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UCF extends its reach into outer space

By **BRIAN SMITH**
News Editor

UCF students and faculty are working with NASA to design and construct a laser communication satellite scheduled to launch from the Space Shuttle in 2000.

The satellite's purpose is to send messages from space by the use of laser beams.

Ron Phillips, Florida Space Institute director, said the satellite will improve telecommunication service.

"For example, a new way of communicating with airplanes in flight," Phillips said. "Pilots could get weather information, each passenger could watch their own live television 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 \$11.2 million satellite will be 20 feet by 20 feet and weigh about 150 pounds. It was built to these specifications so it could be launched as a "Hitchhiker" canister on the shuttle or a small rocket.

Once in orbit, the satellite will

pass over the Florida Space Institute at Kennedy Space Center five times a day for 11 to 13 months.

A laser will track the satellite and a second laser will be aimed at reflectors and bounced back to a sensor array at the test site. The second laser will contain messages and will not be disrupted by atmospheric turbulence.

"Since the Greek wars, we have

sent messages by light, turning the source on and off," Phillips said. "We are sending messages by changing the frequency of the laser, a leading edge technology."

"It's wonderful when we can showcase the existing talent in the space industry here, and the partnerships between govern-

See **SATELLITE**, Page 4

H.E.R.O.s are found at UCF

By **GWEN R. RHODES**
Staff writer

Twenty five UCF Honor students are coordinating after-school club activities for kindergarten through fifth grade students in the University Honors' H.E.R.O. program (Hillcrest Elementary Reach Out).

Clubs sponsored by the Honor students range from the Art Club, Brain Bowl, Dance Club and International Club to the development of a Drama Club.

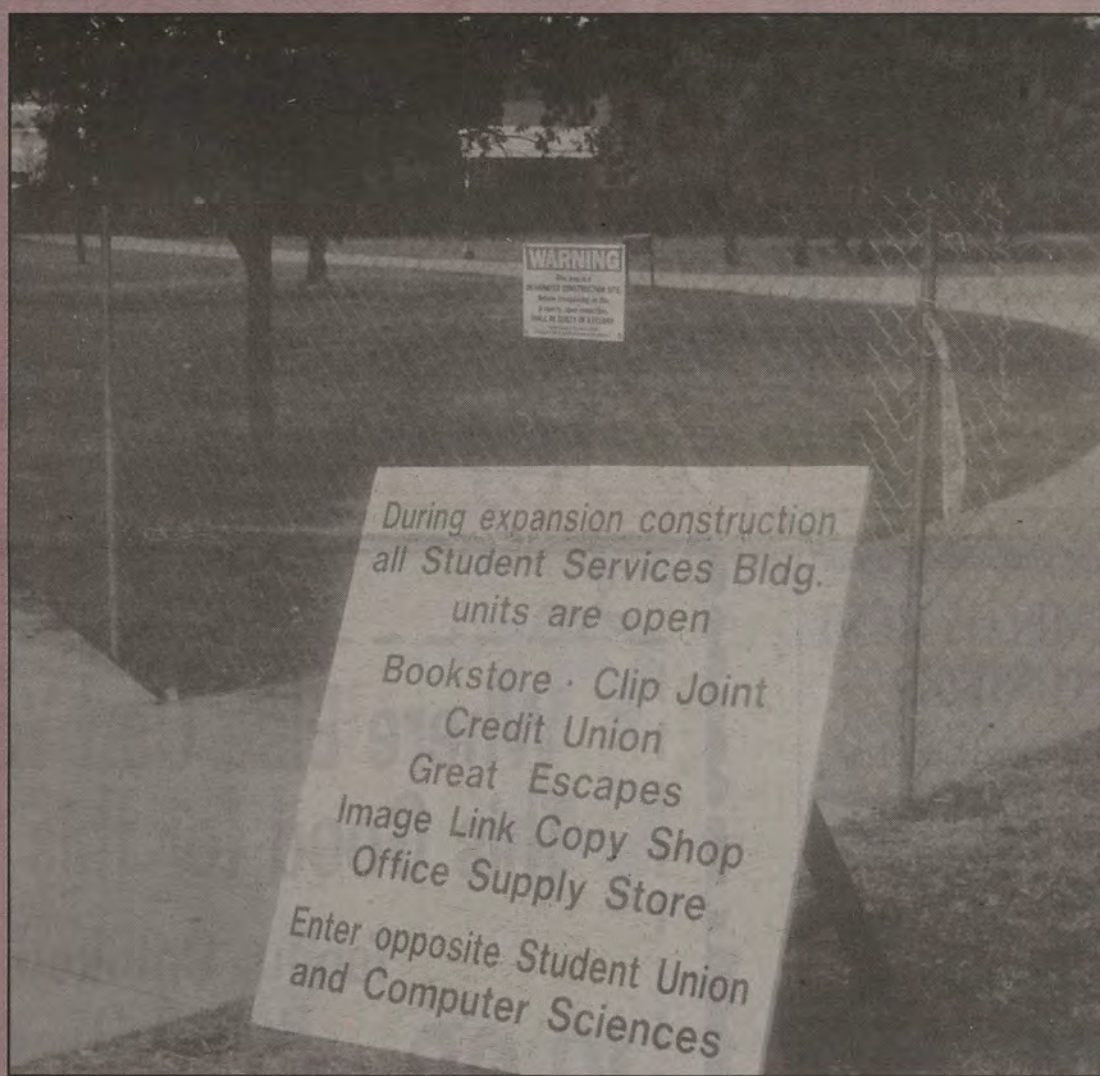
"Volunteerism is not a requirement of the Honors program, but is important from the perspective that these students have a gift and that gift could be shared with others," said Dr. Allyn MacLean Stearman, professor and director of the University Honors program. "One of the things I wanted to see happen was to be able to find a project in the community that we could participate in and give something back to the community.

"It was fate that we received a phone call from Leadership Orlando the very same week that we decided to locate a project that we could identify with, put resources into and keep as an ongoing project."

Kathleen M. Bartlett, assistant director of the Honors' program, was assigned the task of researching the opportunity Leadership Orlando offered to develop and coordinate the H.E.R.O. program.

"When they called us, the project seemed to suit us perfectly," said Bartlett. "We wanted to find

See **HONOR**, Page 5



Construction continues...



Photos by **AMBER BOWERS**

The UCF bookstore is now being operated by Barnes and Noble. It will expand by 25,000 feet.

Students in debt find help to pay bills

By **MAYERLINE MICHEL**
Staff Writer

"Credit cards are pure evil," education major Catherine Brown said, hitting her desk with her fist. Usually quiet, Brown became excited and used her hands to gesture as she explained she had a "mini-nervous breakdown" when creditors began calling her and pressuring her to pay her \$5,000 credit card debt.

"My parents had to take over my payments for a while," Brown said. "I make \$10,000 a year, and I owe half of that to credit card companies not counting the interest."

According to the National Credit Research Foundation, college students account for almost half of the \$285 billion credit card debt in the United States.

Brown and students like her struggle with their mounting debt alone. However, there are resources to help manage and pay off debt.

One of those resources is Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Central Florida Inc. (CCCS), a non-profit United Way supported agency.

Barbara Morton, vice president of housing and research of CCCS, said parents often send their students to college to learn a profession, but no one ever teaches young adults how to manage their money.

"A lot of students graduate college with a \$30,000 loan debt and a \$20,000 credit card debt," Morton said. "That's a rough way to start out."

See **CCCS**, Page 4

Condoms, education highlight World AIDS Day

By OLIVIA K. CURNOW
Managing Editor

"You look like you could use a condom," said Tony Marlow to a student walking by the Student Union. The student looked at the co-captain of the men's basketball team who was dressed like a condom and reached in the basket for a handful of free condoms.

Students in the class HIV Disease: A Human Concern hosted the World AIDS Day activities in front of the Student Union on Dec. 1. For 25 percent of their grade, the students, in groups of 20, had to create a project pertaining to AIDS for the event.

Each group had its own table, mostly providing statistics about the disease.

One group let students know every 30 seconds someone dies from AIDS by ringing a bell and changing the number on a chart.

"Seeing numbers will affect people more than just telling them," said James Stein, a senior in the class.

Psychology major Larissa Marsiello said the class is educational and much needed for college students. Teenagers and young adults are the greatest "at risk population" for contracting

the virus.

"I think [the class] should be a requirement and I think it should be targeted to freshmen," Marsiello said.

Between shouting 'free condoms!' to students passing by, Marlow said the class has taught him a lot.

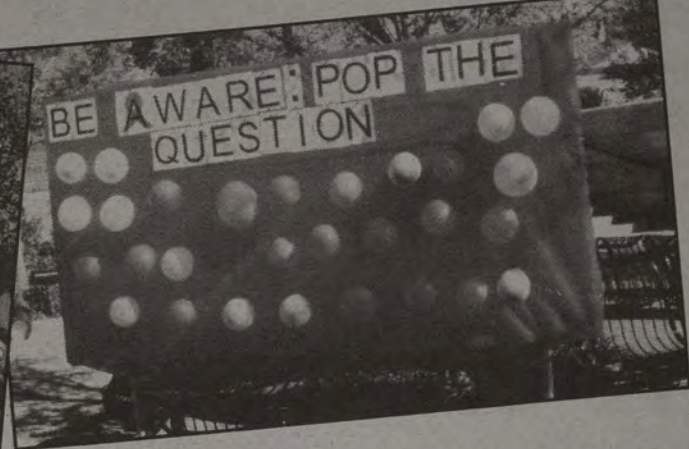
"The class is great," he said. "I've learned a lot about practicing safe sex."

Other tables held contests and games, testing students' awareness on HIV and AIDS. Restaurants such as Taco Bell, Rio Bravo, Boston Market and Fazoli's donated gift certificates as prizes.

"There's an outpour of students getting involved," said senior Heather Whipple. "It's a great opportunity for students to look at the statistics and the prizes draw in the students."

A live broadcast from radio station 102 JAMZ and a race car belonging to NASCAR driver David Russell also drew in the crowd.

"This is a great way for people who have unanswered questions about HIV and AIDS to learn to protect themselves," said senior Adam Sabety.



Photos by MIKE MARSHALL

Basketball player Tony Marlow, left, helps pass out condoms during World AIDS Day.



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Funk flies at animal rights benefit

By **CORBETT TRUBEY**
Entertainment editor

Any student who is sick of driving all the way downtown to hear good underground dance music is in for a treat on Dec. 6th when Campus Action for Animals (CAA), the animal rights organization here at UCF, hosts 'Liberation,' a benefit to raise money and peoples awareness

to be kinder to all our four-legged friends.

The Campus Action for Animals organization has been taking steps this year to be recognized more in the community and to raise more students' awareness about animal rights. They've been setting up numerous information tables outside the student union and participating in several protests in and around

the Orlando area. This will all climax in April with a three-day conference featuring speakers from around Florida and around the country talking about the problems with product testing, meat production, and other animal-related issues. 'Liberation' will help make this conference possible, allowing people from all aspects of the animal-rights movement to edu-

cate students and people in the community.

The benefit is more of a party, with local dj's Davie-D, Clueless, Glare, and Steve Hammond spinning from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. at Club Inside, which is just across the street from UCF. Guests are encouraged to check out literature which will be available, as well as sign-up sheets for anyone interested in becoming a

part of CAA.

