned withdrawl from the Gaza Strip gather on the beach near the Jewish settlement of Neve Kekallim on Wednesday.

mental Protection said it was freed at the 3,000-acre Six Mile Run Reservoir Site in Franklin Township, Somerset County.

Police received calls from about 50 residents and motorists who saw the bear about 6:30 a.m. near the Garden State Parkway, Detective Mathew Bandurski said. Police followed the animal until it went up a tree behind a home, he said.

Kelcey Burguess, a wildlife biologist, shot the bear with a tranquilizer gun and it came down a little, but instead of falling into the net below, it fell asleep, slumped over a tree

### Professor ordered to attend court after skipping out on jury duty

HOUSTON — Skipping out on jury duty proved costly for a university professor.

Sara White, 62, a social work professor at Texas Southern University, was sentenced Tuesday to 10 days in jail for leaving during jury selection last week.

But U.S. District Judge David Hittner gave her the option of instead spending 10 eight-hour days in the federal courthouse jury room.

White, who pleaded guilty to criminal contempt, admitted she "made a grievous error in leaving the courtroom."

Hittner said White will have to sit in the jury room for eight hours a day without reading materials or contact with anyone. If she violates his order or is abusive to court personnel, she will have to serve the full 10day jail term.

#### Wad of cash found in book jacket in library proves it pays to read

NATCHEZ, Miss. — Who Asoka Ratnaweera said. id reading isn't enriching?

Michele Anderson recently

discovered more than just a great story when she opened a library book. She also found a wad of cash.

The former employee at Armstrong Library pulled a mystery novel off a shelf and noticed a bulge in its dust jacket. She opened the book and discovered what library officials termed was a "substantial" sum of money.

Library officials declined to say how much money was discovered, or what the title of the book was, so they could locate the money's rightful owner.

Susan Cassagne, the library's director, said she believes if the money isn't claimed, it should belong to the library.

### Sri Lanka train hits racing bus, at least 35 people killed, 60 injured

POLGAHAWELA, Sri Lanka - An intercity passenger train collided with a bus that tried to dash through a railroad crossing in northwestern Sri Lanka on Wednesday, killing 35 people, officials said.

The passenger bus, apparently racing another bus, slipped past a warning gate and tried to cross a railroad track at Polgahawela, a small suburban town surrounded by rice and coconut farming villages some 50 miles northeast of Colombo, the capital.

Police said they arrested the driver of the bus, who was found at a local hospital with minor injuries.

Hospital and police officials said 35 people died. The bus was reduced to a mangled heap of metal after it caught fire. Open suitcases with passengers' clothes littered the track.

Sixty people were injured in the incident, area Police Chief

- ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Science Spotlight

NASEEM SOWTI

Scientists have long known that something goes awry in normal cells that turn cancerous, but they haven't been able to quite put their fingers on it ... until now.

Mark Muller, a UCF professor in the molecular biology and microbiology program, and his colleagues have found that increased levels of an ancient protein in the nucleus of human cells can stop uncontrollable division of cancerous cells and growth of such tumors.

Their finding could potentially lead to the development of gentler and more effective drugs and therapies for cancer patients. It can also help scientists better understand the science of cancer and aging.

"We have now identified a protein, called MKRNI, that acts on telomerase to promote its degradation," said In Kwong Chung, a professor at Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, and a corresponding author of the study, in an e-mail.

Telomerase is an enzyme that protects caps at the end of compact segments of DNA called chromosomes. Normal cells lose this protection early on and die following a certain number of replications.

But that is not the case in cancer cells. These cells, as scientists have long known, keep their armor - telomerase and as a result can replicate without control. This is where the newly uncovered protein, MKRNI, can come to the res-

In their studies, Muller and his colleagues have shown that cancerous cells injected with the MKRN1 gene "were no longer cancer cells, and if given sufficient time in culture, these cells will eventually lose their proliferative capacity," Muller

"If we can manipulate the MKRN1 in the body of cancer patients, we might make malignant cells [go away]," Chung wrote in his e-mail.

MKRN1 is an ancient gene and could date back to the beginning of time. The gene is even found in yeast, a simple one-cell organism that is among one of the earlier forms of life.

Conservation of this gene through time means that "change in that gene is not tolerated. It means that it's doing something that's fundamentally important," Muller said.

And a timely death is a necessity for cells because it "enables [our body] to get rid of cells that have already extended their lifespan and might [be subject] to mutation and lead to cancer," explained Muller.

Muller said since the publication of the research in this month's Genes & Development, he has been receiving calls from researchers and cancer patients

Although he is excited to share the finding with other researchers, Muller admits that he is at least five years away from developing a drug or treatment. "Much effort in the future will be required to shed light on how MKRNI may be used as a therapeutic target for checking the uncontrolled division of tumor cells," Chung added.

Regarding the possible applications of the research to antiaging products, Muller said, 'Cellular aging (continuous cell division) can lead to mutations affecting growth control, and this can transform the cells to cancer."

The group is waiting for a multimillion dollar grant from the National Institute of Health to continue its studies.



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# Victim unable to learnresults of conduct hearing

FROM A1

blow in the stomach," she said.

The decision to keep quiet was no longer hers to make. "My parents gave me an ultimatum," Morin said. "Press charges or pack up and go home. I didn't want to go home."

Tension between her and her parents mixed with the emotional scars and left Morin feeling helpless. "My parents tried to be supportive," she said. "But it was more like a slap in the face."

She acknowledged her mistakes and that she let herself be led into a vulnerable situation. "You feel like it's your fault and you should've done something to stop it." But dwelling on what-ifs don't change the past, she added.

Victim Services provides resources to help students or faculty. "We tell them their options," said La'Shawn Ruffin, a Victim Services advocate. "We want to explain to them their reporting rights and the legalities of them."

Ruffin's advice: "Before they do anything else, they need to make a decision to report [to police] or not."

After a police report is filed, the UCF Police will assign the student to a Victim Services advocate, who advocates on the student's behalf through the Student Conduct process and criminal justice system.

The Office of Student Conduct handles the judicial side. "A hearing is a chance for you to provide any information you know about the alleged viola-\* tion," the Office of Student Conduct Web site states. "After the incident is discussed, a decision will be made on whether or not a violation occurred." Hearings can be informal or formal, allowing victims the choice to appear in person, via phone or video feed to determine if the accused assailant has violated UCF's Golden Rule policies that

define proper student conduct on campus.

Morin decided to face her accused assailant in person. She'd passed by him on campus a few times, but the student conduct hearing was different. Sitting four chairs away from him, she answered the board's intimate questions and defended her story when he was allowed to question her.

It was almost unbearable, she said. "Everyone's eyes are on you, and you feel like they're judging you."

At the hearing, the man denied Morin's charges and said the sex was consensual, she said.

Yet even now Morin does not know whose version the board believed, or whether the man was judged to have violated UCF's rules and punished for it. That's because the Office of Student Conduct wouldn't tell her its findings unless she first agreed to sign a confidentiality agreement stating that she would not discuss the outcome. Morin refused to sign.

Dana Juntunen, assistant director of the office, confirmed that victims can learn the outcome of a hearing only "after making a commitment to protect the confidentiality for all persons involved."

This rule is part of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

But there was no turning back for Morin — she had taken the leap and wanted it to count for something, if only to alert other victims that they're not alone.

Last fall semester, nine cases of sexual abuse were heard and ruled to be violations of the Golden Rule, the Office of Student Conduct Web site states.

In 2003, four rapes, either on campus or on UCF-affiliated property, were reported to UCF Police, according to the department Web site. (Statistics for 2004 have not been released.) Three of those were reported to other law enforcement agencies or UCF officials.

When contacted by a victim, a UCF Police officer will write an incident report and may make an arrest. "If there's a crime, we refer them to Victim Services," Sgt. Troy Williamson said. "It doesn't matter what the crime is."

In Morin's case, criminal charges subsequently were filed against the man on two counts: false imprisonment and battery. Danielle Tavernier, a spokeswoman for the Orange/Osceola State Attorney's office, said an arrest was made earlier this month and an arraignment is scheduled for May 10.

Realizing it isn't their fault will help victims find closure, Morin said. Forgiving themselves is the first step.

"With the cases I've seen it's been consistent," Ruffin said. "At some point they blame themselves — guilt and blame are the biggest things."

Support groups can bring healing, and although Victim Services does not hold support groups it can refer students to other organizations that do. It's a way to meet other people in similar situations, Ruffin said. "They start to feel like, 'there's something wrong with me,' and hearing common reactions gives them a connection."

For now, Morin looks at a photo of her younger sisters and resolves to be strong for them. "They really look up to me," she says. "They say 'I'm gonna follow Alphia's footsteps.' I don't want them to run away from their problems."

"You have to find your way of healing," Morin said. "Counseling lets me vent and [speaking out] is my way of healing."

Because each situation is different, she added, victims should do what's best for them. "The important thing is that they don't hide from it. Don't be quiet out of fear."

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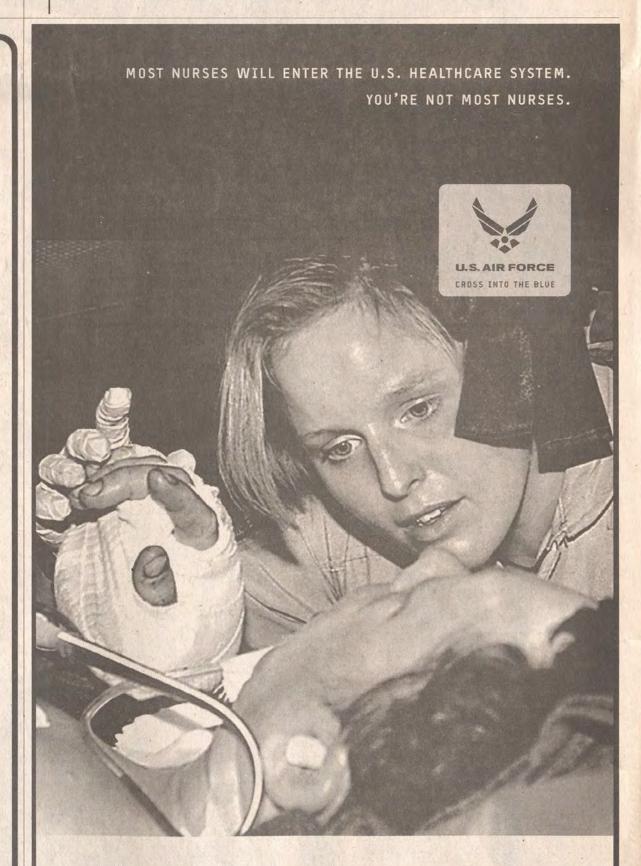
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**Events** 

Spartacus King Arthur

Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle Dr. Strange Love The Incredibles Young Frankenstein Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein

and Frankenstein (1931) CAB Comedy & Variety Knight of Comedy with Dane Cook Amateur Comedy Knight

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**CAB Concerts** Something Corporate Battle of the Bands

CAB Cultural & Fine Arts Symphony Under the Stars Get Out & Enjoy Art Series Cheap Date Series Michael Moore

> CAB Dance Marathon Dance Marathan

**CAB Speakers** Mythbusters The Dating Doctor David Coleman Ghosthunter John Zaffis War Photographer Lorna Tychostup

> **CAB Special Events** Mystery Dinner Theater Haunted Arboretum Weekly Events Table Day of Games & Toga Knight

**CAB Spectacular Knights** Mr. UCF Scholarship Pageant Miss UCF Scholarship Pageant

> Late Knights U-Knighted

Monster Mash Knight Club Mardi Gras School House Rock

Knightmare 2004 (Homecoming) Homecoming King and Queen "Spiderman 2"

Skit Knight Comedy Knight with Lewis Black Spirit Splash, Parade Ludacris and the Ataris

Knights of the Round Table Monthly Meetings Club Showcases NorthStar Summit Leadership Workshop insider Secrets to More \$5

> MSC major events Black History Month Hispanic Awareness Month

Asian American Awareness Week Caribbean Student Association Week Martin Luther King Jr. Day **SGA Events** Etiquette Dinner

Medieval March to Penn St. Student Leadership Dinner Knightstock Run to the Polls 5K MidKnight Breakfast UCF Free Music Weekend UCF Day at the Capitol

**Volunteer UCF Events:** Arts and Crafts with the Elderly Baseball Buddies Monthly Birthday Parties at local shelters Bowling with Best Buddies Chill With Children Day at the Farm

Deck the Halls at Pace School for Girls Faces of Poverty Festival of Life (Get Carded Fair) Festival of Speed Bike Race 11th Annual Hunger Banquet Green Ribbon Days for Get Carded Golden Knights Go Green (Get Carded) Halloween Party at Creative School Halloween Party at Coalition for the Homeless Holiday collection for local hospitals Homeless Volunteers in Action! Hound Haven Homecoming Hurricane Clean up in Arcacdia

Hurricane relief collections Junior Achievement trainings Kids Knight Out Labor By Love

Make-Up Parties at Assisted Living Facilities Paws in the Park Pet Party at Atria

Site and Sole Walk at Universal Studies Spa Days at assisted living facilities Spark in the Park Spirit to Serve

St. Patty's Day party with Boys & Girls Club Relay for Life Teaching Supply Drive Thanksgiving Party at Restore Orlando Trick or Treat for the Homeless Trivia Challenge Valentine's Day picnic with Harbor House-

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# A LOOK BACK CONTINUED

# Event most likely to make someone transfer

about as common as breathing, it didn't take too many people by surprise when the WB network announced it was bringing a new series to the UCF campus. Big Man on Campus promised to be a Bachelor for the college scene, but ended up being a cross between Elimidate and a late-night Cinemax movie. The

With reality shows show lasted only six episodes, but the haunting images have been burned into the minds of UCF students - at least the few who watched - for years to come.

The show, which aired on Wednesdays last fall, featured Matt, a UCF senior with the obligation to narrow a field of 15 women to one lucky "Campus Queen." And it

took advantage of every reality TV stereotype, from the slut to the virgin to the infamous bitch. The girls competed in a number of events, from washing UCF Police cars to keg races in swimming pools

- events obviously displaying the true passion of a reality-show relationship. The girls resided in an expensive house located off of Dean Road for

the entirety of the show's taping, and the final product showed the catfight everyone should have expected.

Yet despite the paintby-numbers format, Big Man on Campus was a ratings flop and will more than likely find its way into a reality television cemetery somewhere between Who's Your Daddy? and Wife Swap.

# Stars fall on UCF during presidential election

Like a Kabbalah meeting entirely out of hand, Hollywood celebrities packed up their political beliefs and hit the road during the presidential campaign, stopping at college campuses across the nation.

Hoping to find a youthful connection here, liberal celebrities like Meg Ryan, Leonardo DiCaprio and Michael Moore visited UCF in support of the John Kerry presidential campaign. Tinsel Town's top stars were everything the Democratic Party thought it would need to help steal Florida's elec-

toral votes from George

W. Bush, especially after

the 2000 election voting



Leonardo DiCaprio was one of several celebrities campaigning for Kerry.

debacle. The candidates regularly visited Central Florida, sparking oncampus debates between Republicans and Democ-

rats, but in the end the parade of celebrities and bipartisan bickering mattered very little, as Bush won Florida handily.

### Car accident ends in tragedy

Two children were struck and killed Oct. 27 as they crossed an intersection with their mother at Goldenrod and Bates roads. The vehicle, driven by former UCF student Ashley Townsend, missed the mother, leaving her with no injuries. Witnesses said Townsend appeared to be talking on her cell phone as she approached the intersection in her Honda SUV. Townsend was charged on March 16 with two counts of vehicular homicide. If found guilty, the 22-year-old faces 15 years in prison and up to \$10,000 in fines.

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# Our school has more beds than your school does

In November, the Board of Trustees unanimously

approved a Master Plan that added 2,000 more beds to on-campus housing. That means UCF will soon offer more on-campus student housing than any school in the state. For the people kept up at night with concerns of parking and traffic, the Plan also included 5,000 more

parking spaces, as well as a 17,000-seat convocation center that will be used as the new arena for both men's and women's basketball, plus the big commencement ceremonies that currently lack a suitable campus home.

Still, much like the idea of a football stadium, the Master Plan was greeted with much opposi-

tion from neighboring residents who claimed UCF was ignoring the environment and the pleas of the commu-

While the convocation center is scheduled for a 2007 completion and all parking garages will be done by 2014, community resentment still looms as the campus continues to expand.



### The roof, the roof is on fire

Further proving the La-Z-Boy recliner in a point that cigarettes are Pegasus Pointe apartment bad for peoples' health, a started a massive blaze

burning cigarette left on a that torched the building

Nov. 3 and left 47 residents homeless. Luckily, no one was seriously harmed in

# Welcome to UCF! Now leave!

posed by Gov. Jeb Bush, received a grudging vote of support from the Board of Trustees last fall.

As a way to push undergrads through college in four years, the plan calls for full-time students to pay for

Block tuition, a plan pro- 15 hours even if they choose to take 12. Block tuition was met

with opposition by everyone from university officials to SGA leaders, who went to Tallahassee to protest and, on Feb. 17, organized a rally in front of the Student Union to express their distaste for Bush's plan.

Though it could resurface like the Police Academy movies, the measure for now has been taken off the table by the Florida Legisla-

PLEASE SEE A LOOK ON A10



### If I were a book, my title would be... 2005-2006 Textbook Scholarship Winners

Every year, the UCF Bookstore awards 10 texbook scholarships to students through an essay contest. Two students are selected from each college. This year, one additional scholarship was awarded to the Rosen College of Hospitality Management. Congratulations to all the recipients.

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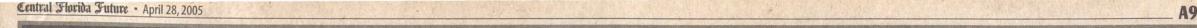
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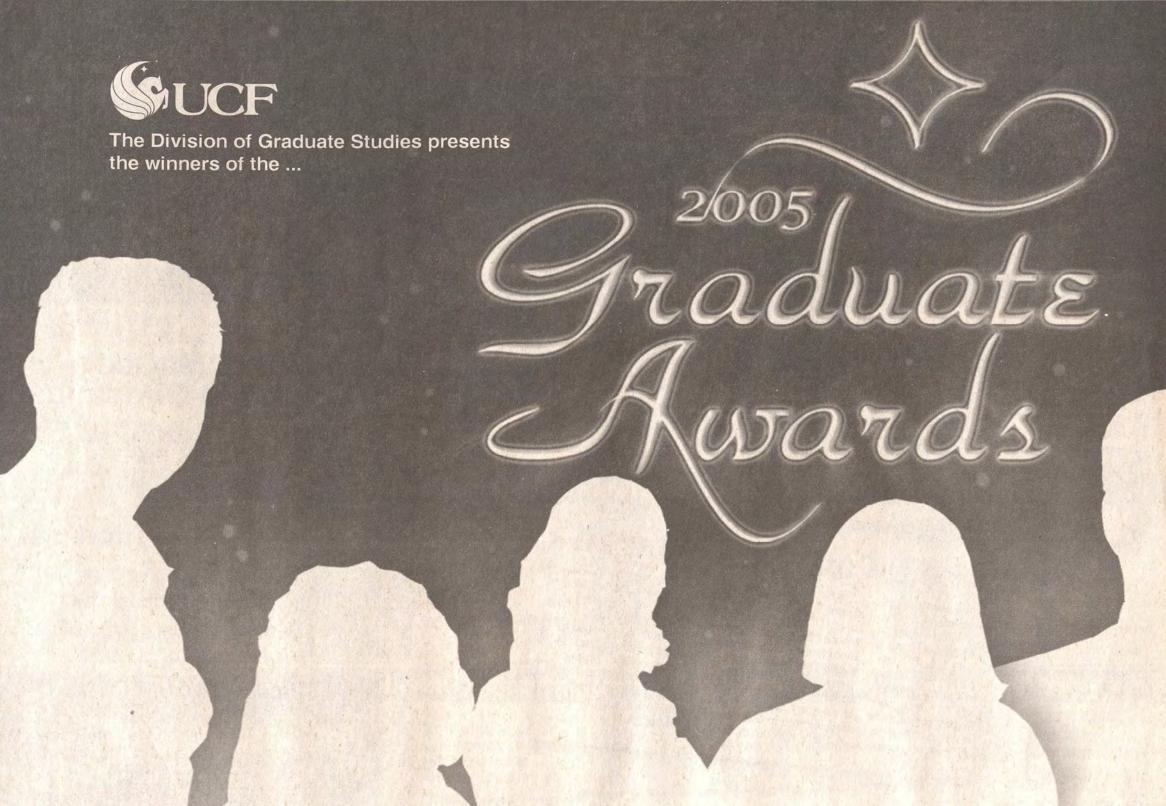
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Delia N. Goolsby, Political Science M.A., College of Arts and Sciences "Regional Realignment? Sub-national Trends in Partisan Identification in the Northeast."

