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CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

FEBRUARY 26, 1997

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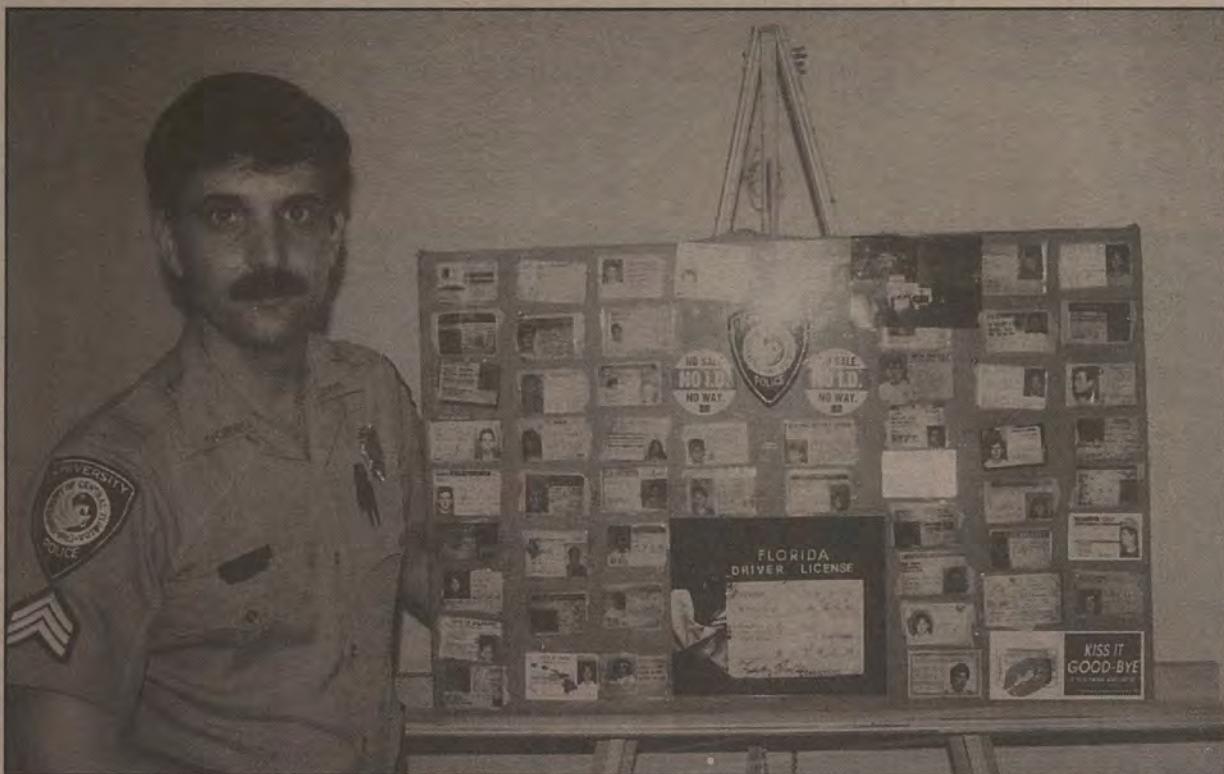


Photo by KEN PASTOR

Sgt. Troy Williamson displays the fake ID's he has collected through the years.

Police focus on false identities

By BRIAN SMITH
Staff Writer

"I remember that it was really cool having a fake ID," Jeff Woeber, 23, a student at Valencia Community College said. "I could go to any bar I wanted and drink beer. If the bartender thought my ID was fake, what's he going to do? Call the cops and have me arrested"

Yes, actually that could happen.

"Fake IDs are felonies. Just to have a fake ID or a counterfeit driver's license is a third-degree felony in the state of Florida," Sgt. Troy Williamson of the UCF Police Department said.

He said a person with a fake ID will face a felony charge and have their driver's license taken away for a year. In addition, the person could be given a year of probation and community service. A prior history of DUI or underage drinking helps determine the penalties.

"Hey man, having a fake ID and being able to drink is worth the risk," Woeber said.

On the UCF campus, Williamson

said fraternity parties are a common place to find a person with a fake ID.

When Williamson works a fraternity party, he said he checks the IDs of people who look underage.

"If it doesn't look like my driver's license, there's something wrong with it," Williamson said.

When Williamson finds someone with a fake ID he said he has the option of arresting them or turning the matter over to student affairs. Williamson said the person's cooperation helps determine what option he will choose.

"I want to know where they came from, who made them," Williamson said.

However, Williamson said some people will not cooperate.

"A lot of people are stubborn because they're young and immature. They don't understand that when they're 30 years old this is hanging over their head," Williamson said.

"I don't know if I would get a fake ID because after I graduate, I would not want a felony charge on my record," said Jie Hu, a UCF fresh-

man.

Williamson pulled out his collection of fake IDs which he has collected over the years and began to explain how they are made.

Williamson said the poster board system is the most common method to make a fake ID. He said a person will stand against a poster board made to look like a driver's license background and a Polaroid will be taken. The picture then is cut and laminated. Williamson said the average price of an ID is between \$25-50.

"If you paid \$50 for one, then you got ripped off," Williamson said.

Williamson would not comment on current investigations by the UCF police.

"The only thing I can tell you is we're always looking into people," Williamson said. "They could be your neighbor next door. Last year, a group making fake IDs was discovered just a few houses down from one of our officers."

Williamson said the purpose of knocking out fake IDs is to help lower DUI's on campus.

Some students soaked over new sprinklers

By GINA HAWKINS
Staff Writer

The new irrigation system at the University of Central Florida has been watering the grass and some students.

Aaron Scavron, UCF student body president, said he has dodged sprinklers at night when leaving student government meetings. He also said he has been sprayed during the day while walking through the Green, the area between Health and Physics and Volusia Hall.

"I'm thoroughly pleased the Green is looking better," Scavron said. "But, the sprinklers can be an inconvenience to the students."

Richard Metzger, UCF superintendent of landscape and grounds, said the Green is the only area of campus not programmed for watering by Maxicom, UCF's new computerized irrigation system. He said the \$120,000 system automatically waters the campus at night when students are least likely to be there.

Metzger said the Green has new grass which requires daytime watering. Sprinklers may also be on during the day if grass was recently fertilized or if the sprinklers need to be tested.

Metzger said the sprinklers are not designed to spray the sidewalks, but may do so if damaged. He said if anyone notices a problem they should report it to the UCF Physical Plant.

Only two people are in charge of fixing the sprinkler heads on UCF's 450 irrigated acres, he said.

"That's a whole lot for two people to take care of," Metzger said.

Metzger, who has worked at UCF since 1977, said the previous sprinkler system was inefficient. He said if it rained, it took two people six hours to manually turn off

See SPRINKLER, Page 2

Run-off necessary to claim majority

By LINDSAY MALANGA
Staff Writer

Less than 10 percent of the UCF student population is deciding who will run student government.

But they will get a chance to vote again.

A run-off election between the top two vote-getting candidates will be Feb. 24-26. The Keith McDonald/Karen Montague ticket received 42.6 percent of last week's vote and the Rico Brown/Graciela Noriega ticket received 34.5 percent. John Turner and Chad Elliott were eliminated from the run-off with 22.9 percent.

A run-off is needed because a candidate must win by 50 percent plus one. In last week's election, only 2,282 of the 27,500 students voted. Of those votes, 125 were invalid.

Chief Election Commissioner Lauren Aquino offered some reasons for student voter apathy.

"Possibly people are unaware of the candidates," she said. "Possibly people are busy and don't feel they have the time to spare, or maybe people just aren't concerned because they feel these elections don't really concern them."

Aquino and the rest of the election commissioners expect similar voter turnout, but she is hopeful.

"Voting is a right that students take for granted and it is our hope that people will realize what an opportunity this is and vote," she said. "Student Government touches everyone — it allocates money to clubs and organizations, and it operates many of the services that are available to students."

Professor's study is one for the ages

By ANA BUTTERFIELD
Staff Writer

"If you want to avoid old age, hang yourself in youth."

This Yiddish proverb summarizes how undesirable old age is to most people, but Dr. Richard Tucker, a psychology professor at UCF for 25 years, does not feel this way.

As director of the university's program on aging and longevity, Tucker lives to study aging.

Tucker offers several reasons for his fascination on aging. He said it is an interdisciplinary unit; it does not concern psychology alone, but is used in conjunction with other disciplines.

Trained as a developmental psychologist almost

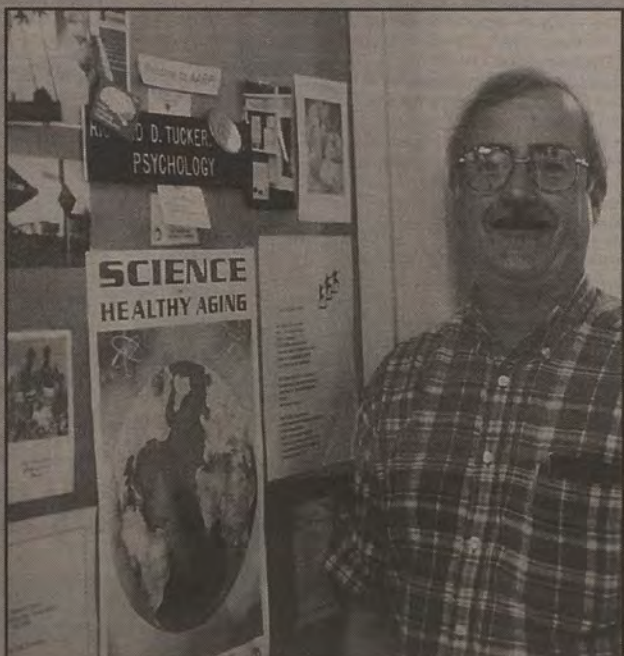


Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

UCF professor Richard Tucker says students can benefit from studying aging.