"We hope everyone comes out to dance and socialize," said Maria Diestro, who is co-producing the event." But we also hope everyone takes the opportunity to learn more about the organization and what we're doing." Either way, it'll be fun for anyone who comes to support a worthy cause (and it'll save that annoying drive, too).

UCF's Computer Team comes out on top at regional competition

By **ROBYN PATTERSON**
Staff Writer

Once again in competition, UCF's Computer Team excelled at the Southeast Regional Collegiate Computer Programming Competition. It won first, fourth and eighth place. The team has won first, second or third in the region for the last 16 years.

Florida State University

placed sixth and the University of Florida placed 37 at the competition.

The competition, which comprised of 10 problems ranging from geometry to text processing, had to be completed in five hours.

The gray team solved six of the 10 problems. The members were seniors Bryan Kline, Michael Kujawa and Joel Davis.

Kline and Kujawa brought

experience to the team because of their positions on last year's first-place team.

To keep the team's skills sharp, Marathon Saturday practice sessions in the Computer Science Building were held a few times this semester. Its weekly practices will begin again in January.

"Everyone wants to beat UCF," said Ali Orooji, faculty advisor. "[Other teams] have not made the level of commitment

our students have made."

Graduate students Robert Francheschini and Glenn Martin assisted the team as coaches this year. Undergraduate Eric Heimburg, who also participated at last year's event on the first-place team, also assists the team.

"The team is now looking ahead to the contest finals in Atlanta in late February," said Orooji. "The problems are get-

ting harder each year because the skill level of the students is getting harder."

Besides the gray team, UCF also had a blue team and a red team.

Chris Bubelis, Dany King and Ellie Portugali made up the red team, which placed eighth in the competition with three solutions. Phillip Dexheimer, Ambrose Feinstein and Drue Pautz made up the blue team.

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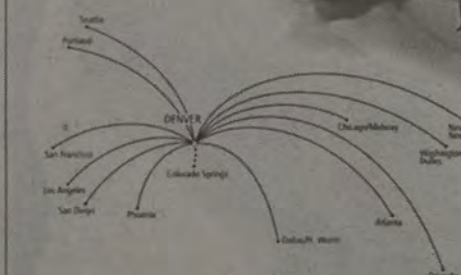
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For more UCF sports coverage pick up Into The Knights, free on campus.

CCCS assists in paying off student debts

From PAGE 1

Futurist magazine reported 82 percent of full-time college students have credit card debts.

"Most of those students are very reluctant to ask for help," Morton said. "They think they can do it alone."

Brown agreed and said she is aware she can ask for help, but she would rather try to do it herself.

Morton responded that dealing with it alone is fine, but organizations often have influence to negotiate with creditors to lower interest rates. Also, once a person signs up with a credit counseling agency, creditors leave them alone. They deal directly with the agency.

Morton said CCCS will send potential clients a packet of information free of charge. After reviewing it, they can call to make an appointment to see one of the organization's 39 counselors. The fee is on a sliding scale based on income, anywhere from \$20 to \$50. If the client fits into certain categories, the fee could be waived.

The organization services more than 20,000 people annually and has 14 offices in Central Florida. It has an operating budget of \$2.3 million.

The Council on Accreditation of Services for Families and Children Inc., an impartial outside agency that studies and decides if non-profit organizations meet certain standards, accredited the CCCS in October 1997.

Morton said the 18-month, \$15,000 process forced them to put everything they did in writing.

"Before accreditation, we knew we had policies and everyone abided by them," Morton said. "We had a good reputation in the community and among clients. Now we have our policies in writing for everyone, counselors and clients to see."

UCF graduate Toni Herrbach-Anderson can attest to the organization's effectiveness.

Herrbach-Anderson said that she and her husband went to the organization for help after they got married. Before the wedding, her husband told her that he owed some money.

"To me owing some money means that you owe a friend \$200," Herrbach-Anderson said. "His credit card debt was \$9,000."

She said credit card companies make it too easy for college students, some of them unem-

ployed, to get credit cards.

They send representatives with free gifts to entice students: T-shirts, water bottles, rebates and phone cards, Herrbach-Anderson

"Before accreditation, we knew we had policies and everyone abided by them," Morton said. "We had a good reputation in the community and among clients. Now we have our policies in writing for everyone, counselors and clients to see."

— Barbara Morton
VP housing and
research at CCCS

said. In most cases you only need your college ID. Not only do the companies campaign on campus,

they also target students by phone.

Students fill out an application they got either on campus or by mail and four to six weeks later they receive a credit card. Many of the companies visit campus before the holiday season when there is a temptation for spending.

Once students have "maxed" out several credit cards, they usually have a hard time finding the money to pay minimum balances on those cards each month. In that case, they can call home.

In Brown's case, her parents helped. Some parents will say if you expect to be treated like an adult then act like one. That's what Herrbach-Anderson's parents said.

She and her husband had to find their own way of paying off their debt.

Herrbach-Anderson found out about CCCS through one of their creditors. The couple worked out a payment schedule with the organization. They pay \$240 a month and let CCCS deal with the creditors, she said.

Students are not the only clients that CCCS services.

Morton said in her 13 years with the organization, she has seen a diverse group of clients,

such as people who make \$8,000 a year all the way to people who make more than \$100,000 a year.

"We see a lot of the middle generation, 30-40 years old," Morton said. "They had no financial education either at home or in school. They don't know how to manage their money. We're finding that it's the same with students graduating from college right now."

Interest on the credit card balances is one of the causes of the problem.

For example, if a person has a \$1,000 balance on a card with 7 percent interest rate (most credit cards are 16 to 21 percent) and makes only the minimum payments each month, it will take seven years to pay off the balance. It will also cost the person an additional \$700 in interest.

For consumers struggling to manage credit card debt alone, Fortune magazine offers these tips:

- Haggle with credit card companies to lower the interest rate on credit cards
- Search for a company with low interest rates
- Don't accept just any credit card offer
- Go cold turkey or cut up all your credit cards.

Satellite brings UCF, NASA together

From PAGE 1

ment and industry," said Marty Wanielista, dean of UCF's 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, Florida colleges and universities, Spaceport Florida Authority and NASA are in partnership to build the satellite, the first to be completely built in Florida.

The Boeing Corp. will offer technical support and will pay \$4 million for the subcontract-

tors at Spaceport Florida. UCF will pay the remaining \$7 million.

In addition to the satellite, UCF was donated a 30-foot dish antenna to help research the use of laser communications from the ground to satellites.

The dish was donated by NASA's Langley Research Center in Virginia and arrived at the Cape Canaveral Air Station on Nov. 20.

It will allow students and faculty to track and receive scientific data from satellites.

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Honor students volunteer at inner city school

From PAGE 1

a service project that we could offer as an option to the Honor students, which would provide them with an enriching experience. We wanted something in which they could use their academic talents."

Hillcrest Elementary School is an inner-city school built in 1923. It is one of the oldest schools in the Orlando area. The school serves a diverse population including many high-risk students. Eighty percent of its students receive free lunches.

"When we spoke to the principal, Aliette Scharr, she was full of wonderful ideas," said Bartlett. "She suggested the students break down into interest groups and run an after-school clubs' program. Her heart is as big as her school, and she works hard to get programs like this up and running for her students."

The UCF students began the volunteer program on Oct. 1 after participating in a training workshop on how to work with elementary-age children that was offered by Dr. Donna Camp of

the College of Education.

Supplies have been purchased through the donation of a \$100 honorarium by symposium speaker Professor Steve Levensohn of the Philosophy Department. Other resources for the Honor students to use in their club activities are provided by the College of Education's Curriculum Materials Center.

"The whole program is a challenge," said Bartlett. "The school has limited resources, so we are learning to work with the available resources and come up with

creative ideas to make this a better experience for all the students."

The time spent with the children has proven to be more than rewarding for Bartlett and her Honor students.

"One of the most fun things I get to do in my job now is to work with these kids," said Bartlett. "It was fate that their needs dovetailed with ours."

"It has become my stress relief from a tough day at school," said freshman Honor student Shelly Bryant, who coordinates the

reading club at Hillcrest. "When I go see the kids it makes me feel so much better. They are so honest that when they say something nice you know they mean it. They don't know what politically correct means."

"It helps so much if you read to them," said sophomore Kim Gates, music club coordinator. "My parents read to me when I was two or three and I was reading on my own in kindergarten. Reading to them encourages them to read and it's a plus if they find an area they really enjoy. Then that gives them more reason to want to come to school."

The Hillcrest students are divided into small groups that are more manageable for the UCF students.

"The small groups provide them with more individual attention," said Bartlett. "We are fostering their education which will have an impact on their future."

As part of the partnership with Hillcrest, the Honors' program has been able to have a Macintosh computer donated to the school and made a connection between a UCF graduate student from Romania and a Romanian fourth-grade Hillcrest student and his family.

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Living in a material world:

Are today's students more interested in money?

By **MAGGIE WELTER**
College Press Service

College students who scrape by on macaroni-and-cheese dinners and spare change may not be the norm on every campus. In fact, many students say they aren't about ready to deny themselves some of life's luxuries, such as cars, CDs and the latest fashions. Just ask the students at the University of California at Los Angeles. In a recent survey, UCLA students rated themselves one of the most materialistic campuses in the nation.

After a national survey of freshmen last year indicated college students everywhere were becoming increasingly materialistic, students in UCLA's anthropology department decided to gauge how students at the university viewed their consumption habits. The non-scientific, random survey questioned students about their spending habits, favorite possessions, and how those items helped them create a self-identity.

More than three out of every four students surveyed, or 77 percent, defined themselves as materialistic. About 36 percent of students said they were preoccupied with acquiring the latest fashions, fancy cars, jewelry and other toys, so they could become part of a group. An equal number felt they were materialistic because they were at college so they could earn more money and buy more goodies.

The findings, published in a report titled "Consumption, Materialism and Identity," came as a shock to anthropology professor Rudi Colloredo-Mansfeld, who directed the project.

"I was surprised," he said. "I was expecting students to talk more about the impoverished side and how they have to work jobs in addition to school."

But are only UCLA students -- whose campus, after all, is only a few miles away from Beverly Hills' Rodeo Drive and the movie-star mansions of Bel Air -- obsessed with money and the things it can buy, or are other students, too? While UCLA students may seem to represent the extreme, students in general may be more materialistic than past generations, says a Boston University psychology.

According to Kathleen Kantak,

associate professor of psychology at BU, the sun-filled image some students have of UCLA is partly attributable to shows such as "Beverly Hills 90210" and "Melrose Place."

"Television presents an ideal, stress-free life in Los Angeles where everyone has nice things and the top concern is looking pretty," Kantak said.

But she said she doesn't think preoccupation with material objects is unique to UCLA. "College students in general have more things. They drive nice cars and wear nice clothes. They expect more than kids did a decade ago because parents are able to give them more," Kantak said. "I don't think it's a local thing."

Some UCLA students, says student-researcher Alicia Goodyear, felt they need to buy things such as clothes, CDs, and other objects to relieve stress, create self-identity and become part of the group.

Even though "materialism" often carries a negative connotation, many students saw nothing wrong with it, according to Goodyear.

"UCLA students are materialistic. We are materialistic in every sense of the word," she said. "We eat, drink and breathe material consumption every single day. And guest what, that is 100 percent OK."

