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UCF Report

Volume 20 • No. 6 • Oct. 10, 1997

A publication for faculty and staff

UCF reaching for stars — literally

Pentagon approves \$11.2 million 'Photon' satellite contract

Students and faculty are taking UCF's motto seriously. "Reach for the stars" is more than a slogan now that the Pentagon's Ballistic Missile Defense Organization has approved an \$11.2 million contract to design and build a laser communication satellite.

Industry professionals will work with UCF students and faculty on the project. The satellite is scheduled to be launched from a space shuttle in

2000. It will be the first satellite built completely in Florida.

The satellite's mission is to demonstrate the feasibility of sending messages from space via laser beams. If successful, that technology could lead to space-based laser telecommunication systems.

"For example, [it could be] a new way of communicating with airplanes in flight," says UCF's Ron Phillips, director of the Florida Space Institute. "Pilots could get weather information, each passenger could watch their own live TV channel since a laser beam can carry a billion TV signals. There could be video conferences while flying.

"While it has military applications, our main focus is commercial use."

The satellite will be small (20 inches by 20

inches) and light (150 pounds) so it can be launched either from a "Hitchhiker" canister on the shuttle or with a small rocket. In low earth orbit it will pass over a test site at the UCF-led Florida Space Institute at Kennedy Space Center five times a day for 11-13 months.

Most of the leading-edge technologies will remain on the ground. One laser will track the satellite as it passes over. A second will be aimed at its reflectors and bounced back to a sensor array at the institute test site. That second laser will carry the messages, and will be designed to alleviate interference caused by atmospheric turbulence. It will be the first time this kind of laser messaging

Please see SATELLITE, page 3

University creates two new centers

20th century medicine men brewing up cures for modern illnesses

Discovering a miracle drug takes, well, a miracle.

It's a slow, meticulous and highly expensive process. Figure about \$900 million to \$1 billion for development of one drug, top to bottom.

But a lot of time and money often leads to the mere possibility of developing a drug or, worse, dead ends.

Just ask Howard Miles.

The UCF chemistry professor has spent 27 years in painstaking research, creating the groundwork for possible drug discoveries. His work entails extracting substances from plants from around the world in search of biological compounds previously unknown to medical science. Several of these substances show the ability to help in the war against some of the major ills that plague the human race.

The work by Miles and a handful of other UCF researchers has spawned the creation of a new institute at UCF that will take the battle to a much bigger arena. Their combined expertise had created a critical mass with nowhere to go. That is, until now.

Please see DRUGS, page 5



Chemistry professor Howard Miles' lab is a cornerstone of his research on plants in his efforts to discover medicines.

Space Age science allows researchers to tinker with elements

When Vimal Desai first came to UCF from Johns Hopkins University in 1984, he was promised the engineer's equivalent of a rose garden.

"And the university has delivered," says the director of the newly formed Advanced Materials Processing and Analysis Center. "I'm very happy, but, of course, it has taken awhile."

He began in what was then the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department.

"I was the materials portion of the department. There was no one else. They stuck me out in some portable, due to space shortages, but things have changed since then."

And how.

The new center, called AMPAC for short, brings together approximately 30 UCF researchers from the College of Engineering, CREOL, Florida Solar Energy Center, and the Departments of Physics and Chemistry. Since more than two dozen UCF labs are already aligned with the center, it only makes sense to focus on existing strengths:

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Oct.

Next issue of The UCF Report is Oct. 24 • Deadline is noon, Oct. 15

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Memos

To: All departments
From: Jack Winstead, Purchasing
Subject: Annual contract for car rental

The University of Central Florida Purchasing Department has negotiated an annual contract with the vendor listed below for use by all UCF departments on the main campus and Research Park. It should be noted that the state of Florida recently issued a new rental vehicle contract with Avis Rent-A-Car systems for travelers on flights into airports in the continental United States.

Rental rate for the state's contract are available for trips from the campus to other

locations around the state of Florida, and is intended to replace the previous arrangement with Budget Rent-A-Car. The effective date of the new UCF contract was July 1-June 30. Acquisitions of these products/services shall be made under the terms, prices, and conditions set forth in this notice.

- Vendor: Thrifty Car Rental, c/o Holiday Inn-UCF, 12125 High Tech Ave., Orlando, FL 32817-1475
- Contact: Theresa Strittmatter, (407) 384-3050
- Items covered: Rental vehicles are available at the Holiday Inn-UCF. Note that this contract is not available for drivers 25 years or younger. Any use of this contract should be coordinated through the travel section of Finance and Accounting. Contact Alicia Mercado-Ruiz for details, 384-2018. All questions concerning this contract should be directed to the Purchasing Department, ADM 360, attn: Jack Winstead, 823-2661.

Regents ask for details on '2+2' partnerships

State's growing enrollment has BOR seeking solutions; UCF might have answer

UCF laid its chips on the table, and now "the big boss" — the Board of Regents — is calling for the university to show its hand.

In September, President John Hitt and other university presidents proposed solutions to a BOR committee on ways to meet the demands of the growing number of students expected to enter Florida's higher education institutions during the next 10 years.

Come Oct. 16 in Tallahassee, the Long Range and Strategic Planning Committee will expect to see some particulars from UCF. The committee has requested budgetary details on how UCF would handle the influx of students and construction plans for the next 10 years, UCF Provost Gary Whitehouse says.

"They want details on how we would further implement the Partnership Access Model proposed by [the president] as a solution to the State University System's problem of the growing student population," he says.

The model developed at UCF involves partnerships with community colleges, which builds on the "2+2" philosophy that makes the transition from community college to the university seamless.

"The committee wants a breakdown as to what it would cost if we created similar partnerships with other campuses in our service area, such as Lake-Sumter Community College and Valencia Community College's campus in Kissimmee,"

Whitehouse says. "Administrators at UCF and other universities have gone on record claiming they don't want their student populations to exceed the low 40,000s."

A new systemwide master plan is due to the governor and the Legislature next fall. Specific missions must be redefined for each university before that can be accomplished, Dan Holsenbeck, vice president for University Relations, says.

In other recent BOR actions, exceptions to the excess hours rule was approved. The rule requires an increase in tuition for credit hours taken beyond 115 percent of the required hours necessary to complete a particular degree program. The exceptions include hours earned through such devices as the College Level Examination Program, hours for active military personnel or military science, personal hardship or disability, and experiences that increase the value of degrees, such as internships, dual majors, Honors programs and student exchanges. Universities can propose additional exceptions to the BOR.