See TUCKER, Page 3

Sprinkler system monitors amount of rainfall

From Page 1

the system.

"Now if I want to shut down the entire irrigation system, I can do it in four minutes," said Metzger, who can turn the system off from his home or office computers.

Maxicom, which is the same irrigation

system Walt Disney World and Sea World use, shuts itself down when there is too much rain. A weather station at the UCF athletic complex monitors the rainfall, totals it and adjusts the system so individual areas of the campus get the amounts of water needed.

The weather station and other parts of Maxicom communicate through telephone

poles, Metzger said. Since UCF now uses fiber optics for telephones, the original wiring in the poles can be used for Maxicom, as well as for UCF's security and fire alarms.

Metzger said Maxicom will be fully operational by the end of this year. New buildings now in the design phase, such as the Health and Public Affairs Building

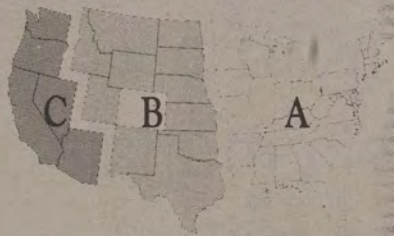
and a high-rise dormitory, have Maxicom built into their plans.

The goal for next year, Metzger said, is to expand UCF's waste water treatment plant and build an above ground water storage tank. He said the tank, which will hold 1.5 million gallons of treated water, will provide the water necessary for UCF's growing campus.

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Student Leader

Walsh raises spirits on campus

By Tracy Webb
News Editor

Joe Walsh is raising the spirits of UCF students.

A former SG senator, Walsh is one of the founding members and president of "The Knights of Honor," the first UCF spirit organization.

"We go to events and games and try to be the most spirited people on campus," Walsh said. "We go to all the events not just football and baseball, we go to volleyball, women's basketball games and tennis matches. We do everything."

Walsh contributes much of his successes to his friends.

"Friends are very important, especially when you're in college because it's really hard. I depended on my family a lot in my life. Now I'm in college and my family is not here, so I have to depend on somebody and my friends have kind of replaced my family while I'm here."

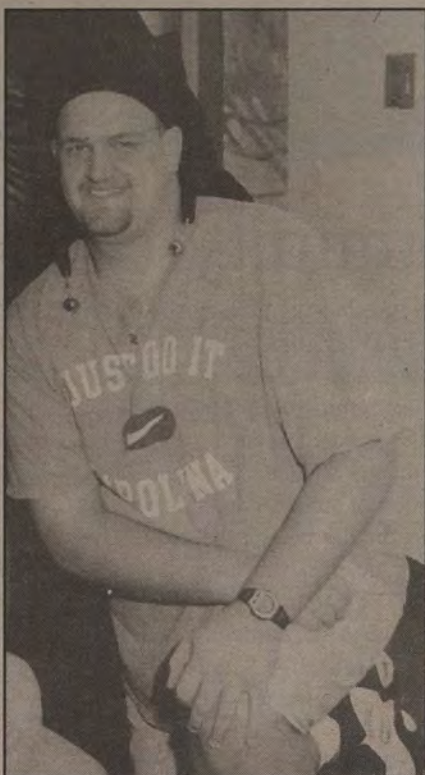
The person Walsh credits as a major influence is his father.

"My father is my hero. He is just everything to me. I used to wear his number when I played football. It has been an honor just to be brought up by him."

Walsh says it is important for students to get involved and do something they enjoy.

"Once you find something you enjoy you just have to pursue it, get into it and eventually to get to a point where it becomes second nature for you to be involved," he said. "And once you get in the door is not shut."

If you have any nominations for Student Leader of the Week, please call 977-1009.



Joe Walsh and his friends attend a variety of events on campus.

Professor keeps pace with students

From Page 1

30 years ago, Tucker realized most courses offered analyzed only children and adolescents.

When he began teaching, more chapters in the development process were added, indicating, as he says "that there might be life after adolescence."

To learn these new facets, Tucker would offer to teach a class and attempt to stay half a step ahead of his students.

"For 20 years now, I've been trying to stay a half a step ahead of the student," Tucker said, smiling.

Tucker said his parents aged in different ways — his father being vigorous and healthy into his 80s and his mother having a stroke in her late 50s which left her without the use of her cognitive abilities.

Because of this, Tucker felt a personal interest in the inter workings of aging. Changes he noticed as he got older made his study useful.

Aging is always changing, always in motion, Tucker said. He points out our grandparents aged differently from our parents and that we will become older in a unique way, too.

The environment in which we grow and the changes we experience directly affect the way we age. Thus, he says, aging can never really be monotonous.

The way we age has a lot to do with our outlook on aging. You cannot avoid getting older, Tucker says, and we start aging when we're 25-30 years old.

If you react negatively to the changes, they can become worse.

Also, if you attribute the changes you go

through to aging and do not do anything about them, you might be living with a problem that has a cure. This problem may not be related to aging.

Tucker said many things associated with aging are caused by the environment. One such thing is tooth loss; when picturing someone who is old, we usually visualize a person smacking his/her gums together because of having no teeth. Tucker said tooth loss is not related to aging. He said it is less likely any of us will experience that as we age because we have more fluoride in the water than people did years ago.

Other symptoms, such as Alzheimer's, cannot be avoided; the older you get, the greater chance you have of getting this disease.

UCF offers a certificate in Gerontology which can be of great benefit to students. Tucker said students in many fields are pursuing this because it is helpful and is not a long program.

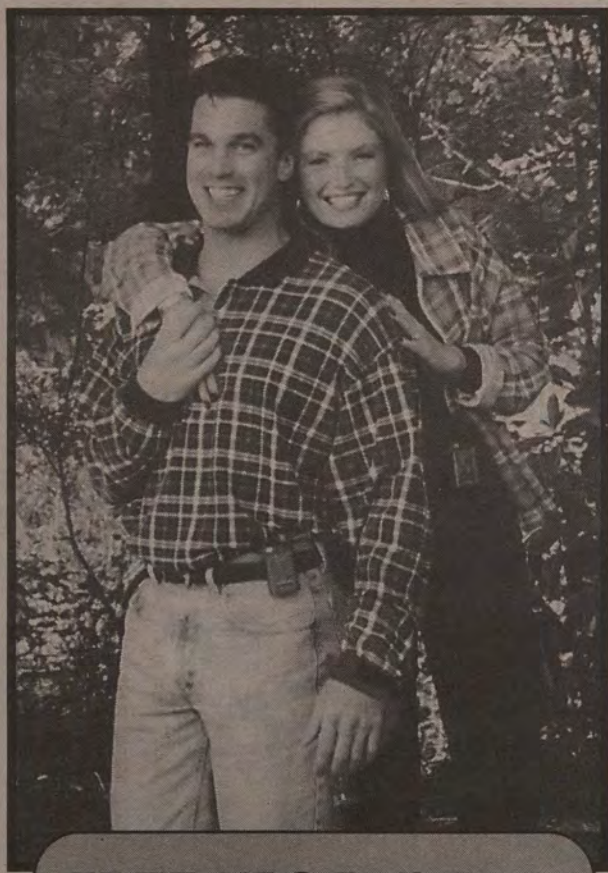
Students who intend to live in Florida can benefit from Tucker's knowledge since Florida has a higher percentage of older people than any other state.

It also helps students understand what their parents and grandparents are going through.

As Tucker assures, we all will become old some day, too, so there is great benefit in knowing how to cope with the changes.

Get used to it because growing old is better than the alternative.

For more information on the Gerontology program, students can contact the School of Social Work at 823-2114. For information on UCF's Initiative on Aging and Longevity Program contact Tucker at 823-2566.



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State

Math baffles 80 percent of community college students

By LINDA KLEINDIENST
Knight-Ridder/Tribune News

TALLAHASSEE — Four out of five students entering Florida's community colleges cannot do college-level math. The numbers are almost as high for students who do not have adequate reading and writing skills to take college courses for credit. "The numbers are pretty high," said Clark Maxwell, director of the state's community colleges. "It's depressing. Math is the bad one."

The number of college students who must take remedial classes jumped this year because of stricter state testing requirements. Maxwell said it costs at least \$52 million annually to teach students the skills they need to perform at the college level, \$20 million more than it cost two years ago. During the 1995-96 school year, an estimated 63 percent of 27,793 students entering Florida's 28 community colleges needed remedial education in math, reading, writing or a combination of the three. A report by the Senate Education Committee says those numbers increased significantly this year because the state imposed tougher standards. For math, the passing score on college entry tests two years ago was 51. Now it is 72. The tests usually require some knowledge of algebra a ninth-grade level course. As a result, it is estimated that 81 percent of community college stu-

dents need to take a remedial math course, and almost as many need help with reading and writing.

"The mission of our education system is to educate students," said Senate Education Chairman John Grant, R-Tampa. "If we're giving a high school diploma to people who can't read it when they put it up on the wall, we're not getting what we pay for." In many cases, Maxwell said, students scored low especially in math because they had not learned the subjects in high school or have been out of school for several years. "You're not really talking about remediation. You're talking about skills they're not taught," he said. "That's why we're trying to get them away from taking basic skills courses (in high school)."

Colleges spend about \$11 million on remedial classes for students who graduated from high school in the past three years and \$41 million on students who have been out of school more than three years. Nancy Walters, 40, was out of school for 20 years before she decided to go to Broward Community College for a pharmacy degree. She took remedial grammar and algebra. William Burke, 25, was out of Hollywood Hills High School for three years before going to BCC. He had to take remedial English because of his test scores and chose to take remedial math as a refresher. "I think high school is a joke down here," he said. "Some of

the education is lacking." Others share the blame, said Darla Carter, a Broward School Board member. "I honestly feel (colleges) are turning out teachers who are not fully prepared to enter a school and teach today's students," she said. "It's a combination of students and teachers, but teachers are not being prepared to teach." Julia Cousins, 20, who is studying pre-law at BCC, had to take remedial math even though she earned A's and B's at Hollywood Hills High School. "The teacher should set a higher standard for you to learn," she said. "It used to annoy me that people who could work (at higher levels), the teacher would let them take a stupid class."