Award for Outstanding Dissertation

Joel McCajah Hales, Optics Ph.D., College of Optics and Photonics "Chemical Structure-Nonlinear Optical Property Relationships for a Series of Two-Photon Absorbing Fluorene Molecules."

### Trustees and Presidential Doctoral Fellowship Awards

### **Trustees Fellows**

Nicholas Barbieri, Physics Ph.D. Devlyn Brown, Mathematics Ph.D. Ann Dalrymple, Industrial Engineering Ph.D. Christian Feldt, Mechanical Engineering Ph.D. Laura Gallaher, Psychology Ph.D. Keith Garrison, Computer Science Ph.D. Matthew Hunter, Electrical Engineering Ph.D. Christina Kapp, Texts and Technology Ph.D. Gerald Kenney, Texts and Technology Ph.D. Marianne Korosy, Conservation Biology Ph.D. James Secretan, Computer Engineering Ph.D. Gary Stein, Computer Engineering Ph.D. Stephen Wiechecki Vergara, Electrical Engineering Ph.D. Lori Mumpower, Texts and Technology Ph.D.

### **Presidential Fellows**

Yuqiong Bai, Civil Engineering Ph.D. Baiyun Chen, Education Ph.D. Joshua Duncan, Electrical Engineering Ph.D. Samiullah Durrani, Industrial Engineering Ph.D. Jennifer Fewster, Conservation Biology Ph.D. Rebecca Fiedler, Education Ph.D. Yue Fu, Electrical Engineering Ph.D. Christina Garofano, Psychology Ph.D. Jason Gauci, Computer Science Ph.D. Erin Hastings, Computer Science Ph.D. Vinit Jatkar, Computer Engineering Ph.D. Scott Lafond, Psychology Ph.D. Lisa Littrell, Psychology Ph.D. Robert Macey, Physics Ph.D. Jeremy Mares, Optics Ph.D. Cliff McKinney, Psychology Ph.D. Chen Mengqian, Biomolecular Sciences Ph.D. Anurag Pande, Civil Enigineering Ph.D. Leonard Pollard, Industrial Engineering Ph.D. Laurence Putchinski, Public Affairs Ph.D. Jia Ren, Educational Leadership Ed.D. Oleksandr Savchyn, Optics Ph.D. Leo Siiman, Optics Ph.D. Hayden Smith, Public Affairs Ph.D. Hongliang Yuan, Electrical Engineering Ph.D. Peng Zhang, Mechanical Engineering Ph.D.

# 2005 GRADU ATE FORUM

### Graduate Research Forum Best of Category Award Winners

### **Oral Presentation Winners**

Engineering, Computer Science, Optics, Physical Sciences, Mathematics, Simulation and Modeling:

Anand Santhanam, Computer Science Ph.D.

"Visualization of Real-time 3D Lung Dynamics"

Fine Arts and Humanities:

Lori Mumpower, Texts and Technology Ph.D.

"The Impact of Virtual Education: The Space and Time of Online Learning"

Life and Health Sciences:

Michelle Alvarez, Biomolecular Sciences Ph.D.

"Age Determination: The Identification of Newborns Using Messenger RNA Profiling Analysis"

Social Sciences (tie):

Dana Kendall, Industrial and Organizational Psychology Ph.D. "An Investigation of Openness to Experience as a Predictor of Mentoring

Social Sciences (tie):

Charles Cho, Business Administration, Accounting Ph.D.

"The Politics of Environmental Disclosure Regulation in the Chemical and Petroleum Industries: Evidence from the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986"

### **Poster Presentation Winners**

Convention and Visitor Bureaus"

Business Administration and Hospitality Management: Robert Freund, Hospitality and Tourism Management M.S. "Evaluating Destination Marketing Information System Functions in

Education:

Diana Navas, Human Resources and Change Management M.S. "The Influence of Culture on the Training Process: A Review of the

Engineering, Computer Science, Optics, Physical Sciences, Mathematics, Simulation

Erik Brinley, Materials Science and Engineering M.S.M.S.E. "FTIR Study of High Surface Area Nano-Materials for Gas Pollution Monitoring"

Social Sciences:

Sherri Rehfeld, Applied Experimental and Human Factors Ph.D. "Collaborative Teamwork with Unmanned Ground Vehicles in Military

Congratulations to all of our award recipients!

# A LOOK BACK CONTINUED

# No reason to avoid the Noid

Last week, UCF students Corey Danaher and Nathaniel Kelly received a \$1,200 scholarship from Domino's Pizza in the University Shoppes plaza for ordering more pizza than any other students in a semesterlong Battle of the Dorms.

ordered from Domino's 37 times this semester and spent more than \$500 between the two of them. The pepperoni partners will split the top prize in the inaugural event, but there is no word if they'll use it for gym mem-



Corey Danaher, left, and Nathaniel Kelly won Domino's 'Battle of the Dorms.'

# Maybe U Can Finish after all years. So long as the stu-

Prior to the start of the school year, incoming freshmen were invited to take part in the new "Grad on Track" program. Along the same lines as block tuition, except not involving students to pay for classes they aren't enrolled in, Grad on Track was creat-

ed to help students finish school in four years. As a means of trying to kill the whole "U Can't Finish" theory, Grad on Track allows freshmen to sign a contract that ensures they will have seats in every class they need to get their degree in the major of their choice in four

dents pass all classes and keep the same major, the students will be fine.
Should they choose to

change their majors 14 times and take Composition I over twice, then they'll graduate in seven years like a normal UCF

# Student's suicide invites allegations

John Yancy, 19, was home. found dead of an apparent suicide at his home Nov. 19.

Months later, the death of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity pledge remains a slight mys-

His house was broken into later on the day of his death, and drug paraphernalia was

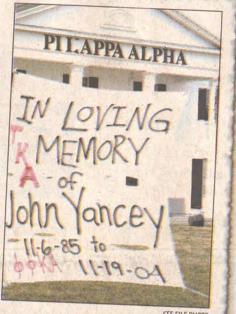
A friend of the Yancy family told the Future that Pike members had allegedly been distributing drugs to other members, including Yancy. The Seminole County Sheriff's Office's investigation is

still open. Due to an unrelated event, Pike subsequentfound throughout the ly was suspended at

UCF until at least Aug. 1,

A campus investigation led the fraternity to admit to a "violation [of] disruptive conduct and hazing for events on Oct. 31, 2004."

In the meantime, the members of the chapter have vacated their house, while its fate and theirs continue to be determined.



Pike faced a few problems this year.

# Lavin resigns

Former SGA Senate Speaker Sean Lavin faced a no-confidence vote at a March 10 Senate meeting

and abruptly resigned before the vote could take place. While some senators stated they supported the no-confidence vote because they felt Lavin was not fulfilling his obligation, Lavin countered that he had become too involved in his duties and had forgot-

ten other priorities such as family, friends and his education. (He also conceded that he knew the votes were there to oust him, and he didn't want to give them the chance.) Either way, it was another day, another drama in the Government Student Association.

# Faculty gets a bargain

After 19 months of negotiations, the United Faculty of Florida and the university finally embraced a collective bargaining agreement that gave faculty a 2 percent across-the-board raise and revised the antidiscrimination policy to protect gays and lesbians for the first time. Also included was the protection of academic freedom, which allows teachers to use any resources necessary in order to convey their curriculum in a manner they find acceptable. The Board of Trustees passed the agreement March 31; UFF and the university are currently negotiating additional pay raises for the upcoming year. The new contract lasts through 2007.



Faculty members crowded into the Jan. 18 Board of Trustees meeting.

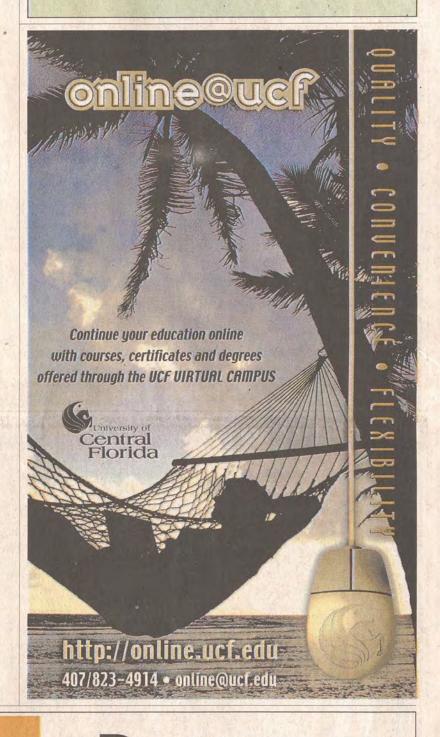


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# Graduation Goodbyes



### Veronica Agront



Veronica, My little girl has grown into a beautiful, smart and nice woman. I'm very proud of you. Congratulations for all that you have accomplished! Love,

### Patria C. Alguila



Patria, CONGRATULATIONS! We are very happy and proud of you, to see what you have accomplished, and we know that you can go farther.

Mom-Dad and Brother Julius

### Jeremy Kane Anderson



Jeremy, We have always been so proud of you and your accomplishments. Always follow your heart and your dreams. Congratulations!

Mom, Dad and Sarah

### Diana Lynne Beasley



We love you very much and are very proud of you.

Diana,

Love, Dad, Mom, & Ryan

### **Jeffrey Biesnecker**



Jeffrey, Congratulations on your graduation. We knew you could do it, and are so very proud that you did.

Love you, Mom and Dad

### **Nicole Marie Boutin**



Congratulations! Wow, your Masters. We are very proud of who you are and what you have achieved.

Love always, Mom and Dad

### Jessica Marie Bowen



Jessica, Job Well Done! You've never ceased to amaze us. With great pride in your past & great hope for your future.

Love, Mom & Dad

### Briana Lynn Brooks



Briana, If anyone would have told the bumblebee that aerodynamically it was impossible for it to fly, it never would have flown. Congratulations on your fantastic

Love, Mom, Dad, & Francie

### **Kristal Calin**



Kristal, Look at you, a college graduate! We are so proud of you and what you have accomplished.

Love, Mom, Dad and Cody

### Charith R. Fernando



We are so proud of your effort and accomplishments. Wish you the very best for a bright future.

Love you, Dad, Mom, Loku, and Chutie

### **Tammy Sue Fischer**



**Congratulations Tammy!** We are very proud of you. Our little girl is a school teacher today. We wish you all the best.

Love, Mom, Dad and Tina

### **Ryan Martin Frazier**



We are so proud of you and all that you've become. Congratulations! The sky is the limit.

Love you, Dad, Mom, Brittany, Grandpa, Grandma

### Douglas M. Hathaway



Doug, Congratulations! We are so proud and love you so much. We pray God will bless you always.

Love, Mom and Dad

### **Elizabeth Heather Herman**



Liz, You've come a long way since your last gradua-tion! We are proud of you and hope your life's dreams come true.

Love, Mom & Dad

### **Tierney Leann Houston**



Tierney, We have always said "You must walk before you run and crawl before you walk." Stand tall and be proud for today is your victory over triumph!

Congratulations, Mom &Dad

### Katye Lara Kalivoda



Congratulations Princess! We are so proud of you!

Mom, Dad, and twin brothers Louis and Mark

### Jennifer Michelle Krantz



Jennifer, Congratulations on graduating Summa cum Laude from the School of Business. We're very proud of you.

Mom, Dad, & Francie

### **Anly Rose Krepinevich**



Dearest Anly, Congratulations on this very special achievement in your life. Thank you for your beautiful qualities that make us so proud.

Love, Mommy & Dad

### Melissa Antoinette Lee



Melissa, Cute when she was born. Grew to be bright. Proud of her all the way. Congratulations!

Love, Mom & Dad

### **Adam Vale Marcus**



Adam, Family's spirits are born again, improving with each generation. Our family spirit's pride and congratulations, go to you Adam...on your graduation.

### **Richard Peter Marens**



Richard, Joy of our lives, we are so proud of you and your accomplishments! Follow your heart and dreams!

Remember we love you, Mamska, Robert, Lena, & Dziadek

### **Giancarlo Mariutto**



Giancarlo, Cowabunga! You did it! We are proud of you. La vita e' bella.

Love, Mom & Dad, Zio & Zia, Nonna Tempie

### Patricia Amanda Melton



Mandi, Your perseverance and dedication will make your dreams come true. We love you!

Mom, Dad, Wendi and

### **Melanie Miller**



Melanie, Looks like all of your hard work finally paid off. Congratulations and best of luck with everything!

Love, Mom

### Falicia Norman



Falicia, Congratulations! We are very proud of you. It's time to celebrate your wonderful achievement.

Love, Mom & Dad & Tigsimir

# **Arnaldo Olivera**



Arny, We are very proud of you! You are truly a gift from God.

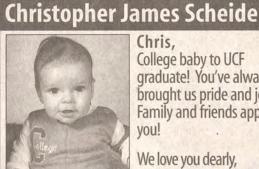
We love you very much, Dad, Mom, Lillian, Jaime, Marjorie, and Cheran

### **Stephany Sampayo**



Felicidades Stephany! Estamos muy orgullosos de lo que haz logrado y, deseamos que tus deseos se hagan realidad en tu futuro.

Te amamos, Papi, Mami



Chris, College baby to UCF graduate! You've always brought us pride and joy. Family and friends applaud you!

We love you dearly, Dad and Mama

### Michelle Lee Spaleta



Michelle, Congratulations! It's just the beginning of an exciting new journey. Wishing you a future with promise and endless possibilities.

With love, Your family

### Jonathan Dwight Wehking



Jonathan, From ABC's to M.E.A.S.C. we're as proud as we can

Mom, Dad, and Jason!

### **Erica Wheaton**



Erica, Congratulations! We are proud of you! Never give up. Best of luck in the future!

Lots of love, Mom, Fred and Dad

### Go out in style



Graduating next fall? Don't let your loved ones miss out on including you in next fall semester's Graduation Goodbyes on Dec. 8.

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Once again the end of the semester has arrived and with it the awards that everyone has been so anxiously awaiting

# The fourth biannual NIGHTIFS.

**ANDY VASQUEZ** Sports Edito

Now that the Knighty awards have been around for a little while (this is the fourth time in the past two years they have graced the Sports section of the Future), we decided that it was time to let you in on our little secret.

There is a lot that goes into awarding a Knighty, and for the first time ever we reveal this intricate and sacred process.

Exactly 10 days before the end of the semester, the staff of hard working researchers and writers in the Future's sports department lock themselves inside their cubicles. No cell phones, computers or any sort of communication to the outside world is allowed. Nobody is allowed to leave until a decision has been reached on every single Knighty.

In order for a Knighty to be approved, there must be a twothirds majority, but if after seven days that requirement isn't met then a simple majority will do.

When the decision is finally reached, we raise the white window blinds to inform the hundreds waiting anxiously around the world that a decision has been made.

Sure it seems like a lot to go through for an imaginary trophy,

PLEASE SEE KNIGHTY ON B2



BRETT HART / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE Stephanie Best picked up the Knighty for Lifetime Achievement, the most sacred of all the Knighties.

# Draft not needed for two former **UCF** stars

Haynes and Capers ink contracts with NFL teams in same division

> **ANDY VASQUEZ** Sports Editor

For the first time since 2002, no UCF football players were selected in the NFL Draft, but that didn't keep two former standout Knights from finding a home in the NFL.

On Monday, less than 24 hours after the conclusion of the draft, running back Alex Haynes signed a free-agent contract with the Baltimore Ravens, and wide receiver Tavaris Capers signed with the Pittsburgh Steelers, which makes these former teammates rivals in the AFC North Division.

Haynes, the most prolific runner in UCF history, received a phone call from the Ravens minutes after the end of the draft on Sunday. Baltimore offered him a free-agent contract, which he signed on Monday, and Haynes is expected to travel to Baltimore this weekend to join the team.

Haynes leaves an impressive record in Orlando, as he heads to the NFL. In his four years in Black and Gold, Haynes amassed 3,356 yards, the most in the history of UCF football, eclipsing the old record of Willie English's 3,131 yards by more than 200

In his final season at UCF, Haynes was impressive, rushing for 854 yards on 215 carries and reaching the all-time yardage record, despite missing two games with a shoulder injury.

The 5-foot-10-inch, 225-pound tailback also rushed for 100 yards in 16 different games, — the most in Knight history — and his 27 career rushing touchdowns leaves him only slightly behind English's 38. Haynes also holds the record for most rushing touchdowns in a game, with four against Tulane in 2001.

Capers, who became the sec-

PLEASE SEE OTHER ON B4

# Softball avoids sweep with late comeback

Eight runs in the sixth inning push the Knights past Troy as softball splits

MATT DUNAWAY

Senior Staff Writer

Sunday afternoon, in a span of 15 minutes, what looked to be a sure sweep for conferenceleading Troy turned into a mind-boggling split at the UCF Softball Complex.

UCF (40-25-1, 12-6 A-Sun) was down 8-3 entering the sixth inning. But the Knights didn't give in, pushing across eight runs on six hits to take the vic-

tory, 11-8.

"This comeback is a huge shot in the arm for us right now," Coach Renee Luers-Gillispie said. "To finish on this field with a comeback win gives us what we need heading into the conference tournament."

Jania Shinhoster, Nikki Green and Cat Snapp started the frame picking up RBI singles as the Knights wiped away a deficit for the first time this

season. They trailed after five innings.

