

2-2-2006

## Central Florida Future, Vol. 38 No. 42, February 2, 2006



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### Recommended Citation

"Central Florida Future, Vol. 38 No. 42, February 2, 2006" (2006). *Central Florida Future*. 1888.  
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# NATIONAL EXPOSURE

UCF men's team plays first-ever home game on national television Saturday vs. UAB — SEE SPORTS, A10



**PROGRESSIVE FUN**  
Student groups based on making changes recruit members with field day  
— SEE NEWS, A6

# Central Florida Future

FREE • Published Mondays and Thursdays

The Student Newspaper Serving UCF Since 1968

www.UCFnews.com • Thursday, February 2, 2006

## Web sites up and running for SGA presidential candidates

With three pairings gearing up for the UCF SGA elections, the candidates have begun campaigning both on campus and on the Internet. Information on the candidates and their campaign platforms can be found online at:

**Mark White and Jared Stout**  
http://www.studentspriorityone.com

**Josh Eggnatz and Craig Alles**  
http://www.vote-ea.com

**Matt DeVlieger and Eric Eingold**  
http://www.ourucf.com

Candidates can begin campaigning as soon as they have successfully declared candidacy, and there will be a candidate forum and Meet n' Greet Feb. 16 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Student Union Room 221AB. Formal elections will run from Feb. 20-22 and run-off elections, if necessary, will run from Feb. 27-March 1.

## Candidates begin their race

SGA presidential election picture becomes clear as hopefuls announce intentions

**MARK JUSTICE**  
Senior Staff Writer

Student leader Kari Floyd made it official this week — amid the frantic filings for candidacy — that she will not be seeking the office of SGA student body president.

Floyd's decision surprised Student Government Association insiders, who had speculated she would campaign for the office.

Students who have declared

candidacy for this year's elections include the pairings of Matt DeVlieger and Eric Eingold, Joshua Eggnatz and Craig Alles, and Mark White and Jared Stout.

DeVlieger speaks passionately about the contrast between himself and the other candidates, saying that, "I have a history of action, they have a history of talk. They've got the problems, and we've got the solutions." DeVlieger continues to promise to "bring real change" to campus.

Following DeVlieger in the proverbial cry of the politician to bring change are Mark White and Jared Stout, who released a statement earlier this week saying, "The university is growing, and it's time to have a real commitment to real change in student government's ideology and structure." White and Stout also "urge students to be well educated on the issues this year."

A letter drafted to the student body by presidential-hopefuls Eggnatz and Alles stated that

"This February, the university will be holding student body presidential elections, and we're excited about the prospect of serving as your next president and vice president. We encourage you to follow the campaign process and hold the entire field of candidates to the highest standards of accountability."

While three teams gear up for campaigning, Floyd is joining the ever-lengthening list of student

PLEASE SEE FLOYD'S ON A5

## Cookbook sale a deliciously good cause

UCF employees will sell ads, cookbooks to raise money for human, environmental causes

**TAYLOR VERNARSKY**  
Contributing Writer

For anyone who wants to share their talent in the kitchen, whatever it may be, now is the time to do so.

The Office of Administration and Finance will be taking part in the Florida State Employees' Charitable Campaign by having a cookbook sale this year. FSECC is an initiative started by the state of Florida in which UCF participates annually.

Megan White, a student assistant in the Office of Administration and Finance and chair of the cookbook committee, says the campaign gives employees, faculty and staff the opportunity to donate money to numerous organizations and charities. Such organizations include those for children, animals, the elderly and the environment.

"People can donate to their passion," White said.

According to Kerry Gregovich, who also works in Administration and Finance, White is primarily responsible for the cookbook fundraiser. Gregovich helped with FSECC last semester as it concluded in November, but will take a step back this year in the community-wide effort.

"She's put a lot of work into dreaming up the cookbook idea," Gregovich said. "As well as getting sponsorships and advertisements from businesses in the community."

PLEASE SEE ALL ON A7

## Sweet tooth turned to charity by club

**JEN DIENST**  
Contributing Writer

The UCF Women's Club will indulge its sweet side with its Second Annual Chocolate Fantasy Buffet and Auction this Friday at the Tusawilla Country Club at 7 p.m. The public can purchase tickets for \$30, and proceeds will benefit the club's scholarship program.

The event will feature chocolate delicacies and desserts from more than 15 local restaurants and bakeries, including two chocolate fountains from The Chocolate Mall, and Farris and Foster's Fine Chocolates, truffles from Godiva and Café Tu Tu Tango, miniature chocolate soufflés from Roy's, and a cake from Sprinkles Custom Cakes decorated with the Pegasus logo.

Guests can also feast on a fudge brownie cheesecake from The Father's Table, handmade mini-chocolate pastries from the Hyatt Regency and a chocolate-covered strawberry tower from Peterbrooke Chocolatier.

"The chocolate just doesn't end," Katie Wolczanski, a UCF graduate student who has planned the event for the past two years, said. "The chocolate fountain is everyone's favorite."

"I encourage everybody to RSVP," Marilyn Frederick, the club's president, said. Even the decorations will be edible; the event will be garnished with red chocolate roses.

A live and a silent auction will feature an eclectic array of trips, artwork, jewelry and gift baskets. A three-night stay at the Beaver Creek Lodge in Colorado with round-trip airfare, a Discovery Cove gift certificate for swim-

PLEASE SEE NO ON A6

# LOOKING FOR AN IDENTITY



CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE ARCHIVE

UCF experts have found that many students find it hard to cope with the transition from high school to college due to the pressure of living independently and becoming adults.

## Students struggle to find independence in college

**ALLIE SCHWARTZ**  
Staff Writer

If you had to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

For most college students, this is not as easy as it seems. According to a professor and chair of the psychology department Robert L. Dipboye, college is a time for students to delay commitment and explore options.

"The two big issues that I believe most young people confront when they leave home and go to college are the issues of work and love," Dipboye said. "The former concerns what you will choose as your life's work and is one that parents may pressure their children for an answer. The latter concerns relationships with others and whether you will have a long term commitment. Some

rush to a quick decision on one or both. Others may spend four, or more, years avoiding the questions altogether."

College is a time when students transition from adolescence to adulthood and establish themselves as individuals. Students who had once been regimented with curfews and busy high school schedules are suddenly launched into a world of independence and responsibility.

"Becoming an independent college student is difficult the first year," junior Rob Smyth said. "But you pick up

PLEASE SEE PROGRAMS ON A6

## Meet the Greeks event provides alternative to rush

Four sororities entertained, fed, recruited students; next event planned for Fall '06

**EBONY MONTENEGRO**  
Contributing Writer

Many UCF students association Greek recruitment with one word: rush. To the majority of the student body, Greek recruitment brings to mind images of tents at Lake Claire and visiting each and every house on Greek Row. But there is a different and little known way that other Greeks recruit, an event called Meet the Greeks.

On Friday, the Diversified Greek Council (DGC) held

Meet the Greeks in the Student Union, Cape Florida. Each semester, this event is held to promote the organizations on the council, as well as, educate UCF students on what the council is about.

The council currently has four sororities: Lambda Theta Alpha, Mu Sigma Upsilon, Delta Phi Lambda and Chi Upsilon Sigma. This includes two Latin sororities, a multicultural sorority and an Asian-interest sorority.

Special guests at the event

included Interim Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, Belinda Boston and Greek Life graduate assistants Andrew Hughes and Charlyn Stanberry.

The event began with a brief introduction of all the participating Greek organizations and an invitation to the three Latino Greek organizations on the Interfraternity Council. Both Boston and Hughes made speeches promoting Greek life, Greek unity and overall university involvement.

Among other things, a brief

showing of traditions provided the entertainment. Each organization got an opportunity to demonstrate its traditions. Traditions that were performed were: stepping, strolling and saluting.

In this environment, students got a chance to see all the organizations and get to know a little more about them in a short amount of time. The event also allowed students to get contact information for any specific

PLEASE SEE GREEK ON A7



AROUND  
CAMPUS

## Beat the Spring semester blues

The UCF Counseling Center is holding a four-session Improve Your Mood Workshop running from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. today and continuing at the same time Feb. 9, Feb. 16 and Feb. 23 at the UCF Counseling Center.