On average, students coming out of Broward County public high schools seem to fare better than their counterparts across Florida. Among those graduating from Broward schools in 1996 and entering BCC this year, 49 percent needed reading remediation, 42 percent needed writing remediation and 54 percent needed math remediation. The Senate Education Committee report noted that in Dade County "at least 40 percent of students who were ranked in the top 20 percent of their high school class needed remediation when they entered Miami-Dade Community College. "Students can take the college entry level exam as early as 10th grade or as late as the day they apply to get into college. Maxwell said

students should be required to take the test in 10th grade so they know what skills they must hone before graduation if they want to go to college. He has also recommended the state look at establishing a college-ready diploma for students who take a recommended curriculum and get a 3.0 average. "Then they can skip the testing and go right on to college credit work," Maxwell said. Rep. Bob Sindler, D-Apopka, chairman of the House Community College Committee, likes the college-ready diploma idea. "It's a symbol that says, if you take the rigorous courses in high school you'll be able to get into a community college and do college level work," he said. "But if you don't, you'll probably need remediation." Grant and Sindler said that increased high school graduation standards if passed by the Legislature this year would help prepare students for college. Legislators want to mandate that all students pass Algebra I before they can graduate a requirement in effect in many school districts. "A high school diploma should not be a reward for longevity," Grant said. Although community colleges offer two-year degrees, many students do not take the course work for the degrees, said Tony Tate, interim president at Palm Beach Community College. "We have people who can take 10 years to graduate," he said.



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Opinion

Greek Week has turned into an uneventful event

By DIANA IMANUEL
Opinion Editor

Commentary

The traditional event of Greek Week, anticipated by UCF's fraternities and sororities, has become a major disappointment for the majority of Greek members. What used to be a fun-filled week of games, activities, competition, and wholesome entertainment has diminished into a week of apathy lacking the traditional sense of integrity and spirit that once energized the Greek system.

One can't help but to compare Greek Week to the Summer Olympic Games. Who could forget the moving moment when Muhammed Ali, in guarded yet shaky steps, rose to light the Olympic torch, a tradition in which has been survived by our earliest heroines and achievers. This is TRADITION at its best. Although new events are constantly added to the Olympics in an attempt to make them better, the core events remain the same. Thus, one can take comfort in knowing that bobsledding will be on the agenda four years from now.

Yet in a school such as UCF that has few traditions, does changing the format and style of Greek Week make sense? When considering UCF's Greek system, members can see the historical tradition has failed to accomplish its main intent

and that is to unite the Greek system with competition, integrity, and achievement. Today, members of the Greek system are having a difficult time in putting their hearts and souls into this festive week.

Four years ago at UCF, Greek Week was a campus-wide event that received intense participation from all members of the Greek community. I can remember the excitement that was drawn from the games on the Green. These games were held four days in a row as opposed to limiting the activities to one day. Such games consisted of the three-legged race, the human pyramid, the egg toss, the obstacle course, and dizzy bat. These games brought about harmonized competition and allowed the Greeks to compete for recognition and to allow for their true colors to shine. Greeks also participated in a blood drive, allowing for the most donors to receive recognition. Skits highlighting group talent, chalk drawings, and building creative objects out of household appliances (sic) also contributed to the traditions of Greek Week. Again, traditions of this week helped to reaffirm to individual members what it meant to be Greek.

In contrast to the past, Greek has become burdensome to members in many ways. To begin with, "XYZ" organization is now paired up with "ABC" and "EFG" organization in an attempt to decrease competition. Note, as long as two groups of organizations exist, there will be competition between them. Therefore, the whole idea of combining Greek groups together to decrease competition falls far short of its goal. Another change for the worse is the fact that when these groups are combined, they receive a group name, such as "Team Alpha." Instead of taking pride in one's own organization, individuals are forced to forego praising their own accomplishments and praise the accomplishments of two other organizations in which they were assigned to.

In some instances, one of the organizations may not even participate, hence, hurting the entire group's morale and performance.

Another negative aspect of Greek Week was the lack of publicity and commitment by Greek members put into this week. In the past, Greek Week used to be a chance for a large group of Greek members to hang out and socialize, regardless of the letters they represent. I've seen a better turnout in my self-defense class than I did at certain Greek Week events this year. Why is that? It is possible that most

members were unaware or perhaps misinformed about the week's events.

Or maybe even more realistically, members simply don't care like they used to. This week has been reduced to a mismanaged nightmare that barely resembles the Greek Week of the past. Who won Greek Week? Not only could I not tell you, but I really don't care. In fact, I bet most Greeks probably don't.

So, what's the solution? Is getting back to our traditions really the answer? Possibly. I think we need to take a pragmatic approach that accommodates both sides. Sure, we must adopt new events and activities to make Greek Week dynamic and exciting, but we must retain the traditions that make Greek Week the event that it once was.

I'm not opposed to changes. In fact, I welcome them when they are conducive to the betterment of an event. But not only are these changes unproductive, they also are detrimental to the Greek system. It's a well-known fact Greeks make up the majority of spirit and participation on campus.

By compromising the integrity of one of the few traditions that exists on campus, we are, in fact, affecting the entire spirit and morale of this university.

But, hey, that's just my opinion. I could be wrong.



CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

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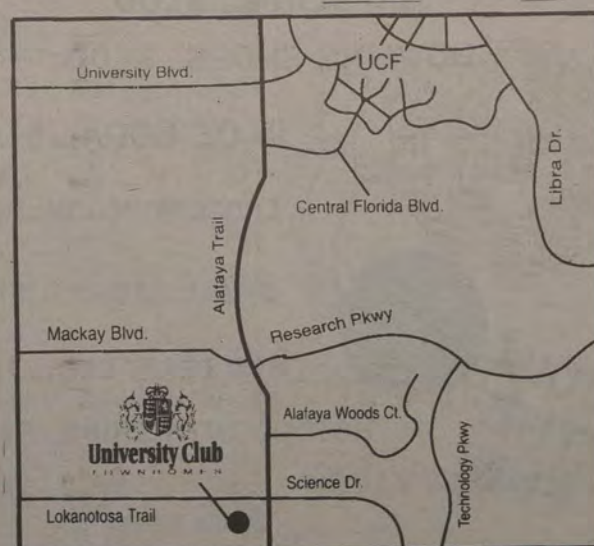
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IFC earns highest conference honors

By DAWN MYERS
Staff Writer

UCF's fraternities have received marks of excellence.

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) Executive Board attended its annual southeast conference in Atlanta, Feb. 13-15. IFC received exceptional evaluations in all nine categories.

The conference brought together 700 men from 11 states, representing nearly 100 schools. The purpose is to strengthen fraternities by working together.

Andy Cupicha, of Sigma Chi, said he was relieved to see UCF did not have the problems other schools did with Greek relations.

"If those problems ever do arise here at UCF, we now have an idea on how to correct them," he said.

The conference helped IFC establish new goals for the year.

"We really want to get more of a healthy Greek system by eliminating problems between individual chapters," said Delta Upsilon's Kurt Pennypacker.

The conference featured motivational speakers such as Billy Porter Payne, CEO of the Committee for the Olympics. Mike Green, a collegiate consultant on drugs and alcohol, also spoke.

In addition to motivation, educational workshops were offered. UCF presented its philanthropy event entitled "Trick or Treat on Greek Street." The event allowed underprivileged children from the Orlando area to participate in safe Halloween games.

Cupicha and Pennypacker, the only student speakers, instructed a workshop entitled "Mission Impossible." Their presentation informed schools on how to handle diverse community service events.

IFC won an excellence award for every category of service: Philanthropy, Legal Concerns, Public Relations, Management, Social Programs, Judicial, Leadership, Service, Publications, and Recruitment. A board evaluated each category by reviewing the activities and programs IFC organized from the previous year. In addition to these awards, IFC also won the Fraternal Excellence Award.

At each conference, new executive board members are elected for the upcoming year. For Area II, which covers Florida and Georgia schools, Sigma Chi's Andy Cupicha was elected Vice President. He hopes to improve communication throughout all schools.



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL



Above, several students compete in last week's Greek Week Games. Left, IFC members gather in Atlanta after earning the highest marks possible at the Southeast convention.

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Jones inspires packed house at UCF Arena

By TRACY WEBB
News Editor

The voice of Darth Vader welcomed everyone who attended his lecture Feb. 19.

A current of excitement could be felt in the crowded UCF Arena, all to hear the voice so many have grown up knowing in their childhood memories of the Star Wars Trilogy.

When James Earl Jones made his entrance, the applause was deafening.

Jones brought the crowd to life again when opened his lecture by using his deeply resonating voice, imitating Darth Vader, to welcome everyone in the room.

Jones came to UCF in celebration of Black History Month. He spoke about the importance of fighting racism and remembering the past.

"Since my childhood I tried to step away from the mythological influences of racism," Jones said.

Jones also spoke of what a minority culture has had to endure and learn in order to survive and where he thought racism got its roots.

"I believe the roots of racism are developed from the psychotic side of society," he said. "The minority knows the majority better than the majority knows the minority. That is because their survival depends on it."

Jones said it is OK to be seen as a minority, yet no one should be treated as one.

"It is no harm in seeing someone as a black person as long as that perception stops with color," Jones said.

After Jones' lecture, he answered questions from the audience, including many about his film and stage

careers.

"You all think I'm rich from the [re-release] Stars Wars Trilogy. I'm not. I'm considered special effects," Jones said.

