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PAYBACK TIME

With Bergman suspended, baseball drops a game to South Florida — SEE SPORTS, B1



HONEST ENGINES
Collegiate Scholars hope to convince students that cheaters never win

— SEE NEWS, A2

Central Florida Future

FREE • Published Mondays and Thursdays

The Student Newspaper Serving UCF Since 1968

www.UCFnews.com • Thursday, April 13, 2006

Senate resolution aims to change evaluations

Surveys would be filled out online, made available through MyUCF database to assist students in picking out professors

TIFFANY BECK
Senior Staff Writer

SGA Senate passed a resolution Thursday toward making Student Perception of Instruction surveys, also known as course evaluations, available in an online database.

The resolution would also allow students to fill out the surveys online.

John Zimmerman, a graphic designer in the SGA Communications Office, helped write the resolution. He presented the idea to UCF Faculty Senate, who are considering the project.

Zimmerman said that the first eight questions of the survey are public record viewable in the UCF Library. These responses are answered on a scantron by students and the answers

are tallied. He proposed that the cumulative information be available to students online. Students trying to schedule classes would be able to see how other students rated a professor.

For example, if 75 percent of students in a class gave their professor an excellent mark on a question about how their professor used class time, the information would be available to

students.

"This stuff is public record," Zimmerman said. "I think people should be able to access it through MyUCF."

Currently, the information from the survey scantrons is scanned into an electronic format, which is even available on CD. Getting hold of this CD, though, can be difficult for students.

Zimmerman said it took him 45

minutes of looking in the basement of the library with the help of library employees to find the electronic version of the survey data.

"It wasn't done maliciously, but the information is not available in an easily accessible fashion, and that's just the way it is," Zimmerman said.

PLEASE SEE **FACULTY** ON A2

2006 Trialogue

Christian, Islamic, Judaic leaders come together to spread knowledge of faiths

NAUSHEEN ANSARI
Contributing Writer

Leaders from three major religious groups, Christianity, Islam and Judaism, came together Tuesday night to increase awareness and understanding among people of those faiths.

The Trialogue was sponsored by three campus organizations: Campus Crusade for Christ, Hillel and Muslim Student Association.

The moderator for the night was Ameer Zufari, a representative of the Muslim Student Association. Zane Kennedy represented Campus Crusade for Christ, and Benji Rabhan represented Hillel.

The panel for the event was composed of Joshua A. Katz, executive director of Central Florida Hillel; Richard L. Pratt of the Reformed Theological Seminary; and Imam Abdurrahman Skyes, an on-call Imam for South Lake Hospital and previous chaplain of 10 years for the U.S. Department of Corrections.

From the beginning, it was obvious intolerance would not be tolerated.

"Tonight is not going to be about arguing and hatred," Zufari said. "If that is why you are here, I would recommend you go home."

Several methods of advertising were used to promote the event. Banners hanging in the Student Union, several hundred flyers, an official Trialogue Web site and Facebook invitations helped draw a large crowd.

More than 400 people filled up the chairs of the Student Union's Cape Florida Room. Several students lined up against the walls to watch.

The night was divided into three different sections.

Each member of the panel first introduced the religion they represent. They then noted the misconceptions of their faiths. Finally, the panel responded to a question and answer session.

The third section was held so audience



members could voice their confusions about the three major religions and get a more direct and knowledgeable answer to their questions.

All three members of the panel had similar goals for the audience attending.

"Tonight is an invitation to build bridges instead of separation," Skyes said.

The event focused on finding similarities between the three religions rather than the differences.

"We are talking about three religions that have things in common," Pratt said.

Panel members helped clarify many misunderstandings that exist among the UCF student body.

Those in attendance at the event were allowed to write down any questions they might have for the panel. Most questions were answered from all three of the panel member's religious perspectives.

The Trialogue showed the viewpoints of the three Abrahamic religions in a two-hour time span. This small amount of time gave students beneficial information to take home and the question and answer session allowed for students to dispel their confusion and be informed.



RYAN PELHAM / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Joshua Katz, top, of Central Florida Hillel, speaks about his Jewish faith at an inter-faith Trialogue on Tuesday. Richard Pratt of the Reformed Theological Seminary, left, answers an audience member's question while Imam Abdurrahman Skyes, right, listens.

Accident claims lives of two UCF students

Maximillian Krumm, 23, Steven Lorenz, 18, were killed instantly in wreck; one passenger survived

ANDY VASQUEZ AND ASHLEY GREEN
Senior Staff Writers

Steven Lorenz, 18, a new brother of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity, and UCF student Maximillian Krumm, 23, were killed in a car accident on April 4.

Lorenz's roommate and fellow UCF student Ariel Poliak, 18, was riding in the back seat. He survived the accident and was airlifted to Orlando Regional Medical Center.

At the time of the accident the car was going at nearly twice the posted speed limit of 35 mph. All three passengers were wearing their seat belts when the car spun into a tree around 8:25 p.m. Tuesday.

Krumm and Lorenz, who was in the passenger seat, were pronounced dead at the scene.

According to a press release from Zeta Beta Tau, Lorenz was a graduate of Cypress Bay High School and pursuing a double major in psychology and legal studies.

Krumm, who graduated in 2001 from St. John Neumann High School in Naples, was less than a month away from graduation at UCF. Along with his interest in automobiles, Krumm also enjoyed playing video games and had a vast knowledge of computers and martial arts. He worked at the UCF PC repair shop and was a member of the Tae Kwon Do Club at UCF.

Stetson graduate student Nicole McGinnis, 22, met Krumm when both were in their sophomore year of high school. She said that he was a quiet person by nature but wasn't afraid to open up when approached.

"He always could make people laugh and had an awesome sense of humor," McGinnis said. "He also had a serious side, too, when called for. He knew how to have a good time

PLEASE SEE **20** ON A2

CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

In the Monday article "War of the words" by Andrew Van Wart, the suggestion that Orlando resident Mike Busey call his party "Assholes and Ale" was made by UCF student Sarah Miller.

Also, neither Lazy Moon Pizza nor Pie in the Sky Pizza endorsed the events held on their premises.

The National Organization of Women held its counter event to "raise awareness about a college party culture that is hostile to women," NOW President Jenna Cawley said.

Backstage Diner plans comedy night Wednesday

Former Wired Cafe reopens as coffeshop, diner-style restaurant, entertainment venue in fall

BART ZINO
Staff Writer

Tucked away in the back corner of what is now Ferrell Commons sits what promises to be UCF's premier student activities venue. Students from an earlier time may remember it as the Wired Cafe, but today it is known as the Backstage Diner.

After being shut down in 2003 for an asbestos problem, the Wired Cafe seemed to have closed its doors for good. Almost two years later, the Campus Activities Board is eagerly awaiting the completion of a renovation project that has made the cafe even better than before.

According to Associate Director of

the Student Union Rick Falco, the original renovation plans called for a simple coffeshop design.

Since then, the diner has evolved to include house and portable sound systems, a stage for music and comedy entertainment and all the features of a full-service restaurant. There will also be a coffee corner and sit-down area with tables.

CAB Executive Director Diana Perry said that, while Wackadoo's will run the restaurant portion of the Diner, it will have a different kind of atmosphere.

"It will be kind of like a diner-style hangout place," she said. "It's not going

PLEASE SEE **SMALLER** ON A8



JENNA GOUGH / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
The Backstage Diner will hold its first event Wednesday. It will completely open in the fall. The diner's design incorporates a coffeehouse theme.

AROUND CAMPUS

News and notices for the UCF community

Group promotes integrity at UCF

Collegiate Scholars stress importance of avoiding cheating in obtaining college degrees

LEAH GRICE Contributing Writer



Business freshman Jeff Gillan signs the academic integrity banner while Sacha Kong, left, and Kristi Sorger, right, look on.

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars is holding two events to ask students to commit themselves to academic integrity.

Seventy percent of 50,000 students from over 60 campuses admitted to some form of serious cheating, according to a survey done by the Center for Academic Integrity's Assessment Project.

On Wednesday, the officer's board of the UCF chapter of the NSCS stood outside the Student Union from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. asking students to sign a banner committing themselves to academic integrity.

This 2-foot-by-5-foot banner will be displayed in the Student Union during finals week to remind students of their commitments.

The event will be held again on next Wednesday at the same location and time, in hopes that as many people as possible can be reached, NSCS President Nicole Peterson said.

The UCF chapter volunteered to host the academic integrity event.

"We work very closely with

the national office," Peterson said.

Sophomore student Andres Garcia signed the banner. "We are all here at UCF trying to get our degrees," Garcia said. "They will mean nothing if we cheated to get them."

Thirty-four names covered the banner after the first hour. NSCS Historian Kaylin Ackerson urged students to stop and commit themselves. "Academic integrity is something important to tell other students about," she said. "The amount of cheating happening is appalling. We are trying to get students to think twice before being dishonest to themselves."

The first 100 students to sign

the banner received an integrity wristband. Any bands left over will be given out on the following Wednesday.

The chapter bought the wristbands for \$1 each from the NSCS national office, and all the proceeds will be going to a scholarship that was created by the national office, Peterson said.

To be eligible for the scholarship, an applicant must be a NSCS member, have demonstrated his or her commitment to integrity and submit an essay that highlights that commitment. The \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to at least three students nationwide, Peterson said.

The Association of College Honor Societies created a project titled "A Matter of Ethics," in

reaction to the one-fourth of students who admit to cheating on tests; one-half who admit to one or more instances of cheating on written assignments; and 60 percent who admit to plagiarism.

The UCF Chapter of NCES could not pass up the opportunity to take part in the trend.

"UCF is a growing university," said Peggie Yu, NSCS Vice President of Community Service. "It is very important that students do not cheat. We want to set an example as a role model for future students and not have them harm the university's reputation."

According to the NSCS, integrity has many meanings: honesty, pride, dignity, self-respect, authenticity, personal ethics, hard work, character, truth, and honor.

LEAD scholar Kristina Graczyk agrees.

Academic integrity is important to enhance not only education, but the understanding of the material they are being taught, she said.

The NSCS UCF chapter is urging all students to stop by next Wednesday and make the commitment to academic integrity if they were unable to make it to Wednesday's event.

NATION & WORLD

Keep current with headlines you may have missed

U.S. and Peru trade-promotion agreement signed Wednesday

WASHINGTON — The United States and Peru signed a free trade agreement Wednesday that the Bush administration said would lead to increased prosperity in both countries.

Eighty percent of consumer and industrial products and more than two-thirds of current U.S. farm exports to Peru would become duty-free. Many products from Peru already enter the U.S. market without duties. The agreement ensures that this status would remain unchanged.

U.S. Trade Representative Rob Portman told the gathering at the Organization of American States that the accord "will promote increased economic activity and commercial prosperity for both of our nations."

Peru has said the agreement, once implemented, would increase bilateral trade and also attract U.S. investment to the country.

In 2005, U.S. goods exported to Peru totaled nearly \$2.3 billion. Two-way trade between the U.S. and Peru during that year amounted to \$74 billion.

In May 2004, the United States agreed to negotiate free trade accords with Peru, Colombia and Ecuador. Negotiations with Peru concluded in December and an agreement with Colombia was reached in February. Discussions are ongoing with Ecuador.

Delta pilots picket company headquarters, threaten to strike

ATLANTA — More than 300 Delta Air Lines Inc. pilots marched near the company's headquarters Wednesday and placed a giant inflatable rat on a street corner to symbolize what they see as corporate greed in management's effort to void their contract and impose pay cuts.

The demonstration came even as there appeared to be progress in talks that were continuing between union and company negotiators at a hotel in New York.

Spokesmen for the nation's third-largest carrier and the union declined to comment about the closed-door talks, which were said to be intensifying. Any deal on long-term pay and benefit cuts would have to be ratified by the Atlanta-based airline's 5,930 pilots.

Delta has been seeking up to \$325 million in long-term pay and benefit cuts from its pilots, which would include a wage reduction of at least 18 percent. The company has offered to reduce its concessions request to \$305 million a year if the pilots reach a consensual deal, while the pilots say they have offered \$140 million. It's not clear how, or if, those positions have changed since negotiations picked up steam Tuesday.

An arbitration panel has

PLEASE SEE NATION ON A4

Student picked for prestigious program

New York internships use the city as 'living classroom' to teach real career skills

AMANDA BASS Contributing Writer

UCF senior Brittany Ward started the application for a highly selective program and then put it aside.

Like most college students, she was busy.

Then the director of the Distinguished Scholars Program for National Society of Collegiate Scholars members, Katie Riley, called her.

Riley encouraged Ward to finish the application process and was the one who e-mailed her with her acceptance. Ward will spend eight weeks this summer interning in New York City as part of the Distinguished

Scholars Program.

"New York would be amazing to live in, especially for the summer," said Ward, an interpersonal communications major and Spanish language minor.

With many professions demanding work experience on top of a degree, students are flocking to internship programs.

"Internships have always been important to college students, but never more than now," Riley said.

An already selective group, NSCS consists of only students with higher than a 3.4 GPA who are in the top 20 percent of their class. And the Distinguished Scholars Program is even more selective.

Each participant in the program is placed in an internship that fits his or her future career goals. Past participants have interned at the Smithsonian Institution and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Despite the program's exclusiveness, Ward's professors weren't surprised to hear about her selection.

"She's a highly motivated student and very insightful," communications professor Burt Pryor said.

Pryor said that Ward has a great writing style, which would have helped in the application process.

One of Ward's Spanish professors, Julie Pomerleau, added

that Ward's dedication is probably what set her apart from other applicants for the program.

"She works hard in class," Pomerleau said.

Ward's work ethic will certainly help her in the public relations internship she wants for this summer. But that's not the only part of the program. It also includes the use of New York City as a "living classroom" through participation in different activities.

Students like Ward will learn more about the career they want to enter after college as well as what "real life" is like in a tough city.

"We help students to test-drive their career," Riley said.

20 car enthusiasts carpooled to Lorenz's service

FROM A1

and how to make others have a good time when they where with him."

Services for Krumm were held on Sunday in Naples. He was laid to rest on Wednesday in his birthplace of Rowe, Mass. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, contact St. John Neu-

man High School to donate to the Maximillian Raymond Krumm Scholarship fund.

Lorenz's funeral service was held on Monday and the fraternity set up a memorial outside of the Student Union on April 5.

The brothers of Zeta Beta Tau will participate in several philanthropy events in Lorenz's memory, and all brothers will

wear a black strip on their jerseys.

Lorenz had a passion for cars.

"Let's put it this way: his car was as close to him as his girlfriend or his family," said Sean Wiston, Lorenz's best friend and fraternity brother. "He told me that he would wake up and just be excited to sit in his car

and listen to the idle."

Lorenz was knowledgeable about Dodge Neon SRT-4s. He used his Web site to sell parts for the car to owners from around the globe.

Nearly 20 SRT owners and members of the SRTforums.com community carpooled to the funeral to show support for Lorenz's family.

LOCAL WEATHER

Weather forecast table with icons for sun, clouds, and moon. Includes 'Today' (Sunny, High: 80°, Low: 62°), 'Friday' (Sunny, High: 85°, Low: 62°), and 'Saturday' (Sunny, High: 89°, Low: 63°).

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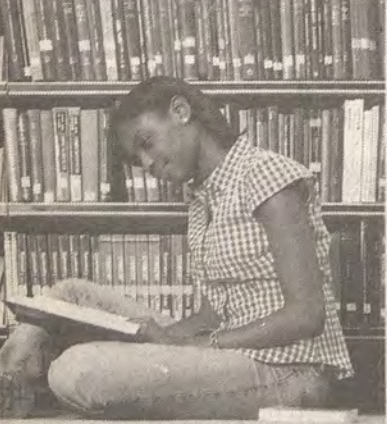
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The Future wants to hear from you! If you have a club, organization or event and want your information to be considered for the Around Campus column, send a fax to 407-447-4556 or an e-mail to editor@ucfnews.com. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Tuesday for the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



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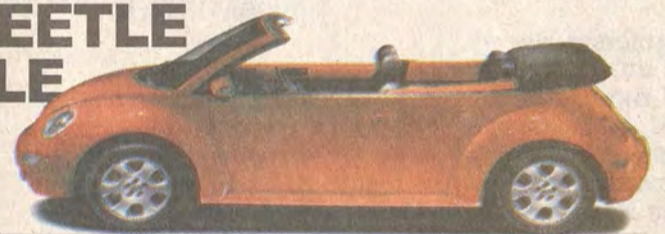
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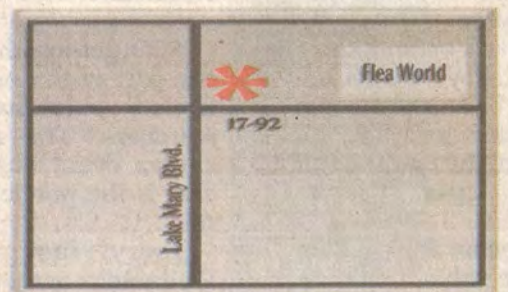
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HIGHER EDUCATION

What's in the news at colleges around the country

Professor arrested after police allege involvement in lewd act
OKLAHOMA CITY — A Langston University professor has been arrested on an accusation that he engaged in an act of lewdness with another man, according to police records.