Students must register with the UCF Counseling Center in order to participate. To register for the program or for more information, call 407-823-2811.

## See new Apple photo software

John Allen, a senior systems engineer from Apple, will demonstrate Apple Aperture, an all-in-one post-production tool, from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. today at the Teaching Academy Room 130.

The event is geared toward people interested in digital photography and high-end photo manipulation.

For more information, e-mail Kelly Alford or Robert Lo Presti at applecorp-sucf@mac.com.

## View photography exhibition

The Women's Research Center will host a reception for the art exhibition of the work of M. Laine Wyatt, an assistant photography professor at UCF, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. today in the Visual Arts Building Room 205.

The exhibition will be on display until March 2.

For more information, call Fran Ragsdale at 407-823-4240.

## Sing your way into fraternity

Co-ed National Honors Fraternity Phi Sigma Pi will hold a rush event karaoke night at 9 p.m. tonight at Oyster Bay Restaurant of State Road 50.

For more information, e-mail gxtrecruitment@yahoo.com.

## Shimmy, Shake with the Knights

Shimmy Knights will put on a bellydance show from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. Friday in the Student Union Key West Ballroom.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the show begins at 7 p.m. A \$10 donation will be taken at the door.

For more information, call Carol Watson at 407-582-5500.

## A charitable feast of chocolate

The UCF Women's Club will host the 2006 Chocolate Fantasy Buffet and Auction Friday from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Tusawilla Country Club in Winter Springs.

Chocolate dessert samples from local restaurants, chocolate shops and bakeries will be available as well as a live and silent auction. Tickets are \$30 a person.

For more information, call 407-823-3161.

## Back by request, more Margo Veil

Two reprise performances of *Margo Veil: An Entertainment* will take place at the Black Box in UCF Conservatory Theatre on Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for both performances.

For more information, call Donna Rahman at 407-823-1500.

## Hear U.S. senators speak for free

U.S. Sens. Mel Martinez (R-FL) and John McCain (R-AZ) will speak at 11 a.m. Monday in the University of Central Florida Cape Florida Ballroom.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, call Chad Binette at 407-823-6312.

## Professor talks on Islam relations

John Esposito will speak on Islam and the West at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Student Union Room 218.

For more information, call 407-823-0935.

## LET US KNOW

The *Future* wants to hear from you! If you have a club, organization or event and want your information to be considered for the Around Campus column, send a fax to 407-447-4556 or an e-mail to editor@ucfnnews.com. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Tuesday for the Thursday edition, and 5 p.m. Friday for the Monday edition.

## Dating Doctor advises lovelorn

Absence makes the heart grow fonder, long-distance dating myths debunked

JEN DIENST  
Contributing Writer

David Coleman, the "Dating Doctor" and author spoke to a group of romantically challenged students at the UCF Pegasus Ballroom Monday night, giving tips on how to make the first move, how to make a long distance relationship work and what really constitutes cheating.

Coleman says the 2005 movie *Hitch* starring Will Smith is almost 100 percent based on his show and life. He has appeared on MTV and CNN as well as in *Us Weekly* and *Glamour Magazine*. He is the author of *Making Relationships Matter: Nine Ways to Stay in Love for Life*, and he co-authored *Date Smart!: How to Stop Revolving and Start Evolving in Your Relationships* and *101 Great Dates*.

Coleman said that instead of using a pick-up line to attract your mate, do something unique to win him or her over. For example, for Valentine's Day, Coleman suggests giving gifts on Feb. 13 instead of Feb. 14.

"Tell her she shouldn't have to wait another day to feel loved," Coleman said.

Coleman also said to buy 10 to 15 bags of Hershey's Kisses and make a path leading to a hiding place where you can ask her "now that I've kissed the ground you've walked on,

will you go out with me?"

Nearly 70 percent of students who attended said they were seeking advice on how to make a long-distance relationship work. Coleman said that at least 90 percent of all long-distance relationships fail within four years. He explained factors that contribute most to the failure of long-distance relationships include partners not seeing each other enough, resentment because a partner feels they are missing out on life experiences and cheating.

"I really agreed with his tips on maintaining a long-distance relationship," Tannia Steele, a sophomore at UCF who is dating someone in Connecticut, said. "I'm going to call my boyfriend right now!"

Coleman also dispelled the myth that "absence makes the heart grow fonder" in long-distance relationships. Coleman said that the longer a partner is away, he or she is thought of less and less and, eventually, is replaced by someone who is

around more.

Coleman also emphasized that the temptation to cheat is everywhere during college, creating challenges for students trying to maintain a serious relationship. But students were curious to know: what actually constitutes cheating?

"Cheating is any interaction you would be too ashamed to tell the other person about," Coleman said. He emphasized that the definition could include any text messages, conversations or e-mails with another person that someone in a relationship would not show their partner.

"I thought that was dead-on," Meagan Dolan, a senior majoring in elementary

education at UCF, said about Coleman's definition of cheating. "I thought that was so incredibly true. There was no gray area with his definition of cheating; everyone should memorize his definition before committing to someone."

After the presentation, Coleman hosted a round of

**"Cheating is any interaction you would be too ashamed to tell the other person about."**

— DAVID COLEMAN  
THE "DATING DOCTOR"

## Students learn lesson in how to behave

THOMAS HÖFER  
Contributing Writer

The audience is getting impatient. Some are excitedly talking to each other or talking on the phone. Others are sending text messages.

Others are browsing through the newspaper while enjoying a snack. Trash is lying on the floor. Here and there people are sleeping. Most of the crowd, however, is trying to keep itself busy, and that's not counting those who haven't arrived yet.

Wait a minute. This isn't a movie theater. This is the UCF Visual Arts Building Room 132. And class started more than 30 minutes ago.

Sound too farfetched? "You'd be surprised," said Beatrice Peek, a coordinator for Multicultural Academics and Support Services [MASS] at UCF during a workshop on

College Etiquette Monday at the Student Union.

By definition, etiquette represents a combination of common sense and basic good manners. To learn about it has proven to be especially helpful for first-time college students.

"What we are trying to do is teach them life skills about things that could impact their career," Peek said.

"Kids in college can't have enough etiquette," said William Larson, a 19-year-old accounting major at UCF. "There is no such thing as being too good at communicating with professors."

For the sake of a better relationship between students and their teachers, Peek outlined some dos and don'ts when taking classes in college.

Aside from rather self-evident misbehaviors, such as being habitually late, eating, sleeping or reading a paper in class, she said students should

never confront a professor angrily.

"You are never going to always agree with the professor, but you can't just go off on [your teachers]," she said. "They could take it a step further."

Plus, as justified as it may seem for a student to vent his anger, it won't help his case, Peek said. To the contrary, a professor might feel challenged and more likely to state his authority, she said.

"Instead of addressing complaints, address concerns," Harry Jernigan, a career development instructor at Valencia Community College, said. "Concerns come across a lot more considerate."

Another social gaffe commonly underestimated is the habit of talking with classmates during class discussions.

"What if you are sitting in front of someone who is chatting away?" Peek asked. "You

can't hear anything, you can't concentrate, you can't do anything. At some point, you are going to have to make a decision: Either you are going to confront that person, or you are going to find another seat. You don't want it to get ugly."

Instead of viewing college life as if it was a never-ending fun party, and only that, Peek suggested attending classes regularly and engaging in active learning.

"You need to take personal responsibility for your education because no one else is doing it for you," she said.

The payoff for that kind of mental engagement is waiting right around the corner. "It deciphers how well you can handle change and increases your social self-confidence," Peek said.

And, above all, she said, "You don't want anyone to give you anything. You want to earn it."

NATION &  
WORLD

Keep current with headlines you may have missed

## Death toll climbs to eight in postal-installation shooting

GOLETA, Calif. — A woman wounded in a rampage by a former postal worker died Wednesday, and investigators said the assailant also killed a former neighbor just before the attack, bringing the death toll to eight.

A former plant worker said the attacker had made racist comments in the past, and at least six of the victims were minorities, but investigators have refused to discuss a motive in the slayings.

The eighth victim, Beverly Graham, 54, was found Tuesday, dead of a gunshot wound to the head, at a Santa Barbara condominium complex where former postal employee Jennifer Sanmarco lived up until a few years ago.