In a collaborative program with Florida Gulf Coast University, UCF will help the new university

provide doctorate programs in educational leadership, and curriculum and instruction. The BOR approved the partnership for implementation next year.

"It reinforces our partnership role, allowing us to use our expertise to assist them," Holsenbeck says.

Requests for modifications to UCF's campus plan were not acted on. UCF requested that 14.3 acres west of Lake Claire be opened for expansion of the university's Greek Park.

"Administrators at UCF and other universities have gone on record claiming they don't want their student populations to exceed the low 40,000s."

Gary Whitehouse

Under that plan, comparable acres were added to the Arboretum to compensate for the loss of the natural preserve. The Sierra Club voiced opposition to the plan.

UCF administrators have scheduled a meeting with Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the Sierra Club to review and confirm an assessment by a UCF consultant that determined the Lake Claire site suitable for building. William Merck, vice president for Administration and Finance, hopes that the request is on the BOR's November agenda.

— Joanne Griggs

Rockin' Rally scores for United Way

Some of proceeds from UCF-Samford game will support local charities

The Golden Knights will go for the green as well as the glory when they lock horns with Alabama's Samford University in Central Florida's Rockin' Rally for United Way on Oct. 11.

Part of the proceeds from the game and its pregame tailgate party will be donated to Heart of Florida United Way charities.

"We want to get 50,000 people into the Citrus Bowl. I don't think that's unreasonable, especially since this is an opportunity for the community to celebrate UCF football while giving to the United Way," says Karen Jennings, UCF Rockin' Rally Committee chair.

"We want to continue to be a

community partner, and there is no better way to accomplish this than to support our local United Way," President John Hitt adds. "Top-flight entertainment and a team that has captured national attention are a winning combination."

The rally, with a pregame percussion jam by the Jammitors of Walt Disney World's EPCOT, is the second of only four home games for the Golden Knights this season. A record-breaking 42,000 fans attended the first home game, against Idaho, last month. The Rockin' Rally offers the extra elements of additional entertainment and prizes donated by the UCF Alumni Association, AAA, Hard Rock Cafe,

Church Street Station, Olive Garden, Grand Cypress Florida and others.

"We want to raise more money in this game than ever before. I think we can do it. The total for the past three Rockin' Rallies is \$80,000. If we have 50,000 in the stands, we will exceed that total with this single game," Jennings says.

The festivities start at 1 p.m. on Saturday with a tailgate party at Tinker Field — where \$5 of the \$15 ticket price is earmarked for the United Way. At the Citrus Bowl, the pregame show is set for

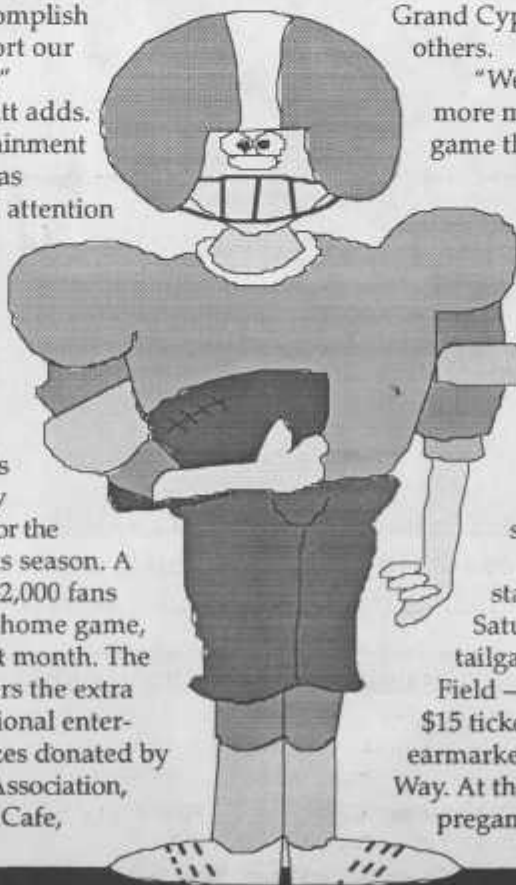
3:40 p.m., with the game's kickoff at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$8 general admission and \$15 for reserved seats, and can be purchased at the gate, at UCF's Ticket Office or through Ticketmaster. By-invitation-only tickets to the President's Box are \$50 each, with 100 percent of those dollars going to the United Way. Corporate blocks of 100 tickets are \$500, \$300 less than normal.

Jennings encourages fans to break out their dark shades at halftime so they can be super cool when Universal Studios Florida's Blues Brothers rock the Citrus Bowl.

The Rockin' Rally is one part of UCF's annual commitment to charities, with the university's goal for giving through the Florida State Employees' Charitable Campaigns an ambitious all-time high of \$90,000, primarily through payroll deduction.

Midway through the campaign, 37 percent of employees on the main campus have pledged a total of \$74,000.

— Susan Loden



Short Takes

Workshop's goal: teach healthy living

A free workshop on wellness awareness for everyone will be presented by the College of Education on Dec. 6, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. It will be held in the College of Education Building.

Topics will include: motivation, nutritional awareness, strength training and flexibility, wellness for children and seniors, stress management, cardiovascular fitness, injury prevention and care, wellness self evaluation, corporate wellness and "Mind, Body, Spirit."

Guest speakers include doctors, physiologists, wellness leaders, personal trainers, coaches and professors. For information, call 823-2034.



Bargain sale good deal for charities

Volunteer UCF, in conjunction with the Heart of Florida United Way, is selling tickets to Gayfers Great Benefit Sale. Admittance to the Nov. 8 sale is by ticket only, and will be 6-10 a.m. at all four of Gayfers' Orlando locations. Tickets are \$5 apiece, with \$4 going to Volunteer UCF. For information, call 823-6471 or 823-2370.

Clay artist shapes campus workshop

Peter Voulkos, widely regarded as the leader of ceramic artists in contemporary America, will be at UCF for a two-day workshop, Nov. 13 and 14.

A free lecture and slide show for the public will be in the Visual Arts Building, room 132, 7 p.m. on Nov. 13. Now in his 70s, Voulkos' work in the 1950s revolutionized ceramics and is credited for moving pottery from a craft to an art. For information, call 568-0969.



Upcoming holiday

The next universitywide holiday is just weeks away. Veterans Day is Nov. 11.

