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Central Florida Future

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The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

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One love

UCF Men's Soccer player to try out for Jamaican National Team — SEE SPORTS, A6



Let's get nerdy
Nerdapalooza Southeast 2008 shows Orlando's nerdcore — SEE VARIETY, A8



Crime

IT'S LIKE SPEED WITHOUT ANY CLOTHES

A man in Las Vegas stole a beer from a convenience store on Tuesday, and then proceeded to punch out the back window of a city bus and hijack it. During that time, he stripped his clothes until he was naked. He only drove the bus about 200 yards before jumping out of the moving vehicle. He was arrested after.



Auto burglars look for electronics

GPS, radar detectors stolen on campus

SHAUN BEVAN
Contributing Writer

The UCF Police Department announced last week that the campus community has been experiencing an increase in thefts of Honda vehicles as well as motorcycles.

Electronics are the main target for the burglaries, with the

thieves focusing their thefts in parking lots and garages.

"Anywhere you see a large amount of vehicles, you're going to see a lot of auto burglaries," said Cpl. James Roop, the community relations supervisor for the UCF Police Department.

According to the UCF Police department Web site,

the amount of auto burglaries on campus have been on the rise since 2006, almost doubling in the amount of reported activity over two years.

In May, there were a reported number of 10 vehicle burglaries, 13 in 2007 and one in 2006, according to the UCF Police



MAX BEHRMAN / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Auto burglaries on campus have been on the rise since 2006, almost doubling in two years.

PLEASE SEE HONDA ON A3

Technology

ONE COMPUTER TO RULE THEM ALL



The Asus M70 is the most fully-loaded laptop that has been seen in a long time. Aside from its massive terabyte of hard-drive space (enough to hold a few hundred movies or a few hundred thousand MP3s), the multimedia system incorporates a Blu-ray drive and a full-HD display, plus an HDMI port, TV tuner and five-speaker stereo sound.



Breaking news on your cell

Get UCF news sent to your cell phone. Just text the keyword UCFNEWS to 44636.

SOCIAL AGENDA



Brian Moore, candidate for the Socialist Party USA, speaks to students about economic change and answers questions Wednesday in the Student Union.

Socialist presidential candidate visits UCF

AMANDA WELCH
Staff Writer

The socialist candidate for the U.S. presidency spoke at UCF Wednesday to discuss social, economic and political issues, socialism and what he believes is the imminent fall of capitalism in the U.S.

Brian Moore of Socialist Party USA was invited to speak by Jay Jurie, an assistant professor of public administration and the faculty adviser to Students for a Democratic Society at UCF. Jurie said he asked Moore to speak to expose UCF to a different point of view.

"Especially with voices who may not get heard very well out there in the mainstream media, the university offers kind of a platform where those lesser-heard voices can be brought out," Jurie said.

CodePink UCF, the campus chapter of the women-oriented, anti-war organization, co-sponsored the event with SDS. Amanda Mailey, a junior majoring in interdisciplinary studies, is a member of CodePink and welcomed Moore's anti-war perspective.

"I think that a lot of people here are against the war," Mailey said. "I just want them to know how the Socialists feel about the war."

Moore said he has been a peace activist since the Vietnam War, and formed

PLEASE SEE MOORE ON A5

SOCIALISM

Social and economic doctrine that calls for public rather than private ownership or control of property and natural resources. According to the socialist view, individuals do not live or work in isolation but live in cooperation with one another. Furthermore, everything that people produce is in some sense a social product, and everyone who contributes to the production of a good is entitled to a share in it. Society as a whole, therefore, should own or at least control property for the benefit of all its members.

—WWW.BRITANNICA.COM

No pleasure for students after closing

Pleasure Island removes clubs

MARY CRISTOBAL
Contributing Writer

At Disney's Animal Kingdom theme park, Megan Jenkins, a senior psychology major, drives a safari Jeep through the Kilimanjaro Safari and promotes the conservation of wildlife. At night, she likes to frequent the clubs at Pleasure Island.

Pleasure Island is not just a workplace, but also a hangout for other Disney employees who are UCF students. Disney announced in late June that its Pleasure Island will undergo renovations, which will replace the six nightclubs with family-oriented restaurants and shops.

"My friends, co-workers and my boyfriend, who also works in Animal Kingdom, go there at least once a week," said Jenkins, who has been working at Animal Kingdom for almost two years. "It's such a great place because the clubs are free for us, and not only that — I think they're the best clubs in Orlando. They're clean, safe, there's no smoking inside. It's just a really good place to hang out with friends."

According to a press release, Walt Disney World has a plan to enhance Downtown Disney.

"Over the past few years we've seen less of a demand for nightclub entertainment," Disney spokeswoman Zoraya Suarez said in a phone interview. "We do have a clear vision for the future of Downtown Disney, including Pleasure Island and our guests. Additional shopping and dining will provide that. So we're in the process of determining the right mix of them and considering unique concepts

PLEASE SEE CLUBS ON A5

AROUND CAMPUS, A2

LEARN HOW TO SUCCEED IN JOB INTERVIEWS

Career Services is hosting a session on different types of interview formats, techniques and questions used by employers. The session begins at 3 p.m. in their office in Ferrell Commons. Call 407-823-2361 for information.

LOCAL & STATE, A2

12-YEAR-OLD PLEADS NO CONTEST IN DEATH OF HIS BABY COUSIN

A 12-year-old South Florida boy accused of beating his baby cousin to death pleaded no contest to second-degree murder. The boy will spend 18 months in a high-risk juvenile treatment facility. The boy beat the 17-month-old with a bat in January.

NATION & WORLD, A4

THREE POLICE KILLED IN ATTACK ON U.S. CONSULATE IN TURKEY

A group of men armed with pistols and shotguns attacked a police guard post outside of the U.S. consulate in Istanbul, Turkey on Wednesday, sparking a gun battle that left three attackers and three officers dead.

Provision increases veteran pay

KERRI ANNE RENZULLA
Contributing Writer

President George W. Bush signed into law June 30 the most sweeping expansion of the educational and training benefits available to veterans since the G.I. Bill's inception following World War II. Under the new \$63 billion provision, veterans who served after Sept. 11, 2001, are eligible for \$90,000, nearly twice as much as the previous \$48,000 maximum.

The Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act, introduced in January 2007 by Democratic Virginia Sen. Jim Webb, provides for 36 months of full in-state tuition, fees for enrollment into a public college, a monthly housing stipend and \$1,000 annually for books and supplies with an increased benefit eligibility period of 15 years after leaving active duty. The act also eliminated the formerly required \$1,200 program enrollment fee paid at the beginning of a veteran's service.

"Other than that the bill passed and the benefits from the new G.I. Bill will not begin until August

HISTORY OF THE GI BILL

On June 22, 1944, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law one of the most significant pieces of legislation ever produced by the United States government: The Servicemembers' Readjustment Act of 1944, commonly known as the G.I. Bill of Rights. By the time the original G.I. Bill ended in July 1956, 7.8 million World War II veterans had participated in an education or training program and 2.4 million veterans had home loans backed by VA. Today, the legacy of the original G.I. Bill lives on in the Montgomery G.I. Bill.

—WWW.GIBILL.VA.GOV

2009, there have been no updates. It's a bureaucracy. Everything is slow to come about and they have a whole year to procrastinate," Ross Leshinsky, program assistant for Veteran Services, said.

The payouts are commensurate with experience. Only veterans who served at least 36 months of active duty will receive full benefits. Those who

PLEASE SEE BENEFITS ON A5

UCF gets new e-mail system

DONALD THOMANN
Staff Writer

Microsoft has partnered with UCF to bring students a new, flashy version of the Microsoft Windows Live e-mail system. Knight's E-Mail is expected to completely replace Pegasus Webmail by fall of this year, and UCF faculty said that they hope to begin advertising the new program at the same time.

"We've been working on this project for two years," said Casey Hill, IT infrastructure manager for UCF. "We first opened the program to students in January as a trial, and we've had about 12,000 students sign up for it so far. This fall we hope to seek a marketing of the project."

The interface of Knight's E-Mail looks and navigates much like traditional Hotmail, with the exception of being branded with the UCF logo. It also brings a number of new features to the table that Pegasus Webmail simply couldn't support.

Students will be able to link existing Hotmail accounts to their Knight's E-Mail account, eliminating the need to check multiple e-

PLEASE SEE PEGASUS ON A3



10 TIPS FOR BETTER E-MAIL ETIQUETTE

1. Be informal, not sloppy.
2. Keep messages brief and to the point.
3. Use sentence case.
4. Use the blind copy and courtesy copy appropriately.
5. Don't use e-mail as an excuse to avoid personal contact.
6. Remember that e-mail isn't private.
7. Be sparing with group e-mail.
8. Use the subject field to indicate content and purpose.
9. Don't send chain letters, virus warnings or junk mail.
10. Remember that your tone can't be heard in e-mail.

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Honda Civics, Accords targeted

FROM A1
Department Crime Statistics.
"They're really just targeting vehicles right now that have electronics that they can see from the outside," Roop said.

Thieves are looking for radar detectors, after-market GPS systems, satellite radios and music players. Another item that you might not expect as being a target for burglary is textbooks, Roop said.

Honda Civics and Accords are being targeted for auto theft, according to the National Insurance Crime Bureau Web site. According to NICB's 2006 National Crime Information Center Report, automobiles such as the 1995 Honda Civic and the 1991 Honda Accord are listed as the first and second most stolen vehicle in Florida.

Although the police department is doing as much as they can to prevent auto burglaries and thefts, the best way to deter criminals is something that each vehicle owner has to do on their own.

"Take your items with you," Roop said.

Roop also recommends that drivers use visual deterrents such as car alarms with blinking indicators or the Club anti-theft device around the steering wheel.

The majority of these burglaries are happening in the garage complexes around campus, but this doesn't mean it excludes the open parking lots, Roop said. With a campus the size of UCF and the amount of people who come to the university, it's no surprise that UCF is a target.

"It's like when you go shopping," Roop said. "You go to places where there are more stores. That's what the criminals do too; they want to find more opportunities."

Because garages are such a high priority target, the police department has been upping their rounds through the complexes to provide extra security, but it's important for the public to get involved because the police cannot be everywhere all the time, Roop said.

"Report any suspicious activity that you might see," Roop said. "We need the public's help because if we don't get

that information, it's most likely that we will be unable to help solve these crimes."

Freshman Mitch Little agrees with this sentiment that burglaries are just things that happen.

"If someone is going to take the time to do that, there's really nothing I can do about it," Little said.

Fortunately, there are a few things you can do about it, Roop said. The UCF Police Department Web site has an online personal property registration form that you can fill out to register your electronics so that if stolen and sold on the open market, they can be tracked and possibly returned to the rightful owner.

"It's very important that you know what your serial numbers and model numbers are for your items and keep them somewhere safe so that you can get back to it," Roop said.

But even with all the alerts and information that the police department tries to distribute, some students still feel complacent when it comes to protecting their property. Others hope for the best.

Golden rules of tanning

JILLIAN KROTKI
Staff Writer

Come summertime, the rise in temperature is coupled with the intensity of the sun's rays, and for Florida residents particularly, basking in UV light — whether intentionally or unintentionally — is inevitable.

Although some students prefer outdoor tanning, other students are turning to the use of indoor tanning to get their golden glow.

But whether you choose to tan indoors or outdoors, there are risks and benefits to both.

In order to get a tan, you need to come in contact with ultraviolet rays, or UV rays. According to www.healthlink.mcw.edu, there are three different types of UV rays: UVA, UVB and UVC. While UVA and UVB do reach the Earth and affect our skin, molecules of the atmosphere absorb UVC rays, preventing it from reaching the ground and thereby preventing it from affecting our skin.

Just like the great outdoors, there are no UVC rays in indoor tanning beds. However, whether you are tanning outside or inside, there is a risk for skin cancer.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. In 2004, 50,039 people in the United States were diagnosed with melanoma, while 7,952 people died of this kind of skin cancer."

Cynthia Vazquez, the spa director at Planet Beach Con-tempo Spa, said that indoor tanning has a much shorter exposure time than when people lie out in the sun, with the longest timer for their lowest power bed is 20 minutes. Also, every person who goes to Planet Beach must fill out a skin-type analysis, which gives an estimated amount of time that the individual should start if they have never tanned indoors.

By tanning in timed increments indoors, there is little to worry about in regard to over-



CRYSTAL PAOLOMILIO / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
A tanning bed glows with heat. Indoor tanning has a much shorter exposure time than laying out in the sun. By tanning in timed increments, risk of overexposure is reduced.

exposure, Vazquez said. If you tan for a certain period of time one day and return to tan again the next and you weren't burned at all, you know that you can do at least that amount of time again.

However, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Tanning beds and sunlamps emit UV rays that are as dangerous as those from the sun and, therefore, should be avoided. Remember, both tanning and burning can increase a person's risk of skin cancer."

Vazquez said that another rule strictly enforced by tanning salons to protect their customers is the 24-hour rule, also mandatory by the health department. No one may tan within 24 hours of their last tan. This is meant to avoid overexposure.

But regardless of the protective measures tanning salons take, medical director at UCF Health Services Dr. Michael Deichen said that problems can still occur.

"Theoretically, tanning booths would appear to be advantageous because the radiation could be better controlled," Deichen said. "But studies have been done that say control is rather poor, and sometimes in these tanning booths, people get way too much overexposure and are exposed to a whole new risk of problems."

In addition to UV beds, tanning salons typically offer sunless tanning or spray tan.

"I'm not a fan of tanning beds," Deichen said, "[but] tan-

ning products [such as lotions, creams and spray tans] offer a safe solution that won't lead to premature aging of the skin or skin cancer."

Students exhibit mixed feelings on which method of tanning they prefer.

"I prefer indoor tanning if I'm short on time," said Mike Burns, a sports training major at UCF. "But I feel better if I lay out. I get a better tan laying outside, and sunlight is free."

However, for most college students, tight budgets don't often allow for cosmetic spending. So, if you're going to be tanning outdoors, take the necessary precautions.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stresses the importance of protecting your skin from these rays.

"Exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays appears to be the most important environmental factor involved in the development of skin cancer."

Also, Deichen said that when wearing sunscreen, make sure it is waterproof, as well as UVA and UVB protective.

Even though Burns prefers indoor tanning, there are still students who disagree with him.

"I prefer tanning outdoors," said Skylar Melnick, a health service major at UCF.

She felt that even though the tan time is shorter indoors, it is much stronger than the actual sun.

So whichever method you chose, remember to protect yourself by following the golden rules of tanning.

Pegasus mail will be replaced

FROM A1
mail accounts daily. Students will also have the option of keeping their new account for life, one of the main reasons for the switch.

"Interestingly," said Hill, "there are quite a few alumni that wanted those Pegasus accounts for life, and we couldn't figure out how to do it. It would have been too costly for us to maintain our own mail system, and with students wanting an array of Web-based tools, we decided to outsource to Microsoft."

As an added benefit, particularly in times of tight university finances, it costs the university less than \$1,000 to host the new system with the UCF/Microsoft partnership.

With Microsoft on board, students can now prepare detailed calendars for upcoming semesters and share them with fellow students, making coordinating assignments and projects significantly easier.

Additionally, Knight's E-Mail offers a MySpace-like community service called Spaces, allowing students to mingle and keep in touch; access to Windows Live Messenger, similar to AOL Instant Messenger; and the ability to access the system via cell phone and receive calendar reminders through text messages.

Those with Microsoft Office programs can even collaborate on a group project or term paper online with up to 15 other students. These collabo-

rative efforts can then be stored in the SkyDrive storage center, which acts like a five-gigabyte external drive inside the computer and allows students to limit outsider access to saved projects.

And as with any new e-mail program, there is some concern as to how spam-protected the Knight's E-Mail system will be, but Hill said that spam attacks and gaudy, flashing banners will not be a problem.

"There will only be two one-inch advertisements about the Microsoft e-mail services," he said, "like SkyDrive or MyResume. There will also be more filtering of spam and junk mail, features that students will be able to customize. It's a guaranteed hassle-free, reliable e-mail service."

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LOCAL & STATE

FROM A2

executive director of the Association of Club Executives, a group that represents adult entertainment clubs. She says she fields calls every day from strip club owners around the country feeling the pinch of a bad economy.

But Redner says the economy is having another effect on the business — it's bringing out more women willing to give pole dancing a try.

Haiti priest accused of importing weapons wants to clear name

MIAMI — A politically influential Roman Catholic priest is speaking out about the dismissal of charges against him in Haiti.

The Rev. Gerard Jean-Juste is holding a news conference in Miami on Wednesday to talk about his legal case and the political situation in his Caribbean homeland.

Haiti's highest court last month dropped charges that Jean-Juste conspired to illegally import weapons. The priest was cleared last year of homicide charges related to the 2005 killing of Haitian journalist and poet Jacques Roche.

Jean-Juste is an ally of Haiti's ousted former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The priest led thousands of Haitians in an April rally that called for Aristide's return.

Police find \$10,000 worth of cocaine in a baby bottle

ST. PETERSBURG — Hillsborough County narcotics investigators found some cocaine hidden in an unusual spot during a traffic stop — a baby bottle.

Authorities found nine ounces of cocaine in Joe Del Toro's car when they stopped him Monday. That's about \$10,000 dollars worth.

Del Toro, 19, faces a charge of trafficking in cocaine.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

HIGHER EDUCATION

What's in the news at colleges around the country

\$31 million in proposed budget cuts worry Nevada colleges

RENO, Nev. — The head of Nevada's higher education system says potential budget cuts in the double-digit percentile range would devastate the state's colleges and universities for years to come.

"The Nevada System of Higher Education has been forced to cut its already lean campus budgets in ways that have a direct, negative and severe impact on its students," Chancellor Jim Rogers said. "The system must now attempt to deal with the new reality of reducing course offerings and creating overcrowded classrooms."

"Students will take longer to graduate, and many will not graduate at all," he said.

Last week, University of Nevada, Reno President Milton Glick said if 14 percent cuts are required for the 2009-11 budget cycle, the school's marching band could be eliminated and the contracts of 36 faculty members would not be renewed.

Glick on Monday said another 70 currently vacant faculty and administrative positions have been identified for possible elimination if necessary.

But he said those positions would save only about a third of the \$31 million in cuts being targeted, and other reductions would have to come from academic programs.

"If these numbers are real, we're going to have to look at programs," Glick said. "You can't take out \$30 million and leave programs intact."

"It's not something we look forward to doing," he said. "We'd have to do it with the consultation of faculty and appropriate students."

The cuts and proposed greater cuts are also hitting Truckee Meadows Community College and Western Nevada College.

TMCC has eliminated 27 positions and will not fill 46 vacancies in administration, faculty and classified staff, officials said.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

NATION & WORLD

Keep current with headlines from around the globe



IBRAHIM USTA / ASSOCIATED PRESS
A Turkish policeman stands guard next to an ambulance outside of the U.S. Consulate after an attack in Istanbul, Turkey. Three attackers and three police were killed.

