I-A... IT'S TIME TO PLAY
by RYAN ANDERSON
Contributing writer

The University of Central Florida Golden Knights football team ventures into the uncharted waters of Division I-A this year, joining the ranks of the University of Florida and Florida State in the NCAA's most prestigious division of athletic competition.

"These are exciting times for all involved with the UCF program," UCF head coach Gene McDowell said. "From the casual fan all the way to the biggest boosters the enthusiasm should only continue to increase as we head into the years of I-A competition."

In order to be approved by the NCAA to play Division I-A football, the Golden Knights had to meet several criteria. The first criterion the Knights met was that they play their home games in a stadium which held at least 30,000 people. The Florida Citrus Bowl holds over 72,000. Another criterion was that the Golden Knights attract an average of 17,000 fans during one of the four years prior to the move to I-A. In 1994, the Knights averaged 23,000 people per game.

"We feel that when all of the factors are taken into consideration, the time is right for the Golden Knights to join the ranks of Division I-A college football," McDowell said.

The Knights open the season against Division I-AA William and Mary Thursday night at 7:00 at the Florida Citrus Bowl. Following their opening home game, the Golden Knights will make their Division I-A debut with four consecutive road games against I-A teams South Carolina, New Mexico, Ball State, and East Carolina.

As part of the Knights move to Division I-A, 22 additional scholarships, totaling $140,000 have been awarded. In addition to the extra scholarships, three new football coaches have been added to the staff, bringing the number of coaches to 12.

World Wide Web available to students with Pegasus accounts
by TRACY WEBB
Contributing writer

There are many opportunities available for students to learn about events and activities that are happening on the University of Central Florida Campus. There are the usual ways such as bulletin boards and word-of-mouth, but there seems to be another popular form of exchanging information which might not yet be widely known. Welcome to the World Wide Web.

The information super highway has come to UCF campus in a big way. Students all over are advertising their ideas and interests through this new technological medium. Clubs and organizations are jumping on the highway as well. It is easy for students to locate these web pages through Pegasus or for a more colorful approach, Netscape. Both of these are easy to use, even for a computer novice like me. They are accessible in the computer labs on campus free of charge.

The information that is on these web pages varies from the ordinary to the extreme. The pages are both colorful and entertaining, even a little off the wall at times. Pages produced by some of the clubs and organizations on campus are extremely informative about happenings at UCF. There are also student web pages that should be checked out.

One of the better pages to connect to different clubs and organizations is the Office of Student Activities. (http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~osa.) The Volunteer UCF web page is also helpful (http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~vucf/). This page includes the newsletter for different volunteer opportunities as well as links to other nonprofit organizations that are offering volunteer opportunities.

Tim Dady, The Office of Student Activities Technology assistant, writes and maintains both the OSA and VUCF web pages. "Web pages are important to find information on clubs and organizations and to interact with other members," Dady said.

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The USDANatural Resources Conservation Service will de- and sale will be held on the campus on The Green near the Student Center overhang from "areas of pinewoods and marshes..." The program is free at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 3rd in downtown Orlando. For info, call 366-8063.

Music Search '96 is currently accepting submissions of original material (three-song cassette tape). All entries must be postmarked no later than September 30, 1996. The winner will receive a recording package that includes: 5,000 CD's, studio time, radio promotion and distribution. Interested parties can call 1(888) 8MUSIC8 for more information.

On September 22 the American Heart Association will present the 1996 Metro Orlando Healthy Choice American Heart Walk along with Florida Hospital at Lake Eola beginning at 7:30 a.m. For more info, about taking a walk, please call 843-1330.

Bob Stormcrow Sanders is appearing at Java Jabbers on Friday, August 30th, Tuesday, September 3rd and Tuesday, September 10th at 9 p.m. Sanders will also appear at Caffe Da Vinci on Saturday, September 7th at 8:30 p.m. This is a presentation for singers and songwriters but open to everyone with an artistically open mind.

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The who, what, when and where of the last three semesters of Student Government.

by DARREN CROVITZ Special to The Future

Sworn into office along with Student Body President Miguel Torregrosa on August 10th, 1995, Vice-President Frank Amoros summarized the aspirations of the new SGA administration: “We are looking forward to a great year!”

Unfortunately for both Torregrosa and Amoros, the next six months would prove disastrous as accusations of statute violation and general mismanagement of student monies would culminate in the shutdown of student government by UCF President John Hitt in the spring of ’96.

Even before the Torregrosa/Amoros team took office last fall, problems had arisen with the ticket. The newly-elected SGA President and Vice-President usually take office in May, but election violations related to campaign overspending kept the two out of office for the entire summer, punished with a three-month suspension.