This issue

This issue of *The UCF Report* is for the weeks of Oct. 10-16 and Oct. 17-23. It is the 6th issue of fiscal year 1997-98. *The UCF Report* is published 23 times a year (every other week in the fall and spring, and every third week in the summer).

The UCF Report

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Callers can bank on operators

When do classes begin? What if I lose my UCF card? Is my financial aid check in the mail?

Inquiring minds by the thousands want to know, and, consequently, end up clogging UCF's telephone lines trying to find the answers. The university is testing a new method of handling such calls.

The telephone bank is expected to rescue UCF staff flooded by calls and exasperated callers trying to get through on busy phone lines. The new system diverts all phone calls made to the Human Resources' benefits section, Parking Services, Student Accounts and the UCF All-Campus Card office to a team of trained operators — mostly students — who work from an office in the Physical Plant. Four or five workers are on duty, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and they use a booklet of frequently asked questions as their guide.

"Team members immediately forward any calls they can't handle to the appropriate department, explaining the problems so callers don't have to go through their entire stories again," says bank coordinator Sandy Cherepow, administrative assistant for the Division of Administration and

Finance. "With the telephone team taking care of routine calls, staff members are free to handle the more complex problems."

For instance, if a caller wants to know about paying tuition by credit card, a team member can handle it. But if a student wants to know about a fee being deferred by Financial Aid she is referred to that department. "The members of the team do not have access to classified information, so calls about personal status must be taken care of by staff," Cherepow explains.

Joyce Clampitt, associate vice president, came up with the telephone bank idea and Kay Harward, office assistant for Physical Plant, supervises the team of operators.

"Both [Cherepow and Harward] have done an outstanding job of recruiting and training a very service- and student-oriented group," Clampitt says.

Cherepow describes the telephone team as an experiment. If it is effective, the concept may be expanded to include the entire university.

— Joanne Griggs

1,000 runners expected for race

An estimated 1,000 runners are expected on campus for the 19th annual Threshold 5K Run for the Kids on Saturday morning, Oct. 11.

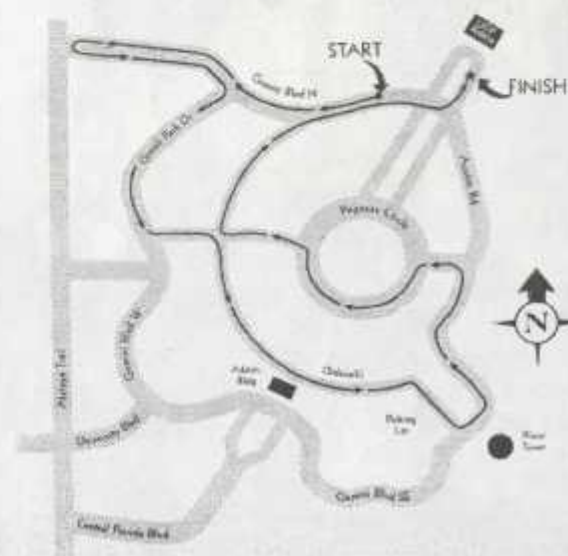
For the race, several campus roads and parking lots will be closed to traffic from 7:50 a.m. to 9 a.m. Roads that will be closed are Gemini Boulevard North, Pegasus Circle and Greek Park Drive (see map).

The run, which is sponsored by the UCF Bookstore, benefits Threshold Inc., a local residential treatment program that serves autistic and other severely behaviorally dysfunctional children and young adults. The program started in 1976 and continues to serve as a training site for UCF students studying psychology, exceptional education and communicative disorders.

The run has been held at UCF since 1979. In that time, \$200,000 has been raised to support Threshold.

Participants can register for \$20 on the morning of the event at the UCF Arena, where the run will start and finish.

— Celeste Miller



THRESHOLD 5K
RUN FOR THE KIDS
OCTOBER 11, 1997 • 8am



Shot in the arm

An unidentified UCF employee waits for a flu shot during the Employee's Benefit Fair on Sept. 3.

SATELLITE, continued from page 1

will be tried.

"Since the Greek wars, we have sent messages by light, turning the source on and off. We are sending messages by changing the frequency of the laser, a leading-edge technology," Phillips says.

"It's wonderful when we can showcase the existing talent in the space industry here and the partnerships between government and industry," says Marty Wanielista, dean of the College of Engineering. "Combined with the satellite tracking dish NASA has donated to the university, this makes us a gateway to the universe."

The Florida Space Institute is a partnership of Florida colleges and universities and the Spaceport Florida Authority in cooperation with NASA and the Air Force. With technical support from the Boeing Corp., the satellite will be built in Hanger AM at Cape Canaveral Air Station. A clean room and other support facilities are already under construction there.

The three-year contract will see \$4 million for Boeing and subcontractors from Spaceport Florida. UCF will administer the remaining \$7 million.

— Jerry Klein

Partnership bridges Atlantic Ocean

Lessons on Western culture brings 10 Moldovans to UCF

One high-level Moldovan on a recent mission to UCF developed a taste for Florida cultural aberrations: alligator meat and factory outlet stores. However, it's new knowledge of the American legal system, government and society that she and nine of her countrymen are bringing back to their once-Communist homeland.

The 10-person delegation — a doctor, a newspaper editor, several lawyers, an architectural chief and the

rest public servants — spent four weeks in central Florida in a unique partnership with UCF. While here, the Moldovans lived with counterparts and families. With guidance from the College of Health and Public Affairs, the visitors from the tiny, emerging democracy received specialized instruction and went on day trips to courtrrooms, hospitals, a landfill, an energy center, UCF's police department and beyond.

Director of UCF's Eastern European Linkage Institute Raymond Shapek — a sort of modern Thomas Jefferson, guiding former Communist Block republics in their development of new governments and social systems — won a U.S. Information

Agency contract to bring the guests to America.

The Moldovans, Shapek says, made their own unique, spontaneous contribution in Orlando.

"On a tour of a new visitation center where abused children can visit with their [suspect] parents in safety, a volunteer was having trouble putting together about a dozen bookcases," he recounts. "This was delaying the opening of the center. The Moldovan men, on their own, without understanding what was being said, picked up tools and put the furniture together, working several hours. They would not leave until the job was done."

Creative communication methods

broke the language barrier for hosts such as Kathy Cook, a legal studies professor. She speaks neither Russian nor Romanian. "When I wanted to say 'beef,' I would say 'moo.'"

Cook is pleased that she had an opportunity to get to know her Moldovan visitor.