"It was exciting to watch," Luers-Gillispie said. "I was so proud of how everyone, one through nine, stepped up and made it happen for themselves. They had that fire in them deep

more." UCF also capitalized on a Troy throwing error that pulled the catcher off the plate on a

down because they wanted it

force play. With the score 8-7, Ashley Van Ryn ripped a double down the right field line to give the Knights a 9-8 lead. Nicole Balogh, who started the rally with a walk, finished the job by blasting a double off the left field fence for the final margin

"When I first hit it, I was thinking, 'Oh great, I hit it in the air again," Balogh said. "But

PLEASE SEE **TEAM** ON B3

# Graduating seniors aren't the only thing to bid farewell

### It's been fun taking shots at Stetson, but I have bigger fish to fry

Boyz II Men once sang, "It's the end of the road," and every time they did, I threw up and slammed my face in a car

But now the members of that oncepopular R&B group are washing cars or something, and we really have come to the end of the road. I hate to throw this at all the kids who need my column to make it through their Trajectory of Midget Tossing classes, but the sports column has come to an end. Mouthing Off has seen its final issue, and the

Thursday tirade is going the way of the dodo.

I know I should have given everyone a little warning, but we all know I'm selfish and enjoy tormenting people. I know my No. 1 fan, Connie, is going to curse my name. And I'm sure half the volleyball team will beat me with sticks, but there comes a point when a guy has made his final Britney Spears/trailer park joke. As Jerry Seinfeld did, I'm

leaving you wanting more. Who knows? Maybe a certain Orlando-based newspaper will wise up one of these days and make me one of the youngest sports columnists in the nation, and everyone can continue to bask in my inability to feel shame or show compassion for other human beings. Maybe I'll live the dream, but in



MOUTHING OFF **ASHLEY BURNS** Managing Editor

the meantime enjoy this final Thursday tirade ...

Paris Hilton released a statement that she and Nicole Ritchie were no longer friends because "Nicole knows what she did." Then Paris burned her

leg on the exhaust of her new Ferrari. How do I know this? Because according to every freaking cable news channel and magazine on this planet, this kind of filth actually qualifies as news. Maybe I'll just forget the sports writing dream and become an Eskimo and live inside an igloo and train an army of penguins to take over the world. That would be news ...

No UCF players were drafted in last weekend's NFL Draft, marking yet another miserable achievement in the ongoing saga of UCF football. I feel bad for the draft-eligible former UCF players, and I wish them the best. No joke here, just a lot of respect for some qual-

UCF baseball has had more than a week off since the team last played a

game. Does anyone understand that UCF baseball is to me what a 6-footwide eight ball is to a crackhead? It's not fair I tell you ...

We're 24 days into the Major League Baseball season. We've had two steroid suspensions, and the Cardinals have the best record in baseball and own a four-game lead in the National League Central. With that said, here's my fantasy baseball update: three fourth-places and a dead last. My original statement before the season started: "I plan on finishing fourth like I've never finished fourth before." Get off me, people. I'm

I've never admitted that I'm much of a fashion aficionado, but I do know this:

PLEASE SEE DO ON B4

# Knighty brings reflection and joy for all

but hey, the end result is always worth it. So here they are, without further ado, the Knighty winners for this semester.

### Dave Chappelle look-a-like: Marcus Avant

Two words: dead ringer. There really isn't much to say about this one, because Avant looks more like Chappelle than Miami Coach Heat Stan Gundy looks like Ron Jeremy. In fact, if

separated by

nearly 10 years



in age, one might say that they were twins separated at birth. Now all we need to do is get Avant to say: "What did the five fingers say to the face? SLAP!"

#### Breakthrough performance of the spring: John-Michael Howell

Last year Howell was at the University of Florida, where he sat out because of an injury. This year has been a different story. Howell had a fast start and never looked back. Through 43 games, Howell has averaged a ridiculous .389 and blasted 12 home runs to lead the Knights in both categories. He is also leading the Knights with 15 doubles and his 46 RBIs are second on the team only to Dee Brown. Hmm, bet UF wishes they hadn't let him go.

#### The inaugural Dexter Lyons best hair of the year award (tie): Troy Lindbeck and Adham Rashwan

With many solid candidates around campus this was one of the toughest decisions to make. The argument was that Lindbeck should be disqualified from the com-



length of his golden locks off sometime in mid February. However, after two days of hard fought

campaigning and deliberation our panel reached the final result of a compromise, ruling that Lindbeck's hair was eligible because it was long and wavy for more than half the season. Troy if only you hadn't cut your hair mid-season it would have been all yours. Honorable mention: Billy Judino, Josh Peppers (mini-fro), and Will Bakanowsky.

#### Freshman sensations: Ben Leong and Anna Yakimchenkova

In their first year as Knights these two couldn't have gotten off to much better of a start. Yakimchenkova, was a solid addition to the women's tennis team, which had a very solid season this year. She had an overall record of 18-5 which

included a perfect 8-0 doubles record. Leong, one of the members of the men's golf recruiting class named best in the nation last year, has shown he is one of the best players on the team. Last week at the A-Sun championships, he put on a show and nearly took the championship in his first attempt. Struggles on the final nine holes cost him that opportunity, but there will be plenty more for this budding star in the future.

#### The most ridiculously difficult name to spell and pronounce: Anna Yakimchenkova

Well it starts out easy enough with Anna, but then comes the last name. Bet you can't say that five times fast.

#### Top clutch performance of the year: Gary Johnson

While Johnson struggled at times this year, when it mattered most he always seemed to step up and take the lead for his team. This was especially evident in the Knights' final game of the season in the first round of the NCAA Tournament against Connecticut. When the Knights needed it most, Johnson stepped up and had the game of his life, with a career-high 29 points, seven 3pointers. He helped the Knights nearly dethrone the defending national champions. His performance was so impressive that UConn Coach Jim Calhoun, who is slated to go into the Basketball Hall of Fame later this year said of Johnson: "He's good, we put bigger people on him but he found ways to get screened. He seemed to be tireless ... He's a terrific player."

### Best softball name of the year: Cat Snapp

Just say it out loud ... One more time ... OK, this seriously may be one of the coolest names ever. This catcher not only has a



great name, but the game to back it up. She has started 65 of 66 games behind the plate for the Knights and is batting .301 with 19 RBIs so far this season. The best part is with Snapp's continuing success here, which as mentioned above is extremely satisfying, her name will be heard around campus a lot in the future.

#### Offensive explosion (tie): Baseball and Marcus Avant

All the talk coming into this baseball season was that the Knights were losing a lot of offensive power with the departure of some of UCF's most consistent bats. That talk has been silenced very quickly and with authority, as baseball has jumped out to the most impressive start in team history. Two-thirds of the way through the season, the Knights already have 44 homers, 17 more than they had all of last year. Equally surprising and impressive this spring was the offensive performance of men's basketball player Marcus Avant. Coming into the season his career high was 12 points. He eclipsed that multiple times in late January and early February, becoming a critical part of the Knights' scoring attack.

### Multi-sport crossover appeal award: Men's soccer team

These guys really went out on a limb a couple weeks ago when they competed in an intramural kickball tournament and won. Seriously, that's not even fair. These guys are reminiscent of the New England Patriots; they win at everything (they also won the A-Sun tournament for the third straight year this fall). The real question is: What would happen if they tried a sport which actually involved their hands?

#### Best athlete you've probably never heard of (tie): Tiffany Roebuck and Ann-Louise Larsen

These two are very good at what they do, and even though you've probably never heard of them you should get to know them. Both outstanding athletes, they are the heart and soul of UCF's track and field team. Roebuck is one of the most dominant athletes in the history of UCF track and field. At the A-Sun championships two weeks ago, she won three gold medals, continuing her stellar season. Larsen, the captain of the team, has been equally impressive and moved into the top five nationally with her strong performance in the high jump at the A-Sun championships, where she won a gold medal.

#### Raw deal: Former men's soccer Coach Bob Winch

OK, let's just flat-out say it: He robbed. UCF had its reasons and it is its prerogative the choose coach it feels is best for the



Winch

future of the program, but imagine being Winch. Not only did he lead his team to three straight A-Sun tournament championships, but he also took the program to places it has never been before. Now Winch has to go somewhere else because UCF didn't renew his contract.

#### Second biannual Knighty Lifetime Achievement Award: Stephanie Best

Simply put, she is one of the finest athletes, man or woman, ever to don the black and gold. The accolades she has accumulated in her four years at UCF are far too many to mention, but we'll try anyways. She was named the A-Sun regular season and postseason "Player of the Year" in both her sophomore and junior seasons, and is well on the way to achieving those honors again this year. So far she is batting .337 with 23 home runs and 54 RBIs. Off the field Best is a class act, and everything she has done over her four years as a Knight has represented the university in a positive light. Congratulations to Stephanie Best on a spectacular and memorable career as a Knight.

### State & Nation

bowls — the Fiesta, Orange,

will qualify for a BCS contest.

current system, the teams that

finish first and second in the

BCS rankings will play for the

The first title game under the new format will be played

Jan. 8, 2007, at the Arizona

Cardinals' new stadium set to

open in the fall of 2006 in

Glendale, Ariz. The Fiesta Bowl will be played in the

same stadium a week earlier,

on Jan. 1. The stadium also will

be me site of the 2008 Super

championship.

Fiesta group gets 2007 title game PHOENIX — The Bowl Championship Series is looking for a few good men and women who know something about college football.

The purpose: To establish a new poll to help determine the teams that will play for the national championship.

BCS member athletic directors made it clear at their meeting Tuesday that they prefer starting a new poll to replace the Associated Press rankings, rather than making radical changes to their formula, BCS coordinator Kevin Weiberg said.

"We continue to look at a poll that would potentially include a panel of voters that would be comprised of individuals who have had experience with the sport, either as administrators, coaches, perhaps former players, things of that kind. That's where we're putting most of our focus at this point," said Weiberg, the Big 12 commissioner.

Also on Tuesday, the Fiesta

Bowl organization was award-The formal announcement ed the first national college of the Fiesta selection came football championship game only hours after Arizona Gov. under the new, expanded Janet Napolitano signed legis-Bowl Championship Series lation that would require the stadium authority to grant use of the new facility for college football. The bill also turns Beginning in the 2006 season, there will be a new game to determine the BCS national sales tax revenue from ticket sales and other transactions of champion, a contest separate from the four existing BCS the BCS games over to the

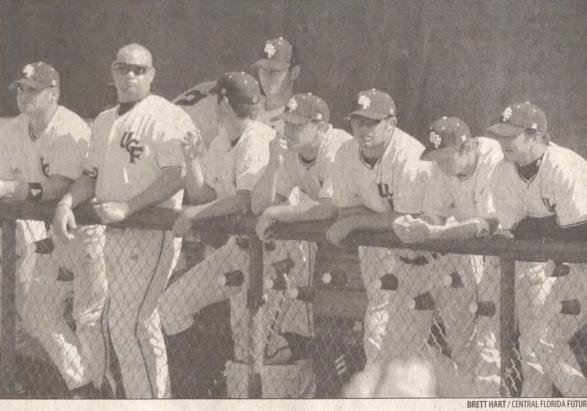
Fiesta Bowl. Sugar and Rose. In essence, it The provisions will mean about \$1.75 million in revenue, means that two more schools Fiesta'Bowl executive director As is the case under the John Junker said.

Weiberg stopped short of saying the Fiesta would have been bypassed had the bill not become law. "But clearly we would have

some questions that would have to be answered about the financial commitments the Fiesta Bowl had made to us," Weiberg said.

The announcement means the sites for the championship

PLEASE SEE STATE ON B4





**BRETT HART/ CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE** 



BRETT HART / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTUR

The baseball team, top, has been one of the hottest teams in the nation offensively so far this year. Golfer Ben Leong, above, was spectacular last week at the A-Sun championships as he shot a 65, which tied for the tournament low. Gary Johnson, left, was always there for the Knights when they needed him most.

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# Men's tennis awarded for impressive spring season

### Finishing on top allows four to enjoy honors

**BRIAN MURPHY** 

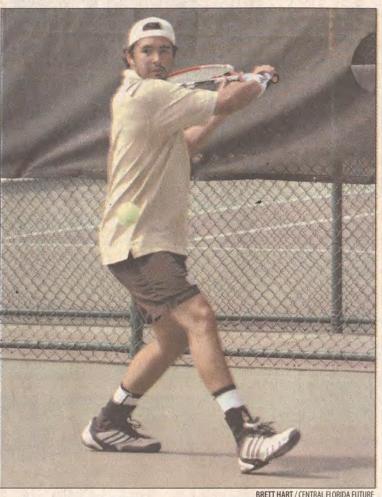
In sports, it's common knowledge that the achievements of the team overshadow any personal feat. No matter what a single player earns, his accomplishments are diminished if the team is not suc-cessful. But off their third straight Atlantic Sun Championship, four players from the UCF men's tennis team were able to fully enjoy the honors bestowed upon them, as the A-Sun announced its all-conference teams on Monday.

After both were named to the second team in 2004, senior Joel Allen and junior Ener Gursoy were named to the All Conference First Team for 2005. Gursoy was solid in both doubles and singles but will be most remembered for his amazing effort at the A-Sun semifinals. With Gursoy and his opponent both battling cramps, he literally outlasted his opposition from Georgia State and won the three-set match that put the Knights into the finals.

His first-team selection marked the third time Gursoy has received post-season A-Sun honors. In 2003, he was voted to the All-Freshman Team, and he followed that up with the second-team honor last season.

Playing on the top two courts all season long, Allen posted a team-leading 15-6 record in singles. He won all three of his singles tilts at the conference tournament, including the three-peat clincher over Troy University. Yet, the Haiti native is also a threat in doubles, where he has put up a 14-7 mark. From Feb. 12 to April 16, Allen was victori-

ous in 14 of 16 doubles matches. Many of Allen's triumphs in doubles have come with senior Antonio Sierra, who was named to the All-Conference



Antonio Sierra, named to the All-Conference Second Team, won 13 straight in singles this year.

Second Team. The senior has taken down 14 singles opponents, and in the season's last two months, he has been simply unstoppable, reeling off 13 consecutive singles wins only three of those matches needed a third set. Sierra, who is UCF's all-time career leader in victories with 75, was a firstteam pick in 2004. All three of these Knights also received Player of the Week honors at some point during the year.

Newcomer Sinan Sudas became the third Knight in four years to be selected to the all-freshman squad. In his first season in Orlando, Sudas won five singles matches. With five seniors departing, the play of Sudas will be critical if the Knights want to have any chance at four titles in a row.

But where would any good team be without a good coach? UCF Coach Bobby Cashman faced many doubters this year. Critics said that the 2005 squad would not be as good as those

of the two previous championship teams. As the 2005 Knights encountered injuries and a 2-6 start to the season, those critics were ready to say, "I told you so."

But, against all this adversi-ty, Cashman gathered his troops and guided them to victory in 12 of their next 14 meets, including a six-match winning streak through the A-Sun tournament. For this, he was given "Coach of the Year" honors for the second time in three sea-

While the Knights are glad to give themselves a pat on the back, their season is not over. With the A-Sun championship, UCF earned an automatic bid into the NCAA tennis regional. They will need to stay fresh, as they will not even know their opponent until Monday. The tournament begins May 13.

By then, the Knights will not have played a single point

# Team effort allows softball to earn a split heading into a lengthy break

FROM B1

everyone in the dugout was like, 'Go, go, go.' It just felt so good to hit a ball again."

Luers-Gillispie commented, "It's great to see the youngsters stepping up in big situations. Nicole has been working so hard all season long, and she really made something happen after putting the ball in play all

The double by Balogh was the last hit at the present UCF Softball Complex. The Knights. will move into a new facility next season.

Jennifer Tomasetti picked up her fourth win of the season, throwing a complete

"It was great for her to go the full seven innings," Luers-Gillispie said. "I was happy that the girls stepped up and gave one of our freshman some run support."

Stephanie Best also knocked her NCAA-leading 23rd home run in the third

Troy won the first game 3-1, behind a one-hitter and 12 strikeouts from sophomore hurler Jocelyn McCallum.

The Knights manufactured a run in the first inning, capped by a bases-loaded walk drawn by Kacie Feaster. It was only the fourth time this season that UCF lost a game when scoring

Tamra Howren's homer in the fourth inning evened the game. The go-ahead run came across in the next frame on a throwing error, as Jenny Boyd stole third base.

The Trojans added an insurance run in the seventh on a sacrifice fly by Howren.

UCF won't return to the diamond until next Thursday when the Knights conclude the regular season with a doubleheader at Stetson. First pitch is slated for 6 p.m. in DeLand.

If we come to play that day,



BRETT HART / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Outfielder Jania Shinhoster and the Knights were able to salvage a split with Troy on Sunday.

we should be fine," Balogh said. "When our bats are hot we win games, and if we carry on this momentum as well as this intensity we'll walk all over Stetson."

Bethune-Cookman doubleheader scheduled for May 8 at home has been cancelled.

### Around the Atlantic Sun

The six spots in the conference tournament in Boca Raton on May 12-14 have been claimed. All that's left is to jockey for position as the last few weeks of the regular season wind down.

Jacksonville (30-28, 9-9 A-Sun) clinched the final berth on Sunday afternoon with a 3-0 victory over Gardner-Webb. Shannon Jenson hurled her second shutout in as many days and was honored as A-Sun Pitcher of the Week for

On the flip side, Troy (41-18, 17-3 A-Sun) has already locked up the top spot in the conference tournament after going 2-2 in the Sunshine State last

weekend. The Trojans finish the regular season against ACC foes Florida State and Georgia Tech.

The Knights (40-25-1, 12-6 A-Sun) are in a three-way tie for second place with Stetson (34-17, 12-6 A-Sun) and Florida Atlantic (33-30, 12-6 A-Sun).

The Hatters swept FAU last weekend for the first time in school history. Danielle Arriaga grounded back to the pitcher in the seventh inning with the bases loaded, as the Owl rally fell short — 3-2 in game one. Shawna Wiggs drove in three RBIs in the second game, including a two-run triple in the third, to pace the Stetson attack to a 3-1 victory.

Lipscomb (23-21, 10-6 A-Sun) joins JU as first time qualifiers for the conference tournament. The Bisons split a pair of series in the Peach State last weekend and return to the Music City to face Campbell and Gardner-Webb. This weekend is a golden opportunity for Lipscomb to improve its seeding with four winnable

games at home.

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FROM B2

game will continue in their current rotation - Fiesta, Sugar, Orange and Rose. In all cases, the sites will host the national title game a week after their regular bowl

### College all-star game moves SAN ANTONIO — The

nation's oldest college allstar football game is moving from San Francisco to San Antonio.

The East-West Shrine Game, played since 1923, will be held in the Alamodome beginning next year, game officials said Wednesday. The 2006 game is scheduled for Jan. 21.

Jack Hart, the game's executive director, said the directors and trustees of the Shriners Hospitals approved the move last week. The game raises money for the 22 Shriners medical facilities around the country.

Board chairman Raoul Frevel said the Shriners faced rising costs if they wanted to keep playing in San Francisco, where the game had been

played since its inception. He said attendance had been dropping and the Shriners wanted a more centralized location for the contest, which pits standout players from eastern U.S. colleges against those from the

### Kellog expelled from Connecticut

VERNON, Conn. - Connecticut point guard Antonio Kellogg has been expelled from the school and granted a special form of probation on charges stemming from two recent arrests.

The 19-year-old Kellogg was in court Wednesday on charges including attempting to assault a police officer, first-degree criminal trespass, and interfering with an officer.