Sanmarco shot six postal employees to death and committed suicide in what was believed to be the nation's deadliest workplace shooting by a woman. It was also the nation's bloodiest shooting at a postal installation in nearly 20 years.

Former plant worker Jeff Tabala recalled that Sanmarco seemed particularly hostile to Asians while working for the Postal Service.

Investigators gave no motive for the postal rampage but said Sanmarco had been put on medical leave in 2003 for psychological reasons and had to be removed from the building once.

## Florida senators seek broader protection from offshore drilling

TAMPA — Florida's two U.S. senators introduced new legislation that would broaden protections against gas and oil drilling off the state's coasts on Wednesday.

The bill unveiled in Washington by Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson and Republican Sen. Mel Martinez — known as the Permanent Protection for Florida Act — would keep drilling as far as 260 miles off Florida's west coast and 150 miles off the Panhandle and the east coast.

Nelson and Martinez have steadfastly opposed increasing efforts to allow drilling in the eastern Gulf of Mexico, fearing it could pollute beaches vital to the state's tourism business and interfere with military training and weapons testing in and over the gulf.

Pressure has been growing to open waters off Florida and other coastal states to drilling following after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita temporarily disrupted production and shut down refineries.

The senators said their measure is necessary now because Florida can no longer rely on temporary moratoriums, which are scheduled to expire in 2007 and 2012 unless renewed.

And, they say, a plan by the U.S. Department of the Interior published last month further threatens Florida by shifting state underwater boundaries and placing much of a 5.9 million acre area known as Lease Sale 181 under the control of pro-drilling Louisiana.

Part of that area known as the "stovepipe" comes within 16 miles of Pensacola's beaches.

## Alito casts first vote in Missouri death-penalty case

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito dealt Wednesday with his first case, a Missouri death row appeal, then pledged during a White House ceremony to fairly administer justice on the high court.

After being sworn by Chief Justice John Roberts, Alito said, "I don't think that anyone can become a justice of the Supreme Court of the U.S. without feeling a tremendous weight of responsibility and a

PLEASE SEE NATION ON A4

## GREEK BEAT

letries including soap, shampoo, towels, toothbrushes and razors, among other things. Phi Beta Sigma's step team will also offer some entertainment by performing a stepshow as well. The food is primarily supplied and prepared by the fraternity.

"This year, we obtained sponsorship from the Alumni Association, our graduate chapter and hotels," Felix said. Hotels including Days Inn Worldwide, Inc., and Holiday Inn Hotels and Resorts donated a significant portion of the toiletry items that will be given to the residents.

Jesse Dixon, pavilion manager for the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida, is excited about Sunday's event.

"It always a good thing for the community to get involved," he said. He said that he's not aware of another organization that does a service endeavor as large as Project G.I.V.E. at the coalition.

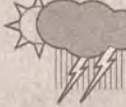
"We want to provide a safe place for the residents and help them integrate back into the community," Dixon said. "We can always use help supplying meals for [the residents] and making sure they receive proper nutrition. The haircuts are going to improve their appearance and will definitely bring their self esteem up."

Project G.I.V.E. began as a Thanksgiving Day charity in conjunction with the Urban League, according to Jason Violet of Phi Beta Sigma. Baskets were assembled and distributed to about 50 families in need.

"The project expanded about four years ago," Violet said. He added that the fraternity wanted to reach more people and the coalition helped accomplish that goal. "We take a lot of pride in this event."

Phi Beta Sigma welcomes community members to participate in the event. "We can always use volunteers," Felix

## LOCAL WEATHER

	<b>Today</b> MOSTLY CLOUDY High: 82° Low: 64°	<b>TODAY IN DETAIL</b> Today: Sunny, slight chance of rain. Tonight: Cloudy with occasional showers.	 <b>Friday</b> SHOWERS High: 78° Low: 58°
			 <b>Saturday</b> SCATTERED SHOWERS High: 72° Low: 46°

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The Student Newspaper Serving UCF Since 1968

February 2, 2006 • Volume 38, Issue 42 • 18 Pages

Editorial: 407-447-4558 • Advertising: 407-447-4555 • Fax: 407-447-4556  
www.UCFnews.com • 3361 Rouse Road Ste. 200, Orlando, FL 32817

The Central Florida Future publishes on Mondays and Thursdays in fall and spring and Wednesdays during summer.

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
*Ads.* (all text in Red)

  
 Dear Suzie,  
 Will you be my Valentine?  
 Johnny

\$8

  
 Roses are Red,  
 Violets are Blue  
 I couldn't have gotten through  
 Freshman year without you!  
 Love, Bobby

\$10

  
 Tommy:  
 Happy Valentine's Day!  
 I love you more than  
 chocolate.  
 Love, Kelly

\$5

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## HIGHER EDUCATION

What's in the news at colleges around the country

### St. Paul colleges unite against \$25 city fee on students

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The presidents of St. Paul's 11 local colleges and universities are united against a city proposal to charge the colleges a \$25-per-student fee.

"We don't care for St. Paul becoming perhaps the first city in the country to require such a fee," they wrote in a letter to the mayor and each City Council member.

Doug Hennes, vice president for government relations at St. Thomas University, said the opposition to the fee was based more on principal than the actual cost. "We're concerned with the kind of message it sends to students," Hennes said.

Boston has also struggled with the costs associated with its many colleges. In response, the city created a program called Payment in Lieu of Tax, or PILOT, through which schools and hospitals make payments to the city.

### Alleged sexual assault led to 2 basketball players' suspension

BROOKINGS, S.D. — Two South Dakota State University basketball players have been suspended from practicing and playing after being served with temporary protection orders, officials said Wednesday.

University police are investigating sexual assault allegations against Mohamed Berte, 22, and Andre Gilbert, 20, school officials said in a release. The court orders ban them from having contact with a female student, the school said.

SDSU Executive Vice President Michael Reger said the school will take disciplinary action, depending on the outcome of the criminal investigation.

No criminal charges have been filed, said Clyde Calhoun, Brookings County state's attorney.

### New Orleans' colleges find new classes in city's rebuilding

NEW ORLEANS — Engineering students, biologists, and political scientists have found enormous opportunity in the flood waters that followed Hurricane Katrina. The city's rebuilding offers a real-world educational laboratory.

Each of New Orleans' half-dozen or so major colleges, in varying stages of recovery, say they plan to blur the boundaries between the recovering city and the classroom. Tulane is adding a public service requirement, while Dillard University will require a Katrina-related academic project of students.

Loyola University, a Jesuit school next door to Tulane with a long-standing tradition of "moral learning" and public service, reopened this semester with course offerings including Psychology of Disasters and Religious Responses to Katrina.

"Sometimes [students] think what they're doing in college is disconnected from the 'real world,'" said the Rev. Kevin Wildes, Loyola's president. But in post-storm New Orleans, he said, there is little danger of that.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

## NATION & WORLD



Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito places his hand on the Bible as his wife Martha-Ann looks on during his ceremonial swearing-in in the White House Wednesday in Washington.

FROM A2

tremendous sense of humility."

Alito's first vote was straightforward. He and other justices refused to give Missouri permission to speed up plans to execute a man who killed a teenage honor student.

Separately, the court acting without Alito rejected Taylor's appeal that argued that Missouri's death penalty system is racist. Taylor is black and his victim was white. He filed the appeal on Tuesday, the day that Alito was confirmed by the Senate to replace Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

Taylor had won a stay until Wednesday afternoon in a lower court, and Missouri wanted the justices to lift that stay.

### American deaths in Iraq grow; 78 percent die in hostile action

As of Wednesday, at least 2,242 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. The figure includes six military civilians. At least 1,753 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The British military has reported 100 deaths; Italy, 27; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Slovakia, three; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 2,103 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

## SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT

VANESSA FERNANDEZ  
Staff Writer

Déjà vu, the fleeting, eerie sensations that an event that is happening has already happened, once believed too fleeting to be studied by psychologists, is the basis of a new study that aims to reproduce the effect in a laboratory. "The exciting thing about these people is that they can recall specific details about an event or meeting that never actually occurred," psychologist Chris Moulin, who runs the memory clinic at the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom, told the university newsletter *The Reporter*. "It suggests that the sensations associated with remembering are separate to the contents of memory, that there are two different systems in the brain at work."

According to Moulin, researchers now know the cause of the problem, now they must fix it.

