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Huge size classes can intimidate incoming freshmen

By NICOLE KING
Staff Writer

Jennifer Riley was lost her first day at UCF. Not only was she looking at her map all day, the sheer size of her first class made her anxiety even worse.

"I was really intimidated by the large lecture classes," Riley said. "I thought I would get lost in the crowd

and I wouldn't be able to keep up."

Now a second-semester freshman, Riley, 19, has adjusted to large auditorium-size classes but admits she was surprised at the number of big classes at UCF.

"I just thought there weren't as many as there were," she said.

Riley's first-day shock is not uncommon. Over the past five years, UCF's student population has risen

steadily, by about a thousand students a year. As a result, the number of larger classes is also on the rise. Besides being mathematically different from smaller classes, classes with more than 50 students can cause other problems for students and professors.

"You tend to let your mind wander more in a larger class," said Thy Tran, 21.

As a microbiology major, Tran has

taken many lecture-size classes. Tran said one of the main problems with big classes is the loss of interaction between professor and students.

"In the larger classes, the professor tends to go on and on, whereas in a smaller class, the professor will stop and answer questions," Tran said. "Also, the professors recognize you easily in smaller classes. So they might know some of your weakness-

es and can help you more."

Electrical engineering major Kim Nguyen also prefers smaller classes to larger ones.

"I can concentrate more in smaller classes," Nguyen said. "I feel like I can ask more questions and there seems to be more explanation and attention given to students."

See STUDENTS, Page 9

Mother Nature parties on the UCF campus

By JAMES COMBS
Staff Writer

Earth Day was celebrated for the first time at UCF, complete with live bands, information booths and free food.

The Earth Day Blowout celebration was held outside the Student Union on April 23 and was hosted by the Campus Activities Board.

The music of Cold Spot 8, Wellville and UMOJA drew junior Jason Peterson to the event.

"I could hear the music all the way from the library," Peterson said. "I decided to check out what was going on and I enjoyed the music."

The free food from Subway attracted other students to the event.

"Any time there is free food, I am going to be the first one in line," said sophomore Amy Bland. "I thought it was cool that the CAB decided to offer free food for this."

Many students also participated in Plant-a-flower. Students planted a seed in a little pot, and then took it home to watch the flower bloom.

"Maybe now I won't have to go to a store and buy my girlfriend flowers," freshman Marty Stopher said.

Other students enjoyed making pictures out of sand.

Sophomore Tanika Solomon used various colors to draw a picture of God. Junior Brent Creasman drew a picture of his Chevy S-10 pickup truck.

Information booths were set up by members of the Campus

See EARTH, Page 4

Volunteers make the campus beautiful



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Volunteers gather around the Administration Building to collect garbage and plant flowers.

By LORI CARTER
Staff Writer

Volunteer UCF (VUCF), Student Government Association (SGA) and The Garden Club teamed up for Beautification Day on April 18.

"We try to keep an eye out for what is going on in the community and sometimes we plan our own events," said Amy Pounds, director of VUCF. "We started planning Beautification Day at the end of January."

According to Pounds, the group started by getting in touch with the UCF grounds crew to find out what they felt needed attention.

The SGA also had a campus clean-up day as one of their platform goals.

Keith McDonald, president of SGA, said VUCF had trouble getting a list from the physical plant, which included things which needed to be done. McDonald said SGA chipped by notifying other UCF clubs of the event. According to McDonald, SGA also helped with advertising. SGA provided wings, finger sandwiches and drinks for the volunteers.

David Metzker, who works for the grounds crew, donated 125 heavy duty garbage bags and told VUCF members what areas need to be cleaned up.

See VUCF, Page 4

Love affair with sun can cause skin cancer

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

Ever since the 1920s when fashion mogul Coco Chanel sported her new tan after a yachting vacation, many Americans have equated tanned skin with good health, fun and beauty.

"When I was in high school, all the girls used to cover themselves with a combination of baby oil and iodine," said UCF student Heather Summy. "It was like we were basting ourselves to cook in the sun. We didn't know then that we could get skin cancer."

Most experts attribute the dramatic rise in skin cancer to America's love affair with the sun and a lifestyle that puts more people in the sun, for longer periods of time and in more revealing outfits.

According to the American Cancer Society, more than 600,000 people were diagnosed with basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas in 1990, up from 400,000 in 1980.

Thirty-five thousand more were diagnosed with melanoma, the deadliest skin cancer.

See TANS, Page 12

Students should not worry about tests

By **LINDA RAMOS**
Staff Writer

With finals becoming a heavy weight on the shoulders on many students, a few test-taking tips can come in pretty handy.

Tests are tools for comprehension measurement, according to co-authors Kenneth Graham and H. Alan Robinson of the Study Skills Handbook. Tests measure how well a student interprets, retains, organizes, analyzes and expresses class material learned during a specified period of time.

Some general guidelines can be followed before, during and after taking tests. Be sure to get 7-8 hours sleep the night before a test. Being completely rested aids in alertness during an exam. Do not arrive too early for the test because the waiting can cause test anxiety which could impair testing performance. Instead, arrive about 10 minutes prior to the test and try to relax by thinking positive self-affirming thoughts.

The latter point is important. Most students' self-talk prior to an exam is one of self-defeating, negative and hopeless thoughts. Feel confident that you are well prepared and actually imagine yourself knowing all the answers to the test.

You may be thinking, "Yeah right." However, your thoughts do create your reality so try to make it as positive as possible.

Brenda Smith of Bridging the Gap: College Reading suggests when you receive the test focus completely on the testing environment. In other words, block out all distractions including other students and just concentrate on the exam. After

receiving the test, Smith advises (if allowed by the professor) to jot down formulas, key words or concepts on the top corner of the test sheet as an aid in answering questions.

Unloading this information from memory can free up some "brain space" and help you to more fully concentrate. Don't assume you know what the directions say, always read the directions.

There are two approaches in answering test questions quickly and efficiently.

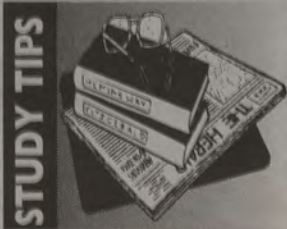
Method (A) is to answer the easy questions you are sure about first which helps build test-taking confidence. Method (B) is to start at the first question and plow straight through the test until the very last question. Method (B) helps prevent careless mistakes such as questions being skipped and mismatched on the answer sheet.

Do not let students who finish early bother you. Finishing first does not mean getting the best grade. You are not being graded on being the fastest and you are not competing with other students. You are competing with yourself to do your best.

Leave some extra time for reviewing. The purpose of reviewing is not to doubt all your answers but to catch any careless mistakes.

After completing the test, do not obsessively dwell on your performance as advised by Kevin Paul of Study Smarter, Not Harder. Believe that you did what you could do under those circumstances. Then let it go.

Linda Ramos is associated with Full Student Services (FSS), which provides word processing/typing and research assistance to college students. Direct all correspondence to FSS, PO Box 622077 Oviedo, FL 32762-2077 or 407-525-3302.



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Letter to the editor

I'm writing on behalf of the Lambda Epsilon Chapter of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity at UCF to express our displeasure about the headline used on page 22 of the April 15, 1998, issue of The Central Florida Future.

By writing, "Kappa Sigma Fraternity charged with numerous violations", you leave a lot of questions unanswered: Are you talking about Kappa Sigma at UCF? Is the national fraternity being charged? Since many readers take the time to read only the headline, this particular headline can lead some readers to some very incorrect conclusions.

For the record, the Kappa Sigma Chapter in question is located at Louisiana State University. If all the charges leveled against the chapter are found to be true, they will be dealt with most severely by our national board. Neither Kappa Sigma Fraternity in general or the UCF chapter in particular, condone the actions that allegedly took place at LSU.

We respectfully request this letter be printed, so any wrong impressions that may have been raised as a result of your previous headline may be cleared up.

Sincerely,
Don Adam, President
Kappa Sigma Fraternity

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Love in the '90s is a walk in the park

By **CHRISTINE TATUM**
College Press Service

Say what you will about Frank Sinatra, but one thing is indisputable: he knows how to pick up chicks.

His list of conquests is as long and star-studded as Mir's journey through outer space — Lauren Bacall, Angie Dickinson, Ava Gardner (his second wife) and Mia Farrow (wife number three) — to name a few. Marlene Dietrich once called him "the Mercedes-Benz of men," and Dean Martin swore that when Sinatra dies "they're giving his zipper to the Smithsonian."

Golly, and many guys nowadays have trouble even asking someone out on a date. When they do, Chad Brooks, a senior journalism major at Indiana University, said it usually goes something like this:

"Hey, Baby. How 'bout you and me grabbing a six pack and heading back to the house so you can watch me play Sega?"

"I don't do that," Brooks said. "I'm in the first group of guys. The ones who are nervous and shy because they're afraid of rejection."

Is this what the art of wooing women — a talent Sinatra defined and refined — has come to?

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, say it ain't so, said Bill Zehme, author of a book about Sinatra titled "The Way You Wear Your Hat." Sensing that men are lost these days and in need of some help when it comes to the whole dating scene, Zehme published a list of Sinatra's secrets with help from Old Blue Eyes himself.

In his day, Sinatra, now 82, got the girls because no one could match his style, charisma and confidence, Zehme said. He had standing tables in the finest restaurants around town. ("Go to one bar all the time, and

make friends there," Zehme advises college students dating on a shoestring budget. "Eventually, you'll get in anytime you want.")

He dressed for every occasion. ("Lint was his mortal enemy," Zehme added. "And he made it a point to look nicer than everyone else.") He wasn't

showy. ("That's trying too hard," Zehme said.)

And he paid attention to the tiniest of details.

("Sinatra's number one rule was always 'Be aware,'" Zehme said. "If a woman

spilled her purse or dropped a napkin, he helped her pick it up. If she entered a room or approached his table, he stood up.")

"He did a lot of learning for us," Zehme said. "And he made a lot of mistakes, then he made them over again before trying something different."