An Oklahoma City police report said John K. Coleman, 62, was arrested Saturday in an area of northwest Oklahoma City that has been the focus of complaints about male prostitution.

Coleman is chairman of the chemistry department at the school in Logan County, about 30 miles northeast of Oklahoma City. The university would not comment on the arrest.

The police report said that Oklahoma City officer David Hanes drove up to a parked vehicle and noticed two men inside involved in an apparent sex act.

Coleman was with Keith Contrell Garrett, 43, a transient who is named in a felony warrant for escaping from a penitentiary.

Garrett faces charges including engaging in an act of lewdness, possessing drug paraphernalia and providing false information. Coleman is accused of engaging in an act of lewdness, a misdemeanor.

Students lobby bill in Colorado, accused of using tax dollars

DENVER — A state lawmaker criticized the University of Colorado Wednesday after biology students went to the Capitol in a bus chartered at taxpayer expense to lobby for a bill on the former Rocky Flats weapons plant.

"I encourage any citizen to show up and testify on their own behalf," said Rep. Mark Cloer, R-Colorado Springs. "My concern was using state tax dollars to lobby."

The 20 students registered as volunteer lobbyists and went to the statehouse on Monday. They testified before the House Health and Human Services Committee in favor of House Bill 1389, which would require that signs be posted at Rocky Flats warning of health risks.

Rocky Flats manufactured plutonium triggers for nuclear warheads. A cleanup of the site was completed last year and it will eventually be converted to a national wildlife refuge, with much of it open to the public.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Wes McKinley, said the students were studying the effects of plutonium and were exercising their constitutional right to talk to lawmakers.

"They were so excited to be a part of the process, a part of a representative form of government," McKinley, D-Walsh, said in a speech on the House floor.

Biology professor Harvey Nichols said university officials backed the use of the bus. He said students had offered to pay for the trip after they learned of the complaint, but he refused to let them.

California university to partner with area hospitals for training

MERCED, Calif. — Officials from the University of California, Merced, met with community members to pitch plans for a medical school at the new campus.

The university said Tuesday it would partner with Central Valley hospitals rather than build its own training hospital to get the school started, said Chancellor Carol Tomlinson-Keasey.

The university began talking about adding a medical school to the new campus earlier this year.

Doctors and organizations across the Valley have backed the project because it would help retain doctors in a region that lags in the number of physicians per capita statewide.

It would cost \$100 million to start the school and the project will need approval from the UC Office of the President and the UC Regents before it goes to the state Legislature.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATION & WORLD



Peruvian presidential candidate Ollanta Humala smiles to reporters in Lima, Peru on Wednesday. Humala blasted President Alejandro Toledo for authorizing the trade deal.

FROM A2

until Saturday to decide on the company's contract rejection request, but that deadline could be extended if the sides approach an agreement. The pilots have authorized their union leader to call a strike anytime after Monday and said they will walk off the job if their contract is voided. Delta says a strike would kill the airline, which is operating under bankruptcy protection.

Migrants rush to Arizona border anticipating guest worker plan

NOGALES, Mexico — At a shelter overflowing with migrants airing their blistered feet, Francisco Ramirez nursed muscles sore from trekking through the Arizona desert — a trip that failed when his wife did not have the strength to go on.

He said the couple would rest for a few days, then try again, a plan echoed by dozens reclining on rickety bunk beds and carpets tossed on the floor after risking violent bandits and the harsh desert in unsuccessful attempts to get into the United States.

The shelter's manager, Francisco Loureiro, said he has not seen such a rush of migrants since 1986, when the United States allowed 2.6 million illegal residents to get American citizenship.

This time, the draw is a bill before the U.S. Senate that could legalize some of the 11 million people now illegally in the United States while tightening border security. Migrants are hurrying to cross over in time to qualify for a possible guest-worker program — and before the journey becomes harder.

South-central Arizona is the busiest migrant-smuggling area, and detentions by the U.S. Border Patrol there are up more than 26 percent this fiscal year — 105,803 since Oct. 1, compared with 78,024 for the same period a year ago. Along the entire border, arrests are up 9 percent.

Maria Valencia, a spokes-

woman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, said the rise in detentions did not necessarily mean more people were crossing. She attributed at least some of the additional detentions to an increase in the number of Border Patrol agents.

Ex-teacher arrested for violating probation by contacting student

McMINNVILLE, Tenn. — A former elementary school teacher who spent six months in jail for having sex with a 13-year-old student was arrested again, this time for violating probation by apparently communicating with the victim.

Pamela Rogers, 28, was arrested Tuesday and released on \$10,000 bond. A judge ordered her to appear at a July 12 hearing.

Last August, Rogers reached a plea deal to serve nine months on an eight-year sentence, allowing her to avoid a trial on 28 charges of sexual battery and statutory rape. She was released from jail in February for good behavior.

Under terms of the plea deal, she was, among other things, ordered not to contact the victim or his family and not to use the Internet.

Authorities said she violated probation by establishing a Web site through the online social networking hub MySpace.com. The site features a blog that included what authorities said was communication between Rogers and the victim's 17-year-old sister.

Rogers is also accused of issuing a cryptic message to the victim through the Web site by addressing his basketball jersey number, saying he was her hero and that she would not fall in love again for three years.

The Web site also features several pictures of Rogers in a bikini.

District Attorney General Dale Potter said he will seek to have Rogers return to prison to serve the remaining seven years of the original prison term.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT

THOMAS HOEFER
Staff Writer

It could have been a scene from a movie.

Young people going on a multi-day trip, camping out and watching the stars.

Although it is less romantic than it sounds, members of the UCF Astronomical Society still have plenty of fun when attending star parties throughout Central Florida.

"These are large gatherings of amateur astronomers held in sites that are much darker than what we're used to here in Orlando," said Yan Fernandez, assistant professor of physics and adviser of the club.

"The number of stars you can see is really amazing," he said. "It's great fun and a great learning experience, since you get to interact with other enthusiasts from around the state."

Such get-togethers are only one part of the Astronomical Society, which has about 20 members. The most well-known event hosted by the club is the public viewing of stars.

Every first and third Wednesday of the month during the semester, everyone is invited to stop by at the Robinson Observatory and use a 26-inch reflecting telescope to observe the beauty of the galaxy. Once darkness has arrived and the sky is somewhat clear, Saturn, Jupiter,

Mars, even star clusters and nebulas will be visible.

According to Fernandez, this event attracts dozens of people over the course of hours.

"But there is room for more," he said.

Fernandez, who was driven into astronomy after seeing Halley's Comet in 1986, wants to convey astronomy to majors other than physics.

"Since we live in a fairly light-polluted metropolitan area, a lot of people don't necessarily know about all the things they can see in the sky," he said. "We try to get them to notice by showing them a little bit of how the cosmos works."

This aligns with the club's goal to "promote astronomy to anyone interested and give some insight into what's really out there," as former society president Ed Hebel put it.

Calling attention to both the club and science remains the main purpose of the Astronomical Society.

"This is a club that has something for a wide range of students, since astronomy encompasses diverse fields, from engineering to art to photography to biology," he said.

The only requirement for joining the club is having a natural interest and curiosity for astronomy. Other than that, the membership is free.

For more information, contact club president Chris May at maaayyybe@yahoo.com



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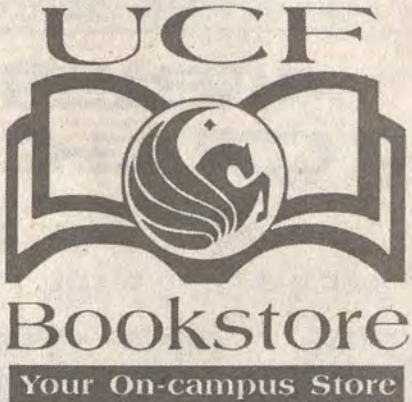


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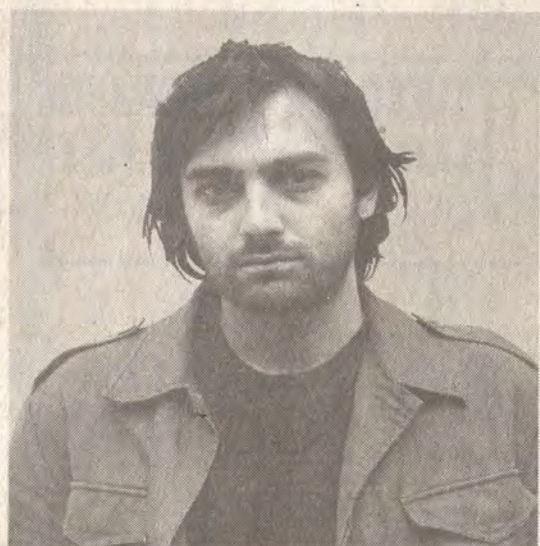
The Gamekillers **OBITUARIES** April 2006

Game Killed

Andre Massis
Fernando Nieves
Zack Danielson

Hanwey Shieh
Bharat Kumar

Eric Smith
Jon Fox
Chad Utsch



MASSIS Andre, São Paulo, BR

Was lured away from a pretty young thing and into a heated game of 'Foes' by his good friend Carl—more commonly known as "The Mayor of No Women's Land." While Andre made several attempts to step away and pack into contention with the said female, Carl's relentless pursuit for all things that don't involve getting some, was ultimately too much for the young Andre. He quickly found himself sweating it out over the air hockey table, from where he would catch a glimpse of his young beauty heading out the door with another suitor. Andre's game will be remembered by many, just not her.



NIEVES Fernando, New York, NY

His game was alive and well on its way to a ten digit exchange with a hottie known as Britney, but was suddenly bushwhacked by a classic Gamekiller, The Drama Queen. She ran into the scene, tears streaming, and sobbed a story of having seen her ex from four years ago. "I, I, I just can't be alone tonight, Brit." Still a retrievable situation, had Fernando kept his cool. But he didn't. "Four years seems like a long time ago," he said in all innocence. By the time The Drama Queen was done flipping the script, Fernando was recast in the role of "the villain" in front of a crowd of horrified on-lookers. No one hooks up with an insensitive pig. Rest in peace Fernando, but you sleep alone.

DANIELSON Zack, Atlanta, GA

It was early in the evening yesterday when Zack's game left us, and while it didn't go without a fight, Zack did have his arse unceremoniously handed to him. Upon returning from the bathroom, Zack found the girl he

was seeing had been surrounded by a beefy mesomorph, Early Man, who tried to use his abundant muscle to strong-arm him out of the picture. Zack did not keep his cool and accused his young lady friend of flirting with the first guy who came along. His girl, no doubt disgusted by Zack's over-the-top bravado, fled the scene when his far from attractive jealousy escalated into Zack throwing a punch, which was caught in mid-air by something that looked like a hand, but felt like a 20lb vice. By the time Zack regained consciousness, he was home alone and unable to console himself with his dominant hand.



SHIEH Hanwey, Los Angeles, CA

Hanwey was chatting up a latin diva at an apartment complex barbecue and his game was hot enough to pose a fire hazard, that is until his friend and cocoon of horror known as The Mess entered the picture and snatched Hanwey up like a flash flood of distraction. Somewhat of a loose cannon, The Mess immediately engaged Hanwey in the age-old male bonding tradition of lighting one's own farts. Sure, there's little more enticing than the ignition of one's own combustible human gasses, but much like riding an electric scooter, you don't look that cool doing it. When the laughter subsided, Hanwey was left with nothing but a good laugh and the faint smell of old eggs, while his lady was snared by a new suitor. Man, talk about blowing it.



KUMAR Bharat, Jacksonville, FL

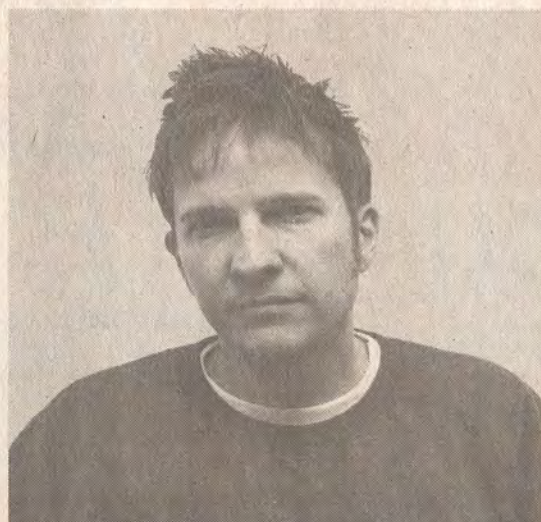
After kicking his game to a leggy redhead at a dorm mixer, Bharat was interrupted by Trevor, a.k.a. British Accent Guy. Women are drawn to men with British accents,

Game Killed

so all it took was a single "pardon" to make his girl raise an eyebrow toward this game killing Redcoat. This prompted Bharat to get riled by calling out the guy's busted grill of yellowing bad teeth and comparing the merits of baseball over cricket. The British Accent Guy smiled and opened his mouth only to offer small bits of non-confrontational banter, allowing his accent to seep into the girl's brain like a piece of brilliant propaganda. In the end, the Brit would invade on Bharat's territory with ease, taking the girl, and leaving Bharat's game strewn on the road as a piece of collateral damage.

SMITH Eric, Washington, DC

His game came to its demise in the most unlikely of circumstances. While engaging in two of his most pleasurable pastimes: talking about boats, with his other passion, a beautiful girl who seemed genuinely interested. They were even planning to go out in his 15-foot dinghy, only to hit unseen rocks in the form of The One Upper, the classic Gamekiller who lives by the motto "Anything you can do I can do better." Sure enough, The One Upper claimed to not only know boats, but he also boasted of captaining his own 40-foot vessel. Eric tried to navigate to the calmer waters of car talk but was run over again by The One Upper's supposed vintage German roadster. The tension quickly mounted, and soon the two were engaged in a ruthless game of one-upmanship. On and on they went, seeing what the other guy just said and raising him. When the smoke cleared, Eric had won the gloat-fest, but the girl was nowhere to be found. No one likes a braggart. Eric's game was last seen drifting away towards the vast sea of loneliness in an undersized boat.

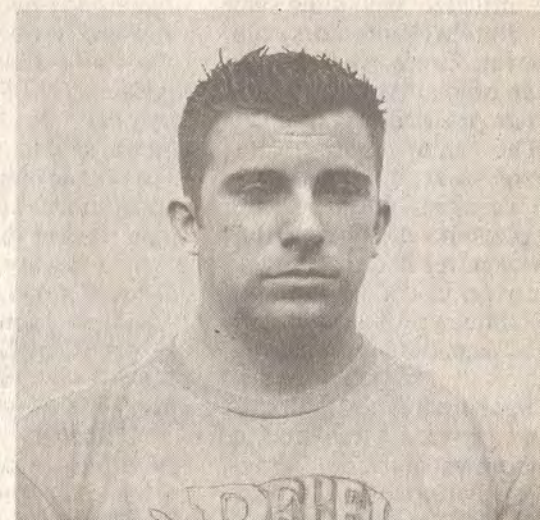


FOX Jon, London, UK

Jon's game, beloved to many a cheerleader and facilitator of the ménage of 2003, was fairing well at a Gold Coast club with a delightful pair of sisters. That is until the playboy predator and full time Gamekiller simply known as Kash Munni entered the picture. A well-endowed socialite famous for trashing 5-star hotel rooms, Kash had traveled in from oil rich lands

Game Killed

wearing expensive Italian loafers and indoor sunglasses. Drinks were bought for willing and unwilling recipients alike with his family's fortune, which he shamelessly flaunted in the form of an array of high status plastic. This caused Jon to suddenly lose his cool and go on the defensive by opening a tab of his own. On his debit card. After three rounds, Jon's account was maxed. Shortly after he was dropped off alone would Jon learn the hard way that a woman's affection should never be for sale, and that many a man has gone broke trying to prove otherwise.



UTSCH Chad, New Brunswick, NJ

His game was faring nicely at the local coffee shop with a seemingly receptive latte drinker called Rita and he seemed well on his way to a little afternoon delight, that is until the corduroy-clad Gamekiller known as "IQ" entered picture. This pompous scholastic scavenger, famous for luring men into heated debates on subjects of which they know nothing, overheard the conversation turning to art and pounced. Immediately he steered the dialogue into an area known as Out Of Chad's Depth where he would dish out ever increasing portions of intellectual emasculation. Chad reacted as anyone with a 20 point IQ deficit facing "IQ" would: the wrong way. No, the answer to "When do you feel Picasso peaked?" isn't to shove the questioner in the chest. Rita was left to apologize emphatically for Chad's actions and asked if she could make up for it in some way. Chad tried to recover, but it was too late. He had lost his cool, and his game would retire home, where it would begin its own blue period.