"So far we've completed the natural history side of this condition — we've found ways of testing for it and the right clinical questions to ask," Moulin said. "The next step is obviously to find ways to reduce the problem."

Moulin believes a circuit in the temporal lobe acts up when people think of the past, creating the experience of remembering but also a recollective experience, the sense of the self in the past. In a person with chronic déjà vu, this is either overactive or always switched on, creating memories where none exists. When new events are processed, they are accompanied by a strong feeling of remembering.

One of Moulin's first experiences with chronic déjà vu

sufferers was at a memory clinic.

"We had a peculiar referral from a man who said there was no point visiting the clinic because he'd already been there, although this would have been impossible," Moulin told *The Reporter*.

Ph.D. student Akira O'Connor, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council, is joining forces with Moulin to recreate the déjà vu sensation in a laboratory.

First O'Connor asks Leeds students to remember a word, then she hypnotizes the to forget the word they just saw and then shows it to them again, hoping to create a feeling that they've seen the word before.

The students are asked to make reports on how the déjà vu feels as well as providing data about what they can and cannot remember.

This new path of research, called the Cognitive Feelings Framework, is, for the moment, only happening at Leeds.

"By considering subjective experience — feelings — from a cognitive science perspective, we hope to better understand everyday sensations like déjà vu and also to help understand cognitive impairment, for example in older adults," Moulin told the *Reporter*.

Moulin is working toward developing a global network of patients who experience chronic déjà vu. "We're finding people all over the world with these problems. Chronic déjà vu sufferers need the reassurance that they're not alone, and we need them to help us learn more about who has it, what causes it, and why," he told *The Reporter*.

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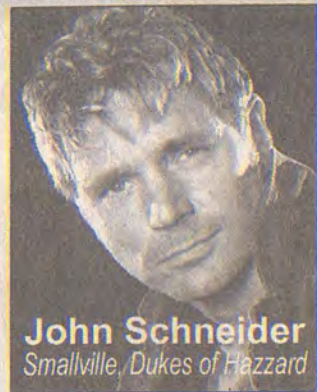
Tracy Scoggins (*BABYLON 5*)

Alexis Cruz (*Stargate SG1*)

Julie Benz (*Taken*)

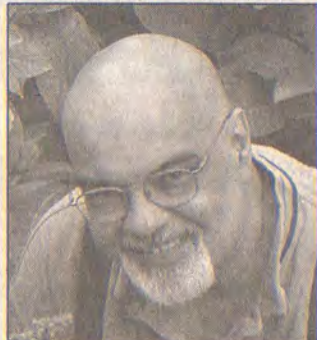
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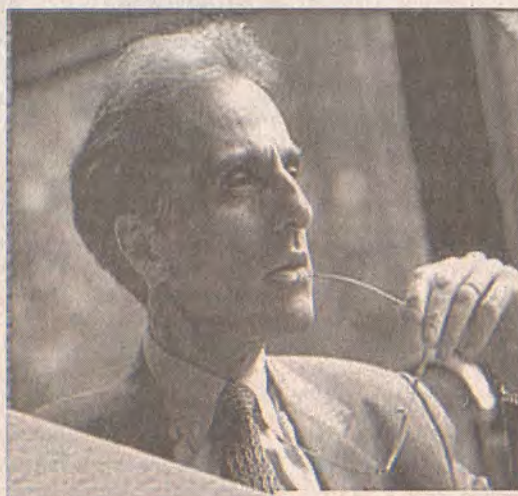
A "Connecting the University Community" event, sponsored by UCF's Global Perspectives Office, UCF's Middle Eastern Studies Program, UCF's Office of Undergraduate Studies, UCF's Political Science Department, the Global Connections Foundation and the Orlando Sentinel.

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## John Esposito

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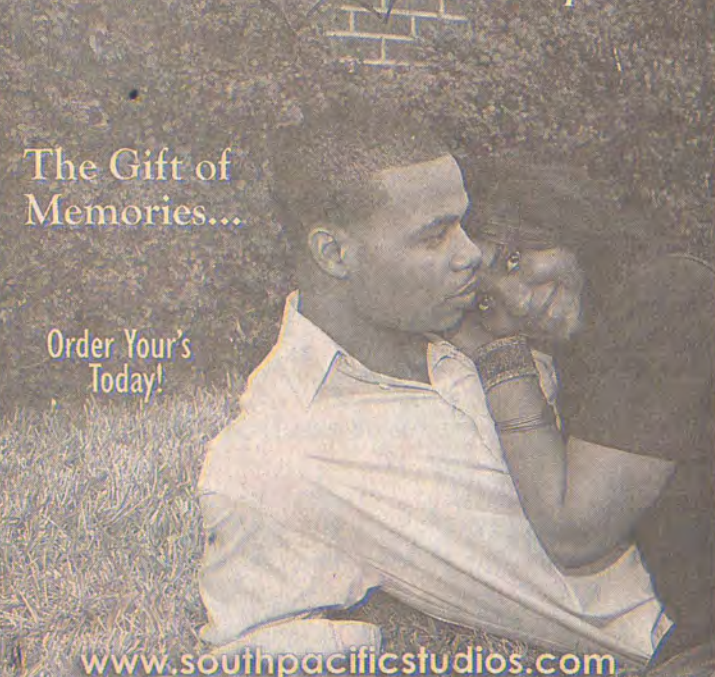
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# Floyd's decision surprised many in SGA

FROM A1

leaders who are leaving student government for the professional world.

Floyd, a senior, has held numerous leadership positions at UCF. In addition to her membership on the President's Leadership Council, Floyd has been president of the Panhellenic Council. She was also on the 2005 Homecoming Court.

As she prepares for graduation this spring and a transition into the professional world, Floyd is talking about her involvement with SGA and her decision not to seek a higher office.

"Ever since I became involved with Senate two years ago, I've thought of student body president as a position that could create a lot of change and have a lot of influence," Floyd said. "It was something that I always wanted to do."

Floyd, who was president of her high school's student council, began early in 2005 to seriously consider planning a campaign for office. "During summer I decided it was definitely something I wanted to pursue," she said.

Soon after Winter Break, however, Floyd chose to jump into her career sooner rather



With three pairings announcing their candidacy for SGA's top offices and the deadline approaching this afternoon, elections for SGA student body president and vice president will be on Feb. 20-22. A run-off is scheduled for Feb. 27, if necessary.

than later. "I saw an opportunity to pursue my career and after weighing all of the options, decided that it [running for president] was not the best thing for the long run," she said.

Floyd will graduate with a degree in health services administration this spring and continue to work in the field as

she pursues her master's at UCF.

When asked about the qualities she finds important in the next student body president, Floyd said, "The university needs to be looking for a strong president to stand up for the students."

Active campaigning for the 2006 SGA presidential elec-

tions began this week, with formal elections scheduled for the week of Feb. 20. The *Future* will provide continuing elections coverage during this time.

Declaration of candidacy ends today at 5 p.m., and all steps necessary to run for SGA student body president can be found online at <http://www.sga.ucf.edu>.



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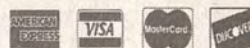
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# Radical Rush closes with field day

Week of awareness activities capped off with music, games as groups recruit

KITTY JOHNSON  
Contributing Writer

UCF's Progressive Council hosted a field day Sunday as the finale of a week of activities aimed at recruitment and awareness. The event, held at Lake Claire, featured food, music, games and water-sports. Members from the clubs that make up the Progressive Council celebrated what co-chair, Matt DeVlieger, called its most successful rush yet.

Radical Rush is held at the beginning of each semester and offers an alternative to Greek life for students who want to get involved on campus. With seven clubs to choose from, including the Body of Animal Rights Campaigners and Campus Peace Action, Progressive Council allows students to work with



KITTY JOHNSON / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Progressive Council members Matt DeVlieger (front left), Zack Nissen (front right) and John Zimmerman (back right) canoe and kayak in Lake Claire during the field day that celebrated the end of Radical Rush, which featured the theme Peace is Possible. The event featured food, games and watersports. The Progressive Council is made up of seven clubs, allowing students to join the one that best fits their needs.

the group that best serves their interests. Raquel Tortora, co-chair of the Progressive Council and member of BARC sums up the organization. "We all come from different backgrounds, but we come together with one common goal:

change," she said. This semester's theme was Peace is Possible. "We need students to believe that they can make a difference," DeVlieger said. "Every major social movement has spread from a college cam-

pus. Our organization offers students a voice and a chance to change their world." Students who are interested in joining Progressive Council should see the organization's Web site at ProgressiveUCF.org.