They're tough questions, but Sinatra's answers are the basis for a strategy that has made the hearts of babes, broads and dames everywhere go ring-a-ding-ding:

What is the most important thing to look for in a woman?

"A sense of humor. When looking for a woman, it always helps to find a woman who is also looking. Make her feel appreciated, make her feel beautiful. If you practice long enough, you'll know when you get it. And, by the way, look, but don't touch. You can't

get into trouble window-shopping."

What should a man never do in the presence of a woman?

"Yawn."

How should a man show a woman respect?

"I may sound old-fashioned, but I want to think all women should be treated like I want my wife, daughters and granddaughters to be

treated. I notice today that good manners

— like standing up when a woman enters the room, helping a woman

on with her coat, letting her enter an elevator first,

taking her arm across the street — are sometimes considered unnecessary or a

throwback. These are habits I could never break, nor would I want to. I realize today a lot more

women are taking care of themselves than in the past. But no woman is offended by politeness."

How do you get over a broken heart?

"You don't. I think being jilted is one of life's most painful experiences. It takes a long time to heal a broken heart. It's happened to all of us and never gets any easier. I understand, however, that playing one of my albums can help."

What do you do when a woman cries?

"I usually cry with her."

What is the most dependable cure for a hangover?

"Don't drink to begin with."

What, you wonder, does this have to do

with wooing women?

"Sinatra was always in control," Zehme said. "Drinking played a huge part in his life, but he thought it was about having fun and not overdoing it. He used one trick a lot: he'd order a drink, take a sip or two and put it down. Then he would walk across the room and order another drink and do the same thing over again. It always appeared that he was keeping up with everybody when he actually wasn't."

"He was always the one who could still tell witty stories into the wee hours, and he was always the one still standing at the very end when it came time to walk a woman home," Zehme continued. "You always should be the guy who gets to walk the girl home."

Great advice, but will it work in 1998? Some perhaps, but certainly not all, said Cheryl Lavin, who writes "Tales From the Front," a column about dating and relationships.

"Opening doors for women and helping them with their coats is nice, but if I had ever seen him dropping drinks all over the place, I would have thought he was a big jerk and a phony," she said.

"Anyone who is that concerned about giving the wrong image is not appealing to me. And I question the confidence of anybody who has to plan out every little detail of their life like that. It's fine if all that appeal comes naturally, but if it's manufactured, that's not good at all."

Ouch.

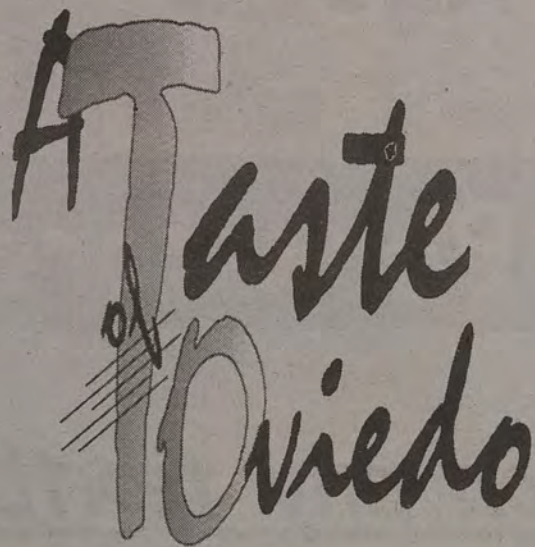
"Nobody can please everybody," Zehme said.

"Sinatra's number two rule was always 'Don't despair.'"



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Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Amy Pounds and Melissa Zelniker are looking forward to a better turnout at next year's Earth Day celebration.

Earth Day celebration a success

From PAGE 1

Action for Animals, the Environmental Society, the Garden Club, the Dive Club and the Air and Waste Management Association.

The Air and Waste Management Association displayed an award-winning poster on disposal alternatives for wetlands. Students from the College of Engineering had won an award in Fort Lauderdale for their ideas on disposal of wetlands.

The Environmental Society sold T-shirts from their annual cleanup of the St. Johns River. Members of the club also sold

fruit, brownies and cookies to raise money for their club. In addition, the club asked its visitors to sign a petition to stop state officials from building a trail across the sand hill habitat at Wekiva Springs State Park.

"It is one of the few habitats left in the state of Florida," said Dameron Black, treasurer of the Environmental Society. "If they are going to build the trail, they should put it next to the road because it would cost a lot less and save the habitat."

The Garden Club displayed a Compost Bin, a device which people place various

plants and lawn and kitchen waste in. Once the waste is in the bin, a person turns it with a handle, and the bin will get the dirt to fertilize.

"This is a wonderful way to get rid of kitchen and yard waste and get free fertilized soil," said Tia Silbasy, Garden Club treasurer.

Jessica Smith, CAB special events director, said she is proud of the way the UCF's Earth Day Blowout went.

"Special events has been an innovative committee this year," Smith said. "This Blowout was just one more idea that we had to serve the students."

VUCF receives community support

From PAGE 1

According to Pounds, the group of about 15 volunteers focused their clean up around the Reflecting Pond and the administration area, which was littered by cigarette butts.

The volunteers also picked weeds and picked up trash.

"It went well," said sophomore Stephanie Peaveler. "There wasn't many people who showed up. I needed community service hours for a class that's why most of the people were there."

According to Tia Silvasy, president of the Garden Club, the club donated two cherokee roses, six purple hearts and six hibiscus. The plants were planted around the ATM machine near the Administration Building.

"Our project was a big success," Silvasy said. "Picking up trash didn't help that much because the physical plant people do that anyway."

"Next year with a little bit more planning, we are hoping to have over 100 students," Zelniker said.



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

Surfers second

Billy Kaperski competes at the National Scholastic Surfing Association Eastern Championships on April 26. UCF came in second place overall for the season. Next stop is the NSSA National Championships in Harrington Beach, Calif.

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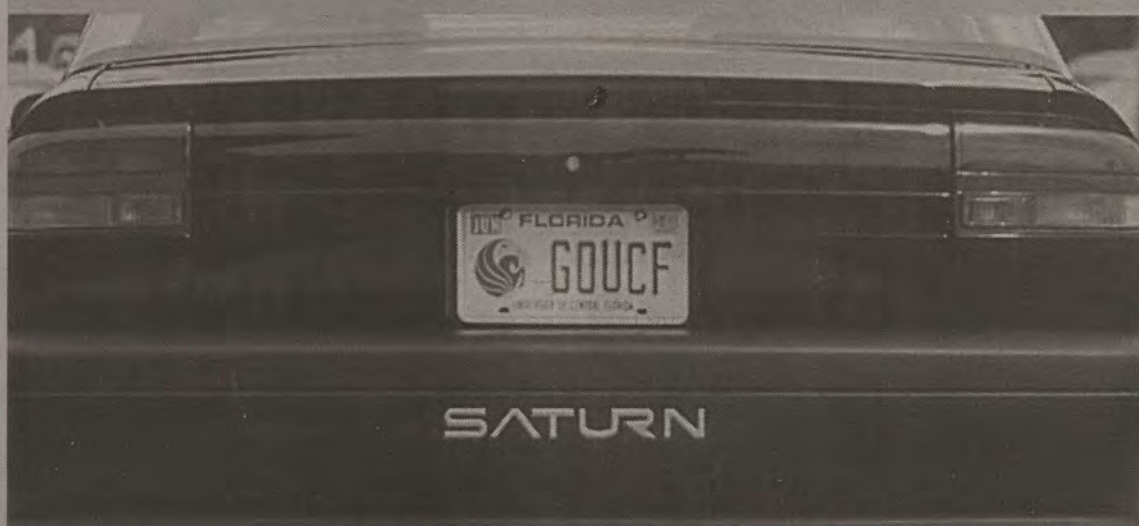
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College awards alumni for professional achievement

By **GWEN R. RHODES**
Staff Writer

UCF's College of Health and Public Affairs chose seven distinguished alumni from its schools and departments as recipients of the college's Alumni Professional Achievement awards.

Each school and department selected a winner based on the individual's career achievements, leadership qualities and contributions to their community.

The microbiology and molecular biology department chose Jacqueline Sullivan, class of 1987, as its award recipient. Sullivan is an assistant environmental engineer for the Boyle Engineering Group of Orlando.

The criminal justice and legal studies department chose Larry Deal, class of 1977. Deal is the vice president of the First American Title Insurance Company of Winter Park.

The social work department chose Marlene Richmond, class of 1975. Richmond is a licensing administrator for the Department of Children and Families in Orlando.

The nursing department chose Monica J. Cox, class of 1994. Cox is a geriatric nurse practitioner for the Senior Health Care, a division of Morton Plant Mease Primary Care in Dunedin.

The communicative disorders department chose Marcia Shapiro, class of 1991. Shapiro is the director of the speech pathology department at Florida Hospital Waterman in Eustis.

The public administration department chose Dean Sprague, class of 1986. Sprague is the city manager of the City of Maitland.

The health professions and physical therapy department chose Jeffrey Elsberry, who received his Ph.D. in 1977. Elsberry is the dean of instruction in the division of health and sciences at Edison Community College in Fort Myers.

*Congratulations
Graduates!!!*

THE Crossword

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ANSWERS

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Army offers more money for college graduates

By **KATHIE BULLARD**
Staff Writer

The United States Army has allowed a pay raise for people involved with the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) in college. The SMP program is for Army ROTC students who are in the Army Reserves or National Guard.

The pay raise means once a cadet has become an officer in the active Army, they will receive more pay per month than the average second lieutenant. These kinds of benefits Army personnel receive makes one wonder how beneficial the Army can be after college compared to civilian graduates.

Job searching after college is sometimes more of a nightmare than graduating. It's well known that jobs for beginning

level workers with little experience are not easy to find. According to a national salary survey published in January of 1998, students graduating with bachelor's degrees make an average of \$30,000 a year. This figure is based on job offers not the actual pay graduates are hired for.

