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Central Florida Future

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The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

www.CentralFloridaFuture.com • Wednesday, February 28, 2007

UCF nips Tigers

Knights win another Sunday game with 5-4 decision over LSU — SEE SPORTS, A9



Armor of Christ

Christian clothing gets a runway showing by Imogee.



— SEE NEWS, A2

ANIMALS

CHINA DISCOVERS THE POWER OF A BIRD BRAIN

Chinese scientists have turned pigeons into remote-controlled flying machines, China's state-run media said. The scientists were able to use small electrodes in the birds' brains to force them to fly in a certain direction.



Rumors, innuendo fly in SGA runoff

Both sides accused of dirty campaigning

RACHEL HATZIPANAGOS
Staff Writer

With the runoff elections for SGA president coming to a close at 5 p.m. today, both candidates have acknowledged that this week's campaigning hasn't been as clean as both would have wanted.

Campaign signs have been torn down and rumors have been spread on both sides of the campaign, as each candidate competes for the \$18,000-a-year position.

Both Brandie Hollinger and Eric Eingold agree that, compared to last week's election, campaign tactics this week

have gotten more intense.

The rumors journey into the bizarre, with Eingold saying he heard Hollinger campaigners tell voters that he has denied the Holocaust. Eingold, who is Jewish, said he was baffled by the accusation.

"I flipped out; it's just ridiculous," Eingold said. "I

think it's a smear campaign. I think they saw how much support we got over the weekend and how well we were doing last week, and they got scared. It seems like they have to repaint this guy as a complete whacko. It's just SGA; get a life."

Rumors have been found on the other side too, with Hollinger reporting that some of her campaigners have been

confronted by Eingold supporters and have been yelled at, and some of her campaign signs have been damaged.

Hollinger said she has spoken to her campaign volunteers repeatedly about keeping the campaign clean.

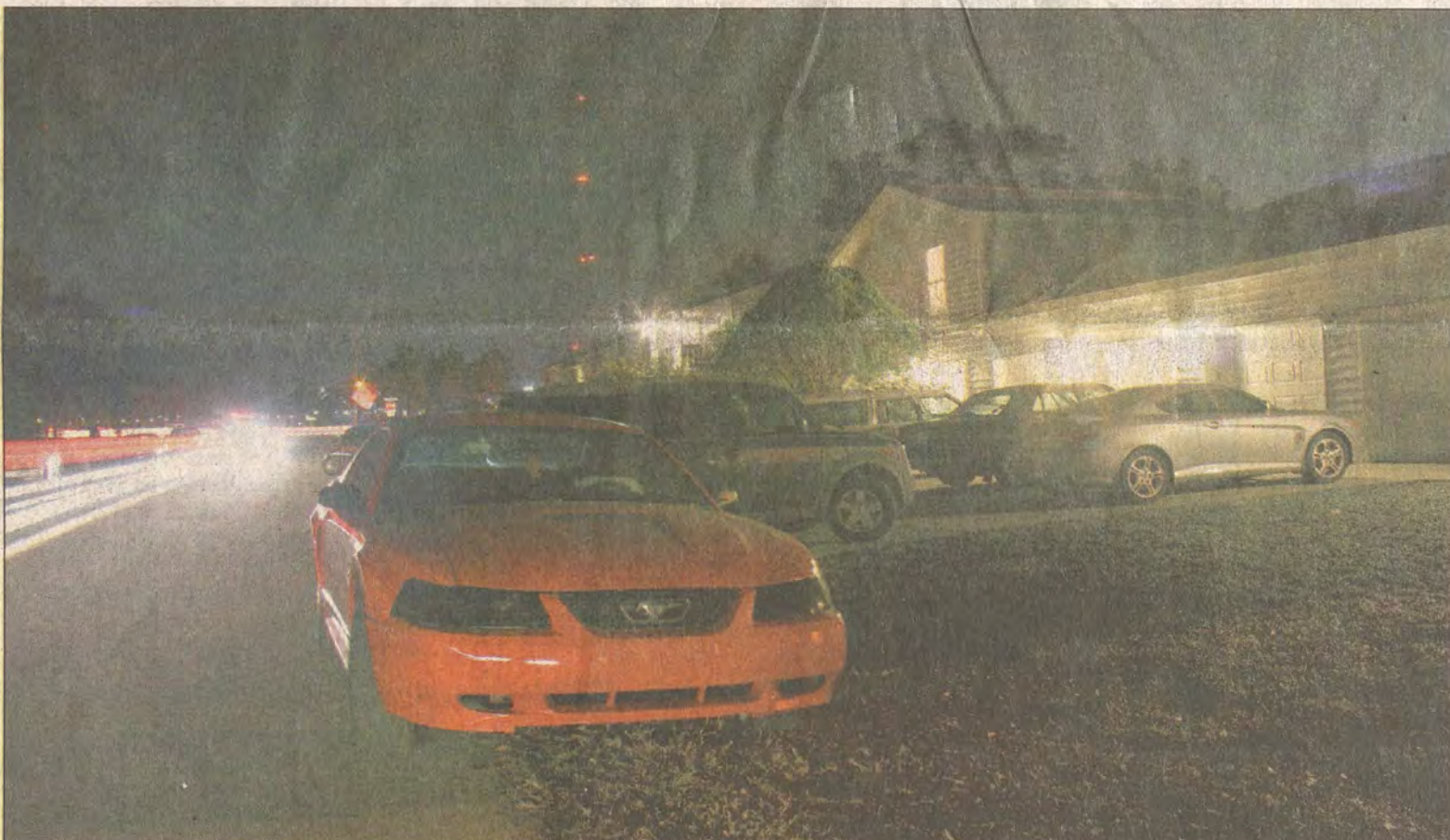
"I talked to everyone and they denied it," Hollinger said. "I would never want Eric to

PLEASE SEE DIRTY ON A8

"I could understand the perception. We joke around and say it's the Greek Ghetto, but I feel safe."

— RYAN LAGGNER BETA THETA PI MEMBER

'GHETTO' FABULOUS



'Greek Ghetto' fails to live up to bad reputation

BART ZINO
Staff Writer

It's not your typical student housing. Just take a quick drive to the corner of University Boulevard and Alafaya Trail sometime. It's a small neighborhood, sharing a border with the strip mall along Collegiate Way. The houses are an odd collection of duplexes, many built in the '80s, ranging in quality from reasonably livable to questionably hazardous.



Cars line the lawn of a fraternity house on the infamous 'Greek Ghetto.' Three UCF fraternities have homes on the so-called seedy strip.

PHOTOS BY BRIAN BUSTOS / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Trees are plentiful here, providing shade for people walking along the side of the street and the cars parked down the block.

This place — just an unfortunate nickname and a bad reputation.

Students say it's run-down and decrepit, while some SGA senators call it dangerous and full of crime. But

ask any of the three UCF fraternities who have houses in the so-called "Greek Ghetto," and they'll tell you a different story.

"I could understand the perception. We joke around and say it's the Greek Ghetto, but I feel safe," said freshman Ryan Laggner, a member of Beta Theta

PLEASE SEE SEEDY ON A8

Bottoms up: club uses beer pong to raise funds

MISTY GANT
Contributing Writer

Seasoned beer pong players put their skills to the test and participated in good old-fashioned fundraising Saturday night in downtown Orlando.

UCF's Women's Volleyball Club put together a beer pong tournament at The Liquid Cellar to raise money to send the members to nationals in Kentucky.

"We tried to figure out what

"We tried to figure out what would best fit UCF students and beer pong is the most popular."

— KIMMY WESTMORELAND, BUSINESS MAJOR AND MEMBER

would best fit UCF students and beer pong is the most popular," said Kimmy Westmoreland, 20, a business major and member of the club.

The Volleyball Club has not been approved as a club by the Sports Club Council. That means the club can not get funding or support through the

council, so the club has started doing independent fundraisers.

"We're doing our best. We're making our phone calls," said club president Ashley Walker. "We have our fingers crossed."

Walker, a 20-year-old forensic science major, called The Liquid Cellar and asked for their input on fundraising events. Beer pong was an option, and the fundraiser was born.

PLEASE SEE EVENT ON A7

Car club pops its hood on rooftop

RACHAEL LOPEZ-DIAZ
Contributing Writer

Loud mufflers and souped-up cars flooded the roof of UCF's north parking garage last Wednesday as Knight Cruisers, UCF's car club, drove in car after car, backed into parking spots and popped their hoods.

"This isn't a place to show off; it's a relaxed place to meet up and hang out with people who have a common interest," said Ryan Hennessy, president of Knight Cruisers.

Groups of people gathered around the cars that have new modifications (mods) and upgrades, and conversations ranged from car parts to days at the race track.

Hennessy sports a 2002 navy blue metallic Camaro Z-28 and does work on it himself.

"I enjoy modding my car for performance. So far, I have added full exhaust, full rear suspension and new wheels and drag radials. I plan to add a torque converter and a cam this summer."

Car conversations, started in online car forums, were continued in person. Mods were discussed in detail as well as where people went to get parts. Deals and discount secrets were traded among these car enthusiasts.

Members joked amongst each other, saying that their car could "rip up" the others at the track. Still, the atmosphere was friendly and the cars were hot.

PLEASE SEE CAR ON A6



JAMES ANDRES / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Phil Speiser and Rachel Arenz lean on Arenz's sponsored Honda Accord.

COLLECTING

A PIECE OF PAPER THAT SOLD FOR MILLIONS

Perhaps the most famous baseball card was sold Monday for \$2.35 million. The card is from 1919 and pictures Honus Wagner. Although there are about 60 other copies of the card, it is said that this one is in far better condition than the rest.



AROUND CAMPUS, A2

FIRST MEETING OF UCF CHAPTER OF AAUW TO BE HELD THURSDAY

The Orlando/Winter Park branch of American Association of University Women and the UCF Women's Studies department are partnering to establish the chapter. The meeting will be at 5 p.m. in the lounge on the 5th floor of Colbourn Hall.