# No Oompa Loompas, just chocolate

FROM A1

ming with dolphins, a two-carat diamond bracelet from the Scott Laurent Collection valued at \$1,800 and a Tiffany & Co. heart toggle necklace valued at \$300 will be up for bid in the live auction.

Joyce Henckler, the auctioneer for the live auction and a two-year member of the club, says she has her eye on certain items already.

"[My husband] will be in the

audience taking cues from me," Henckler said, laughing. "My top three would have to be the trip to Beaver Creek in Colorado, the swim at Discovery Cove and the diamond bracelet from Scott Laurent."

The silent auction will include two beauty baskets from Avon and The Beauty Spot; tickets to the Orlando Opera, The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra and the UCF Theatre; a football signed by George O'Leary; a basketball signed by the Orlando Magic;

UCF clothing; gift certificates for dinner at the Hemisphere Restaurant; cooking classes for two at Roy's and tea at the Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes.

"We have items in all price ranges, so we have something for everyone," Henckler said.

Last year, the event raised more than \$10,000 for the scholarship fund, and, with six sponsors backing the event this year, hopes are high that the club will raise even more.

"Over the years, we have

given out 39 scholarships to non-traditional students to help them get through their college experience," said Henckler, who is the assistant vice president of major gifts for the UCF Foundation, which is a sponsor of the event.

The scholarship is given to a non-traditional student: single parents, people who return to college or people who start college later in life. Applicants must demonstrate financial need and have a GPA of at least 3.0.

# Programs offer chance to discover self

FROM A1

things along the way, and overcoming obstacles gets easier and easier because you've been there before."

Smyth advises freshmen to take life one step at a time and not try to find themselves too quickly, because it will not work.

According to master of humanistic psychology Abraham Maslow, human motivation is characterized by a hierarchy of needs. Once basic needs such as food and safety are met, people strive toward self-actualization. Self-actualization is what all college students are seeking — if they are not worrying about paying the rent or having enough money for food, they are realizing what makes their life fulfilling and what they want to make of their futures.

Claire Mauer, a graduate counseling trainee, often speaks to students about

developing their identity and creating meaning in their lives.

"College students are given the responsibility to make their own choices and find this task overwhelming, yet empowering," Mauer said. "This is a highly developmental stage, and students should be questioning who they are."

According to Germaine Graham, a psychologist at the UCF Counseling Center, 80 percent of the students who seek counseling are concerned about issues having to do with all aspects of their identity, including racial identity, sexual identity and their career path.

"Students often ask 'Who am I?' and are constantly searching for themselves," Graham said. "They ask themselves, 'Do I have the right to make important decisions?' and find their responsibilities overwhelming."

The Counseling Center is aware of the uncertainties and struggles college students face every day and offers numerous

support groups and workshops to help resolve these issues.

Self Discovery Knights is a program that consists of weekly meetings on topics concerning a central theme. This semester, the theme is Relationships: Facts, Fiction, and Myths. Topics include: Loving Relationships, He or She's Just Not That Into You and Cross-Cultural Dating. These seminars will help students with discovering who they are and what they want in a relationship.

There is also a Personal Empowerment Workshop that meets once a week and focuses on ways to empower students to make positive changes in their lives.

Each week, a different topic is discussed, such as effective ways of coping, increasing self awareness, increasing motivation, setting and meeting personal goals, developing social support, managing stress and improving self confidence.

Another program is called Build the Life You Want and helps students create the tools they need to handle stress, reduce anxiety, feel more confident, care for themselves, and have more fun.

For students and non-students alike, finding a place in life can be challenging and requires effort.

"It's difficult to find what path you want to go on," junior Desirea Rivera said. "Especially when you have friends who try to persuade you."

According to Rivera, students should "start as early as possible, try different things, be versatile and don't just stay with what's comfortable."

Dipboye's advice is to avoid both extremes of early commitment and avoidance of the question and to use the opportunities students have in college to confront and think deeply about both issues.

"You will never again have the freedom you have now, so take advantage of it!" he said.

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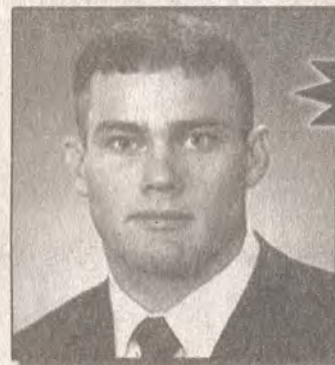
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# All recipes from faculty, staff, students welcomed for book

FROM A1

Through the campaign, departments are able to do fundraisers such as change drives and bake sales. For the 2006 campaign, Administration and Finance decided to go with a cookbook drive.

This is the first year for a cookbook drive, and employees, faculty, staff and students are welcome to submit their own recipes to be included. Main dishes, appetizers, pastries, desserts, salads, beverages, etc. will all be accepted.

Anything that anyone submits will be welcomed with open arms White said.

"Name a recipe and there's a category for it," White said. "And if there's not a category for it, we'll make a category for it."

Tiffany Brand, coordinator of the university's campaign for Administration and Finance, is submitting a recipe for butter-nut bisque, a family favorite, Brand said.

"I believe that the cookbook will sell very well and will greatly benefit the Florida State Employees' Charitable Campaign," Brand said. "I also hope that it will be a UCF treasure for many years to come."

In addition to taking recipes, the committee is selling advertisements inside of the cookbook to local businesses and organizations in the UCF community, including the bookstore, computer store and various student organizations.

"Anyone who wants to buy an ad and wants their ad in the

## Cooking up some charitable dishes

The Florida State Employees' Charitable Campaign is the only authorized solicitation of state employees allowed at the work place, according to the organization's Web site. Employee contributions are completely voluntary and can be made either through a direct payment through an employee's salary or as a one-time gift to a charity of his or her choice.

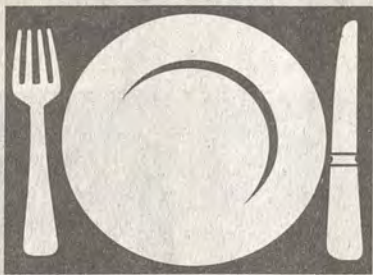
Through the organization's efforts in 2004, more than \$4.5 million was raised for more than 1,300

authorized charitable organizations. The chosen charitable organizations must be approved by the Florida government. However, once approved, they can include any variety of human or environmental benefit, from children and the elderly to wildlife.

The FSECC is in its 25th year of operation, and, in that span,

more than \$60.9 million has been donated to charitable organizations through the efforts of state employees.

— SOURCE: www.myflorida.com



cookbook is welcome to do so," White said. The hope is that enough money will be raised from selling ads to cover the printing cost, with all the sale proceeds going to charity.

Forms for submitting recipes, buying ads and ordering books can be found on the Administration and Finance Web site, <http://admfin.ucf.edu>.

The site also contains information on joining the cookbook committee. People who have experience in design and layout, have ever worked on a cookbook before or have a creative mind are welcome to join. "We would like the extra help, suggestions and ideas,"

White said.

Also in the works is a cook-off to take place on campus in early September for anyone who submits a recipe. Prizes are included for different categories, but details are still in the blueprint stage.

The deadline for submitting ads is April 14 and the deadline for submitting recipes is July 14. The expected release date is in early September at a cost of \$8 per book, allowing enough time for layout and printing.

"There is a lot of energy going into this university-wide fundraiser to make it a quality, professional publication," Brand said. "And I am sure it will be quite successful."



COURTESY STEPHANIE LANOUÉ

Traditional fraternity recruitment gave potential Greeks a chance to meet current members, while the recent Meet the Greeks event allowed students to meet with fraternity and sorority members in an informal setting, away from the structured recruitment events.

# Greek event gives students shot to mingle with organizations

FROM A1

organization on the council they might want to join.

Meet the Greeks emphasized what DGC strives to promote throughout the year: Greek unity.