Freshman Jenny Andrade agreed. She said that because UCLA is in Los Angeles, what you wear often defines who you are or who you hang with. "This is LA and fashion is important here. I mean there's no dress code but if you dress tacky, people will know you as a tacky dresser. I mean there are movie stars flaunting nice clothes all around L.A.," Andrade said.

In fact, respondents rated clothes as their favorite status symbols, and about 20 percent said shoes and apparel were their most frequent purchases. Clothes aren't just a nice extra, however. They're a necessity. When asked which items were most important for school, clothes came in fourth. Books got the top spot, followed by a computer at No. 2 and a car at No. 3.

Cars--nice ones in particular--were also important. According to the study's authors, "the message from the majority of stu-

dents was: This is L.A. Get a car; buy nice sunglasses. Use them."

Fascination with nice cars comes with the territory, said Colloredo-Mansfeld. "You have to realize that we are surrounded by very expensive neighborhoods: Beverly Hills, Hollywood. Our students see a lot of Mercedes and BMW's and that has an effect."

According to student-researcher Xavier Rosas, it's a negative effect. His analysis defines UCLA as "a materialistic, unimaginable bunch of individuals...a powerhouse of pollution, the poster child of traffic congestion and a milieu of tanned, buxom blondes."

Rosas' description of babes in bikinis and BMWs may be a little extreme, but in fact that's the image many students on other campuses have of UCLA.

"When I think of UCLA, I think of a bunch of 90210 kids who have money and play a lot. I know they aren't all like that but that's what I think," said Kelli Palmer, a senior at Elon College in North Carolina.

Palmer said she didn't think students at Elon were extremely preoccupied with material goods. At Elon, she said people are defined by their achievements, not by objects or fashion. "The prestige and popularity comes from the leadership. Are you president of an organization? Did you organize an event?" Palmer said.

Carrie McNally, a senior at Michigan State University, does think it's a local thing in UCLA's case. "I just think that all of Southern California comes off as materialistic," McNally said.

However, even though she doesn't think MSU students are materialistic as UCLA students, she said a good portion there are obsessed with material goods.

"There are a lot of people who go around and spend a lot of time and money on music and clothes," she said. Here I'd say we're a bit more into electronics. But fashion is still important."

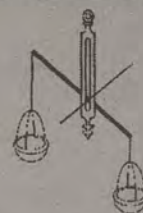
And even when the Michigan cold season takes over, focus on fashion doesn't hibernate, she says. "When it gets cold some people just care about being warm," McNally joked, "but they still have to have the designer wool coats and label boots." And even though "materialism"

often carries a negative connotation, many of the students saw nothing wrong with it, according to Goodyear.

"UCLA students are materialistic. We are materialistic in every sense of the word," she said. "We eat, drink and breathe material consumption every single day. And guest what, that is 100 percent OK."

When all is said and done, McNally said the truth of the matter about college students everywhere is this: "We all have to have our toys, our CDs, our computers, stereos. We were brought up having them and now everyone thinks they need them to survive."

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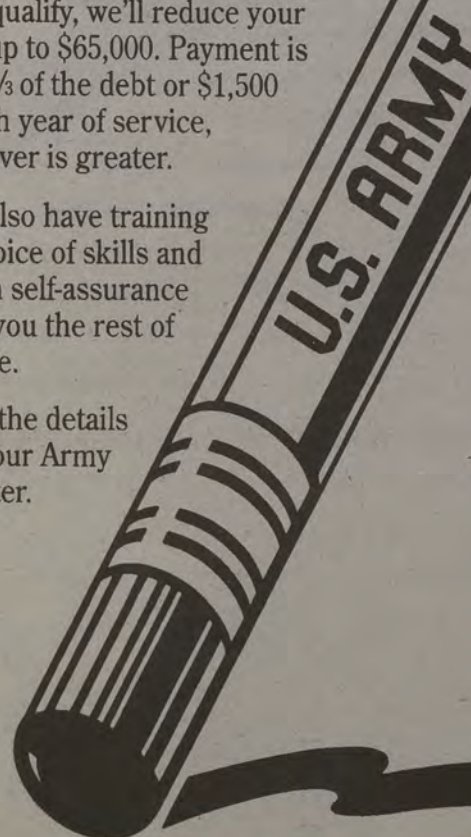
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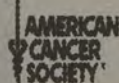


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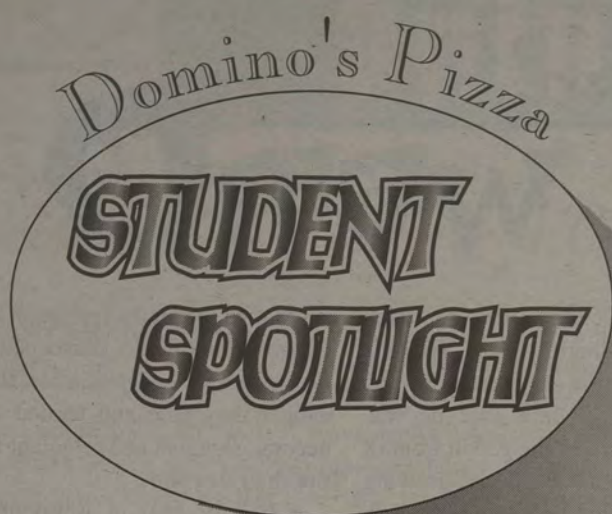


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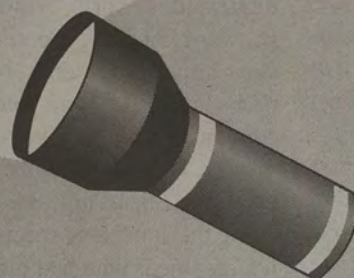
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By PETER KUNDIS



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I celebrated Thanksgiving with my family, as I rarely get to see them, it was great spending time with them. We ate and slept, then woke up and ate again!

-- Marisol Agloro, Sophomore, Health Services Admin., Jacksonville.



I spent Thanksgiving Day with my family and friends in West Melbourne.

-- Kenneth R. Mitchell, Junior, Political Science, West Melbourne.



My family and I had a Thanksgiving feast with our relatives. We all ate until we dropped.

-- Van Bui, Freshman, Computer Science, Fairfax, Va.



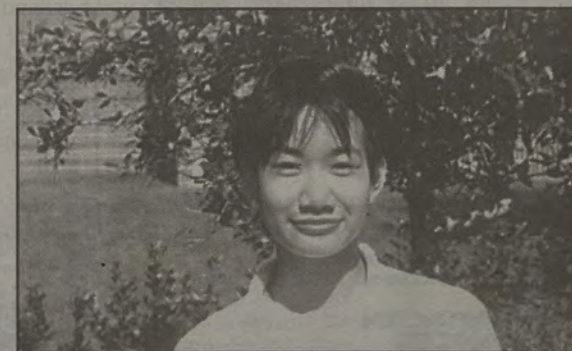
I spent time at Disney World with my best friends, who came all the way from Japan just to visit me. And we spent this special time together just having fun.

-- Yumi Yotsukawa, Senior, Psychology, Tokyo, Japan.



I went home to spend time with my family and eat as much as I could, since I don't get to eat a home-cooked meal that often.

-- Charles Lubrido, Senior, Economics, Spring Hill.



This year my family and I dressed up as Pilgrims and Native Americans, then we stuffed ourselves with turkey, in the true Thanksgiving tradition.

-- Wendy Timonera, Junior, Political Science, Kissimmee.

Chuck Shepherd's NEWS OF THE WEIRD

LEAD STORIES

• London's Daily Telegraph reported in October that a Catholic Church-supported teaching program for schools in Ireland and Northern Ireland has suggested eliminating references to "daddy" and "mummy" in lesson plans, for fear of confusing or offending kids ages 4 and 5 who are not raised in traditional homes. Suggested alternatives include "the people who look after you."

• In September, inmate Michael F. Schmitz, 45, serving two years in the Kentucky State Reformatory for drunken driving, filed a \$1.9 million lawsuit against the Lexington (Ky.) Police Department complaining that officers were too nice when they arrested him in 1996. According to the lawsuit, when police found a loaded assault rifle in his car and could not figure out how to dismantle it, they uncuffed the obviously inebriated Schmitz and had him take it apart. Schmitz said he "could have shot most everyone standing around watching this escapade" and thus contends that the police endangered the public.

• At a September meeting of Christian Coalition leaders in Atlanta, founder Pat Robertson said the religious group should raise its political intensity by looking to the notorious machine politics of Chicago and New York's Tammany Hall as models, and that it would be God who would personally select the Republican best suited to advance the coalition's agenda in the next presidential campaign. Robertson had begun his remarks by noting that he assumed he was talking only "in the family" and that if any members of the press were present, "would you please shoot yourself?" (The speech was recorded without his permission and leaked to the press.)

COMPELLING EXPLANATIONS

• Shawn S. Warren, charged with arson in June in Anderson, Ind., denied he actually started a fire in a garage. Instead, according to the town's chief fire investigator, Warren said, "I probably thought about that fire, and it just happened." Said the investigator, "(Warren) did tell me sometimes he thinks about things and they happen."

• Former law student Scott Fruehan, 35, suffered another

setback in August as a federal judge in Pittsburgh declined to reinstate his lawsuit against Duquesne University. Fruehan had claimed that the only reason he flunked out was that the school had failed to accommodate his disability, which is that if he sits for a long time, his arms and fingers get numb.

• In July, the California Supreme Court suspended prominent criminal-defense lawyer LeRue Grim, 69, for 2 1/2 years for lying to investigators. Grim admitted visiting an imprisoned-client's wife's trailer home to help prepare for one of the husband's trials and staying overnight rather than driving back to San Francisco. However, he denied having had sex with her, explaining that the wife had climbed into bed with him but that the sex they had was "without (my) consent."

• Catholic priest Donald Kocher, 61, testifying at a deposition in August in a Chicago-area lawsuit against him and his diocese for sexual abuse of parishioners, admitted that he had had sex with as many as a dozen women over a 20-year period. However, he added, "I've always seen (the affairs) as morally wrong, and I've always tried to bring them to a conclusion as quickly as I could."

• Ricky Wassenaar, 34, was convicted of assault and robbery in Tucson, Ariz., in July, after being apprehended in a car after a chase, holding stolen money plus guns, a ski mask and a bullet-proof vest. Wassenaar, acting as his own attorney, presented the defense that a man named Jim had slipped a date-rape pill into his drink at a bar, dressed him in the vest, and placed him in the car. As for the chase and attempted ramming of an officer on a motorcycle, Wassenaar said he was just trying to get out of the officers' way so they could chase whomever they were after.

• In September in New York City, federal judge Lewis A. Kaplan disregarded sentencing guidelines and sent Orthodox Jew Solomon Sprei to prison for only 18 months for insurance fraud (vs. three to four years, as prescribed). Kaplan cited Sprei's three marriageable-age daughters, who by law of his Bobov Hasidim must rely on their father to find husbands for them. Kaplan declared that the happiness of at least two of them would be crucially delayed if Sprei were imprisoned for the

recommended time.

POLICE BLOTTER

• Weird Weapons: Frozen chicken legs (woman pelted her boyfriend for carousing, Broward County, September); slow-moving train (robber rubbed victim's head into it to convince him to give up the money, Orlando, October); red peppers (Ebensburg, Pa., cook laced the luncheon special of a police officer who had given her one too many parking tickets, July).