LOCAL & STATE, A2

DRUG AGENTS RAID ORLANDO PHARMACY IN STEROID INVESTIGATION

Federal and state narcotics agents raided a downtown pharmacy Tuesday as part of a New York state investigation into the sale of steroids and other performance enhancers over the Internet, according to a published report.

NATION & WORLD, A4

ICC ALLEGES EX-GOVT. MINISTER, 2 OTHERS GUILTY OF WAR CRIMES

Ahmed Muhammed Harun, the former junior interior minister responsible for the western Darfur region, and two others are suspected of a total of 51 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

INDEX

Around Campus	2
Weather	2
Local & State	2
Nation & World	4
Sports	9
Opinions	11
Classifieds	12
Sudoku	13
Crossword	13

TODAY'S WEATHER



MOSTLY SUNNY
80° 64°
HIGH LOW

AROUND CAMPUS

News and notices for the UCF community

AAUW first meeting

A new chapter of the American Association of University Women will meet on Thursday at 5 p.m. in the lounge on the fifth floor of Colbourn Hall.

The Orlando/Winter Park branch of AAUW and the UCF Women's Studies department are partnering to establish a student satellite of the organization.

There are of opportunities for leadership positions for students who are interested.

For more information, contact the Women's Studies Program at 407-823-6502.

Transfer Knights Knightly Quest

Transfer Knights, a new club on campus will be holding a scavenger hunt event called Knightly Quest, with students meeting at the Reflecting Pond at 5 p.m.

There will be free food and prizes, and students are recommended to wear comfortable shoes as they walk around campus, finding clues while discovering what the different offices at UCF have to offer.

All students, not just transfer students, may participate.

For more information, contact Transfer and Transition Services at 407-823-5959.

LOCAL & STATE

Keep local with headlines you may have missed

Three killed in fiery vehicle crash, one remains in critical condition

WINTER GARDEN — A couple who performed gospel music at local churches and nursing homes were among three people killed in a fiery vehicle crash, authorities said.

Roger Ray Robertson and Delora Lynn Robertson, both 54, died Saturday when the motorcycle they were riding together collided with a van and burst into flames, Florida Highway Patrol trooper Kim Miller said. Their 25-year-old son, Clinton Robertson, who also was riding a motorcycle, remained in critical condition Monday at an area hospital.

The van driver, Pierre Boursiquot, was also killed.

Miller said Boursiquot's van crossed the center line about 11:30 a.m. Saturday and collided head-on with a truck. The van then skidded into the path of the motorcycles. The wreckage burst into flames.

Clinton Robertson was thrown clear of the blaze, but his parents and Boursiquot were trapped in the fire, Miller said. The truck driver was not seriously hurt.

PLEASE SEE LOCAL ON A4

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. Friday for the Monday edition, 5 p.m. Monday for the Wednesday edition, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for the Friday edition.



JILLIANNE PIERCE/CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

DIVINE DESIGN

Fashion company designs for a higher power

WENDASHA JENKINS
Contributing Writer

The spirit was high in the Pegasus Ballroom as Imogee Clothing Co. made its spring 2007 fashion debut last Friday.

Imogee hit the runway for its semiannual fashion show, presenting the company's latest clothing concepts and designs.

Models strutted down the runway with a sophisticated swagger and wowed audience members while sporting custom shirts, hoodies and hats in vibrant colors. Dance brakes and hip-hop beats kept the crowd going while Imogee showcased its fashions.

The theme of the evening was Young N' Unashamed of the Gospel of Jesus

Models at the Imogee fashion show display both their styles and their beliefs in the Pegasus Ballroom last Friday. Imogee is a faith-based company that creates a line of Christian clothing.

The show, themed Young N' Unashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, also blended hip-hop and gospel music.

Christ. Imogee is a Christianity-based clothing line started by UCF students in 2006.

"With this show, I am looking to display to the world that there is a generation that is rising that is truly young and

unashamed of the Gospel of Christ," Imogee President Cleeton Gumbs said in a press release.

Gumbs, along with his colleagues, used their collective skills learned within their various majors to help bring the show to life. The show was a fusion of hip-hop and gospel music and was filled with comic relief, dramatic skits and a step show.

Imogee's display of fashion was somewhat reminiscent of international urban brands but remained true to the company's Christian roots. Models and audience members donned shirts and other custom apparel with the Imogee label and expressive statements such as "Jesus Freak" and "God Lova."

The custom shirts and designs appealed to some students in attendance.

"It was unique, definitely unique," sophomore athletic training major Alvis Horne said. "I think it's a good thing, especially coming from black entrepreneurs. It's good to see something positive coming

from a younger audience."

In addition to the fashion, the show contained a deeper message.

"I walked away knowing that it's OK to be young and still praise God," freshman marketing major Brooke Stiel said. "The show also taught me to appreciate what I have."

Fashion is Imogee's way of inspiring and ministering to the masses across all generations and backgrounds.

Since its inception in 2006, the Christianity-based line has put on fashion shows at local gospel concerts, and its designers recently attended the Seventh Annual Holy Hip-Hop Awards in Atlanta.

"It's something positive, and our clothes don't have subliminal messages," vice president and communications director of Imogee Donaldson Joseph said.

Students were able to purchase apparel seen on the runway from Imogee and other vendors present at the show.

The revenue from sales will help to further Imogee's ministry.

"With this show, I am looking to display to the world that there is a generation that is rising that is truly young and unashamed of the Gospel of Christ."

— CLEETON GUMBS, IMOEGEE PRESIDENT



JAMES ANDRES / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

LOCAL WEATHER

<p>Today MOSTLY SUNNY High: 80° Low: 64°</p>	<p>TODAY IN DETAIL Today: Temperatures stay warm, and clouds stay away. Winds east-northeast at 5 to 10 mph. Tonight: Skies can't stay clear the whole day, clouds move in. Winds east-southeast at 10 to 15 mph.</p>	<p>Thursday CHANCE OF T-STORMS High: 85° Low: 67°</p>
	<p>Friday CHANCE OF T-STORMS High: 86° Low: 66°</p>	

Depressed?

- Sad, Worthless or Guilty
- Trouble Eating or Sleeping
- No Motivation
- Difficulty Concentrating
- Feeling Downhearted or Blue



If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, you might be interested in a medical research study for adults who experience symptoms of depression. If you qualify, all study-related care will be provided at no cost and you will be compensated up to \$400 for time and travel. As always, there is never an over night stay, and health insurance is not required. Enrollment is limited, so call today.

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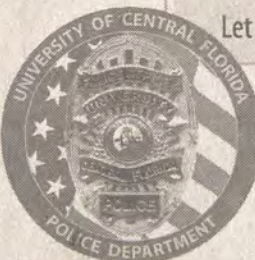
Report Suspicious Activity

Crime happens, in part, because there is opportunity. You can help stop crime by reporting suspicious activity. Reporting suspicious activity to police may be enough to get the criminal to go someplace else.

You have to care about YOUR community to make a difference!

To report suspicious activity, call (407) 823-5555 or call 911.

Let the police investigate your concerns.



UCF Police Department (407) 823-5555
Orange County Sheriff's Office (407) 836-4357
Seminole County Sheriff's Office (407) 330-6600
Oviedo Police Department (407) 971-5700
Orlando Police Department (321) 235-5300



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There Are Some Deadlines

You Don't Want To Miss...

...filing your taxes!

...getting your final project in!

.... *Withdrawing from a Class!*

Friday, March 2nd

is the last day to **Withdraw** from a course.

You have until **11:59 pm (one minute before midnight)**

to withdraw on <https://my.ucf.edu>

Go to myUCF "Student Self Service," then click on "Student Center."

There you will see a link for "Drop/Withdraw a Class," From there follow the directions to Withdraw.

You should also consult with an academic advisor before withdrawing from a course.

www.registrar.ucf.edu
UCF Registrar's Office, 161 Millican Hall

AVALON PARK PRESENTS

More stars than a Hollywood sidewalk

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

This month's movie, "Over The Hedge,"

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Don't forget a blanket or a chair.

Saturday, March 3rd

7:00 p.m.

For more information on this and other events visit avalonpark.com or call 407-658-6565.

Avalon Park is conveniently located in East Orlando 5 miles south of the 408 Expressway on Alafaya Trail.

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Election

RUNOFF

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Wednesday Feb. 28**



VOICE

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**Wednesday Feb. 28 @ Noon
Student Union Stage**

elections
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LOCAL & STATE

FROM A2

Drug agents raid pharmacy in Orlando in steroid investigation

ORLANDO — Federal and state narcotics agents raided a downtown pharmacy Tuesday as part of a New York state investigation into the sale of steroids and other performance enhancers over the Internet, according to a published report.

The Albany, N.Y., Times Union reported investigators expected to arrest more than two dozen doctors, pharmacists and business owners on sealed indictments charging them with various felonies for unlawfully distributing steroids and other controlled substances, court records show.

Tuesday's raid of Signature Pharmacy could expose a long list of sports figures, celebrities and others who have turned to Internet pharmacies for illegal drugs such as steroids, law enforcement authorities told the newspaper.

Albany County District Attorney David Soares said his office pursued the case, in part, because New York has some of the strictest prescription drug laws in the country.

"We're arresting young men on street corners every day for selling drugs," he told the newspaper.

The Orlando pharmacy is owned and operated by a Florida couple, Stan and Naomi Loomis, who are both licensed pharmacists. In 2002, the company reported revenue of about \$500,000. Revenue topped \$35 million last year, authorities told the newspaper.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

HIGHER EDUCATION

What's in the news at colleges around the country

Standoff with graduate student shuts down Missouri campus

ROLLA, Mo. — A distraught graduate student claiming to have a bomb and anthrax sparked a police standoff in a classroom building Tuesday that shut down the University of Missouri-Rolla for several hours, officials said.

Nearly two dozen people, including a faculty member and eight other students, were being decontaminated after a white, powdery substance was found.

School officials said "possible bomb materials" were also found when the man was taken into custody. Officials described the man as a graduate student who was apparently depressed and upset about his grades.

The standoff started around 2:30 a.m. in a civil engineering building on campus.