Obituaries can be created and sent via email to friends at gamekillers.com

Keep Your Cool. Axe Dry.

Students gamble for a good cause

Sigma Phi Epsilon will hold first Mario Jenkins Casino Night fundraiser Friday

KRISTYN SIMMONS
Contributing Writer

When Matt Frenz decided he wanted to hold a casino night for his fraternity, he asked the police department to help him find a charity to donate the proceeds to.

As a result, Sigma Phi Epsilon will be hosting its first Mario Jenkins Casino Night fundraiser this Friday at 6 p.m.

"We at Sig Ep love to be contributing members of the UCF community and do whatever we can to uplift the students as well as the faculty and obviously the police force," Frenz said.

This semi-formal event will be at the Sigma Phi Epsilon house on Greek Court. The purpose is to raise money for the Mario Jenkins Memorial Trust Fund. The fund was created to help lessen the cost for

Jenkins's family members and co-workers to travel to officer memorial services in Tallahassee and Washington D.C. next month.

Frenz has spent the past three months coordinating the events with the help of his fraternity brothers, but many police officers helped as well. Everyone involved has put in effort to make sure the event will be as big and profitable as possible. Because they handed out flyers on campus and sent out invitations to people around the community, they expect a huge turnout.

"The goal is to collect \$20,000," Sgt. Troy Williamson said.

Donations for the cause will be taken at the door. Although participation in gambling is not mandatory, each guest will receive a specific amount of play money in relation to how

much they donate. Those who cannot offer a donation will still be given \$1,000 in play money for the night.

Texas holdem, blackjack, roulette, casino war, craps and flip-a-coin tables will be set up for the players. Being a semi-formal event, all guests are required to dress appropriately. For extra entertainment options, there will be a buffet and a live band playing outside.

As well as time put into coordination, the police department has contributed its support by participating in the night's event. Donations will be taken during an auction where the highest bidder will win the chance to assist in tazing one of UCF's police officers.

"Both on-duty and off-duty officers will be there, having a good time and keeping their eyes out for any problems," the coordinator for the police force

committee working on the event, Kelly deArmas, said.

There will be no alcohol at the event, and Gambler's Anonymous flyers will be available for people who feel they may have a problem.

"We do understand that gambling is a problem just like any other," Frenz said.

The donations made will help cover Jenkins' family members and co-workers' travel expenses for a Tallahassee memorial service on May 8. Also, they will be traveling to the National Police Week celebrated in Washington D.C. May 14-20. May 15 was declared as National Peace Officers Memorial Day by John F. Kennedy in 1962.

Contributions for the trips can also be made to the Memorial Travel Fund at the UCF Credit Union by those who are unable to attend.

Faculty Senate calls part of idea 'feasible'

FROM A1

Students often use non-UCF affiliated Web sites such as RateMyProfessors.com. However, Zimmerman argues that an official Web site would be more practical and useful.

"The thing with Rate-MyProfessors that bugs me is that it's unreliable," he said. "People who don't take that class or never had that professor can go in and write something about a professor they've never taken. It's not a good system."

These unaffiliated Web sites often provide information about professors in the form of written comments. The proposed UCF online database would be more like a rating system, and would not contain written comments. "It's a number, it's not like what you are writing down on RateMyProfessors," said Brian Peterson, vice chair of SGA's Governmental Affairs Committee. "It's not a like a quote about each one, it's a numerical value."

The logistics of such a system have not been ironed out, but Zimmerman said that the database is an attainable goal.

"The best strategy to deal with the day-to-day logistics of this is to sit down with the administration and just talk with them, with the genuine concern of how are we going to make this work," he said. "Saying to them that alright, we want this, we know you can make this happen, let's find the middle ground and keep this a functioning program."

Zimmerman recently helped present the idea to Faculty Senate.

Chair of Faculty Senate Manoj Chopra said that the Faculty Senate and Academic

Affairs Office are studying the pros and cons of the having students fill out the evaluations online. "The general sentiment (in Faculty Senate) was that this is a feasible option if the logistics of the forms and security can be worked out," Chopra said in an e-mail about filling the forms out online.

Zimmerman said the next steps toward making the program a reality would be to schedule a meeting with UCF President John Hiitt and to present it to the board of trustees.

"Ultimately it's either going to be up to the president, the board of trustees, or the provost's office," he said. "Any one of those can make that decision."

The surveys are used internally by the colleges to evaluate professors.

SGA Sen. Ravi Toddi is pursuing his Ph.D. in electrical engineering and has also taught classes. He sees the issue from both sides, but said that, as a student, he supports making the survey results viewable online.

He also said that for the professors who have yet to receive tenure, these evaluations are used to evaluate their performance. "My contract is based somewhat on my evaluation," he said.

"The student evaluation of teaching surveys are used as a major instrument for assessing the teaching performance of all faculty in their annual performance evaluations," Chopra

said in an e-mail. "They most certainly play a role in the teaching component of the faculty's portfolio for tenure, which also contains research and service components."

The data is important to the university, but the method used to collect the data costs thousands. UCF spends about \$56,000 per year on the paper-based system.

The SGA resolution said that allowing students to fill out the surveys online would save the university money.

Chopra agreed. "I feel that we will eventually migrate to this approach since the sheer size of the paper-based approach is inherently cumbersome," he said. "The online approach appears to be working well at some other institutions."

SGA Senate added amendments to the resolution to ensure anonymity to students taking the survey online.

Some senators expressed concern over whether students would be as likely to take the surveys if they were online instead of in class. There was discussion over whether the survey should remain optional or if it should be mandatory. However, the resolution did not contain anything specifying whether the online surveys should be mandatory.

"People say if we make students do this online they'll rush through it, but when students do it in class they may rush through it too," SGA Sen. Jere-

my Mares said.

Zimmerman said that he has been in contact with officials from several other universities that use an online system of filling out the surveys and that those schools did not see a large drop in participation when they switched to online surveys. He supported keeping the survey voluntary.

"People are happy to tell you about their professors most of the time, either they're angry or they love him," Peterson said. "Most people are happy to take them."

However, there are concerns that allowing the students to voluntarily take the surveys online could lead to skewed data, where more moderate voices are not heard.

"The major concern was the inherent bias that may be built into such assessments — for example only those with strong feelings (either positive or negative) about the instructor may chose to complete these online," Chopra wrote in an e-mail.

This bias could skew the data and present an inaccurate picture to students who use the reviews to help them decide what professors to take.

Some students like the idea of filling out the surveys online.

"Honestly, it would be a lot easier because I could do it on my own time," said political science student Matt McGuire. He also said that he uses Rate-MyProfessors.com but would also find the UCF database useful. "A third opinion is always good," he said.

However, he said that he doubts students would be as likely to fill out the surveys online if they remain voluntary.

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS ON A8

"The online approach appears to be working well at some other institutions."

— MANOJ CHOPRA
CHAIR OF FACULTY SENATE



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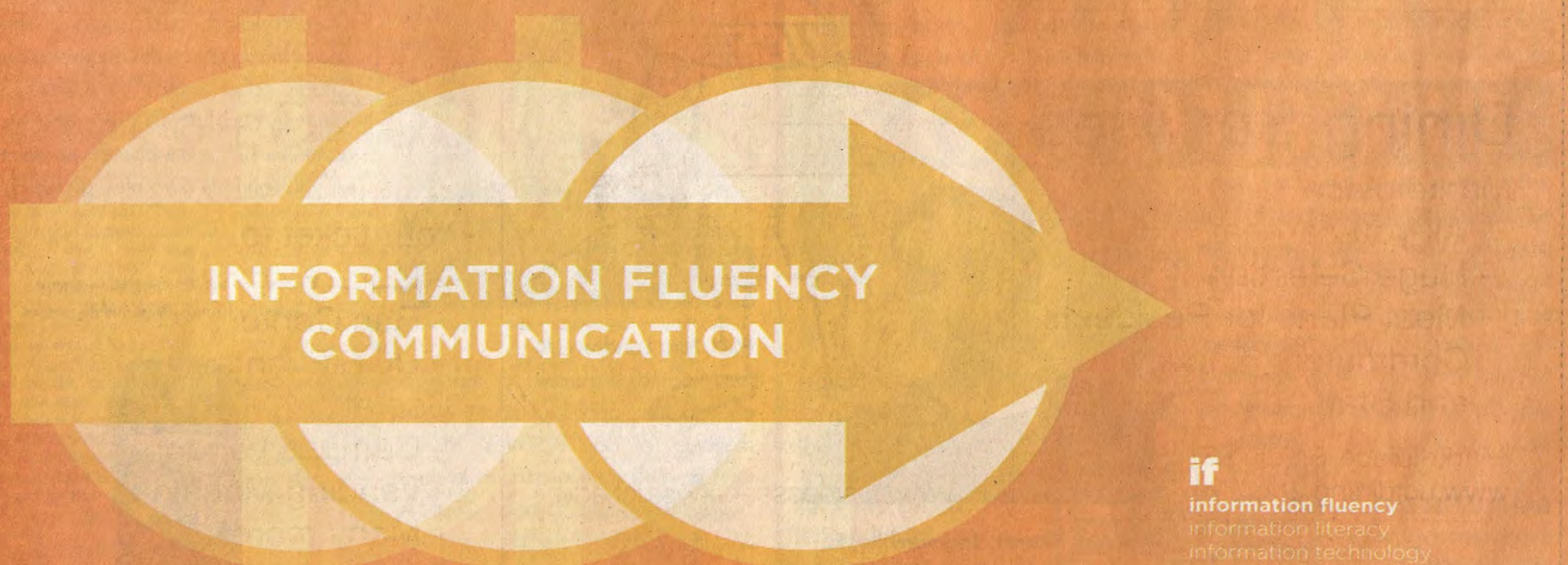
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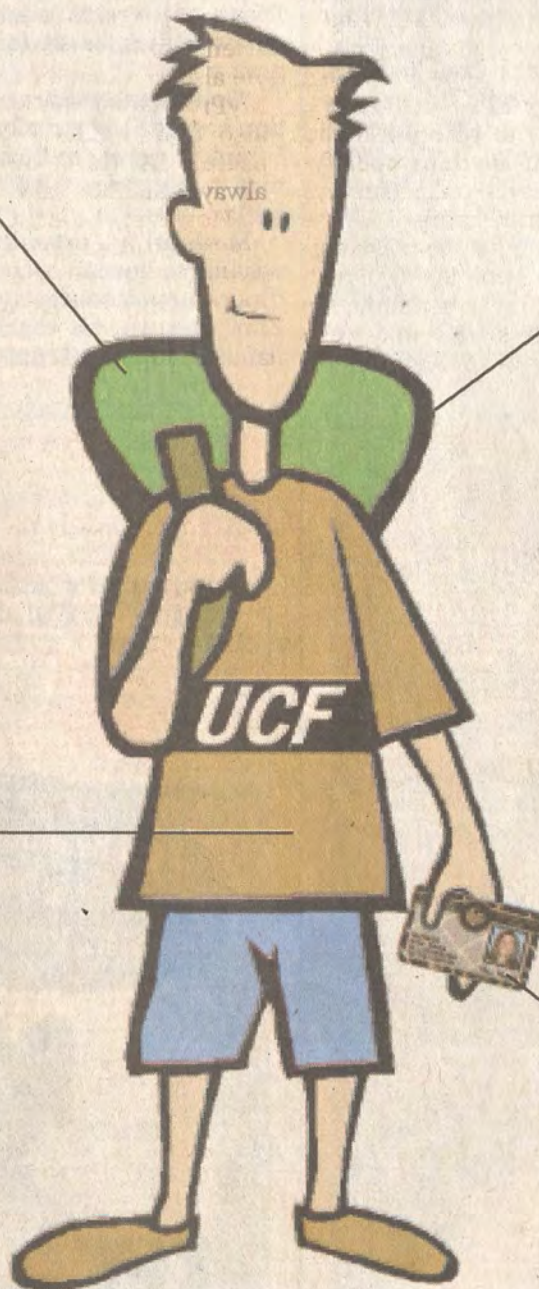
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Hip hop group on BET show tonight

Winning performance will air on *Revamped* at 8; viewing party at Wackadoo's

ASHLEY GREEN
Senior Staff Writer

UCF's hip hop performance group, RUKUS, will be featured on the BET show *Revamped* at 8 tonight.

There will be a viewing party at Wackadoo's hosted by RUKUS.

The road to victory for RUKUS was filled with unexpected twists and turns, but the team pulled together and came out on top.

About a year ago, the group sent an e-mail to BET expressing interest in competing in the event, which is part of the station's *Spring Bling* event series. Recently, they were asked to send in a one-minute sample.

After sending in the entry, RUKUS learned they qualified to travel to Miami to audition for a spot on the BET show *Revamped* along with 24 other teams.

The show is a dance competition that gives performers a chance to dance to popular music videos.

This year, it was hosted by Julissa from the show *106 & Park* and R&B artist Trey Songz.

RUKUS received the good news during an inconvenient time — Spring Break. Everyone was in different cities.

"Cell phones were constantly ringing throughout the break to ensure everyone on

the team was aware of the work and cost of the trip to Miami," said Ashlee Clay, vice president of RUKUS.

Once everything was confirmed, the team received unexpected news. The 26-member team would only be allowed a maximum of 12 dancers at the audition. Clay said choosing the 12 dancers was the most important and difficult decision that the team's artistic director, Nakia Hunter, would have to make.

Once Hunter reached her decision the team was as follows: Hunter, team president; Michelle Vega, choreographer; Donaldson Joseph, team captain; Danielle Ruguerr; Chadet Aleem; Clyde Mathes; music technician Ishmael Davis; EJ Ganuelas; historian Lindsey Griffiths; Ryan Kennedy and Mareeka Lodge.

The team had three days to get its routine together, Clay said. Each night consisted of four to five hour practices that ended at 1 a.m. or 2 a.m. in the morning.

"The biggest challenge was that we only had one minute," Hunter said. "Most of our performances are between five and seven minutes."

Hunter said they put all of their "best stuff" from a variety of routines into one 60-second performance.

In Miami, the team stayed calm and got ready for its audi-

tion. "Many of the teams began to battle one another," Clay said. "There were breakers, pop lockers, krumpers, pretty much everything you could think of. But while they were all battling and wasting their energy we decided to play it smart and just watch to conserve ours. We were not intimidated, but we were more fascinated with their extreme talents."

When performance time came, the team impressed the judges so much that it was invited back for the "revamped" round as one of only two finalists. The other team was Allusions from Ohio.

In the revamped round, each team was given a popular music video and told to remix the dance moves in it.

RUKUS was given the task of revamping the music video "Temperature" by dance-hall reggae artist Sean Paul.

"We were really excited at first," Hunter said. "We'd done a Sean Paul routine before and thought we had gotten the best of the two. But after listening to the song again, we got a reality check."

She said they came into the competition with a high-energy performance, but this song was slower and they had to make adjustments.

Once RUKUS finished revamping its assigned video,

they headed back to the hotel for a poolside practice that lasted until 3 a.m. A few hours later, while waiting for its turn to perform, the team was backstage being interviewed by *Access Granted*, another BET show.

They were also invited by the director of "Wild Out Wednesdays" to make an appearance on the BET show *106 & Park*.

After its performance, RUKUS was crowned the winner.

"We all jumped for joy as we were picked," Clay said.

Each team member won an iPod and a gift certificate to be used at a variety of athletic shoe stores.

"I was really, really proud of the way the team took to the whole experience," Hunter said. "It was a tough 48 hours. We got about three hours of sleep each night and probably only had one good meal while we were there."

Since their appearance on *Revamped*, Hunter and Vega have been in contact with the director of "Wild Out Wednesdays" on *106 & Park*, and the team is scheduled to compete on the show on May 31.

"The winner is chosen by internet votes, so we would love for UCF to support us on this one," Clay said.

Rukus is currently raising funds for that trip.

Students interested in possible changes

FROM A6

McGuire suggested putting the surveys on MyUCF and requiring students to fill them out before they can register for classes.

Computer science senior Cory Johns shared that concern. "I think if they were voluntary and only online that a lot fewer people would fill them out," he said. "At the very

least they should recommend it in class."

He said that he often uses RateMyProfessor.com and that he finds the comments on the Web site helpful and would like to see student comments on the MyUCF reviews as well. He supported the idea of filling out the surveys online. "They'd be more convenient, because if you miss the class where they hand out the surveys you don't

get to fill one out."