Kellogg was arrested on April 9 after a confrontation with police inside a UConn dormitory.

Last month, the freshman was charged with possession of less than four ounces of marijuana after he and several friends were approached by police. Kellogg allegedly dropped a bag of marijuana on the ground in an effort to conceal it from a state trooper who said he detected the smell of "burnt marijuana."

Superior Court Judge Constance Epstein granted Kellogg a special form of probation Wednesday known as "accelerated rehabilitation." Under the program, if Kellogg successfully completes two years of probation, which includes enrollment in a drug program, the charges will be dismissed.

Kellogg played about 14 minutes a game this past season, backing up Marcus Williams. He appeared in 29 games, averaging just over three points.

He was suspended from the team after the Big East tournament for a "violation of team policy."

- FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS



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State & Nation

# Other former UCF standouts hope to get signed in near future

FROM B1

ond Knight from last year's squad to join the NFL, also had a solid career in Orlando.

In his five years at UCF (Capers was given a medical redshirt as a freshman after playing only one game due to injury), Capers had 157 receptions for 1,717 yards. He had four touchdown catches last year and 17 over the course of his career, which leaves him at sixth all-time.

The 5-foot-8-inch, 170pound receiver makes up for his lack of size with blazing speed and agility.

As a punt returner, Capers is second all-time at UCF with two career punt return touchdowns. In what was probably his most memorable moment as a Knight, Capers returned a punt 54 yards for a touchdown at Penn State.

Another former UCF player who should be picked up by an NFL team is strong safety Atari Bigby.

Throughout his career, Bigby has been one of the Knights' best defensive forces. He was named to the All-MAC first team in 2003 after collecting a career-high 112 tackles during his junior season.



MICHAEL SNEAD / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURI Alex Haynes was the first former Knight to sign with an NFL team, the Ravens, on Monday.

Last fall could have created an even finer campaign for Bigby, but he broke his leg and missed four games, getting only 42 tackles and one interception. With 296 career tack-

les, Bigby is seventh all-time in UCF history.

Check out our next issue on May 11 for more coverage of former Knights and their journev into the NFL.

### Do me a favor and flip the collars down

FROM B1

If it were 1985, the flipped-up collar look would be fine. But it's 2005, and it looks stupid. Like trucker hats and wearing sunglasses at night, this collar thing needs to die now. Unless I missed the memo when I was jamming out to my Bananarama tape and trying to decide if I should wear my checkerboard Vans or my white Keds with my Skidz pants, then please take my word when I say that it's just

I wasn't elected pope, therefore I've changed my title at the Future to managing pope ...

I want to say thanks to some

of the departing senior athletes who will be graduating or don't have any eligibility remaining after their seasons ended for not only making my job easy, but for making it fun. I wish I could thank you all more, but I only have so many words, and there were really only a few that

pay a lot of attention to the sports outside of football, and that's a shame. When you don't go to certain events, you don't have a clue about who these people are. Men's tennis can win championship after championship, but not everyone gets a chance to learn that Antonio Sierra is one of the funniest people alive or that Rhett Rosen really isn't as cocky as he makes himself out to be.

If you don't go to volleyball games you'd never know that Tanya Jarvis and Michelle Spaleta are two of the nicest people you'll ever meet. I'll bet a lot of people don't know who Stephanie Best is, but I guaran-tee she's probably the best allaround athlete who has ever played a sport at UCF.

If you read enough of my columns, you'd know that Gary Johnson, Marcus Avant and Kingsley Edwards deserve to be the cockiest guys at this school, but they're probably the most humble. You don't go to Most people at UCF don't their games, and you don't get

to know them. Now they're gone. I seriously hope that some day soon the students at this school stop taking these great athletes and people for granted ...

Finally, now that you've waded through my mushiness, my sports column is certainly over. But if you know me by now, you know there's no way I

could shut up that easily.

When the Future returns on May 11 you'll be able to find the new Burnsy column about three pages from where it is now — in the Opinions section. I'll be tackling more politics and news-related items and probably a few sports topics here and there, but all with the same sense of humor as my devoted

fans would expect. But I've only cracked the shell of this columnist gig, and I've got a whole new demographic to start tormenting. See you in 13 days.

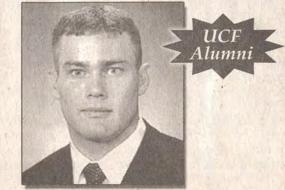
> Ashley Burns can be reached at editor@UCFnews.com



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# Opinions The Student Newspaper Serving UCF Since 1968

**OUR STANCE** 

# Every graduate deserves applause

ost in the shuffle of the hectic days of finals and the warm embrace of another summer vacation are the thousands of seniors who will soon take their final breaths as UCF students before walking into that new realm known as the real world.

And while these future working-class warriors are going to take their degrees from this fine institution of higher learning and hopefully make something of themselves, few ever receive attention or credit for how much better they've made this school.

Every senior who crosses the stage next week deserves to be in the spotlight for doing what so many others haven't been able to do. Almost every person at this university came here with a handful of friends. And most certainly everyone has a story about the one or two friends who couldn't cut the mustard and moved back home. It's a typical scenario we have grown accustomed to. But we also tend to lean more on the fact that so many people couldn't finish that we don't actually show enough gratitude to the people who do finish and earn a degree.

Far too often, the only praise falls upon the school's athletes. Departing seniors are showered with affection either by the

media or by teammates and fans. The athletes certainly deserve every ounce of gratitude because most people understand that athletics is the heart of any university's mainstream attraction. However, most people also fail to realize that none of us would be here if it weren't for academics and for the unsung heroes. Graduating seniors deserve the same high praise as the athletes.

The Future thanks all of the senior basketball players for their amazing efforts. They poured their hearts out on the court to take UCF to two consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances. The same goes for the baseball players who continue to hold up one of the strongest programs in the country and the softball players who helped build a new program. Even the departing football players, who haven't had the easiest time on the field these past two seasons, deserve thanks for toughing it out and giving 30,000 fans something to look forward to each fall.

But on the same level, the staff of the Future wants to show its respect and gratitude to the people who poured their hearts out in the classroom to earn their four- or five-year degrees. For every athlete like Alex Haynes, UCF football's graduat-

**OUR STANCE** 

ing all-time leading rusher, there's an engineering student who racked up a 4.0 GPA, pulling all-nighters and sacrificing a social life, so he could eventually make a difference in people's lives. For every athlete like Gary Johnson, the men's basketball guard who led the entire NCAA Tournament field with 29 points in one game, there's an education major who will graduate and impact the lives of hundreds of children by teaching them how to read.

The graduates of UCF athletics and those of UCF academics deserve equal praise for the time they've all devoted to making this a better university. With each student who falls away from college life, there are a dozen seniors fulfilling their families' dreams and creating opportunities for a successful life that so many people will never have.

As they walk the stage next week, stepping out of the collegiate cocoon and entering the real world, every senior should know that the eyes of 45,000 UCF students are still upon them. They will continue to represent UCF, and they are creating examples for every wideeyed freshman who comes to UCF to follow.

For that they should be hon-



### READER VIEWS

Senator says thanks

On April 21, my career in the Student Government Association came to an end. In many ways it was bittersweet, and I would not be the man I am today unless I took the opportunity to thank the people that got me here. First, I would like to thank the managing editor of the Future, Ashley Burns. During my tenure within SGA, I have been concerned as to how information about SGA was being conveyed to the student body. Since Mr. Burns has taken over, and after reading the recent issues, I can now be reassured that the information and articles printed about SGA are accurate, clear and concise. Thank you, Mr. Burns, for making this "turn-around" of the Central Florida

Next, I want to thank the student body, more specifically my constituents, for electing me and supporting me for three consecutive terms within the SGA Senate. I have worked, to the best of my ability, to better the lives of the students of this university. In return, you have put your faith in me to perform my duties, and I appreciate the endless. support I have received. As I told the SGA Senate on Thursday evening, I am a firm believer that when people leave this university, it's not necessarily the names people remember but the legacies that were left behind. I feel that my legacy was left within the Senate chambers, and I challenge the students of this university to leave a similar legacy before their career at UCF ends.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the members of the 37th SGA Senate. I have learned so much from the diversity of this Senate, and I feel it has made me a better erson for it. Politics can be inherently ugly, but I am a firm believer that there has not been an issue we haven't been able to overcome together. The student body is fortunate to have the leadership it does within the SGA Senate. I encourage you to continue to keep the students first and remember that you are elected officials chosen to lead act accordingly.

Thank you, students of UCF, for allowing me to represent you.

> — EVAN ROSENBERG SENATOR; HPA SEAT 1

Proud to graduate at 26
I'm glad UCF finally recognizes the twixters and the many reasons why they are here. The editorial and the article [April 25] did wonderful jobs of showing all facets of why there are late 20-, 30- and 40-somethings still pursuing college degrees. A number of them have already had jobs or careers in the past and simply need to supplement their education or build their resumes in order to compete with a rapidly changing

Speaking as a 26-year-old twixter, years ago I was recruited by a major medical company immediately after completing my twoyear degree. The salary was excellent, the opportunity was rare, so I took it.

I had always planned to pursue my bachelor's degree while I worked at my full-time job, but as it turned out, I ended up taking a leave of absence and relocating to UCF. I have never considered myself as one "evading" responsibility or one who refuses to grow up. In my case (like so many others), I cannot wait to end this temporary break from reality (known as college life) and rejoin the real world — you know, the 9-to-5 working, coffee-drinking, water cooler-chattering, tax-paying world of adults. While I've enjoyed my two years at UCF, I am proud to say that I will be graduating in two weeks.

I have not lost touch with my former employer, as I have a cushy job waiting for me upon my return. However, I've endured enough raised eyebrows and ignorant assumptions from fellow students. Not to mention the endless chatter from professors talking down to a classroom of 18- to 20year-olds unaware that there is an adult in the midst. Not so bad at 26, but I truly relate to the 30-somethings and above who share in this experience.

- ANONYMOUS READER

The Future encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and must include full name and phone number. We may edit for length, grammar, style and libel. Send letters to editor@UCFnews.com, submit them online at www.UCFnews.com or fax them to 407-447-4556. Questions? Call 407-823-6397 (UCF-NEWS).

# Putin promotes peace summit

ussian activity under President Vladmir Putin has always been tough for political scientists to predict, and this week proved that fact once again.

President Putin has completed his mini-tour of the Middle East with only two stops, one in Egypt and one in Israel. While his trip may be short, he has already accomplished more than any other previous Russian leader in trying to deal with the Middle East.

Putin came to the region with the intention of resolving tension between the Palestinians and Israel. His proposal, which is highly approved by the Palestinians, is to hold a peace summit in Moscow in the upcoming fall. The other four members in attendance would be Russia, the United States, European Union and the United Nations.

Palestinians are backing the plan because they feel using Russia as a primary mediator would be more equal. Israel stated that it will not support any plan used to circumvent the effort from the U.S.-drawn "road map" for peace. The current plan is designed to slow the growth of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip while Palestinians disarm their militant factions. Putin's response to the Israeli complaint was that Middle East

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OPINIONS EDITOR SPORTS EDITOR .

peace should be based on U.N. meet with Israel Prime Minisresolutions and their plans.

Putin gave his resolution plans in a press conference alongside Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and gave few in-depth details of the summit proposal. He did say that all high-level experts would meet and Russia would hold preparatory contacts on the level of participants and the agenda. "I intend to discuss this idea with my other colleagues [Ariel Sharon] who are interested in moving the peace process forward in the Middle East," Putin stated.

There are other reasons for Israel to be skeptical of these new plans created by Putin as well. Just before Putin left Russia to come to the region, the Kremlin came out to announce that they would be selling antiaircraft missiles to terrorist harboring Syria.

Gerald Steinberg a specialist in Israeli relations at the Begin/Sadat Center for Strategic Studies questions the timing of Putin's announcement. "It is very curious to know why Putin decided to make this very defiant statement before he came to Israel," Steinberg stated. "It does not really make any sense that a leader from a major country would do that, would wave that red flag before the first official state

visit by a Russian leader." Today, Putin is supposed to

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ter Ariel Sharon and there is no doubt that his dealings with Syria will be on the table for discussion. Sharon is also sure to discuss the issue of a number of wealthy fugitives from justice in Russia who are living in Israel. All of the men, who are associates of Jewish businessmen, claim that the charges of fraud against them are purely political and that they have committed no real crime. It is their belief that their alliance and support for opponents of Putin has lead to these charges. The Kremlin denies this and demands for Israel to return the men to Russia.

Democracy in Russia has come under fire in the recent years under Putin and these fugitives are hiding under that argument. Regardless of what Israel thinks of the Kremlin's allegations, it needs to respect the sovereignty of Russia and turn over the fugitives. Maybe if Israel cooperated earlier with Russia on this issue, then they wouldn't be selling anti-aircraft weapons to neighboring Syria.

As far as the Russian plan for peace undermining the United States, it may be plausible. But for what reason would they do this? Russia used to have a stranglehold on the Middle East during the Cold War. Now it seems, it wants back in the game.

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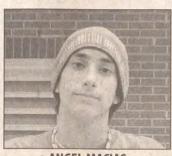
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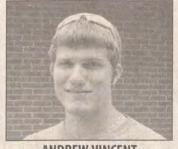
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# My year in review for UCF's 2004-05 school year



COMMENTARY

NATHAN POEKERT Staff Writer

This school year has been a memorable one. UCF has experienced the good (free concerts), the bad (hurricanes) and the ugly (Michael Moore). Here is my list of the top 10 memorable moments at UCF during the 2004-05 school year.

10. Hurricane Charley drops trees and debris all over campus. The gym is closed for four months. Steroid-using fraternity brothers become desperate and begin to bench press one another and their girlfriends to get a workout.

9. The UCF Board of Trustees approved the building of two new parking garages as part of the Master Plan. Students rejoiced until they found out that the garages won't be fully completed until 2015. Some seniors might still be here to use them, though.

8. Willie Bentley wins everything he enters: Homecoming king, SGA president, etc. Seriously, the guy could enter the Miss UCF Pageant and probably win.

7. Hats off to the men's basketball team. It had a memorable season capped off by giving defending national champion UConn a serious run for its money.

6. The WB decided to shoot Big Man on Campus at UCF earlier this year. What better way to showcase the future leaders of America.

5. Matt Prater's extra point kick goes wide right in overtime against Ohio. Drunk fans outside of the Citrus Bowl don't notice, since they never actually went inside.

4. Thousands of UCF students participate in a bonfire, burning unpaid parking tickets. Rock band Twisted Sister comes and plays "We're Not Gonna Take It" (didn't happen, but it should have).

3. The UCF Student Union decides to incorporate Disney World features into its food court. Lanes in a zigzag pattern are now set up at Wendy's during peak business hours. Approximate waiting time: 30 minutes.

Student Union officials are now planning on adding a speed-pass kiosk next semester for those who don't want to wait.

2. W. wins the 2004 election over Kerry. In anger, the College Democrats steal Skip Moedinger's scooter until the ransom is paid by the College Republicans.

1. The average GPA of UCF students drops dramatically from the 2003-04 school year. Students complain that they are staying up later and sleeping less. The reason: Facebook.com.

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At the University of Central Florida Arena

Thursday, May 12, 2005 10:00AM to 3:00PM



Universities Participating in Event:

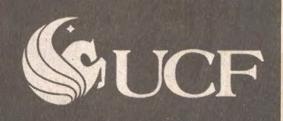
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State University Students
to Meet With Employers
From All Over the Country
to Discuss Career and
Employment Opportunities

Professional Attire Required

List of Employers at: www.crc.ucf.edu

Before you take off to enjoy the summer ...



The UCF Pharmacy would like to remind graduating students or students not enrolled in summer classes, if you will be needing to refill prescriptions over the summer and do not use a prescription card when paying you will need to refill those prescriptions by May 16, 2005

Located in the Student Health Center
Any questions please call us at
407-823-MEDS

(6337)

Seminole Chronicle

Central Florida Future

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- 250 Roommates

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HELP WANTED: General

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- 700 Worship
- 800 Miscellaneous 900 Wanted 999 Lost & Found

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### By Phone: (407) 447-4555

- By Fax: (407) 447-4556
- By E-mail: classifieds@UCFnews.com In Person: University Court, Suite 200 Univ. Blvd. & Rouse behind Chick-Fil-A

HOW TO PLACE AN AD

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UCF's award-winning newspaper Serving Oviedo and Winter Springs published twice-weekly. distributed every Friday.

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### HELP WANTED: General

- Central Florida Future —

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There's a place for everyone at the Future! Ideal candidates are those who want to grow with the newspaper. Applications for paid positions as managing editor and sports editor are currently being accepted. E-mail inquiries to Dana DeLapi at newsroom@UCFnews.com.

### Central Florida Future

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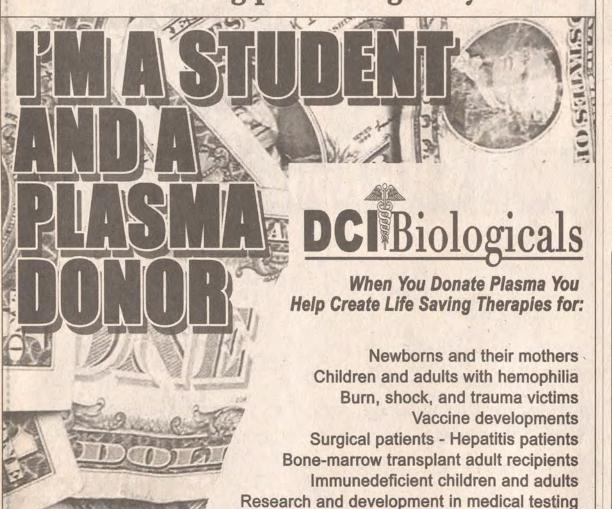
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Name: Tamara Ahrens Occupation: Student

Hobbies: Reading, watching TV, hanging out with my friends, and just relaxing Why I donate plasma: "I like to save lives,

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### HELP WANTED: General

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\*Nice Room\*\*Location 3/2 home close to UCF DSL,W/D Furn, clean, m/w, d/w, n/pets Female n/s, \$325/mo utilities included 407-971-6748 lv.msg

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Rooms in new house. Fully furn., heated pool. Barbecue grill, pool table, sec. sys., garage. NS/NP. Female only. All util. incl. \$600/mo. Call Nikki @ 561-212-6291.