Acting Police Chief Mark Kearse said that when police arrived, the student held up a bag and said: "This is a bomb." He was armed with a knife and also claimed to have anthrax, Kearse said.

AFL-CIO, UAW file complaint over teacher assistant union ruling

WASHINGTON — Labor groups filed a complaint with a U.N. agency Monday about a federal decision that graduate assistants at private universities do not have the right to form unions.

The AFL-CIO and the United Auto Workers complained to the International Labor Organization, an agency of the United Nations, about a July 2004 decision by the National Labor Relations Board denying teaching assistants the right to organize. The unions say that decision violates workers' rights under international labor standards.

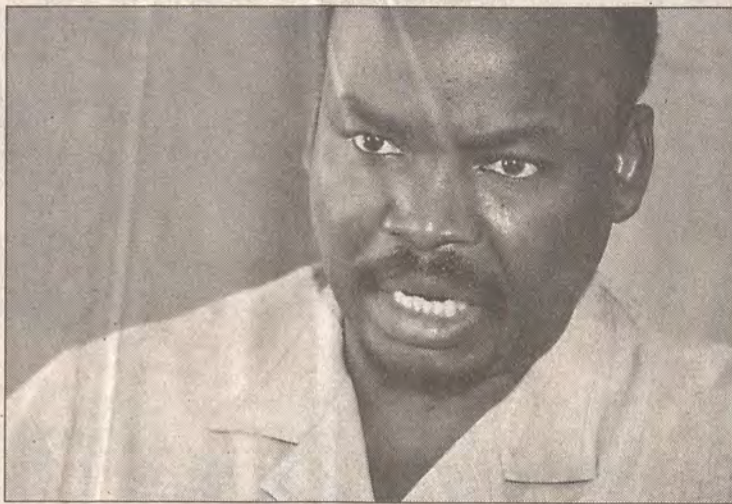
The NLRB, dominated by President Bush appointees, ruled in 2004 that about 450 graduate teaching and research assistants at Brown University in Providence, R.I., could not be represented by the United Auto Workers because they were students, not employees.

That decision overturned the board's unanimous ruling in 2000 that let 1,500 graduate teaching assistants join a union at New York University, a private school where teaching assistants had organized.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATION & WORLD

Keep current with headlines you may have missed



Ahmed Muhammed Harun, the Sudanese minister of state for humanitarian affairs, was named by the International Criminal Court's prosecutor as a war criminal on Tuesday.

Gen. Pace: war strains erode the force's ability to engage others

WASHINGTON — Strained by the demands of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, there is a significant risk that the U.S. military won't be able to quickly and fully respond to yet another crisis, according to a new report to Congress.

The assessment, done by the nation's top military officer, Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, represents a worsening from a year ago, when that risk was rated as moderate.

The report is classified, but on Monday senior defense officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed the decline in overall military readiness. And a report that accompanied Pace's review concluded that while the Pentagon is working to improve its warfighting abilities, it "may take several years to reduce risk to acceptable levels."

Pace's report comes as the U.S. is increasing its forces in Iraq to quell escalating violence in Baghdad. And top military officials have consistently acknowledged that the repeated and lengthy deployments are straining the Army, Marine Corps and reserve forces and taking a heavy toll on critical warfighting equipment.

The review grades the military's ability to meet the demands of the nation's military strategy — which would include fighting the wars as well as being able to respond to any potential outbreaks in places such as North Korea, Iran, Lebanon, Cuba or China.

Appeals court upholds California stem cell agency

SAN FRANCISCO — California's \$3 billion stem cell agency withstood another challenge to its constitutionality when a state appeals court rejected claims by abortion foes and anti-tax advocates that the agency's managers had conflicts of interest.

The 1st District Court of Appeal upheld a decision by a lower court judge who last year ruled in favor of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, which was created when Proposition 71 was passed by 59 percent of the electorate in 2004.

Opponents of the stem cell agency said after Monday's ruling that they likely would appeal to the state Supreme Court.

As written, Proposition 71 dictates that those officials must recuse themselves when the board is considering an application from their schools.

The appeals court, among other things, found that the ballot measure's general language appeared to ensure that

all stem cell research funding wouldn't be hindered if it overlapped with other kinds of medical research.

January sees plunge in demand for big-ticket commercial goods

WASHINGTON — Orders to factories for big-ticket manufactured goods plunged in January by the largest amount in three months with the weakness led by a huge drop in demand for commercial airplanes.

The Commerce Department reported Tuesday that orders fell 7.8 percent in January compared to December. It was the biggest one-month drop since an 8.1 percent plunge in October and was far larger than Wall Street had been expecting.

The decline was led by an 18 percent plunge in transportation orders, reflecting a big decline in orders for commercial jetliners and continued weakness in auto manufacturing. But there were widespread decreases in a number of other industries as manufacturing continued to be affected by an overall economic slowdown.

Former Sudan minister in Darfur war crimes case named by ICC

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The International Criminal Court's prosecutor on Tuesday named a former Sudanese junior minister and a militia leader as suspects in war crimes and crimes against humanity in the country's Darfur region.

The prosecution document — the first details released from the court's 21-month investigation — claimed to establish a clear link between the Sudanese authorities and the janjaweed militias blamed for much of Darfur's bloodshed. Sudan immediately rejected the allegations and said it would not hand the men over for trial.

Ahmed Muhammed Harun, the former junior interior minister responsible for the western Darfur region, and a janjaweed militia leader, Ali Mohammed Ali Abd-al-Rahman, also known as Ali Kushayb, were suspected of a total of 51 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity, prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo said.

Prosecutors said the offenses occurred in four villages. The "janjaweed did not target any rebel presence within these particular towns and villages. Rather, they attacked these towns and villages based on the rationale that the tens of thousands of civilian residents in and near these towns and villages were supporters of the rebel militia."

— ASSOCIATED PRESS



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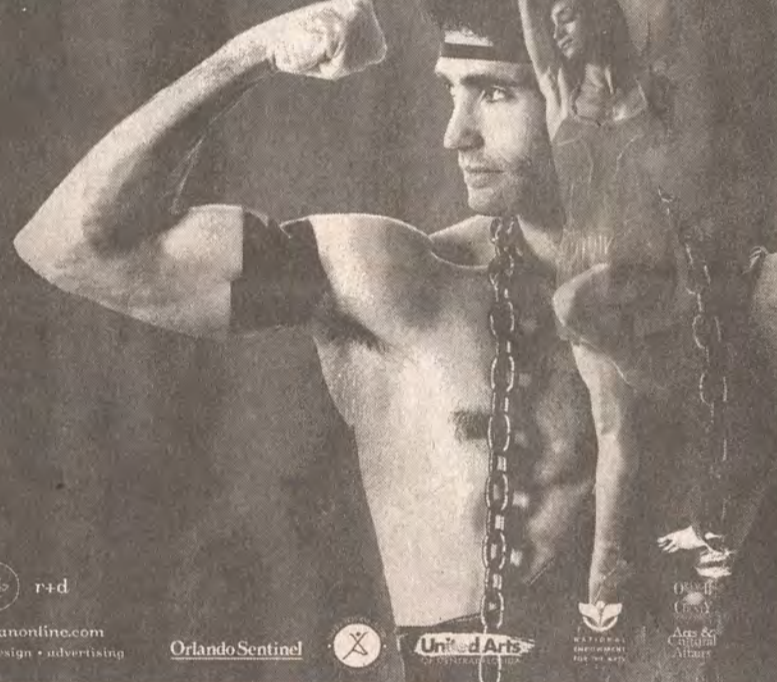
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SYMBOL OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Suicide bombing kills 23 outside base in Afghanistan

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — In what the Taliban claimed was an assassination attempt, a suicide bomber attacked the main gate of a U.S. military base Tuesday within earshot of Vice President Dick Cheney. The explosion killed 23 people, including two Americans, and delivered a propaganda blow that undercut the U.S. military and the weak Afghan government it supports.

The bomber struck about 10 a.m., and U.S. military officials declared a "red alert" at the sprawling Bagram Air Base while Cheney was rushed to a bomb shelter. Cheney, who had been stranded at the base overnight by a snowstorm, met with President Hamid Karzai in the capital before heading back to the United States via the Gulf state of Oman.

"I heard a loud boom," Cheney told reporters aboard Air Force Two en route to Oman. "The Secret Service came in and told me there had been an attack on the main gate."

Many of the victims were said to be Afghan truck drivers waiting to get inside the base. A dozen men — many of them sobbing heavily — left the base holding a stretcher bearing their loved ones wrapped in black body bags. Tears streamed down the face of one man sitting in the passenger seat of an SUV that carried another victim away.

Although the bomber did not get closer than roughly a mile to the vice president, the attack highlighted an increasingly precarious security situation posed by the resurgent Taliban. Five years after U.S.-led forces toppled their regime, Taliban-led militants have stepped up attacks. There were 139 suicide bombings last year, a fivefold increase over 2005, and a fresh wave of violence is expected this spring.

The guerrillas, according to NATO officials, have the flexibility to organize an attack

quickly and may have been able to plan a bombing at the base while Cheney was there after hearing news reports on Monday that he was delayed by bad weather. The Taliban have attacked in the area north of the capital in the past even though people living in the Bagram area have not been supportive of the guerrillas. Col. Tom Collins, the top spokesman for the NATO force, said the Taliban had a cell in Kabul that could have traveled the 30 miles north to Bagram.

Asked if the Taliban were trying to send a message with the attack, Cheney said: "I think they clearly try to find ways to question the authority of the central government. Striking at Bagram with a suicide bomber, I suppose, is one way to do that. But it shouldn't affect our behavior at all."

Cheney was the highest-ranking U.S. official to stay overnight in either the Afghanistan or Iraq war zones.

President Bush was not awakened to be told about the attack, but received an update early Tuesday morning. White House press secretary Tony Snow said Bush's first reaction was to ask if Cheney was OK.

A message posted on a Web site used by militants said "a mujahid (holy warrior) ... carried out a suicide attack in front of the second gate of the Bagram Air Base. ... The target was Bush's vice president, Dick Cheney."