The event had a relaxed atmosphere, beginning with an ice breaker game and included food, chicken wings and ice cream emphasizing this semester's theme, Fire and Ice.

All four organizations contributed gift cards to places such as Marble Slab, Wack-

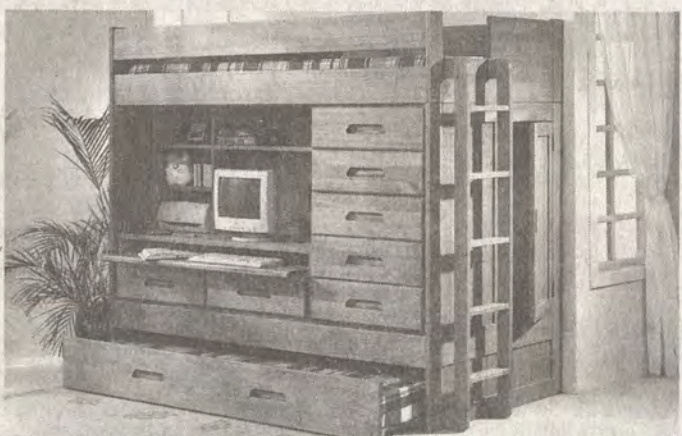
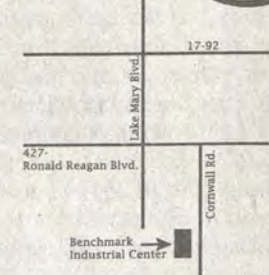
adoo's and BP gas station which were raffled off during the event.

The next Meet the Greeks will be in the Fall 2006. For more information on DGC or any other Greek Council visit the Web site at <http://greek-life.sdes.ucf.edu/>.

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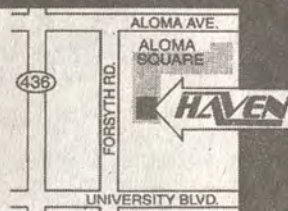
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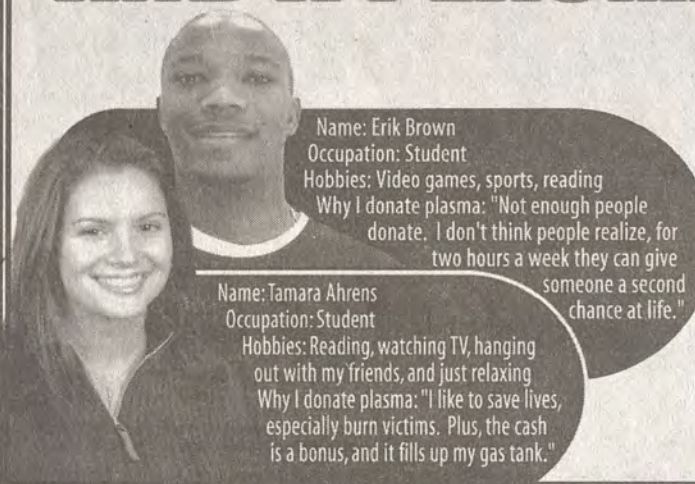


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MATT HEDGECOCK / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Over the past decade, UCF has rapidly become one of the largest and busiest universities in the entire nation. In the state, it is overshadowed only by the University of Florida in terms of student population. Campus is busy, parking is scarce and more students become Knights each and every semester.

But there are places of quietude to still be found on campus. The Burnett Honors College's Honors Garden attracts students like junior Kyle Medeiros to study outdoors, its leafy shrubs and fresh air a welcome alternative to the sterile and air-conditioned study halls around campus.

So let the student population continue to grow. The plants in the Honors Garden will grow along with it.

PLEASE SEE A10 FOR THE HONORS COLLEGE GARDEN STORY BY CONTRIBUTING WRITER HALLEY PROCTOR

## Yo ho, yo ho, a single's life for me ... and, boy, it rocks

I hate February. It is the worst month of the year. Why, you ask?

First of all, it is too short to get anything done. You'd be surprised how much you can get done in those extra days until the 30th. Secondly, the weather in February is way too unpredictable — cold, warm, rainy, cold, warm.

But most of all, this month seems to be unofficially dedicated to everything lovey-dovey and couple-oriented. It is

enough to make a single girl want to run for the hills.

The stores have strategically placed chocolates, teddy bears, jewelry and mushy hearts everywhere. Sorry, I just threw up a little in my mouth.

So, as we segue into this love-struck month, I have decided to issue a new installment of the dirty dozen. That's right, 12 reasons why being single rocks; when you have been in Singleville long enough, you know it truly does.

### NOT JUST SEX



DANA DELAPI  
Newsroom Manager

12. Being single rocks because you don't have to check in. Just picture it: Enjoying a drink with

friends and not having to pick up your phone every hour to relay all the details of your time apart.

11. Being single rocks because the only thing you have to fight with is traffic. It always baffles me the amount of time couples spend fighting over nonsense. Well, in Singleville, there are no fights — except, maybe, the occasional catfight.

10. Being single rocks because you don't have to follow a dress code. Don't you just hate that

your beloved miniskirt is collecting dust and that shiny, revealing top is hanging lifelessly in the closet because someone is worried that you might attract too much male attention? Oh, wait, you're single, and you can wear any slutty outfit you want because no one is there to stop you.

9. Being single rocks because when you're challenged to a game of strip beer pong, you

PLEASE SEE COUNTING ON A9

## Indian a smooth, typical biopic

Motorcycle tale more lightweight than light speed

WILLIAM GOSS  
Staff Writer

*The World's Fastest Indian* refers to the motorcycle of one Burt Munro, the New Zealand native who set the land speed record with his trusty bike. The film's lengthy journey, however, turns out to be just as smooth as the salt flats on which the record was broken. After all, what's more endearing than an elderly eccentric dedicated to breaking the land speed record? According to *Indian*, not a damn thing.

Anthony Hopkins delivers an adequately lightweight performance as the perpetually perky lead, emitting an endless sense of dedication and spunk as he travels halfway around the world, from his home in Invercargill, New Zealand, to the salt flats of Bonneville, Utah. Once the film takes its sweet time establishing Munro's part in the community, it has him depart for the States with his Indian in tow.

The remainder of the first half is dedicated to episodic detours from his road trip, during which Burt charms American after American into helping his cause. Whether it be a cross-dressing hotel clerk or an isolated widow,

PLEASE SEE HOPKINS ON A9

## Brosnan bucks Bond in cheeky *Matador*

Offbeat buddy flick flawed but funny

WILLIAM GOSS  
Staff Writer

Pierce. In his entire career, Mr. Brosnan's first name has never been more accurate until his work in the buddy comedy, *The Matador*. Whether displaying rampant vulgarity or rare vulnerability as Julian Noble, a self-proclaimed "facilitator of fatalities," Brosnan dominates the screen with a cocky swagger and a sharp tongue that will make viewers forget all about his preceding portrayals of a certain suave spy.

However, Julian is an aging assassin whose morals and ethics are growing increasingly unstable with each additional assignment. While in Mexico City, he gradually befriends Danny Wright (Greg Kinnear), an American whose career and marriage depend on closing a vital business deal, not unlike Julian.

Eventually, he lets Danny in on his peculiar occupation, then convinces him to join with an elaborate demonstration. Danny finds Julian's work equally intimidating

PLEASE SEE GOOD ON A9

this weekend

### TONIGHT The Culture of Chrome

Part of the popular 1st Thursdays series at the Orlando Museum of Art, this exhibition focuses on motorcycles in the arts, tying in nicely with its excellent *The Art of the Motorcycle*. Features two jazz ensembles, food and handcrafted beer. Starts at 6 p.m. 407-896-4231

### TOMORROW Archer's New Rival

One of Florida's rising indie bands and recent winners of the Taste of Chaos band competition will be appearing at Ozone CD's in Altamonte Springs. Check out next week's Variety section for a close-up look at this group and its music. Show starts at 8 p.m. 407-862-1002

### TOMORROW Rocket 88

This longtime and somewhat legendary Florida rockabilly band is coming to Backbooth, along with Vascular Symphony and 69 Fingers. Rockabilly music is fine on its own, but Rocket 88 is just as famous for its unorthodox and lively stage activity. Show starts at 9 p.m. 407-999-2570

### SATURDAY One Drop

It's a Florida band bonanza! This time the group One Drop brings its "organic fusionistic muzik" (its term) to The Social, along with Spacebar and Isentrinjas. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. 407-246-1419

### SATURDAY "The Who" Classic Albums Live

Who? The Who, that's who! Well, almost. The popular concert series Classic Albums Live presents the seminal rock album *Who's Next*, featuring such classic rock jams as "Baba O'Riley" and "Won't Get Fooled Again." Doors open at 8:30 p.m. at Hard Rock Live. 407-351-LIVE

### DVD RELEASE FOR WEEK OF FEB. 7 Wallace & Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit

The best animated film of 2005 finally arrives on DVD. You know you still watch Saturday morning cartoons, so don't chicken out and tell the store clerk you're just buying it for your 6-year-old cousin.