• Incompetent Cops: Loren Qualls' 1994 firing from the Akron, Ohio, police force was upheld by a state appeals court in June. Qualls' main problem was having answered police calls on three occasions in which he had forgotten to bring his weapon. And Reiko, a Great Falls, Mont., police German shepherd, was dismissed from the force in July after the second straight incident in which he responded in a standoff by biting a police officer and not the suspect.

• Lancaster (Va.) High School marching band director Robert T. Spiers was detained and handcuffed at a parade in Warsaw,

Va., in October after he twice ignored Sheriff Gene Sydnor's demand that he speed up his marchers. Sydnor said he was concerned that the gap in front of the Lancaster band was growing so large that people might think the parade was over. Spiers was released about 15 minutes later, and the Lancaster band eventually won first prize.

• Police Brutality: Newport, Ky., detective Michael Scott was suspended in September for passing gas in the face of a DUI suspect. And Buffalo, N.Y., county jail officer John Walsh was convicted by a federal jury in September of violating the civil rights of inmate Norvin Fowlks in 1991 and 1992. Fowlks accused the 395-pound Walsh of, on separate occasions, holding Fowlks' penis on the floor and on a crossbar of his cell and both times stomping on it with his boot.

• According to psychologists at Portsmouth University in England, the two-tone sirens and flashing blue lights of British police cars seriously impair the judgment of officers by the time they arrive at a crime scene. Dr. Aldert Vrij, who led a recent

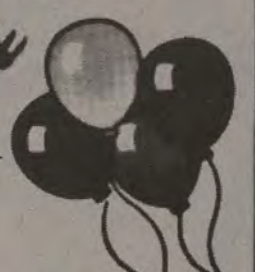
study, told the Daily Telegraph in October that officers subsequently tended to underestimate the danger they face and tended to become sluggish and reluctant to fire their weapons.

• In July, Max, a 400-pound western lowland gorilla housed in the Johannesburg (South Africa) Zoo, captured a fleeing burglary suspect, Isaac Mofokeng, 29, who unwisely tried a short-cut through the ape compound. In the process, Mofokeng fired two gunshots, hitting Max in the jaw and shoulder, but he mended quickly. Among Max's subsequent awards: honorary constable of the local police precinct, Newsmaker of the Year by the Johannesburg Press Club, and spokesbeast for Lemombo-brand bananas (fee: a one-year supply).

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 8306, St. Petersburg, 33738, or Weird@compuserve.com.)

Chuck Shepherd's latest paperback, "The Concrete Enema and Other News of the Weird Classics," is now available at bookstores everywhere. To order it direct, call 1-800-642-6480 and mention this newspaper.

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Opinion

Culpepper's return a relief for all of UCF

By JASON HEIRONIMUS
Opinion Editor

Upon reflection of all the great Thanksgiving holidays that I have endured, I must say that this past holiday was special. The turkey was still dry, the gravy still a bit runny, and I was yet again forced into eating yams. However, despite the typical Thanksgivingsque food, the day was consumed by thoughts other than the average thank yous.

Along with many other UCF students, I have transformed from a student willing to make jokes about the small-time feeling of UCF to a student willing to paint himself gold and black and tailgate before football games eight hours before kickoff. I may have been a bit overzealous about my tailgating abilities but for the most part it is not an exaggeration. UCF has been thrust into respectability this past semester. It has been a great semester, one that all of us should remember for a very long time.

But how could a school such as UCF reach such a level of

respectability with an average football team? I'll tell you how. These guys are anything but average--I'll go out on a limb and call them pretty good.

But we have a secret weapon: Daunte Culpepper. A few days ago, our treasured quarterback announced to the world and quarterback-hungry NFL that he was going to stay at UCF. Alright, all together now, Hallelujah!!! Culpepper has single-handedly reinforced my belief in humanity as well as sports as a whole. After hearing of his most momentous announcement I could not help but smile.

For weeks the debate had raged, at least in my apartment, on whether or not Daunte would leave. It seemed that there was really no reason for him to stay. Why? Money, baby. These days it's all about the green. The capitalistic ideals that our nation was founded on have now been twisted and tainted from ideals into law. Society teaches us to always do the most financially sound thing, no matter right or wrong. Daunte has taught us that there is still a small, glim-

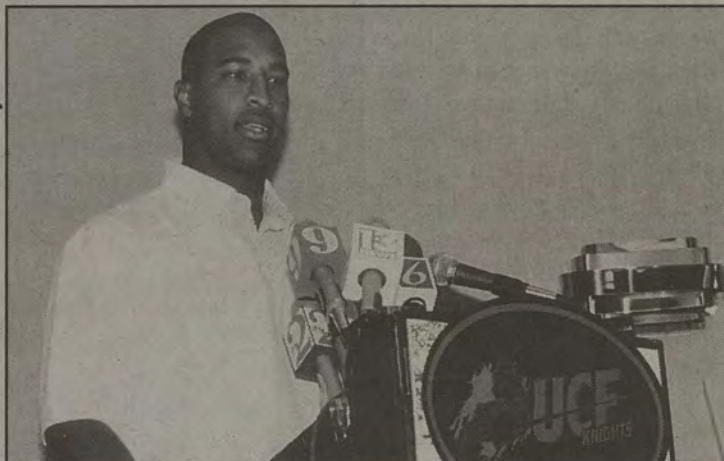


Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Daunte Culpepper will be back for one more season

mering spot of hope for the human race. Now, enough about ethics.

As a boy I was subject to the typical hero worship. My heroes were sports figures, actors and actresses, and writers of various types. But sports figures were always at the front of my mind when I looked to one of my heroes for answers. The vast majority of the time they never answered me, because, well, they didn't know me. But I believed in them and in my pubescent mind I believed these sports figures to be the embodi-

ment of all that was good in the world. As I grew older, and some say wiser, I began to see these people as just that--people. They are flawed just like the next person and have ugly traits just like the next person. But it wasn't just that, they seemed to revel in constantly making the wrong decisions. Though I wanted to emulate their actions on the field of play, I found myself doing exactly the opposite of my heroes in social situations. Just once, I wanted my hero to do something good and to make me proud. Time and time again, however, I was disappointed.

Daunte Culpepper is an enigma. I cannot for the life of me understand his actions. Aren't you supposed to grab the cash and run? Who really gets their four-year degree anymore anyway? The answer to these questions are respectively: no and almost every person that is not bound for the NFL.

Imagine for a second that you are guaranteed a tremendously large sum of money once you decide to stop attending school. You are

promised a career which provides for fame, success, and financial stability. Now this is where the decision comes: should I stay or should I go? A college degree is a treasured commodity. It is an accomplishment that no one can ever take from you. But, you don't need it. Why go to college if you are already provided for financially?

Because you cannot buy, and I believe some people would disagree with me, a college degree. All the money in the world can't make you a college graduate, only hard work and perseverance can.

Daunte Culpepper has accomplished so much in his three years at UCF. He has commandeered a football program from second rate to first rate and the school along with it. He has transcended the school of thought which calls for grabbing the money and never looking back. Ask yourself what you would do in that situation. I myself know that it would be one of the most difficult decisions that I would ever have to make in my life. And who knows what the right decision would be? Staying in college is the politically correct thing to do because if you don't, the whole world will be mad at you. In that type of situation, one must do what they feel is right for them and nobody else.

The Decision, as the media was calling it, was undoubtedly a landmark in UCF history. All of central Florida should drop to its knees and thank the good Lord for dropping such a quality person and football player into the laps of UCF fans. Knight fans rejoice, for Daunte's Inferno has only begun!



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Entertainment

Gruesome 'Resurrection' is one to behold

By CORBETT TRUBEY
Entertainment Editor

Poor Lt. Ripley. First she accidentally brings in some deadly lifeform onto her ship. Then she has to go to some space colony to

battle a bunch of them with some brain-

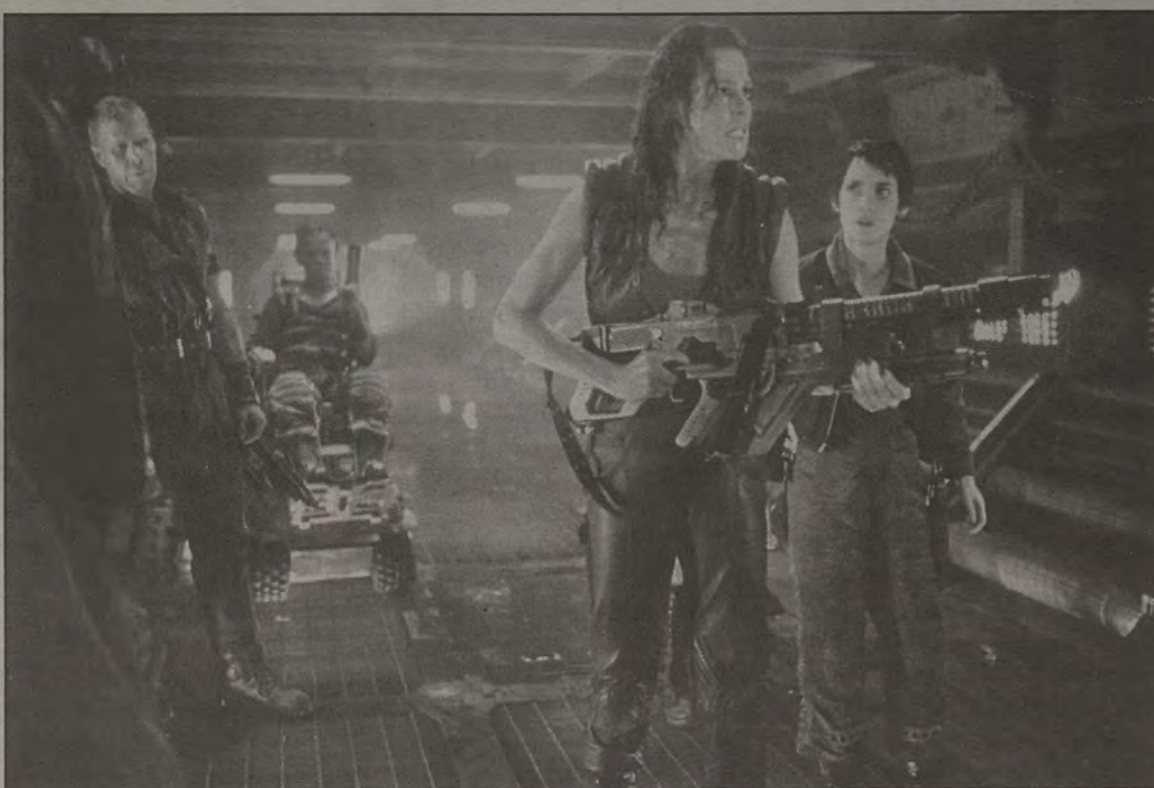
deadmarines. Then she crash lands on a prison planet, has to kill one again, and ends up dying herself! Bummer, right? Now poor Lt. Ripley gets cloned 200 years later by some scientists, and (Suprise!), has to fight those pesky monsters again. But who said it didn't make for some pulse-pounding entertainment?

'Alien Resurrection' is the fourth film based on one scary creature and one of the best female screen roles of all time, played with pistol-packin' emotion by Sigourney Weaver. While the first 'Alien' set the

mood, the sequel was an all-out space war, and the third was dark and artsy (not to mention underrated), the fourth is complete mayhem. Like a roller-coaster ride essential to any big-budget action film, director Jean-Pierre Jeunet has created the most visually exciting installment yet, with a gore and blood content that might have those with weak stomachs finding a new use for their popcorn buckets.