Elementary education senior Arissa Pacheco said that she appreciates the chance to evaluate her professors. "I think they're really helpful," she said about the surveys. "There's no other way to give them feedback without telling them who you are." However, she also said that she thinks the surveys should be mandatory if they are given online

because she said that students might be less likely to do them.

Zimmerman and Peterson said that eventually they would like to see a database where students could view a range of reviews of professors over different semesters, instead of just seeing the reviews from the last semester. However, they said that is something to work toward in the future.

Smaller venue will allow for local bands, movie nights

FROM A1

to be a sports bar. You're going to see comedians; a lot more local bands are going to be there. There's no facility on campus where we can get local bands." She added that a lot of programming will also take place during the day, in addition to the events that CAB already produces at night.

According to CAB Director of the Backstage Diner Natalie Zfat, construction on the Diner was supposed to have been completed at the end of Fall 2005. Falco attributed the delay to changes made to the original plans.

"That project had a lot of

bumps in the road," Falco said. "Partway through, the decision was made to turn it into a full restaurant." Falco said that decision set the project back by nearly a year.

Today, Zfat said the kitchen is the only thing left to be finished, but that the diner is already open for business. On April 19, CAB will host its first Amateur Comedy Knight in the Diner at 8.

"We're really looking forward to seeing the building get in full swing," Assistant Director of the Student Union Ed Luther said. "We've had a lot of students involved in the different agencies, just giving their input. It's great seeing every-

one get involved like that."

Luther works with CAB and the Student Government Association to coordinate events in the diner. He and Zfat said that, in the future, the Diner will be home to movie nights, open mic nights and local rock shows, among other events.

"A lot of the bookings will be made through CAB and the Office of Student Involvement," Luther said. "We'd love to see seven days of events."

Perry also said some organizations have already gotten attached to the Diner. Most prominently is Knightcast, who moved its station to the Diner last semester and has

been broadcasting there ever since. Perry said that groups such as Elements has also approached CAB.

"A lot of clubs and organizations really want to get in there," she said.

The completion of the Diner will create many new opportunities for student programming.

"I think the students' reaction is going to be really good. I think it's going to be a really nice concept for CAB," Falco said.

Student organizations wishing to host an event at the diner should contact Natalie Zfat. She can be reached at natalie.zfat@gmail.com

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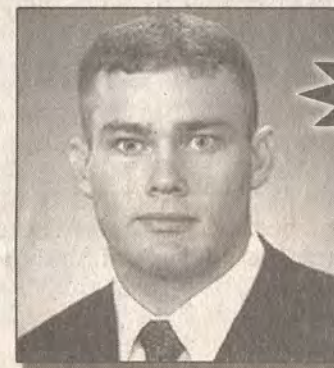
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Diners become detectives at Murder Mystery dinner

BART ZINO
Staff Writer

Murder's afoot once again for the Campus Activities Board's Special Events Committee, which will be putting on its second annual Murder Mystery Dinner Theater at 8 p.m. Friday in the Student Union Pegasus Ballroom.

The murder mystery takes place in Hawaii and revolves around the motives of several characters and their connections to a local resort hotel.

There is the story of Stella and her ex-husband, Harold. Harold currently holds the deed to the hotel but has let it fall into disarray on account of his alcoholism. Stella wants to take over the hotel in the hopes of making an enormous profit.

However, lounge singer and possibly delusional Donny Woo claims that the hotel is built over the remains of an ancient burial ground belonging to his family. As the story unfolds, Stella, Harold and Donny meet, among others, Voodoo priestess Abigail and private inspector Cornelius Cuddlebutts, who each have their own plans for the hotel. The action culminates in the murder of Stella, and it becomes the audience's job to figure out the identity of the killer.

Director of the murder mystery, Sabrina Glass, compared the plot of the mystery to a soap opera. This is Glass's second

The show's a mystery

Tickets, however, are not

- UCF students are free.

- Students must register prior to the show at the Office of Student Involvement, Student Union Room 208.

- Show is at 8 p.m. in the Pegasus Ballroom.

- For more information, e-mail Sabrina Glass at forest536@yahoo.com with the subject line "Murder Mystery."

year as director.

The cast spent two months working on the show. Because the production relies heavily on improvisation, Glass said preparing for the show was different from rehearsing for a traditional play.

"We don't really block anything," she said. "It really comes together the day of [the show]. The same thing happened last year. It's a little bit of a learning curve for everyone."

This year's cast is composed of a variety of returning and new actors. They played a variety of improvisation games to get more comfortable with the characters they were portray-

ing.

On one occasion, Rachel Odom, who plays the role of Stella, practiced a death scene in the middle of Wackadoos. Odom, a micro and molecular biology major in her second year, has theater experience from high school and was in last year's production. She said that, while schoolwork takes up a lot of her time, the murder mystery has given her a chance to continue her theatrical interests.

"Sometimes the need to perform just calls to you," she said. "It's a really good opportunity to get back to my theatrical roots."

Odom said she was challenged by her character this year.

"I've never been a mean character before," she explained. "I've never been sinister."

Another veteran from last year, sophomore Chris Paluszek, plays the role of private inspector Cornelius Cuddlebutts. He said the biggest challenge he faced was trying to find a voice, but the script allows for a lot of creativity.

"We're modifying it and making it our own," he said.

The show is free to UCF students, but they must register prior to the event at the Office of Student Involvement, Student Union Room 208.

For more information, e-mail Sabrina Glass at forest536@yahoo.com with the subject line "Murder Mystery."

Taste of Oviedo offers food, music, art, business displays

UCF students took advantage of the free round-trip shuttle

ALANA SIMMONS
Contributing Writer

Children, families and students battled the spring heat Saturday afternoon to experience the 12th annual Taste of Oviedo Festival.

This street festival, held on Alexandria Boulevard, hosted an entire day of food, art, music, activities for kids, business displays and shopping.

Admission to Taste of Oviedo was \$2 and free for children 3 and under. Food vendors from all over town sold samples of their cuisine. Vendors included Hot Dog Heaven, RJ Gators, Cafe Laura, Cigi's Pizza, Coldstone Creamery, Latin American Delites and Toucan Willies. Publix offered fresh-cut fruit and meat, while Duda offered sweet corn.

UCF junior Carly Hamsch sampled some free baked pineapple from Cafe Laura and fried gator from RJ Gators.

"I have eaten so much today and found some new restaurants that I didn't even know were around here," she said. "My friends took the shuttle, and we have been here almost all day."

A free shuttle at the Oviedo Marketplace offered round trips to and from the festival during the day.

According to the Greater Oviedo Chamber of Com-

merce, more than 20,000 people attended the event Saturday.

The crowd was smaller than it had been in previous years, and vendors felt the lack of attendance.

"This is my second year at Taste of Oviedo, and business is definitely a lot slower this year," said homemade jewelry vendor Ingrid Swailes.

Swailes spent the afternoon selling her mothers' artistic products to the public.

Kid's Taste is an area that the festival offers just for children. This year, the activities stressed healthy eating and awareness of childhood obesity.

"Childhood obesity is an epidemic that Americans are facing, and one that can easily be solved with awareness and better nutrition," Swailes said.

Spinal evaluations, fingerprinting, physical assessments and helpful tips were available to children's parents.

Entertainment for adults was another mainstay of the festival this year.

The main stage off of Alexandria Boulevard was packed during the day with three performances from local artists. Jacqueline Jones, Johnny Bulford and Raiford Starke's different talents were heard throughout the afternoon.

Student Chris Wickstrum

was visiting friends from Fort Myers and stopped to listen to Johnny Bulford.

"I really like his laidback style, he said. "You usually don't see anyone worth listening to or with real talent at these kinds of things, but I enjoyed the set he played."

Everyone who attended the festival on Saturday was likely hassled and eventually convinced to taste someone's "famous" chili.

The No Rules Chili Cook-Off, hosted by the Society of Professional Firefighters, is a mainstay of Taste of Oviedo. Contestants paid a \$25 fee and creatively decorated their booths to a theme. The winners were chosen by attendees at the festival who placed a quarter donation in the booth of their favorite. Tasting took place from 3 to 5 p.m., and the competition was brutal.

"I have had five cups of chili, and I'm not even close to the end of the street," said participant Carly Hamsch. "These guys will not leave you alone!"

Other cooking contests included the Citrus and Celery Cook-Off, sponsored by the Citizens Band of Oviedo. "Citrus and celery are the chosen ingredients because they represent Oviedo's agricultural heritage," said Laura at the Greater Oviedo Chamber of Commerce.



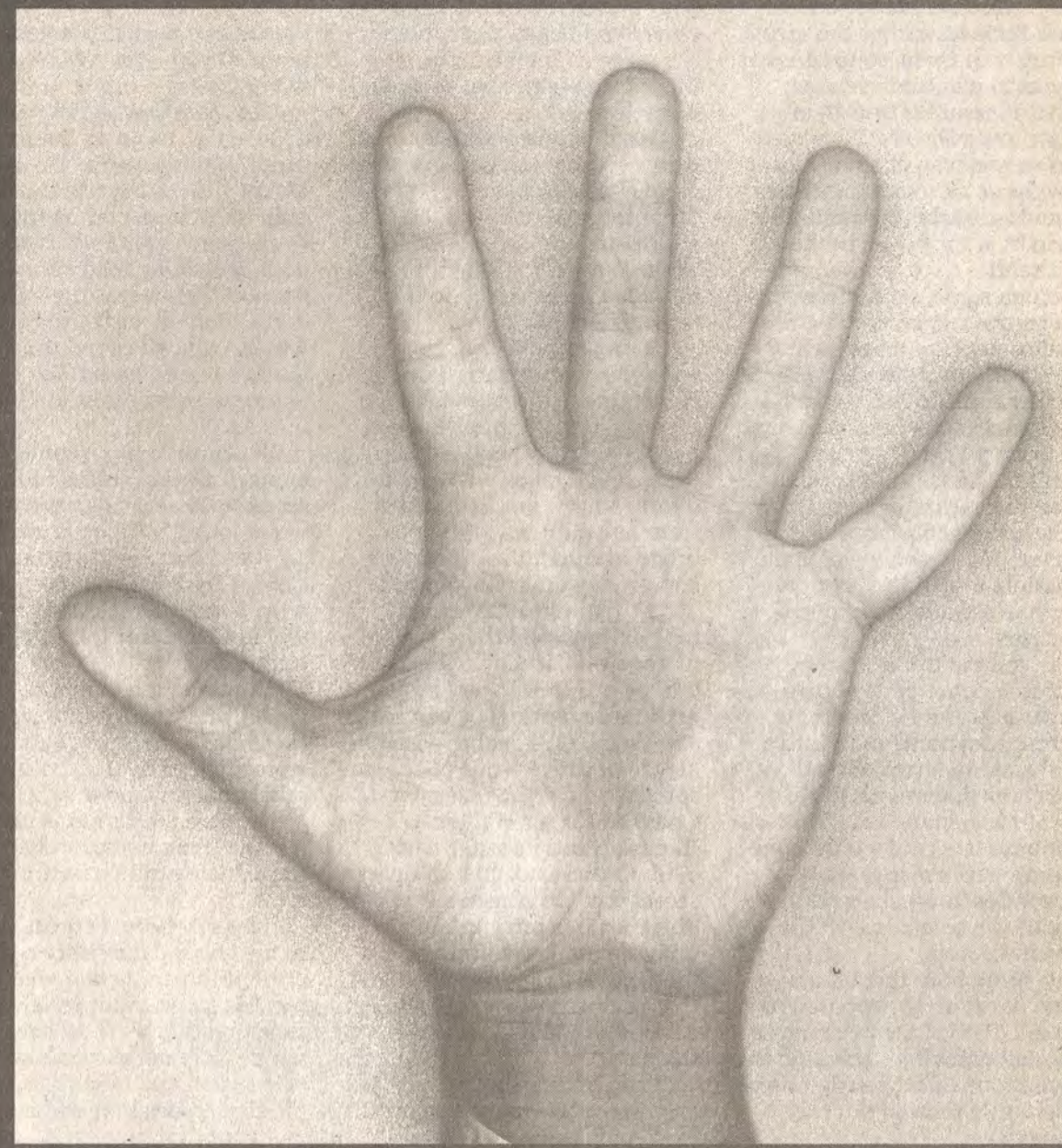
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 - 3rd Place in Pi Kappa Phi's Princess Competition
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 - 1st Place in MS Walk Greek Challenge
 - 3rd Place Overall UCF Homecoming
 - TKE Fraternity Sweetheart Nicole Trueba
 - 2nd Place Volleyball Intramurals
 - 2nd Place Overall in Delta Upsilon Lip service
 - 3rd Place Soccer Intramurals
 - 1st Place Team in Knightwalk
 - 1st Place in Alpha Epsilon Phi's Bowlanthropy
 - 1st Place Overall Greek Week
 - 3rd Place Overall in Phi Delta Theta's Dodgeball Derby
- Kappa Sigma Starduster Heather Peoples

OUR STANCE

Lack of screening dishonest tactic

They call them "courtesy screenings." Some studios decide to screen their films for critics the night before they open, sometimes as late as 10 p.m. and as far as AMC Pleasure Island 24 at Downtown Disney. They do this so they can claim critics saw them, although the critics would be unable to run timely reviews, if they even bothered to attend.

Then again, such screenings are courteous, indeed; as most studios are becoming increasingly wary of showing their weaker films to the press and opt to skip screenings entirely. As of next Friday, April 21, roughly one-third of 2006's wide releases will have been either given courtesy screenings or not screened at all; this amounts to 15 titles as opposed to a mere four at the same time last year.

Given the trend's recent increase, the exclusion of screenings is now becoming rightfully synonymous with a likely dud in terms of quality. This only demonstrates Hollywood's acceptance that critical response does indeed influence a film's performance. In a recent fiasco, local critics attended a screening of *The Benchwarmers*.

It turned out that critics were not exactly supposed to attend. The critics were never actually uninvited, although the notice took effect nearly everywhere else throughout the country.

Roger Moore of the *Orlando Sentinel* completed his review and placed it on the *Sentinel's* wire service to share with other newspapers, and these papers

started calling Sony to confirm that they may use the review. Sony realized what had happened and began denouncing the piece as "bogus," claiming that Moore may have disguised himself to get in.

His dilemma gradually made its way across the country, coinciding with an Associated Press piece that ran the week before, addressing the recent rise in unscreened films and hopefully illuminating the issue to the moviegoing public.

Seeing as how critics are being disregarded to a lamentable degree, it has now fallen to them to increase public awareness of such pathetic tactics each time it takes place, in an effort to prevent moviegoers from being duped at the box office into spending their time and money on lackluster fare.

"The studios know their movies suck, and they've also learned that, if they open a crappy but well-hyped movie without reviews, they can make some cash on opening weekend before negative word-of-mouth spreads," Eric D. Snider, West Coast editor for Hollywood Bitchslap and its sister site, eFilmCritic, said. "It's an open secret that 'no screening' means 'this movie is terrible,' but unfortunately, the average moviegoer either doesn't know that or doesn't care, and the studios are taking advantage of that fact."

Then there's the concept of critic-proof movies, guaranteed moneymakers likely to withstand even the harshest of reviews, such as #1 openers *Underworld: Evolution*, *When A Stranger Calls*, and *Big Momma's House 2*. On Rotten

Tomatoes, a site that conveniently compiles and reflects the overall reaction of reviews, these films have 15 percent, 10 percent, and 6 percent, respectively.