He also answered questions about his involvement during the civil rights movement in the 1960's when he had just gotten out of the Army.

"I found a way to use my mouth instead of my gun," he said.

Jones also talked about his stuttering, which left him almost mute for much of his childhood. He also gave out advice to stressed-out college students.

Yet, throughout the speech his message remained the same: racism should not keep a person down.

"I will never not make it because I wear black skin," he said about how he overcame racism in his career. "I'm not a success story, just a story."



Photo by TRACY WEBB

James Earl Jones told the UCF audience he survived the civil rights movement by using his mouth instead of a gun.



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Future Knights?

Students from Sugar Loaf, near the Florida Keys, take a tour of the UCF campus last week. The eighth-grade students are members of The National Junior Honor Society. The students are touring state universities and plan to visit Florida State and Florida.

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Entertainment

Theatre UCF offers beginnings for many hopefuls

By RANDY CULZAC
Staff Writer

Exciting times are on the horizon in the entertainment industry as we enter the second millennium. Broadway continues to produce shows of artistic and commercial value, television has raised the standard by producing quality programming such as ER, Chicago Hope and Homicide, and a new breed of independent filmmakers are taking Hollywood by storm. (Just take a look at the Oscar nominations.)

In the midst of this uproar, is the actor. Ah, yes, the actor; pinching pennies, waiting tables, getting evicted, and hopefully landing an acting job on the side. No, this can't be true. Actors make millions, drive slick, black limos,

Curtain Call

and own large two-story mansions. Well, some do.

Actually, less than half enjoy these benefits. Chances are, unless you are a Denzel Washington or a Tom Cruise, these benefits are nowhere to be found.

So how does one go about the process of becoming a working actor and live a financially balanced life at the same time?

This question is answered by the many Hollywood and Broadway success stories out there. Unfortunately, not every acting story is a success. Some of the most talented and hardworking performers have not lived up to the successful standards they have set for themselves. As we

approach the year 2000, a whole new generation of performers will be graduating from college and will begin to pursue their versions of stardom.

Among this new generation of performers are students at Theatre UCF. The goal of Theatre UCF is to produce artists of the highest quality through its BA and BFA degree programs. With a combination of classroom instruction and hands-on experiences, students prepare themselves for professional careers as performers, designers, managers and administrators.

For someone who wants to be an actor, theater may seem to be an obscure major. Some may feel a degree is not needed to become a performer. True, it's not a necessity, but let it be known that most of the highest paid and respected Hollywood actors come from a theatrical background.

Examples are Denzel Washington, Tom Cruise, Angela Bassett, Meryl Streep, Emilio Estevez, Wesley Snipes, and the list goes on. It all depends on what sort of actor one wants to be. It doesn't take a degree to be a flash in the pan, or a well-known

actor with a string of bad movies. (Keanu Reeves.) Theatre trained actors such as Robert Deniro and Al Pacino have been around for decades, and have played a variety of characters. Performers at UCF learn the skills needed to become versatile, and well-rounded actors, who intend to be around for a long time.

Everyone who loves movies and loves going to the theatre has seen a performance that made them feel they could have done much better. Few people realize there is a technique to acting just as there is a technique for playing the piano. The voice should have certain inflections, the movements should be in line with what the character is trying to accomplish, and the character should be believable.

These techniques are taught at UCF theatre and as the actors become older they begin to develop their own technique through voice, movement, and acting classes. The acting classes concentrate on adding more substance to the lines of a script and not taking the words for face value.

For those uninterested in Hollywood, but have their sights

set on Broadway, a theatre education is a must. Every year thousands of college graduates are moving to New York to find their place in the industry. The jobs will usually go to the most qualified.

To better prepare students for a theatre career, a musical theatre program is in the works at UCF.

Speaking of such, the second show of the semester is a musical comedy called "Oklahoma" and it opens on Feb. 27. The last show of the semester is a comedy called "Boys Next Door." It's about a group of mentally retarded men who lodge together. The cast of Boys are currently doing research for their roles and will begin rehearsals soon.

The entertainment industry is a very exciting business. It can also be very cruel and is never governed by laws of fairness. Whatever challenges lay ahead, theatre students at UCF are ready.

This column will keep UCF students in touch with the many events that take place within the theatrical community on campus, and will serve as a springboard to celebrate and discuss the art we call theatre.

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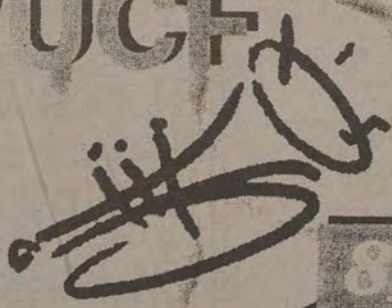
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Jazz & More...

A haunting essay on faith, love and other wonders

By DEAN G. LEWIS
Entertainment Editor

Danish director Lars von Trier ("The Element of Crime", "Zentropa") dives head first and deep into human tragedy with "Breaking the Waves", a solemn conviction about the forces that separate lovers and the miracles that bring them together.

British stage actress Emily Watson makes a startling screen debut as Bess, a young woman from a remote Scottish village on the coast. Bess is madly in love with an oil-rig worker named Jan (Stellan Skarsgard). The two soon marry in the town's church, a commune of strict Calvinists who judge their own parishioners solely by the hand of God's strength. At the top of the church's altar there are no bells. When Bess tells Jan, "let's put them back," their unity seems stronger and more potent. The story may be suggesting individuality, or the power of commitment two lovers can hold for one another.

Honeymoon bliss is nothing unusual for our two newlyweds. In a secluded cabin

Movie Review

along the shore, Bess becomes intimate with her husband for the first time. In bed, when Jan snores in her ear, Bess learns to laugh at the discomforts of married life. Their intimacy is cut short when Jan gets orders to go back to the rig. Naturally, Bess can't handle Jan's departure. Left distraught, she receives support from her overprotective sister-in-law Dodo (Katrin Cartlidge), who's just gotten over the death of her husband. Daily conversations with God allow Bess to pray for Jan's early homecoming. When a freak accident on the rig brings him home, Bess has to come to terms with her husband's paralysis. Jan, pumped on medication and wrecked with bouts of unconsciousness, pleads with Bess to find other lovers and relate to him her sexual experiences. This eccentric turn-around prepares us for an unforgettable climax that brings von Trier's stabs at metaphor full circle.

von Trier, who also wrote the screenplay, tells "Breaking the Waves" in seven chapters and an epilogue, each accompanied by a rock song (from Elton John, Rod

Stewart, Leonard Cohen, and others) and a superbly colored-in landscape. The director aims for an in-your-face contrast of images between these vistas and the grainy texture of Robby Muller's ("Dead Man") handheld camera work.

From the wind, rain, and clouds to the crackling waves of the North Sea, von Trier creates an unsettling world to balance the equally emotional subject matter. No film last year, with the exception of Mike Leigh's "Secrets and Lies", is as overwhelming and profound. With a story



Jan (Stellan Skarsgard) and Bess (Emily Watson) in a scene from *Breaking the Waves*

that eerily transcends cinema's standard love narratives; "Breaking the Waves" delivers. It shatters the surface, giving us a fierce examination of spirituality, devotion, and sex.

**** (out of four) A+
2 hours. 38 min. Rated R.

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Surf the WWW. to make Spring Break travel plans

By BRANDY GILL
Web Editor

It's almost here! That mid semester break we all look forward to but never seems to come soon enough. Spring Break '97! What are you doing this year? Haven't thought about it yet? It's just around the corner and if you're the type of person who likes to plan ahead use the internet. It'll save you time and money.

If you don't really know where you want to go, you just know you gotta get outta here, check out

www.studentexpress.com. This site has pictures and information on all the popular spots such as Cancun, South Beach, Mazatland, and of course various islands in the Caribbean. You can check out different travel packages which often include flights, hotel accommodations, airport transfers, meal deals, and parties, parties, parties. They have online registration and if any of their trips tickle your fancy they'll snail mail you some brochures and such.

However, they didn't offer much by the way of prices and on a college student's budget this is a particularly important topic. So if you're like me and want just the nitty gritty check out www.spring-breaktravel.com. This company just gives it to you straight. What's included in a trip and how much it's gonna cost. The prices seem reasonable but these two sites are not the only ones that offer travel pack-

Where it's @

ages for the party-hungry, over-worked, stressed-out college student. Use a search engine like Yahoo! (www.yahoo.com) and you'll turn up dozens.

Now, if you've ever wanted to play travel agent or just have thought booking a trip through an agency was a pain in the butt, good news! Thanks to modern science you too can book your trips from home or the computer lab, wherever you have access to the net.

There are several sites that allow you to browse for the best airline tickets available and book them yourself. You can do the same with hotels and cars. A good site to check out is www.reservations.com.

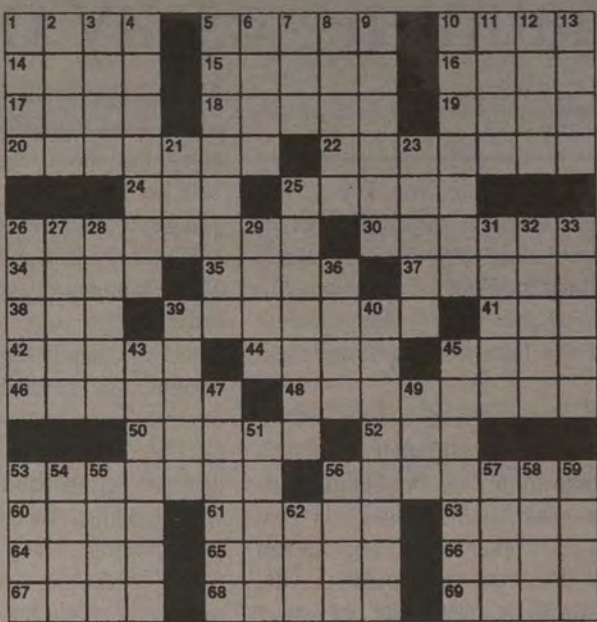
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Your tickets, itinerary and confirmations arrive the next day via FedEx. Well ... you get the picture :)

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions e-mail me at blg47360@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu.