According to the 1995-1996 UCF Employment & Salary Report, of 4,795 UCF alumni, 2,669 who remained in Florida were making an average of \$25,463 a year.

Graduates who have earned a degree and completed the Army ROTC program have a guaranteed job after college if

accepted into the active Army. A high percentage of UCF Army ROTC cadets receive active duty when they apply.

extra \$1,868 a year for basic allowances. There are many other extra payments per month a soldier can earn, such as flight pay and temporary duty pay. Benefits also include free medical and dental care. In addition, 30 days leave each year.

The Army provides consistent promotion rates and averages a 2.5 percent cost of living. The benefits continue after retirement and a retirement pension is also guaranteed after 20 years service.

Even if a college student is not looking for a career in the military, the Army can still be

very beneficial. Scholarships are rewarded to pay for school, and graduates of Army ROTC are required to serve only 3-4 years. During this time, a graduate that enters the Army after college will gain experience, become proficient in leadership situations and have excellent credentials compared to their peers who did not join.

Those who do not join the Army are forced to spend two years finding someone who would hire a new graduate with little experience and make minimum wage to support themselves.

Looking at the benefits the Army offers and knowing the typical immediate future of the average college graduate, one should seriously look into the great benefits waiting for them, right here at UCF Army ROTC.

According to the 1995-1996 UCF Employment & Salary Report, of 4,795 UCF alumni, 2,669 who remained in Florida were making an average of \$25,463 a year.

As second lieutenants, they can expect to make at least \$22,000 a year with increases to more than \$50,000 after four years.

However, a soldier can receive free housing and an

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Letter to the editor

Every year the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Union paints the freedom circle near Polk and Lake Halls for LesBiGay Awareness Week. This year it took us two weeks and over 18 hours of labor to paint the circle. We decided on a pink triangle cutting into a rainbow surrounded by the wording, "UCF GLBSU presents LesBiGay Awareness Week April 12-17." What was so absolutely revolting about this that someone felt it needed to be destroyed, not once, but twice. How can one justify such destruction and blatant displays of hate and intolerance? Furthermore, how can one consciously hide the evidence of such intolerance as someone from UCF's staff did?

The first time, some unknown person wrote the eloquent message, [expletive] on the pink triangle. Along with taking pictures, we reported it to the police who had someone erase the black marker. On the morning of April 17, it was discovered that someone had once again defaced the circle with witty additions in orange. Without reporting the vandalism to the police, without notifying someone from GLBSU, and without taking any pictures of the sabotage, someone made the hasty decision to have people from Physical Plant paint the entire cir-

cle over in white (I'm sure in an effort to save face in front of visiting parents and prospective students). I speculate whether anyone from Physical Plant had any intentions of reporting this incident whatsoever.

One of President John Hitt's goals for UCF is diversity. The issue of sexual orientation is quite underrepresented in this campaign to promote a sense of diversity, tolerance and inclusion on campus. What took place that day was a glaring example of this. The vandalism of the freedom circle was not only a crime but an act of hate committed against a perceived group of people: gay, lesbian, and bisexual UCF students. Every time a hate crime is committed against gays, lesbians and bisexuals, the incident is rarely taken seriously and is quickly covered up and swept under the rug.

I am disgusted with this unjustifiable trend. The university should have an established procedure for handling hate crimes on campus. The matter must be formally investigated as the university is under an obligation to report the incident pursuant to the Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1996. Obviously the Federal Government takes this matter very seriously. Has UCF's rapid growth inflated its ego to such

a degree that its administration feels superior enough to discount the seriousness of what is now nationwide policy?

This is not the only time hate crimes such as this have been reported and consequently disregarded. UCF has a problem with gay related hate crimes on campus.

In the library, copies of The Advocate, a gay publication, have been found urinated on in the men's restroom. Last December, while GLBSU was fighting to receive funding from Senate to bring Chastity Bono to campus, our faculty advisor received a death threat.

I myself received a harassing message on my answering machine a few days prior to LesBiGay Awareness Week. It's unfortunate that gay-bashing seems to be the last socially acceptable discrimination in the United States. No form of prejudice should be even remotely tolerated on this campus, but my experience tells me differently.

—Marie Armantrout and Ryan MacDonald
Co-Vice Presidents
GLBSU

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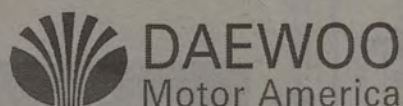
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Chuck Shepherd's NEWS OF THE WEIRD

LEAD STORIES

• Former Maryland accountant Scott Lewis Rendelman, 42, who was convicted of embezzling clients' money in 1986 and sentenced to four months in prison, has managed to parlay that sentence into 11 years and counting, because he will not stop sending threatening and sexually offensive letters to U.S. presidents, judges, prosecutors and prison officials. In April, he was convicted in Sacramento, Calif., where he is currently housed, of sending death threats to Gov. Pete Wilson and his wife. A long-time friend says Rendelman's big mistake is he always acts as his own attorney at his trials.

• The New York Times reported in March on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to set pollution-discharge limits on livestock farms within seven years. U.S. farm animals produce 130 times the manure that U.S. humans do, and one farm now under construction in Utah will produce more than all of Los Angeles. Also, unlike cities, farms do not have treatment plants. "Sometimes in the night, in the summer, when they start pumping effluent, it wakes you up," said one Missouri farm neighbor. "You are gagging."

• In March, the Oregon Lottery Commission awarded a \$124,000 contract to a company to advise it on how best to restore its gambling games to operating status in case of a catastrophic earthquake or asteroid collision, with a goal of having video poker back up within two hours of a disaster. Several critics suggested there might be more pressing problems after an earthquake, but the commission

pointed out that gambling generates \$1 million a day for the state.

Jail Is a High-Crime Area

According to authorities at the Hampton, Va., jail in March, a civilian attendant from the jail's canteen was pushing a cart full of snacks past the locked cell of Anthony Tyrone Darden, 21, when Darden reached through the bars, hit the man on the head with a broom handle, and took two packs of peanut butter crackers. Darden was apprehended pretty quickly, and the Nabs were confiscated.

Organ of the Week: The Ear

In February, according to Kenya's largest newspaper, The Nation, a Nairobi physician who had just removed a bean from a young girl's ear jammed it back in when her parents came up short on cash for the \$6 procedure. And in March, researchers at the University of Texas at Austin announced they had found physical differences in the inner ears of lesbians and straight women (perhaps the first evidence of a pre-birth determination of female homosexuality). And in February, burglar Calvin Sewell became the first person in Britain to be convicted with the help of his earprint. He had claimed an extraordinary ability to detect whether a house was empty just by pressing his ear to a door for a few minutes.

Further Evidence Why Women Are Better Nurturers

In March, near Canyon, Texas, Justice of the Peace E. Jay Hall said he found what "did appear

to be a (human) fetus," five to six months post-conception, with a severed umbilical cord, floating in a pool of standing water. He ordered it put into a plastic bag, placed in a Styrofoam container, and taken to Lubbock for an autopsy. Lubbock pathologists called Hall about an hour later and reported it was a doll.

Oops!

• In March, Don Graham asked a technician-friend to have a look at the stereo cassette recorder he said he paid \$60 for at a Bountiful, Utah, store but whose buttons wouldn't stay down when Graham pressed them. Problem: Four pounds of cocaine (value \$200,000) had been wrapped in a 2-year-old Miami area newspaper and duct-taped to the inside, jamming the buttons. Police are investigating.

• Lucy Ricardo Lives: In November, it took rescuers an hour to cut through the fangs in the statue of the Jaguar at Alltel Stadium in Jacksonville to free Andy Wilkinson, 9, who had stuck his head in the statue's mouth and couldn't get it out.

• Latest Wrong Addresses With Severe Consequences: Drug-raiding police used a battering ram on the wrong Bronx, N.Y.,

apartment in March, horribly frightening a grandmother and grandchild. The real target was the "furthest (apartment) on the left," not the "first on the left." And a March roof replacement job scheduled for 948 Pons Court, Newbury Park, Calif., was commenced on 949 Pons Court. The drug-raid error will probably result in a \$30 million lawsuit, and the family at 949 Pons Court is still mulling its options.

• When Virginia Broache got home from the Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital in Richmond, Va., in January, just after having had her cancerous bladder removed, her nurse was unpacking for her and discovered that among the "personal effects" the hospital had sent home with her was the actual bag-encased, just-removed bladder. Said a hospital staffer, "We apologize."

Another Recurring Theme

In 1993, News of the Weird reported that the Pasadena, Calif., Humane Society had built a \$4.3 million dog-and-cat shelter, with towel-lined cages, skylights, an aviary, sculptured shrubbery, "adoption counseling pavilions" for pet-client meetings, and, according to the archi-

tect, "a very subdued classical painting scheme" (all this amid criticism that it was better to be a homeless pet in Pasadena than a homeless person). In March 1998, a similar, \$7 million SPCA shelter opened in San Francisco but deflected criticism by almost immediately proposing to allow some sleepovers by homeless people as companions for dogs.

No consensus on the key ingredient

Among the variety of substances used in recent spousal poisonings (all successful): cyanamide (an alcoholism-treatment drug), Madrid, Spain, February; antifreeze, Perry, Okla., October; thallium (heart-test chemical), Wilkes-Barre, Pa., July; liquid flea killer, Bangkok, Thailand, July; and pond water in the wife's IV tube, Darlington, Wis., September.

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 8306, St. Petersburg, Fla. 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

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PARTY LIKE THERE'S NO MAÑANA!!!

Students complain about auditorium class size

From PAGE 1

The type of anonymity lecture classes offer is usually the reason why so many students dislike them. But for some, it's just what they want.

"It's easier for people who learn on their own," Riley said. "For those people who don't necessarily get a lot out of lectures but study on their own. In a smaller class, I feel like I'm insulting the teacher when I don't show up, like it's a personal insult. I like the independence of the larger classes."

Cherie Geiger, associate professor of chemistry, said feeling like no one will miss your presence in class is often too tempting for first-time college students.