Finally taking office at the beginning of the fall semester, Torregrosa and Amoros quickly set to business accomplishing campaign issues. Problems, however, again appeared. Citing his belief that interim government appointments were “unethical,” Torregrosa rescinded all SGA nominations made during the presidency of Mike Hess over the summer, including the posts of three election commissioners. Filling these last posts would continue to be a particularly nagging problem for the SGA in the coming months.

Torregrosa and Amoros ignored negative press for the remainder of the fall semester, and in a January statement the President looked back upon his first months as a time of “progress.” Torregrosa mentioned several accomplishments, including free Pegasus accounts for students, public forums to increase communication between the SGA and the student body, and the October success of “Reggae Sun Splash.” The spring semester, however, soon revealed cracks in the facade of student government.

Torregrosa protested, claiming ignorance of the spending rules and blaming the mistakes on the lack of a “learning period” for his administration. As more attention highlighted the questionable spending decisions, Torregrosa admitted fault, “It may be illegal, and it may be unethical. It’s in that gray area.” Violations included such spending as $800 for fraternity advertising and all-expense paid trip for 20 students to attend the University of Florida’s Gator Growl Homecoming under the guise of a Florida Student Association meeting in Gainesville. Additional reports of questionable spending included purchases of personal laptop computers for senate committee chairs and football game tickets, on the grounds that the purchase of these items was improper because they did not benefit the student body in general.

Dissonance within the President’s staff soon underlined the growing controversy. As Torregrosa publicly disputed Amoros’ claims as to who ultimately authorized the increased spending for the event, Torregrosa claimed that his Vice-President was responsible, and accused Amoros (who had begun his own campaign for President in the upcoming elections) of political maneuvering to avoid blame.

On Feb. 9, Miguel Torregrosa suspended the 1996 SGA presidential elections, citing a lack of confirmed election officials, including election commissioners. The election commissioner issue had dogged Torregrosa since the fall, and resulted in several abrupt dismissals, appointments, and resignations. Torregrosa claimed that postponing the elections would allow the necessary slots to be filled so that a fair election could take place.

Spring elections, however, did not come about, and the fate of the Torregrosa administration would soon become apparent. On March 12th, UCF President John Hitt held a press conference to announce the suspension of the entire legislative and executive branches of student government until the fall of 1996. Accompanied by Vice-President of Student Affairs Le Vester Tubbs, Hitt also suspended the SGA constitution and elections. Hitt cited “questionable actions” involving student fees as the impetus for his decision, and noted that a special committee would oversee distribution of student funds over the summer, while a Community Advisory Board would oversee student government.
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STUDENT GOVERNMENT

From SG, page 4: review Student Government Statutes and recommend appropriate modifications.

Community reaction to Hitt’s verdict was mixed but vociferous. While Amoros was openly criticized by students at the press conference, a movement protesting Hitt’s decision culminated in a lawsuit filed against President Hitt, Le Vester Tubbs, and the Board of Regents by Kevin Koenig, a suspended SG senator (the lawsuit has since been dismissed against Tubbs and the BOR, but remains pending against Hitt.)

Commenting on the situation after several months of reflection, Tubbs sees the mistakes made by Torregrosa and Amoros over the past year as a product, in some part, of their earlier 3-month suspension. He suspects that their only way to deal “too much, too fast,” upon entering office, and in doing so, violated the statutes of spending. Asked, in light of the notorious media attention and fallout from the affair, whether he thought his recommendation to Dr. Hitt for SG suspension was in the best interest of the student body, Tubbs maintains that under the same circumstances, he would follow a similar path. The system of checks between the executive and legislative branches of student government, he explains, had been compromised, and suspension was the only choice remaining. “We had to ask ourselves,” Tubbs said. “How do you solve the problem? What options do we have?”

Tubbs is quick to point out the positives of student government. “I am proud of the SG tradition at UCF. I believe it’s one of the best in the state.”

With presidential elections slated for the third week in September and senate elections following a month later, he fully expects student government to rebound from last year’s problems. He assures students to become active in the election process. For those disillusioned students who have become inured to student government and cynical towards its uses, Tubbs has these succinct, constructive remarks. “Get involved. Change the system.”

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Members must meet the qualifications for participation in campus activities outlined in The Golden Rule.

Application deadline: September 4

Applications are available at the Student Center Information Desk and at the Student Union office, Student Activities Center (Wild Pizza) room 102.