The ride begins so easily: Ripley was cloned by scientists so they could take out the alien embryo inside of her (the one that set the ending of the third movie), make more aliens, and use them for government research. When the aliens bust out of their holding cells, the only people left aboard the space station, including the mysterious Call (Winona Ryder), must find a way to keep the station from reaching earth without getting ripped into shreds. And I do mean shreds.

Many scenes in the movie truly reflect what the 'Alien' series has been about. An underwater swim which turns into a trap is grade A suspense, and even as



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Sigourney Weaver and crew get ready for another Alien battle.

my dad joked, "Straight out of the Posiedon Adventure!" And on the deeper side of things, there's the strange bond that Ripley shares with the aliens, one that is much stronger than in the other movies. While Ripley gives off the initial appearance of being an emotionless nut, there

are the strong emotions that run within her as we reach an incredible, twisted climax.

If you're not familiar with the other 'Alien' films, you might want to do your homework, or else you'll be more confused than entertained. If you have been keeping up and truly appreciate

the series for what it is (top-notch science-fiction/horror) then 'Alien Resurrection' will keep your eyes glued to the screen. And as far as making another movie goes..... let's just hope they don't resort to 'Alien Reincarnation.'

Rating: ***1/2

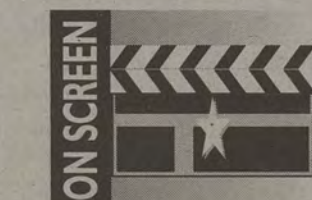
Disney fumbles with another classic remake

By GARY ROEN
Movie Critic

"Flubber," the remake of the Disney film "The Absent Minded Professor" is not as good as its black-and-white predecessor of the 1960s.

Can it be that Disney who remade "That Darn Cat," "The World's Greatest Athlete," and "101 Dalmatians," has run out of ideas?

John Hughes, known for the "Home Alone," pictures and other funny films, is trying too



hard to recreate his own successes. There are too many scenes like the Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern bad guys from two of the "Home Alone" films. There is also a scene that is too much like his other movie "Weird Science" when a robot in "Flubber" creates a human image of itself.

Robin Williams' professor

character is often overshadowed by cutesy robots and the Flubber. The film has no Disney magic as did the picture it came from. The story is somewhat the same but Hughes would have been better to start with another premise.

There is a scene titled "The Flubber Mambo" that is too long and boring and adds nothing to the overall plot of the film. It's also confusing why it is there.

There is also a subplot in which the robot Weebo, a TV addict is secretly in love with the professor. She tries to sabotage the pro-

fessor's wedding by not telling him the message of when and where to be. This sounds a bit too much like the film "Electric Dreams."

Many of the supporting cast members are pretty much unknowns except for Wil Wheaton who starred on "Star Trek The Next Generation." His scenes are far and few and his talents are wasted.

Hughes' fans might just like this film because there are lots of touches that are strictly his. When the Flubber is flying

around in the neighborhood a small, cute boy reacts in a very funny way. The actress who played principal Moony's secretary in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" and was the car rental agent who had to confront Steve Martin in "Planes Trains and Automobiles" has a small part here.

"Flubber" is very weak and is a very big disappointment. On the other hand, children should enjoy the film for the Flubber and robots.

Rating: *

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wednesday

3

The Preacher's Wife, Cape Florida Ballroom, Student Union, 8 p.m.

thursday

4

friday

5

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saturday

6

"Pegasus" Faculty Trio Concert, Rehearsal Hall, \$5 donation, 4 p.m.

sunday

7

monday

8

Final Exams begin

tuesday

9

UCF Chamber Orchestra Concert, Rehearsal Hall, 8 p.m.

Diner is anything but a drag

By GAIL BLAIR
Staff Writer

Within the quiet, residential area of North Shine Avenue manicured by red brick streets is Union Restaurant. It is the venue for Drag Diner on Monday evenings which not only tantalizes the palette, but also stimulates the eyes with a cast of engaging drag queens. They are the hosts for the night and mingle among the guests before, during and after the show which begins at 9:30 p.m.

Though under new management, Union is still a small restaurant with a one room, smoking-permitted-anywhere dining area. The double doors of the restaurant open to a bar which occupies one wall and tables positioned closely together for optimum space. Along with the socializing drag queens, the hostess Jennifer and the wait

staff were immediately attentive to guests' needs, making it feel more like being over for dinner at a friend's house than at a restaurant. But then again, perhaps the whole intention is to make everybody feel like family.

Dinner began with a dish from the appetizer list. The suggestion from the waiter to try the Montrachet Garlic Dip (\$6.95) with roasted peppers, caponata and tapenade was well-advised. A plate of warm pita bread triangles and french bread were provided for dipping into the soft, creamy cheese dip. However, be warned it is heavily laced with garlic; I bit into a



Photo by CORBETT TRUBEY
Miss Sammy, Freida Lay, Tiffany McCray, and Chrys Anthemum host Drag Diner.

whole clove. The accompanying peppers, caponata and tapenade were slightly chilled and literally made the tip of my tongue tingle with its zest.

snap. The pork loin was tender, however, it was modestly seasoned though it promised cracked pepper. I also wished it

For the main course, I again took the suggestion of the waiter and ordered the Apple Cider-Cracked Pepper Glazed Loin of Pork (\$13.95), served with golden mashed potatoes and vegetables. The mashed potatoes were smooth and surprisingly had diced onion for texture variation. A vibrantly colored medley of carrots, green beans and spinach were lightly buttered and tasted very fresh. The carrots were still crunchy and the green beans had

had more of the sweet apple cider glaze. Halfway through my entree, the drag queen show starring Miss Sammy and Frieda Lay began.

Miss Sammy revved up the audience by lip-syncing a bugle boy number. She blew her toy horn and held it in front of the guests' lips, inviting them to join in the revelry. She also stopped to sit on guests' laps before she jumped onto the bar to finish her performance.

The show continued with the long-legged Frieda Lay. Wearing black knee-high boots, a yellow silk jacket, sunglasses and a captain's hat; she looked liked Captain and Tenille rolled into one. Frieda Lay lip-synced a song about rain which she expressed by using an umbrella and water gun for virtual effect.

Chrys Anthemum and Tiffany McCray (Miss Florida U.S.A. 1997) also graced the guests with their performances. Chrys Anthemum had the crowd amused with her escaped convict, knife-wielding, Lorena Bobbit routine which she lip-synced to Fiona Apple's song, "Criminal." Tiffany McCray, draped in a purple sequin dress bearing her midriff, set a romantic mood with her performance of a soulful Sade tune.

After the show, I got to sample the Almond Praline Butter Cake and the White Chocolate Raspberry Cheesecake. I couldn't decide which was better; both were decadent and so good I had to forget about the calories and fat grams I was digesting.

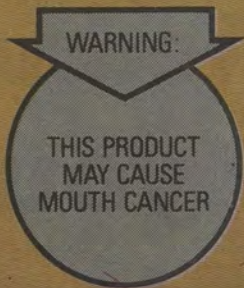
Union Restaurant is a definite great experience in casual and inviting dining. The food, staff, ambience and show created a cumulative package of creativity I hope will only continue to blossom.

Union Restaurant is open for lunch and dinner. Drag Diner is every Monday at 9:30 p.m. Reservations are suggested (894-5778).

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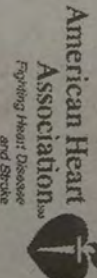
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Nation

Prof's display of tampon art labeled "offensive"

By College Press Service

AUGUSTA, Ga. — An Augustana State University's art pieces, assembled from sanitary napkins and tampons, are drawing criticism from students and staff members there.

The students and staff say the two pieces, by James Rosen, are offensive. The pieces, titled "Period Piece," consist of three rows of sanitary napkins, each adorned with a tiny red dot and a tampon.

The works are part of a larger faculty exhibit on display in the lobby of the university's Fine Arts Center.

At first, Rosen submitted the work under a pseudonym--MelisSa LEVY, a play on the French expression, "c'est la vie," or "that is life."

Rosen later agreed to use his real name after students complained that he had listed a women's name as the artist.

In an interview with The Chronicle of Higher Education, Rosen was quoted as saying he used the woman's name to start a discussion about how art is perceived differently when created by a male or a female.

"I can say that I did not do it for the shock value," Rosen told the Chronicle. "It seemed to me that when you tinker with a taboo, there's bound to be some reaction."

Grade study's goal is to get students and profs communicating

MANHATTAN, Kansas — To professors, grades are just a number. But to students, grades mean a lot, and sometimes are viewed as a measure of self-worth.

This was the observation that prompted two Kansas State professors to launch into a series of studies about how effectively professors and students communicate about grades.

"Many students do not associate grades with the value of a student as a person," said Charles Griffin, associate professor of speech at KSU.

But Griffin was surprised at the level of intensity with which students attached meaning to grades. The study found that college students sometimes equate their grades with rewards and punishment.

These differences in perceptions, say Griffin and his co-researcher, Nancy Goulden, could be a source of misunderstanding between professors and their students. Students are more likely to see an individual grade influencing their future success, while most professors don't.

"Students are very concerned about the personal impact of grades on both their present and future lives. Teachers see grades as less significant," Goulden said.

The professors now are delving into how faculty members and students talk about grades.

They've labeled one typical conversation "the desperate need" model. That's when the all-too-common scenario where a student begs a professor for a higher grade because he or she really, really needs it.

There's also the clerk-reporting model, in which professors distance themselves from the grading process by viewing the grades as merely numbers out of their control.

Goulden explained they hope to find that more interaction between professors and students will lead to more learning and

less anxiety. She says when the instructor views herself more as a learning facilitator, then "the teacher helps better the student, not just their grades."

Like it or not, grades provide necessary feedback for the student, say the professors. But they admit grading can be tough on instructors, too.

"Grades are the worst part of my job," Griffin said. "It's difficult when you know students well and you suspect they will read all sorts of things into a grade that you have not intended to communicate."

Get the club in your school colors

SHARON, Pa. — Go into almost any college bookstore and you'll find rows of products with the school logo: caps, mugs, T-shirts, pens, notebooks--you name it.

Many college fans go a step further and flaunt their school spirit on the road with bumper stickers, car flags--even license plates in the school colors.

Now these same fans can secure their car with a Collegiate Auto Club, which features the name and logo of the school silk-screened onto it. The anti-theft devices, which lock onto steering wheels to deter thieves, now are officially licensed through 20 college and universities.

The new Clubs include the Tennessee Volunteers, Northwestern Wildcats, Michigan Wolverines, Georgia Bulldogs, Arizona State Sun Devils, Ohio State Buckeye, Nebraska Cornhuskers and a host of other schools.

"We expect The Collegiate Club line to include 30 to 40 schools by the end of 1998,"

said Chuck Quinn, president of Winner International, the Club's manufacturer.

Oh, and the Collegiate Bike Club is expected on the market by June 1998.

Perhaps if the Club isn't a deterrent enough, the school logo will help to discourage a potential thief. After all, what thief wants to rip off a fellow fan when he could pick on an alum from a rival school?

Drivers, however, should be sure they park in friendly territory.

"Suspicious" fire strands 23 students

APPLETON, Wis.— An early November fire at the Delta Tau Delta fraternity house at Lawrence University caused about \$50,000 in damage and left 23 students temporarily without homes.