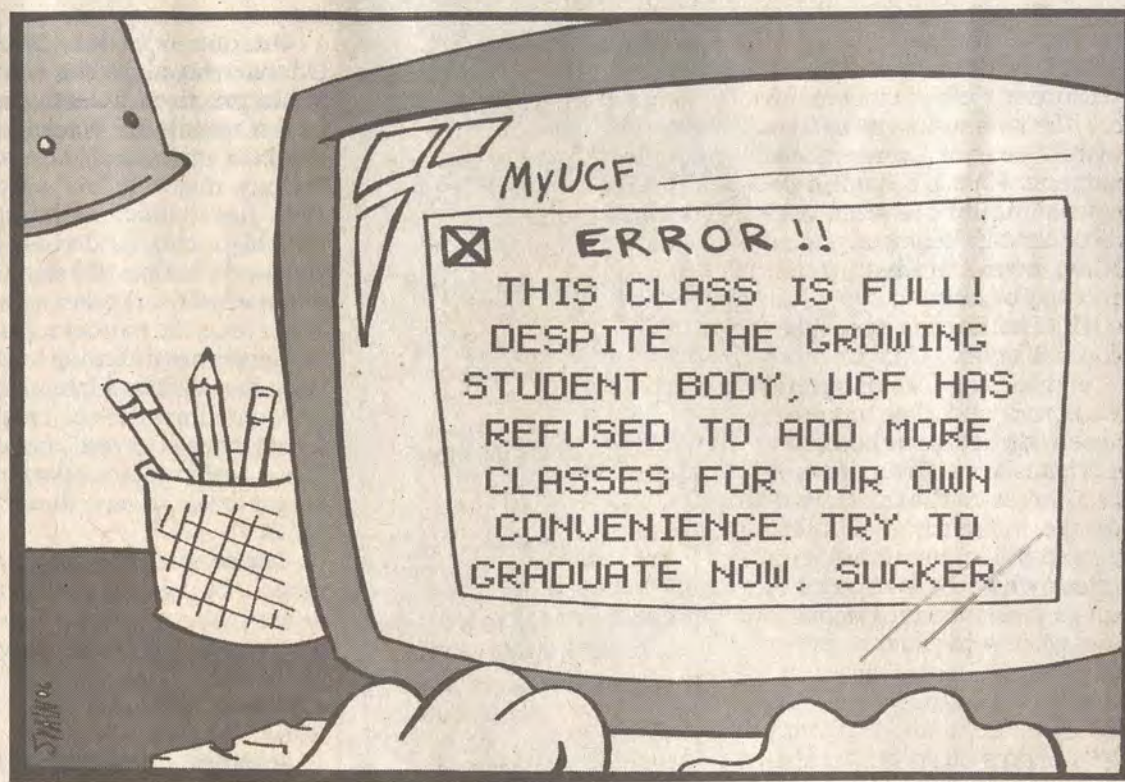
"The studios, mainly Sony, believe that as far as 'critic-proof' movies go (i.e. PG-13 horror flicks), the reviewers can only hurt them, but I completely disagree," says Scott Weinberg, managing editor for Hollywood Bitchslap. "Anyway, I don't know of any 14-year-olds who'll say 'On second thought, the local critic hated *The Benchwarmers*, so let's go see *Tsotsi* instead.'"

When such films come along, it almost seems futile to crank out a scathing review when John Q. Public is going to go ahead and see *Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector*, despite any alert that says you will not laugh for the next 90 minutes.

However, the attempts to reach Mr. Public aren't nearly as vain as studios may hope. According to Ryan, "Critics definitely matter, and they definitely have their say. It's obvious that they matter if the studios are afraid of what they think."

This is where it comes down to the general moviegoer. No critic wants to dictate what you see, but rather offer insight into selecting the best possible movie for your time and money.

As such, the next time Sony or Fox decides that a film isn't worth critics' time, then chances are that it isn't worth your time either. Out of sight shouldn't mean out of mind. After all, only you can prevent sequels.



SPAIN FISCHER / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

READER VIEWS

Capitalist view skewed in regards to immigration

This letter is in response to Andrew Conte's letter in the previous issue regarding illegal immigration.

I'd like to point out to Mr. Conte that he is adopting the exact point of view that the businessmen who run this country planned for him to adopt. That's why you see the exact same opinions in every newspaper, television and radio show across the country. His argument is, however, complete nonsense.

Medical costs are not rising because of illegal immigrants; they're rising because pharmaceutical companies and greedy doctors want more profits. Immigrants are not draining our tax dollars by means of welfare allocations; the Pentagon and high-tech companies are draining our tax dollars and building bombs with them.

Compared to military spending, social welfare makes up a minuscule proportion of the national budget. And while it may be true that immigrants are taking more and more of the low-paying, hard-labor jobs out there, I'd like to ask Mr. Conte why he blames these immigrants instead of blaming the executives of these companies themselves, who are the ones fixing the wages so low.

The Mexican working for five dollars an hour is in the exact same position you feel your white peers are in, Mr. Conte; he struggles to make ends meet and worries about health-care costs and high rents. What makes you feel you deserve more than he does just because you happened to be lucky enough to be born on American soil and to have white skin?

The finger of blame should instead be pointed at the capitalist system that renders Central and South America such poor hells that their inhabitants are forced to illegally emigrate. It should be pointed at a Bush administration that has sucked money

out of the public infrastructures of America and handed it to ruthless corporations. Mr. Conte needs to realize that he has been inundated with nothing but rank propaganda, which has unfortunately been all too successful in accomplishing its goal.

— ZACHARY ENGLISH

Border wall construction would symbolize hate

Building a wall to halt illegal immigration is a medieval solution that would become a hated symbol of oppression, and, in the long run, it would not work.

America cannot wall itself off from the world's problems. Laws and trade policies that have promoted the mobility of capital while restricting the mobility of labor have made this nation a leading source of those problems. Punitive measures directed against immigrants will only exacerbate this inherent contradiction.

There are two basic resolutions. First, the U.S. boot must be taken off the throat of the lesser-developed nations so the resources of those countries can be deployed for the benefit of their own populations and people will not be forced to leave their homes to find work.

Second, wages and working conditions in the U.S. must be improved to safeguard human dignity and maintain the quality of life for all.

— JAY D. JURIE

Pushing for reform offers illegal aliens more rights

I read the editorials but have never been moved enough to actually write until reading Andrew Conte's lament on the immigrant issue. Thank you for standing up and

PLEASE SEE **READER VIEWS** ON A11

University students worthy of tax breaks on books for classes

It's the same every year. Students line up at bookstores across the country, be they independent or university-run, stack four or five tomes on the counter and fork over a few hundred dollars.

Last fall, the average full-time student attending a four-year college spent almost \$350 on textbooks, a survey by the marketing firm Student Monitor found. Now, to the relief of cash-strapped students across the state, Florida legislators are proposing a bill that would drop the sales tax on textbooks.

If the bill (HB15, S1554) passes, students would be required to prove they were taking classes that required or recommended the books. The sales-tax break may only apply at college bookstore or stores that do a large amount of textbook business.

State analysts say college students could save as much as \$46 a year. Granted, this is no fortune, but, considering the effort would cost the state millions a year, college students should be grateful.

Tax breaks for educational supplies are not a new concept. In 2005, 11 states had tax-free weeks before the beginning of classes where supplies were exempt from taxes. From July 23-31 last year, books, clothing and shoes with a sale price of less than \$50 and school supplies with a sale price of less than \$10 were tax-free. This helps out parents of younger students, but it doesn't do much to ease the textbook burden that college students and their parents face. After all, when was the last time a college text went for under \$50?

Textbooks cause many students to struggle financially and academically each semester as students are forced to prioritize needs.

Should they put off buying that \$105 French

book in hopes of scrimping through class without it, or should they take an extra 10 hours of work a week? Both options would impact their grades, but which is the lesser evil?

Hopefully, the legislature will pass this bill and make things just a little bit easier.

Longing for the days when a president's words were strong

Once upon a time, in an ideology known as Camelot, President John F. Kennedy captivated the American public with immortal phrases like, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country" and "Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names."

Before Kennedy, Franklin Roosevelt kept the American public strong in the face of war by declaring, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." Theodore Roosevelt's favorite proverb has been attributed to his legacy, as he reminded the nation to "speak softly and carry a big stick."

Even as far back as George Washington's declaration of his inability to tell a lie or Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, American presidents once possessed the respect of the nation and were remembered for their strong leadership and stronger words. Even with modern discoveries of colonial presidents owning slaves or Kennedy committing adultery, these presidents are still remembered for their passionate words.

Still, one question remains: where did it all go wrong?

When did the leader of the Free World become a position that could be filled by people with little ability to even structure proper sentences? At what point did the American public start electing officials who try to undermine the public by speaking over everyone's head?

Most likely, the change in public perception

PLEASE SEE **OUR STANCE** ON A11

MAN ON THE STREET

THE WORD AROUND CAMPUS

'Do critics affect your decision to see a movie?'



ALEX BERKUN
Biology

"No, because I don't know that person, and unless you knew them it's hard to understand their point of view."



EVAN YATES
Digital media

"Not generally, I guess enough good or bad review could influence me."



JESSICA CUADROS
Psychology

"No because I don't read them in the first place."



KATE WHITE
Advertising & public relations

"No, because critics are too negative. I trust my friends' opinions more than someone I don't know."



KELLE LYONS
Hospitality management

"Yes, because they've already seen the movie and I find that I usually agree with their viewpoints."



LEON MCINTYRE
Philosophy

"Somewhat, yeah. I use them as a starting point to give me an opinion or idea of what I should be watching."

Central Florida Future

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READER VIEWS

FROM A10

saying what we are all thinking.

It goes without mentioning that some might label Mr. Conte as being insensitive to diversity and even intolerant to different cultures but he is right. Why is the majority catering so much to the minority?

His example he used in his letter is true. If we, as Americans, went to Peru for vacation, we cannot expect to have the signs and billboards translated in English under the native language for our convenience, nor if we ate at a restaurant in Venezuela and did not know the language or at least try to learn some of it, we would be going hungry, for I doubt there would be an English-speaking server that could oblige us.

Campaigning for immigration reform in their favor is granting those who have illegally entered the nation more rights than we as Americans have. Diversity is great and is what makes America the famous melting pot, but must we, in the name of political correctness, ensure that the pursuit of happiness is entitled to those who are obtaining it illegally? I do not want to press one for English, and I'm not afraid to be American.

— JAVON FLOWERS

Critic argues claim of best campus police department

On Feb. 18, 2006, the *Orlando Sentinel* quoted UCF Police Director [Richard] Turkiewicz as saying, "We are the best campus law-enforcement agency in the country and one of the best in the State of Florida. There's no ifs, ands, or buts about it."

In Sept. 2004, UCF police officer Eric Morales arrested a graduate student for violating a restraining order when he sent a court-mandated copy of a petition to the plaintiff to dissolve the restraining order against him when she ignored the court's orders to leave him alone.

An Orange County Judge termed the arrest, evidence, etc. as a "bunch of overblown baloney" and the state attorney's worksheets noted that "there was no evidence of criminal activity," that "the evidence was not credible," that "ulterior motives were suspected," that "there were conflicting witness statements," and that "non-hostile contact was allowed on campus" by the restraining order, which apparently Morales did not read.

The facts are: (1) Petitioning the court is a right defined by Florida Civil Code; (2) Orange County Court mandates that a copy of any petition be sent to the second party; (3) By law, a restraining order is not a license to arrest; alleged violations should be submitted to the issuing judge for further instructions;

(4) Furthermore, the plaintiff had already complained to the judge that sending a copy of a petition to her violated the restraining order.

It was turned down — this was all in the court records, a copy of which was on file at the UCF police station. Lack of space prevents listing more examples of Morales' negligence, all of which cost the family \$12,000 in legal fees, the hidden extra cost for a student attending UCF. "Best campus law enforcement agency in the country?" "Baloney."

— GEORGE STEGEMAN

Feminism faces decline with displays of sexuality

Somewhere, a 14-year-old girl is sent to the discipline office of her school for a dress-code violation; her shirt, unapologetically brandishing a rhinestone-studded Playboy bunny, has been deemed too sexually suggestive for an academic environment. When asked to defend herself, the girl responds, "It's self-expression. I'm not ashamed of my sexuality."

Betty Friedan must be rolling over in her grave. This is not an uncommon scenario today. More and more frequently, young girls are beginning to embrace a tenet of feminism so shamelessly touted by some in the early '90s: Own your sexuality.

But this time the message has emerged in a new context — it has now been broadened to encompass concepts that some of the most progressive-minded feminists would frown upon: stripping as a legitimate occupation, open acceptance of the "necessity" of breast implants and other forms of cosmetic surgery, and, of course, the ever-growing sense of apathy being adopted by society toward the sexualizing of the most mundane aspects of life for females.

Many would argue it's simply the natural evolution of feminist theory. Still, the very nature of this supposed "revolution" begs the question: Are women really more attuned to their sexual desires, or are they failing to recognize in them the presence of sexist, patriarchal influence?

How many exotic dancers and porn stars are really in that profession because of an earnest interest in exhibitionism? How many women get breast jobs "just for themselves?" It's a debate whose relevance is increasing each day.

I fear for the future of feminism. I find it discouraging that the principles of feminism seem to lie not in forward, revolutionary thinking but in the backward, smoke-veiled desire to please men.

Let's not let the latter prevail.

— SAVANNAH VICKERS

OUR STANCE

FROM A10

began with Richard Nixon and Watergate. After all, ask 100 people what phrase they most remember Tricky Dick for, and the better majority will likely answer: "I'm not a crook."

George Bush, Sr. isn't remembered for his "1,000 points of light," but mainly his campaign smokescreen phrase of "no new taxes." Bill Clinton won't ever be remembered for saying, "We cannot build our own future without helping others to build theirs." He'll always be known for appearing on live television, saying, "I did not

have sexual relations with that woman."

George W. Bush is no different. Whether he's fumbling along by saying, "There's an old saying in Tennessee — I know it's in Texas, probably in Tennessee — that says, fool me once, shame on — shame on you. Fool me — you can't get fooled again," or if he's telling the nation that post-Katrina New Orleans is "a heck of a place to bring your family," Bush is a far cry from the great speakers who have graced the Oval Office.

Modern presidents have the media to blame for exploiting every faux pas and

dumfounded answer. However, U.S. presidents have always had speech writers and string-pullers to help them avoid coming across like complete buffoons. What happened to the guys who were paid to be the man behind the curtain in the Oz of American politics?

We need a return to presidential normalcy, for trust in leadership and for the country's image.

Maybe one day the U.S. will have leaders like the Roosevelts, capable of preserving public faith with strong words. Until then, maybe presidents will learn just to speak softly.

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Magic's recent success could be a burden

Point: A playoff berth means more than a lottery pick



CHRIS HOYLER
Sports Editor

The memories of the last Orlando Magic playoff appearance still burn. In case you don't remember, here's the long and short of it.

- The year: 2003
- The seed: No. 8
- The series lead: 3-1
- The game: 5; Actually, the press conference after Game 4
- The quote: "It's over," Tracy McGrady, Magic forward
- The result: A 4-3 series loss
- The aftermath: Two fired coaches, two recycled superstars, two lottery trips
- Yup, they were Magicians alright. Those crowds they made disappear after the Detroit Debacle in 2003 are

PLEASE SEE **FANS** ON B2

Counterpoint: The Magic could use more young stars



ANDY VASQUEZ
Senior Staff Writer

If you've been paying attention to the NBA over the past few weeks then you certainly know that the Orlando Magic are making a move up the standings. Coming into Wednesday night's game against the Toronto Raptors, the Magic men had won nine of their last 10 games, a stretch which includes wins over Miami, Detroit and Dallas, all teams with legitimate hopes for an NBA title. Now the Magic have semi-legitimate hopes for a playoff berth, needing wins in their final four games combined with a slew of losses from Chicago and

PLEASE SEE **RECENT** ON B2

Smith not satisfied with great first season

ANDY VASQUEZ
Senior Staff Writer

Even standing alone, the numbers are impressive: 1,178 yards, nine touchdowns and 4.7 yards-per-carry. Put those numbers into context, and UCF running back Kevin Smith's freshman season becomes even more remarkable.

In a memorable season which saw the UCF football team go from one of the worst squads in the nation, to nearly cracking the nation's top 25, Smith was responsible for many images that will be for-

PLEASE SEE **SPRING** ON B3

SERIOUS DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS COMPOUND QUIET BATS, COLD BULLPEN AS KNIGHTS FALL AT HOME TO USF, HEAD TO TULANE FOR WEEKEND



USF starting pitcher Yuri Higgins loses his hat while delivering a pitch to Matt Ray during last night's 4-3 Bulls win over UCF at Jay Bergman Field. Higgins, who struggled last week when the Knights beat the Bulls 11-0 in Tampa, had a very good start Tuesday, pitching four innings and allowing just one hit and one earned run. He did walk four, however, while striking out only three. Higgins should start again in next Tuesday's rubber match in Orlando.

BULLS BOUNCE BACK, WIN ON ROAD RIGHT BACK AT YA

USF 4, UCF 3

Same old story for UCF: Bats continue to slump and bullpen fails to back up strong start from Sweat

BRIAN MURPHY
Staff Writer

On Tuesday night, freshman Kyle Sweat threw the longest outing of his career. Removed after recording one out in the eighth inning, he had easily pitched well enough to earn his first win in nearly a month.

But, an unorthodox coaching move and some cold UCF bats left him and the Golden Knights with a 4-3 loss to the South Florida Bulls.

USF got out to an early advantage with three runs in the first two innings off of Sweat. The majority of that production came from seeing-eye singles and soft line drives.

After those frames, Sweat made sure that nothing else would be put up on the board, permitting just one hit over his last 5 1/3 innings.

"For the first couple innings, I was thinking too much," Sweat said. "After the second inning, I just got my head together on the mound and just threw."

In the eighth inning and the contest knotted at 3-3, the Bulls got a lead-off walk from junior Ty Taborelli, who was moved to second on a sacrifice bunt from freshman Addison Maruszak. At 103 pitches, Sweat's night was over and he got a rousing ovation from the UCF faithful as UCF Coach Craig Cozart signaled to the bullpen.