"We enjoyed comparing everyday life as well as professional life," she says. "The people who came here are leaders of [Moldova's] future. I feel this visit will have tremendous influence over the development of many, many programs."

"It's so important to see different cultures and people. We live in a worldwide community."

— Susan Loden



A Moldovan visitor tests UCF Police Department bikes.

UCF cops help cuff crime in Moldova

The long arm of the law will stretch across the Atlantic Ocean to lend a hand to police in the emerging democracy of Moldova if all goes as planned.

UCF Police Sgt. Randy Mingo connected with his once-Communist counterparts when a delegation of 10 Moldovans spent a month in central Florida earlier this fall on a mission to learn about Western life and methods. Through the cultural exchange, Mingo learned that the European country's population of about 4.5 million — with fewer than 20,000 police officers — is ill-equipped to fight crime. A 70 percent alcoholism rate, a black market and organized crime make the problem even more difficult.

"They only have foot patrols. One of the most expensive things there is gasoline," Mingo explains.

His solution: equip Moldovan police with bicycles — and perhaps a

few motorcycles — discarded by American police stations. Mingo's wish list also includes seized firearms, which normally are melted down.

"They now have military weapons, which are more devastating. Picture police armed with AK-47 machine guns. What we are sending are sidearms, which are not as deadly or threatening," he says.

Along with firearms will go bulletproof vests, police radios, computers and other key elements of modern public safety.

"They lack all fundamental equipment of police work," Mingo says.

He plans to solicit for these surplus supplies through the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators. The U.S. government, through a program designed to assist new democracies, will pay shipping costs, Mingo says.

— Susan Loden

Faculty Senate labors through tough issues

Concerns center on Workers' Compensation, Teaching Incentive Program

Workers' Compensation for faculty representing UCF during non-paid outings and the possibility that Teaching Incentives Program awards will be skipped this year were the main topics of debate at September's Faculty Senate meeting.

Faculty senators fear that employees injured at non-UCF events — even when they are representing the university — might not be covered by Workers' Compensation. Since those concerns were raised, a policy has been clarified that allows employees representing UCF to file Travel Authorization Requests for non-paid trips. The non-paid outings will be recorded in the department or college in case there is a need to apply for any type of insurance, says Bill Merck, vice president for Administration and Finance.

"It is unnecessary paperwork for Finance and Accounting to handle such incidents [Travel Authorization Requests] since reimbursement is not required," he explains.

"But TARs need to be filed at the department and kept in the dean's office. This will show official authorization and prove that the traveler was acting as an agent of UCF for insurance purposes in the event something happens that would require filing for coverage."

Merck believes the documents would help if

the traveler is questioned by insurance companies.

The second issue discussed by the Faculty Senate centered on the Teaching Incentives Program.

UCF administrators have asked for faculty feedback on whether or not to award TIP dollars this year. The Legislature did not fund the program this year, but there are some funds available because of previously awarded professors retiring or leaving the university.

"The provost [Gary Whitehouse] said the funds must be spent this year, but can be used for teaching projects instead of awarding them to professors through the normal TIP process," Senate Chair Dick Tucker says. "The deans felt that since there would be so few to award that it might promote divisiveness among the faculty."

Although a number of senators voiced strong disapproval of such a plan, the Personnel Committee was asked to examine the issue more closely and to make a recommendation to the Faculty Senate.

Tucker also requested that the senate forward a message to the provost thanking him for responding to the senate's request that information on departmental budgets be made more readily available to faculty.

The Undergraduate Committee reported that grade forgiveness, drops and grade inflation will be on its agenda. The Personnel Committee said they are currently drawing up standards for the Sustained Performance Evaluation Report that will go into effect this year.

— Joanne Griggs

Undergraduate Policy and Curriculum Committee

Faculty Senate members: Karl Heinrich Barsch; Husain Kassim; Morgan Wang; Kuppapalle Vajravelu; James Campbell; Susan Hubbard; Roy Pickering; Maria Christina Santana; James Gilkeson; Mary Romujue; Cynthia Hutchinson; Lee Cross; Michael Mullens; Carol Bast; Ana Leon; Saleh Naser

Non-Senate faculty members: Anthony Byrd; Michael Luckett; Alexander Wood; Mansoor Mollaghasemi; Takis Kasparis; Thomas Edwards

Other members (non-voting): Carol Hinshaw; Gary Whitehouse; Terri Fine

Undergraduate Course Review Committee

Rene Rodriguez; Elmar Fetscher; Bradley Braun; Kristy Ellis-Reynolds; Judy Olson; Sharon Hiett; Darrell Linton; Parveen Wahid; Karen Dow; Kenneth Kazmerski; Thomas Huddleston

Graduate Policy and Curriculum Committee

Senate Faculty members: David Gay; Jack Stout; Mark Goudreau; Thomas Martin; Julia Pet-Edwards; Linda Malone; Jack Ryalls; Gregory Frazer

Non-Senate faculty members: Foard Jones; Warren McHone; Mary Ann Lynn; Steven Sorg; Clarence Head

Other members (non-voting): Carole Hinshaw; Gary Whitehouse; Diane Jacobs; Stephen Goodman

Graduate Council

Olle Heinonen; David Kuhn; Linda Savage; William Bozeman; Juin Liou; Bernard McCarthy; Patricia Bishop

Personnel Committee

Senate Faculty members: Michael Johnson; John Leeson; Robert Reedy; Duane Davis; Carl Balado; Glenn Boreman; Yasser Hosni

Non-Senate faculty members: Joyce Lillie; Abraham Pizan; Douglas Brumbaugh; Dona Hedrick; Edward Suh

Other members (non-voting): Linda Sutton; Ida Coek

Budget and Administrative Procedures Committee

Senate Faculty members: Dwight Kiel; Anthony Major; Diana Velez; Charles Kelliher; Thomas Kubala; Gail West; Christos Christodoulou

Non-Senate faculty members: Robert Bledsoe; Thomas Evans; Nicholas Tzannes; Robert Gennara

Other members (non-voting): Roger Simmons; Gary Whitehouse; William Merck; Glenn Cunningham

Ideas chime in for campus bell tower

A 75-foot carillon bell tower could become UCF's most prominent architectural symbol if the idea strikes a harmonious chord with private donors.

A concept has been sketched that would make a tower the campus focal point, but school administrators say a bell tower is far from a reality. Money would have to be donated for the project to proceed beyond the idea stage.