For more information, call the Student Union office at 823-2117

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**Price:** $2450

### IBM Aptiva Bundle

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Letters From Readers

Letter from the editor:

So there I was putting this section together for the start of the fall semester when I ran into a mirror snap: There were practically no Opinion writers or columnists other than myself. This is a situation we editors call "a huge problem." HELPL I need writers (or just people who can pretend they're writers). I'm not too picky at the moment. I hope you can help me out here and I won't have to resort to using really, really large font sizes.

E-mail to the editor:

Hi Dave! Do these pretend writers get paid? How much?

Dane Sanpang

Sarcastic response from the editor:

HA!! HA!! Ha! Whew, good one. No, sadly, our columnists don't get paid for writing. But if you're going into any sort of job that requires literacy, being a writer looks great on your resume. Subliminal message: I need writers. Editorially yours,

D. Swartz Jr.

Opinion E-mail:
cffuture@gdi.net

Opinion E-mail:
futureresolution@outlook.com

CFF Online:
http://www.gdi.net/
cff/cff.html

Central Florida Future

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Can I interest anyone in writing?

David Swartz Jr.
Opinion Editor

I think it's a good one. Let me explain how the Opinion section will work.

One of the first changes you'll notice is that column names have been dispensed with. For instance, I am no longer writing "A Little Twit" columns.

I'm thinking this: if your column's heading is "A Socialist's View on Library Book Return Policy," the only articles you're going to win are ones on library book return policy as seen from a Socialist point of view, and newspapers are check-full of those articles as it is. Under the new format, writers will be either Guest Columnists (the first article), Contributing Columnists (articles two through five) or Staff Columnists (articles six through 200, after which the writer will be known as "That Extremely Witty Person Who We All Wish Would Shut Up Already"). As an extra bonus, Staff Columnists will also get their mug shots in the paper.

Another new feature of the section is a sidebar of Letters From Readers. It is hoped that this will stir up a lot of ideas and inject a constant stream of fresh ideas and opinions in the section. As far as I'm concerned, readers' letters are the most important part of the section; they are a good sample of campus views. I hope you all will help me out with the letters and I won't have to resort to making them up like this that Dear Abby lady does. (Note: Libel, like that Dear Abby quip, isn't welcomed in this section; it's up to you, our readers, and fairly certain it would never be printed. For instance, I am no longer writing a Dear Abby column, so you won't see any Dear Abby letters from this point on.)

As for the second two options I'll actually have to type your article in, which means that I might inadvertently make errors such as misspelling your name, misstating your opinion, saying that you want to be just like Dennis Rodman, etc.

Post Script: Hey folks, it doesn't matter if you haven't mastered the English language yet and you're an amateur writer. We're all learning. The first time I sent in a column I was nervous and fairly certain it would never be printed. Now I'm editor of the section, and nepotism wasn't even involved! Join Team CFF and be a part of the action.

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Reeling in the Summer

Hot Flicks, Warm Duds and a Few Cool Movies

by Dean G. Lewis
Film Critic

Hollywood’s idea for summer has always been to entice moviegoers of all ages to come and sit in air-conditioned, jam-packed movie houses and watch two hours of film schlock. The lure can be satisfying for some, especially for bona fide film lovers as myself. Yet as I think back to the summer of 1996, disappointment and nausea fills my heart. My veins were clogged with remakes, sequels, big dramas with small brains, sappy family fare, an overblown Travolta salary, an unforgivable Carrey, and one boring golf comedy.

Of course, I have not viewed all of the summer films, so I will limit my remarks to those I have seen. Compared to last year’s sultry blitz, 96 can’t even get past the knees. Last year, three of my top five films were released before the Fourth of July: Smoke, The Bridges of Madison County, and The Postman salvaged my respect for a time in the year when big pictures mean big bucks. Little films> never bring in stellar grosses unless they’re hits on the art-house circuit. Some are, most are not.