# Hey Oscar!

## Brokeback Mountain standing tall at nomination time

**Brokeback Mountain leads the Academy Awards field with eight**

**Actor**  
 Phillip Seymour Hoffman, *Capote*  
 Terrence Howard, *Hustle & Flow*  
 Heath Ledger, *Brokeback Mountain*  
 Joaquin Phoenix, *Walk the Line*  
 David Strathairn, *Good Night, and Good Luck*

**Actress**  
 Judi Dench, *Mrs. Henderson Presents*  
 Felicity Huffman, *Transamerica*  
 Keira Knightley, *Pride & Prejudice*  
 Charlize Theron, *North Country*  
 Reese Witherspoon, *Walk the Line*

**Supporting Actor**  
 George Clooney, *Syriana*  
 Matt Dillon, *Crash*  
 Paul Giamatti, *Cinderella Man*  
 Jake Gyllenhaal, *Brokeback Mountain*  
 William Hurt, *A History of Violence*

**Supporting Actress**  
 Amy Adams, *Junebug*  
 Catherine Keener, *Capote*  
 Frances McDormand, *North Country*  
 Rachel Weisz, *The Constant Gardener*  
 Michelle Williams, *Brokeback Mountain*

**Picture**  
*Brokeback Mountain*  
*Capote*  
*Crash*  
*Good Night, and Good Luck*  
*Munich*

—ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES



# Counting the ways single is better than double

FROM A8

never have to say "I think my boyfriend will be mad."

8. Being single rocks because you don't start to pack on the pounds. It has been proven that women in relationships tend to gain weight after settling down because they don't feel the pressure to be thin to land a man. So, give your fat pants to your coupled-up friend because you're too busy being fabulous to use them.

7. Being single rocks because you get to play the game. Admit it, playing the proverbial dating "game" is fun, and you just can't knock it.

6. Being single rocks because you get to network. When you are single, you are, in a way, forced to have a huge network of friends so that you may never be bored or alone on a Friday night when all the couples are at home watching each other breathe.

5. Being single rocks because you can have casual, no-strings-attached sex. Do I really need to explain the perks of this one?

4. Being single rocks because single people know themselves better than anyone else. When you don't spend 24/7 with anyone other than yourself, you tend to be a little introspective. But, this is a good thing because if you don't know yourself how do you ever expect anyone else to?

3. Being single rocks because you can do all those dorky things you love to do, and no one can make you feel bad for it. Go ahead, do a paint-by-number! Watch that wonderfully cult-inducing WB show. No one needs to know.

2. Being single rocks because, inevitably, the single person in the group is usually the most fun person. Single girls dance on bars. Single guys talk to more girls. Single people are less inhibited and always up for a good time. In fact, they tend to make a party wherever they go.

1. And the No. 1 reason being single rocks is it means you haven't settled. Singles can have relationships, believe it or not. We just choose not to because we haven't found that one right person. If we jump into something too quickly, that would mean we have settled for less than what we are worth.

Dana DeLapi can be reached at [newsroom@UCFnews.com](mailto:newsroom@UCFnews.com)

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# Hopkins adds liveliness to *Indian*

FROM A8

they always find Munro's moxie undeniable and go out of their way to help him out. Besides, he didn't come all the way from Invercargill for nothing.

Eventually, Munro reaches the salt flats and once more works his Kiwi charm in order to participate in Speed Week and to attempt to set a new land-speed record. (Hint: if a movie was made about him, chances are he succeeded.)

However, the forced whimsy soon begins to wear thin as the story continues along its prolonged and predictable path. Setting records is still a commendable feat, and congeniality is always welcome, but writer/director Roger Donaldson (*Species*, *Dante's Peak*) suffers from a

### The World's Fastest Indian

★★★★••

Director: Roger Donaldson  
 Stars: Anthony Hopkins, Jessica Cauffiel, Saginaw Grant, Diane Ladd

single-minded pursuit of pep, as does the film.

This is not to say the film is impossible to enjoy. One would find it difficult not to pull for Munro to some degree, and the underdog factor never mutates into manipulative melodrama. A healthy amount of humor and a game ensemble ensure that *Indian* never surrenders to cynicism.

Although Hopkins embodies Munro most admirably, the whole movie relies on the sheer gumption of the circumstances and the relentless optimism of the lead to help carry it through

familiar terrain.

It is nice to see Hopkins behave in such a lively manner. Few scenes seem to lack his sincere smile or his hearty chuckle, and it never appears that perhaps Hopkins is struggling to counteract his sinister reputation as Hannibal Lecter by wooing ladies and befriending the lad next door. Munro is even too stubborn to let laws or even his own heart condition hinder him from reaching his goal.

At a time in which heavier fare probes new depths of negativity and depravity, it doesn't hurt to have a film as overtly lovable as *The World's Fastest Indian* to bring back some balance to the theater marquee, even if one wishes it didn't come on nearly as strong as it had. These days, it's just nice to know someone gives a pluck.

# Good performances make *Matador* matter



Pierce Brosnan and Greg Kinnear star in the offbeat comedy, *The Matador*. Brosnan dominates the screen with his swagger and sharp tongue.

FROM A8

and fascinating, but soon, their respective jobs are completed and they part ways. That is, until Julian shows up on Danny's Denver doorstep a year later, looking to cash in a favor when his job becomes compromised.

For the most part, this is Brosnan's movie, although his performance is a borderline novelty of crass dialogue and ribald behavior.

Some of his best lines aren't fit for print, including a most memorable — and colorful — use of alliteration, but at times, it seems that Brosnan is almost trying too hard to purge himself of his Bond image.

Nonetheless, when not exaggerating himself, Brosnan creates a substantial and ultimately sympathetic portrait of Julian's fading livelihood. Kinnear provides a reasonable foil as the timid Danny, and the ever-adorable Hope Davis makes the most of her minor role as his wife, Bean, who becomes captivated by their guest's occupation, even when his manners fail him.

### The Matador

★★★★••

Director: Richard Shepard  
 Stars: Pierce Brosnan, Greg Kinnear, Hope Davis, Phillip Baker Hall  
 In theaters now.

Writer/director Richard Shepard crafts a decent buddy comedy out of the strong bonding of his leads, but as the film progresses, he attempts to shift the focus to the shared strife of middle age that plagues both men. The resulting downshift in humor fails to be compensated by the introduction of pathos, leading to a lingering third act.

In addition, although each exotic location is filmed with an exciting and vibrant flare, the frequent appearance of intrusive screen-filling titles adds nothing to the picture.

As mild as the story becomes, the entire cast fully fleshes out its roles, and, by the end, these tangible characters are worthy of a better film. Thanks to its endearing performances, *The Matador* is still worth a shot, even if it just misses its target.

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# HONORS GARDEN OFFERS PLACE OF SANCTUARY

Students use wireless Internet-equipped garden for studying and social gatherings in an area of quiet solitude and peace.



MATT HEDGECOCK / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE



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MATT HEDGECOCK / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

**HALLEY PROCTOR**  
Contributing Writer

Before reaching the garden gate, the sound of a waterfall fills the air. The branches quietly rustle in the wind as a petal slowly falls to the ground.

The Burnett Honors College garden offers idyllic scenes such as this and a retreat for students and faculty to escape the school's surrounding buildings.

The garden was created to showcase the Honors College and provide a quiet place for students. Director of Student Affairs Jill Norburn said it is completely wireless so students can use the Internet without having to leave the serenity of the outdoors. There are also tables set up for group study sessions and a waterfall to listen to when the school gets too noisy.