A purported Taliban spokesman, Qari Yousef Ahmadi, said Cheney was the target of the attack carried out by an Afghan named Mullah Abdul Rahim.

"We knew that Dick Cheney would be staying inside the base," Ahmadi told The Associated Press by telephone from an undisclosed location. "The attacker was trying to reach Cheney."

But it appeared unlikely the bomber would have been able to reach the vice president, who was in a "very safe and

secure place" roughly a mile from the blast site, said U.S. spokesman Lt. Col. David Accetta.

The bomber, Accetta said, never tried to get by any U.S.-manned security checkpoints and instead walked into a group of Afghans outside the base and detonated himself.

"To characterize this as a direct attempt on the life of the vice president is absurd," Accetta said.

Cheney's trip to Afghanistan — on the heels of a four-hour visit Monday to Pakistan — had not been announced in advance. Snow said he did not know whether publicity about Cheney's overnight stay at the base helped invite the attack — after the planned meeting Monday with Karzai was postponed.

Even though reaching the front gate of the U.S. base could have been achieved with relative ease, the idea of getting through U.S. security to attack Cheney was "far-fetched," in the words of Maj. William Mitchell, a U.S. spokesman.

Seth Jones, an Afghan expert at the RAND Corp. think tank, said the attack was a "stark reminder of the deteriorating security environment" in Afghanistan and was a propaganda boost for the Taliban.

"The attack also demonstrates the strength of the suicide network the Taliban and al-Qaida have in place," Jones said. "To execute such an attack on such short notice requires a well-developed network of suicide bombers and handlers that can react quickly."

Husain Haqqani, director of the Center for International Relations at Boston University and a former adviser to three Pakistani prime ministers, said the bombing sends the message that the Taliban threat "is greater than the U.S. has considered it," he said.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS



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FEELING BOXED IN?



Car club saves for races, shows



FROM A1

Membership in Knight Cruisers isn't limited to men. Rachel Arenz, 22, owns a 2003 Accord Coupe, and is part of the club.

Arenz grew up with brothers and was treated like one of the guys. She became interested in cars when she was younger and later started working at a car shop. She was also a model at car shows. She found out about UCF's car club through a sponsorship with Black Ops Performance.

"I love the camaraderie. It's like another family. I've made good friends here," Arenz said.

Henessy said that the car club is not only advertised on campus but on the Internet on local car forums, such as OrlandoForums.com and SVT-Performance.com.

UCF graduates along with students from different colleges and even high school students have come to check out the cars.

"We welcome all who are interested in cars," Hennessy said.

The car club tries to do a few race days and car shows, which dues pay for, \$15 a semester or \$25 a year.

"We are planning a car show either in May or late June and a track day near the end of June," Hennessy said.

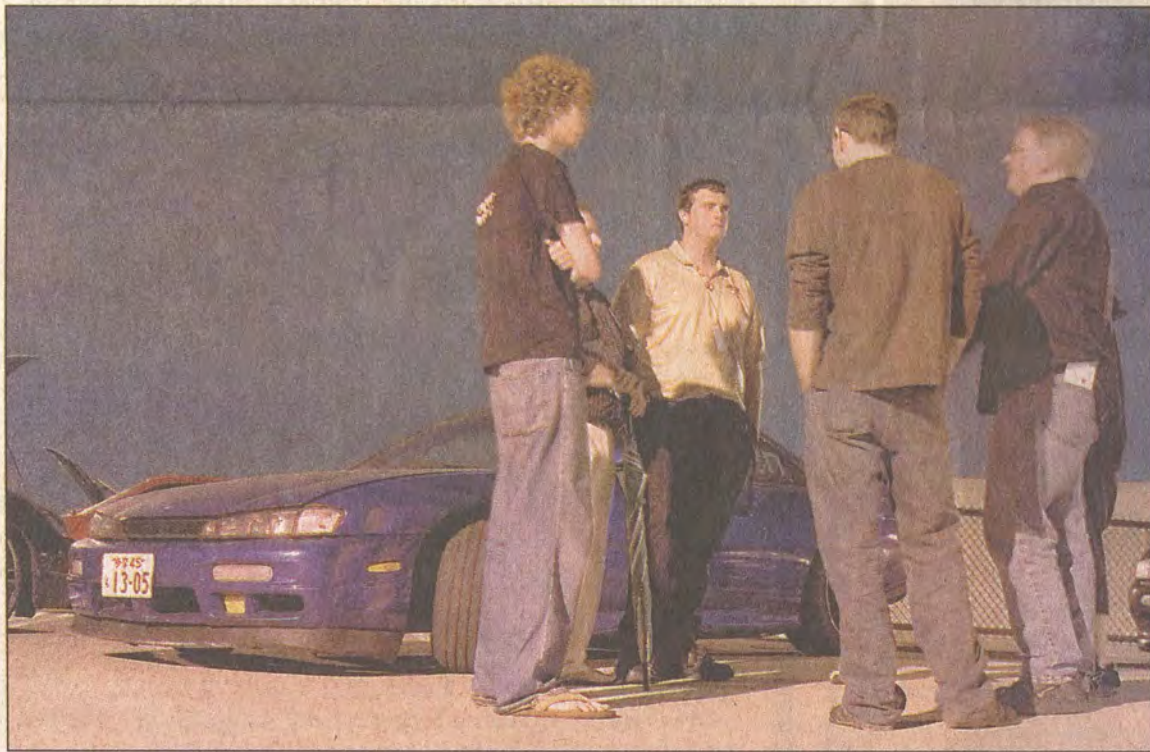
At first, there were only about 10 cars at the meeting on at the north parking garage, but as the night wore on, around 30 cars filled the roof top. Regular attendance is 25-30 people but some nights, upward of about 125 people attend, Hennessy said.

People come to make friends and have fun.

Kyle Nelson, 20, is a sophomore at UCF, majoring in mechanical engineering. Nelson drives an MKIII Supra Turbo and is the treasurer of the Knight Cruisers. He found out about the car club through friends.

"A couple of SAE's brothers went to check out the meeting, so I tagged along. I've made a lot of friends and have had some good times here," Nelson said.

Knight Cruisers is open to anyone who enjoys cars and conversation. The car club urges anyone to stop by and check out the scene, Wednesday nights at 10 p.m. on the roof of the north parking garage.



PHOTOS BY JAMES ANDRES / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

UCF's car club, the Knight Cruisers, holds impromptu car shows in parking garages on campus. Above: Knight Cruisers members gathered on the roof of the north parking garage on Feb. 21 to show off their cars, drawing crowds of up to about 125 people.

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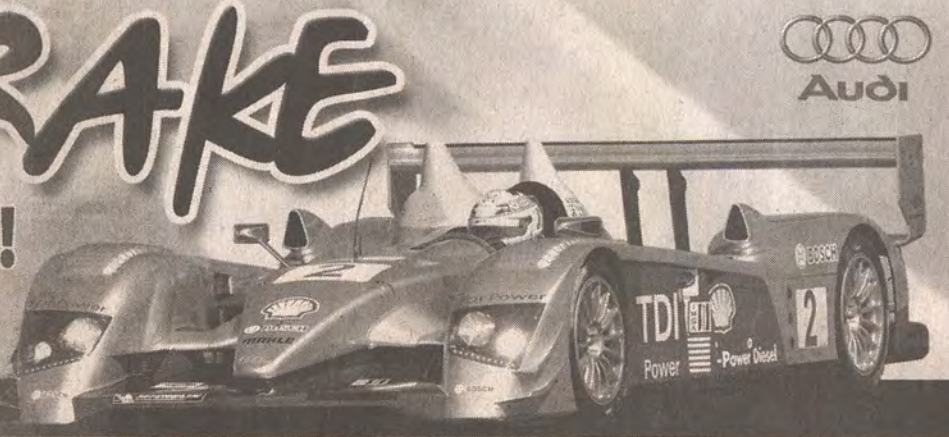
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Event proceeds go to pay for club's activities

FROM A1

Aaron Dawkins, 23, has been bartending for about three months at The Liquid Cellar. He said that fundraising events held at the bar are popular because they help both the bar and the organizations bring in profits.

"The fundraisers are good, because on nights we're not necessarily guaranteed to have a busy night or on our normal nights when we would have a set crowd, they can bring in somebody who would normally not come in here," Dawkins said.

The club members spent the last couple weeks promoting the event by calling all their friends and creating a Facebook group about the tournament.

"I personally am the one who organized this, and I have never played beer pong in my life, so this was very interesting to me," Walker said. "The Liquid Cellar has been very accommodating to us."

The Liquid Cellar waived the cover fee for anyone who said they were there to support the club. Teams of two were able to sign up on the roster for \$5, and all of the proceeds went directly to the Women's Volleyball Club.

As an incentive, The Liquid Cellar also gave away a \$100 bar tab to the winners of the tournament.

"We're gearing it towards the college crowd that is right across the street," said Mike Williams, 21, a civil engineering major and former member of the Men's Volleyball Club. "These girls are putting themselves out here and getting the money themselves, and we're trying to get our school to support them."

By the end of the night, the club collected about \$140. To get to nationals, the club must raise around \$3,100, which includes the entry fee, room and board, and travel expenses.

The club plans on having a carwash and a volleyball tournament to raise more money.

The hit heard 'round the world



PHOTOS BY BRIAN FIEG / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Left: Simone Thibault hits a player on the British Royal Air Force rugby team at their intramural match up on Feb. 20. The UCF Women's Rugby Club beat the British Royal Air Force 27-15 at UCF. Above: A BRAF player gets the wind knocked out of her during last week's match.

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Seedy rep haunts neighborhood

FROM A1

Pi fraternity. "It seemed like any other neighborhood to me, honestly."

Statistics from the Orange County Sheriff's Office seem to agree.

A report from the Sheriff's Office showed that over the course of the last 90 days, there were only eight property crimes in the entire neighborhood, most of which were burglaries. None of those crimes took place at the three fraternity houses in the neighborhood, Beta Theta Pi, Phi Delta Theta or Phi Gamma Delta.