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- 1 Traffic sign
 - 5 Up
 - 10 Romp
 - 14 Church head
 - 15 Took an oath
 - 16 Storm
 - 17 Prayer ending
 - 18 Jordan, for one
 - 19 Equal
 - 20 Lawmaking bodies
 - 22 Pencil rubbers
 - 24 Negative prefix
 - 25 By oneself
 - 26 Comes before
 - 30 Light washings
 - 34 Acting part
 - 35 Direction
 - 37 Steps over a fence
 - 38 Freudian term
 - 39 Unfavorable
 - 41 Witnessed
 - 42 First-rate
 - 44 Great Lake
 - 45 Destiny
 - 46 Ranked
 - 48 Added up: var.
 - 50 Measures
 - 52 Pair
 - 53 Eye makeup
 - 56 Richly decorated
 - 60 Notion
 - 61 Poem
 - 63 Joy
 - 64 Gist
 - 65 Cut
 - 66 English school
 - 67 Punta del —
 - 68 Across: pref.
 - 69 Warning word
- DOWN
- 1 Resorts
 - 2 Heavy book
 - 3 Unclosed
 - 4 Contrition
 - 5 Rose
 - 6 "— the night before..."
 - 7 Marshy place
 - 8 Staggering
 - 9 Extreme fright
 - 10 Gift
 - 11 Wash
 - 12 Ripening factor
 - 13 Strong desires
 - 21 — the line (obey)
 - 23 Flavoring
 - 25 States as true
 - 26 Fourth estate
 - 27 Rascal
 - 28 Wed in secret
 - 29 Roof feature
 - 31 Strong fiber
 - 32 Make jubilant
 - 33 Stitched
 - 36 Small group
 - 39 Place for sports
 - 40 Homesteaders
 - 43 Impart knowledge
 - 45 Whipped
 - 47 Most serious
 - 49 Deep respect
 - 51 Candle



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Lynch's dark stretch of highway comes to dead end

By DEAN G. LEWIS
Entertainment Editor

In David Lynch's first big-screen acid trip since "Wild At Heart", Bill Pullman tries in vain to shake the nice guy mold ("Sleepless in Seattle") he's been in for years and keep up the change of pace ("Independence Day") he's recently stumbled upon. The weird, independent mind of Lynch lured him to "Lost Highway", a groggy tale about a late-night saxophonist who finds himself framed for the dismemberment of his wife (Patricia Arquette).

Sentenced to the chair, he sits alone in his cell, stares at the ceiling and, in time, metamorphoses into Pete Dayton (Balthazar Getty), a troubled teen who hangs with the ranks of a local crime boss named Mr. Eddy (Robert Loggia).

Mr. Eddy is laughable. He hates when drivers tailgate him,

Movie Review

has a blonde bombshell for a gun moll, and runs an underground porno ring. The guy makes tapes of all kinds of women and lures Arquette into the fire with incomprehensible results. Nothing really new for a Lynch film.

Pieces of "Lost Highway" look a lot like Adrian Lyne's "Jacob's Ladder", especially the sequences when the shaky Pullman goes nuts and dreams of monsters, exploding heads, and a white-faced Robert Blake.

Still, "Highway" does manage to pull a few nerves. His film burns with the heart-pounding horror of a maverick director who's always been ambitious enough to reveal order through the unexplained.

** 1/2 (out of four) C+
2 hrs. 15 min. Rated R.

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Woman, 53, accosted by 2 males in parking lot

By LINDSAY MALANGA
Staff Writer

A 53-year-old woman was approached by two black males on Feb. 13 at approximately 7:15 p.m. in the Administration Building parking lot, according to a UCF Police Department report.

The males grabbed and shoved her against her car and touched her against her will. The woman was able to yell and scare them off.

The attackers have not yet been identified.

In other campus crime news reported by the UCF Police Department:

• Lisa M. Casanova reported on Feb. 17 a stolen Magnavox portable CD player from her 1994 Nissan pick-up truck. Casanova returned to her car to find the passenger-side door had been broken into. Nothing else was taken.

Campus Crime

• Efrain Jimenez was arrested on Feb. 17 for driving with a suspended license.

• James F. Kopp, 29, was arrested on Feb. 13 for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of burglary tools and loitering and prowling.

• Stephanie Swingle and Ronald Uhland were charged with possession of alcoholic beverages under the age of 21. Both students were at the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity house on Feb. 13 wearing wrist bands indicating they were of legal drinking age. Steven Herzlich and Matthew Beilenson also were charged with possession of alcohol under the age of 21 at the Pike house.

• Ryan Jest, Heath Tapscott and Jason Taddie were charged with possession of open containers of alcoholic beverages on Feb. 8. The three men were all older than 21, but they were found walking on a public sidewalk.

lic sidewalk.

• Matthew Shaw was charged with possession of alcohol under the age of 21 on Feb. 8. Shaw was found in Greek Park holding a cup containing beer and five beer bottles.

• On Feb. 7, Damian Sykes was arrested for possession of alcohol under the age of 21 and for possession of cannabis.

• On Feb. 13, Beverly Laasko reported her vehicle broken into. The forced entry appeared to have been done with a coat hanger.

• Amy Strode reported a stolen planner containing credit cards on Feb. 12.

• Jeff Padgett was forcibly escorted out of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house on Feb. 9. Padgett, who police say was intoxicated, refused to cooperate and was handcuffed.

• On Feb. 3, the School of Communications reported someone

removed a hard drive and monitor from room 206 in the Health and Fine Arts Building.

• Edward Buonamano reported two stolen monitors, a mouse and keyboard estimated at \$1,035 on Feb. 11 from Research Pavilion.

• William T. Coleman reported on Feb. 7 a stolen bicycle from the bike rack outside of Phillips Hall.

• Dana Wachtel reported on Feb. 9 a 12-inch slash was made on her vehicle on the driver's-side rear window.

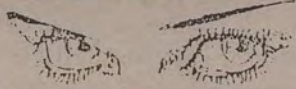
• Alejandro Lorie was found driving a vehicle while his license was under nine different suspensions. Some of the suspensions included failure to pay, failure to appear and suspended for having more than 18 points on his license.

• Michael Torretaa reported on Feb. 17 that someone stole approximately 35-40 compact discs from his vehicle.



Campus jam
The rock band MT Minds plays on the campus Green last week. The band's music could be heard throughout campus.

Photo by MIKE MARSHALL



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Photo by PETER KUNDIS

Workshop in the woods

Patrick Massa of the Florida Project Learning Tree Workshop instructs students Saturday at the UCF Arboretum. The workshop stressed environmental education and featured numerous educators, pre-service teachers and faculty. Project Learning Tree is an environmental educational program designed for teachers to prepare students about conservation practices and resource use. Massa will be on campus in April to hold another workshop. For more information, contact Massa at (904) 428-1840 or Cindy Stuebben at the College of Education, 823-3742.

Minter optimistic of repeat effort

By KEN JACKSON
Staff Writer

The UCF men's golf team kick off their quest for another conference championship this weekend at the First Bridges All-American Intercollegiate Invitational in Biloxi, Miss., hosted by the University of Southern Mississippi.

The team's spring schedule includes four more tournaments as a prelude to the Trans America Athletic Conference championship at the end of April. UCF has won the team competition the last two years, and Golden Knight players won the individual titles in 1995 (by Eric Tuscan) and 1996 (Jason Opal).

A three-peat isn't out of the question, according to head coach Kip Minter.

"We can win that," Minter said. "Some schools in the conference do have good teams. The [TAAC] tournament course is a hard one."

But Minter is content to focus on this weekend's tournament and the following weekend's event, the San Diego State Invitational.

"I'm reasonably happy with our squad right now," Minter said. "It isn't as deep as it ought to be or has been in the past. Production from our number three, four, and five guys in the line-up is important for our team score."

In collegiate golf, five players compete each day, with the lowest four scores combined to form a team score.

The team got off to a slow fall season start but finished carrying momentum by placing in the top five in their final three events. In the last two, junior Jason Opal finished second in individual play. "I hope to be in position to win a few tournaments this spring," Opal said. "That's all you can ask for — to get out quick and win one early."

Things weren't settled down for the team in beginning of Fall, but we jelled and the new guys got more experienced."

Opal was the team's key player during the fall season, compiling a consistent 72.58 stroke average.

The "new guys" — freshmen Jeff McPherson and Simon Sainz and sophomore Brian Bombard — along with senior captain Jeff Brunelle (second on the team with a 73.47 stroke average), form the five-man team Minter selected to play in the first two spring tournaments. Freshman Jeff Whitman and sophomore Josh Waring both played in fall events and are available to bolster Minter's squad.

Consistency should linger from the final fall events. Minter feels the new players are now comfortable with Florida's warm playing conditions. They also are more comfortable with Minter, considering the fall season was his first as a collegiate golf coach.

Minter took over the reigns in April of last year after former coach Mike Schumaker was relieved by Athletic Director Steve Sloan for alleged financial improprieties.

"We need to push each other as a team," Jeff Brunelle said. "I intend to push Jason this spring to maybe elevate his game. If we all do that as a group, we should elevate as a team."

"I think we'll see a tough field in Mississippi," Minter said. "We can win against the field we'll see in California. And in Alabama [at the Blue-Gray Invitational in late March], the SEC schools we face will give us a lot of competition. This is a challenging schedule overall."