Armed attack in front of U.S. consulate in Turkey kills three

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Men armed with pistols and shotguns attacked a police guard post outside the U.S. consulate in Istanbul on Wednesday, sparking a gun battle that left three attackers and three officers dead.

Turkish and U.S. officials called the shooting a terrorist attack. The U.S. ambassador to Turkey and Turkey's foreign ministry said security around all American diplomatic missions in Turkey had been increased.

Footage from a security camera at the site showed four armed and bearded men emerging from a car and killing a traffic policeman, then running toward a guard post some 50 yards away as other policemen fired back, the Dogan news agency reported.

The shootout caused panic and scattered people who were waiting in a line for visas. U.S. security personnel went inside the compound because they are not authorized to engage in armed action on Turkish soil, Dogan said.

A fourth policeman and the driver of a towing vehicle were wounded in the attack, Istanbul Gov. Muammer Guler said.

U.S. Ambassador Ross Wilson said the consul general in Istanbul, Sharon Wiener, told him that that consulate staff were "safe and accounted for."

Jamie Lynn Spears shows off her newborn baby, Maddie, in OK!

NEW YORK — Weeks after giving birth to daughter Maddie Briann, Jamie Lynn Spears is showing off the newborn, sharing memories of a "perfect" delivery and longing to be a Southern soccer mom.

Spears and fiance Casey Aldridge welcomed Maddie at a hospital in McComb, Miss., on June 19. The younger sister of Britney Spears poses with her on the cover of OK! magazine — as expected, given the fact that Spears announced her pregnancy through an article in OK! and reportedly was to receive a large payday for exclusive pictures of the baby.

The photos were taken at the pair's Mississippi home. The magazine does not comment on the terms of its deals with celebrities.

In an interview with OK!, the 17-year-old Jamie Lynn said she had been nervous about giving birth "but it all fell into place. I was right on schedule. I had a perfect pregnancy and a perfect delivery. I was very blessed."

Jamie Lynn said watching Aldridge, a pipe-layer from Liberty, Miss., hold Maddie for the first time "was the coolest thing. ... He was so happy, and that made me the happiest person alive."

Jamie Lynn's immediate family — including big sister Britney — were there for the birth, though Aldridge was the only one allowed in the delivery room.

Lynne Spears, already grandmother to Britney's young sons, told the magazine: "You never remember how little they are, and then you hold them. I purred like a kitten, and I remember saying, 'Jamie Lynn, she's so beautiful.'"

Jamie Lynn said Maddie sleeps in a bassinet by the couple's bed because she's "not ready to put her all the way across the house."

She said Lynne Spears is a hands-on grandma. "Mama has been here a bunch," she said.

Marines commander says 400 insurgents dead in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan — A U.S. Marines commander said Wednesday his troops have killed 400 insurgents in southern Afghanistan since late April.

Col. Peter Petronzio, the commander of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, said the figure came from the governor of the southern Helmand province, where his troops have been deployed since late April.

Some 2,200 U.S. Marines moved into the town of Garmser in Helmand province to clean the area of insurgents.

Helmand province is the world's largest opium poppy growing region, the main ingredient in heroin. It is also the area with the highest level of insurgent activity in the country.

After months of fighting around Garmser, Petronzio said the area is not yet secure but is more stable.

Petronzio said NATO and Afghan forces are committed to completing their mission in an area that is an important gateway for insurgent fighters smuggling weapons from Pakistan. The Marines will be replaced by British troops this fall.

Meanwhile, the top NATO commander told the Associated Press in an interview this week that rockets and mortars fired from militants in Pakistan at U.S. and Afghan border outposts in Afghanistan have spiked in the last month.

Paradise evacuated as 40 homes and 10 structures burned in fire

PARADISE, Calif. — Thousands of people were ordered to get out of Paradise on Wednesday as an out-of-control wildfire threatened the Northern California city that also was devastated by flames just weeks ago.

Authorities ordered residents of 3,200 Paradise homes to evacuate after the wind-stoked fire destroyed 40 homes and 10 structures Tuesday in the nearby rural community of Concow. Evacuation orders remained in effect for 1,000 residents of Concow and Yankee Hill, about 85 miles north of Sacramento.

Officials said more than 3,800 homes were threatened by the flames Wednesday. Another wildfire destroyed 74 homes in Paradise last month.

Two shelters were full Wednesday morning with 500 evacuees, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection spokeswoman Melissa Smith said.

The blaze had flared up early Tuesday after erratic winds blew embers across fire containment lines.

Firefighters were facing a sudden drop in humidity and a 10-degree spike in temperatures as a heat wave, forecast to linger until the weekend, grips much of the state.

About 30 lightning-sparked wildfires in Butte County, where Paradise and Concow are located, have charred 47,000 acres in recent weeks and were about 40 percent contained, officials said.

Among those evacuated Tuesday were 95 children at a camp for kids with cancer, 70 miles north of Sacramento.

Fire crews across the state have been trying to cover hundreds of active California wildfires, many of which were ignited by a lightning storm more than two weeks ago.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rainy days



GREGORY TERRITO / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Students huddle under umbrellas as they rush to escape the rain Tuesday outside of the Education Complex. As the summer continues in full swing, afternoon thunderstorms have become a daily occurrence. Many students come equipped with umbrellas.

University of Central Florida Area

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NASCAR



TONY STEWART TO LEAVE JOE GIBBS RACING AFTER 2008

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — After 10 years and two championships, Tony Stewart is set to end his relationship with Joe Gibbs Racing to pursue an opportunity to buy his own NASCAR team.

Stewart's contract with JGR runs through 2009, but on Wednesday, the team granted him a release from his contract at the end of the season. Team owner Joe Gibbs has been trying to sign Stewart to an extension for almost a year, but the popular driver was slow to commit and eventually decided to explore free agency.

Stewart will reportedly announce today that he has agreed to become owner/driver Haas-CNC Racing.

Eighteen-year-old Joey Logano is rumored to be a candidate to replace Stewart in the No. 20 Sprint Cup car next season.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

WVU'S EX-FOOTBALL COACH PAYS UNIVERSITY \$4 MILLION

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Ex-football coach Rich Rodriguez has agreed to pay a \$4 million buyout clause and settle a lawsuit that West Virginia University filed after he broke his contract in December, a WVU attorney said Wednesday.