"It is easier to be absent because nobody notices," Geiger said. "In a class of 25 or 40 people, I notice when somebody is not there. With a big class, they are on their own."

"I think an 18-year-old in his first semester here needs the kind of contact that a smaller class offers. They need to know that someone notices them and knows they are alive."

Most students agree that success in a large class depends not only on the student but also falls heavily on the professor.

"A lot of professors don't care whether you're done taking notes or not," said Stacey Meagher, 19. "They should take their time and make sure that everyone has the notes before they change the overhead. You might miss something important."

"They tend to lecture straight from

the book," Tran said. "They should use other sources and make it more interesting, bring in other related topics."

Riley said that if a professor makes the class interesting, students will want to go.

"In a large lecture class, it is usually more structured," Riley said. "A lot of times, they don't want to slow down. There are always people who take the class and already know everything, and then there are people who are taking the class for the first time and the teacher says, 'Everybody gets it, we're moving on' and the rest of us are left behind."

Geiger agreed with students that professors share the responsibility in a lecture class situation.

"The responsibility is on the professor to interact with the students and focus on them," Geiger said. "I walk around and make eye contact with people and talk to them."

"I try to do demonstrations on how things work," said Steve J. Lytle, associate professor of health services administration. "I change the pace of things. During class, I do a lot of activities. It's not just me up there giving a lecture."

Considering all the disadvantages associated with large classes, the advantages are hard to find. By offering classes that accommodate large numbers of students, the university is able to get students through the system faster than having them wait to take the classes they need. The technology offered in some of the more advanced lecture halls is also benefi-

cial to students. The audio/visual support is often vital to understanding material. That type of support is rarely used in small classes.

Most professors and students agreed that lecture-size classes are an efficient way to transfer information but not knowledge or understanding.

What is a student to do when knowledge and understanding are vital to a class?

Bonnie Warren is the coordinator of Instructional Support for the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC). SARC offers students a voluntary program called Supplemental Instruction. Supplemental Instruction is a series of weekly study sessions for students taking courses which have been difficult for students in the past.

The leaders of the study sessions are usually students who have already taken the courses and successfully passed them. The student-leaders attend class with the students and act as model students, taking notes and asking questions. During the study sessions, the groups practice critical thinking and problem-solving techniques.

The emphasis of the group is to teach students how to become independent learners and to get the most out of a very depersonalized classroom setting. Students are taught note taking and how to read their text effectively.

Warren said study sessions are set up for classes which have a low overall GPA and a high DWF (Drop-out, Withdrawal and Failure) rate.

Sessions are also set up at the professor's request or at the request of a department chair.

Warren said that freshmen are the group most at risk to be negatively affected by large classes.

"Everything is so new," Warren said. "Then they hit those large classes and they don't have a support system and they feel lost."

Warren said the problem has become so pronounced that a few years ago SARC began offering a program during the summer specifically for freshmen. Students are acquainted with the university and are immediately in touch with a support system of other freshmen.

"Some of the classes are weed-out classes," Warren said. "They are not intended to pass them all because they (the university) really can't handle them all."

Warren said many freshmen come to UCF not expecting to have such large classes.

"All they have to weigh it against is their high school experience," Warren said.

Students have a different take on the situation. Some say UCF's admissions department mislead them. They Tran said he was surprised at how big some of his classes were.

"In some of the literature I had read about UCF, it said that the average class size was under 20," Tran said. "When I got here my first semester, three out of four of my classes were 300 to 400 people a piece. I guess they figure janitors and staff into that equation to get that ratio."

Literature and presentations given by the admissions department to incoming freshmen indicate the fac-

ulty to student ratio is 17 to 1. Susan Burritt, associate director of admissions, said students understand that that ratio has nothing to do with class size.

"The students know that there are 28,000 students here and they know that some of the classes are held in large lecture halls," Burritt said.

Burritt defended the accuracy of the ratio.

"The ratio is mathematically correct," Burritt said. "There are a lot of faculty who do not teach."

Regardless of what the ratio actually means, students still misinterpret it to mean the average class size is around 17.

"It is misleading to say that because that's not how students understand it," Tran said. "The smallest class I have is around 28. Most of my classes have a ratio in the 40s and not the 20 or 10 that they indicated."

Despite complaints, Burritt said her department has no plans of changing its policy.

"What you're suggesting is that we tell freshmen the average class size is 16 or 17 to 1," Burritt said. "We would never do that."

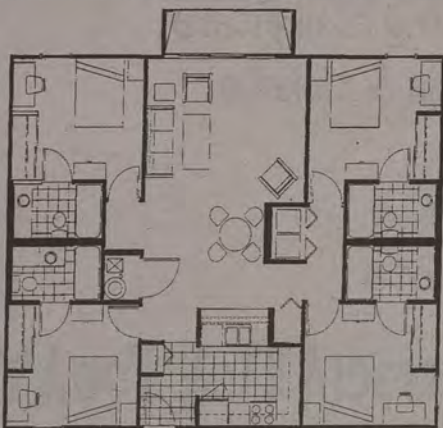
As UCF's student enrollment continues to grow, so will the number of auditorium-size classes.

From 1993 to 1997, undergraduate enrollment has grown from 18,631 to 22,734. With the increase in auditorium-size classes, many students like Riley have had to adapt.

"You get out of it how much you put in," Riley said. "They aren't there to spoon feed you. You have to keep up and it is an effort. But you learn to adapt."



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Fax	(407) 977-0019

PublisherScott Wallin	Writers: Jeff Case, Peter Kundis, James Combs, Tony Mejia, Annemarie Montali, Gwen Rhodes, Lori Ritterstein, Natalie Natale, Ann Borowski, Lori Carter, Vicki DeSormier, Daniel McMullan, Dawn Meyer, Linda Ramos, Beth Conley, Henry Springs, Mercedes McElmurry, Forrest Crumpler
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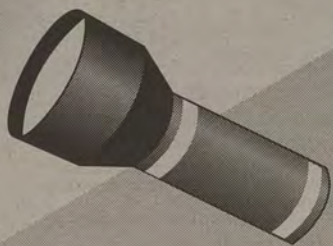
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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



I have to take between 12 to 15 hours of class over the summer, so it kinda sucks. But I do hope to get a way for a couple of days and go to Georgia. After all, the sooner I graduate, the better.

— Joe Collins, Junior, Criminal Justice, Elemont, N.Y.



I'm planning to spend my summer vacation playing basketball, working, and just having fun. During the summer, I say that everyone should "just chill," have some fun, and come party with me!

— Bucky Hodge, Junior, Liberal Studies, Lake Wales.



I'll be graduating, so its going to be kinda nice for me. I'm planning to take a trip and just enjoy myself, after all of these years!

— Lan Phan, Senior, Hospitality Management, Lakeland.



Just plenty of working, while staying in shape for the upcoming fall season of crew.

— Eric Hery, Sophomore, Criminal Justice, Ft. Lauderdale.

By **PETER KUNDIS**

How do you plan to spend your summer vacation?



Between having crew practices, working for my Dad, running, classes, work, and trying to work in some "quality time" with my baby girl, I'll be lucky if I just survive this summer.

— Richie Wilholt, Junior, Psychology, Titusville.

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Tans look good but are hazardous to your health

From PAGE 1

Melanoma is the number one cancer in women under 35, according to Dr. Vincent DeLeo, assistant professor and director of environmental dermatology at the Columbia Presbyterian Center in New York.

"While some people are heeding the messages about safe sun exposure, most experts acknowledge that many others pay no attention at all," DeLeo said. "Further, they realize that few people can totally avoid sun exposure. As a universal precaution, people should learn to wear a sunscreen regularly, particularly if they plan to spend any length of time in the sun."

According to William Gilbertson, director of the Federal Drug Administration's division of over-the-counter drug evaluation, consumers can expect to get the kind of protection the labeling specifies.

"Generic sun blocks are just as safe as brand names but consumers need to be aware of brand differences," Gilbertson said. "Sunscreens are formulated differently so they may affect people's skin differently."

A recent issue of Consumer Reports evaluated various sun protection products and found a few didn't live up to their claims. Most of the major brand names include Coppertone and Bain de Soleil, as well as some drug store brands such as Rite Aid and Walgreens were tested.

All of the products tested had at least a Sun Protection Factor (SPF)13 rating on the label. During its testing, it was found that No-Ad Kids sunblock and Hawaiian Tropic Just for Kids, both labeled SPF 30, did not deliver SPF 15 in tests.

It is also important not to rely on sunscreens alone.

"People need to focus on their individual risk characteristics such as their pigmentary phenotype (the combination of skin, hair and eye color), their family history and the type and number of moles they have," said Dr. Marianne Berwick, an epidemiologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

In 1997, Memorial Sloan-Kettering was named the nation's best cancer center for the fifth consecutive year by the U.S. News and World Report.

"I recommend that people avoid the sun when they are clearly at high risk and that they should enjoy a reasonable amount of outdoor activities with less anxiety when they are clearly at reduced risk," Berwick said.

In data gathered from a recent large case control population-based study, Berwick found that the melanoma risk for people with numerous moles was six times higher than that of someone with only a few moles. The risk for melanoma with the most sensitive skin type (those with red or blonde hair and lighter colored eyes) was almost six times that of someone with the least sensitive phenotype.

Which sunscreen is best?

Choose at least an SPF 15 broad spectrum sunscreen. The SPF indicates the amount of protection being offered. The higher the number, the greater the amount of protection.