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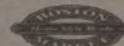
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Notebook

Baseball

Second baseman Eric Riggs is currently riding an 11 game hitting streak, the longest of all the Golden Knights ... Rightfielder Frank Fucile needs five hits to record his 100th as a Golden Knight.

Football

Spring football drills kick off Saturday at UCF with the Golden Knights conducting their first of 15 practice sessions in preparation for the Spring game April 5. Among head coach Gene McDowell's agenda items this spring will be finding replacements for four defensive starters and two offensive starters.

The biggest hole to fill will be the vacancy left at linebacker where all three starters, John Bryant, Nakia Reddick and Kendrick Thomas were lost. McDowell will also attempt to find a replacement for Charlie Pierce who handled all of UCF's kicking and punting duties for the past four seasons.

Men's Golf

The men's golf team will resume play this spring, making their first appearance at the First Bridges All-American Intercollegiate tournament, March 3-4 in Bay of St. Louis, MS. The two-time, defending TAAC champions continue to follow the lead of juniors, Jason Opal and Jeff Brunelle.

Women's Golf

The women's golf team will return to competition this weekend at the Lady

Sports Slate	
	Feb. 26
Men's Tennis vs. Eastern Michigan, 2 p.m.	
	Feb. 27
Women's Basketball vs. Southeast Louisiana, 7:30 p.m.	
Women's Tennis vs. Oklahoma, 2 p.m.	
Women's Track at Nike Fast Times, Gainesville	
	Feb. 28
Baseball at Big 10 Tire Blue/Gray Classic, Montgomery vs. South Alabama, 2 p.m.	
Women's Golf at Lady Gator Invitational, Gainesville	
Men's Tennis vs. Depaul, 2 p.m.	
	March 1
Baseball at Big 10 Tire Blue/Gray Classic, vs. Vanderbilt, 11 a.m.	
Women's Basketball vs. Jacksonville State, 4 p.m.	
Women's Crew at Keuper Cup Regatta, Fellsmere	
Women's Golf at Lady Gator Invitational	
Women's Tennis vs. USF, 1 p.m.	
Women's Track at USAT&F National Championships at Indianapolis, IN	
	March 2
Baseball at Big 10 Tire Blue/Gray Classic, vs. Lamar, 11 a.m.	
Women's golf at Lady Gator Invitational	
	March 3
Men's Golf at First Bridges All-American Intercollegiate at Bay of St. Louis, MS	

Gator Invitational in Gainesville Friday through Sunday. Last year at the Lady Gator invitational the Golden Knights placed 9th overall. Jenny Hagman and former Golden Knight Kristen Putnam tied for 25th.

Women's Soccer

The UCF women's soccer coach Karen Richter announced the signing of four play-

ers to national letters of intent on Wed. as Cally Howell (Winter Park), Alice Uhler (Lilburn, Ga.), Sarah Leathers (Athens, Ga.), and Claire Kohake (Cincinnati) all inked with the four-time defending TAAC champions.

"We're very excited about this talented recruiting class," said UCF coach Karen Richter. "We still expect to sign a few more players as well."

Men's tennis splits on road

By ABBEY FEBLES
Staff Writer

UCF men's tennis team returned home from a bittersweet weekend on the road.

The Knights, who were 3-1 after their victory over TAAC member FIU, left for Tallahassee where they played Jacksonville on Friday and Florida State on Saturday.

On their first day, the men battled for a swift and overwhelming 7-0 win against JU (2-5).

UCF's No. 1 seeded player Matias Akesson was the only team member to play a three-set match, his opponent Kurt Clemmons taking the first set and losing the rest for a 6-7, 6-0, 6-0 final score.

The rest of the singles players dispatched their competitors in the first two sets. With the results from Friday, which brought their season record to 4-1, the Knights moved into their second day of competition.

But FSU, ranked 43rd nationally, was too much to handle. UCF won only one of six matches. The win came at the hands of Pelle Brunskog, ranked 57th in the nation, who defeated Ty Braswell 7-6, 6-3.

"We knew we had to play very well against a nationally ranked team like FSU, especially since they were playing at home," Coach Gail Falkenberg said. The UCF men are now 4-2 and 2-0 in the TAAC.

Crew teams win events

By MIKE BRAMSON
Contributing writer

The University of Central Florida crew began its much anticipated season last Saturday at Lake Beresford in DeLand. Taking on crews from the University of Florida, Embry-Riddle and host Stetson, the Golden Knights hit the water for their first test of the 1997 season.

Of 13 events that spanned the day, UCF took first place in five. Against UF, the Varsity Men's Four won by open water.

The women also had a strong showing as they took first in the Lightweight Four, Junior Varsity Eight, Varsity Eight and the Novice Women's Eight events.

This week the team will be preparing for the Keuper Cup held in Fellsmere this Saturday.

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Foundation in place for Knights to prosper

BY TONY MEJIA
Assistant Sports Editor

Despite this season's lackluster performance, the building blocks may be in place for one of the finest seasons Central Florida can put together— next season.

Sure, the battle cry for a rebuilding season is always 'Wait til' next year', but in this case it appears to be true. The freshmen who have suffered growing pains through this season will be sturdy sophomores next year, capable of providing solid play. Offensively, despite the loss of the top three point shooter in school history in Harry Kennedy, UCF appears to have found a gold mine.

Mark Jones, the highly regarded transfer from Minnesota, will bring instant credibility to the Knights' backcourt by providing solid play at the point and shooting guard. Look for Jones to fill those duties while the younger Cory Perry and D'Quarius Stewart platoon around him.

"I hope to bring leadership and court presence to this team next season," said Jones, whose decision to leave the Big Ten shocked many around the country. "This season has been really difficult to go through, watching my younger teammates struggle and not being able to help them on the court. It's been very frustrating."

Jones has seen improvement in all of UCF's freshmen, especially Perry and Stewart, and made a bold prediction.

"This has been the first time since playing basketball in the sixth grade that I have

been on a losing team. This will not happen again. These teams better get it while they can, because next year we will be vying for the TAAC championship," said Jones.

Joining Jones through the transfer ranks is Georgia Tech transplant Bucky Hodge, who figures to be a fixture in the middle for the Golden Knights. Hodge will eat a lot of space in the middle of the paint while allowing Davin Granberry and Scott White the opportunity to join him in a potentially giant frontcourt. Hodge has the excellent ability of facing the basket and showing off his solid jumper, despite his 6-9, 250 pound frame. In fact, with Hodge, Granberry, White, Joe Cooper, Mario Lovett, co-captain Tony Marlow, and newcomer Beronti Simms, UCF will have interchangeable parts at the post positions, a luxury that few teams in the TAAC have, and even fewer can handle.

Brad Traina will take his spot as UCF's leading returning scorer, while having Inyo Cue, Stewart and the aforementioned Jones alongside him at the wing spots. Of course while, Jones will see his share of time at the point, Perry and Chad Steckline are scheduled to return along with ever-improving walk-on Brian Connor. Yes, the Knights will be deep and



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Fun at the Arena

UCF alumna Michele Cooper enjoys a night of Knights basketball Saturday with her children.

talented next season but will need an x-factor, according to Jones to be truly successful.

"I was a little bit surprised by the lack of fan support UCF receives. I'm used to playing before 16,000 people and folks already in the gym during pre-game shoot-

arounds," said Jones. "The fans have to get behind this team. There is no reason we shouldn't be getting 5,000 people to come out for every ball game, especially for winning basketball, something they'll be treated to next year."

UCF fans can only hope.

Texas swing unkind to baseball team

By KEN JACKSON
Staff Writer

Forget the Texas Two Step. The Golden Knights want no part of it.

The UCF baseball team traveled to the Lone Star State this weekend to play in the Marriott West Loop Houston Invitational.

Three games. Three losses. Three reasons for losing.

In the tournament opener last Friday, an 8-2 loss to Southwest Texas State, the Knights missed out on multiple scoring opportunities. Their two runs came on 11 hits, and they left 10 men on base. Down 5-2 after six and a half innings, reliever Jimmy Papa was tagged for three runs and was relieved by lefty Eddie Rojas.

On Saturday, the University of Houston roughed up UCF starter Matt Luboznyski for seven runs in the third inning. The bullpen gave up eight more on the day. The Knights scored four in the ninth but finished on the losing end, 15-6.

The Knights put up their best fight against Oklahoma. This time, UCF couldn't get the bat on the ball, as four Sooner pitchers combined on a five-hitter to defeat the Knights 6-4.

Three errors cost the Knights chances to get back in the game.

Despite the 0-3 run, two Knights stood out. Leadoff hitter Will Croud went 5-for-10 in the series, raising his average to .385 and on-base percentage to .514. He also hit his first home run of the year.

Eric Riggs also homered, his third of 1997, and went 6-14, lifting his average to .359 and slugging percentage to a team-high .563.

But the bullpen continues to struggle. Five relievers (Papa, Kevin Gordon, Tony Wolfe, Eddie Rojas, Jeff Sloan) have ERAs over 6. Batters are hitting .319 off of that group.


The lone bright spot out of the bullpen has been ace Marco Ramirez. He is 2-1 with a 2.25 ERA and has recorded 24 strikeouts in 18 innings. He has both of UCF's saves.

The Golden Knights have lost four in a row after having a five-game winning streak snapped at home last week by Bethune-Cookman College.

After going to Daytona Beach to play the Wildcats on Tuesday, the Knights will play this weekend in the Big 10 Tire Blue/Gray Classic in Montgomery, Ala.

They will face Vanderbilt, Lamar, and the University of South Alabama, the latter ranked 20th in this week's Baseball America college poll.

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Knights will take early bow to new conference champion

BY TONY MEJIA
Assistant Sports Editor

When the crown of TAAC Conference Champion is passed to this year's winner, the defending champion won't be there to take a bow.

Central Florida bowed out early.