"[The tower] is a concept that is being discussed," Bill Merck, vice president of Administration and Finance, says. "[But] nothing is finalized. There are no bulldozers standing by."

One idea is to place a bell tower near the Library, at the cusp of the Reflecting Pond. In conjunc-

tion with the concept, the pond would be reduced to a 60-foot diameter, circular fountain with a small waterfall, surrounded by benches and plants.

The concept foresees a black, granite-sheathed concrete monolith — which could chime on the hour and fill the air with appropriate tunes on special occasions. For some, the thought of tampering with the Reflecting Pond does not sit well.

It is possible that if the university does embrace the bell tower idea and can find funding for the project, the tower's final location could be far enough from the Reflecting Pond that the pond would remain intact. One reason the pond's redesign is being considered is its pesky algae and dirt problem,

which has been nagging campus maintenance workers for three decades.

That problem might soon be solved. Rather than cleaning the pool once every six weeks, workers spend two hours each morning skimming leaves and brushing the bottom. Also, a chlorine system has been installed.

"We're striving to maintain the Reflecting Pond," Richard Paradise, director of Physical Plant, says. "This is a 29-year problem, but my team has taken a new focus on maintaining the pool. I think we will be successful. We want that pool to be as nice and as attractive as possible for those folks out there."

— Susan Loden

MATERIALS, continued from page 1

energy, microelectronics and laser technology.

"We already have good researchers all across campus. But this will allow us to build a team to create comprehensive solutions to complex technological problems," Desai explains. "We hope to establish facilities that are so unique that we become known internationally in the three specialties we've chosen."

Materials science involves taking any type of material and changing its microstructures to strengthen and improve some of the properties that make it usable for a particular application.

"Give me the requirements, then I can tweak the materials for what you need," Desai says. "We choose the materials, the actual elements for it, figure out how best to process it and heat treat it. That changes its internal structure."

Donald Malocha of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, who specializes in solid state acoustics, says that materials dictate a lot of technology and how it works. "It's the starting point for all," he says.

One of the important goals in his specialty is reducing cost and size while increasing power.

"Fifteen years ago, it would have taken the equivalent of two rooms of equipment to match the power and complexity of the cellular phone," he says. "And look at the price of calculators. My first one cost \$350; that was in 1972. Today, they run about \$6."

Advances in materials research was critical to making that happen.

Another of the center's goals is

"We hope to establish facilities that are so unique that we become known internationally in the three specialties we've chosen."

Vimal Desai

building partnerships. Dan Lynch, president and CEO for the Economic Development Commission of Mid-Florida, says that the center will attract high-tech companies to the region and state-of-the-art facilities will impact the area's economic development. "It will enhance our region's reputation as a high-technology center," Lynch says.

Equipment valued at \$1.5 million was donated to UCF by Cirent Semiconductors, and is being installed in Research Park to open later as the Materials Characterization Facility. It will give UCF and private-sector researchers first-class capabilities, unique to the state. Other partnerships have been formed with Lockheed Martin, NASA, Pratt & Whitney, Motorola, Westinghouse and Sawtek.

The center will also create an educational boon for UCF students.

"We plan on reshaping and refining our course offerings with direct input from industries, so we are better able to prepare students for the challenging work in this field," says Desai.

— Joanne Griggs

DRUGS, continued from page 1

With the formation of UCF's Institute for Diagnostics and Drug Development, Miles and his cohorts will finally get a chance to accelerate their work pace and hand their results over to partners who will take their findings to the next level: the development of wonder drugs that will attack some of humankind's worst ravages, like cancer, cardiovascular disease, neurological disorders and the infectious diseases brought in by more and more immigrants to Florida.

"The institute was created because of Diane Jacobs [vice president for Research and Graduate Studies]," Miles says. "Glenn Cunningham [chair for the Chemistry Department] and I have discussed the possibility of such an institute since 1991, but it was her initiative that made it possible. We hope that its development parallels that of CREOL."

The institute will use existing facilities for its first few years, but additional space and equipment is anticipated with proposed expansion of the Biology and Chemistry buildings.

Molecular biologist Debopam Chakrabarti, who will be associate director for the institute along with Miles, represents the other side of the research area; Molecular Biology and Microbiology and Chemistry will be the "lead" departments in this venture. Chakrabarti specializes in studying the characteristics of genes, searching for substances that will fight malaria.

"We're hoping the institute will spark development of a local biotechnology industry in central Florida, and that it will also bring in more funding for our research."

Debopam Chakrabarti

"We examine genes for variations and see how they work," he says. "When we determine their structures, we put that information into a computer. Using that information, we have a chemist create compounds."

Chakrabarti is working to identify key proteins that are needed for the progression of malaria parasites, with the goal of targeting the critical components with chemotherapy.

"Malaria will only increase with global warming," he says.

Although drug resistance is continuing to increase with infectious diseases, pharmaceutical companies have not focused on drugs for TB and tropical diseases.



Celebrating diversity

UCF's weeklong diversity celebration brought a variety of people to campus. Here, a native American celebrates his heritage and shares it with UCF students and employees.

The center will be housed in the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Health and Public Affairs, and will involve faculty from the Departments of Chemistry, and Molecular Biology and Microbiology, Computer Science and Physics. A team of expert advisers and collaboration with Walt Disney Cancer Institute at Florida Hospital, the M.D. Anderson Cancer Institute at Orlando Regional Health Sciences Center, the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution and MBI International will help develop the institute.

"We're hoping the institute will spark development of a local biotechnology industry in central Florida," Chakrabarti says, "and that it will also bring in more funding for our research."

Both Miles and Chakrabarti believe the institute will improve the education and training of UCF students. "It will enhance our programs and give our students more opportunities for internships and for getting jobs in the area after graduation," Miles says. "We plan to develop a Ph.D. program in chemical and biomolecular sciences and that would allow many of our students to remain at UCF for their advanced work."

The institute will seek to build additional collaborations in the public and private sector.

"We especially need partnerships with the pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies to take our research to the level we want to achieve," Miles says.

— Joanne Griggs

Hitt one of alma mater's favorite sons

Austin College names UCF's president a distinguished alumnus

The University of Central Florida isn't the only higher education institution that tugs on President John Hitt's heart. Austin College, a small Presbyterian school in north central Texas, is also special to him.

It was at Austin College where Hitt met his future wife, Martha. There that he graduated cum laude in the Class of 1962. There that his career in higher education first took root.