The American Cancer Society recommends an SPF 15+. Lower num-

SPF 15 products

Product	SPF Score	UVA Blocking	Comments
Bain de Soleil All Day Extended Protection	18	excellent	Light lotion, no fragrance. Hard to dispense with weak hands.
Coppertone Moisturizing Sunblock	18	good	Light lotion, herbal-medicinal scent. Hard to dispense with weak hands.
Banana Boat Sunblock lotion	18	fair	Creamy, coconut scent. Among worst in staining tests.
Hawaiian Tropic Clear Sense	18	excellent	Thicker lotion, floral-fruity scent. With anti-acne ingredient.
Bain de Soleil Mademoiselle Oil-Free	17	excellent	Light lotion, no fragrance.
Coppertone Oil Free Lotion	15	good	Light lotion, herbal-medicinal scent.
Panama Jack Sunblock	15	poor	Light lotion, no fragrance. Among worst in staining tests.
Hawaiian Tropic Protection Plus	15	excellent	Light lotion, coconut scent
Banana Boat Oil Free Sunblock	14	good	Light lotion, no fragrance

SPF 30 products

Walgreens Sunblock	33	excellent	Light lotion, medicinal
Rite-Aid Sunblock	32	excellent	Light lotion, no fragrance
Bain de Soleil Le Sport	30	excellent	Light lotion, no fragrance. Hard to dispense with weak hands
American Fare Solace Lotion	29	excellent	Light lotion, herbal-medicinal scent. Hard to dispense with weak hands
Banana Boat Ultra Sunblock	29	excellent	Creamy, no fragrance
Coppertone Moisturizing Sunblock	28	excellent	Light lotion, herbal-medicinal scent. Hard to dispense with weak hands.
Banana Boat Sport	26	excellent	Creamy, no fragrance
Banana Boat Kids	25	excellent	Creamy, no fragrance
Coppertone Sport Dry Lotion	25	excellent	Light lotion, herbal-medicinal scent.

bers will not provide enough protection. A person could use an SPF30+ if they are near water, sand or snow or in the sun for long periods.

A broad spectrum sunscreen gives a person added protection. It indicates that the sunscreen screens out most UVA rays.

There is no complete sun block. They are all screens. Some UV rays

may even reach the skin through zinc creams over long periods of time. The best sun blocks are natural ones, such as staying out of the sun or wearing tightly woven clothing.

It is important to remember that no sunscreen provides 100 percent protection. An SPF15+ screens about 94 percent of the UV rays allowing some rays to reach your skin.

If you are in the sun for long periods, those rays can cause sunburn. To make sure you do not burn, put the sunscreen on thickly because spreading a sunscreen too thinly can reduce its effectiveness. It is advised that you reapply sunscreen after two hours and reapply it again if it rubs off or if you have been sweating.

Make sure your sunscreen has not

passed its expiration date and avoid staying in the sun more than 2-3 hours between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Buy sunscreen that shows the expiration date on the back of the pack and throw it out once the date is passed. Also, sunscreen can lose its effectiveness sooner if stored in a very warm place. For example, in a car in the Central Florida summer heat

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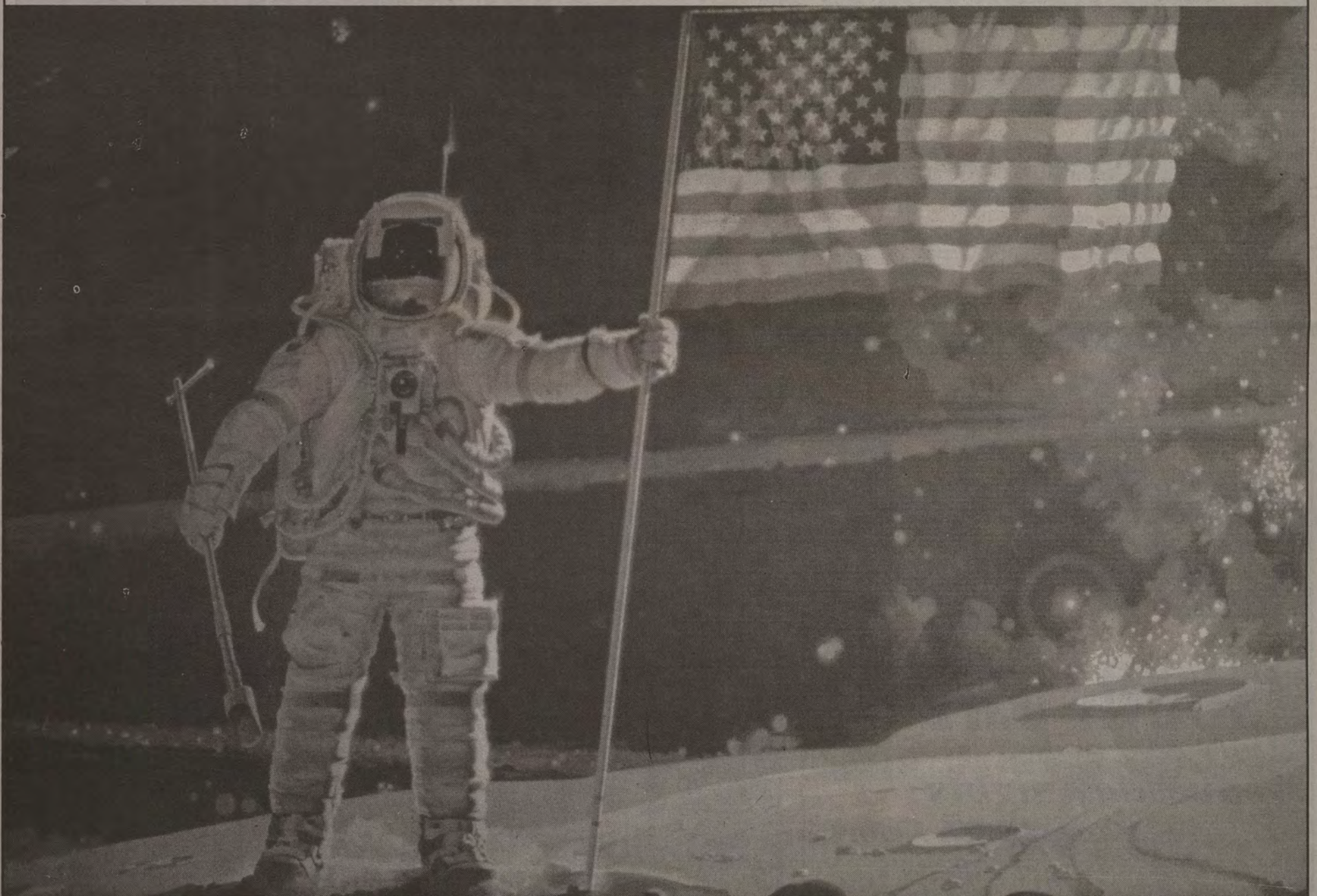
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ENTERTAINMENT

A trucker, some tramps, and a lizard

By STACEY COPELAND
Staff Writer

Did everyone survive April's dreary selection of movie openings? Don't worry, May's new releases promise to be much, much more entertaining. One of these flicks might even inspire you to peel yourself off the couch and head out to the theater before the humidity hits and no one is willing to venture past their front doors. Read on!

• **Black Dog (May 1)** - Starring Patrick Swayze, Randy Travis, Meat Loaf. Oops, did I say there were good movies coming out this month? This doesn't promise to be one of them. Every possible means of wrecking an 18-wheeler is explored in this \$30 million "thriller." Swayze plays an ex-con who hauls guns on the interstate. Huh? If you're in the mood for lots of smashed metal, you'll probably have a better time if you head down to Bithlo and catch the school bus racing events. The acting is probably better over there, too.

• **Les Miserables (May 1)** - Starring Liam Neeson, Claire Danes, Uma Thurman, and Geoffrey Rush. This looks like a good movie, IF these actors can pull it off. The Broadway play based on Victor Hugo's 1862 novel about revolution, love and heartache has been a success for thousands of shows. Critics are saying the movie doesn't even come close to portraying the drama and emotion the play has captured. Who knows? I, like thousands of other Broadway fans, will be flocking to the theater just to make sure.

• **He Got Game (May 1)** - Starring Denzel Washington, Ray Allen, and John Turturro. Denzel with an afro? This is new ... and it is also writer-director Spike Lee's first attempt at his own basketball movie. Denzel Washington stars as a prisoner paroled on the condition that his son (Allen) sign with the governor's alma mater. Hmm ... Spike Lee said most sports films are weak.

• **Deep Impact (May 8)** - Starring Tea Leoni, Morgan Freeman, Robert Duvall. This is the \$75 million tale of an earth-bound comet that neither the President (Freeman) nor an aging astronaut (Duvall) know how to get rid of. The trailers that have been showing in theaters since about 1982 looks rather fascinating. But don't worry, this isn't the only time civilization will be demolished this summer. There seems to be an overabundance of these comet flicks.

• **Bulworth (May 8)** - Starring Warren Beatty, Halle Berry, Oliver Platt, and Paul Sorvino. Beatty starts as Jay Bulworth, a U.S. senator from California on the verge of both re-election and a nervous breakdown. Shortly before his campaign he begins doing this wacky thing called 'telling the truth.' Berry costars as a South Central homegirl and Platt as his harried chief of staff. It sounds kind of goofy but the trailers are hilarious.

• **The Horse Whisperer (May 15)** - Starring Michelle Pfeiffer. This is the adaptation of the recent best-selling novel. The story is about a young girl who is traumatized by a horse-riding accident. Her mother decides that the

only way the girl will recover is if her horse is rehabilitated. The mother calls in an expert horse doctor and, voila, the perfect equation for a love story. Sounds like the perfect chick flick.

• **Godzilla (May 20)** - Starring a big, nasty lizard. Two words: James Cameron. This "Titanic" action/thriller/monster movie will no doubt make this man even richer than he already is. Don't worry, you'll be hearing much more about this flick. There's already a skyscraper out there that has the phrase "Godzilla is twice as tall as this building!" painted on its side. Hey, he has to do something to top his last flick, huh?

• **Almost Heroes (May 29)** - Starring Chris Farley and Matthew Perry. This is a historical piece. Sort of. It's set in Lewis and Clark country in the 1800's. Perry stars as Farley's cohort who leads a band of misfits across the frontier. The director claims this is a broader acting part than Farley had ever done before. He did, however, have to leave the set quite often to attend AA meetings. Farley's last movie is probably worth checking out, but scenes with his moonshine-swiggin' character might ring a little too true for some folks.