The final two-game homestand of the regular season saw UCF officially miss the playoffs with a 91-75 loss Thursday night against Florida International. UCF came out strong to take a 19-8 lead early in the game. FIU never quit however, and rode the solid shooting of Marcus Carreno to a 48-37 halftime lead. Carreno, a walk-on who played under current FIU coach "Shakey" Rodriguez in high school, connected on four of six three-point attempts, and led six Golden Panthers in double figures with 16 points.

His shooting wasn't what did it, however, as a 20-1 run to start the second half gave FIU a 32-point lead with 15:00 to play. The Knights cut the FIU lead to 13 with five minutes to play. UCF, though, could get no closer.

"I was really proud of our guys for not giving up and getting the deficit down to where they did," Coach Kirk Speraw said. "It was disappointing though, because with a few more free throws which we should have made, we would have been in position to make a run at them."

For Speraw, the loss guaranteed his team would miss a postseason tournament for the

"With a few more free throws, we would have been in position to make a run at them."

**— Kirk Speraw
UCF men's basketball coach**

first time in his career. Not dwelling on the past, he insisted on having his team ready for the finale, Saturday night against Florida Atlantic.

UCF again started quickly, building a 25-15 lead behind the surprising play of freshmen Cory Perry and Mario Lovett, who shared the team lead in scoring with seven each at that point.

FAU came back in a game that was similar to the UCF loss two nights earlier.

Freshman Akbar Cook led the Owls' first-half rally with his inside scoring to deliver FAU a 42-37 halftime advantage. The second half too belonged to the Owls, who broke away led by 5-11 senior guard Philip Huyler, who nearly achieved a triple double, tallying 15 points, 16 boards, and eight assists.

Harry Kennedy led the Knights in scoring with 13 points in his final collegiate game, the 21st time this season Kennedy had led UCF.

The Knights finished the season by losing their final six games, finishing 7-19.



Photo by TIM SPRINGER

Mario Lovett and his UCF teammates will be staying home for the TAAC tournament.

Tournament could prove to be a 'Bear' for women

By DEREK GONSOULIN
Staff Writer

If earning a spot in the conference tournament was a hurdle, than defeating the first round opponent could be a wall.

Mercer (15-12, 7-7), defeated UCF, 61-46 at Mercer on Saturday. The win gave the Bears a season sweep of the Knights, and perhaps a first round pairing between the two for the Trans America Athletic Conference tournament in DeLand on March 6.

With a .500 record in the conference, the Knights are in a fight for the third seed with four other schools: Campbell, College of Charleston, Stetson and Mercer. "I really haven't figured out where we stand in the conference right now," UCF coach Lynn Bria said.

UCF (10-14, 7-7) defeated Georgia State, 80-61 on Feb. 20, giving UCF a chance to repeat as TAAC tournament champions. But a first-round match with Mercer could be difficult, Bria said. "They can stop us with a man-to-man defense where most others use a zone," said Bria, whose team has been held to 18 points in the first half of both games against the Bears.

"In a zone, we have room to operate. Against Mercer's defense, it is tough to get open shots."

In order to avoid a first-round match with the Bears, UCF must

first defeat Southeast Louisiana, which defeated FIU for two of its five conference wins, and Jacksonville State, the tournament's no. 1 seed entering the final week of play.

Bria hopes this homestand is not a mirror image of the two games against Florida Atlantic and FIU. A listless UCF team was blown out by last place FAU before losing 73-71 to FIU two days later. "I think this team struggles with motivating itself for the teams it's supposed to beat," Bria said.

Jacksonville State, which held UCF to a season low 41 points in the conference opener for both teams, has been the surpass of the TAAC. "They are my pick to win the conference tournament," said Wayne Allen, the coach at Florida Atlantic.

"The first time we played them it was a blur," said Bria, whose team was held to 15 first-half points in the previous meeting.

"They had been off for three weeks leading into the game and they were all fired up to play. But we can't wait to play them here," said Bria, who knows State's only three TAAC losses have come on the road.

Bria said a loss to SE Louisiana or Jacksonville State could prove more harmful than the Knights' seeding.

"You win now to prepare yourself to win in the future," Bria said. "I fear with this team they think they can turn it on."

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Setbacks have kept Larry from reaching potential

By **DEREK GONSOULIN**
Staff Writer

Coaches and recruiters used, 'phenomenal athlete' and 'play-maker' when describing Eustis High's all-time leading scorer, guard LaDonna Larry.

One year later, she sits at the end of the UCF bench.

Fate has made life tough on Larry since she signed with the Knights on Nov. 14, 1995. Coach Jerry Richardson, the reason she chose UCF, died in a car accident on Aug. 30. Interim coach Lynn Bria needed another forward, so Larry moved from the guard position that had made her an all-state selection. An early-season ankle injury kept her out of three games and her play has not been the same since.

"I think the adjustment to college basketball in general has been rough for her," Bria said. "She is the only freshman on the team, so she has no one to go through the trials with her. She is basically alone."

Larry's father, Albert Larry, said the events surrounding her freshman year have caused her to fall into a pattern many first-year players face. "She has set herself into a role that there is a next year," Albert Larry said. "I hope she gets out of that."

Her senior year at Eustis, Larry said her only problem was the pressure of being a Division I signee with a year to play. "It was stressing because I just wanted to focus on my senior year and not worry about college," Larry said.

"After I signed early, I worried a lot during the year that if I played bad they would say this is a division I player and look how she is playing."

Larry answered, averaging 21.4 points, 9.3 rebounds and 3.8 steals a game. In a playoff game against South Sumter, she was a rebound shy of a quadruple-double: 40 points, 11 steals, 10 assists and 9 rebounds.

It was those numbers that led Stetson coach Dee Romine to recruit Larry. "She definitely has a lot of talent and offensive ability," Romine said.

"(Larry) is the kind of kid we thought could fit into a transition type game. We felt she was the type of player who would fit into our program in terms of academics and athletics."

Shann Hart, UCF's women's basketball recruiter during the 1995-96 season, saw potential in Larry.

"She played at a school known for athletics and her father was the men's basketball coach, so she should be knowledgeable about the game. Plus, we needed a point guard and she appeared to be the answer."

After traveling to Stetson on an unofficial visit, Larry went to UCF on the first of a five-school tour. But she never got past Richardson's personality.

"Coach Richardson really made me feel like I could talk to him," Larry said. "It was like I knew him for years. It seemed like he cared so that was the deciding factor for me."

"I thought he had an effervescent personality; he had a lot of charisma," Albert Larry said of Richardson. "The girl seemed to like him a lot, so I guess that did have an effect on her."

Hart said the rumors that followed about who would be the next coach could have caused more problems. "Bria and I both felt bad about the way things happened," said Hart, now the coach at Mount St. Mary's of Maryland.

"There were rumors that another former assistant or I would come back to coach the team, but things like that spread under such circumstances."

Though she hardly knew Richardson, Larry said she could see how hard the tragedy hit the team. "He was a father figure," said teammate Kelli Murray.

"The way things happened it was kind of shaky," Larry said.

"I came into a program and this is what happens. Then you look at your teammates and everything seems like its going crazy and it kind of felt like you weren't secure, you know?"

With Bria, the former Texas Women's University coach, Murray said she stabilized. "Bria and Richardson had very similar styles," Murray said. "It made it much easier to switch from one to the other."

Larry said adjusting to college was as tough as adjusting to a new coach. "It was hard because of what happened, but as far as getting used to Bria, this entire year has been an adjustment for me," Larry said.

Albert Larry found Bria's straight-forward demeanor to



LaDonna Larry hopes to regain her high school form.

work best. "That's the way I like it," Albert Larry said.

"That's the way I've done it. There is no other way to do it than to be straight forward and truthful. She's done that so far, so I think she's done well."

Then came the position change.

UCF had only three players to fill the power forward and center positions. This forced Larry to move to forward behind leading scorer, senior Shantrice Saxon. "I definitely saw her as a forward," Bria said.

Bob Corwin, who scouted Larry for Virginia, thought the position change would cause a problem for Larry. "She's playing the two forward positions at UCF after being a guard at Eustis," Corwin said. "Based on her size (5-foot-7), I think she really was a penetrating guard." The switch limited Larry's playing time, but Murray said the freshman handled the change well.

"I think they brought her in to be a guard, but we have a lack of post players, so coach Bria switched her to the post," Murray said. "I'd say she picked up the position pretty quickly."

In her first game, Larry scored 18 points off the bench. She followed with 12 points and 11 rebounds against Southern Mississippi. "She came out on fire," Bria said.

But the glory was short lived as Larry stepped on the edge of the UCF Arena floor during practice and sprained her ankle. She missed the next three games.

Since the injury, Larry has had no more than six points or six rebounds in a game. "I'm still not playing well because it hurts so bad," Larry said.

"I don't want it to happen again, so when I came back I was so busy concentrating on the ankle that I didn't play like I was supposed to."

Bria said after the three games Larry missed, UCF had two weeks off. "She actually didn't play for three weeks," Bria said. "How a freshman learns and adapts is by playing. The time off really took her out of the flow of the game."

Romine said the ankle injury has kept Larry from reaching her potential. "I think that her mobility is something the injury had an impact on," Romine said.

"When I saw Larry in high school she could score and create points for her teammates. Maybe she doesn't feel confident to jump stop and explode up for her jumper like she used to."

The problems facing Larry makes her adjustment to Division I more difficult.

Murray said that adjusting to college talent and the higher hustle can expose first-year players. "You have to make up for your weaknesses," Murray said.

Corwin agreed with Murray. "Struggling is a matter of life for first year players," Corwin said.

"You first have to get used to the players around you. Then it's a case of trying to fit in and maybe you're not looking to score big numbers. Maybe you're looking to assume a role that you can get comfortable in and help the team and it sometimes takes longer than you would like." Bria said Larry still contributes. "I think she is gaining back some of the confidence she lost early in the season," Bria said. "She may not put up the scoring numbers, but she fights for rebounds and plays good defense."