The tentative agreement, which attorney Tom Flaherty said he was confident would be approved by the WVU Board of Governors later Wednesday, would end a case that had been set for trial this fall.

Rodriguez quit the Mountaineers in December for the head coaching job at Michigan, only a year after extending his contract with WVU. He had argued that WVU broke the contract first by failing to honor certain promises — a charge WVU denied.

Flaherty said he would reveal additional details about the settlement, including the period for repayment, after the deal is approved by the board. However, he said the payment would not be made in a lump sum.

BASEBALL



CUBS RESPOND TO BREWERS' MOVE, TRADE FOR HARDEN

CHICAGO — One day after the Milwaukee Brewers landed an ace, the Chicago Cubs answered.

Intent on ending their 100-year drought without a World Series title, the NL Central leaders acquired talented right-hander Rich Harden in a six-player deal with the Oakland Athletics on Tuesday.

With CC Sabathia going to Milwaukee, Harden was the best available pitcher, Cubs general manager Jim Hendry said.

"We felt that the two high end guys who would possibly be available were the two that have already been traded. Those are legit one and two starters. So we tried to focus on trying to acquire one," Hendry said.

The Cubs began play Tuesday 3 1/2 games ahead of the Cardinals and four in front of the Brewers in the NL Central.

The Cubs can now match Milwaukee's one-two combination of Sabathia and Ben Sheets with All-Star Carlos Zambrano and Harden.

Chicago also got right-hander Chad Gaudin, who pitched previously for Cubs manager Lou Piniella in Tampa Bay, and sent promising right-hander Sean Gallagher, outfielders Matt Murton and Eric Patterson and minor leaguer Josh Donaldson to the A's.

Harden is slated to start for the Cubs on either Friday or Saturday.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS



Jamaikin,
the cut

REEMA DESAI / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

UCF Men's Soccer goalkeeper Sean Johnson was invited to try out for the Jamaican National Under-20 Team on May 14-19 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Johnson made it past the first round of cuts, and if he's selected from the player pool, he'll compete in the 2009 Confederation Of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football U-20 Championship Caribbean Qualifiers in the Cayman Islands, July 21-27. Jamaica hopes to qualify for the 2010 World Cup.

UCF Men's Soccer goalkeeper accepts shot to play with Jamaican National U-20 Team

ZACH PARDES
Staff Writer

Sean Johnson's dream of playing for the Jamaican National Soccer Team all began about four years ago, before Johnson ever knew he'd be playing in net for the UCF Men's Soccer team.

He was a high school student then, still developing his goalkeeping skills at Brookwood High School in Snellville, Ga., where he helped lead the Broncos to consecutive Region 8 5A titles.

He was trying to figure out where soccer would fit into his future and where he might like to play in college when he received a phone call — one that could potentially set the framework of his soccer career.

"The [Jamaican] Under-17 Team had qualifiers, so I was called in for the national camp

in Kingston, Jamaica," said Johnson, whose parents were born in Jamaica. "I was chosen to represent Jamaica, but unfortunately my passport and paperwork weren't squared away at the time. I was also in school, so I couldn't really take the time off. It was a huge disappointment."

Johnson said he felt as though his dream had come to an end. He was frustrated and a little disheartened, but he had plenty of soccer left to play, and he would go on to begin a successful career at UCF.

After a freshman year in which the 6-foot-4-inch, 220-pound goalkeeper started 17 games and made 83 saves, Johnson continued to train throughout the remainder of the 2007-08 school year and well into the summer with teammates.

"We're staying hard at work," said senior midfielder

Chris Andaur, a UCF soccer veteran who will wrap up his athletic career as a Knight at the end of the 2008 season. "We're on the soccer field each day, and we're in the gym lifting weights three days a week."

But just a few weeks ago, while Johnson was working out and training with teammates, his old dream of playing for the Jamaican National Team was rekindled. He was invited to try out for the Jamaican National U-20 Team and accepted the offer with pleasure. Now, he's waiting to hear the final roster for the CONCACAF U-20 Championship, which is coming up at the end of the month.

"It felt great," Johnson said. "To be part of something like that, something that I've wanted to do for a long time, is a great feeling. I'm very excited."

PLEASE SEE JOHNSON ON A7

GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

JAMAICAN JOY

The Jamaican National Team has won the Caribbean Cup three times — in 1991, 1998 and 2005.

PUSHING PAPER

Johnson applied for dual citizenship to be eligible for the under-20 team. He was able to do so because his parents were born on the island.

DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY

The Reggae Boyz have struggled recently, not making it past the first round of the 2007 Caribbean Cup. However, the return of former coach Rene Simoes has created a stir, as he led Jamaica to the World Cup in 1998. Players hope coach Simoes will lead Jamaica to another World Cup appearance in 2010.

"It felt great. To be a part of something like that, something I've wanted to do for a long time, is a great feeling."

— SEAN JOHNSON, UCF MEN'S SOCCER GOALKEEPER



UCF golfer Mike Stern said his improved putting helped him finish second last weekend.

Golfer finishes strong

UCF's Mike Stern falls just one stroke shy of victory at top amateur tournament on Saturday in South Carolina

WILLIAM PERRY
Contributing Writer

UCF Men's Golf junior Mike Stern finished second over the weekend at the 36th Annual Rice Planters Amateur Golf Tournament in Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

"If you would have told me at the beginning of the week I'd finish second, I would take it," Stern said. "But it was my tournament to win or lose. I hit the ball good all week, but my driver deserted me on Sunday and was letting me down."

"It was a little off, and it put me in some spots where I had to make par and wasn't able to attack and make birdie."

Stern posted a four-round total of 16-under-par 272, only one stroke behind champion Matt Griffin, who is the top-ranked amateur in Australia.

One of Stern's teammates on the Knights, Kyle Cobb, also competed in the tournament and finished at 3-over-par for the championship.

The tournament took place from July 1-5 at the Snee Farm Country Club. The tournament has hosted many great amateur players through its existence — Tom Lehman, Davis Love III, Hal Sutton, Stewart Cink, Andy Bean and Scott Hoch have all played in the tournament.

Through 18 holes, Stern found himself back in the pack

and with plenty of work ahead of him before he could move up the leaderboard.

"After the first round, I was at 2-under, but I felt like I shot 80," he said. "Every hole out here is a birdie hole. But I was proud of myself."

"I had a good attitude. I knew I could birdie the next hole and didn't really get too down on myself."