This summer we were treated with the explosive and visionary Trainspotting, the most successful Indie film to rock the Westies since Four Weddings and a Funeral (1994). John Sayles offered up his best work since 1987’s Matewan with Lone Star, his closely observed declaration on race and family relations in the contemporary Southwest. A surprise knockout at the Florida Film Festival, Desolation Angels by director/writer Tim McCann is a blunt and stunning observation on acquaintance rape. A Time To Kill proved John Grisham novels can have brains. Meg Ryan and Denzel Washington acted flawlessly in Ed Zwick’s Courage Under Fire, the first Hollywood pic to deal with the Gulf War. Fire was appropriately praised by the Pentagon for its sensitivity and seriousness. If only more films were as brave. High-budget action flicks are the safest bets to snare top dollar, so why not have Arnie flex his Terminator muscles in the inane Eraser? Why not have a crude marketing campaign pump interest and hype for the sci-fi bonanza, Independence Day? Jan de Bont’s (Speed) Twister
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rocking Amish band. Only in the movies. Eddie Murphy crossed the magical $100 million mark with *The Nutty Professor*. The makeup is favorite to nab an Oscar nomination. The Brit import *Cold Comfort Farm* was interestingly funny. Michael Keaton acted his heart out in *Multiplicity*, a likable romp that made human cloning a household name. *Matilda*, directed by Danny Devito, turned Roald Dahl’s book into a charming fable on childhood strength and tolerance. It even featured the excellent Pam Ferris as a cruel school principal. Again, bet Oscar come March. Not all comedies were worth valuable beach time. *Tin Cup* not only reminded me how boring golf is but reaffirmed the fact that sports films are a dying species. Jack, in trying for both the drama and the comedy, succeeded only halfway. This mediocre exercise would have been far worse if it wasn’t for director Francis Ford Coppola and its star Robin Williams. Other misguided hybrids included *Alaska*, *The Frighteners*, and *Phenomenon*.

Summer aside, it is now time to think Fall. Oscar movies will be out shortly, yet we’ll probably have to wait until January or February to see them. I pray the cooler months ahead will not be as limp. Studio execs are always happy, though, this time of the year. Nine summer films are already poised for blockbuster status. Having grossed millions, they are reminders as to why the movie industry will never change. Big bucks are hard to pass up these days, especially in a world as prosperous and lucrative as Hollywood.
“A Dog Came into the Barroom,” “Miss her Anyway” and lyrics like “And if I had a car that was ruhlin’ I’ll be sure I’d have no money for gasoline.” It is hard to imagine much else. Musically, they incorporate guitar, banjo, violin, mandolin, bass, drums and accordion. The lyrics may seem a little cliche, and maybe they are, but these guys pull it off so that it’s just cool enough not to be redneck. This would be a great album to pop in while your sitting around with your buddies, smoking cigars and playing poker, and wondering why you’re not dating that beautiful girl in your contemporary English class.

I really enjoyed Love in Reverse’s i was dog e.p. that was released just a little while back. The new album is not as good, but it’s not bad just the same. The band itself reminds me of a cross between Tool and Candlebox. The thing is, there is something about this band that I like more than either of those two. The lead vocalist, Michael Frentino, has a compelling voice that is enjoyable. This CD consists of 12 tracks. Here’s a sample of the lyrics, if you’re interested in that sort of thing. It is from the opening track “Sinner Car.” Get into my super car/I’ll take you there—I’ll take you there/get into my super car/I’ll take you there— I will I swear. All right, they’re not the deepest lyrics ever written, but the music is still pretty good. Remember the Beatles? Baby, you can drive my car.
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On football players from the south:
"A guy got fired for saying this but I'm gonna say it anyway 'cause I don't give a shit. We bred the best on best through years of slavery and we still the hottest shit comin' baby. We the deep South. We been runnin' all our lives. We got raw-bone athletes, baby—thanks to the old South. Now you may say 'Nate bullshittin' but I'm bringin' it to you how it really is."

On southern living:
"You go down to south Florida bro, it's some hardcore brothers down there. And when they find their outlets, when they decide to leave them drugs alone and get they life together, you find some hardcore brothers. Ain't no harder livin' than on the street. You take a brother off the streets, discipline him a little bit, let him know that football can be his way out of there—he can already deal with adversity—fourth and one ain't nothin' to him. Comin' up with the big play ain't pressure, bro. Pressure is running from a bullet. Pressure is packing on a drive by. Now you may say 'Nate bullshittin', but I'm bringin' it to you how it really is."

On college football players in the state of Florida:
"We see a way out and we run with it. We're from that hard environment. We're more competitive. Once we decide to play football, we give it our heart. And we judge each other more by our heart than our athletic ability. We hate people that choke. You gotta understand, the only thing that holds Florida players back is that Proposition 48. If it wasn't for that we'd probably be going to the pros at a rate of ten a draft—in the first round."

—Now you may say "Nate's bullsh"...well you know the rest!

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With the Golden Knights move to Division I-A, Florida is now home to four schools with football teams in that division. That I-A gridlock is causing at least one Florida college football fan to say four is a crowd.

"I feel that Division I-A has been saturated with three Florida schools already participating at that level," Ben O'Steen said. "I would much rather see UCF stay in the smallest classification and work to become a powerhouse in that division. The fan participation would then come from the UF, FSU and Miami fans along with the UCF supporters."