Beta, whose original house sat on Darwin Drive, was forced to relocate in December after a developer bought the land between Darwin Drive and Napiers Circle to make room for new apartments and office space. They now live one block over, on Mendel Drive.

"The Greek Ghetto is kind of like a nickname that we're trying to steer clear of using, mostly just because it does have that negative connotation to it," said Beta Theta Pi President Jason Holic.

One of the big issues people associate with this neighborhood is crime. But Holic said that he thinks the overall safety of the brothers has improved since moving to the new neighborhood. But even still, incidents at the old house were pretty routine and minor; for example, random people would run across the lawn or police might pay their neighbors a visit.

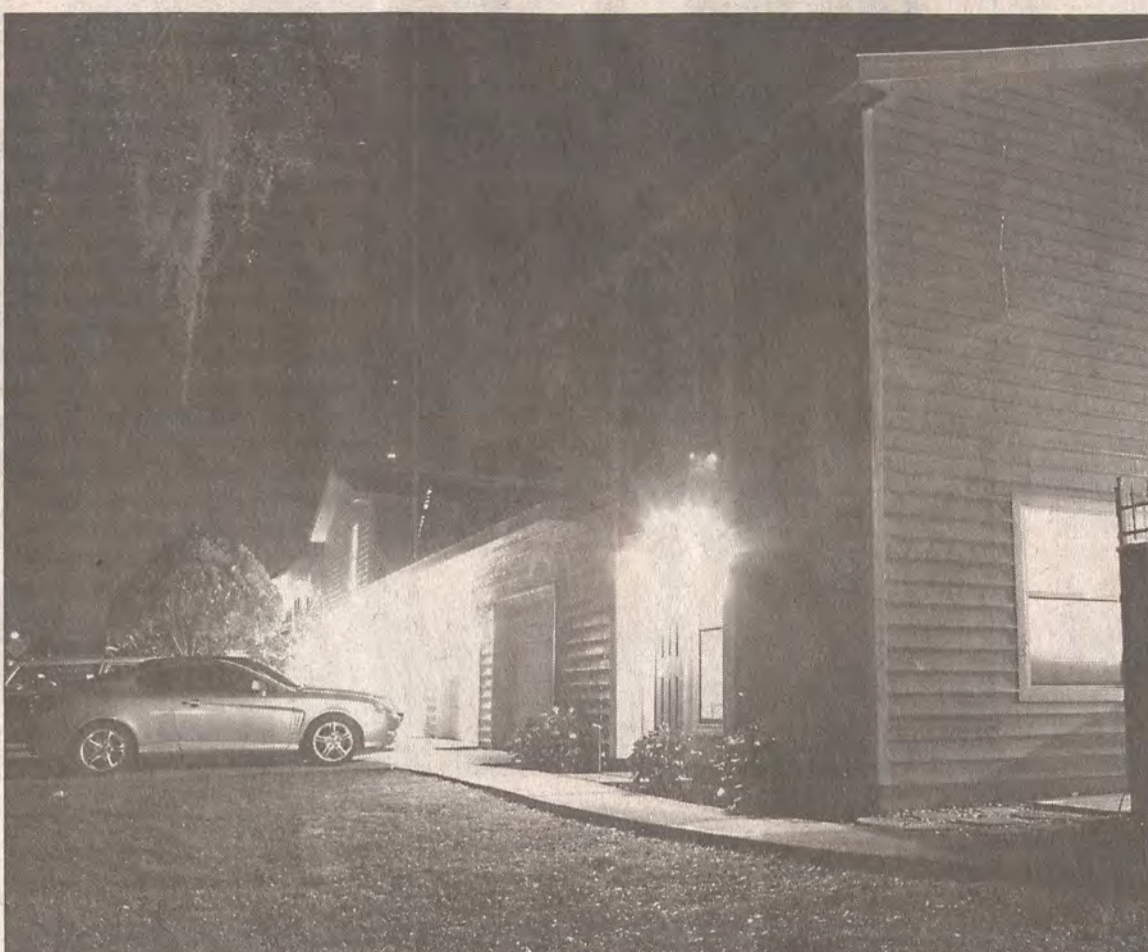
"I've noticed a decrease in the questionable safety since that area has been closed off, and also since the pub has been closed down," Holic said, referring to a September incident in which an early-morning fire destroyed the All Knight Lounge.

"I don't know if the neighborhood's any different, but I know this house feels safer. Our biggest concern so far has been feral cats and trying to cross the street getting to class, so we haven't had any big issues yet," Holic said.

Director of Greek Housing Greg Mason said the area used to be called the "student ghetto" and added that the moniker "Greek Ghetto" is also politically incorrect.

"It was never known as the Greek Ghetto. There were probably, at one time, the highest that I know of, about seven or eight fraternities that used to have houses over there," Mason said.

In the '70s, '80s and early '90s, the area south of University Boulevard was mostly occupied by students, as well as fraternities and a few sororities. As new apartment complexes and housing developments began to open up along Alafaya Trail and University Boulevard, students flocked to those areas, including many of the fraternities and sororities.



The 'Greek Ghetto' is home to houses for Beta Theta Pi, Phi Delta Theta and Phi Gamma Delta fraternities. BRIAN BUSTOS / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Some now have houses in Greek Park, while many others don't have houses at all. There are 41 fraternities and sororities at UCF, but only 13 have houses, either on campus, in the off-campus housing area or otherwise.

Many students have speculated about the future of Greek housing, particularly concerning the construction of Greek Park II. According to the UCF Office of Housing and Residence Life, approximately 6.7 acres of land have been reserved for new Greek housing along the corner of Alafaya Trail and McCulloch Road.

However, breaking ground on Greek Park II has been delayed by the Board of Trustees. SGA senators have recently debated passing a resolution urging the Board of Trustees to break ground sooner, and part of the ammunition used by some was that the Greek Ghetto is dangerous. That resolution, however, has not passed.

When it's finished, Greek Park II is estimated to have between 400-450 beds. However, Mason said projects like the new on-campus stadium, Convocation Center and medical school have put the project on hold for the time being.

So Greeks, hoping for a new house, will have to play the waiting game. Just how long that game might last is still uncertain, but in the meanwhile, the Greeks living off campus at least have a house to wait in.

"I think a lot of the stereotypes of the neighborhood have come just because of its nickname," Holic said. "This whole neighborhood is more of a whole neighborhood of people trying to get their feet on the ground and start a life."

Dirty play despite cleanliness pledge

FROM A1

feel we felt that way about him, and I don't want anyone wearing a shirt with my name on it saying those things."

She also said she has spoken personally to Eingold about the situation.

"I hate when it gets like this," Hollinger said. "I like student government, and I wish it wouldn't involve this stuff."

The controversies have gone from the physical world to the virtual one, with accusations posted on the social networking site Facebook. There, even the fliers have started using accusatory language.

One flier for Eingold stated: "Brandie and Logan claim to know what you want in this campaign. That's why they've copied Eric every step of the way."

With the competition intensifying, both sides have increased their forces, with Hollinger saying that they have doubled the amount of volunteers from 30 to about 60 campaigners.

come today at the noon debate. While the debate was originally scheduled for Monday, Hollinger had a midterm to take and couldn't make it.

"No one talked to any of the candidates about scheduling the debates Monday," Hollinger said.

Both Hollinger and Eingold said they would have been willing to have the debate on Tuesday but had no choice in the scheduling.

"It's an example of the lack of vision by the student government," Eingold said. "It's a huge issue. Why wait until 5 hours before the results? Why not just do it Wednesday at 5 when we are waiting for results?"

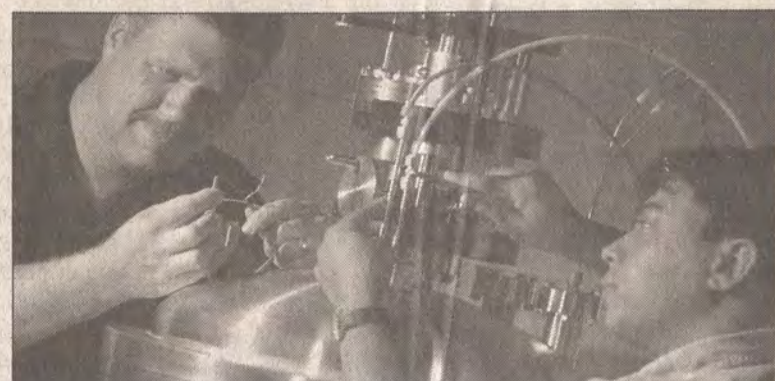
Despite the controversy over the scheduling, Wednesday's elections will likely be the last chance for the candidates to reach out to students.

Both plan to stay out later and campaign harder to get votes.

"Me and Eric both want to play it clean and have no drama," Hollinger said. "We can't control what every person does, but people are passionate"

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Schedule



SOFTBALL
STETSON
TONIGHT
 6 P.M. (HOME)
 The Knights continue their home stand as they host the Hatters.

E. MICHIGAN
MARCH 1
 2:30, 4:30 P.M. (HOME)
 The Knights return to action Thursday to host Eastern Michigan for a double-header.

JACKSONVILLE STATE
MARCH 2
 3 P.M. (AWAY)
 The Knights kick off their Altamonte Springs Tournament against the Gamecocks.

VIRGINIA TECH
MARCH 2
 7:30 P.M. (AWAY)
 The Knights face the Hokies for the second of two games on Thursday.



MEN'S BASKETBALL
HOUSTON
TONIGHT
 7:30 P.M. (HOME)
 The Knights host Houston in a battle for second place in C-USA. In their last meeting the Cougars defeated UCF 73-70 in overtime.



WOMEN'S TENNIS
E. MICHIGAN
MARCH 1
 1 P.M. (HOME)
 The Knights look for their second win of the season as they take on EMU.

FLORIDA A&M
MARCH 2
 1 P.M. (HOME)
 The Knights head back to action Friday to take on the Rattlers.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
SMU
MARCH 1
 9:30 P.M. (AWAY)
 The Knights head to Tulsa for the first round of the Conference USA Women's Basketball Championships.