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Female Roommate Wanted 2/2, \$500/mo incls util, W/D, cable, internet. 10 minutes from UCF. N/S Available immediately. Clean quiet complex. Call Amanda @ 407-207-1439

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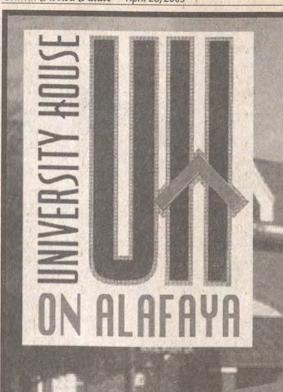
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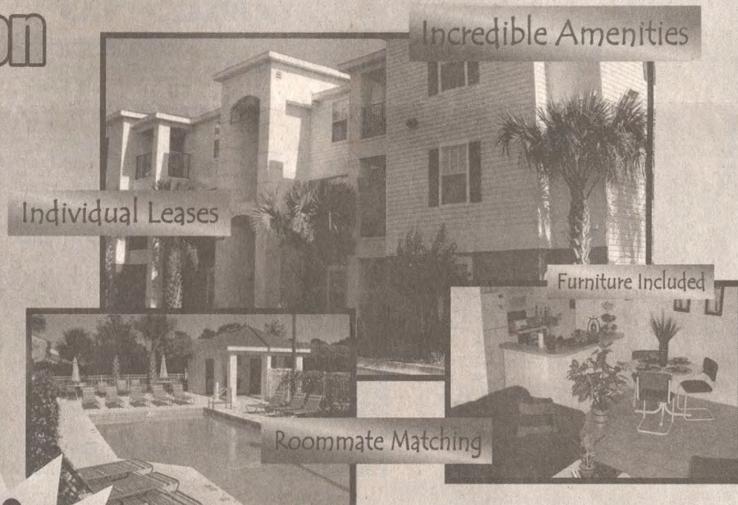
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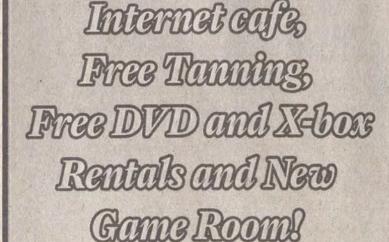
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Tanning Bed Coming Fall 2005







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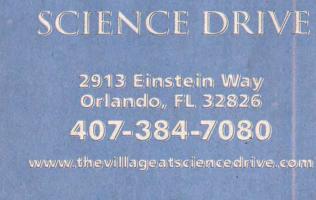
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### FOR RENT: Roommates

UCF area - 10 mins. away. Female only. \$450/mo. including everything. N/S only. Available in August. Call 407-243-2630

\$450/mo. 2 bdrms avail, cable, w/d, deck w/grill, util incl, 4/2 home, 10 min- UCF, Bi-wkly maid, furnished, large home Rent-Semester (yrly- w/discount) call Mike @ 941-812-5120 or 941-795-3008

SUMMER RENTAL - HOME May-July, \$450/mo. \$100 deposit, 2 Rooms Avail, Hi-speed cable, Deck, Yard, Prvt parking, Bring bed, 10-min UCF. Maid service 941-812-5120,941-795-3008

3/2 House 2.5 miles from UCF. \$500/mo Includes utilities and High Speed Internet Call 321-297-5886

Rooms for rent, 5 min, from UCF in new 4 bedroom house, new neigh. Lg. rooms, back yard faces preserve. House furn., bedrooms not. Sec. sys., high-speed wireless Internet. Room w/other students. \$500/mo. all util. incl. 954-816-3127

ROOM AVAILABLE 4 BD/3 BA, Pool tables, Spa, 5 min. from UCF, \$500/mo. Everything incl. Move In A.S.A.P!! Call 941-685-3954

Female Senior at UCF seeking 2 F. roommates for a 3/2 is Sherwood Forest. \$260/330 for master per mo. Utilities not included, No pets, smoking outside. Ready in July. Call Lisa at 407-923-8880.

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Female N/S roommate for 2/2 apt. \$515/ mo. Includes cable, electric, internet, and W/D. Available in Aug. Call Heather@ 850-624-8439

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1 bdrm avail. in a large house close to UCF. Includes in-ground pool, W/D, full kitchen. \$350/mo. + split util. Call 407-641-4205.

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2 Female Roommates Needed ASAP \$430/mo incl all util, water, W/D. \$300 deposit returned once lease expires Brand new house, 10 mins from UCF. Must be clean. Call Lima 407-341-2416

3/2 House 5 Min. away from UCF N/S F. Roommate wanted who is clean, Quiet, Prof 23-32, No Pets \$450/mo includes utilities + cable Call Ann 407-657-1976 leave msg

Waterford Lakes/UCF House Furn rm, private BA. Many amenities. \$525/mo incl util, cable, W/D, house privileges. No lease. Only 1 other person in house.

Two Females Looking for Roommate 3/2 in Valencia Lane new apartment \$330/month + 1/3 utilities Close to UCF and VCC

Roommate wanted, 2/2 condo in Aloma/436 area, \$390/First/Last,

5 mins from UCF. \$350/mo incl water & electric. Clean & fully furnished.

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needed for beautiful house located near UCF. \$400/mo base includes spacious Bd & Ba, 2 large living areas & sunroom. Safe neighborhood. N/S, no pets. 1/3 utilities due. Call Meredith at 407-925-7086.

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ROOMMATE NEEDED ASAP 2 normal girls need 3rd roommate for huge 3 bdrm house. Two mins from UCF on Suntree. \$375/mo plus util. Call Marilyn 954-695-1532.

apartment. One roommate needed Female, Rent \$400/mo. Call Denise @407-375-1862

### FOR RENT: Sublease

avail in 4/4. May 1st - Aug 19th. Aug free, no move-in fees. Call 561-504-2106

Room avail in 2/2. All util included, w/d/, furn. Rent negotiable, ready May. Call Kim @ 786-423-1913

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SUMMER SUBLEASE Looking for female roommate for May until Aug 1st. Bdrm avail in house located off Dean Rd. and 408. Call Chris @ 321-230-7173.

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Master bdrm in 4/4 avail May 1st for M. Fully furnished. Rent incl util. Will negotiate. Call 407-489-2037

TAKING SUMMER CLASSES? Single bedroom avail @ CVI, May 1st August. Unlimited meals. Incl util, cable tv, and internet. FOR MORE INFO CONTACT MATT: 904-669-0848.

One room available in Pegasus Landing. 3/3, \$510/mo, include utilities, private room and bath, ethernet, furnished,full kitchen, W/D, No move in fees, 1st month free, Leasing May-July. Call Sam @772-532-8845

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Prices have risen here at Pegasus Pointe to \$470/mo. However, I have the same unit available for only \$455/mo. This is a 4/2 apartment and the price includes all utilities and is offered to either males or females. Don't be stuck paying for more than you have to. Contact Ginny @ 954-907-4970.

UCF Area Apartment Available Furnished 4/2.5 townhouse style apt. Convenient shuttle access. All fees paid. \$400/mo incl all util. Call 727-858-8520 or joeburnsphoto@gmail.com.

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LANDING! READY FOR MID MAY MOVE-IN TO THROUGH JULY. 1 bd/1 ba in 4/4. \$450/mo incl all util trash service, fully furn. Great Clean Roommates! Call Shy @ 407-497-5018

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No sec dep. Summer lease, May '05-Aug '05. \$465/mo at Jefferson Lofts. Aug is free. Fully furn, w/d, free tanning, internet, pool & spa. Call 321-720-7665.

UCF AREA APARTMENT Bdrm and private ba avail in Boardwalk 4/4. \$490/mo incl all util, fully furnished, cable ethernet, Available in May Call Frances @ 407-325-3031 or francy104@aol.com.

Looking for a place to live for the summer? Perfect rm. to rent for the summer. Huge furnished rm, walk in closet, personal ba., Ethernet, W/D. cable w/HBO, full utilities, great roommates, and full kitchen (including dishwasher). Clubhouse includes mail-center, full gym, beautiful pool, and comfortable lounge. Gated community, provides shuttle to campus, personal trash pickup. It's a Beautiful Place...so come check it out! Asking only \$500/mo. (\$25 less than cost of room). If interested call (321)689-9984, ask for Rob. Serious Inquiries only. Sublease May-July 31. Pegasus Connection, 1bd in 4/4, \$505/mo includes util and free covered parking. Call Ashley at 305-753-7262

**Summer Sublease Pegasus Connection** May 1-July 31. 1bd 1ba in 4/4. \$450/mo obo. Fully furnished includes utilities. Pool, tennis courts gym and free shuttle to UCF. Call Rich at 850-525-0250

Sublease in a 2/2 at Pegasus Landing! \$560/mo incl utilities -W/D, cable, internet 3rd flr w/ view. June-July 31. Perfect for summer session. Renewal avail for guaranteed housing. Negotiable terms. Contact David @ 813-391-3137

Pegasus Pointe Apartment Available for Summer term. Female needed for 4BR unit. Quiet & private. I WILL PAY ALL TRANSFER FEES!!! Call 321-604-9029

Pegasus Connection 2/2. Both Apts open. 1st mo free. Utilities included. Open all summer sessions. Call 407-902-5311

Summer Sublease. 1 bd in Jefferson Commons/Pegasus Connection. Rent negotiable. Starting May 1. Female only. Utilities included in rent. 850-206-5915

\$100 Off 1st Mo Rent. No Fees Female for 2/2 @ Pegasus Pointe. Move in after April 30. \$580 per mo. Includes utilities, cable tv, ethernet, w/d, ucf shuttle. Quiet roommate.

Call Sarah @ 407-620-7623

First Month's Rent Free Pegasus Pointe Bd & ba avail in 2/2 \$550/mo incl all util, ethernet, w/d, and shuttle. Call Jim @ 407-365-7293

May-July Sublease. Aug. Negotiable Village at Science Drive. Save \$200. Own ba, fully furnished, util included. Great clean roommates. Call Melinda 954-263-5783

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Discounted Rent at Pegasus Pointe Save \$15/mo, \$455 incl all util, ethernet, cable, w/d, fully furn, and shuttle. Pools, tennis, and basketball courts. Call Jesha 941-661-3038 or

geisha2138504@yahoo.com

1 rm in 3 bd/3 ba. \$530/mo. (\$545 reg price). Includes utilities, internet, w/d, cable tv, garbage service, pool, gym. Deposit req, but negotiable. Call 954-591-9292

Village at Alafaya Club Room avail in 3/3. \$500/mo incl all util, w/d, fully furn. First month's rent free. Rent negotiable, ready immediately. Call 786-302-0511

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No Deposit fees!! Room avail. in 4/3 @ University House. Lease till Aug, can renew! \$439/mo. Incl. everything. Shuttle to UCF. Util. incl. Save money . Move in today!!! Call ASAP 305-773-2522.

contact ucfhermione@gmail.com

\*\*\*1st MONTH FREE\*\*\* Bd & ba avail for F in Pegasus Landing 4/4. Discounted rent, \$470/mo incl all util, ethernet, w/d, shuttle. Great roommates. Lease til end of July. Call 352-585-3164.

Discounted Rent at Pegasus Landing Bd & ba avail in any apartment. \$495/mo incl all util, w/d, ethernet, cable, shuttle. Living & dining rooms, balcony, kitchen. Call Cristina 772-913-1002 or cristy44@comcast.net.

### MARCH FREE

Northgate. \$400/mo all inclusive. No move in fees. Avail immediately Call Sarah @ 321-501-1363

Studio Apartment Available Arden Villas, \$575/mo incl pool and gym. Price negotiable. Choice of renewal for Fall. Call Amber @ 407-383-1389.

### 1/1 in 4/4 at Pegasus

Old renewal rate only \$425/mo obo! All util incl, 3rd floor, tennis ct view, fully furnished. Free shuttle to UCF. Beautiful pool. Call Anthony at 954-461-6939.

Roommate needed. Furnished rm in house. Avail ASAP through July 26, possibly later. 3 awesome roommates Big screen tv with cable, dsl, W/D, huge front yard, tile floors, 2 large living rms, fireplace, quiet Oviedo neighborhood, mins from campus. Only \$379/mo + 1/4 utilities, \$7 phone. Call Jessica at 321-591-1238 or email morninglilly4@yahoo.com

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schedules 19 Toss out 20 Aboveboard 21 Actress Myrna Good points

24 "Lilies of the Field" star 26 Springs and

29 Wayside stopover 30 Most perceptive 32 Popeye's Olive

33 Trap 34 Tackle-box item 35 Chilean range

38 "Monsters. 40 Web-footed

41 Curdled milk 43 Ger. automobile 44 David of "The Fugitive" 45 Lode load

48 Detectors 50 More sordid 52 Lean-to

53 Bridge action

54 Soprano Gluck 55 Louisville's river 57 Pet peeves 60 Weekend

cowboy 61 Colorful mount 62 Ladd or Lane Med. scans

65 Uses emery DOWN

1 Couple with 16

garment 3 Entered

5 Squealer

41 Square-sail support 42 Full of rushes

28 Winter coaster

35 Priests' robes

31 Sharp tastes 33 Post-dusk period 34 \_\_ Palmas

Iditarod finish

Negative aspec 39 Sicilian tourist

51 Hysteria 53 \_ B'rith 55 Offbeat 56 Color property 58 Here-there

### 59 Spots on TV

### FOR RENT: Sublease

SUMMER SUBLEASE Tivoli Apts, \$400/mo + util. Ethernet, cable, w/d, shuttle incl. Quiet roommates. Price negotiable. 407-765-7674 or

FIRST TWO MONTH RENTS FREE!! Pegasus Connection (Jefferson Commons) sublease. \$510/mo incl. util. 1 BR with private bathroom out of a 4/4.

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Fall Sublease Northgate Lakes

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Don't miss our pre-World Premiere event activities on the UCF Student Union patio, featuring a REAL tiger cub from Thunderhawk, a local big cat rescue group. Donations will be accepted to support their efforts.

Want more? Join us on Tuesday, May 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the Communications Bldg. Rm. 101 for a Post-NAB (pro-video applications) update and Tiger Overview with guest speaker, John Allen, Systems Engineer and video production

guru from Apple Computer. This event brought to you by AppleCorps@UCF, the Mac User Group at UCF.







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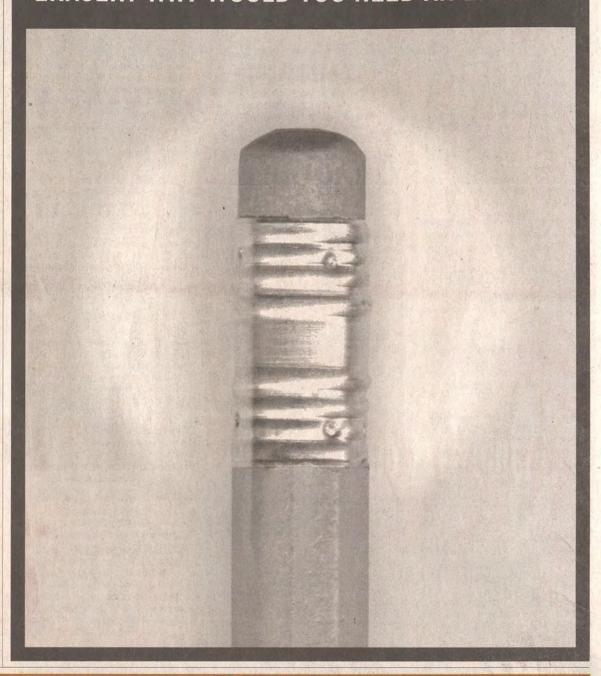


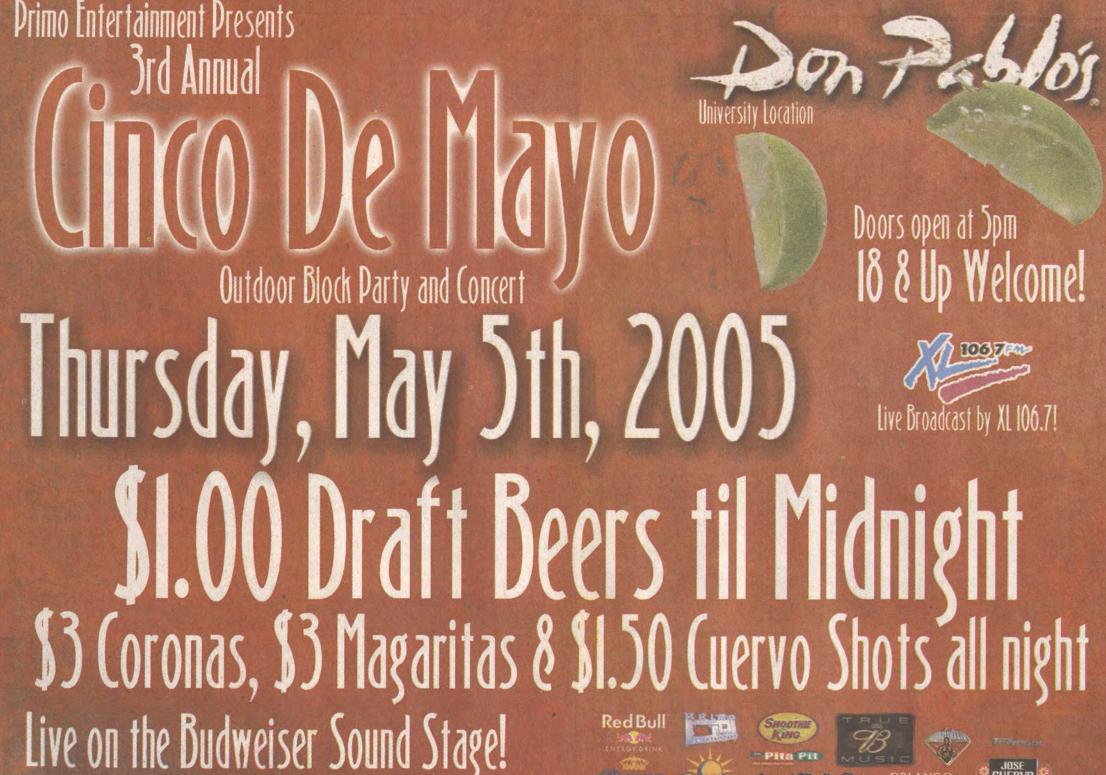
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### **HAPPENINGS**

# We have no mountains, but he's still coming

John Darnielle plays at Will's Pub this evening

JOHN THOMASON indie Editor

is songs are alternately witty and mordant, if they're not both at the same time. He can play quiet acoustic numbers and fist-pumping rockers and make them equally captivating. At live shows he's prone to everything from neartearful renditions of popular favorites ("Your Belgian Things") to impromptu versions of "I Will Survive" - which he performed at The Social last year to the thumping bass of Tabu next door.

And he may call himself The Mountain Goats, but the "band" is still virtually John Darnielle, with a few backing members who chip in on bass, drums, piano, and even, on his new album The Sunset Tree, the occasional cello. Darnielle may inhabit one juxtaposition after another, but one thing is for certain: the lo-fi boombox Darnielle is no more.

Since he's now three albums into his 4AD record deal, it no longer comes as a surprise to fans when each new album is, comparatively, overproduced. While Darnielle's early work placed almost total emphasis on his lyrical talents, thanks to guitar arrangements that were deliberately simple and threadbare, the new material retains the same dark humor, spine-tingling pathos and keen eye for detail and sprinkles in some genuinely beautiful music to accompany his vocals.

And, with The Sunset Tree and 2004's We



John Darnielle, right, says, 'Hey, do you think they call it water because it's wet?' while Al Borland (at least, that's who we think he is) says, 'I don't think so, John.'

Shall All Be Healed, Darnielle has eschewed the fictive characters of his older material: the albums are drawn largely from his own

What results is a greater treat for the concertgoer, as The Mountain Goats has come to excel in the art of performance. Where, a mere four years ago, one would see a guy on a stool playing guitar, there is now a revolving group of musicians who share the stage, and at the last Social show, Darnielle actually stood, uninhibited and infused with rock

The downside, of course, is that new material has taken utter precedence at Mountain Goats shows. The man does have 415 songs in his catalog, and it may be a bit much to expect him to bust out an obscure track from Yam, the King of Crops or Beautiful Rat Sunset, but a few pre-Tallahassee tracks would be more than welcome. Or at least "Going to Georgia."