The fire, which has been labeled as "suspicious" by Appleton Fire Marshal Eugene Reece, broke out early in the morning Nov. 6 in a fraternity bedroom.

Reece said the fire caused major smoke damage throughout the house but resulted in only one injury. A cause of the fire has not yet been determined, he added.

Lawrence University and the American Red Cross have found temporary housing for the stranded students. School officials say they hope to begin cleaning the house in mid-November after insurance investigators finish their work.

Reece, meanwhile, praised Delta Tau Delta's fire-alarm and smoke-detector systems, saying without early detection, the fire could have resulted in more serious injuries.

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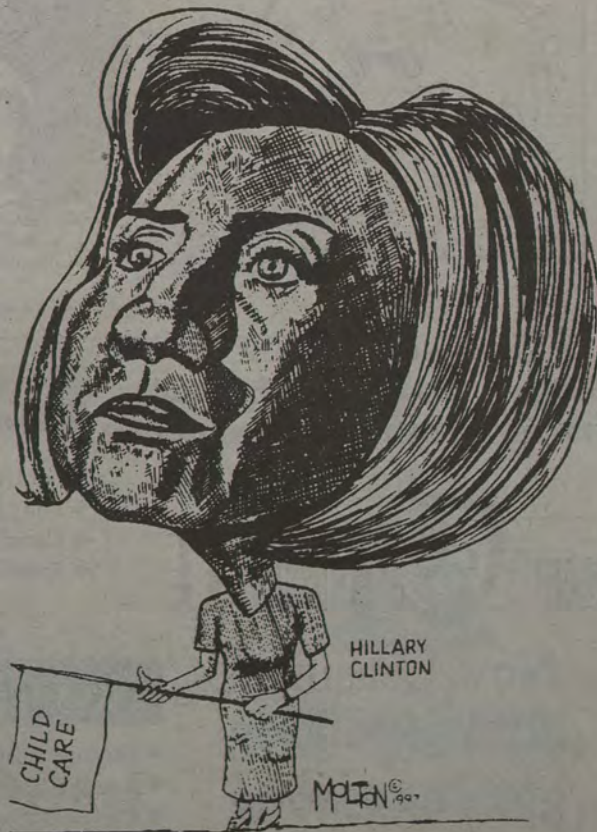
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'State Fair' musical a blue ribbon production

By CORBETT TRUBEY
Entertainment Editor

Ever wondered what happened to John Davidson? Well, even if you didn't, he is alive and well and headlining the cast of the latest Broadway production to hit Orlando. 'State Fair,' the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical is just here for barely a week at the Carr Performing Arts Centre. It's a charming story about a family's adventures at the fair and how it changes their lives.

'State Fair' is based on an original novel and first made into a film in 1933. Twelve years later, the legendary writing team of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II turned it into a hit musical movie. It wasn't until 1992 that a stage workshop production of the musical was mounted, and after a slew of changes, 'State Fair' able to become the eleventh stage musical from Rodgers and Hammerstein.

The revised 'State Fair' features an expanded score based on songs from both film versions as well as rarely heard numbers from other Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals. This posed a challenge for the writers, who wanted to

make the transition from the big screen to the big stage without losing the excitement and energy that has made 'State Fair' a classic.

And apparently nothing was lost. The show began a 35 week tour this fall after opening on Broadway with glowing reviews. John Davidson reprises his role as Iowa farmer Abel Frake, which he originated on Broadway. Many people remember John Davidson as the hosts of many TV shows including "That's Incredible!" and "Hollywood Squares." What you might not know is that Davidson has a lengthy list of theater performances. You might not recognize him now, though, as he appears on stage with a head full of shiny gray hair.

'State Fair' is the third in a series of Broadway productions to be brought to Orlando, so don't miss out on a night of quality entertainment. Grab your favorite pair of overalls and your sweetie and head on downtown, just don't ask John who the 'secret square' is during the show.

Tickets are available now through Ticketmaster (839-3900).



John Davidson heads the cast of 'State Fair.'

Special to the FUTURE

Mickey Mouse gets the blues at Disney's House of Blues

By ADAM MATRICARDI
Staff writer

How do you give the happiest place on earth the blues?

You can try by building a perfect club, giving it a huge stage, and naming it after one of the greatest movies of all time. The House of Blues has the look, smell, and even taste of a New Orleans Blues club, but the feeling is that something just isn't right.

The place is a replica; a whole-some, super clean Disney version of a funky old blues club. It's a sterile tourist haven, a don't forget to pick up your t-shirt at the gift shop kind of place. At the House of Blues the feeling you get is that blues is a theme, just another scheme to attract the almighty dollar. If John Belushi or Dan Ackroyd ever had the blues they lost it the day this club opened. But don't feel sorry for them because they can dry their

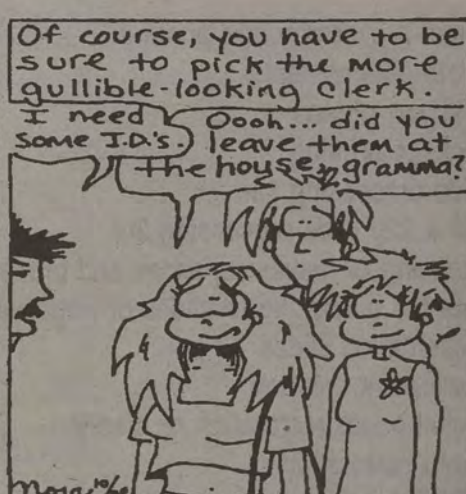
tears with hundred dollar bills while you can pay \$3.50 for a can of Bud Light.

Despite all this, they made a valiant effort. The House of Blues is truly a perfect club. The building itself is architecturally and acoustically a masterpiece. During a recent show (Gumwrapper Curb) the whole place vibrated at my feet. The club can attract some good bands, and if they can carry with them their own vibe and draw a

good crowd, then the place will go off. The stage is bordered by symbols of spiritualism, not rimmed with chicken wire. It stands as the last desperate attempt to instill some faith in an otherwise soulless club. The House is ready, the stage is set, but without the music it becomes just another Disney dance hall. Despite its precise, textbook appearance I just wasn't sold, and one thing stood clear in my mind: Blues can't survive in a

bubble, not even a Disney bubble.

For those of you who think I didn't give the House of Blues a fair shake, then go there with my blessings, but whatever you do, try not to think of what it would be like to see the House of Blues through the eyes of the Blues Brothers, and not the actors. Don't let the Bluesmobile parked outside fool you, because here the Blues Brothers are nowhere to be found.



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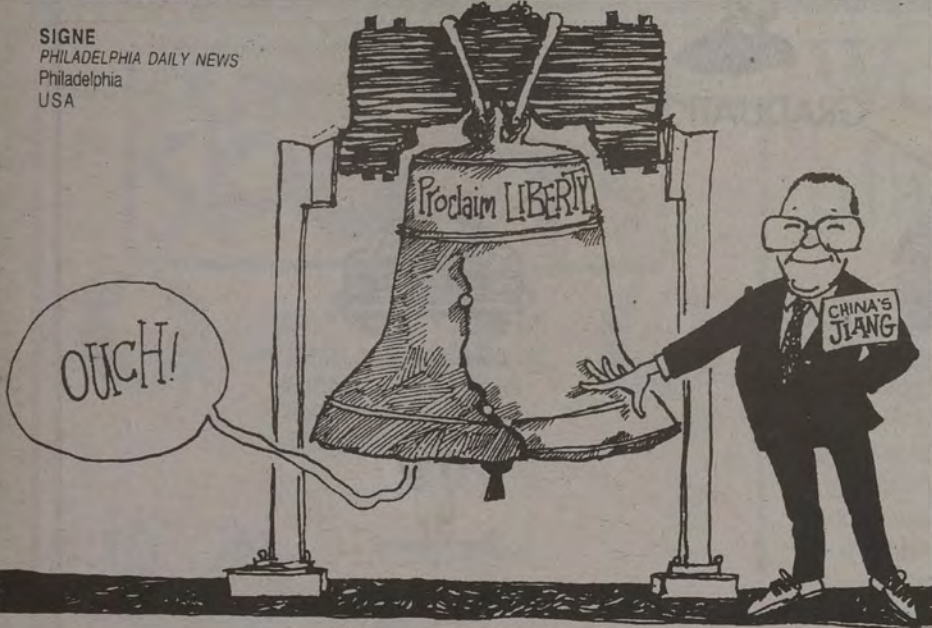
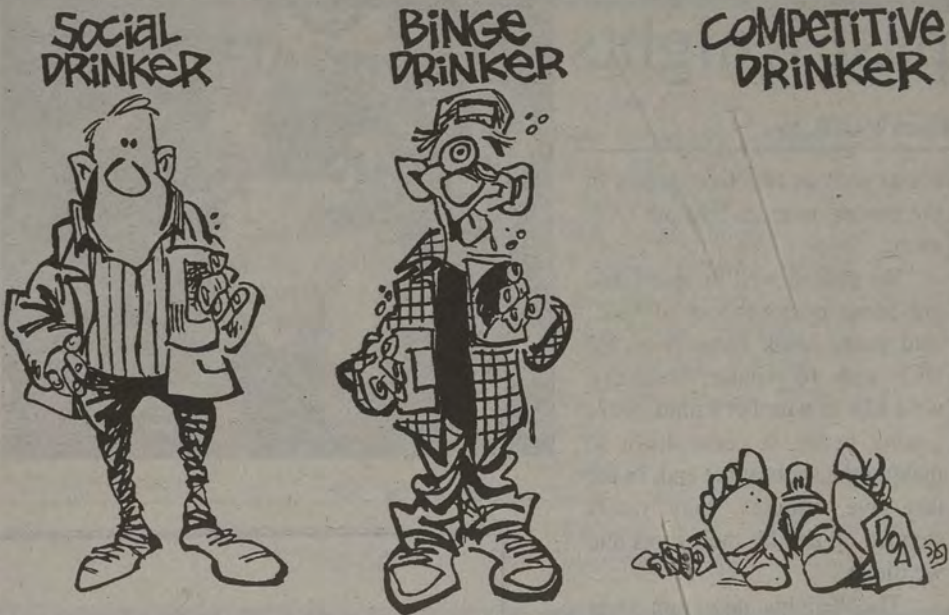
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ACROSS

- 1 Plant part
- 5 Overweight
- 10 Expletive
- 14 Volcanic flow
- 15 Blackbird
- 16 Meditate deeply
- 17 Long story
- 18 Not moving
- 19 Prose narrative
- 20 Held up
- 22 Guest
- 24 Cozy place
- 25 Danger
- 26 Calamity
- 30 Wears away gradually
- 34 Muslim priest
- 35 Living
- 36 Related on mother's side
- 37 Catch
- 38 Struck with the hand
- 41 Hosiery mishap
- 42 Representative
- 44 Goal
- 45 Make over
- 46 Peruse again
- 48 Handyman
- 50 Penned
- 52 Mental telepathy
- 53 Prickly plant
- 56 Arms