BASEBALL
MONMOUTH NJ
MARCH 2
 6:30 P.M. (AWAY)
 The Knights kick off their three game series against the Hawks at Jay Bergman Field.



REBECCA BARNETT / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

SUPER SUNDAY

Baseball drops Louisiana State University on final day of series to improve to 4-7

BRIAN MURPHY
 Staff Writer

One day after giving up a run in nearly every inning, UCF pitching shut out Louisiana State University (7-3) for the final seven innings on Sunday, allowing the Knights (4-7) to come from behind in a 5-4 win.

The Tigers scored two runs in each of the first two innings and carried a 4-3 lead into the third. But UCF junior pitcher Jaeger Good, who pitched five innings, permitted just one hit in his final three innings.

Junior Matt McClung replaced Good to start the sixth inning and retired all six batters that he faced.

With the pitchers holding up their end, UCF's offense tied the game in the seventh by manufacturing a run.

Sophomore shortstop Eric Kallstrom led off with an infield single and junior second baseman Dwayne Bailey followed with a walk.

Junior center fielder Tyson Auer moved both runners up with a perfect sacrifice bunt down the third-base line. Senior designated hitter Matt Horwath's sacrifice fly drove Kallstrom in to tie the score at 4-4.

In the eighth, the Knights took the lead with more

small ball.

Sophomore first baseman Kiko Vazquez singled to left field with one out and reached second on a sacrifice bunt from junior left fielder Ryan Williams. Junior Ryan Richardson replaced Vazquez as a pinch runner, but the addition in speed would not matter much.

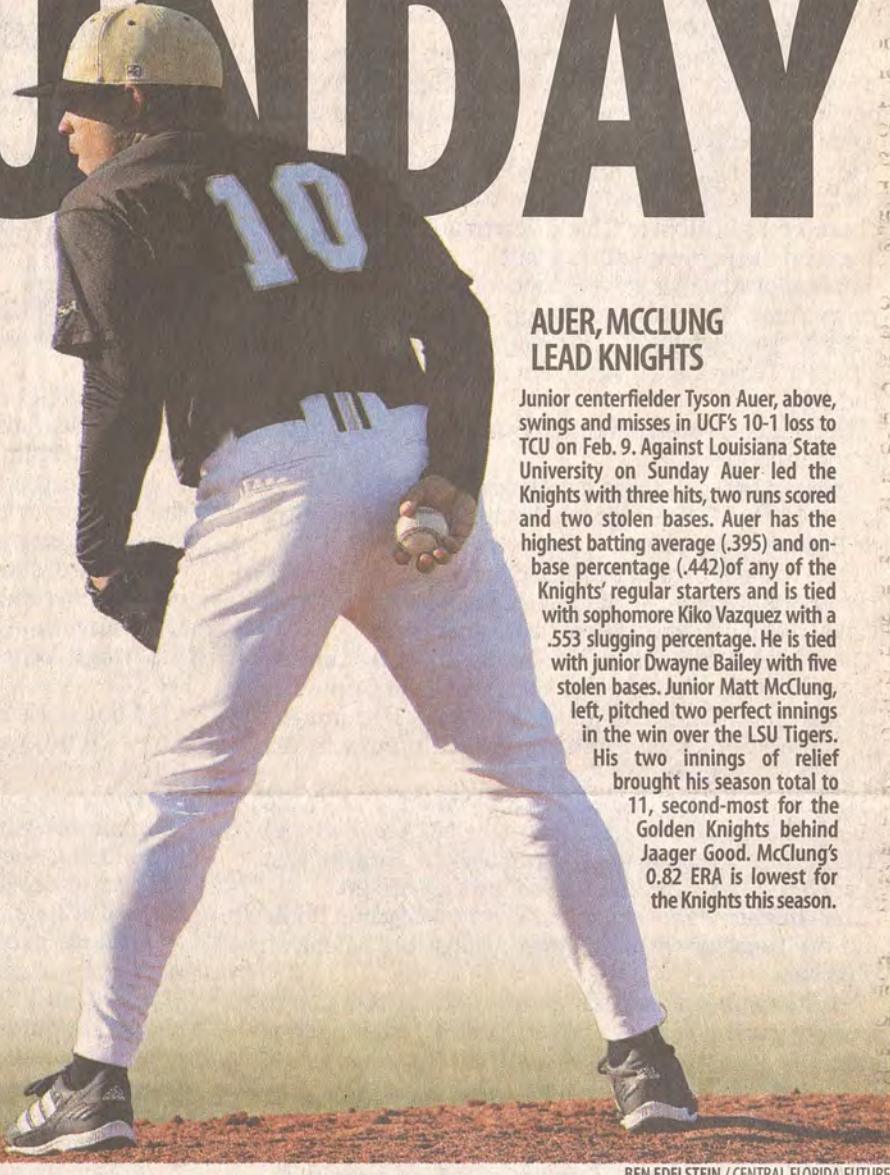
The next batter, third baseman Shane Brown, sent a double just inside the left-field line that scored Richardson and gave the Knights a 5-4 advantage.

LSU managed to get a runner in scoring position in the eighth and ninth innings, but sophomore Justin Weiss recorded the final five outs to secure the victory.

McClung earned his first win and Weiss picked up his second save of the year. UCF is now 4-0 on Sundays, 0-7 on all other days.

Through all the defensive sloppiness and misfortune that have marred the Knights' season thus far, their relief pitchers have lived up to their job description lately.

PLEASE SEE **SOLID** ON A10



BEN EDELSTEIN / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

AUER, MCCLUNG LEAD KNIGHTS

Junior centerfielder Tyson Auer, above, swings and misses in UCF's 10-1 loss to TCU on Feb. 9. Against Louisiana State University on Sunday Auer led the Knights with three hits, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Auer has the highest batting average (.395) and on-base percentage (.442) of any of the Knights' regular starters and is tied with sophomore Kiko Vazquez with a .553 slugging percentage. He is tied with junior Dwayne Bailey with five stolen bases. Junior Matt McClung, left, pitched two perfect innings in the win over the LSU Tigers. His two innings of relief brought his season total to 11, second-most for the Golden Knights behind Jaeger Good. McClung's 0.82 ERA is lowest for the Knights this season.

Golden Knights finish 12th at Lady Puerto Rico

WOODY WOMMACK
 Staff Writer

The UCF Golden Knights Women's Golf team saved their best play for last Sunday at the Lady Puerto Rico Classic. By posting a score of 20 over-par as a team, the Knights finished the tournament in 12th place overall.

Sophomore transfer Stephanie Connelly continued to play well in her first tournament as a Knight and shot an even-par 72 in her final round on Sunday. Connelly finished the three-day tournament at 10 over par, which was good enough for 32nd place individually. Even though she finished in 32nd overall, Connelly finished only 9 shots back of the individual winners, a group of five golfers.

STEPHANIE CONNELLY



Class: Sophomore
in Puerto Rico: Connelly shot an even-par 72 in her final round on Sunday

The even-par score by Connelly also matched the best round of the tournament by a Knight. Annabel Silk posted an opening round 72 on Friday.

Senior Lauren Motyl also played well over the weekend, and finished the tournament in 52nd place.

PLEASE SEE **CONNELLY** ON A10

Men's Tennis improves to 7-3 with win over East Carolina

MELISSA HEYBOER
 Sports Editor

The UCF Men's Tennis team continued its dominating play over Conference USA opponents defeating East Carolina 6-1 Sunday.

The Golden Knights, ranked 71st in the country, are now 3-0 against conference opponents, 6-1 at home and 7-3 record overall.

UCF earned the first point of the morning as junior Sinan Sudas and

freshman Johan Beigart defeated Bryan Oakley and Stephen Whitwell 8-1 in the No. 2 spot.

Sophomores Brock Sakey and Norman Alcantara earned a second doubles point in the No. 1 position beating Aleksey Kochetov and Henrique Viana 8-3.

In singles competition, UCF got the first point as Tarek Ben Soltane defeated the Pirates' Matt Peeler 6-3,

PLEASE SEE **UCF** ON A10

UCF faces Houston at home

CHRIS HOYLER
 Senior Staff Writer

There is nothing left to be said about the up-and-down season the UCF Men's Basketball team has experienced.

Prior to the beginning of the Conference USA schedule, it seemed that the Golden Knights had gone through enough drama to last a season.

From the opening night overtime scare against Rollins to the

good will of a 6-0 start that disappeared after a string of embarrassing road and neutral-site losses to big conference bottom feeders Minnesota and Colorado and Southern Conference frontrunner Appalachian State, it appeared the Knights had been hardened by the rollercoaster ride.

But appearances can be deceiving, and now, after Saturday's overtime loss at Tulsa, the Knights face a season-defining

week that begins tonight when the Houston Cougars come to town.

Both teams sit at 9-5 in C-USA, though the Cougars currently own the tiebreaker by way of their victory over UCF on Jan. 24.

"Each and every night, there's such good coaching and good teams in this league," head coach Kirk Speraw said. "For us to fin-

PLEASE SEE **KNIGHTS** ON A10

WALKER IMPRESSES AT COMBINE



REBECCA BARNETT / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Former UCF wide receiver Mike Walker, left, may have significantly helped his stock for the April 28-29 NFL Draft after running a 4.35 40-yard dash Sunday at the NFL Combine in Indianapolis. Walker was tops in his group, and only two receivers posted better times overall.

ORLANDO MAYOR BUDDY DYER HONORS SPIRIT PROGRAM



Head coach Linda Gooch and members of the UCF Cheerleading squad are honored by Mayor Buddy Dyer and the City of Orlando at the Orlando City Council meeting on Monday. The honor was in recognition of them winning the 2007 College Cheerleading and Dance Team Nationals in January. The Mayor proclaimed Feb. 26, 2007 as UCF Spirit Program Day.

Solid pitching leads Knights to victory

FROM A9

UCF's relievers have allowed nine runs in their past 25.1 innings of work. Eight of those runs came during Saturday's game where the Tigers scored in every inning except the third and blew out the Knights, 13-6.