Cozart filled in for Coach Jay Bergman, who was serving a one game suspension for a violation of department policy.

Cozart replaced Sweat with sophomore

PLEASE SEE **UCF** ON B4

BERGMAN SUSPENDED

Slew of player suspensions spills over into coaching ranks with Bergman suspended for USF game

CHRIS HOYLER
Sports Editor

An up-and-down week for UCF baseball continued as Coach Jay Bergman was suspended for Tuesday night's game against South Florida.

The UCF Athletics Association made the announcement of Bergman's suspension just prior to the Golden Knights' home game against the rival Bulls for what the UCFAA called "violation of department policy." No specific reason was given for the suspension, and pitching Coach Craig Cozart served as coach during Tuesday's game. Bergman will coach the team this weekend against Tulane after being reinstated Wednesday.

This was another suspension in what has been a season full of them for the Knights. Tuesday's starting pitcher, Kyle Sweat, was making an irregular weekday start due to being pulled from his regular Sunday slot, the result of a one-game suspension. Sweat was suspended for a violation of team rules, and his start against East Carolina was taken by Taylor Meier. Freshman Mitch Herold will start this Sunday in what looks like a permanent move out of the weekend rotation for Sweat.

Sweat is not the only UCF player to get suspended for a violation of team rules. Sophomore center fielder Tyson Auer, currently nursing a hand injury, was suspended earlier this season for the entire series against Stony Brook.

Freshman third baseman Vinny Cucci was suspended indefinitely prior to the Wagner series on March 11 and has not played since.

PLEASE SEE **BASCOM** ON B4

TULANE PREVIEW

The Green Wave struggles after high expectations; UCF looks for signature victories this weekend

BRIAN MURPHY
Staff Writer

In the past week, the UCF baseball team has let a couple of wins slip through its fingers due to a lack of clutch hitting. Now, the Knights are reeling, losers of three straight games, and there is little time to rest.

For this weekend, the team will have its toughest road trip of the season thus far when it travels to New Orleans to meet the Tulane Green Wave.

The Green Wave began the season ranked 12th in *Baseball America's* Preseason Top 25. But three wins in their last eight games have currently knocked them out of most polls.

"Tulane is somewhat in the same boat as we are," pitching Coach Craig Cozart said. "So, what's going to be interesting is which team can shake themselves a little bit."

Another attribute that Tulane shares with the Knights is its abundance of youth. The Green Wave lost six of their nine top batters from the 2005 team, so just five series are left from last year's College World Series club. But, a couple of upperclassmen in junior Mark Hamilton and senior Nathan Southard are trying to lead at the plate.

Hamilton is the Green Wave's leading producer with 36 RBIs. Recently, he has really turned it on, driving in nine runs in his last five games, including four RBIs in an 8-4 victory over Houston on Saturday. Hamilton has shown that he can hit for both power and average. He leads the Green Wave with seven home runs and is second in batting with a .339 average.

PLEASE SEE **HOUCK** ON B4

A DEEPER LOOK AT THE TULANE SERIES

Friday, 7:30 p.m.
Pitching matchup

UCF: Tim Bascom, RHP
5-2, 1.22 ERA
59 IP, 74 K, 17 BB

VS

Tulane: Sean Morgan, RHP
4-4, 4.24 ERA
57.1 IP, 66 K, 18 BB

Broadcast: Audio will be available at UCFAthletics.com

Saturday, 3 p.m.
Pitching matchup

UCF: Mitch Houck, LHP
2-1, 2.72 ERA
36.1 IP, 39 K, 12 BB

VS

Tulane: Brandon Gomes, RHP
4-4, 3.79 ERA
59.1 IP, 41 K, 10 BB

Broadcast: 740-THE TEAM AM

Sunday, 2 p.m.
Pitching matchup

UCF: Mitch Herold, LHP
1-3, 5.04 ERA
30.1 IP, 31 K, 27 BB

VS

Tulane: Stephen Portier, RHP
4-3, 3.43 ERA
42 IP, 29 K, 17 BB

Broadcast: 740-THE TEAM AM



The Tulane Green Wave celebrate after their 9-6 win over Rice in Game 3 of the 2005 NCAA Baseball New Orleans Super Regional at Tulane Stadium on the campus of Tulane.

COURTESY TULANE ATHLETICS

Fans now have a reason to believe

FROM B1
 still missing. They're somewhere, lurking, waiting for a season to venture to the TD Waterhouse Centre. All Brian Hill needs to do is call on his lovely assistants, Dwight Howard and Jameer Nelson, or his final trick of the night: A trip to the playoffs in 2006.

And it's not as impossible, or detrimental, to the future of the franchise as it may seem. Just one month ago, they were 20-40, losers of six straight and 18 out of 20. Grant Hill was hurt (spare me the oke), Hedo Turkoglu was struggling, and the bright spot of the season was Brian Hill's brief, maybe petty revenge in putting Penny Hardaway. But the executioner of teams, Steve-me Franchise, was gone. Real point guards, Nelson and Carlos Arroyo,

were in. Turkoglu was suddenly free to shoot without the ice-cold glares of Steve-me. And the team belonged to Howard, the face of the franchise. The Magic have a game left against each of the three teams in front of them, so this isn't an impossible notion I'm suggesting. Farfetched, sure, but this is a team that beat Dallas, Detroit and Miami last week. All it needs is some help from the opponents of Chicago, Philadelphia and Indiana.

Sure, making the playoffs takes the Magic out of the lottery, but, really, unless they finished 20-62, they weren't getting the top pick. Besides, this draft isn't top-heavy, as evidenced by the mention of Tyrus Thomas as a No. 1 pick. The Magic will be served well by picking in the middle of the first round, where they can grab a com-

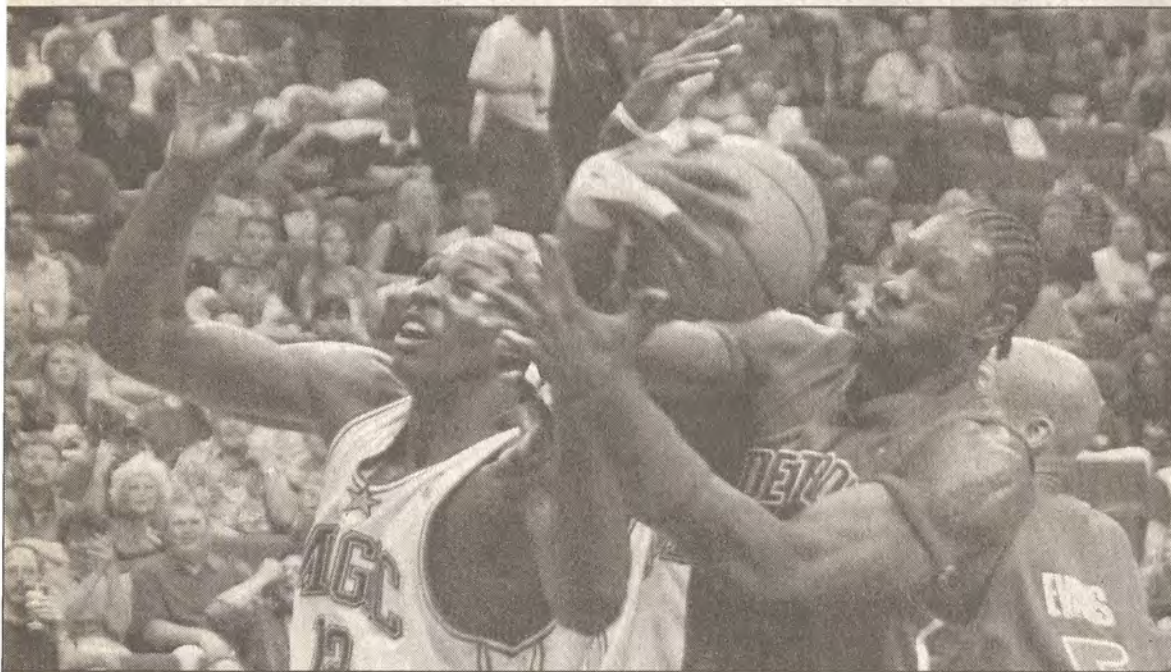
plement to Howard, a player like Villanova's Randy Foye or Washington's Brandon Roy.

It is more important that the Magic show the potential free agents, the fans and, most importantly, themselves that they are a burgeoning power in the East. With plenty of cap room to burn next summer and the potential of a LeBron James/Chris Bosh free-agent crop, the league needs to understand that the Magic are a force, on and off the court.

It's farfetched, but even this strong finish without a playoff berth is a good thing. The fans need something to believe in heading into 2006. And hey, if the impossible does happen, the elements are there. A No. 8 seed from Orlando, a No. 1 seed from Detroit.

Yup, I believe in Magic.

Chris Hoyler can be reached at sports@UCFnews.com



Dwight Howard, left, battles with Detroit's Ben Wallace for a rebound during the Magic's win last Friday. The teams could meet in the playoffs.

Recent wins hurt Magic's future

FROM B1
 Philadelphia. At first glance the Magic's recent success seems like a simple step in the right direction, but in reality Orlando's hot streak may be doing more harm than good.

Only weeks ago the Magic were in prime position to earn a lottery pick in June's NBA Draft. After trading Steve Francis to New York, the Magic lost 10 of their next 15 games and it seemed obligatory that they would tank the remainder of the season. A top 10 draft pick was so close you could taste it.

But then something happened and the Magic found their stride. Point guard Jameer Nelson started to play like a leader, man-child power forward Dwight Howard converted his occasional sparks of brilliance into sustained outputs of excellence and the previously laughable 7-foot Darko Milicic shed the layers of rust he had accumulated from 2 1/2

years on the Pistons' bench and began to contribute.

The result, a certain middle of the pack finish: A nightmare if you're a Magic fan. If Orlando can continue this run it might make the playoffs, but only to get waxed by the top seeded Detroit Pistons in the first round. But if the Magic falter over the next week — see today's game at San Antonio, 24 hours after playing at home Wednesday against Toronto — they'll most certainly fall short of the playoffs. Either way, the Magic will finish the season with performance that was just marginal enough to ruin their chances of getting a good draft pick.

Don't get me wrong, it's nice to see the Magic making this run, and if they've gotten this far they might as well make the playoffs (Being a Detroit native, I would like nothing more than to see the Pistons road to the NBA Finals travel through Orlando.) The last ten games have offered us

a glimpse of how talented this team might be a year or two down the road. But all the Magic have shown us is that Francis was a cancer to the organization and that they can play well against worn-down NBA teams in a pressure free environment.

When nobody expects you to win, winning becomes a lot easier — well, unless you're the New York Knicks — and win the Magic have, but at what cost?

The Magic will benefit from the chemistry and confidence that this run has built and a playoff near-miss or a loss in the first round will serve as a learning experience. But don't be fooled, the Magic are still a few key players away from contention and their recent success may have robbed them of an opportunity to pick up one of those players. Was it worth it?

Andy Vasquez can be reached at sports@UCFnews.com

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Volleyball plays four at UNC

In its second spring event, the UCF volleyball team played Saturday at Carmichael Auditorium on the University of North Carolina campus, playing four games against the host Tar Heels and the University of Colorado.

The Golden Knights, who scrimmaged with South Florida, Georgia Southern, Nova Southeastern and Tampa in a March tournament hosted by USF, took a big step up against two 2005 NCAA Championship teams, UNC and Colorado, winning one game against the Tar Heels.

"We really had a great experience," UCF Coach Meg Colado said in a press release. "I was very pleased with our effort. Due to injuries, we were the only team that had to play with no substitutes but still competed and played very well against two great teams."

The Buffaloes earned an at-large berth to the NCAA Championship out of the Big 12, while the Tar Heels won the Atlantic Coast Conference title after a 23-10 season.

The day began with competitive drills between the three teams. They mixed during this period to work on hitting and other individual and team drills.

"The tournament was a lot of fun," UCF sophomore outside hitter Lorin Lukas said. "We had the opportunity to compare ourselves against good teams

good showing and it was a preview of what we are capable of doing this upcoming season."

On Saturday, the Knights will wrap up the spring season with the UCF Spring Tournament. They will battle USF and Tampa again, while Georgia, Miami, North Florida and Stetson will also make the trip to the on-campus Education Gym. The event is free and open to the public.

Women's rowing wins state title

For the second consecutive year, the UCF women's rowing team won the overall points trophy at the Florida Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship in Miami on Saturday.

The Knights, competing along with Miami, Jacksonville, Florida, Barry, USF, Nova Southeastern, Tampa, Embry-Riddle and Rollins, won their ninth overall state title. The only time they did not win was in 2004, when the Hurricanes claimed the title.

UCF, ranked No. 23 in the Apr. 5 USRowing/Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association poll, recorded six first-place finishes on Saturday, including the varsity eight race. Miami's time of 7:51.9 was just short of the Knights, who won with a time of 7:46.6.

The times on Saturday were slow due to poor course conditions. The teams fought off strong winds and rough water throughout the day.

"The conditions were pretty tough, especially off the start," UCF Coach Leeanne Crain said in a press release. "It was a survival-fest in the first 1,000 meters."

Crain's squad was able to claim four of the five varsity and junior varsity races, only finishing last in the varsity four race.

The varsity lightweight squad spent the weekend in Cherry Hill, NJ, competing against very strong competition at the Knecht Cup on the Cooper River.

The Knights, who competed against Radcliffe, Georgetown, Princeton, Wisconsin and Dayton, finished third in Saturday's competition before falling to fifth on Sunday.

The team also battled through difficult weather. Saturday's heats were delayed before resuming in the evening due to cold and windy conditions.

"The boat handled the conditions and the pressure of racing high profile crews very well," UCF assistant Coach Corrie McGrath, who guided the team in New Jersey, said in a press release. "They fought hard to stick with Georgetown and rowed a good race. I am happy with the results and looking forward to building speed for our meeting with Stanford."

UCF will head to Redwood Shores, Calif. on Saturday to take on the Cardinal and other squads in the Stanford Invitational.

— CHRIS HOYLER

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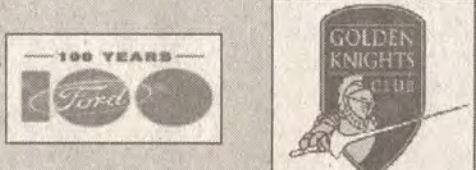
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Spring injuries help fall RB depth

FROM B1

ever linked with the resurrection of UCF football.

Whether it was against Tulsa in the Conference USA Championship game, when he rushed for 74 yards on a single drive, capping it off with a 31-yard dash to the end zone, or against Nevada a few weeks later at the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl, where Smith scored three touchdowns, he not only accumulated the numbers, but posted them at the right times.

Considering that Smith's experience is far outweighed by his extensive accomplishments, it wouldn't be surprising to find last season's C-USA Freshman of the Year carrying an arrogant attitude into practice sessions this spring. Refreshingly, that isn't the case.

Instead, Smith looks forward to the upcoming season with a quiet confidence and a knowledge that last season's success will result in increased expectations this fall.

"I feel like I've got more weight on my shoulders," Smith said. "I feel like, me personally, I've got to be a game changer and I've got to help the team win."

Smith, the primary option out of the backfield last season, will have some of his burden eased when he is joined again this fall by senior running backs Jason Peters and Dontavius Wilcox. The multi-dimensional backfield com-



REBECCA BARNETT / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
UCF running back Kevin Smith carries the ball during December's C-USA title game.

bined for more than 2,000 yards last season and will continue to be a valuable asset to the Golden Knights in the coming season.

"They all do something very well, maybe better than the other ones do, and you want to take advantage of that," running backs coach Jim Bernhardt said of the trio. "But obviously you don't want to type it so much that [opponents] know; if this guy's in [the game] you can expect that type of tendency."

Injuries have kept both Peters and Wilcox off the practice field this spring, allowing Bernhardt to take a look at some other players, namely redshirt freshman full back Shane Smith and junior tailback Curtis Francis.

"We've been banged up," Bernhardt said. "But I think in the long run, we'll be better off because of that."

The one constant in the UCF backfield is Kevin Smith, who continues to stand out, not only with his physical ability, but with his grasp of the mental game.

"It's obvious to everybody what a talent he is," Bernhardt said. "But Kevin's been very impressive all along because of how he's picked up his assignments, that's very rare for a freshman. I really think I got a little spoiled with that."

The only concern about Smith as he prepares for next season, is that he'll slip into a tendency he had late last season, when according to Bernhardt he tried to force the issue, and make big plays.

"There are certain people that want to be on the foul line when the game's on the line ... Certain people want to be up with a 3-2 count in the bottom of the ninth and Kevin's one of those kids."

"But he also has learned that not every situation is a 3-2 count in the bottom of the ninth and not every situation is a free throw to win the game."

When Smith takes to the field this fall, the success of last season will loom large and expectations will be high.