His alma mater's national alumni

association will honor UCF's president — and three other alumni — during the school's Homecoming festivities later this month with its Distinguished Alumni Award. Hitt is the only university or college president in the history of Austin College to be named a distinguished alumnus, Susan Brown of the school's alumni association says.

"This is a great honor. This institution [Austin College] means so much to Martha and me. It's something I will cherish," Hitt says.

Austin College is where Hitt found his path in life after switching majors from history to psychology.

"Whether I would have gone to graduate school in history and

pursued other interests, I don't know," he says. "[However,] I got really interested in psychology in my second year, and that kind of overshadowed everything else."

Hitt, UCF's fourth president, took the helm in 1992 after more than two decades of administrative and teaching experience.

After graduating from Austin

College, he advanced to earn a master's degree and doctorate, both in physiological psychology, at Tulane University. His career includes teaching at Tulane and Texas Christian University and serving as an administrator at TCU, Bradley University, the University of Maine — where he was interim president for one year — and now UCF.

Hitt is also extremely active in the central Florida community, serving on a number of boards, such as, the Economic Development Commission of Mid-Florida, the Heart of Florida United Way and the Orlando Museum of Art.

— Susan Loden



Hitt

The return of a mentor

Visiting psychology professor taught Hitt, McGuire

After 35 years, Wilhelm "Bill" Angermeier has been reunited with one of his favorite protégés.

Angermeier was UCF President John Hitt's mentor when Hitt was an undergraduate at Austin College. Now, Angermeier is teaching psychology classes for UCF students and establishing a small observation lab for experiments involving the reactions of goldfish to colors.

"The shoe is on the other foot," Angermeier says of his yearlong UCF stint as visiting professor and having his former student as his boss.

Nevertheless, Angermeier is thrilled his protégé is doing so well. And Hitt is delighted to again be sharing a campus with his former teacher. The years sandwiched between Hitt's graduation from Austin College and Angermeier's arrival at UCF has made both men older, but hasn't changed their fondness for one another.

"It's great just to see him again; it's probably been 20 years," Hitt says. "[Angermeier] is an inspiring teacher and a great role model ... There are just a few professors you look back on who made a big difference in your life."

"Just taking my first course from him was really dramatic in shaping my aspirations and my whole career. He was a bright, energetic person with a passionate commitment to his career."

Angermeier, best man at John and Martha Hitt's wedding, speaks just as highly of Hitt.

"In those days [the early '60s] you did not develop friendships with students," he says. "[But] I would say we were friends. It was mutual admiration. He liked me as a good teacher. I liked him as a good student."

Angermeier shrugs.

"I guess you could say I liked him best. That was the way it was."

Hitt was also popular with Angermeier's children.

"My kids loved him because he was an excellent football player," Angermeier explains. "We'd go over and talk with him after games."

As fate might have it, Angermeier's son, Chris, graduated from UCF in 1982, long before Hitt even considered the university as his future home.

How does Angermeier think his prize student is doing now?

"John hasn't changed that much physically. In his character and personality there is no change," Angermeier says.

"Just, now he is president of a university. He has a great deal more responsibility. I ... feel a great deal of



President: Angermeier 'inspiring teacher ... great role model.'

pride in him."

Angermeier is claiming at least some of the credit for Hitt's success.

"I think his psychology background helps, along with his sound economic mind and love of people and understanding of social interactions," he says.

Interestingly, it was another of Angermeier's former students who convinced Angermeier to spend a year teaching at UCF. Jack McGuire, chair of the Psychology Department, studied under Angermeier at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg in 1963.

"He was a very powerful influence and the reason I got into psychology," McGuire says. "He is an incredible lecturer who keeps you spellbound. I knew he would ...

stimulate our psychology students."

Hitt agrees. "I think it's great that our students are having the chance to be exposed to someone like Bill."

A native of Austria with United States' citizenship, Angermeier is anxious to return to his adopted home on the Atlantic coast of rural Ireland. There, with help from friends and neighbors, his wife, Friederike, tends a menagerie and a huge garden. Though he misses home, Angermeier can't help but enjoy spending this year working beside Hitt.

"I did not think of him [Hitt] as a stranger [when Angermeier arrived at UCF this fall]. He was John, and always will be. I'm Bill, formerly Dr. Angermeier."

— Susan Loden

"Just taking my first course from him was really dramatic in shaping my aspirations and my whole career. He was a bright, energetic person with a passionate commitment to his career."

John Hitt

Caught in the act



Sophomore Mona Deliwala, center, received the highest score in the Department of Statistics' comprehensive exams this summer. She is this year's recipient of the Paul Olmstead Scholarship. Also pictured are Jean Whitherington, daughter of the late Paul Olmstead, and David Nickerson, acting chair of the Statistics Department.

Newcomers

Drew Lanier, assistant political science professor, comes to UCF from the University of North Texas, where he was a teaching fellow. He earned a bachelor's, juris doctorate and Ph.D. in political science and law.

Jeanne Leiby, assistant English professor, comes to UCF from the University of Tennessee, where she was an instructor. Leiby attended the University of Alabama Middlebury College and the University of Michigan, and earned degrees in creative writing and literature. Leiby enjoys poetry and book reviews.

Gladstone Yearwood has assumed the position of director of African American Studies. He comes to UCF from North Carolina Central University, where he was associate professor in the Department of English, Media Studies Program. From 1995 to 1996, he served as a visiting associate professor at Duke University, Department of Art History. Yearwood received a Ph.D. and a master's degree from Ohio University and bachelor's from New York University.

Judith Luckett, visiting education instructor, comes to UCF from Rollins College, where she was a visiting instructor. Luckett earned a bachelor's in Spanish and French from Northern Illinois University, Master's in Guidance and Counseling from Rollins College and Ed.D. in curriculum and instructions from UCF. Luckett and her husband have two adult children. She enjoys traveling, academic advising and sociolinguistics.

Christy Marks, visiting English instructor, is formerly a graduate teaching assistant at UCF. She earned a bachelor's in English from Stetson University and an master's in English literature from UCF. She enjoys rollerblading, running, crafts and reading.

Miriam Metzcus, assistant volleyball coach, earned a bachelor's degree in liberal studies at UCF. She enjoys outdoor sports.

Stuart Michelson, associate finance professor, comes to UCF from Eastern Illinois University. Michelson earned a master's from the University of Missouri and Ph.D. in business from the University of Kansas. He is married and has two children.