But you are likely to hear recent gems from The Sunset Tree, as well as his two

other 4AD albums. "Dance Music" is this album's "Southwood Plantation Road" (which he's played at the last three Orlando shows), an instantly accessible number that is sure to become as much an Orlando tour classic as "Jenny," Darnielle's ode to love on a motorcycle. Also expect to hear the anthemic "Up the Wolves," and the nostalgic, sweet and sentimental - but in the good way — "Love Love Love."

The Mountain Goats perform tonight at 8 at Will's Pub. Tickets are \$10 to \$12.

THE INDIE

The indie is the Thursday arts and entertainment section of the Central Florida Fluture, the free independent campus newspaper of the University of Central Florida. Opinions in the indie are those of the individual columnist only and not necessarily those of the editorial staff. All content is property of the indie and may not be reprinted in part or in whole without permission from the publisher.

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#### IN THE ISSUE

Vol. V, No. 29, April 28, 2005

Well, this is it. The last issue until August — and my last issue, as well. It's been a good year and a half (aside from the whole almost-being-sued-by-Ludacris thing, which sucked more than Superbabies and killed any hope of a true April Fool's issue).

We have a so-long-farewell Geek Life — Elizabeth Fernandez is leaving, too (though I doubt we'll have a hard time finding another geek to replace her, we'll still miss her). And check out the Web Less Traveled for some exploding doom.

There's also an interview with Seth McFarlane and a bunch of previews for this summer - movies, music, geek stuff, the usual.

Also: Obles. What is it? You'll find out soon enough in the Life section.

Have a good summer, and we'll see you in a few months. BFF + KIT. KTNX! TTYL!

- BRANDON HARDIN

### HAPPENINGS

#### SHOW CALENDAR

The Mountain Goats, Shearwater (indie) April 28, 8 p.m., \$10-\$12 Will's Pub 1850 N. Mills Ave. 407-898-5070

Prefuse 73, Battles, Beans (indie)

April 28, 9 p.m., \$13-\$15 The Social 54 N. Orange Ave. 407-246-1419

307-862-1002

Spread Eagle, Piehole, The Go Aways, The Lush, Upsiders (rock) April 29, 7 p.m., \$8 O-Zone CDs 1002 W. Hwy 436

Junkie Rush, Take Notice, Night's Fischerspooner, Max Graham, Q-**Burns Abstract Message (elec**tronic)

April 29, 9 p.m., \$15-\$17 House of Blues Downtown Disney West Side 407-934-2583

Heartattacks, Beat Beat Beat, Fashion Fashion and the Image Boys (rock)

April 30, 9 p.m., \$5 Will's Pub 1850 N. Mills Ave. 407-898-5070

In This Day, Lunatic Candy Kreep, Surface, Asphalt (metal) April 30, 5 p.m., \$5

360 State Lane 407-244-0299

Reckless Dream, Summerlin, Certain Individuals, Deaf Child (rock)

April 30, 9 p.m., \$5 Orlando Island Oasis 2716 N. Forsyth Rd. 407-657-6047

Yip Yip (electronic) April 30, 11 p.m., \$5

223 W. Fairbanks Ave. 407-628-2408

Tonight We Bleed, Open Theory, Breaking the Hold, Midas in Reverse, Broadway (rock)

April 30, 7 p.m., \$8 1002 W. Hwy 436

Pretty Ugly, The Cohorts, Spread Eagle (rock)

April 30, 9 p.m., \$5 Holly and Dolly's 500 E. SR 436

Adelphi, Houston Calls, Self

Against City, Abagnale, My getaway (indie) April 30, 6 p.m., \$8-\$10

Back Booth 37 W. Pine St 407-999-2570

Novarays, Wild Mercury (rock)

April 30, 10 p.m., \$10 Winter Park Bowl America 1111 W. Fairbanks Ave. 407-644-2244

Gestalt (indie) May 1,3:30 p.m., free Orlando Public Library 101 E. Central Blvd. 407-835-7323

Sum 41, Unwritten Law, Hawthorne Heights (rock)

May 1, 6 p.m., \$21-\$24 Downtown Disney West Side 407-934-2583

Donna the Buffalo, Jazz Mandolin Project (rock) May 4, 8 p.m., \$20 The Social 54 N. Orange Ave. 407-246-1419

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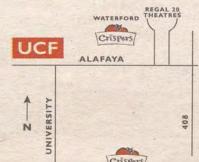
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### MUSIC

#### **TOP 25**

Park Ave CDs Jr.: Top 25 for the week of April 17-23

1. Mike Jones
Who is Mike Jones?

2. Slightly Stoopid Closer to the Sun

3. Mariah Carey Emancipation of Mimi

4. Beck Guero

5. Garbage Bleed Like Me

6. Mindless Self Indulgence You'll Rebel to Anything

7. Bloc Party Silent Alarm

8. Circa Survive Juturna

9. Matisyahu Live at Stubb's

10. Mudvayne Lost and Found

11. Millencolin Kingwood

12. Jack Johnson In Between Dreams

13. Z-Trip Shifting Gears

14.33Hz 33Hz

15. Inkwell Chaos Reveals Rhyme

16. Reggie and the Full Effect Songs Not to Get Married To

17. Copeland In Motion

18. Decemberists Picaresque

19. Amos Lee Amos Lee

20. Death Cab for Cutie John Byrd EP

21. Academy Is Almost Here

22. Death Cab for Cutie Transatlanticism

23. Rob Thomas Something to Be

24. Steel Train
Twilight Tales from the Prairies of the Sun

25. Aqualung Strange and Beautiful

# Music to beat the summer doldrums

New CDs from Weezer, Aimee Man, shows by Dinosaur Jr. and more

CHRIS BOWERS
Staff Writer

o doubt that by the time you read this, you'll be like me: tired, cranky and worn-out. Finals week has a way of doing this to even the most dedicated of students, and technically it doesn't end for two more school days. But allow me a few minutes of your time, and we will temporarily break away from the grasps of Scantrons and blue-books, and look into a musical crystal ball to see what lies just on the horizon. In the next few paragraphs I'll attempt to put together a list of some of the stuff you should be keeping your eyes peeled for this season.

This summer is filled with releases from bands we used to love, bands we currently love and bands perhaps we will get to love. And of course the clichéd summer music festivals that roll through town every year are back, but this summer also offers great weekend shows if you are willing to invest in the road trip — more on those to come soon. But for now, onto the new releases!

The summer of plenty starts just around the corner on Tuesday, with the first of three new releases this year from Ryan Adams. *Cold Roses*, which is actually credited to Adams and his new band The Cardinals, is a double CD with 18 new tracks. You can call Adams many things, but lazy is not one of them

Also seeing the inside of record stores for the first time on Tuesday is *The Forgotten Arm*, the newest full-length album by Aimee Mann. Perhaps her most ambitious album to date, the 12 tracks on *The Forgotten Arm* loosely tell the story of Jack and Caroline as they meet and fall in love.

On May II, we see the return of two old favorites. Super Furry Animals will release *Under the Influence*, its first full-length since



COURTESY LOST HIGHWAY

Ryan Adams fans can expect three new discs from the alt-country tunesmith this year, including a two-disc set Tuesday.

2003, and Weezer will release *Make Believe*, the long-awaited, rumor-generating follow-up to 2002's *Maladroit*. The fifth studio release from the pioneers of geek-rock sees frontman Rivers Cuomo returning to the personal lyrical content that made him the hero of every mid-'90s adolescent who spent his nights pining for half-Japanese girls, lesbians, and true love half a world away. *Make Believe* is filled with everything the previous two releases were lacking, and should, excuse the pun, make believers out of anyone who had jumped off the bandwagon. Welcome back aboard.

Take a trip down indie rock's version of memory lane on May 23, when Fearless Records will release *The Station is Non Operational*. The At The Drive-In anthology, which features greatest hits, unreleased tracks, rare b-sides, covers, videos and live footage, should be considered a must-buy for both the band's original fan base and Mars Volta fans in need of a history lesson.

With all this talk of indie and alternative rock, perhaps the most anticipated hip-hop album of the year will find its way to stores

PLEASE SEE THE ON 15

### MUSIC

# The summer concert season is in full swing



COURTESY POLYVINY

Of Montreal will be performing May 13 at the Social, with guests I am the World Trade Center.

FROM i4

on July 12. This will be your first chance to purchase Late Registration, Kanye West's follow-up to the critically acclaimed The College Dropout. Expect more of the same hip analysis of pop culture, race roles and societal structure that made The College Dropout a classic to be prevalent on West's sophomore album as well.

And as if all this wasn't enough to keep you going through the end of exams and even on through summer school, know this: There are numerous great shows coming to the area. The Good Life, Of Montreal and The Blood Brothers each have headlining shows at The Social in the upcoming months, while at House of Blues you can catch shows by Paul Westerberg, James Brown, John Legend, Better than Ezra, and a reunited Dinosaur Jr. Not to be outdone, Hard Rock Live counters with Bright Eyes and the Village People on back-to-back nights in early June!

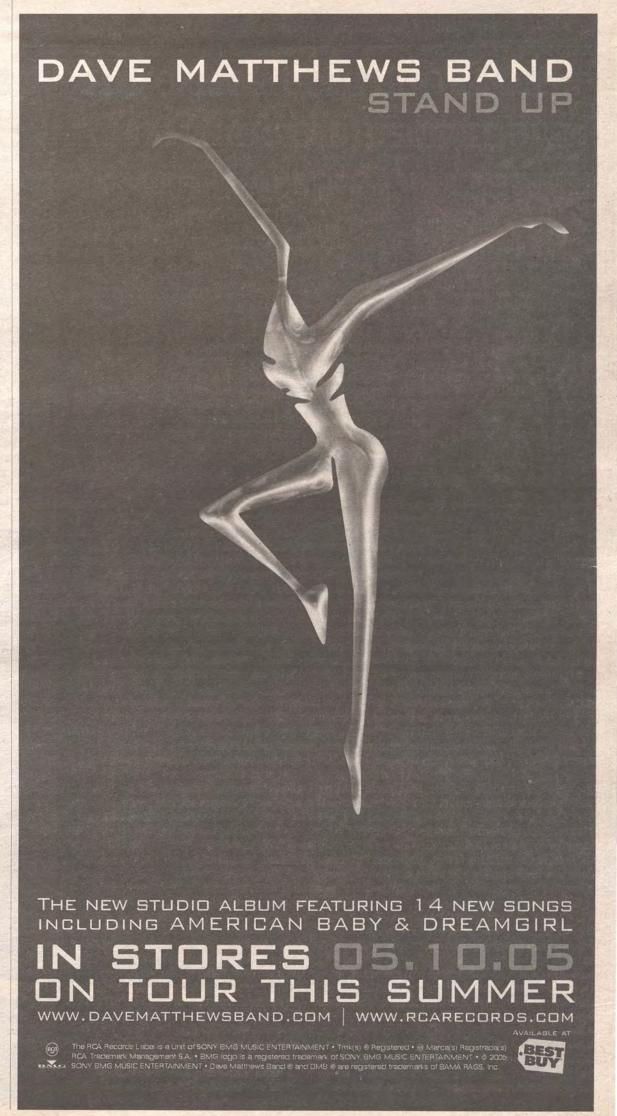
But perhaps the staple of summer music throughout the past 30 years has been the outdoor multi-day festival. If one is willing to invest the time and the money, then some of the best lineups in recent memory can be seen across the nation this year. Sadly, however, none are close to Florida. Here are a few of the top ones:

The Coachella Valley Music Festival goes down this weekend in Indio, Calif., and for \$150 you can get a two-day pass to check out an impressive listing of bands, including Weezer, New Order, Cocteau Twins, Gang of Four, Nine Inch Nails, Coldplay, The Arcade Fire, Bright Eyes and

On May 28, for \$55 you can see the Sasquatch! Music Festival at the Gorge Amphitheatre in Washington. Among those playing the one day event are Wilco, Kanye West, Modest Mouse and Bloc Party.

And on July 23-24, if you still have the energy and your van hasn't broken down just yet, head to Chicago for the now-one-weekend Lollapalooza (still the coolest name for a festival in the past 20 years). If you make it to the event you will be serenaded by rock stylings of such bands as The Pixies, Weezer, Dinosaur Jr. and Widespread Panic.

So there you have it. A brief sketch of what is to come between now and that fateful day we all gather again back in the fall. Hopefully this list will help steer you in the direction of some good music, but also, hopefully you'll get out and discover your own music, make your own lists, see shows in venues both near and far, large and small. But it's probably best that we don't get to far ahead of ourselves ... we've still got two days of finals to make it through!



### MUSIC

### With Woman King, Iron and Wine presents a balanced Beam

Iron and Wine's Sam Beam reflects on his new EP, home city and family

CHRIS BOWERS
Staff Writer

ometimes the simplest things can have the biggest impacts; one basic, seemingly unimportant event can turn into what becomes the deciding point in our lives. We don't think much of them while they are happening, but somewhere down the line, we realize the impact they had, and they will forever hold a special place in our hearts.

Music can have this effect. "Yesterday" turned out to be one of the most beautiful songs of all time, yet it is simply Paul McCartney and a guitar. Much of what we hear today on the radio and major music networks has never learned this lesson. It focuses more on the production than the actual song itself. The advent of the computer as an instrument has made it possible for what should never even be considered as mediocre to become number one hits on the pop charts. That's why many of us who consider ourselves educated music fans turn our radios off and seek our music elsewhere.

. But there are still those who care more about the song then the airplay, more about the music than the merchandise. And in most cases, these are the songs that end up standing the test of time and are the albums that become the most memorable. This lesson of simplicity is one that Sam Beam has taken to heart.

Throughout the past four years, Beam, better known to most as Iron and Wine, has been making simple music that often times just features him and an acoustic guitar. Music that while not overproduced, beautifully presents the listener with scenes of Americana and stories of love and admiration.

His first release was the ultra lo-fi *The Creek Drank The Cradle*. It was a collection of songs featuring hushed vocals accompanied by acoustic guitar, banjo and sometimes slide guitar, all of which were played by Beam. Recorded in his bedroom, where most of the songs were written and rehearsed over many a nights spent with his family, the album played like a soundtrack to the old South, with a focus on rural pastoral imagery.

What followed this was the slightly more polished and more produced album *Our Endless Numbered Days*. While the recording method changed slightly, the lyrical imagery and stories depicted in the songs did not. Then with the release of the *Woman King EP* in February, Beam continued the advancement with his most ambitious release to date. The six-song EP, each of which tells a story of a strong woman character, was Beam's first release with a full band.

The band, however, plays his music, and it still has a distinct Iron and Wine sound to it. It's bluegrass rock and roll meets the Lylith Fair with a hint of electricity.

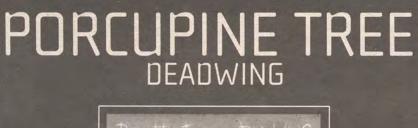
Beam acknowledges the advancement, saying "I keep trying to keep doing stuff that pushes me in different directions from what I've been doing. It would be a shame if it was the same s\*\*\* over and over again."

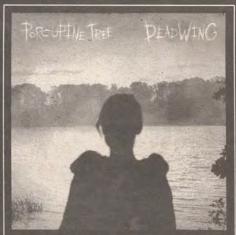
The advancement will continue with the release of his next EP in September, which finds the Southern influence of Beam paired with the western influence of Calexico.

But if you asked him, music is not his job; it's a hobby. Beam is a dedicated family man who says the best part of being a musician is that it gives him more time to spend with his family. "We sort of figure out how long I have to stay out, and then the rest of time I stay home," he said. "I love my kids, so it's easy for me to make them my priority."

Being a strong family man isn't the only thing that seems strikingly non-rockstar about Beam. Currently residing in Miami, the folk singer used to teach a class in screenwriting at the local community college before music became a full-time gig. Yes, Miami. Where, according to Will Smith, everyone has \$100,000 cars. The two lifestyles just didn't seem to mesh. But when asked about the city he lived in, Beam just chuckled and said: "Well, the people are nice, and I like the weather, you know?" Somehow the simplistic answer seemed to fit.

Iron and Wine will be performing a sold-out show at The Social tomorrow. Doors open at 7 p.m.





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### LIFE

# Grad's Orbles is just the start

Nickelpig houses video game, comic, musicians' freedom

IVAN VELEZ Staff Writer

ust two months ago, UCF graduate student David Sushil released his first video game from his company Nickelpig Media. The game has already reached an international audience.

Orbles are the small circular puzzle pieces of the titular game. Sushil said, "I liked the idea of having an assortment of different pieces that all interact with each other in different ways; it creates a real dynamic." The simple game design only required three months of work for his company to produce this first product.

Local music from bands such as Dodger, Fire at Will and Mas Pan plays while players shift rows of falling orbles, preventing them from piling up to the top of the screen. Game pieces include eliminators such as slammers, bombs and bowling balls, along with other unique pieces such as shifters, baubles and calculators. It's more complicated than good of *Tetris*, but *Orbles* still carries the addictive nature of most great puzzlers.

Since its February 14 release, Orbles has sold more than 300 copies and has been downloaded more than 900 times. Both Brothersoft.com and Tucows.com gave Orbles their highest possible rating: Five out of five. This month's issue of Indian magazine Computer Vignanam includes a demo version—that's 35,000 copies.

"We've been getting a lot of hits from India, and I guess we're going to have to start taking international sales," said Sushil.

Orbles isn't the only thing going on with Nickelpig. "Nickelpig is a creative release for me," said Sushil. "Beyond that, I really wanted Nickelpig Media to act as an umbrella for other creative people."

Along with Sushil, Brian "BS" Sheehan and Kimberly Bezek comprise the three-person crew behind Nickelpig. Sheehan coauthors the Ab Irato webcomic and aids with the promotion and marketing of the company. Sushil says he looks to Bezek as the barometer for Nickelpig's audience

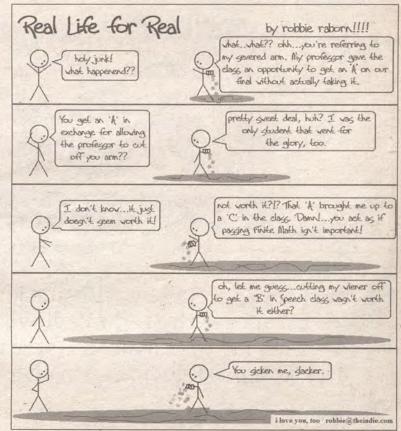
"Orlando has a thriving and brilliant local music scene," said Sushil. "We really feel that we want to become a part of that. I'm disappointed when I see a lot of musicians — especially musicians that are forced to compromise their vision for the bottom line. I feel that true art will find an audience anyway. So I really wanted Nickelpig Media to help do that. I'm not going to make any of the artists compromise their work and I'm just going to let them do what they want to do and find a way to get it out there."