Auer led the Knights' offense with three hits, two runs and two stolen bases. Hitting in the leadoff spot for the first time since Feb. 10, Auer was the offensive catalyst the Knights needed him to be.

He started the game with a single to left and a steal of second base. Auer moved to third on a groundout and sophomore right fielder Chadd Hartman walked to put runners on the corners with one out.

Sophomore catcher Steve Stropp followed with a single to score Auer. Hartman and Stropp moved up to second and third, respectively, off a throwing error from freshman left fielder Blake Dean. Vazquez's sacrifice fly put UCF ahead 2-0.

The Knights proved to be their own worst enemy in the first and second inning.

A passed ball and three errors from UCF handed the Tigers a 4-2 lead. The Knights have committed 31 errors in their 11 games this season.

Good was not phased by the lack of defensive support. He struck out a career-high five batters in his five innings. He allowed all four runs, but all were unearned.

Good has pitched at least five innings in each of his last two starts. While that is not a spectacular feat, no other UCF starting pitcher has made it through five innings since sophomore Kyle Sweat threw 5.1 innings in the Knights' season opener on Feb. 3.

The victory was the 1,160th-career win for UCF coach Jay Bergman. He now ranks 20th on the NCAA Division I all-time list for coaching wins. It was also the Knights' first win at LSU's Alex Box Stadium, where they are 1-6.

The Knights were scheduled to start a 17-game home stand on Tuesday with a contest against the Michigan Wolverines.

Results were not available at press time. A recap of Tuesday's game will be available in Friday's edition of the *Future*.

UCF gets 3rd straight conference-USA win

FROM A9

6-1 at the No. 2 spot. Alcantara followed that up with a victory of Brian Walters 6-2, 6-2 in the No. 5 spot.

The Knights picked up their third straight win as UCF's Beigart defeated Bryan Oakley 6-3, 6-3 at the No. 3 spot.

Despite the Pirates picking up their only point of singles play in the No. 4 spot, the Knights dominated the rest of the competition as Roesch and Sudas both defeated their opponents in the super tiebreaker.

The Knights return to the court on March 4 as they are set to take on Florida A&M. Match time is set for 9:30 a.m. at the UCF Tennis Complex.

Connelly leads Knights with 32nd overall finish

FROM A9

The team competition was won by Auburn, who finished the tournament with a 9-over-par 873, 56 strokes fewer than UCF.

The only Knight to increase her individual score all three days of the tournament was freshman Victoria Tomko. She posted an 81 on Friday, followed by an 80 Saturday, and a final round of 78 on Sunday.

Next up for the team is the Inaugural UCF Challenge, which will be held at the Villas of Grand Cypress in Orlando. The tournament will be held March 5-6, and the individual winner will receive a sponsor's exemption to play in an LPGA tournament later in the year.

FLA SPORTS WRAP

Magic run down Bulls in 94-87 win

Howard scores 21 points, grabs 16 rebounds in win over Chicago

RICK GANO
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Orlando center Dwight Howard notched a double double, despite not being able to hold on to the ball. Still, he'll take the victory for the Orlando Magic, especially on the road.

Howard scored 21 points and grabbed 16 rebounds — to go with 11 turnovers — Monday night as the Magic beat the Chicago Bulls 94-87.

"I had a triple double the wrong way — 11 turnovers. I've got to do a little better than that," said Howard, who also had a key tip to keep an offensive rebound alive in the closing seconds that led to a pair of clinching free throws by Hedo Turkoglu.

Orlando overcame 27 turnovers with the punishing inside play of Howard and Darko Milicic, who added 14 points, blocked five shots and matched Howard with 16 rebounds — a career high. The Magic dominated the boards 49-31 with 19 offensive rebounds.

"They did a good job of playing off each other," Chicago's Ben Wallace said. "That's what this league is all about. You go to one guy and somebody else steps up."

Jameer Nelson also had a solid game for the Magic, now 10-18 on the road after breaking an overall four-game losing streak. He scored 18 points and made three straight free throws after he was fouled twice in a span of four seconds by

Chicago's Kirk Hinrich.

Those free throws gave the Magic a five-point lead with less than two minutes left and they increased it to six on a Nelson jumper. Chicago's Ben Gordon, who had 32 points, hit a 3-pointer to cut the lead to 90-87 with 36.9 seconds to play.

With the shot clocking running down, Turkoglu put a jumper that missed. But Howard tapped the ball and so did Nelson and it went through the hands of the weary Bulls, right back to Turkoglu, who was fouled by Hinrich and made both free throws with 12.3 seconds left. Howard closed out the win with two more from the line.

"It's frustrating. We have to get a consistent style all the time," said Gordon, who'd missed a last-second shot Sunday in a loss to Detroit. The Bulls were playing their fourth game in five days and it showed. Orlando also played and lost Sunday.

"We didn't have energy all the way through," Gordon said.

Luol Deng added 23 points for the Bulls.

"I didn't really see a letdown," Howard said. "They played hard the whole game, but I think we just did our best to get stops."

Howard's dunk on a pass from Nelson tied the game at 82, and after a 24-second violation on the Bulls, Howard hit two free throws to give Orlando the lead. Nelson then hit three straight from the line for an 87-82 lead with 1:43 to go.

Howard then knocked the ball away from Gordon before Keyon Dooling made one of two from the line with 1:29 left and the Magic had a six-point cushion.

Down seven in the third quarter, the Bulls tied the game when Gordon got hot, hitting a 3-pointer and a pair of jumpers, the final one with two seconds to go in the period.



Orlando guard Jameer Nelson goes to the basket against Bulls' Kirk Hinrich in the Magic's 94-87 win over the Chicago Bulls on Monday. Nelson had 18 points and four assists for the Magic in the win.

Knights look to secure second place in C-USA

FROM A9

ish fifth a year ago and then to be battling for a second place finish in the league this year is a tremendous accomplishment for our young men and our program."

The first game between these two teams was a microcosm of UCF's season.

After holding Houston to 15 points in the first half, the Knights blew a 22-point second half lead and lost in overtime.

The loss came two weeks to the night UCF lost a 10-point lead in the final three minutes at UAB.

UCF has improved in holding late leads and against Houston it will be crucial to get out in front early in order to force the Cougars into having to depend on their shooting to get back in the game.

In 14 conference games, Houston is shooting just 40.8 percent in the field, which puts them 7th in C-USA. At 33.4 percent, they are eighth in C-USA in 3-point shooting percentage.

These numbers are pretty indicative of Houston's overall play, especially recently. Prior to Sunday's loss to Memphis, the Cougars were held under 38 percent in their previous three defeats. Even their last two wins have been tenuous, as they shot 32 percent in the win over UAB and 39 percent in the win over Tulane.

That's not a surprising statistic considering the team's top two scorers are also, by far, its most frequent shooters in guards Robert McKiver and Oliver Lafayette.

McKiver has attempted 453 shots this season, with 300 coming from 3-point range. Lafayette has attempted 370 shots, 204 of those 3-pointers.

The closest teammate in both categories is forward Dion Dowell, who has attempted 220 shots with 123 of those being 3-

"To be battling for a second place finish in the league this year is a tremendous accomplishment."

— KIRK SPERAW
UCF HEAD COACH

pointers.

McKiver and Lafayette are shooting 37.5 and 34.9 percent from the field, respectively, and since they both average over 35 minutes per game, it is clear that the defensive burden in this game falls on UCF guards Dave Noel and Mike O'Donnell.

This is similar to last Wednesday's game against Southern Miss.

The Knights were challenged by a guard-oriented offense, and they let the Golden Eagles shoot themselves out of a lead in the second half as starting guards and leading scorers Jeremy Wise and Sai'Quon Stone combined for just 32 points on 10-of-29 shooting.

Expect the same defensive approach against Houston. The Knights have been heavy on man-to-man defense all season, and that should continue as Noel and O'Donnell have been able to play increasing minutes as the season has worn on.

"Hopefully we can finish it out," Speraw said, "and be right there at the end, second or even third. If you look at where we were two years ago to what we've accomplished ... I give our guys all the credit in the world."

The game will start at 7:30 p.m. at the UCF Arena. Radio coverage will begin at 7 p.m. on WQTM 740-AM.

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7:30 PM—UCF ARENA

OUR STANCE

U.S. stuck in worst of both worlds

Someone in the White House must be brushing up on his or her H.G. Wells, perhaps dusting off *The Time Machine* one lonely, sleepless night? How else can we comprehend how we've magically traveled back in time to the summer of 1998?

You needn't be confused, dear reader, by the lack of a dot-com bubble, rabid stock market watching in sports bars or the faintly euphoric feeling of a balanced federal budget. We have indeed traveled back in time to when al-Qaida, through their surrogates the Taliban, controlled swaths of Afghanistan, backed by a cozy relationship with the Pakistani president in Islamabad, and the U.S. had no desirable way to strike at the terrorist group.

All courtesy of H.G. Bush and his trusted sidekick Crazy Dick.

We're in that hazy interregnum between the summer of 1998 and Sept. 10, 2001, when we could all see the danger ahead but were paralyzed because of a lack of feasible options to address the problem. The embassies in Kenya and Tanzania have just been bombed; al-Qaida's to blame, but we can't attack because an invasion through Pakistan is unworkable and we risk alienating Afghans who are pre-dispossessed to trusting the U.S. or are just outrightly hostile.

The system is blinking red again. Al-Qaida's signed an agreement with President Musharraf to let them occupy the tribal-controlled Waziristan province of Pakistan in exchange for not killing him, giving the group free rein to assume some

measure of command-and-control authority.

The U.S. military is over-committed in Iraq while there are too few troops in Afghanistan, so few in fact that the 1,000 troops Britain is pulling out of Iraq are going to Afghanistan before they've stabilized southern Iraq.

Bush, big on grand visions but bad on actually going after the bad guys, won't "swat at the flies" in the caves of Tora Bora — oops, we meant Waziristan — so he doubles down in Iraq by sending another 35,000 to 48,000 combat and support troops.