• **Hope Floats (May 29)** - Starring Sandra Bullock and Harry Connick, Jr. If you've been frantically thumbing through the movie listings looking for this love story, don't worry. The release was just delayed for a month or so. This story of a young mother and her romantic woes will soon be in a theater near you!



Photo by MIKE MARSHALL

YEAH BABY!

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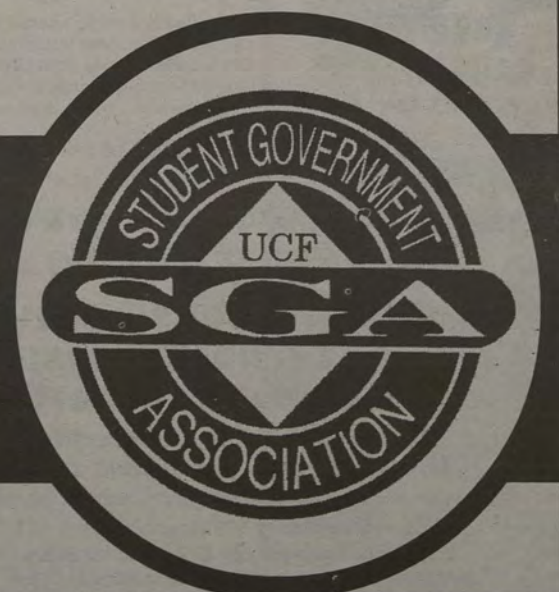


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NATION

Lovers not simpatico on how to spend 'their' day

CHICAGO — If you really want to make sure you enjoy Valentine's Day, celebrate with someone of the same sex, a recent study conducted by Blistex Inc. suggests.

The lip balm manufacturer surveyed 500 men and 500 women across the United States and found — surprise — that when it comes to love men and women speak different languages.

Forty-seven percent of men ranked kissing on the couch as their biggest Valentine's Day turn-on — above dancing to a favorite song (19 percent), relaxing with a foot massage (15 percent) and sharing a decadent dessert (12 percent).

Women, on the other hand, said smooching on the sofa is their least favorite thing to do on Valentine's Day (18 percent). Instead, dancing with their honey ranked number one at 30 percent, followed by the foot massage (25 percent) and sweets (21 percent).

A candlelight dinner topped the best-gift list for both men and women at 52 percent and 39 percent respectively. Receiving a memorable kiss ranked last on the list for women (7 percent), but second on men's lists (18 percent).

Both sexes did agree, however, that an extra 10 pounds is their biggest Valentine's Day turn-off. Bad cologne or perfume and razor stubble nearly tied for second.

Harvard heralds the return of double-ply TP!

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Softer, gentler days are ahead for students at Harvard University who have pooh-pooed for

months about the one-ply toilet paper placed in restrooms across campus.

Having heard their big stink, Harry R. Lewis, dean of the undergraduate college, earlier this month ordered that two-ply toilet paper replace the thinner, scratchy stuff that prompted editorials in the student newspaper, "The Crimson."

"Considering that we live in our dorm rooms eight months of the year, our bathrooms should more closely resemble those in our homes than those at the Port Authority Bus Terminal," wrote Geoffrey C. Upton, a junior and an editor at the paper. "You don't think Dean of the College Harry R. Lewis '68 goes home to one-ply every night, do you?"

Upton's swipe for a softer wipe also stated that students nationwide have fought similar battles. Among his examples was a pair of Pennsylvania State University students who made two-ply toilet paper the first issue on their platform for student council.

Upton wrote that two-ply paper might make bigger differences than expected.

"First you improve the quality of bathroom life, and the next thing you know, students' outlook on the whole Harvard experience softens up," he wrote.

PSAT gender gap

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Boys are more likely than girls to receive the prestigious National Merit Scholarships, but modest revisions in the test used to select semifinalists will mean more scholarships for high school girls.

The gap between boys and girls has narrowed with the addition

of a writing segment in the Preliminary SAT on which girls did better. The College Board, which co-sponsors the test, reported that adjusting the content of the exam narrowed the score gap between boys and girls by 40 percent.

The changes were introduced last fall to settle a federal gender bias complaint brought by the National Center for Fair & Open Testing.

Results from the exam are the sole factor used to eliminate more than one million students from the pool eligible for more than \$25 million in college tuition aid available to them when they graduate from high school.

In past years, higher test scores have resulted in the lion's share of awards going to boys despite the fact that young women earn higher grades in both high school and college when matched for identical courses.

FairTest's civil rights complaint charged the College Board and Educational Testing Service with "significantly assisting" gender discrimination by providing PSAT/NMSQT scores for use as the sole factor in selecting

National Merit Scholarship semi-finalists. FairTest says the PSAT, with its reliance on multiple-choice questions, favors a test-taking style in which boys do better because they are more apt to risk a guess after narrowing down the possible answers.

Fifty-six percent of the National Merit Scholars last year were boys, compared with an average of 61 percent in the late 1980s and early 1990s, according to figures in a recent annual report. For four years this decade, the Evanston, Ill., based organization declined to release numbers on the ground that they were not relevant, said spokeswoman Elaine Detweiler.

"The gap is smaller and we think that it coincides with the better academic preparation of girls," she said.

University ordered to reimburse students for illegal tuition increase

CHICAGO — The University of British Columbia must reimburse past and present students as much as \$1 million (Canadian) in fees because it raised tuition illegally, a

Canadian provincial court ruled Jan. 22.

Four students filed suit against the university last year after it raised two fees included in tuition costs and required students to pay them before they could enroll in classes, get their grades or graduate. The increases violated a 1996 law that froze tuition at postsecondary educational institutions from April 1996 until March 31 of this year, students said.

The university began raising the fees in the 1992-93 academic year before the law took effect and totaled 4.5 percent of basic tuition by the end of the 1996-97 school year. University officials argued that the extra money was justified because it helped improve student services. They also said they tacked the fees onto tuition costs to help students get larger income-tax breaks.

Judges sided with the students, and ordered that the school reimburse about 33,000 students. The average student will collect about \$30 (Canadian), school officials said. Only students enrolled in 1996-97 qualify for the reimbursement.

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Arena improvements could attract better competition

From PAGE 24

resembles a large-scale Lite Brite dangling from heavy-duty wires.

The scoreboard is simple to say the least. Unlike the scoreboard at my HIGH SCHOOL, the current board does not tell fans the numbers each of the current players or how many points, rebounds, assists and fouls they have.

A new scoreboard with these features is needed for the arena to set it closer to rival facilities at South Florida, Florida, Florida State and Miami.

2. Seating in the arena is terrible and there is a distinct lack of

college atmosphere at any game. Although the latter could be said of most UCF sporting events, any attempts to support the team is nullified by the seating.

First, the walkway between upper and lower seating inhibits viewing. Spectators who sit in the upper section must almost stand to see the floor from their seats. The arena also has no seating under either basket, which allows opposing free throw shooters a distraction-free opportunity to score.

By adding seats under the basket, the fans would be able to create a more intimidating

atmosphere for opposing players while a true second level of seating would allow all fans to have a more memorable experience.

3. The playing floor at the arena needs revision. As one of my friends put it:

"They need to redo the floor and get rid of that 1940s looking UCF logo they have now at center court."

Featuring a picture of Florida with the letters "U-C-F" plastered over it, the floor needs to be changed to the school's new Golden Knight logo as seen on the UCF homepage.

Also, the key area of the bas-

ketball court could be repainted black with a gold trim to better advertise our school colors and add flair to the arena.

4. Think of an alternate name for the UCF Arena. Although the name "UCF Arena" should be used when bands and other acts visit the multi-purpose facility, students and fans should refer to the arena under another name, such as "The Dungeon," "Knightro's Kastle" or "Golden Knight Arena."

Come on, even USF Bulls fans call their home, the Sun Dome, "The Corral."

As a school trying to hang with the "big dogs" of college

sports, UCF needs to make sacrifices to reach that point. By adding onto the arena, UCF could quicken its chances of joining a major conference, like Conference USA, and thus be able to get more annual revenue from sporting events.

The expansion would force intramural participants to continue using outdated facilities, but the school could earn enough money from fans, proud, alma mater-supporting alumni and hopefully a television deal that it would eventually be able to build the recreational services building students so desperately want.

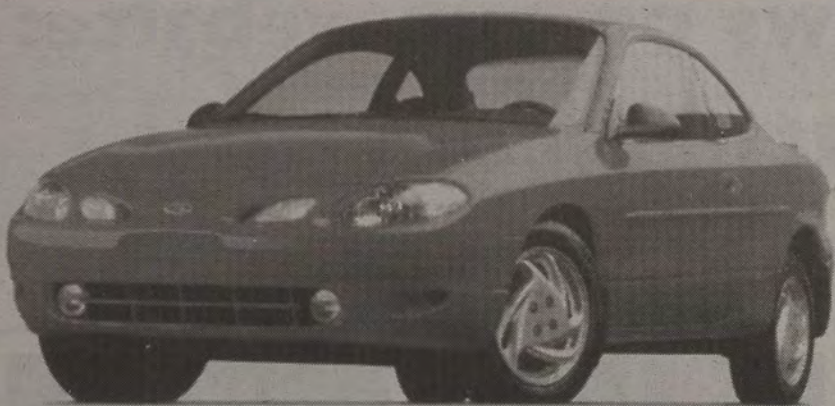
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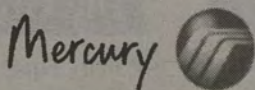
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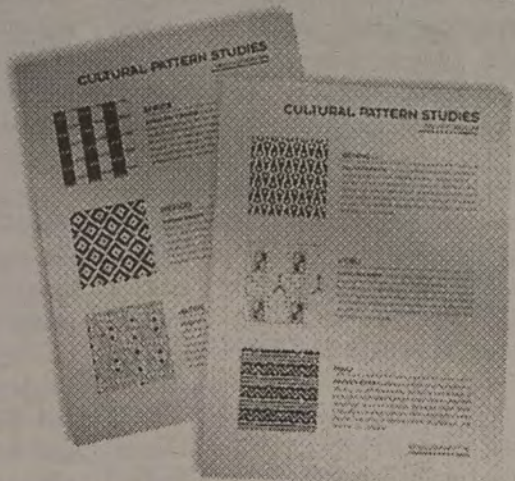
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Football team could make jump to Conference USA

From PAGE 24

clear that they don't belong in the same boat with the Campbell and Centenary Colleges of the world. Former UCF coach Gene McDowell said that he would not play Samford in football anymore because there was nothing to gain from the experience.