Prior to releasing *Orbles*, Sheehan and Sushil realized that people needed an incentive for coming back to the Nickelpig Web site after ordering the game. How could they hook people into visiting their site on a regular basis? By creating a semi-biographical comic strip called Ab Irato.

"Ironically, even though it was a side project, it's been viewed more than 2,200 times since Feb. 14," Sushil said. "It brings more traffic to our Web site than anything else. For us, it's just us being silly. We took pictures of ourselves and put stupid captions, and it's been very successful for the short amount of time it's been out there."

The past two months have been wildly successful for Nickelpig, but Bezek, Sheehan and Sushil aren't simply patting themselves on the back and calling it a day. Another video game will be released in August and a new comic strip, potentially up for print publication, will be out this summer.

#### REAL LIFE FOR REAL



"We just did an interview with Chris Reilly, Steve Ahlquist and Ben Towle, who are the editors for a comic book coming out in May called *Strange Eggs*," Sushil said. In addition to promoting this product, which the Nickelpig crew really likes, it's networking and building relationships for their upcoming print comic.

"The next game that we're

going to do will be a puzzle game, and after that we're going to start taking our video games up to another level," Sushil said. "[We'll] try to really get them out there and do some projects that are going to make people say: 'Hey, there's some really cool stuff coming out of this little company. It's just three people, but look at what they're doing."

# Seven summer things for a geek to look forward to

### From Lollapalooza to a potentially good Batman movie

MICHAEL LAWRENCE Staff Writer

s Alice Cooper said, "School's out for summer!" So now, with all that extra time, you could either do something like volunteer at a homeless shelter like you always wanted to do, or give in to your inner geekiness. Since no one cares about the poor and sick, choose the latter, and to help you sate that part of your soul, we here at the indie have come up with seven things for geeks to look forward to this summer. Remember, if all else fails, make a blog and bitch all summer long. Chances are someone even more bored than you will spend all day reading it.

1. The return of Family Guy

Because DVD sales and high cable ratings can only be ignored for so long, the Griffin saga is back on Fox as part of an animation block on Sundays. Geeks rarely get their outcries heard, so this is definitely a victory. The only question now is whether or not it'll be as good. And if counterpart *Ameri*can Dad has improved since the paltry post-Super Bowl pilot.

2. Lollapalooza 2005

The concert tour that was so big they had to shut it down last year! OK, that was due to lack of sales, so this year it's narrowed itself from a traveling show to a two-day affair in Chicago with The Pixies, The Killers, The Walkmen and The Arcade Fire headlining.

3. Batman Begins

Shades of Schumacher or the beginning of a new era of cinematic glory for the dark knight detective? Christopher Nolan, who has shown he can weave cerebral suspense stories with the brilliant Memento and Following, sets to wipe the taste of camp from the mouths of fans who are still in therapy over Batman and Robin. Christian Bale, who has proven he can play an eccentric playboy, will have to show he's worthy of the cape and cowl, as he matches wits with the Scarecrow and Ra's Al Ghul, two villains familiar to comic geeks and viewers of the animated series but unknown to the average filmgoer.

4. The Vans Warped Tour

Yeah, you're thinking, "I thought this list was for geeks. What's a punk concert sponsored by a shoe company doing on this list?" Because it's one of the best places to pick up chicks. Think about it: young nubile girls who

are obviously easy to manipulate. How else do you explain them listening to Hawthorne Heights and My Chemical Romance? They're only one Tom Waits vinyl LP and Atom Egoyan film away from going from emo to Emo Phillips.

5. Star Wars Episode III

Geeks are already lined up at the theaters as of this issue's publication, and with a PG-13 rating, will Jar Jar get the hideous beating he so badly deserves from Chewbacca, who makes his first onscreen appearance since 1983? Despite the hour or two of pseudo-political babble that's sure to be in the film, seeing Darth Vader rise to evil prominence alone will make this one a must-see and a sure-fire blockbuster.

6. Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince

Come July, fat guys named Fred will have an excuse to wear capes

and hats for a day as the aspiring mage from Hogwarts sees the release of his sixth book. After this, only one more book in J.K. Rowling's series remains. That is until she tries something completely different, fails miserably and comes crawling back with several spin-offs to regain her reputation. Either way, it's nice to see people waiting outside a bookstore without Bill Clinton having to be there.

7. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

On the one hand, Tim Burton and Johnny Depp usually generate magic on the screen when they collaborate. On the other hand, the last time Tim Burton tried a "reinvisionment" (his term) of a loved film, it was *Planet of the Apes*. But can even Depp's charm match the gentle oddness of Gene Wilder? Even if Burton claims his version is truer to the book, the 1971 film is a cherished classic; that can't be forgotten.

**BRANDON BIELICH** 

here's the chubby, wise-cracking, gas-passing dad; the caring-yet-strict, do-it-all wife; the 13-year-old son troubled by school and girls; and the older daughter with a poor self-image, trying her hardest just to fit in.

On the surface, it's the typical family.

Now throw in an infant bent on world domination with a vocabulary comparable to Webster himself; and a talking, martiniloving dog filled with philosophical wisdom. These final pieces complete the puzzle known as the Griffins, the dysfunctional family of five from Quahog, R.I. Oh yeah, and they are also the stars of a little animated show called Family Guy.

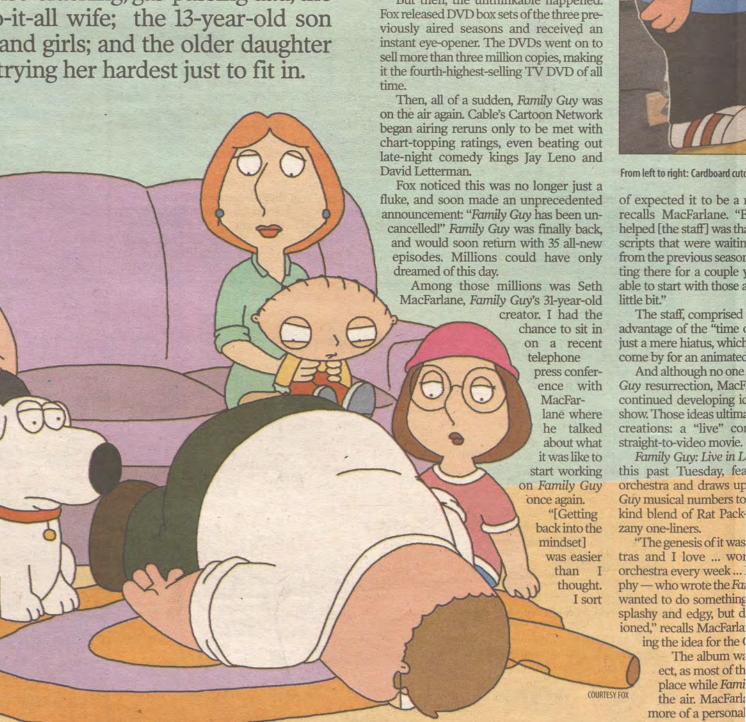
It's been six years since the Family Guy pilot debuted after the Super Bowl, but there is a reason you may have only discovered it about two years ago. After a mediocre debut of about 12.8 million viewers, which some call "disappointing," and poor ratings (the likely result of mixed time slots) Fox dropped Family Guy from its line-up. For some, it probably meant nothing. For many die-hard followers though, it meant absolute heartbreak.

But then, the unthinkable happened. Fox released DVD box sets of the three preit the fourth-highest-selling TV DVD of all

> orchestra and draws up Guy musical numbers to kind blend of Rat Packzany one-liners. "The genesis of it was

tras and I love ... wor orchestra every week ... phy - who wrote the Far wanted to do something splashy and edgy, but d ioned," recalls MacFarla ing the idea for the

The album wa ect, as most of th place while Fami the air. MacFarla more of a personal



From left to right: Cardboard cuto

recalls MacFarlane. "B helped [the staff] was tha scripts that were waitin from the previous season ting there for a couple y able to start with those a

The staff, comprised advantage of the "time of just a mere hiatus, which come by for an animated

Guy resurrection, MacF. continued developing ic show. Those ideas ultima creations: a "live" con straight-to-video movie. Family Guy: Live in L



cutouts of Chris, Lois, Stewie, Peter, Brian and Meg Griffin, with Family Guy creator Seth MacFarlane all smiles — his brilliant comedy is back on the air.

a rough transition," "But I think what that we did have five iting to be produced son that had been sitle years. So we were se and update them a

sed of 17 writers, took ne off," considering it nich is usually hard to ated series.

one expected a Family acFarlane and others g ideas based on the imately spawned two concert CD and a

n Las Vegas, released features a 55-piece upon classic Family s to create a one-of-aack-style singing and

was that I love orchesworking with a live ... I and Walter Mur-Family Guy theme ning that was big and it definitely old-fasharlane about develophe CD.

was a full-time projf the production took amily Guy was still off arlane admits it was onal "passion project"

that is not necessarily for the average viewer, but he hopes that it will translate well with the fans regardless.

But something everyone is sure to enjoy is the once-rumored, now confirmed straight-to-video movie. Again, time played a major role in allowing MacFarlane and other writers to produce the film.

"The way we were able to do this was that it was added onto our episode order. If it was a theatrical release, we wouldn't be able to do it. It was essentially the production process for three episodes that are actually a movie," explains MacFarlane.

The plot finds diabolical baby Stewie on a search for "his real father." While not wanting to spoil the story, MacFarlane hints at a third-act plot twist that, will take the movie in a totally different direction. Exactly what direction though, we will have to wait and

It is obvious that a lot has changed, as far as television standards go, since the show has been off the air. Ever since Miss Jackson's infamous "wardrobe malfunction," the FCC has been lurking over networks like a gray, stormy cloud. Many have

But as Seth explains, we shouldn't have to worry too much. "From my standpoint ... I have a clear sense from the Broadcast Standards

feared that this will ultimately lead to a

more tone-downed Family Guy product.

Department that they are doing their best to kind of help shield us from as much of [the censoring] as they can and keep the show the same that it has been. That's something that has really helped us a lot," comments MacFarlane.

It is safe to say 2005 looks like a promising year for us die-hard Family Guy fans. Though the show may have fallen short the first few times around, MacFarlane feels better about its chances in the fourth sea-

"I think, just from getting out there and kind of taking an overall temperature of how many people are aware of the show now compared to when it first premiered .. I think it's going to do better," explains MacFarlane. "It seems like just with my



that many, many more people are aware of it than have been before ... the fourth time could be the charm for us."

And as a humble MacFarlane explains, as it was we the viewers who ultimately put Family Guy back on the air, it is up to us to keep the show alive.

"To me, the best thing the network could do is put the show in a time slot and keep it there. I think the show will [survive] if it's worthy. If we've done our jobs then people will watch, and if they don't, then we shouldn't be on the air anyways [laughs]."

I know I'll be watching.

Catch the re-premiere of Family Guy at 9 p.m. this Sunday on FOX. Family Guy: Live in Las Vegas is available on Geffen Records.

daily conversations with people

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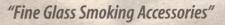
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**FILM REVIEW** 

\*\*\*



COURTESY MIRAMAX

Gerard Jugnot, as composer Clément Mathieu, leads a chorus in The Chorus. The sappy-but-decent film opens tomorrow at the Enzian.

# The Chorus strikes sappy chord

### More character focus could have moved this decent film to greatness

PAUL HAYNES
Staff Writer

he Chorus is a perfectly competent example of classical storytelling that should please anyone who holds Cinema Paradiso dear to their heart. After all, this is the kind of movie, released in the United States by Miramax Films, that has become representative of its once adventurous distributor's increasingly conservative repertoire.

The Chorus is a film that has been carefully groomed to tug at your heartstrings and be welcomed with open arms by audiences, and this is partly the reason the film has been given a decidedly lukewarm reception. We've seen this before. And it doesn't help that France, year after year, submits marginal films like French Twist and East-West as its official Academy Award entries over inarguably better and more relevant works.

The framing device that opens and closes this film is a familiar one, one we saw in *Cinema Paradiso*. An aging, gray-haired man is called back to his hometown with news of a death, and this visit sparks memories of childhood that launch into the center of the film. In both films, the man is played by Jacques Perrin. In *Cinema Paradiso*, Perrin was a filmmaker returning to his hometown after the death of the cinema projectionist whose paternal nurturing primed him to become a celebrated filmmaker. Here, Perrin is a world-famous symphony conductor, returning home after news concerning his mother. There, he reunites with an old schoolmate, and they begin to reminisce before reading from a diary left behind by a childhood mentor.

So begins the film. The diary, we learn, was written by a man named Clément Mathieu, who was a failed composer living at the bottom rung of life when he found employment at a school for wayward boys called "Le Fond De L'Etang," which translates as "Rock Bottom," an appropriate name, Mathieu writes, given that this is where he is existentially.

The school is run by the fearsome Principal Rachin, who

treats even his employees like delinquent pupils and as a character is not given many dimensions; his villainy and buffoonery are made very clear. Rachin enforces a simple disciplinary policy of "Action-Reaction," which is ironic in the sense that this system itself is reactionary, failing to actually condition the pupils. Mathieu, of course, knows better. While the boys at first seem irredeemable, Mathieu, benevolent and sage-like, begins using music to both discipline and liberate the boys until they have formed a full-fledged choir.

This is the first feature by 4l-year old Christophe Barratier, and it's awfully soft. We get an average of two films per year dealing with teachers who "think outside the box," so to speak, and turn unruly misfits into lovable, good-doing winners. *The Chorus* benefits from elegant widescreen cinematography by Dominique Gentil and Carlo Varini, and a heartwarming performance by Gérard Jugnot. It's said that children and animals are the two sure ways to win over audiences, and certainly there are lots of lovingly sentimentalized young faces on display here, calling to mind some of Truffaut's stickier moments.

The emotional manipulation here is skillful. Throughout many of the scenes, we hear the angelic voices of the boys' choir pushing the narrative into maudlin bliss-out, and the nastier elements are all addressed in the most agreeable manner possible. There are some darker potential undercurrents here that are either disposed of tidily (such as a frighteningly pathological new resident to the school) or ignored, and one of those is that Mathieu's closeness with the boys might be misconstrued as sexual. That it's there is intriguing, but given that it's not explored, it seems that it may only be there to assuage subconscious reservations in the viewer's mind.

I'd be lying if I said *The Chorus* is completely unmoving, but its portrayal of delinquents in confinement is neither fresh nor penetrating. You walk away from the movie adequately entertained by a pleasant experience, and that's about it.

Opens tomorrow at Enzian.

### Kutcher and Peet give us a look at just what Love is

**BRETT RYAN BONOWICZ** 

ast week, you heard about my experience in L.A. Here's what happened at the *A Lot Like Love* press conference.

While it might have only cracked the top five this week with \$7.7 million, there's still a lot to love about A Lot Like Love. Looking scruffy and possibly taller then one might imagine, Ashton Kutcher ruminates on the differences between love and a lot like love.

"That's a difficult question for me because I'm somewhat of a love cynic in that I don't know if it's truly like a hundred percent attainable every day in the human form," he said. "But I think that to me, love is when your desire for someone else is greater than your desire for yourself or equal to that. That's a very tricky thing to attain. I think that a lot like love is what most of us call love."

In the film, the two characters played by Kutcher and Amanda Peet fall into a lot of situations that make them think of that very same question: When is love love? And can one ever know that? Peet, decked out in her attention-getting goutier sweater, had this to say:

"I think that the idea of the movie is that it is real love and was strong from the get-go. The only difference is the ability to talk around and around it or dance around and around it, tell each other that the timing isn't right or that you're moving to San Francisco or that you need to do A, B and C before I commit to you. But really if the thing is there, it's there, and that's what the movie is about."

The writer of the film, Colin Patrick Lynch, said that he wanted to create a film that avoided the genre clichés. Nigel Cole said he wanted to make a film with young people after having previously worked with elder chaps in both Calendar Girls and Saving Grace; mashing these two goals together has created the film now out in theatres.

But in following with his previous film Calendar Girls (in which Cole has many elderly women nude), Cole continues what could possibly be a career motif in A Lot Like Love. In the film both Kutcher and Peet are nude (in a PG-13 kind of way, of course).

When asked about that experience, Kutcher said "I think that we were both so insecure about ourselves that we weren't really looking at anyone else. We were on a sound stage and we weren't actually outside. So I think that kind of helped because it's a little bit more private."

Peet added that "We were about halfway through the shoot when we had to do that." Kutcher later added that the shooting day had little to do with how he felt about the scene. "I like being nude as often I can. As much as I can be nude I try to be nude. No ... it's really not that great for me. For other people, I like them being nude, but not me so much. It's this awkward thing and you're completely exposed. I had this banana thong with like a catcher's mitt to wear. It was a little awkward."

With statements like that it's hard not to be intrigued, hard to not to want a taste of perhaps not love, but something *A Lot Like Love*.

### **NOVIES**

#### **MOVIE TIMES**





**REGAL WATERFORD LAKES** 541 N. ALAFAYA TRAIL, 407-977-1107

The Amityville Horror (R)

12:00 12:50 2:50 4:30 7:00 7:30 9:20 9:50 12:00a

Beauty Shop (PG-13)

12:10 4:20 7:10 10:10

Fever Pitch (PG-13) ★ ★

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Guess Who (PG-13) ★ 1:00 3:50 6:50 9:30 12:10a

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King's Ransom (PG-13)

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Kung Fu Hustle (R) ★★★★

12:40 1:20 3:50 4:10 7:00 8:10 9:40 10:40 12:20a A Lot Like Love (PG-13) ★★★

1:00 4:20 7:40 10:10 12:50a

Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous (PG-13) \*\*\*

4:00 9:30 12:10a

The Pacifier (PG) 12:30 3:30 7:20 10:20 The Ring Two (PG-13) ★ 9:40 12:20a

Robots (PG) ★★★ 12:00 3:10 6:40

Sahara (PG-13) \*\* 12:40 3:40 7:00 9:50 12:40a

Sin City (R)  $\star \star \star \star \star$ 

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King's Ransom (PG-13)

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Kung Fu Hustle (R) \* \* \* \*

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Sahara (PG-13) \*\* 12:45 3:45 7:05 10:05

Sin City (R) \*\*\*\* 12:40 3:35 6:45 9:35 12:35a

Walk on Water (NR) 1:05 3:50 6:40 9:25 12:15a

Winter Solstice (R) 11:55a 2:30 5:05 7:45 10:25

XXX: State of the Union (PG-13) 12:25 1:30 3:00 4:20 5:30 7:10 8:10 9:50 10:45

LOEWS UNIVERSAL CINEPLEX 6000 UNIVERSAL BLVD., 407-354-5998

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Fever Pitch (PG-13) ★ ★

PLEASE SEE MOVIE TIMES ON 113



# Here they come, for better or worse: The indie's summer movie preview

This year brings with it the usual scary mix of potential bombs and blockbusters

MIKE FERRARO

Staff Writer

et ready; it's that time of year again. Summertime is upon us and this is a time where multiplexes fill their rooms with sequels to mediocre films, explosions, computer-generated explosions, Paul Walker action pictures and remakes galore. So here is just a small preview of what's to come. Get your shoes on and head to theater, and prepare to be disgraced.

MAY:

Crash — May 6

Starring: Sandra Bullock, Don Cheadle, Matt Dillon and Ludacris.