Albert Larry said his daughter should be playing better. "She hasn't contributed the way she can contribute. I realize she is playing a position that is completely foreign to her, but at Eustis she set all kinds of scoring records. It's unbelievable to look at her performances now and to compare it with the past four years. She is not even close to being the same type of player."

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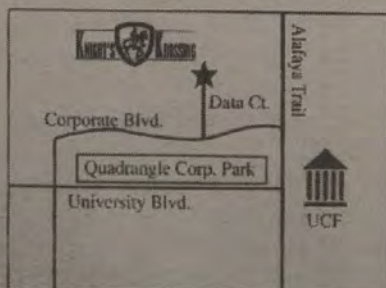
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Phase II Coming Soon

Sports

Kennedy's career makes dreams become reality

By TIM SPRINGER
Sports Editor

UCF senior Harry Kennedy is surrounded by family, friends and autograph seeking children shortly after the final seconds expired on his college basketball career. His journey has been mentally strenuous and physically exhausting. And now Kennedy is hit with the realization that his basketball career may be over. Yet, the 22 year old is wise enough to realize he has lived a dream.

As a kid in South Florida, Kennedy could often be found shooting hoops at his favorite court -- an old weather-beaten backboard attached to a rusted rim that rarely had a net. It was always the same scenario when Kennedy was taking his final shot before going home for the evening. Pretending to be former Boston Celtic Larry Bird, Kennedy would begin the countdown, dribble through imaginary defenders and put up a high-arching jumper as the buzzer sounded. Whether or not the shots fell, Kennedy doesn't recall. He was too caught up in his own world -- eyes closed, arms reaching for the sky, while imagining a chanting crowd calling his name.

"Throughout my life I've dreamed about playing in the big game," Kennedy said. "When I was in high school I dreamed about playing in the state championship."



Out of the Know

Driven by his dreams, Kennedy helped guide Hollywood Christian to a state championship. He considered the accomplishment a dream come true, but he wanted more.

"After we won the state title I needed something else to shoot for," Kennedy said. "I always wanted to play big time basketball ... division one basketball. And that was something that drove me even more."

While Kennedy was dreaming of playing at the Division I level, reality had him running the floor at Miami-Dade Community College. Overlooked as a high school player, it soon became evident that he was ready for the next level. After his sophomore season at MDCC, in which he was named to the All-Southern Conference team after averaging 18 points and leading the nation with a 91.4 percent free throw average, the UCF coaching staff made sure he quickly became a Golden Knight.

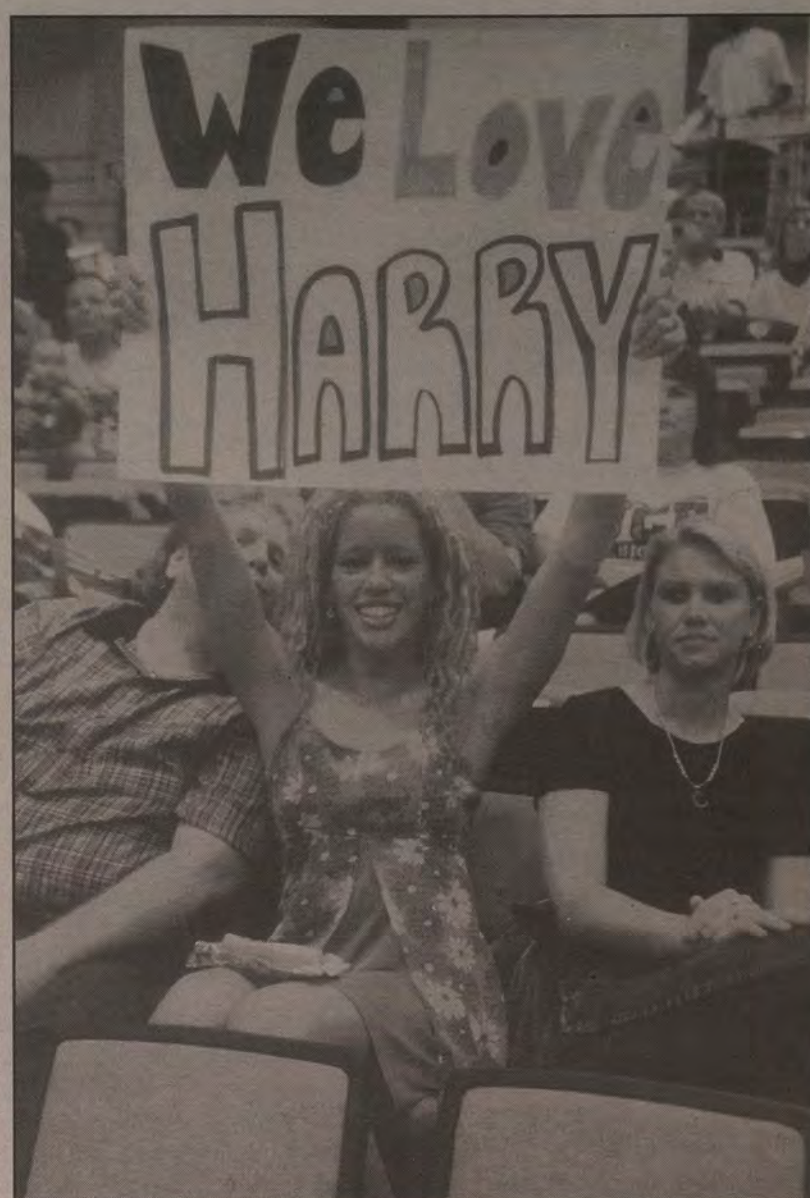
"Harry proved himself to be one of the premiere shooters in the country," head coach Kirk Speraw said. "He's always been a threat from the three-point arc and that threat will be missed."

After joining UCF, Kennedy wasted little time leaving his mark in the record books. In his first season, "Hot Hand" Harry became an arc bishop. His 94 three-pointers made in the 1995-96 campaign set a single season record and his efforts played a key-role in the Golden Knights' charge through the TAAC Tournament and into the NCAA 64-team battle. A year later he continued to add to his chapters in the record books by becoming UCF's all-time leading three-point shooter.

Kennedy soon became a game plan for both teams. For the Golden Knights, Kennedy remained the ace looking for the hole, while opposing teams tried to trump him with their best defensive stoppers.

"I got frustrated a lot this season," Kennedy said. "TAAC teams started playing with the theory -- stop Harry, stop UCF. It was frustrating."

The frustrations continued as Kennedy and his teammates let conference games slip away until eventually



Photos by TIM SPRINGER

Fans express their appreciation of Harry Kennedy during his final game as a Golden Knight.

they were eliminated from qualifying for this year's TAAC Tournament.

"Last year I was determined to get to the [NCAA] tournament," Kennedy said. "It was my drive. Now this season is over, so I have to find something else to shoot for, and right now I'm leaning towards playing in the European leagues."

First to worst is a tough road to travel, but Kennedy knows his next journey may be the biggest test of his life. His dreams of continuing to play basketball are shared by many other college level standouts that will be left without a chair when the music stops.

"There's some great players trying to make it to the next level," Kennedy said. "I know I'm not ready to jump into the NBA right now, but maybe a few years in Europe will change that."

Watch-out world! Harry's dreaming again.

Plans for new recreational building lack funds

by DEREK GONSOLIN
Staff Writer

It was a dreary Sunday afternoon at the rain-slicked, outdoor basketball courts at UCF. A few scattered students looking to shoot away their week-long tensions play tentatively; they are afraid to slip on the water-logged surface.

"It would be nice to have an indoor court for the weekends," said Curtis Hooper, a senior majoring in accounting.

But without proper funding, a planned recreational facility cannot be built, said Loren Knutson, UCF's recreational services director.

"We're trying to come up with a proposal that [President Hitt] can look at so we can take it to the Board of Regents and try to get funding," Knutson said.

Pete Newman, facilities planning direc-

tor at UCF, said the current plan has the recreational building being built by 1999 or 2000. Newman said the building could be built over the current recreational offices, pool and outdoor volleyball, racquetball and basketball courts.

"It all depends on the funding," Newman said with a sigh.

Newman estimated the price of recreational building to be \$10.5 million. Knutson feels the amount is underestimated. "It will definitely cost more than that," said Knutson, indicating the amount would probably reach into the upper teens in millions.

"We have 10,000 students who live on or within a mile of campus. [Newman's estimate] would not be enough to satisfy UCF's needs," he added.

Student body President Aaron Scavron agreed with Knutson by saying the esti-

mates he has heard were just below \$20 million.

Scavron said a major reason for the high cost was the estimated 48,000 students that will attend UCF by 2010. "Our facilities are limited," he said.

"[Student Government's] feeling is that we need a new facility to meet the expected increase in student population."

The money to pay for a recreational facility should have come from the Capital Improvement Tuition Fund.

CITF, which is supported by state universities placing a \$2.34 fee on each credit hour, is awarded by the Board of Regents for projects to help the schools that need it most.

But in 1993, then student body President Chris Marlin and Hitt signed an agreement that left only \$1 million of \$10 million allocated to UCF for the recreational

building project. Scavron said the \$1 million helped pay for the development of a Greek lodge.

In December of 1996, Scavron suggested UCF borrow funds by using the Activities and Service Fund as collateral. The Activities and Service Fund supports the campus activities board, school legal services and the salaries for administrators in the Student Union.

The latest idea, Knutson said, has UCF bonding money off the next CITF allotment due in the year 2000.

"This way, we can build the facility without charging the students here now for something they may never use," he said.

"We want to build a multi-million dollar facility, but it's going to come down to finding the money," Scavron said.

"Where is it going to come from?"