Bill Morton, visiting English instructor, attended the University of Miami, where he received a Master's in Technical Communications. Morton enjoys horticulture and fishing.

Ron Pimentel, assistant marketing professor, comes to UCF from the University of Arizona, where he was a graduate assistant and academic adviser. Pimentel earned a bachelor's in arts and design, and master's and Ph.D. in marketing. He is married and has three teenagers.

Dawn Trouard, English professor, has assumed the position of chair of the Department of English. She comes

to UCF from the University of Akron in Ohio, where she was the associate provost for Academic Affairs and Administrative Operations.

Maria Reyes-Blanes, assistant exceptional and physical education professor, is formerly a research assistant at the University of Florida. Reyes-Blanes earned a bachelor's, master's and her Ph.D. in special education. She and her husband have two children.

K. Michael Reynolds, assistant criminal justice and legal studies professor, comes to UCF from the University of New Orleans, where he was a research associate. Reynolds received a Ph.D. from the University of New Orleans.

Hugh Rogers, assistant engineering professor, comes to UCF from Central Florida Community College, where he was dean of technical education. Rogers earned a Ed.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He and his wife have four children.

Sudipta Seal, assistant engineering professor, comes to UCF from the University of California-Berkeley. Seal earned many degrees in the engineering field. Seal enjoys mountain climbing, soccer, reading novels, gardening and other outdoor activities.

Wennie Wei Shu, associate professor, comes from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Shu earned a Ph.D. in computer software systems. Shu is married and has two children.

Garvin Smith, visiting economics instructor, is formerly an adjunct instructor at UCF. Smith received a bachelor's and master's in economics. He and his wife, Deborah, have eight children. Smith enjoys reading, economics, camping and the Internet.

Li Song, assistant chemistry professor, is formerly associate director of the Laser Dynamics Laboratory at Georgia Institute of Technology. Song earned a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of California at Los Angeles. Song is married and has two children.

Mark Strazicich, visiting assistant economics professor, comes to UCF from Ohio State University. Strazicich earned a bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. in economics.

Aldrin Sweeney, assistant instructional programs professor, comes to UCF from Florida State University, where he was a research associate. Sweeney earned a Ph.D. from Florida State University in science education. He is married and has one child. Sweeney enjoys cognitive approaches to achieving scientific literacy, linguistic issues in science education and reggae music.

Cheryl Thomas, coordinator for Research Programs and Services, is formerly a contract manager for the state of Florida. She earned a bachelor's in social science. Thomas enjoys scuba diving, swimming and snow skiing.

Appointments and Activities

Greg Frady has been promoted to associate head baseball coach. Frady, 34, is in charge of the pitchers, hitters and catchers as well recruiting. He also serves as UCF's baseball camp director.

Mindy Colton, director of publications for the Office of Public Relations, was a featured exhibitor in the Seminole Community College's art exhibit "Artistic License." The piece exhibited was a painting produced for the Central Florida Zoo. It is being used for a promotional poster for the zoo. Her work is also included in the Seminole County Cultural and Creative Arts Directory.

Craig Cozart has been promoted to assistant baseball coach. Cozart, 23, was a two-time All-Trans American Athletic Conference honoree (1994 and '95) and All-Academic team member (1995 and '96). Cozart finished his career at UCF ranked second in wins (24), third in appearances (65) and fourth in starts (40) and strikeouts (204). During his playing days, UCF captured three Trans America Athletic Conference titles and made three trips to the NCAA Regional Tournament.

Lee Eubank has become acting chair of the Music Department. He replaces Lyman Brodie, who has been promoted to assistant dean for the College of Arts and Sciences. Eubank has taught courses in Musicology since he joined UCF in 1973. Earlier, he taught at the University of South Florida, Stetson University and Rollins College.

David Franklin, who joined UCF as an assistant professor in 1995, is serving as acting program director of Film and Animation. He holds the Master of Fine Arts from the University of Texas at Austin.

Terry Frederick, chair of the Department of Computer Science, has assumed the duties of director of industry relations for the college. His new duties include serving as liaison for the college and the Forensic Science Project, overseeing relations between the college and Federal and State Relations, serving as liaison for the college and its relations with ACT/Lucent/Cirent and, finally, serving as liaison between the college and the I-4 High-Tech Corridor Project.

Olle Heinonen has assumed the position of acting chair of Physics. He replaces William Silfvast, who has accepted a one-year research position at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory where he is developing a new type of soft X-ray light source. Heinonen joined UCF in 1989 after serving as a research associate and senior research associate at Case Western Reserve University.

Edmund Kallina has assumed the position of interim chair of History while **Richard Crepeau**, chair of History and director of the Russian Studies Program, is teaching at the Nighney Novgorod Language Center in Russia. Crepeau will return to UCF in December. Kallina joined UCF in 1970 after earning a Ph.D. from Northwestern University.

David Nickerson has become acting chair of Statistics. He succeeds **Lorrie Hoffman**, who, after serving as acting chair for the past year, has returned to teaching. This past spring, Hoffman won the University Award for Excellence in Teaching. Nickerson came to UCF from the University of Georgia in 1986.

Shelley Park has agreed to serve as interim director of Women Studies for the coming year while Carole Adams assumes the position of provost's faculty associate to **Frank Juge**, vice provost. Park has taught in the Philosophy Department since 1990.

Miriam Metzcus has been promoted to assistant volleyball coach. Metzcus spent last season as interim assistant coach and 1995 as a graduate assistant coach. Metzcus' main duties will involve recruiting, scheduling matches and team travel along with the day-to-day management of the team. She is also very involved with the annual Laura Smith Volleyball Camp. She was a member of the Golden Knights' volleyball team from 1991 to 1994, and helped UCF capture three consecutive Trans America Athletic Conference titles and its first NCAA Tournament berth in 1994. She was named to the 1992, '93 and '94 All-TAAC first team and 1993 and '94 TAAC All-Tournament teams.