Unfortunately (or is it fortunately?), this isn't a remake of the horrific film with the same name from 1996 about weird sex addicts that like to perform the act while crashing cars. The screenwriter of Million Dollar Baby takes his hand at direction with this film about a car accident that brings a multitude of characters together in Los Angeles. Sounds like a mixture of Amores Perros and Short Cuts to us.

House of Wax — May 6

Starring: Elisha Cuthbert, Chad Michael Murray and Paris Hilton.

A remake of a Vincent Price classic, this new update was specifically designed for the three people on this Earth who haven't slept with Paris Hilton yet. Here is your chance to see her frolic around in a bra and scream.

Kingdom of Heaven — May 6 Starring: Orlando Bloom and Liam

Hey Orlando, do you have a phobia of starring in movies that take place past the 19th century?

Kicking and Screaming — May 13 Starring: Will Ferrell.

From an old school college kid to an elf to an anchorman, and now, a soccer dad. This Ferrell guy sure has some range.

Unleashed — May 13

Starring: Jet Li, Morgan Freeman and Bob Hoskins.

Good news is, this film was written by Luc Besson (Leon, The Fifth Element). The bad news is that this movie was once



COURTESY DISNEY

Lindsay Lohan gives Justin Long a crash course in how to drive Herbie in Herbie: Fully Loaded, coming out June 24.

called Danny the Dog.

Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith — May 19

Starring: Hayden Christensen, Natalie Portman, Ewan McGregor and Samuel L. Jackson.

After Episode I, they said it couldn't get worse. Then Episode II, and not only was it worse, it finally gave the Trekkies an advantage, because none of the films in their franchise were that horrible — and that includes The Final Frontier. Now people are saying, "Oh dude, this movie is going to be really dark." It's PG-I3! Don't get your hopes up. This really better be the last Star Wars movie ever released.

The Longest Yard — May 27
Starring: Adam Sandler and Chris

How dare they remake a Burt Reynolds classic. Wait, maybe this will lead to a surge of Burt Reynolds' popularity. Will *Sharky's Machine 2* be around the corner? We hope so.

JUNE:

Cinderella Man — June 3

Starring: Russell Crowe and Renee Zellweger.

A Depression-era boxing flick about the comeback of Jim Braddock sounds about as exciting as watching a blank screen. It's summer; we want explosions and fire.

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants — June 3

Starring: Amber Tamblyn and Alexis Bledel.

Who cares what this movie is about; it has the best title of the summer. Sounds like something you may find in a clearance bin at Premiere Adult Factory Outlet.

The Bad News Bears — June 10 Starring: Billy Bob Thornton and Greg Kinnear.

Thornton once again unleashes his Bad Santa character, but instead of belittling poor kids in a shopping mall, he takes it to the ball field. While remakes are usually discouraged amongst the cinema snobs, at least this one has director Richard Linklater (Dazed and Confused and Before Sunrise, After Sunset) on board to ensure the suckness will be kept to a minimum.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith — June 10
Starring: Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt.

This Doug Liman-directed action flick pits Pitt against Jolie, where they play a husband and wife spy team that get assigned to kill each other. This movie would be awesome if it had a Reservoir Dogs-style ending and the results were real.

Batman Begins — June 17

Starring: Christian Bale, Michael Caine, Liam Neeson and Ken Watanabe.

Frank Miller was once attached to this project but was fired for some reason or another. Then, he co-directed Sin City with Robert Rodriguez and created the best comic movie ever made. So who cares about another *Batman* movie?

Herbie: Fully Loaded — June 24

PLEASE SEE COMING ON 114

COMING TO DVD — APRIL 26

# The Schwartz is with you in a new 2-disc set

Plus, a new version of White Chicks! Woohoo!

BRETT RYAN BONOWICZ

Staff Writer

**National Treasure** 

Another movie where Nicolas Cage pretends to be cool, National Treasure did better than expected box office in the United States, which has led to a full-blown special-edition DVD that includes an alternate ending and deleted scenes, with audio commentary on each. There's also a making-of called On location with National Treasure and three featurettes: The Knights Templar, Treasure Hunters Revealed and Riley's Decode This!

Spaceballs Collectors Edition

In anticipation of *Episode III*, MGM found it fitting to release this two-disc in an attempt to confuse some fanboys into thinking that this actually is *Episode III*. And with all the bonus material, there will probably be a few people in Kansas who are gonna be really disappointed when they realize this is *Spaceballs* and not *Star Wars*. This new DVD includes outtakes, an audio commentary with director Mel Brooks and a production interview with Brooks and Thomas Meehan. Also included are two featurettes: *John Candy: Comedy Spirit* and *Spaceballs: The Documentary*.

When DVD was invented, it was a breathtaking advance for the industry, and finally this week the release everyone said would never come has arrived:

WHITE CHICKS (unrated and uncut)

Finally! After years of banging down the doors at the behest of studio executives and against the better judgment of our spouses, all of the hard work has paid off. No more will America (and Canada) have to settle for just regular White Chicks; now there's a choice — the way it always should have been. Damn the man for not letting this be the original version! Included on this highly anticipated release is an audio commentary with geniuses Keenen Ivory Wayans, Marlon Wayans and Shawn Wayans. A featurette called How'd They Do That? is also included because "How'd they do that?" is a question you'll be asking yourself the whole time you're watching the film. Lastly there are two other featurettes: A Wayans Comedy and an on-the-set Starz!

#### **MOVIE TIMES**

FROM i11

1:40 4:00 6:30 9:00 11:20 Guess Who (PG-13) \*

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Hitch (PG-13) ★ ★ ★

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The Hitchhicker's Guide to the Galaxy (PG)

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The Interpreter (PG-13) \* \* \*

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Kings Ransom (PG-13)

2:15 4:40 7:05 9:40 11:55

Kung Fu Hustle (R) ★★★★

2:05 4:35 6:55 7:45 9:10 10:05 11:25 12:30a A Lot Like Love (PG-13) \* \*

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The Pacifier (PG)

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Sahara (PG-13) \*\*

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XXX: State of the Union (PG-13)

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**ENZIAN CINEMA CAFE** 

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The Chorus (PG-13) \*\*

Friday: 4:30 7:00

Saturday and Sunday: 2:00 4:30 7:00
Inside Deep Throat (NC-17) ★ ★

Friday-Sunday: 9:30

D.MAC

39 S.MAGNOLIA AVE., 407-992-1200 **Hukkle (NR)** 

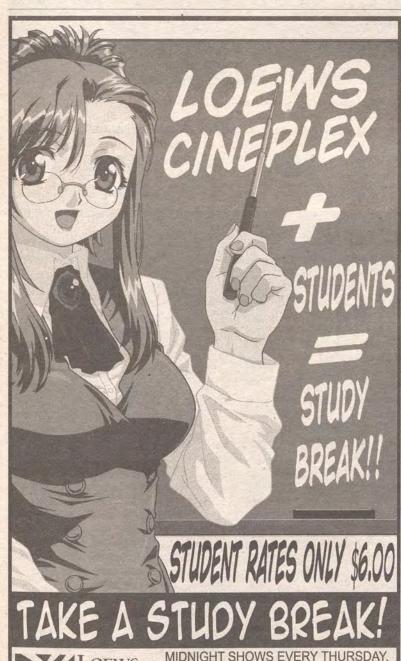
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Travellers and Magicians (NR) ★★

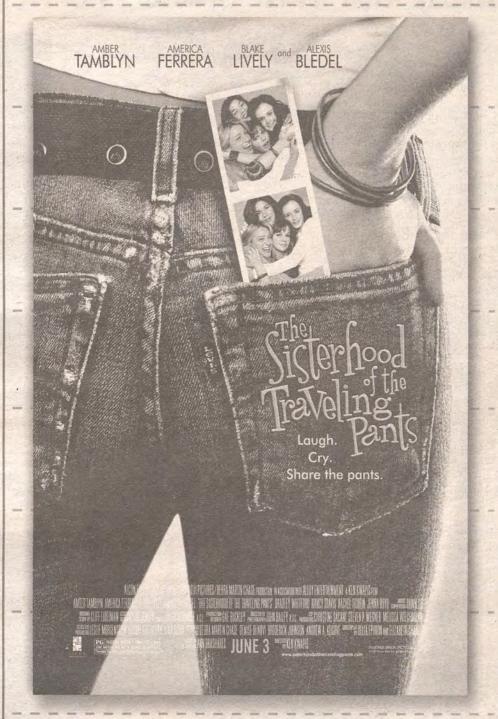
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All listed times are for the weekend and subject to change.



FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY!! (407) 354-5998 FOR MORE INFO

### A SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING!



FL004

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2005

TIME: 8:00 PM

LOCATION: WATERFORD

LAKES REGAL CINEMA

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:

STUDENT UNION ROOM 208





ARRIVE EARLY! SEATING IS FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!

## Coming up: War of the Worlds, The Dukes of Hazzard

FROM i12

Starring: Lindsay Lohan and Justin

Second-best film title of the summer, starring that oh-so-fresh-and-legal Lindsey Lohan. We've lost remake count so far, but here is another about a Volkswagen bug that comes to life and kills people with its spinney flower hubcaps of death. Actually, that is what we were hoping for. Instead, all we get is some happy family movie about racing. Boring.

Land of the Dead — June 24

Starring: Simon Baker and John Lequizamo.

Cult director George Romero (Night of the Living Dead) rises from the grave and gives another zombie film. The world will never have enough zombie films.

War of the Worlds — June 29

Starring: Tom Cruise, Dakota Fanning and Tim Robbins.

How many times does the world have to see the same popular cities and buildings get destroyed? And poor H.G. Wells. No one can do any of his novels justice. Not even his great-grandson (see 2002's The Time Machine).

Fantastic Four — July 8

Starring: Jessica Alba, Michael Chiklis and Chris Evans.

Didn't Roger Corman try this once and fail? Well, a superhero film where Jessica Alba and The Commish team up to fight evil can't be that bad. Can it?

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory -July 15

Starring: Johnny Depp.

Tim Burton and Johnny Depp work together again, and while they may not be as great of a team as Akira Kurosawa and Toshiro Mifune, they still have made some good films together. Will this be another? Right now, it is unclear. It has one strike against it already and that is because it is a remake of a film adapted m a great Roald Dahl novel.

Into the Blue — July 15

Starring: Jessica Alba and Paul Walker. One of the few non-remakes of the summer brings a shirtless Paul Walker back to the screen, this time with sidekick Jessica Alba (mostly in bikini attire). This is supposed to be a rip-roaring adventure about water and modern-day pirates. Sounds lame, but Walker is sure to give the performance of the year (under Hayden Christensen for Episode III). This will hold us over while we are waiting for the third chapter in the climactic Fast and the Furious franchise.

The Island — July 22

Starring: Scarlett Johansson and Ewan McGregor.

From the director of Pearl Harbor, comes a film about ... running. At least that is what the pointless trailer tells us. How does this guy get work? Oh yeah, armies of people pay to see his films, no matter how horrible they keep getting.

The Brothers Grimm — July 29

Starring: Matt Damon and Heath

Terry Gilliam rarely disappoints, and since he has been absent from the screen for so long, our hopes are high for this tale about those wacky fairytale brothers. It's a shame his Don Quixote film never saw the light of day.

AUGUST:

The Dukes of Hazzard — Aug. 5 Starring: Johnny Knoxville, Jessica Simpson and Seann William Scott.

Take an old television show, throw in a jackass, a Stifler and an annoying rich brat, and you've got yourself a feature-length film. It probably would have been great if it starred Paul Walker and Ashton Kutcher instead.

Doom - Aug. 5

Starring: The Rock and Karl Urban.

Everyone knows that movies based on video games are always doomed. Take a look at Super Mario Bros., Resident Evil and House of the Dead if you don't believe

Deuce Bigalow: European Gigalo -

Starring: Rob Scheinder and Eddie

Six years after the first, Columbia Pictures decides that it's about that time that they drop us another Deuce. Was it necessary? Too bad they couldn't hold it in longer.

The Skeleton Key — Aug. 12

Starring: Kate Hudson and John Hurt.

This movie is supposedly about voodoo or something, but it's kind of hard to concentrate on anything else when that dude from Alien looks scarier than anything else going on. Perhaps this will be this year's The Serpent and the Rainbow.

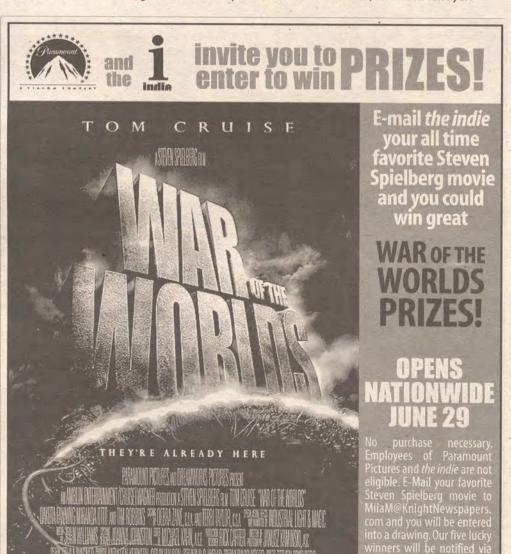
Domino - Aug. 19

Starring: Keira Knightley and Mickey Rourke.

Inspired by the tales of Boba Fett, the infamous daughter of actor Laurence Harvey decided that modeling wasn't as exciting as bounty hunting. Since Tony Scott directed it, prepare for some hellacious editing and countless camera moves. Take some Dramamine before you head to the theater.



Matt Damon, left, and Heath Ledger star in the new Terry Gilliam movie The Brothers Grimm, which comes out July 29.



### RAMBLINGS

THE GEEK LIFE

# Fond farewell from The Geek Life

### After a year and a half on the bridge, Elizabeth Fernandez is moving on out

ELIZABETH FERNANDEZ

all good things must come to an end, it seems. All bad things do as well, I suppose. We just tend to miss them less.

I think this column, for me, and I hope for you as well, dear reader, was one of the good things. And now we must bid a fond farewell to each other. I will miss you, and maybe you will miss me, but we learned, we laughed, until time made fools of us all. It seems like only weeks have passed since my heydays in Orlando, the land of plastic and make believe, yet I have become someone and something else. I have traveled much, learned

much, experienced loss and gained so much joy in the past year and a half. Above all I hope that I have managed to convey at least some of that, some of my musings, my memories, the very basics of what makes me tick and think, with anyone willing to devote five minutes to reading about whatever it is geeks do in their spare time.

When I first proposed the idea for this column, I was unsure of exactly how much of myself I would be able and willing to share with the crowds that drift through UCFs not so hallowed halls. The idea of sharing some of the personal parts of myself with all my friends, enemies and everyone in between was not really what I was looking

for. Yet as I found myself pondering the intricacies of the geek universe, it soon became impossible to separate me from the things I cherished so. When one is a fannish geekling from birth like me, so many of your thoughts and opinions are affected by whatever it is you happen to be a fan of. Science fiction expanded my mind, and cartoons gave me my peculiar sense of humor, while video games made me a true technophile and comics nurtured my imagination.

The writers, artists, actors and the like who have made my corner of the world a better place have changed me in so many ways. The nerdy little girl who loved to read grew up to be literate and well spoken, a writer herself. It was partly in gratitude to the writers who came before me that I wrote my first short story. To them I am thankful.

But what would a writer really be without at least a few faithful readers? It is to you, the audience, as it were, that I am most grateful for. You gave me a reason to remember things I hadn't thought of for years, research my favorite shows, relive my childhood obsessions and, most importantly, to imagine.

In my first column, I went to great lengths to try describing and defining what it actually means to be a geek. Well, to be honest, up until that point, I had not given it that much thought. Since then, I have spent a few hours every week, for a year and a half, meditating on what being a geek actually means. It means to be open to ideas, to embrace being different and accepting a counter culture that doesn't always try to fit in in exactly the same ways. There are broad trends for sure, but the movie

geek sitting in his room watching Blade Runner for the 700th time isn't trying to be like everyone else, and neither is the level 80 mage up until 4 a.m. on a Saturday trying to level-up. They realized there were things they wanted that the rest of the world might not understand, and they decided that didn't matter to them.

Thank you to them for making this possible, for realizing that the things they were teased for at 12 made them special in ways only kindred spirits could appreciate, and for understanding that a life taken too seriously wasn't worth living. And so I dedicate this, my very last column ever to be published in this fine publication, to them. This is written by a geek for her fellow geeks, in gratitude. So long, and thanks for everything — not just the fich

WEB LESS TRAVELED

# Strap bottle rockets to your head and let's go.

CHRISTOPHER SCHWARZ
Staff Writer

n last week's edition, you read the beginnings of my journey to Internet Camp. If you skipped it, here's a recap: My girlfriend, some friends, and I went camping in North Carolina with 110 people from the Internet. This is part two of our story.

After awaking Saturday morning to the sound of people talking about World of Warcraft next to our tent, we rubbed our eyes and unzipped the flap. Internet Camp was alive and well. The kegs were tapped, and folks rushed to ease their hangovers and get a head start on being wasted by nightfall. A round of firecrackers soon gave everyone sleeping past 10:30 a.m. a rude awakening.

Saturday, the only full day of camp, consisted mostly of sitting around and talking about various topics that involved the Internet, Linux, computers, television, food, games and forum drama. Each group began by arranging

its folding chairs in a circle to get the chat room started. After our crew made the drive to the nearest Wal-Mart to buy some shoes and an air mattress, we returned to find the start of some actual

The official sport of Internet Camp is poker. But this was not just any poker game: It was "Ban Me" Poker. All losers would be required to get banned from our mutual host forums in some crazy way, traditionally by posting disgusting naked pictures of themselves. Their threads' debauchery would create a public spectacle shortly following their return to civilization.

As nightfall approached, I ate my third can of cold Chef Boyardee, since I can't cook anything without a microwave. Goons fired Roman candles and potato cannons back and forth across the creek in a faux "war" between the sides. Eventually, two guys got tired of such weak sauce and geared up for Mechwarrior. They got suited up in



camouflage, army helmets and earplugs. Most importantly, they each strapped two boxes of bottle rockets to their helmets. As they stood on opposite sides of the hill, their fuses were lit and they walked around, spewing whistling death in all directions. The crowd cheered in admiration and then fled for their lives and sanity. Somehow, no one was injured.

As the skies darkened, we congregated around the fires for

warmth and light. One guy acting as pseudo-camp counselor ran a storytelling competition, entered by people who discussed alcoholism, severe beatings, tattoos, drugs, piercings and sex. In the midst, the main fireworks show began as volunteers fired them ... into the sky for a change. When it ended, our host told us that the police had stopped by and thanked us for a lovely show, but had asked that it not continue much longer. After a sigh of relief, festivities continued will after the last keg was exhausted.

That night was cold enough to ensure a night of shivering despite both tent and sleeping bag. We awoke to more idiots with fireworks as one guy burned a Bible, its black ashes fluttering down over the land that will be forever scarred by our memory. After a long but uneventful drive home, we anxiously dove into the shower and resumed studying — but not without checking the Internet first, of course!



For future rating information, go to www.filmratings.com

MEW LINE CINEMA



For More Information About This Movie

www.weddingcrashersmovie.com

Moviefone.com

(moviefone)