At 6,834 yards, the par-72 course was shorter than most college players are used to playing. Scoring was low and many rounds in the 60s were recorded.

On the second day, Stern

PLEASE SEE STERN ON A7



Johnson, a sophomore at UCF, started 17 of 18 games in the 2007 season. He made a total of 83 saves for the Black and Gold.

Johnson awaits roster

FROM A6

The Jamaican National Team's training camp, which Johnson attended, got him into a pool of players, one in which the coaches and recruiters can select from to form their team for events such as the CONCACAF Tournament, which is a World Cup qualifying event.

"If I get selected, I'll immediately go, probably around [July] 17," Johnson said. "We'd be in Jamaica for a week, I think, and then we'd go to the Cayman Islands. The qualifiers are held there."

The Jamaican National Team, known as the Reggae Boyz, is controlled by the Jamaica Football Federation. A member of both FIFA and CONCACAF, The Jamaican National Team earned international recognition after it qualified for the 1998 FIFA World Cup. The team has also won the Caribbean Cup three times — 1991, 1998 and 2005.

The federation has six different national squads, including the u-15, u-17, u-20, u-23 and Senior teams. It also recently incorporated a women's football team.

Johnson said that if he's selected, there is nothing he's looking forward to more than playing in the World Cup qualifiers.

"They usually take two goalkeepers, so it'll be a great shot at playing if I'm selected," Johnson said. "It's a great thing to have on your résumé, especially when you're playing at such a high level. You're playing with the best at a national level, so you can't really beat that. And the under-20 championships are probably one of the bigger tournaments."

Johnson is not alone in his decision to go overseas to train this summer, however. He is one of a number of Knights who are playing whenever and wherever they can in preparation for UCF's 2008 training camp, which officially begins in mid-August.

Andaur said he has played abroad before in countries such as England, Mexico, Germany and Holland. This summer, Andaur went to train with a professional team in Chile for one month.

"I got international experience there, and I got to see what it was like to train with a

professional club," Andaur said. "It helps build confidence because if you know you can play there, then you can play with at a lot of places."

UCF Men's Soccer signee Chris Feigenbaum will also be gaining some good experience, recently earning a spot on Puerto Rico's U-20 National Team that is set to compete in late July.

Andaur said that international training for both himself and other members of the squad will help ensure a successful 2008 season for the Knights because it keeps the players on the field and allows them to face new, highly skilled talent.

But most of that is in the back of Sean Johnson's mind. He said he's just excited that he got another opportunity to play for the Jamaica.

"This time, I have my passport and paperwork," Johnson said. "The whole experience is very exciting."

Johnson's dream of stepping onto the field for the Jamaican National U-20 Team may become a reality this time around, but only time will tell.

Stern rebounds nicely after 1st-round struggle

FROM A6

shot a 68 to move himself up the leaderboard, getting to 6-under-par, trailing the leader, Griffin, by six strokes. He was slowly gaining ground and making his way to the top. After 36 holes he was in the mix and needed a solid third round Friday.

"Heading into the third, I wanted to get it to 10-under, and I wound up playing much better and shot a 65," Stern said. "Griffin shot a 70, and I got myself right into it."

Stern trailed by one stroke and found himself in the final pairing for the final round, with a chance to be tournament champion.

"Any time you're in the heat to win, it's going to help you, and you can only learn," Stern said. "When I get into this situation, I really don't get nervous. I like chasing the guy that's beating me. I look forward to it."

Stern said his goal going into the last round was to shoot a 68 and put pressure on Griffin by forcing him to make birdies.

Griffin didn't break under the pressure and matched Stern with a 3-under-par 69 for a one-shot margin of victory.

Though he didn't come away with a win, Stern hopes to build on the experience and help transfer it into his play next season for the Knights.

"Next year, I want to break-out and lead our team to be a top-10 team," he said. "We're deep and have five, six or seven guys who could shoot in the 60s. I want to be one of the top players but have had a hard time getting the consistency."

Prior to the tournament, Stern made a trip to Georgia to see putting coach Mike Shannon. Shannon is considered one of the world's top putting instructors, according to *Golf Digest* and *Golf Magazine*. He



UCF golfer Mike Stern recorded a 65 in the third round of the Rice Planters Amateur.

GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

MAGIC NUMBER: 70

Stern was one of only two players to shoot 70 or lower in every round.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Stern competed in eight events this past season for the Knights. He recorded two top-10 finishes.

THIRD ROUND IS A CHARM

Stern recorded his best round of the tournament with a third-round 65.

NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN

One of Stern's teammates at UCF, Kyle Cobb, finished in a tie for 42nd place with a 3-over-par 291.

has worked with more than 90 golfers from the PGA Tour, Senior PGA Tour and LPGA Tour, and currently teaches at the Sea Island Golf Learning Center in Sea Island, Ga.

Putting has been Stern's Achilles' heel. Yet, he putted well during the tournament and said he owes much of that success to the work he put in with Shannon. With his putting coming around, Stern said he feels like his bad play is behind him.

"I feel like I putted how I should always putt," he said. "It

wasn't like I just looked at it and made it, but him helping me helped a lot because I need to get more consistent with my putting."

Only two players shot 70 or lower in all rounds. Stern was one of them and Griffin the other. Stern was also one of four players to card a round of 65. Only one player recorded a lower round score, a third-round 64 by Josh Younger.

Younger was Stern's partner in the third round, and he finished one stroke behind Stern for third place.

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WEEKEND OF THE NERDS

Nerdapalooza Southeast 2008 comes to Taste Restaurant

WHITNEY HAMRICK
 Variety Editor

Nerdcore has a large underground following that mainstream music doesn't know what to do with but is trying to embrace, with artists such as MC Chris, Pixelh8, MC Larz and MC Frontalot recently breaking through to mainstream attention.

Popular culture at it's finest, the zombie, ninja, pirate, wizard, video game enthralled rappers and rockers of Nerdapalooza Southeast 2008 celebrated obsession at Taste Restaurant, an event spanning two days for \$30.

"I guess Weird Al and Devo would qualify, but they don't really follow along the nerdcore movement," said co-host Logan Donahoo. "They're kind of pre-nerdcore, they're kind of the grandfathers to the movement."

Nerdapalooza began as the brainchild of John "Hex" Carter on March 17, 2007. While living in Calif., Carter worked at a battle of the bands for a local college radio station. A ska/rap band Tsutain Guu Fanta performed a cover of "Inspector Gadget" and a song about mitosis.