As *New York Times* columnist Frank Rich wrote on Sunday, the warning signs grow clearer every day. Michael Scheuer, former head of the CIA's bin Laden unit, believes a resurgent al-Qaida will detonate a nuclear bomb inside of the U.S. He also quoted West Point and Georgetown University terrorism expert Bruce Hoffman as saying al-Qaida is "on the march," not in retreat, as administration defenders have argued.

Rich also noted a report in the Feb. 19 edition of the *Times* that detailed how al-Qaida's top-tier leadership has, over the last year, once again established training camps and means of controlling its allies and franchises around the world. This is completely at odds with what the public has been told by the administration. Despite a five-year campaign to hunt down and kill or capture the masterminds behind Sept. 11, the group is growing in strength.

Furthermore, as CNN terrorism analyst Peter Bergen and Center on Law and Security at

NYU Law School research fellow Paul Cruickshank argue in the pages of this month's *Mother Jones*, the Iraq War has not distracted a resurgent al-Qaida; rather, attacks on western interests have increased by 25 percent since the beginning of the war. This figure does not include attacks within Iraq or Afghanistan, or those by Chechen separatists.

What this all points to is that after the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, the latter nominally in retaliation for Sept. 11, we find ourselves back in the interval between the summer of 1998 and Sept. 10, 2001, with a dangerously growing al-Qaida and no real policy options to address the threat. Invading Pakistan isn't viable, politically or militarily. Sending more troops to Afghanistan is impossible because the commitment in Iraq and al-Qaida is safely ensconced in a hard-to-reach area.

Those in the administration would do well to remember that Wells also wrote *The War of the Worlds*, which some see as a cautionary tale of the vulnerability of a technologically-advanced army being defeated by a far-less advanced group of fighters.

We already know how this story ends, with nearly 3,000 people dead and a crater in the middle of New York. For those who still cherish the memory of the splendor of the morning light from the bright blue skies and warm breeze in New York at 8:45 a.m. on Sept. 11, 2001, we're there again. Then, like now, we have only one more minute to stop this, and we mustn't waste any more time.



SPAIN FISCHER / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE



DON WRIGHT / PALM BEACH POST

READER VIEWS

Tribble searching for a coach when he already has one

Sometimes I like to wonder if, as fans, any of us could ever fully understand the thought process of a first-year athletic director with a major Division I-A university. At the same time, I'd like to know if an AD can fully understand what it's like to be a fan of that university, one person among tens of thousands who are regularly jerked around and told over and over that we're a "sleeping giant," or we're the next big thing.

Forgive us, Mr. Keith Tribble, if some of us have fallen into a cynical belief system and tend not to take anyone at their word anymore with our beloved Knights. You may have some master plan or grand scheme that you believe will help catapult UCF into the next tier of college athletics. If that's the case, then I tip my hat to your optimism. I mean, we've already seen that one winning football season is good enough to warrant the coach a 10-year extension.

So by that logic, where is Kirk Speraw's 10-year extension based solely on this season? Where's his extension, period? You may turn a blind eye to the small fan base that loves and adores UCF men's basketball, but you should probably take note of this: You may go out and test the waters after this season to bring in "your guy," but just remember that we've already got "our guy."

And we've been here a lot longer than you.

— ASHLEY BURNS
UCF Class of 2006

UCF fans' behavior toward Unicorns unacceptable

Last Tuesday, the Golden Knights baseball team played an exhibition game against Korea's Hyundai Unicorns. Although the game itself was great to watch, I am completely and utterly disgusted with a group of UCF fans who were giving our school a bad name. This group of fans constantly behaved inappropriately and made racist comments.

As an American, as a HUMAN BEING, I found this quite disturbing and flat out disrespectful. Are we, as college students, still caught in a grade-school mindset to think that it is OK to make fun of minorities?

Since when is it acceptable to masquerade in a gorilla mask in front of a group of Koreans gesturing that "you no have no marbles?" It is one thing to root for your team and to boo the opposing team, but it is another to disrespect a group of foreigners with stereotypes and racist remarks.

For the love of the game, those fans need to grow up.

I give my utmost respect to the Hyundai Unicorns and their fans for not stooping down to the same level as that group of UCF fans. UCF stands for opportunity, right? Well, it seemed to stand for an opportunity to make our school look like an institution of completely ignorant fools on an international level, just because of a group of loud, rude buffoons.

— ANGELICA AGO
Elementary Education Major

It's a large world, take advantage of it

Deconstructing the minutiae of networking is always an interesting and often migraine-inducing task. As we inch closer to completing our degrees, we will soon learn that the four years — nearly 1,200 days of knowledge — will be called into question the moment we receive our diplomas.

If an employer won't question you, society will. If getting a degree were the only rubric for your future career, we would be more like a community of idiots than Mensa members.

I think all college graduates should take six months off between college and the "real world" to explore. If you were a political science major, get a job working for the local zoo. You'll find the parallels uncanny.

Your tales of giraffe mating habits will enrich the readership of your blog more than your future entries about less lovable animals, Democrats and Republicans. Scoring that prized job opportunity in the 2008 presidential election will be a cinch after a stint as an aviary night guard and observing the predatory prowess of hawks and falcons.

Are you pre-law and interested in government legislation? Spend a few months as a migrant farm worker, living on their wages, and then step back and evaluate what you've learned before joining the illustrious firm of Stuffshirt, Tackytie and Howard, which specializes in immigration law.

What about the often fist-pounding, "we the people" journalism majors who believe that the written word will set them free? The First Amendment does not protect everything you say or do. The only realism you will ever glean as a working journalist is that most people



ABEER B. ABDALLA
Senior Staff Writer

believe you would sell your soul for a shot at the *New York Times*. And what's worse is that it is probably true.

To my fellow j-majors, both print and broadcast, I say, before reporting about terrorism, take a moment to understand the people on all sides of the conflict and the effect your work will have on each. Before examining hearings on environmental safeguards gone awry, prepare for this inconvenient truth: the likelihood of an ex-politician solving our war on global warming is just as possible as one person's ability to single-handedly invent the Internet.

The only way to take advantage of the world-at-large and our academic prowess is networking-jazz. Networking-jazz is hyped-up salesmanship to hock your best asset — YOU. There is a wellspring of networking opportunities at UCF.

4EverKnights is a unique wing of the UCF Alumni Association that offers networking opportunities with alumni while you're still an undergrad.

Their program Dinner w/7 @ 7 is one of the hippest and most inventive new projects to date. With plans for monthly ventures, Dinner w/7 @ 7 is a chance for seven lucky undergrads to sit down with a notable alumni in his or her own private residence for dinner.

What could be grander than breaking bread with one of Florida's who's who and having the opportunity during dessert to mention, "Oh, in addition to enjoying your work, I'll be graduating soon and would love to pick your brain about future pursuits."

Guest lecturers come to campus a few times each week. They give rousing talks to promote their books, conference papers, latest theories on time travel and, immediately following the event, they provide ample time for Q&A. You could even do some networking here, if you know how to ask.

Other opportunities in free networking include experiential learning, externships, internships and café get-togethers with professors.

My personal favorite is "e-mail-a-pro." Find someone who has a job, career or lifestyle you thirst to have. E-mail that person a short, one-paragraph note of appreciation, and ask to meet to find out how that person managed to get to where he or she is now. Sometimes it takes three or four e-mails, but ultimately, you'll be surprised at how many people take you up on the offer.

I e-mailed a writer when I was inspired by his work. I spent no more than 100 words explaining why I, a fellow writer, would like to meet him face to face. In addition to meeting for lunch, his publicist shipped me his last three books.

We can't let fear lead us. We can't be dissuaded from seeking out our dreams in the world and among all of its key players. You have a wealth of time, energy and finances invested in your education. Don't you deserve to reaffirm those resources on yourself?

— MELISSA CORAL
Orlando

— ERIC EDWARDS
UCF Class of 2003



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Apartment at University House for sublease. Downstairs room w/bathroom. Includes utilities, internet and cable. May through August. Rent \$445 a month. Please call 321-276-3034. Willing to pay application fee!

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

su | do | ku
© Puzzles by Pappocam

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

Monday puzzle:
Easy level

Wednesday puzzle:
Medium level

Friday puzzle:
Hard level

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1 Comic Imogene
5 Flows out
9 Employment
14 Install, as software
15 Order to a broker
16 More kind
17 Surrounded by
18 Guilty or not guilty
19 Evil characters
20 Binge
22 Division word
24 Brooding place
25 Gave off bright light
26 Channel swimmer
Gertrude
28 Was the designated one
30 Element 53
34 Hosiery hue
37 Individual
39 Actor Beatty
40 Flicker of light
42 Freed of obstructions
44 Firearm
45 Guarantee
47 Extremely
48 Tranquilize
50 American of Japanese descent
52 Rivulet
54 Billiards stroke
58 Depend
61 Lose traction
62 Editor's marks
63 Of age
65 Mine entrance
67 Pupil setting
68 Happen once more
69 Billfold fillers
70 Eyeball impolitely
71 Other side
72 Advantage
73 New Jersey NBA team

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2/28/07

- 4 Addition to a contract
5 6th sense
6 Those with faith
7 Kitchen device
8 Roofing material
9 One in Toledo
10 Inked
11 Farmland parcel
12 Turns right
13 Before, before
21 Pamphlet ending?
23 Baltimore's birds
27 Solitary
29 Jacks or better
31 Memo heading
32 -do-well
33 Countercurrent
34 Ova
35 Mystery board-game
36 Peel
38 Cutting corners
41 Catcher's need
43 Pilot's field
46 Solo

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M	E	S	H	A	S	S	E	T	S	E	C	S

Last issue solved

- 49 Safe haven
51 Mummy's three
53 Uplift
55 Suit fabric
56 Long-legged wading bird
57 Sibilant letters
58 Hard to come by
59 First garden
60 Clare Booth or Henry
64 Endeavor
66 Either part of a fly?

Solution and new puzzles in next issue's Classifieds

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