DOWN

- 1 Luge
- 2 Recording
- 3 Wicked
- 4 Road surface
- 5 Eastern
- 6 Musical group
- 7 Adam's mate
- 8 Wait upon
- 9 Complete
- 10 Greek letter
- 11 Mature kid
- 12 Jason's ship
- 13 Costly
- 21 Affirmative
- 23 Fathered
- 25 Make ready
- 26 Money of Iran
- 27 Reflection
- 28 Broad sword
- 29 Baseball stat.
- 31 Challenger
- 32 Musical composition
- 33 Mexican title
- 38 Begin
- 39 Dessert choice
- 40 Rulers
- 43 Reporters
- 45 Matured
- 47 Just a dab
- 49 Donkey
- 51 Pester
- 53 English streetcar
- 54 Sharpen
- 55 Hebrides isle
- 56 Ripening factor
- 57 Short letter
- 58 Picnic pests
- 59 Bulb vegetable
- 62 Inlet

ANSWERS

K	S	E	D	S	H	A	P	E	N	A	V	E	
E	J	T	E	R	E	I	S	O	E	N	N	A	
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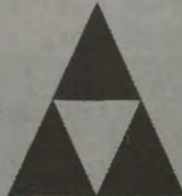
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Late surge lifts Rockets past Knights

From PAGE 20

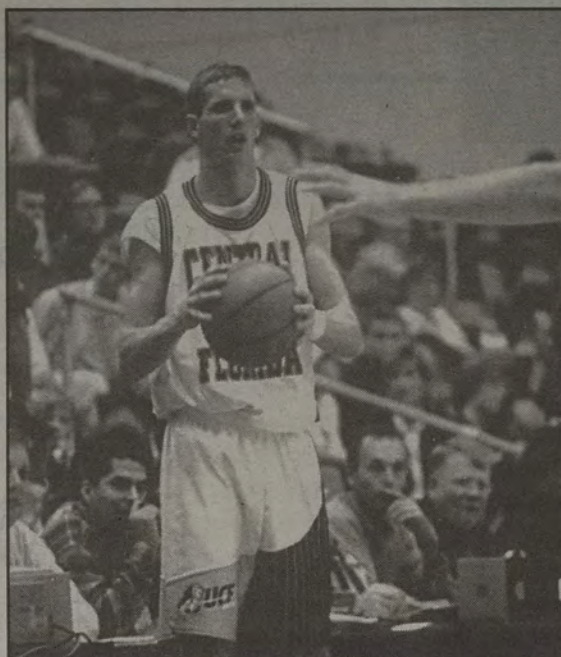
ers as well as five free throws in the closing minutes that put UCF away.

"We played well in spurts and got some positives out of this," said guard Mark Jones, who led UCF with 16 points. "Naturally, we'd like to win, but I think we're getting better. It came down to making the shots at the end. In the last five minutes, they really stepped up and hit their shots and we didn't."

The Knights now turn their attention to Winthrop, who they play Dec. 3 in Rock Hill, S.C. UCF will try to avenge last season's 83-78 home loss to the Eagles, who are without standout point guard Tyson Waterman.

Waterman scored 26 in last season's win, but is no longer at Winthrop. It will be a challenge for UCF to play well in their first out-of-state road game of the season.

"It's going to be tough because we're going on the road and we have to be tough on the road," said Speraw. "Winthrop is a good team, so it will be an important game for us."



FUTURE file photos

Brad Traina, left, and D'Quarius Stewart, above, play at Winthrop on Dec. 3.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL SEASON SCHEDULE

1997-98 Men's Basketball Schedule (2-3)
 Day Date Opponent Site Time
 Fri. Nov. 14 Auburn UCF Arena 63-70
 Tue. Nov. 18 at Florida Gainesville, Fla. 85-100
 Thur. Nov. 20 McNeese State UCF Arena 67-51
 Tue. Nov. 25 vs. Bethune-Cookman^ Daytona Beach, Fla. 75-57
 Sat. Nov. 29 Toledo UCF Arena 64-69
 Wed. Dec. 3 at Winthrop Rock Hill, S.C. 7:00 pm
 Sat. Dec. 13 Nova Southeastern UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Thur. Dec. 18 St. Thomas UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Tue. Dec. 23 at Marquette Milwaukee, Wisc. 8:00 pm
 Tue. Dec. 30 vs. South Florida % Tampa, Fla. 8:00 pm
 Sat. Jan. 3 at Mercer * Macon, Ga. 7:00 pm
 Mon. Jan. 5 at Georgia State * Atlanta, Ga. 6:00 pm
 Sat. Jan. 10 Troy State * UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Mon. Jan. 12 Centenary * UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Thur. Jan. 15 Samford * UCF Arena 7:30 pm

Sat. Jan. 17 at Jacksonville St.* Jacksonville, Ala. 8:00 pm
 Thur. Jan. 22 C. of Charleston * UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Sat. Jan. 24 Campbell * UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Thur. Jan. 29 at Florida Atlantic* Boca Raton, Fla. 7:30 pm
 Sat. Jan. 31 at Florida Int'l* Miami, Fla. 7:30 pm
 Mon. Feb. 2 Stetson * UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Thur. Feb. 5 Florida Atlantic* UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Sat. Feb. 7 Florida Int'l* UCF Arena 7:30 pm
 Sat. Feb. 14 at Stetson * DeLand, Fla. 5:15 pm
 Thur. Feb. 19 at Campbell * Buies Creek, N.C. 7:00 pm
 Sat. Feb. 21 at C. of Charleston* Charleston, S.C. 7:15 pm
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Women's basketball team places 2nd in tournament

From PAGE 20

win with a jumper with 18 seconds remaining in the game.

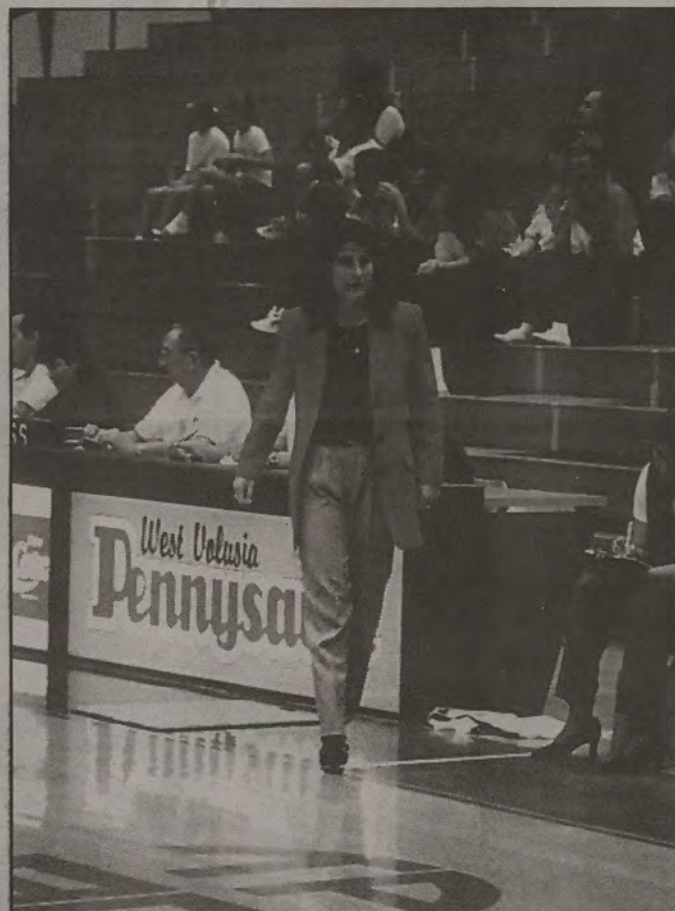
Davis was an all-tournament selection, averaging 14 points and 7 rebounds. She scored a game-high 19 points against Buffalo. Also earning that honor was UCF senior center Stacey DeVeaux, who averaged 17.3 points and seven rebounds.

"I am very encouraged with Stacey DeVeaux," Bria said. "She's come along further than what I had thought."

In its first game, UCF overcame a 12-point deficit to defeat the University of Denver, 60-49. DeVeaux led all scorers with 19 points including six during a 10-2 run with 6:20 left in the game which put UCF into the lead for good.

The three victories was the best start for UCF (3-1) since the 1984-85 season when it compiled a 20-10 record. It also was the first time it had reached the championship game in their tournament since 1991-92.

UCF returns to action Dec. 13 in Austin, Texas, against the University of Texas before returning home Dec. 16 against Bethune-Cookman and Dec. 18 against UTEP.



FUTURE file photo
Coach Lynn Bria's team is off to a 3-1 start.

Women's basketball tournament results

UCF Turkey Shootout

First Round
UCF 60 Denver 49
Buffalo 75, Sam Houston State 67
Bowling Green 85, Butler 67
Syracuse 89, Radford 69

Second Round
UCF 63, Buffalo 60
Syracuse 71, Bowling Green 67
Sam Houston 68, Denver 56
Butler 85, Radford 62

Seventh Place
Denver 79, Radford 69

Fifth Place
Butler 84, Sam Houston 78

Third Place
Bowling Green 74, Buffalo 54

Championship Game
Syracuse 104, UCF 66

All-Tournament Team
Sarah Fadenrecht - University of Denver
Charlotta Jones - Bowling Green State University
Chariya Davis - UCF
Stacey DeVeaux - UCF
Caryn Schoff - Syracuse University

Tournament MVP
Teakya Barnes - Syracuse University

Volleyball team aims for NCAA championship

From PAGE 20

Seniors upon seniors upon juniors. Experience galore and both the 1996 and 1997 TAAC players of the year in Renata Menchikova and Harper.

The team sat around tables with the photos of former Knight athletes and fans and talked through the television's over-talkative announcers.

It's 6:40 p.m. - the announcements begin. The jumbo-screen television, dwarfing anything else in the room, displayed the selections with booming clari-

ty. Then the listing of top eight seeds. Then a long series of commercials.

The players begin to fidget in their seats as the East bracket is announced.

6:43 ... 6:44 ... 6:45 ... 6:46 the Central bracket comes next. The host: The No.4 Wisconsin Badgers in Madison, Wisc. Next...

"Whooyaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!!!!"

Thankfully, the announcer doesn't have a chance to be heard.

"Can you believe it! - Man it's going to be cold! - Wow! Clemson!" comes from the forest of raised arms and smiling, wide-open mouths.

Cracking a smile while trying to settle things down, Smith shouts over the chatter: "It's Clemson guys. Here's your chance to prove what you can do!"

UCF played the Tigers the last three years and beat them in South Carolina last season. But as important, Smith said, Clemson won't have the home court advantage.

On Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m., they got a phone call saying, 'Hey, you're going to Minnesota,'" Hoffman said.

"Not that we weren't all excited, but this gives you a different atmosphere and everybody gets to see selection as soon as it comes out of their mouths.

"I know we're going to beat Clemson," she added.