It's a challenge that he's ready for.

"I've got a lot of weight on my shoulders," Smith said. "But I can carry it."

FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK • Open scrimmage caps spring on Saturday

Burnett continues to shine

Sophomore cornerback Joe Burnett has a tough act to follow in his second season. After countless superlatives in his freshman season — All Conference-USA First Team on defense and special teams, First Team Freshman All-American by three different publications — the Eustis native has shined during spring practice.

On Tuesday, Burnett had an interception during the team period and was making plays while working as a gunner during special-teams drills. Burnett is listed as the starting right cornerback on the spring depth

chart, and, while the depth chart does not list return men, Burnett will likely return punts again in 2006 after leading C-USA and finishing sixth in the nation in punt return average (16.5).

Final spring scrimmage on Saturday

Here are the details for Saturday's Spring Football Fan Day and final spring scrimmage:

Where: UCF Soccer Complex (Located next to the UCF Arena and Nicholson Fieldhouse, behind the new Wayne Densch Sports Center)

When: 10 a.m.-noon Saturday

Parking: Fans are directed to park in the area of the football practice fields located on the east side of the Nicholson Fieldhouse. To get there from Gemini Blvd., turn onto the access road on the west side of the UCF Arena (next to the Tower I Residence Hall) and proceed through the F5 parking lot (disabled parking) behind the Arena.

Details: Fans can watch the scrimmage and purchase or renew 2006 season tickets. Schedule cards and posters for the 2006 season will be available.

—CHRIS HOYLER



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UCF-USF all-time series tied at 46

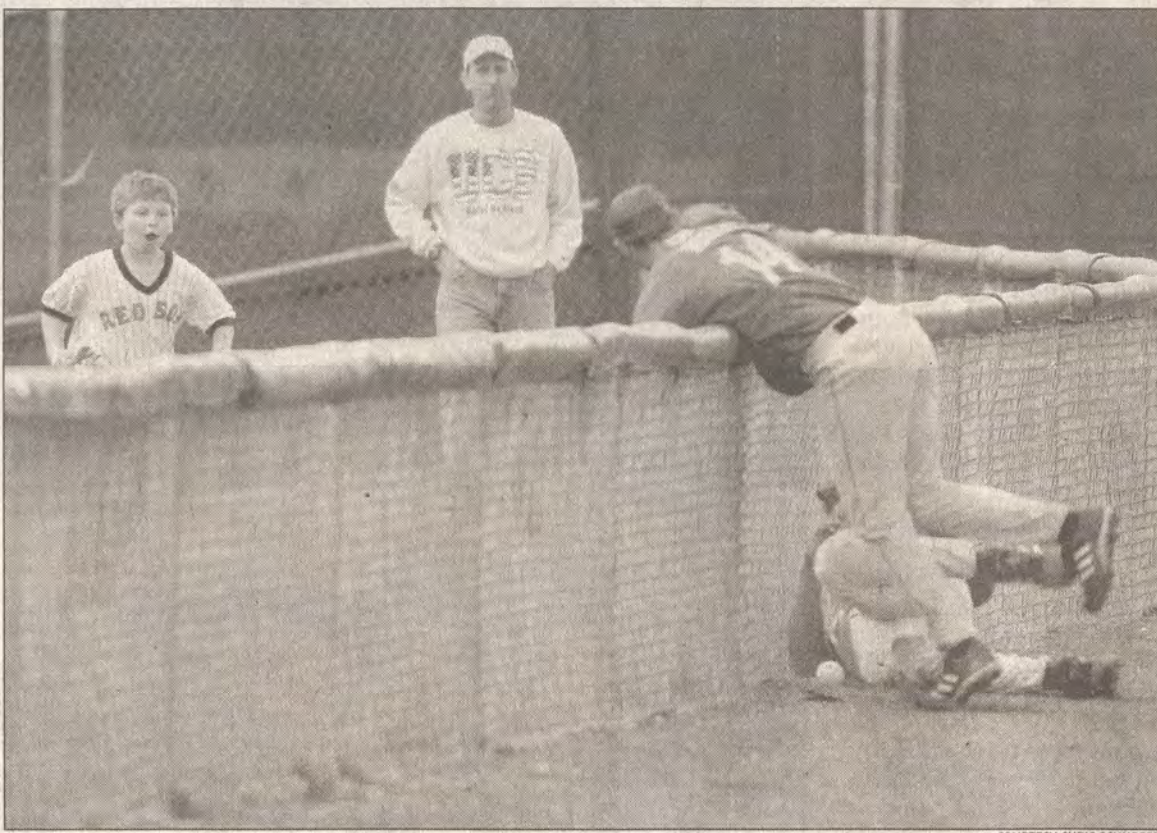
FROM B1
 Matt McClung, who was making just his sixth appearance of the year. McClung had posted an ERA of 9.00 in only four innings of work this season, but he took to the hill to face USF leading hitter Kris Howell.

"In that situation, (McClung) hadn't been on the mound in a little while," Cozart said. "We felt like he could come in and help us get a couple of hitters. His velocity is very good and Howell hadn't turned around a fastball all night."

Unfortunately for the Knights, he turned on McClung's first pitch, sending a loud double over the head of left fielder Matt Lambert and giving the Bulls a 4-3 advantage. After allowing a walk, McClung was pulled in favor of Petracca, who did retire the final five USF hitters.

All of this could have been avoided if the Knights' bats did not falter in the clutch. UCF was 2-for-15 with men on base and a paltry 1-for-12 with runners in scoring position. Collectively, the team stranded nine runners.

"It hurts a lot," Cozart said of all the missed opportunities. "Not to rehash the past, but if you look at Saturday against East Carolina, we left eight guys on in the first four innings. You can keep talking



USF right fielder Kris Howell looks on after a teammate's failed attempt to catch a foul ball during the Bulls 4-3 win over UCF on Tuesday. COURTESY CHRIS SCHUBERT

about the youth, but we are 36 games in and it's time for these guys to go ahead get something done."

Sweat was tagged with a hard-luck loss (2-2), while junior Nick Manganaro (2-2) got the win in relief. Junior Chase Lirette collected his fifth save of the season.

The Knights are 20-16 this year, while the Bulls moved up 15-19. After stealing a game on

"You can keep talking about the youth...it's time for these guys to get something done."

— UCF PITCHING COACH CRAIG COZART ON THE RECENT PLAY OF UCF'S FRESHMEN

each other's turf over the last two weeks, the all-time record between these squads is tied back up, 46-46.

UCF returns to the diamond this weekend for a three-game series against the Tulane Green Wave, now unranked in the most recent Baseball America Top 25 Poll. The series begins Friday at 7:30 p.m. in at Zephyr Field in New Orleans.

Houck and Bascom look to continue streak

FROM B1
 Southard, a 2005 1st Team All-C-USA selection and a 2006 Preseason All-American, has dropped a bit from his standout junior year. Although he has played in every game, Southard has hit just three homers with 16 RBIs. But, he still ranks third on the squad in batting (.316), and you better be careful once he gets on base. Southard is 20-of-22 in stolen base attempts this season.

This pair of hitters will have to face a duo of UCF pitchers who have been spectacular of

late. The C-USA Pitcher of the Week, Tim Bascom, and Mitch Houck are scheduled to toe the rubber for the Knights on Friday and Saturday, respectively. If you combine their last two starts, you get these stunning numbers: 34 innings pitched, 40 hits, one earned run, and 40 strikeouts. Freshman Mitch Herold will move into the Sunday slot in place of Kyle Sweat, who started Tuesday after his weekend suspension.

The Green Wave will send Sean Morgan to the mound to open the series, followed by Brandon Gomes on Saturday

and Stephen Prolier on Sunday. The Knights head into this trip with a 3-3 C-USA record. Tulane was a preseason pick to finish second in the league, but it has run into some trouble. After being swept by C-USA leader Rice, the Green Wave visited Houston last weekend, losing two-of-three contests. This lack of success Tulane with a 3-6 league record, their poorest start since 2002.

So, the Green Wave are young and have a subpar record. But, the Knights know that they can not underestimate a squad that made it to

Omaha in '05. "We just got to go in there and have no fear," freshman Chadd Hartman said. "Everybody is probably looking at us as the underdogs, but we just got to go in there and play the best we can because if we play our best, nobody can beat us."

The three-game set is set to start at 7:30 p.m. on Friday at Zephyr Field in New Orleans. Saturday's first pitch is scheduled for 3 p.m.; Sunday's finale begins at 2 p.m. Both Saturday and Sunday's games will be broadcast locally on 740-THE TEAM AM.

Bascom collects another award after good week

FROM B1
 Auer, however, has bounced back well and was named Conference USA Hitter of the Week last week before getting hurt against Marshall.

The Knights also collected another award this week. Junior pitcher Tim Bascom was

named C-USA Pitcher of the Week.

Bascom is among the nation's Top 15 in ERA. His 1.22 ERA is tops at UCF, and the closest starter is Mitch Houck at 2.72. In 59 innings, Bascom has allowed just eight earned runs, striking out 74 hitters to just 17 walks.

STATE & NATION

Duke lacrosse case not over

DURHAM, N.C. — The district attorney in charge of the Duke University rape investigation said Tuesday he does not need DNA to bring charges and vowed, "This case is not going away."

District Attorney Mike Nifong spoke one day after defense attorneys said DNA testing failed to connect any of Duke's lacrosse players to the alleged attack on a black exotic dancer who said she was raped at a party by members of the nearly all-white 47-man team.

Nifong stopped short of confirming the defense assessment of the DNA results, but said the case would not be hampered by a lack of DNA evidence.

No charges have been filed. Nifong said prosecutors were awaiting a second set of DNA results, but did not say how those differed from the tests reported Monday. Nifong added that in 75 percent to 80 percent of sexual assaults, there is no DNA evidence to analyze.

The district attorney said a rape case can be built on testimony from the alleged victim and other witnesses. Nifong also said the hospital exam of the woman has led him to believe a crime occurred at the March 13 party.

According to court documents, a doctor and a specially trained nurse found the alleged victim had "signs, symptoms and injuries consistent with being raped and sexually assaulted."

"My presence here means this case is not going away," Nifong said to applause from an audience of about 700.

The allegations have led to days of protests on and off the Duke campus and heightened racial tensions around Durham.

"I have been criticized by both sides in this case," he said. "There have been people who have said that I should have given up this case a long time ago, and there are people who have said I should have already indicted, moved against somebody with some charges. The fact is that this case is proceeding the way a case should proceed."

Nifong later told a questioner, who asserted the victim had positively identified her three attackers, that her information was wrong.

The district attorney faces two challengers in a May 2 primary election. Asked by a member of the audience about the campaign, he said: "As the district attorney, you do not get to choose what crimes occur and when they occur. This is not about an election. This is about justice."

Nifong refused to take any questions from reporters after the forum.

Bill Thomas, a defense attorney for one of the team captains, urged the accuser to recant, saying he believes she made up the allegations to avoid a charge of public drunkenness.

"It is my sincere hope that she comes forward and tells the truth in this matter and allows these young men to go on with their lives and for this community to heal," Thomas said.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

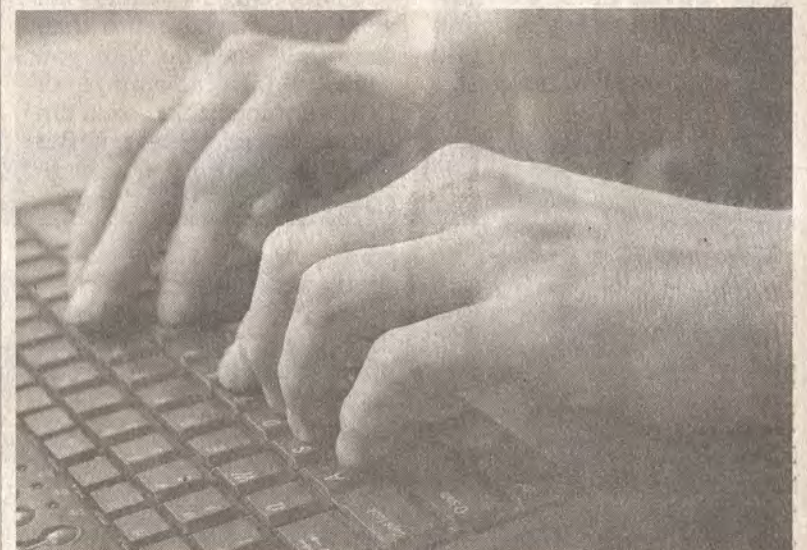
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TONIGHT

Hand to Hand

Back Booth continues to bombard you with more bands than you could possibly need; unless you're a really needy person, that is. Other bands tonight include Inked in Blood, Beneath These Words, Hope & Suicide and Blueeyes for Deadskies. Sounds like the bee's knees. Doors open at 8 p.m. 407-999-2570

TONIGHT

Alan Parsons Live Project

Not sure who Alan Parsons is or what project he is up to? Ask your parents; we're pretty sure it's some sort of hovercraft. He's a music veteran, though, having worked with the likes of The Beatles and Pink Floyd. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. at House of Blues. 407-934-BLUE

TOMORROW

Clayton Hall

Former *Future* interviewee Clayton Hall headlines just another fun night at the Social along with Gasoline Heart and Pete Woj. Doors open at 9 p.m. 407-246-1419

SATURDAY

Avenged Sevenfold

House of Blues presents from the UCF Arena Avenged Sevenfold, Coheed and Cambria and Head Automatica. Procure your tickets shortly because this show is almost too hot to handle without some sort of oven mitt. 407-823-6006

SATURDAY

Cure for Caska

Couldn't make into the Social for the Clayton Hall show? Wimp. Nah, just kidding, go to this show at the Social instead, featuring Cure for Caska, Memoranda and Pemberley. Doors open at 9 p.m. 407-246-1419

DVD RELEASE FOR WEEK OF APRIL 18

Hostel

Yes, *Hostel* is already out on DVD despite being released in January. We're not complaining, though. Eli Roth's sickening little film is a gem for horror fans, who must love the current revival of grind-house gore pictures.



Clockwise from top left, rock acts Coheed and Cambria, Head Automatica and Avenged Sevenfold are performing Saturday at the UCF Arena. The concert is sponsored by the House of Blues.

COURTESY CHAPMAN BAEHLER

Three of a kind

BRANDON BIELICH
Staff Writer

This Saturday, three bands — Avenged Sevenfold, Coheed and Cambria and Head Automatica — will perform at the UCF Arena.

What should fans expect?

"It might just be crazy enough to be one of those rock shows that people remember," said Michael Todd, bassist for Coheed and Cambria.

Avenged Sevenfold bassist Johnny Christ said: "Our focus is 100 percent on the show — and every show...we want to give kids their money's worth."

And you might just learn a song or two. "We always give our all every night, so if you come see us play, you're going to walk away humming every song," said Daryl Palumbo, singer and guitarist for Head

Automatica.

Still not sure about attending?

Here's a one-stop guide to this weekend's concert:

AVENGED SEVENFOLD: The Band

Much has been said, both good and bad, about the five-man band from Huntington Beach, Calif.

Some say that singer M. Shadows, guitarists Synyster Gates and Zacky Vengeance, bassist Johnny Christ and drummer The Rev., spend more time partying than performing. But, according to Christ (born Johnathan Seward), the band knows how to separate business from pleasure.

"We'll never be partying or anything all day long," Christ said. "We don't want to be going out there because we've been drink-

ing all day and falling over on ourselves and playing sloppily. We take pride in our show. "Afterward, we'll loosen up a little bit, you know, and just have some fun."

A7X began as a group of high school pals searching for their musical fix. In seven years, the quintet has evolved from a hard-core/metal/screamo band, releasing three albums on independent label Hopeless Records, to its current form: a metal/rock/not-so-screamo band, releasing the album, *City of Evil* on Warner Bros. Records.

The 11-track *Evil* spans 72 minutes, with over half its songs topping six minutes in length. And fans have noticed one major difference when comparing the new record to previous releases: Shadows no longer screams — he sings.

PLEASE SEE **A7X** ON B7

Hard rock heaven

UCF Arena
Avenged Sevenfold, Coheed and Cambria and Head Automatica bring their MTV-friendly hard rock live acts to the UCF Arena Saturday. Tickets are \$27.50 and available through TicketMaster. Doors open at 6 p.m.

"We always give our all every night ... you're going to walk away humming every song."

— DARYL PALUMBO
HEAD AUTOMATICA

Husband, wife indie act Mates of State put on a good show

The Social draws a solid crowd for family band, local favorites Courtneys

JAMIE SALMASIAN
Contributing Writer

On March 29, the Social was packed like a can of sardines. But all the hubub wasn't just for any band.

This crowd was for the indie rock

band Mates of State, which is growing in popularity.

Winter Park natives Courtneys opened the show, along with Saddle Creek Records' Maria Taylor from Omaha, Neb.