"That's when I discovered I really loved nerd music," Carter said, wearing the first ever Nerdapalooza T-shirt drawn out in marker.

"It's the third Nerdapalooza, but it is the only one of its size," said Josh Thew, co-host and event coordinator. "[Carter] moved [Nerdapalooza] out here [to Florida] because the nerdcore scene and geekcore scene is a lot stronger than [California]; this is the central area, the nerd Mecca if you will."

Rob Tobias who performed as mCRT brought Nerdapalooza to Florida by way of Gainesville in 2007.

Fans represented, wearing the band shirts of the artists set to perform, nerd related T-shirts with slogans like, "Nerd Life," "I [heart] geeks," "Science is awesome" and costumes ranging from pirates, ninjas, robots, monsters and Lucha Libre masks. A guy in a banana suit proves that anything can make you a nerd. The only requirement being is you have to like something to the point of it consume your whole life.

"Never before have so many nerds come together for the purpose of rocking together," Carter said.

Local, national and international nerd core, wizard rock and geek rock artists performed Friday and Saturday for 12 hours, featuring Mr. B, Pixelh8 via exclusive video from England, MC Frontalot, Sudden Death, the Unlimited Enthusiasm Expo tour, Kondor Krew, Zombies! Organize!, Marc with a C, MagiTek and Killer Robots to name a few.

"I think nerdcore expresses who I am because it's a combination of both the hip hop and the nerd culture," said Andrew Grey, a Rollins College student and host of "Talk Nerdy to Me" on WBRK 91.5FM and sponsor of Nerdapalooza. "Hip hop is generally a tight knit community, you've got a lot of bling, backwards hats and gangster rap, then you add nerds to it and mix it all together and you get this explosion that is just wonderful."

"I realized there wasn't a lot of nerdcore shows in the Orlando area... There are a lot of good local acts. I really took the initiative to get it out to everyone else. I wanted to be the voice of the nerds here in Orlando."

Two rooms divided the venue and fans switched back and forth as sets alternated between. The natural lighting of the main dining room looked similar to a sci-fi set from *Metropolis* with walls laden with Bawls energy drink advertisements and comic book posters. The other room begged for *Resident Evil* zombies with dark red walls and chessboard black and white tile floor, mixed with the nerdcore theme and art for sale.

Erin Pyne from A House of Black sang to her folk-techno mix about her addiction to Harry Potter with songs titled "My Boyfriend is a Death eater," "Wrock Fan Girl" and "First Kiss," a narrative in the perspective of Ginny Weasley after her break up with Potter in book six.



AMANDA MOORE / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE



MAX BEHRMAN / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Pirates of Captain Dan and the Scurvy crew (top) and the pajama clad Marc with a C (bottom), perform and mingle with the fans during Nerdapalooza Southeast 2008 at Taste Restaurant, last Friday and Saturday from noon to 2 a.m. Two rooms divided the show—one a bright yellow and orange, the other red. Fans made their way back and forth as bands alternated set up. No game or comic was exempt from parody and tribute to the joy of fans, most of whom sang every word along with their favorite rapper or rocker.

During the dinner break, Taste Restaurant provided their late night menu of finger food, including grilled wraps and a hot bowl of Hot Tots with dijon aioli mustard and spiked ketchup.

"We're the world's only pirate hip hop group," said Dan Dolan of Captain Dan & the Scurvy Crew, who was decked out in pirate gear and insisted they didn't need vitamin C. "Avast me mateys. What do you call a pirate with two eyes, two legs and two hands? A rookie."

The crew passed out eye patches and hooks enticing the crowd to participate, "When I say 'yo' you say 'ho,'" and "all the real swashbucklers wave your hooks in the air, wave them all around like you just don't care."

Nerdapalooza Southeast 2008 was sponsored mainly by A Comic Shop, EMPulse Records, Troma Entertainment, CarNinja and benefiting Child's Play Charity donating video games.

"This is kind of like the practice run of the show, next year is going to be more diverse and sound," Thew said. "We're throwing around the ideas of having a concert con, all geek-related booths of Xboxes and PS3s."

Chozo and Inadequate rapped in the wearing black from fedoras to shoes about Mario searching for Princess Peach for the less altruistic reason of sex, online fan forms, zombies eating your neighbors, gangster life and snatching candy on Halloween with MC Gigahertz.

During lulls between sets, hand-held consoles, drawing pads, card games, novels from sci-fi/fantasy series and laptops came out as well as heated debates over the superiority of games and comic books.

MC Gigahertz, traveling all the way from Tacoma Washington, followed suit with an array of costume changes from a Devo "Whip it" outfit of yellow and geometric hat, to a jacket with question marks with matching tin foil chain and a monkey hat. He rapped about *Star Trek* and *Battlestar Galactica* — a dance party interrupted by enemy attack and *Star Fox 64*, "Do a barrel roll." During his set, Gigahertz took off his shirt, and some in the audience came forward with dollar bills.