CALENDAR

October

9-19

• "Quilters," Theatre, 7:45 p.m. 823-6471

10

• Hispanic Awareness Month: Faculty and Professional Reception, University Dining Room, 6 p.m. 823-2716

• Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning Workshop: Lawrence Aleamoni, "Guiding, Supporting and Documenting Instructional Innovation," Student Union, Garden Key room, 8 a.m.-noon. 823-3544

11

• Threshold Run, Arena, 6:30 a.m. 896-1160

• Football vs. Samford, 4 p.m. 823-2342

• Volleyball vs. G. Mason, noon. 823-2025

• Men's soccer vs. FIU, 4 p.m. 823-2262

• Women's rugby vs. Georgia Southern and FAU. 306-8468

12

• The Chautauqua Lectures Series: Lamar Alexander, "Making America One Country," presented by WUCF, 7 a.m. 823-0899

• Women's soccer vs. UNC Charlotte, 1 p.m. 823-6345

• CAB movie: "Army of Darkness," Student Union, 8 p.m. 823-6471

13

• International Student Services Fair, Student Center Auditorium, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. 823-2337

13-19

• WUCF-FM 89.9 fund drive. 823-2907

13-31

• "Land and Body," curated by Jerry Cutler, reception Oct. 16, 5-7 p.m., UCF Art Gallery. 823-2676

14

• Friends of Library Booksale, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 823-5982.

• Hispanic Awareness Month: Rediscovering Latin America, Visual Arts Building, 6:30 p.m. 823-2716

• CAB TKL: Dan Horn, comedy, Student Union, Key West room, 8 p.m. 823-6471

16

• Hispanic Awareness Month: Annual Gala, Omni Rosen Hotel on International Drive, Manuel Mirabal, guest speaker, 6 p.m. 823-2716

• Lecture: "Land and Body" art exhibit, by Steve Lotz, Visual Arts Building, 4-7:30 p.m. 823-2194

• Men's soccer vs. FAU, 3 p.m. 823-2262

• USPS Staff Council meeting, BA 230, 9:30 a.m. 823-5756

• Recreational Services: badminton. 823-2408

17

• CAB movie: "Scream," Student Union, 8 p.m. 823-6471

• Midnight Madness, Arena, 10:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. 823-6345

18

• Undergraduate Admissions open house. 823-3813

• Women's rugby vs. Emory. 306-8468

19

• Faculty Artist Recital, Joanne Stephenson, soprano, Gary Wolf, piano, Rehearsal Hall, 3 p.m., \$5. 823-2869

• The Chautauqua Lectures Series: Perry Smith, "New Insights on Leadership," presented by WUCF, 7 a.m. 823-0899

• CAB movie: "The Prophecy," Student Union, 8 p.m. 823-6471

20

• The Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival: Shakespeare Unplugged Reading, "Measure for Measure," Sak Comedy Lab, 7 p.m. 245-0985

• Lecture: "The Holocaust: History Without Ending; World Conscience and Responsibility," by Yehuda Bauer, emeritus professor of Holocaust Studies at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Visual Arts auditorium, 7:30 p.m. 823-5039

• Recreational Services: Rectober

(K)nightfest. 823-2408

21

• Friends of the Library lunch, by invitation only, Arena. 823-5982

• Volleyball vs. Stetson, 7 p.m. 823-2025

22

• Women's soccer vs. Stetson, 4 p.m. 823-6345

23

• Women's Studies: "Women in Leadership Roles," a panel co-sponsored by Women's Studies Office and the National Women's Political Caucus of Florida, Central Florida Chapter, President's Dining Room, 6-8 p.m. 823-3258

• CAB speaker: Krispin Wagner-Barr, Student Union, Key West room, 7 p.m. 823-6471

• Faculty Senate meeting, Student Union, Garden Key room, 4-5:15 p.m.

24

• Wind Ensemble Concert, Visual Arts Building, 7-9 p.m. 823-5973

Library

• Hispanic Awareness Month: "Justina Gonzalez-Marti: Hidden Dreams," by Jose Miguel Rodriguez; "Landscape of Latin America," by Sina Sutter; "Life is Beautiful," by Stella Camargo de Duque; and "Paintings of Our Latin America," by Francisco (Pancho) Varela.

• "Careers in Student Affairs," by Ken Lawson.

• "Recent Publications: Hoopsnake Press and Flying Horse Editions," by Ke Francis.

• "Book Art," by Ke Francis.

• "October is Crime Prevention Month," by Tom Gorbias.

• "Celebration of United Nations Day," by Graciela Noriega.

For a more comprehensive up-to-date calendar, check out:

<http://www.oir.ucf.edu/pubrel/calendar/>

CLASSIFIED

For Sale

Collectables, complete Christmas village (bldgs., people, battery-operated street lights, bridges, trees), \$200; Halloween village, \$50; office desk chairs, \$20 each; patio slide/stack vinyl windows w/ tracks, screws, \$200; Hammon (early 1950s) synth./organ, \$350; authentic slate from China wall used in EPCOT-China Pavilion, \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Mary, 823-4663 or 384-6758 evening.

Drum Set, 4 piece consisting of bass, kick drum and 2 tom toms. Hardly used. Good condition. \$325. Sandy, 823-0214.

House, 4/2, w/ lovely screened-in pool and spa. Professionally decorated. Includes 2-sided fireplace, security system, sprinkler system, fenced yard, child safety fence for pool, patio wet bar, refrigerator and microwave, many ceiling fans, extra shelving throughout. Minutes from campus w/ easy access to 417 Greenway. \$144,800. 679-3247.

Jet ski, Yamaha Wave Raider, '96. Adult owned, used in fresh water only. \$4,500 includes trailer and cover. Marvin, 282-9037, leave message.

Mitsubishi Mirage, '92, hatchback, white, auto. \$4,600. 823-6058.

Hide-a-Bed, twin size. \$25 obo. Naomi, 823-3814 or 699-4051, evening.

Wedding gown, full-length (size 8). White silk taffeta with

long sleeves. High-lace collar, bodice and arms are embroidered with beads and lace. Cathedral-train is bustled. Gown has been preserved in vacuum-sealed keepsake box. Paid \$800, asking \$350. 898-6519.

For Rent

Room to share, washer/dryer, pool, tennis. Quiet neighborhood. \$375 plus utilities Sandy, 823-0214.

Wanted/Misc.

Refrigerator, small, for office. Noreen, 823-6893.

Official Ballot to Spotlight Employee of the Month

I nominate: _____
(name) (campus address)

to be UCF Employee of the Month. (Nominee must have been a University Support Personnel System employee at least two years.) Any employee, including faculty and A&P, may nominate a candidate on the basis of job performance, dependability, attitude, etc. A name submitted remains in the pool of eligible candidates for one year.

Signed: _____
(name) (campus address, phone)

Cut ballot and return to Human Resources, ADM 230, EOM. (Mark envelope "confidential.")