Well, Samford is a member of the TAAC as well, so what do we get out of playing them every season in other sports? Don't get me wrong; they are competitive in some sports, but they shouldn't be able to play in our league. UCF should be recruiting from a pool of athletes Samford could never select from.

Unfortunately, because of the small conference tag, those athletes stay away, making it impossible for the Knights to continue their growth spurt. In fact, UCF's growth is stunted because of its allegiance with the TAAC.

Sloan knows all of this. He's a brilliant negotiator, a class individual and has been largely responsible for our success thus far. He's working on a solution to the problem, but when is that solution going to come? The Sun Belt conference would love to have UCF, and Sloan wisely balked at the idea.

Although the Sun Belt is a much better conference than the TAAC, they would have wanted football as part of the package. Playing yearly contests against Louisiana Tech, Northeast Louisiana, Southeastern Louisiana and every other Louisiana school on the planet is not the direction this university wants to go in.

Florida International jumped ship to the Sun Belt, largely to provide stronger competition to its basketball and baseball programs. When our southern neighbors did this, it produced strong speculation that we would follow suit. Fortunately we didn't, and Sloan's reluctance to align with the Sun Belt proved even wiser when the University of Denver accepted a Sun Belt invitation last week.

Denver? Yearly trips to South Alabama, Arkansas State, Arkansas Little-Rock, SW Louisiana, Western Kentucky, FIU, Louisiana Tech, New Orleans and Denver? Way to go, Steve. More than anything else, the Sun Belt is not a major conference, which is precisely where UCF wants to reside by early next century. So we turn our noses at the thought of moving up a baby step and hope for an invite from the Big East or Conference USA.

2001 is the year when all of the television contracts are up. It is expected that Syracuse will leave the Big East for the Big Ten and Big East commissioner Mike Tranchese is expected to go raiding Conference USA for members to replace it. Louisville and Cincinnati would be the ideal candidates, opening the door for Conference USA to go filling their slots. C-USA has expanded its football this year with football-only invitations to East Carolina and Army. South Florida will join the party when it becomes a Division I-A member. What will come next? More importantly, how will it all affect UCF?

Will UCF accept a football-only conference bid with a major conference, or will Sloan use our appealing program to gain all the other sports a release from the dreariness that is the TAAC? Last year UCF enjoyed the most media attention it has ever received. The Boston Globe ran a piece mentioning how we would be good for the Big East. Quarterback Daunte Culpepper and tailback Dwight Collins were the subject of national features. Our first bowl game could await us this year.

How long will it take before UCF is elevated onto the national stage permanently? Although everything remains to be determined, one thing is clear - UCF is on the brink of achieving its dream. It could come any day. Be patient and enjoy it UCF fans, we are witnessing history in the making.

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Christopher Smith	New York	BBA MIS
Stuart Brown	St. Petersburg	BS Mechanical Engineering
Todd Pingaro	Tampa	BS MIS
Regina Elentri	Tampa	BS Finance
Catherine Jooste	Tampa	BBA MIS

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Central Florida Future

Sweeping Stetson could give UCF South title

From PAGE 24

record in school history. Lubozynski (5-2, 3.34 ERA), who pitched the late game on April 26, said the last home game had a touch of irony in it.

"I think it's kind of neat how it ended up that way [pitching the last game with Bellhorn]," Lubozynski said. "We've been together for these four years, we're roommates and it ended up the last regular season home games that Todd and I got to pitch them."

Senior outfielder Will Croud led the way for the Knights offensively, driving in five runs, scoring three times and adding a double (13) and a home run (9). Bellhorn added four runs and his team-leading 11th home run. Second baseman Tim Boeth also contributed, adding five hits, three runs and three RBI.

Lubozynski said the sweep of

FAU proved the team could rebound after losing two of three at FIU on April 3-4.

"Coming back from FIU, we were really disappointed because we didn't play up to how we could of," Lubozynski said. "We had a chance to take two of three there and we didn't do it. We played really lackadaisically and we wanted to come back here and show that we are a quality team and we can bounce back."

Looking Ahead: With their sweep of FAU, the Knights must sweep their upcoming series with Stetson (25-26-1, 6-9 TAAC) and hope that Florida International (31-20, 11-4 TAAC) loses two of three against FAU for the Knights to clinch the top seed in the TAAC's South Division. FIU, which is 4-2 against UCF this season, would get the tiebreaker if the teams

finish the season tied. If that were to happen, the best seeding UCF could be assured of in the TAAC Tournament would be fourth, behind division leaders FIU (South), Georgia State (East) and Troy State (West).

"There is a huge difference between [the No. 1 and No. 2 seeds], because the top conference winners are based on conference win-loss records," Bergman said. "We're the No. 2 seed now [in the South], but if the other No. 1 seeds win, we're the No. 4 seed, so we're playing for the seed now."

Stetson's Sammy Serrano, who leads all NCAA Division I players in batting average (.476) and is 17th in triples (7), will be one of the players in Stetson's powerful lineup UCF will have to contain to win the series, Bergman added.

"[Ned] French, [Emmett]

Berberich, Serrano and [Frank] Corr are four good hitters for Stetson," Bergman said. "Stetson has the best hitting team in the conference and if its pitching was anywhere close [to being as good], then they'd be in the hunt."

"We like to play at Stetson...it's a good park, it's similar to ours and we've had good luck there, so I don't think it's like playing on the road."

With a sweep of the Hatters, the Knights would strengthen their chances for an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament and would allow the team to focus on the TAAC Tournament, Lubozynski said. The winner of the TAAC Tournament automatically receives an NCAA Tournament spot.

Notebook: Proof that crime pays at the UCF Baseball Complex - In the top of the

fourth inning of the early April 26 game, the first fan to show a traffic violation to the UCF representative at the schedule sign was awarded a slice of pizza. ... Matt Lubozynski on his most memorable moment at the UCF Baseball Complex: "It would have to be the 29-game winning streak back in my freshman year (1994). We came in here every-day and knew we weren't going to lose and most of the wins happened here on this field." ... UCF's seniors, Bellhorn, Lubozynski, Croud, Tony Wolfe and Pat Williamson were honored before the game on April 25 with senior rings, a UCF tradition. ... Jason Arnold (1-2, 2.22 ERA), who already owned UCF's single-season save record, earned saves in both ends of the doubleheader, his 10th and 11th, in pitching 1.2 innings, allowing one hit and no runs.

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Men's golf team struggles at TAAC championships despite Opal's 72

From PAGE 24

"Paula is a fundamentally sound player," Bria said.

"She is physical, boxes out, can step out and shoot the high post shot and her college experience is a definite advantage. She has been taught a lot of the little things, the fundamentals, that put her a notch ahead of the rest of the class. I expect her to step in and play right away."

Williams is a 5-foot-11 point guard who played one season at Auburn University before transferring to Valencia Community College, so she enters UCF as a junior. She averaged 10.5 minutes a game as a freshman at Auburn and scored 3.1 points a game.

"TJ is a guard who can penetrate and score, can shoot the outside shot and make the three pointers," Bria said. "If she is not scoring, TJ will be creating ways for someone else to score."

Along with Guillory, early signee Rhonda Ooten was named to the Texas girls 5A All-State second

team as a guard.

Bria also announced the transfer of three players on April 23. After one season of limited playing time, freshman Anu Mahlamaeki, Frida Stromquist, and Vuokko Timola will leave the squad; each of those athletes were from foreign countries and decided to return home.

Men's golf finishes 6th at TAAC

Led by Jason Opal's final round even-par 72, the men's golf team shot 299 April 21 and finished seventh at the Trans America Athletic Conference Championships in Clarkesville, Ga. Tournament host Georgia State shot 295 and won the 12-team event by 10 shots over the College of Charleston. Opal tied for seventh at three-under-par for the tournament, three shots behind Jacksonville State's Hernan Rey.

Final Results

Trans America Athletic Conference Championships
The Orchard Golf Course
Clarkesville, Ga.

Par 72

Team Scores:

1. Georgia State, 282-277-295—854;
2. Charleston, 290-283-291—864;
3. Jacksonville State, 291-284-297—872;
4. Campbell, 298-286-290—874;
5. Samford, 299-284-297—880;
6. Troy State, 288-292-301—881;
7. Central Florida, 299-290-299—888;
8. Florida International, 301-287-304—892;
9. Florida Atlantic, 311-288-298—897;
10. Centenary, 314-299-297—910;
11. Stetson, 299-301-312—912;
12. Mercer, 323-305-314—942.

Individual Results:

Hernan Rey, Jacksonville State, 68-70-72—210; Jaime Acevedo, Georgia State, 74-67-70—211; Josh Broadway, Troy State, 72-66-73—211; Georges Plumet, Campbell, 71-73-68—212; Jack Boeckx, Charleston, 72-69-71—212; Sean McGenity, Georgia State, 68-68-76—212; Jason Opal, UCF, 68-73-72—213; Matt Plothow, Samford, 72-69-72—213; Daniel Escalera, Georgia State, 67-73-75—215;

Jeremy Paulson, Charleston, 72-69-75—216. Other UCF Finishers - Simon Sainz, 77-72-75—224; Kristian Svalheim, 76-73-76—225; Jeff McPherson, 78-72-76—226; Ryan Williams, 79-79-77-235.

Highly-regarded RB signee fully qualifies

Running back Omari Howard, arguably the most decorated high school athlete UCF has ever signed, is a full academic qualifier.