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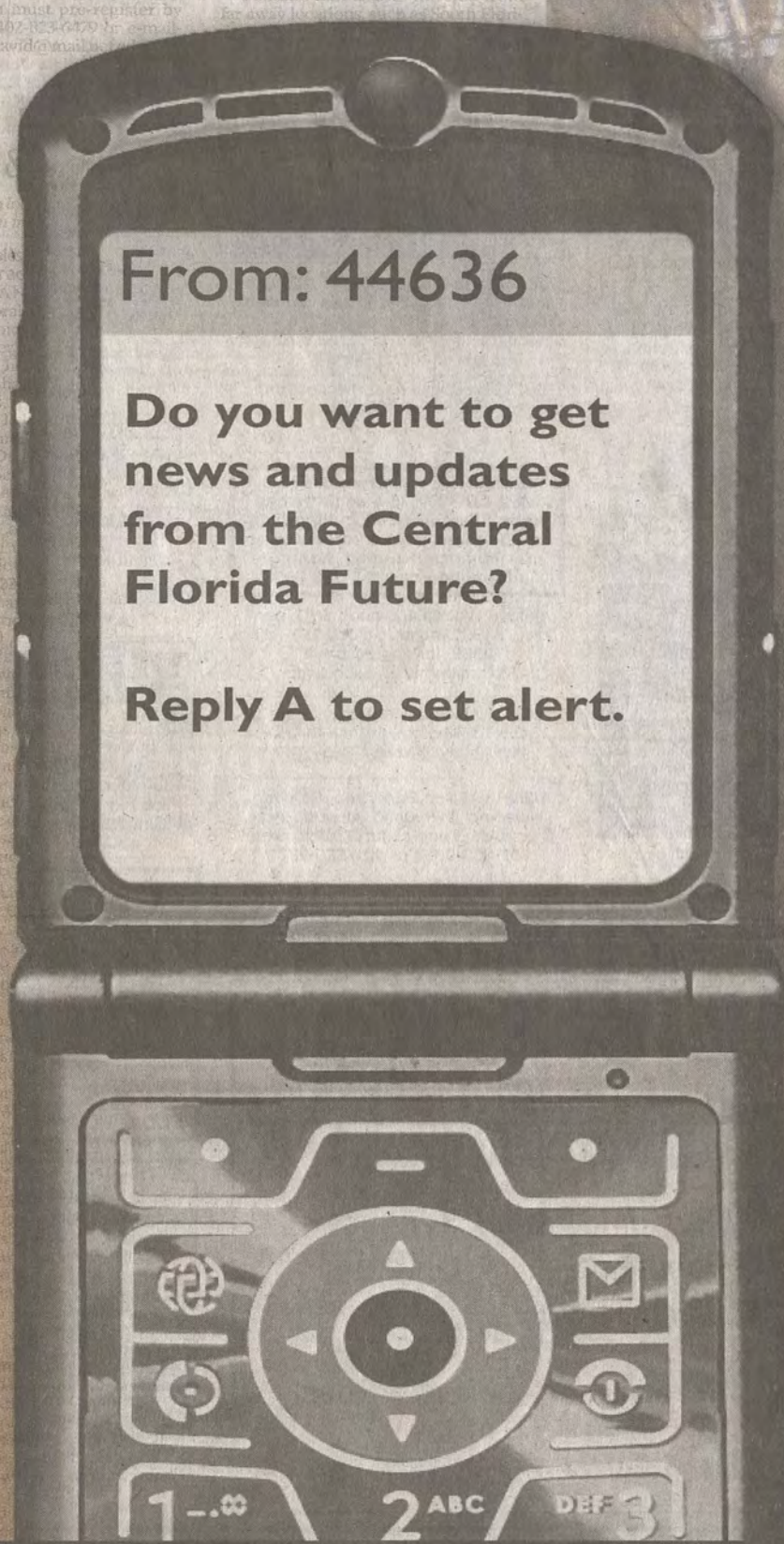
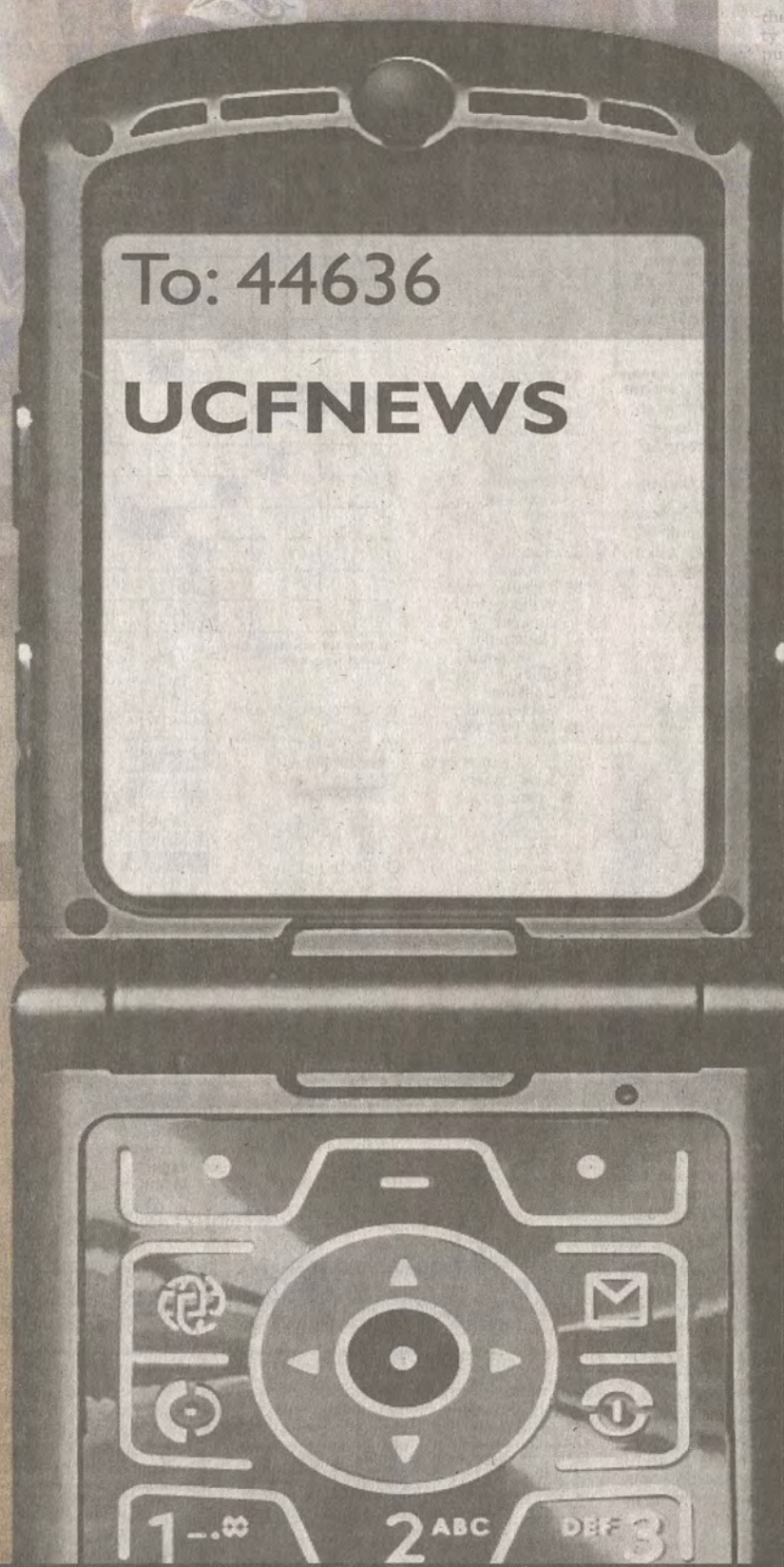
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