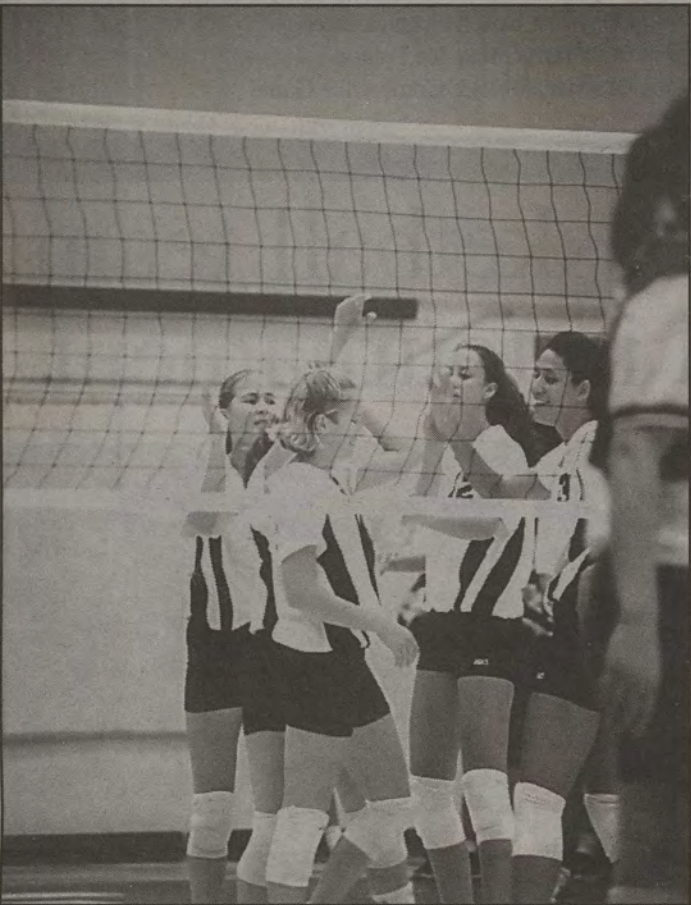
"We're playing real well and we're together this year. We're really gelling and working hard together. This is what we've worked so hard for."

play. If the Knights make school history, then the Badgers are next at Dec. 7 at 4 p.m.

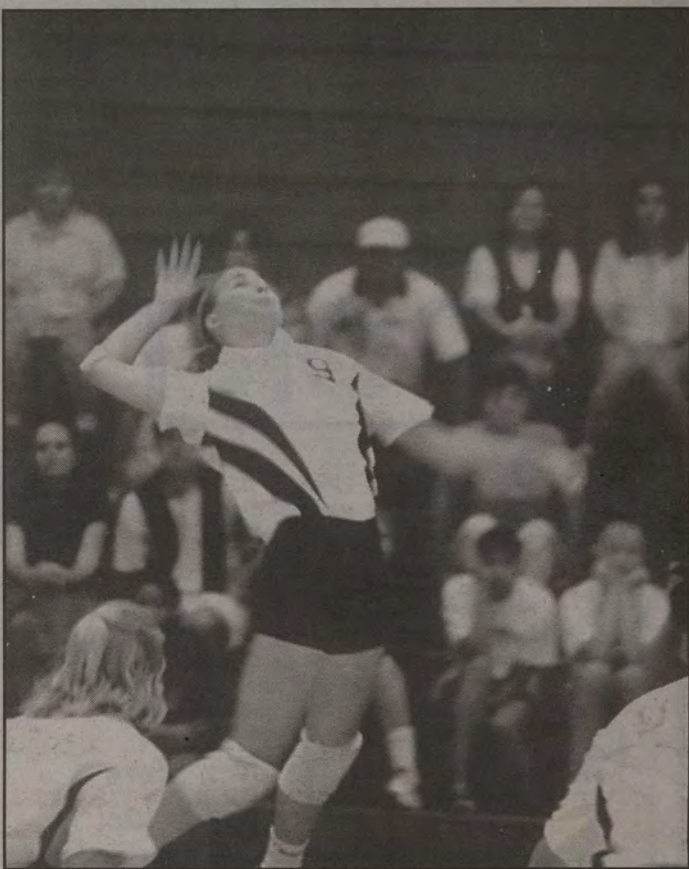
"We beat them last year and they are a little tougher this year, but so are we," Smith said of the Tigers. "

As for the atmosphere of making the special day feel select, junior Dawn Hoffman said the team should make coming to place like Loco's a habit.

"I love it. Last year we just



Renata Menchikova, right, will lead UCF into NCAA play on Thursday. The Knights won their sixth TAAC championship this year.



FUTURE file photos

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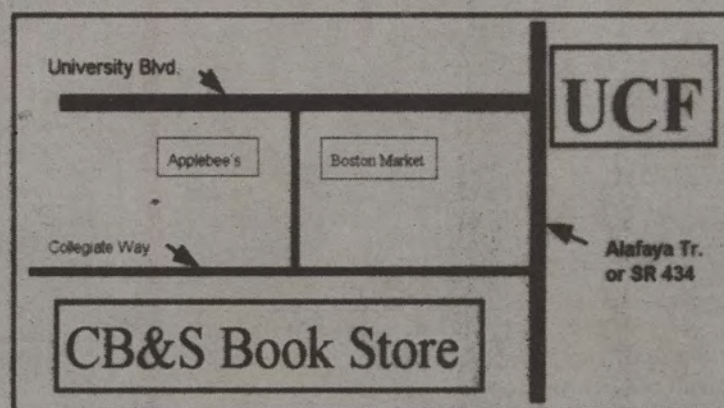
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Sports

Volleyball hopes to heat things up in Wisconsin



FUTURE file photo

Tyra Harper and her teammates open up against Clemson.

By **DEREK GONSOLIN**
Sports Editor

On Nov. 30, it wasn't your typical volleyball get-together.

With players and coaches straggling into Loco's pub several minutes past the 6:30 deadline, coach Laura Smith is usually a bit tougher on the discipline.

But she could make the exception that day: The NCAA tournament selections were about to start. Seniors Susie Queisser and Tyra Harper were even playing pinball in the neighboring gameroom. Speakers blasted an NFL game from every direction as a Miami Dolphin scores a touchdown.

"Yeah! Go Miami!" yelled senior Maribel Marcos, a Miami native. Sensing the restlessness in her team build, Smith began talking about the previous night's heart-breaker in Tampa.

Thoughts of a high seed were probably ended with the tough loss at then-No. 27 South Florida in four sets. There was still hope for UCF to nab a first-round opponent it could match up with. Winning the sixth-consecutive TAAC championship assured a dance with somebody.

The Knights were hoping it was just somebody they knew. The last three seasons, UCF traveled to Idaho, Louisville and Minnesota

and lost in the school's first match up in years with the host teams.

One and done. But not this year. Not after all of the regular-season accolades the team had earned.

UCF won 27 of 30 games, including four of six from tournament teams on the road. The won at Hofstra, Stephen F. Austin, Arkansas-Little Rock and handled Michigan at the Tiger Classic in Louisiana. Of the team's three losses, two were at tourney teams Oral Roberts and South Florida.

If any team in school history was ready for a NCAA road game, it's this squad.

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 18

FROM the SPORTS desk

Baseball signs 6

Baseball coach Jay Bergman announced Nov. 25 the signing of two infielders and four pitchers to national letters of intent. Catcher/outfielder Jeremy Frost (Oviedo/Oviedo HS) and third/first baseman Mark Stowe (Del Ray Beach/Atlantic HS) join pitchers Ron Brooks (Tallahassee/ Tallahassee CC), Justin Pope (Lake Worth/Wellington HS), Eric Tatum (West Palm Beach/Forest Hill HS) and Travis Crouse (Orlando/Colonial HS) as members of the 1999 recruiting class.

Frost was a member of the US Junior National Team while Stowe has been selected as one of the top players in South Florida by the Palm Beach Post. Brooks, a right-handed hurler, was a 1997 pick of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and Pope, who also plays shortstop, is an all-state selection and has played for Team Florida at the USA Nationals. Tatum, a southpaw, is a first team all-state selection from Forest Hill High School.



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Receiver Siaha Burley is one of three players to earn all-American honors this year.

3 players named all-American

On Dec. 1, the Football News named defensive end Jermaine Benoit, receiver Siaha Burley and placekicker Fred Waczewski to the all-independent team.

Quarterback Daunte Culpepper, who threw for 3,086 yards and 25 touchdowns this year, was edged by Louisiana Tech's Tim Rattay. Culpepper finished the season fifth in total offense, while Rattay was in the top three all season. The Knights play LTU to start the 1998 campaign on Sept. 5.

Benoit had one of the best seasons ever for UCF lineman. He finished with 105 tackles, 10.5 sacks, 33 quarterback pressures and 14 tackles for loss.

Burley, a juco transfer, almost had the single season reception record. He fell one shy with 77 and added 1,106 yards and seven touchdowns. Fred Waczewski didn't miss his first field goal or extra point until they were blocked by Auburn and Northeast Louisiana respectively. He finishes the year 13 of 16 of field goals with a long of 51, 43 of 45 on point after tries and 82 total points.

UCF impresses in own tourney

By **BRANT PATRICK PARSONS**
Staff Writer

The UCF women's basketball team is off to a quick start this season, winning its first three games and advancing to the championship of the UCF Turkey Shootout.

After two come-from-behind victories against Denver and Buffalo, the Golden Knights fell in the championship against Syracuse, 104-66.

UCF trailed Syracuse 27-26 with 4:20 left in the first half but the Orangewomen broke the game open with a pressing attack. An 18-6 run by Syracuse to end the first half combined with a 19-5 run to open the second led to a 26-point lead UCF could never threaten. Syracuse's athleticism proved to be its most key asset, UCF coach Lynn Bria said.

"They are very athletic, they are very quick and they handle the ball well," Bria said. "They are a good team, they can beat you a number of ways."

Despite the loss, the tournament proved to be a valuable experience for UCF, especially when it begins TAAC tournament play, Bria said.

"I am glad we played a team of [Syracuse's] caliber," Bria said. "The two nights before we were down, we showed a lot of character, we won a close ball game. I think that says a lot."

The close game was a semifinal victory against Buffalo. Despite trailing by as many as 10 points in the second half, UCF fought back and held on to win, 63-60. Junior guard Chariya Davis helped seal the

See WOMEN'S, Page 17



FUTURE file photo

Guard Chariya Davis was named to the all-tournament team.

Rockets launch late comeback to top UCF

By **TONY MEJIA**
Staff Writer

UCF played 35 minutes of solid basketball against Toledo on Saturday night at the UCF Arena. But it was the last five minutes that told the final story as the Rockets overcame poor first-half shooting and their star center's ineffectiveness to post a 69-64 victory.

The focal point of Toledo's offense, 6-foot-11 center Casey Shaw, was shut down effectively by the UCF post triumvirate of Bucky Hodge, Davin Granberry and Scott White. In fact, it was Hodge who was the story early, hitting four of his first five shots and recording a pair of blocks to trigger the UCF attack.

However, Hodge and the other UCF centers were in foul trouble early, forcing Coach Kirk Speraw to run a three-man rotation.

"I should've played a little smarter, but when I sat down the team stood up and played strong, but I really feel I let them down when I fouled out," Hodge

said. "That was when it was crunch time, and I felt I could of done something to help them."

As unfortunate as Hodge's foul situation was, he provided the Knights with a huge boost in his 18 minutes. Speraw said Hodge "really stepped up to the challenge of facing a big-name center."

Along with Granberry and White, Hodge held Shaw to two-of-10 shooting from the field and only nine points.

"We played intense. In a way it was our best game, but when you lose you always have to look for something to get better," Hodge said. "I know he is an NBA prospect, but I played good defense and the team dropped down and helped out, so overall we did a good job, but we just didn't finish it."

Providing the inside game Shaw lacked for Toledo was 6-7 senior forward Joel Howard, who came off the bench to score 16 points on 7-of-10 shooting. Chad Kamstra, a sophomore guard, was also vital off the bench, finishing with 13 on a pair of three-point

See LATE, Page 16