Howard, a high school Parade All-American from Syracuse, N.Y., achieved the necessary score on the SAT and will enroll at UCF in the fall as a freshman.

Syracuse originally signed him out of Corcoran High, but he did not qualify academically and spent last year in prep school.

Howard is also a Blue-Chip Illustrated All-American and two-time all-state member. In two seasons, Howard rushed for 3,100 yards and 43 touchdowns. Howard will remain in Syracuse where he will work this summer. He will report to

early camp in the fall, a three-day period for incoming players only.

Crew team does well at Southern

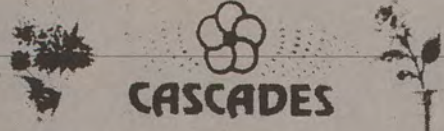
The women's crew Lightweight 4+ and 2- finished first at the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship in Oak Ridge, Tenn., April 18.

The Lightweight 4+ of 'A'-Di Nguyen, Amy Engelhardt, Christina DePrimo, Christina Baxter and coxswain Sara Miller beat out Florida State, Tennessee-Chattanooga, Tampa and Northwest Louisiana State in 7:28.1 while Melissa Ballard and Angela Henley placed first, ahead of UNC-Willmington, Florida Tech, Sewanee, Marietta and Alabama-Huntsville, in 7:44.7.

UCF finished fourth in the Freshman/Novice 8+ 'B', fifth in the JV 8+, and sixth in the Freshman/Novice 8+ 'A' and Varsity 8+ races.

The Knights are off until the Dad Vail Regatta in Philadelphia May 8th and 9th

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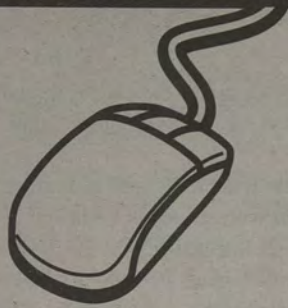
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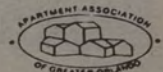
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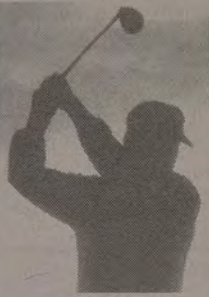
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School needs an attraction to replace Culpepper

From PAGE 24

UCF could have been in better position to win the Day award. The soccer team lost to Georgia State, 2-0, in November's conference title game. The track team, which doesn't compete as part of the award next year, won the TAAC title.

Not being able to help clinch the all-sports award doesn't dampen track coach Marcia Mansur-Wentworth's spirits.

"We won, that's most important to me," Mansur-Wentworth said. "In support of UCF, I'd liked to have seen us win the trophy. Maybe it was a catalyst (for including track). Hopefully next year we'll be able to contribute to the award."

And freshman Tatiana Londono, a member of the golf team, signed an incorrect scorecard in the final round of the TAAC Championship, disqualifying her and dropping the team from third to sixth. It cost UCF nine points in Sherman Day competition.

Londono says she feels bad for her team, but feels there are positives to take from it.

"It was a sad way to finish my first year," she

said. "But I think everybody learned from it-double check your score."

As for the men, while UCF's lowest finish was sixth (soccer), the Knights could do no better than the basketball team's fourth-place showing. While it could be said that parity is strong in the conference, soccer coach Bob Winch has other thoughts.

"I was talking with [basketball coach Kirk] Speraw about how all of the UCF teams were real competitive this year just couldn't break out and dominate in championship games," Winch said.

Winch felt that the school has relied on high-visibility athletes (a la Daunte Culpepper) and recent high-profile team accomplishments (like the basketball team's 1994 and '96 trips to the NCAA Tournament) to keep a steady stream of quality recruits coming into East Orlando.

"With Daunte leaving next year and without recent dominating teams, we're running out of things to fall back on for an attraction over some other schools," he said.

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SPORTS

For UCF, 2nd in TAAC race good enough

By **KEN JACKSON**
Staff Writer

While UCF's men's athletes wondered what didn't go right this year, seniors on the women's teams left their underclass teammates something to accomplish next season.

For the second straight year, the Golden Knights were runners-up in the chase for the Sherman Day Trophy. The award goes to the school with the best overall women's program in the Trans America

Athletic Conference. Points are given based on performance in each sport's conference tournament.

The Knights won two TAAC titles (volleyball and tennis), finished second in two others, and tallied 189 points. With the softball (the only sport UCF does not compete in) championship still to be played, Georgia State has the award locked up with 196.5 points. Florida International is third with 162 points and must take first or second in softball to pass UCF.

The Jesse C. Fletcher Trophy, the men's all-sports award, also went to Georgia State as the men are seventh among the 12 TAAC schools with the baseball championship left to be played. Georgia State has won four of five TAAC titles and have locked up the hardware with 172.5 points to College of Charleston's 132.

This marks the fourth straight year UCF's women have placed in the top two. The Knights won the trophy in 1995 and '96.

Assistant Athletic Director Mary

Kauffman said the standings are a reflection of the Golden Knights' winning ways and are a way to prolong them.

"It shows we are able to recruit selectively," Kauffman said. "Combined with a budget afforded by Title IX, this enhances our ability to travel and recruit athletes more skilled athletically and academically. Certainly it contributes to help recruit coaches who have coached winning Division I programs.

See **SCHOOL**, Page 23

Baseball earns home game for TAAC tourney

By **JEFF CASE**
Staff Writer

After sweeping the season series against Florida Atlantic University, the UCF baseball team is peaking as it heads into the Trans America Athletic Conference tournament.

Outscoring the Owls 20-11 for the three-game series April 25-26, UCF (35-17, 10-5 in conference) clinched second place in the TAAC's South Division and will host a TAAC Tournament Play-In game May 8.

But the team, which posted the first undefeated mark (6-0) against FAU (27-25, 4-11 in conference) in team history, has other long-term goals, said UCF coach Jay Bergman.

"You've got to get on a roll before you go into a tournament," said Bergman, whose team is the three-time defending TAAC Tournament Champion.

"You don't want to go into it flat and you don't want to go into it not playing well.

"At the end, you need to win as many games as you can and get as close to 40 [wins] as you can."

The Golden Knight pitching staff led the way against the Owls, allowing only 17 hits over the three games. Troy Satterfield (5-2, 3.23 ERA), who has been put into the lineup as a regular starter, pitched seven innings on April 25, allowing a series-low three hits



Photo by **MIKE MARSHALL**

Senior Matt Lubozynski pitched his final regular-season home game, a 7-5 victory against Florida Atlantic.

and two earned runs while walking none and striking out four.

Seniors Todd Bellhorn and Matt Lubozynski, who both began their UCF pitching careers in 1994, closed out

UCF's final regular season home games on April 26.

Bellhorn (9-0, 2.03 ERA) earned the win in the early game, allowing five hits and three earned runs while striking

out a series-best six batters over six innings.

With the win, Bellhorn posted the fifth-best single-season win

See **SWEEPING**, Page 20

FROM the SPORTS desk

Women's basketball shuffles roster

Women's basketball coach Lynn Bria announced April 23 the signing of four players to letters-of-intent. Leslie Deaton, Khaliah Guillory, Paula Nesbitt, and Tjunia (T.J.) Williams join early signee Rhonda Ooten and redshirt transfer Kristy White as the newcomers on the 1998-99 squad.

Deaton, of Martinsville (Ind.) High School is a 5-foot-10 forward who has an excellent outside shot and is a tough rebounder, Bria said. Her high school has twice won the IHSA State Championship (1997, 1998).

"Leslie needs to develop her ball-handling on the perimeter but, overall, she is good fundamentally," Bria said, who added Deaton attends the same high school as basketball legend John Wooden, who won a state title in 1927. "Leslie comes from a basketball town full of fanatics which is evident in her competitiveness."

Guillory, a 5-foot-10 forward from Port Arthur, Texas and Thomas Jefferson High School, was recently named to the Texas girls 5A All-State second team after earning first team all-district and all-region. She was named an All-American Scholar and is listed as Who's Who Among High School Athletes.

"Khaliah has good range and finds a way to put the ball in the basket," Bria said. "She has incredible athleticism and is a very physical, very strong player."

Nesbitt, a 6-foot forward from Okaloosa Walton Community College, is a native of Leesburg.

See **MEN'S**, Page 21

The great conference debate continues

By **TONY MEJIA**
Staff Writer

Potential. Like a hitter with great natural instincts, a power forward with soft hands and good footwork, or a quarterback built like a linebacker with a cannon arm and blazing speed, the University of Central Florida is filled with potential.

UCF resides in a growing city which boasts a tremendous airport. The Knights play their football in a downtown venue with 70,000 seats, and their fan base and boosters increase daily.

Among the heavyweights, UCF is the program on the rise. Despite all the

positives, UCF remains one of the view Division I-A independents in football and plays all other sports in the Trans America Athletic Conference.

This is a serious problem.

UCF Athletic Director Steve Sloan has overseen the emergence of this rising program. Using his extensive number of contacts, Sloan has put the Knights on the map. The athletes and coaches have done their part as well, gaining plenty of notoriety for the school with their performance on the playing field.

As UCF had grown, it has become

See **FOOTBALL**, Page 19

Revising arena can revive UCF

By **JEFF CASE**
Staff Writer

OK, I'll just come out and say it.

UCF needs to expand the UCF Arena more than it could ever need a new recreational services building.

Now I realize by saying this I may seriously jeopardize any chance of getting a good call from recreational services officials in future intramural games, but I am willing to risk that.

UCF officials are currently deciding whether to add 5,000 more seats to the arena or build a recreational services

building that would include indoor basketball courts and a new weight room.

While I am not opposed to having this facility, how will it help UCF draw better opponents, such as Auburn, into the UCF Arena?

Quite simply, it won't.

Anyone who has attended sporting events at the 5,100-seat arena since its 1990 opening knows that improvements are definitely needed. Here are some good places to start:

1. The scoreboard at the arena. I have never seen a scoreboard that so closely

See **ARENA**, Page 17