However, not everyone shares O'Steen's belief that Florida can't support another Division I-A football program. "I think it is great that UCF is making the move to Division I-A," UCF alum and season ticket holder Zach Quandt said. "I'm looking forward to watching us perform at the new level."

After playing Division I-A teams Florida State and Hawaii last season in preparation for the move to I-A, the Golden Knights will continue to ease into Division I-A play with a transitional schedule this year that mixes I-A teams South Carolina and Georgia Tech with I-AA teams Sanford and Illinois State. But the Knights have little time to prepare before the 1999 season, when the team opens with Purdue, Florida and Georgia Tech, plus Georgia and Auburn later on.

"Scheduling can be a problem as you make the transition from I-AA to I-A," Sloan said. "We do have the advantage, however, of being in Orlando and playing in the Florida Citrus Bowl. This gives us the ability to compile a competitive schedule without conference affiliation."

Last year, in preparation for the move to I-A, the Golden Knights unveiled a new logo and mascot to usher in the new era at a press conference at the Hard Rock Cafe in Orlando. At the unveiling, Sloan stressed the importance a logo can have on a football team's image.

"As UCF advances to the next level of collegiate athletics, it's important to have a marketable and highly recognizable logo," Sloan said.

With a new logo and a Division I-A program, the UCF athletic department hopes to capitalize on the highly lucrative market of team apparel and other related merchandise. UCF hopes to copy the success of other I-A powerhouses in Florida in the area of sports merchandise giving the blue and orange of The University of Florida a little competition; the black and gold of UCF.

The football program at UCF began as a Division III team. The Golden Knights played in Division III from 1979 to 1981 before moving to Division II from 1982-1989. Most recently, the Golden Knights played in Division I-AA from 1990-95. The Golden Knights have an overall record of 97-86-1 going into the inaugural Division I-A season.

When the Golden Knights take the field this season it will mark the end of one successful era of football and the beginning of another.

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Amazing Student Discounts
Golden Knights’ Defense Is Ready For I-A Challenge

by TIM SPRINGER
Sports Editor

It’s a question that baffles the mind of college students throughout the country: Does size really matter? You better believe it does, especially at the Division I-A level.

As the UCF football program enters its inaugural season of college football at the highest level, speculation surrounds the Golden Knights’ chances of fairing well defensively.

“We’re very small defensively,” said head coach Gene McDowell. “We’ve been doing some good things [in practice], but our lack of size will show during the season.”

Lacking the necessary size to match-up with the likes of South Carolina or Georgia Tech may hurt the Golden Knights’ chances of upsetting one of the tough tests on the UCF schedule. But senior linebacker Nakia Reddick feels there’s ways around size.

“We have a lot of speed and experience on defense this year,” Reddick said. “And the only way we can survive is to utilize our strengths to compensate for our weaknesses.”

Comparatively, the Golden Knights’ defensive line is out-weighed by Georgia Tech, South Carolina and Ball State considerably. But that shouldn’t seem surprising. The Golden Knights are still a I-AA team regardless of the classification they have been labeled with.

“Many of our starters were recruited I-AA,” McDowell said. “It will take at least three to four years before we can consider ourselves a true I-A football team.”

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Minter Brought In To Save Par

by KEITH KRAMER
Contributing writer

A divot was replaced in the Golden Knights’ golf program last week when UCF administration announced that University of Florida graduate Kipp Minter will replace former UCF golf coach Mike Shumaker.

Minter, who was named interim head coach of the men’s golf team, will be looking to get UCF golf back on it’s feet and ready for competition. Minter replaces Shumaker who, depending on who you talk to, was released/designed from the head coaching job last year for alleged misappropriation of funds.

Sloan couldn’t elaborate on the details of Shumaker’s release and said that its due to the litigation’s of the investigation on the former head coach. Shumaker was unavailable for comment.

Minter played on the University of Florida golf team from ’69 - ’73 and captained the ’73 golfing Gators to an NCAA Championship. He now takes on the role of head coach, along with his other activities that include: Senior Vice President of J. Rolfe Davis Insurance Agency, volunteer commissioner for Orlando Arena Sports Commissioner and has served on the U.S. Golf Association Junior Championship Committee since 1986.

Administrative Director of Sports, Steve Sloan, seems pleased with Minter and what he has done in the community.

“We are fortunate to be able to obtain the services of someone with this type of background,” Sloan said.

Minter, however, will shortly be joined by a counterpart for the women’s golf team. Sloan expects to announce the new women’s head coach later this week.