Mates of State members Kori Gardener, vocals and organ, and Jason Hammel, vocals and drums are married. The two-piece band's rich sound can trick a person into thinking that it's a five-piece group.

According to matesofstate.com, the band's Web site, the band started out in

Mates of State

Bring It Back

The indie act, featuring husband and wife duo Jason Hammel and Kori Gardener, released its eighth album on March 21 on the band's new label Barsuk Records.

1997 when Gardener and Hammel moved from the Midwest to California.

The couple played everywhere they could and decided to quit their jobs as a teacher and a cancer researcher to pursue the band full time. In 2001, Gardener and Hammel married and began touring

everywhere from the U.S. to Europe and Japan. They had a daughter, Magnolia, in the midst of touring and recording in 2004.

Mates of State have recorded eight CDs, including *My Solo Project*, *Team Boo* and *All Day* (EP), at Polyvinyl Records. The couple also has a DVD, *Two of Us*.

The band's newest CD release, *Bring It Back*, came out on March 21, 2006 on a new label, Barsuk Records, known for

PLEASE SEE **MATES** ON B6

Metal Gear back with new titles

Classic video game franchise releases two more offerings

MATT SLAGLE
Associated Press



COURTESY KONAMI DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT

The "Metal Gear" franchise, featuring the main hero Snake, is responsible for starting the popular trend of military action games throughout the history of gaming consoles.

The "Metal Gear" series pretty much invented a style of military action video games where sneaking around and a sly sense of humor are at least as important as blasting away.

Two new editions to the series make these contrasts exceptionally clear.

"Metal Gear Solid 3: Subsistence" for the PlayStation 2 adds long-sought online multiplayer battles, while "Metal Gear Acid 2" for the PlayStation Portable keeps things fun and kitschy by including a 3-D viewer.

Those who played last year's "Metal Gear Solid 3: Snake Eater" will find something oddly similar about "Subsistence." That's because it's the same game.

Well, not entirely. The \$29.99, M-rated re-release of sorts from Konami Digital Entertainment-America has been reworked with some worthwhile extras (and it is almost \$20 cheaper than the original).

The single player experience is mostly unchanged — a good thing for one of last year's best action games.

Set in the 1960s during the height of the Cold War, you play as Snake, an American superagent who must infiltrate the Soviet Union and stop a next-generation nuclear tank that could tip the scales of war in Mother Russia's favor.

The online multiplayer modes are completely new. You can do battle with as many as seven others in the

usual kill-or-be-killed death-match arena.

But I found the sneaking and rescue missions particularly fun because they require teamwork and fit perfectly into the game's stealth combat design philosophy.

One caveat: though free so long as you have the required broadband Internet access, the system for connecting and playing online was rather clunky and prone to disconnection in my experience.

"Subsistence" also includes two previously unreleased "Metal Gear" titles from the last century for us old-school gamers: "Metal Gear" and "Metal Gear 2: Solid Snake."

"Metal Gear Acid 2" (M-rated, \$39.99) brings more of the same turn-based strategy to the PSP system as last year's version, with only a few new twists.

Compared to "Subsistence,"

it's a slower pace where you draw from a deck of cards that determine if you can evade or attack through treacherous warehouses and other enemy bastions.

After your move, the enemies all get a turn, and in that way it's much like a chess game — just with machine guns and stun grenades.

The graphics this time around have been redone in a cell-shaded, comic book style that looked bright and clear on the PSP's spacious screen.

An included paper and plastic accessory fits around the PSP and lets viewers watch some of the game's lengthy cutscene movies in full 3-D. But it's more of a gimmick that anything and had me rubbing my eyes after only a few minutes.

Three stars out of four for "Subsistence"; two and a half stars for "Acid 2."

That's a wrap! Florida Film Festival touts variety of movies

141 films, both feature-length and short, were offered at the 15th annual event, which aired its submissions at two different venues, the Enzian Theatre and Regal Winter Park Village 20

The 15th Annual Florida Film Festival had all the basic categories covered. There's the screwy crime caper (*Matando Cabos*), the returning-home-to-find-yourself dramedy (*Lonesome Jim*), the chronicles of middle-aged women (*Friends With Money*), the tender coming-of-age comedy (*Duck Season*), and the token ensemble drama (*Look Both Ways*).

Two of those titles simultaneously fulfilled the foreign film requirement, so, at the very least, the Florida Film Festival appeared to be a well-rounded program of independent film.

However, the FFF gang wasn't content with offering just the bare minimum in indie fare. Instead, it offered a total of 141 films, both feature-length and short, split between the Enzian Theatre and the Regal Winter Park Village 20 and spread over the course of 10 days. The highlights included the hilarious teaching mocku-

mentary *Chalk*, the Broadway documentary *Showbusiness: A Season to Remember*, the taut thriller *Hard Candy*, the striking *Lady Vengeance* and the lively crossword documentary *Wordplay*.

Swiftly selling out was the forum with eccentric writer/director John Waters, as well as regional premieres of *Hard Candy*, *Friends With Money*, and *Kinky Boots*, among others.

Several shorts programs also attracted attention, as did the midnight film selections and a hat-trick of race-centric documentaries, including *Dare Not Walk Alone*, *Purvis of Overtown*, and the superb *The Trials of Darryl Hunt*.

Overall, this year's Florida Film Festival was as smooth and satisfying as anyone could have hoped, and here's to hoping that next year can continue to raise the bar.

— WILLIAM GOSS



COURTESY SONY PICTURE CLASSICS



COURTESY LIONSGATE FILMS

Jennifer Aniston, top left, plays Olivia opposite Bob Stephenson as Marty, top right, in *Friends With Money*. Patrick Wilson (Jeff Kohlver), above right, is tied up with co-star Ellen Page (Hayley Stark) in *Hard Candy*.

Mates plays array of songs from catalog

FROM B5
signing other bands like Death Cab for Cutie and Rilo Kiley.

The 10-song CD is chock-full of catchy, danceable tunes. The band's first single, "Fraud in the '80s," is the epitome of this formula.

Unfortunately, the band couldn't play "Fraud in the '80s" at its show at the Social because of some technical difficulties with the band's key-

it by playing other old favorites like "Ha Ha" and "Fluke" off of its 2003 release, *Team Boo*, and "La'hov" off of its 2000 release, *My Solo Project*. Mates of State opened up with a new song called "Think Long," the first track on *Bring It Back*. Gardener played the organ while singing in harmony with Hammel, who pounded on the drums.

Some members of Maria Taylor even appeared on stage

of State while playing the tambourine.

Mates of State is in a league of its own when it comes to its music. The harmonies, chords, and vocal patterns are original and genuine.

Gardener and Hammel are not only musicians, but entertainers who, according to their biography, are described by critics as "unabashed joy, honesty at its best, a two-piece with balls, and a band that you

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-Lesley Nagy, KBWB-TV

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A7X promises huge production, big surprises

FROM B5

After learning from doctors that if he continued screaming, he would have no voice left by age 40, Shadows opted to change his vocal ways. Now, listeners will only find traces of screams on *City of Evil*.

Many of A7X's songs feature lyrics based on stories from the Bible. However, at least one song off *Evil* does not.

"M.I.A." deals with the topic of war, but from a troop's perspective. According to Christ, the band has a couple of longtime friends from Huntington Beach who have served in the U.S. military. Their stories ultimately spawned the lyrics for the song.

"One of them was in the front lines of ... everything and luckily" nothing happened to him, Christ said. "We were very happy to hear him come back ... he's one of our best friends."

Christ said the song is neither pro- nor antiwar; it is simply about those who have experienced war; some returning home safely, others not.

The band's unique style shows through on every song, and don't be surprised if you hear hear a sudden burst of classical Flamenco guitar in the midst of a chorus or guitar solo in a *Avenged Sevenfold* song.

"That's Synyster Gates," Christ said with a laugh. "You know, we like to have fun with our writing process too. "It can't be all serious."

The show

Christ described A7X's show as a "huge production" with plenty of "hidden surprises" that he cannot reveal just yet.

"Fans will have to expect something they won't soon forget, I can tell you that much," he said.

COHEED AND CAMBRIA: The band

Not only is Coheed and Cambria a rock band from New York, but Coheed and Cambria are also two characters in a progressive, science-fiction story developed by singer and guitarist Claudio Sanchez.

According to Sanchez, Coheed and Cambria are parents destined to sacrifice three of their four children, in hopes of saving the world from disease.

The band's albums collectively tell the story of Coheed and Cambria. Its latest record, *Good Apollo, I'm Burning Star V - Volume One: From Fear Through the Eyes of Madness*, is the first album in the saga written from the viewpoint of "the writer."

Sound complicated? Don't worry.

According to Todd, it's OK if fans can't grasp the Coheed and Cambria concept.

"It's still rock n' roll," he said. "I think the cool thing about this band and the concept is that if you listen to the songs, you don't really have to get into the story because the songs can kind of stand on their own."

"If somebody heard our record and didn't know it was a concept record, I don't think they would be able to tell."

Todd said that only Sanchez had a clear idea of how the story would progress when he first pitched the idea to his fellow bandmates including Todd, guitarist Travis Stever and drummer Joshua Eppard.

The band had just finished its meeting with independent record label Equal Vision — Columbia Records has since signed Coheed — and needed a name for the group. While driving around Albany, N.Y. in Stever's car, Sanchez suggested the name Coheed and Cambria and then also the idea of a progressive story connected throughout the records.

"We decided to go for it," Todd said. "We thought it was different enough and that it might be cool."

Todd said the band members talk about the story casually as a group of friends and sometimes even ask Sanchez about the meaning of different songs during practice.

While the band looks to Sanchez for insight into the story, Coheed and Cambria fans continuously flood message boards, analyzing each song and offering their own takes on the meaning of the epic narrative.

"We were kind of hoping that there'd be a couple cats that would want to dig deeper into the project," Todd said. "And it's been happening; it's kind of awesome."

The show

Coheed and Cambria's stage show includes a 14-foot functional guillotine, projected images and video of characters from the sci-fi story and, according to Todd, lots of laser lights and smoke.

HEAD AUTOMATICA: The band

Daryl Palumbo began as singer for the Long Island, N.Y. hardcore outfit Glassjaw. However, in 2002, Palumbo said he began writing songs that didn't seem to fit Glassjaw's heavier style. They were more like "pop punk" songs.

"I knew I wouldn't be able to use that material for Glassjaw," he said. "[But] I just came up with so much material, enough to do a record."

So Palumbo decided to start a side project, which became Head Automatica. After securing a spot on Warner Bros. Records, he purchased some beats from producer Dan "The Automator" Nakamura and worked with drummer Larry Gorman to create Head Automatica's first album, *Decadence*.

Palumbo said he then set out to complete the band's lineup. After various lineups, he settled on the current group, consisting of Gorman, Jessie Nelson on keyboard, Jarvis Morgan Holden on bass and guitarist Craig Bonich.

After touring to promote *Decadence* with the five-piece lineup, Head Automatica began working on its follow-up record, *Popaganda*.

Palumbo described *Deca-*

dence as "relatively power pop" but said *Popaganda*, which hits stores June 6, is predominantly power pop.

"I think it's a totally different record [in that] it's definitely more band-related," he said. "That's real important for the sound."

"Because when you have a solid lineup, you're going to write different music."

The show

Fans will not have to wait

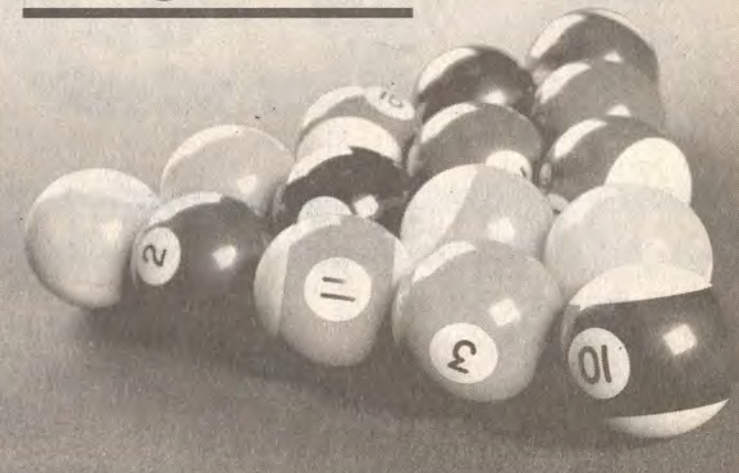
two months to hear songs from *Popaganda*. According to Palumbo, Head Automatica will debut about four or five songs from the new album at the show Saturday.

A limited amount of tickets still remains for Saturday's show; tickets are \$27.50 plus charges and are available at a TicketMaster locations. Door open at 6 p.m. To purchase tickets online, visit: <http://www.TicketMaster.com>.

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FRESH SALADS AND SUCH

You came to Orlando to learn new things, party, meet new people, party, expand your understanding, party, and receive the education you need to make your way in the world. Right? Okay, here's your first lesson. Eat right and stay healthy. The infirmary is no fun.

Best way to eat right (and save money) is to come to Crispers. We've got incredible garden fresh gourmet salads, hearty stacked sandwiches, wraps, soups, gumbos, chowders, and, for the occasional splurge, a selection of desserts, sundaes, milk shakes, and frozen treats that will knock your socks right off your feet. If you happen to be wearing socks.

Better yet— we now offer a huge selection of delicious **HOT** entrée items.

Example: our **Big BIG** baked potato, covered in all kinds of yummy stuff, like pot roast, Tex-Mex chicken, and more. Plus there's a variety of **flat breads** with toppings that are great as a snack or a complete meal. Then, we've got new **HOT** toasted sandwiches, which includes the best Reuben you've ever tasted, probably.

Plenty to eat, and it's all good. Plus, you'll SAVE \$2 on any hot menu item you order over \$4.99.

SAVE \$2 on any HOT menu item!
This coupon gives you \$2 OFF any of our flat bread, potato, or toasted sandwich creations priced over \$4.99. Get 'em while they're hot!
ONE OFFER PER COUPON. ONE COUPON PER VISIT. EXPIRES 4-27-06.

FREE SMOOTHIE
Purchase any menu item over \$4.99 and receive one of our cool, delicious Smoothies, FREE!
ONE OFFER PER COUPON. ONE COUPON PER VISIT. EXPIRES 4-27-06.

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436 & UNIVERSITY
391 SOUTH SEMORAN BLVD.
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MON.-SAT. 10:30 AM - 9 PM
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To see all our menu selections, click on www.crispers.com

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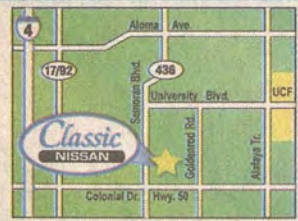
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*Cash back from Nissan on new 2005/2006 Altimas, 2005/2006 Pathfinders, 2005/2006 Xtras, 2005/2006 Sentras and 2005/2006 Frontiers (including Crew Cab). Offers expire on June 30, 2006. Cannot be combined with other offers. **Deferred interest added to contract balance and payable over remaining contract term. New purchases only. Subject to credit approval. Not available in Pennsylvania. See Nissan dealer for details. Nissan, the Nissan Brand Symbol, NMAC and Nissan model names are Nissan trademarks. ©2006 Nissan North America, Inc. ** 39-month closed-end lease with \$2,500 total due at lease inception, which includes: First payment of \$199, security deposit of \$0, and cash or trade equity of \$2,301. All advertised pricing does not include tax or tag. 12,000 miles per year, any average will be \$0.15 per mile. With approved credit to qualified buyers, 640 Beacon Credit Score required. Severity of credit may affect down payment and APR. All bankruptcies must be discharged. + Savings based on dealer discount and/or factory rebate. Example: 2006 Nissan Xterra SE (MSRP of \$28,745) includes factory rebate of \$1,000 and/or dealer discount of \$2,500. 2006 Nissan Xterra sale price \$25,245. ++All prices plus tax, tag, and title. All rebates and incentives assigned to dealer. All offers not to be used in conjunction. All vehicles subject to prior sale. Pictures for illustration purposes only. Not responsible for typographical errors. Dealer fee of \$498.55 is included in advertised prices.



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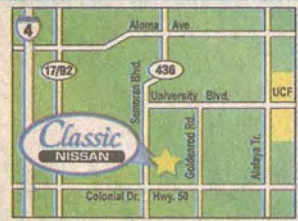


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100 HELP WANTED: General

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BABYSITTER NEEDED for a toddler. Near Downtown. M,T,Th 2pm-5:30pm. Exp. pref. \$8/hr. 407-894-5447 954-817-0661. jwise@hillandponton.com

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Looking for P/T babysitter for one year old. Mon-Fri. 3 to 7p.m. by UCF area. Must have your own car. Experience req'd. Call 407-380-1268.

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