The garden provides a place for students to study or relax and for teachers to hold classes.

"The layout is designed to encourage solitary meditation, as well as a place for social gatherings," student Wilcley Lima said. The gates surrounding it detach the garden from the rest of campus. "It is like an

oasis in the middle of campus," he added.

It receives its funding for upkeep through the membership fee honors students pay toward the Honors Congress. It also receives many donations, including one from professor Richard Tucker who donated a 200-pound staghorn fern. Also, the Lukas Nursery provides the school with bamboo, hibiscus and many exotic plants.

For two-and-a-half years, Herlinda Bedoya has cared for the garden. She changes the plants every three to four months to add variety for the visitors, and the diversity helps to keep the bugs away. During the hurricanes, she was responsible for cleaning up the debris and replacing the plants lost due to the wind and the sudden cold weather after it.

It is not only a place to study, but also to celebrate scholastic achievements, for example the National Merit Scholars holds its reception here. Furthermore, the garden is a prime spot for graduation and club pictures.

For images of the variety of plants in the gardens go to <http://www.honors.ucf.edu/tour/garden.html>.

Herlinda Bedoya, above left, tends to the Burnett Honors College Garden as she has done for the past two-and-a-half years. Her arrangements of native and exotic plants, seen above, help keep the garden fresh and beautiful, and also attract beneficial insects such as bumblebees.

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## Success on the field equals success with recruits

Football team hopes new class of 21 will help build on 2005 success

CHRIS HOYLER  
Staff Writer

Between the shortage of graduating seniors (13) and the success of his team, UCF football Coach George O'Leary was probably thinking about recruiting a little less throughout the fall.

But that did not keep him from signing another strong class, as he garnered 21 commitments on National Signing Day Wednesday.

The class is heavy with high school recruits, 19 in all, though O'Leary extended his reach to garner recruits from eight different states, a byproduct of increased exposure through Conference USA and the strong 2005 season.

"We had more kids visit this year that were involved with ACC schools and SEC schools," O'Leary said.

"Because of the exposure that UCF got on TV, we had a lot more people on our

campus. That's what was missing, I think, the year before."

Leading the class is offensive guard Jeremy Devane. The 6-foot-3, 290-pound Daytona Beach native chose UCF over Sugar Bowl Champion West Virginia and Louisville, according to UCFSports.com

Devane was the 40th ranked guard in the nation and the 74th best prospect in the state. The starting guards from 2005, freshman L.J. Anderson and sophomore Kyle Smith, are both scheduled to return, so Devane could redshirt in 2006.

PLEASE SEE **PREP** ON A12



UCF Coach George O'Leary walks on to the field before the Hawai'i Bowl last season. The Knights released their recruiting class on Wednesday, which included 19 high school recruits.

ANDY VASQUEZ / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

C-USA GAME 6: UAB AT UCF • SATURDAY, 3 P.M. — UCF ARENA

## Blazing through 'hell'



UCF forward Josh Peppers attempts a shot over Marshall forward LaVar Carter during the Knights' only home conference loss this season, 73-69 on January 11. UCF is 3-2 in Conference USA.

Knights return home for big showdown with Anderson, UAB

CHRIS HOYLER  
Assistant Sports Editor

Before this season, UCF athletics was associated with national TV only when former Knights quarterback Daunte Culpepper's profile was mentioned during an NFL game. Even then, announcers would screw up, calling his alma mater "UFC," "USF" or some other appalling acronym.

Not anymore.

The men's basketball team takes the floor at the UCF Arena Saturday against Alabama-Birmingham with something to prove. For the second straight weekend, CSTV will televise UCF nationally, something the Knights may not want if their first showing was any indication of things to come.

Last Saturday, the Knights were routed 94-61 by a superior Memphis team, one well deserving of its No. 3 ranking in both polls. This Saturday, the conference's sec-

PLEASE SEE **PRESSURE** ON A12

Blackout at the arena



REBECCA BARNETT / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE  
UCF fans came out in force wearing black at the C-USA title football game, above. UCF hopes for the same result Saturday.

UAB vs. UCF, Saturday, 3 p.m.

Making history

Saturday will mark the first time a UCF men's basketball home game has been broadcast to a national audience.

Broadcast

Television: CSTV (Brighthouse 554, DirecTV 610)  
Radio: 740-THE TEAM AM

Remarkable season remembered

The UCF football team will be honored during halftime of Saturday's game for its remarkable 2005 turnaround season.

Marketing looking to 'Black out' UCF Arena for national broadcast

ANDY VASQUEZ  
Sports Editor

The UCF men's basketball team is hoping to impress a national audience on Saturday at 3 p.m., when it takes on Alabama-Birmingham in a pivotal Conference USA matchup.

The Knights are also hoping that UCF fans will show up in impressive numbers to "black out" the UCF Arena and mark a first in UCF athletics history.

On Saturday, for the first time ever, a UCF men's basketball game will be broadcast to a national audience live from campus. UCF Coach Kirk Speraw and the Knights are asking that fans show their support by wearing black.

"We're trying to put a good face on for the nation and everybody watching CSTV," UCF's Assistant Director of Sports Marketing Jared Eller said.

PLEASE SEE **CSTV** ON A12

Bench points the difference as women lose to Blazers

UAB reserves score 65 of team's 90 as UCF falls to 11th place in league play

BRIAN MURPHY  
Staff Writer

For the UCF women's basketball team, it seems as if there is one rule it must follow if it wants to win again this year: Do not score over 70 points.

The Golden Knights have lost the three games when they crossed that line, including their 90-78 defeat to Alabama-Birmingham on Sunday.

"We are not an offensive team," UCF Coach Gail Striegler said. "We keep every game in the '60s to have a chance to win it."

"It is bad when we score that much because we need to be focused on defense. We need to make it one of those type games where it is a down-and-back game, and it may be as ugly a game as it can be, but at least you end up winning it."

The Blazers got out of the gate quickly and gained a 20-6 advantage over the Knights after just 10 minutes. But the Knights struck right back.

After a 3-pointer by junior guard Francine Houston jolted the offense, the Knights began their own run and were able to trim the advantage to 23-22 with 5:22 left. During that span, the defense held the Blazers without a field goal for over five minutes.

"It was a great job by the kids," Striegler said about the first-half comeback. "Our kids went into a press and they got some turnovers out of it and got some easy baskets for us. That really kind of turned it back to our direction."

The lead would change hands seven times in the last five minutes of the half, as the teams traded baskets down the stretch. The Knights scored the last points of the half and, appropriately, went to half-time ahead by a point.

Four minutes into the second half, the Knights stretched their lead to five. For a majority of the following 10 minutes, the teams were separated by just one possession. With seven minutes left and the game tied, the Knights started to descend.

Coming into the game, Striegler and the Knights knew that the Blazers were a team that thrives on scoring inside. Only two Blazers had hit more than six shots from 3-point range heading into Sunday's tilt. Unfortunately, for the Knights, they could not stop what they knew was coming.

"We did not do a good job of taking away their strengths," Striegler said. "We let the kids who wanted to drive, drive and you just can't do that."

In the second half, the Blazers doubled-up the Knights in points in the paint, 24-12.

No player exemplified that disparity for UAB more than sophomore forward Christon Ingram. With 6:30 remaining and up by three, she carried the Blazers.

Over the next five minutes, Ingram tallied 11 of her team's 13 points. In that span, she also scored as many points as the entire Knights' squad. All of her points came from inside the paint.

At the end of Ingram's streak, the Blazers were up by nine with about a minute to go.

For the game, Ingram tied with freshman guard Britney Jones in leading the team with 16

PLEASE SEE **WOMEN'S** ON A12

Players to watch

FORWARD  
Shelby Weber



Weber played her best game of the season against UAB, scoring 25 points on eight-of-nine shooting.

GUARD  
LaShay King



King's shooting struggles (she was three of 10 from the field including one-of-five from 3-point range) hurt the Knights' offense late in the game.

## Sunday's Super Bowl isn't the only big weekend event



THE EXTRA POINT

ANDY VASQUEZ  
Sports Editor

The biggest spectacle in sports has finally arrived, as it tends to do this time of year.

On Sunday, the Seattle Seahawks will take on the Pittsburgh Steelers in Super Bowl XL, in my hometown of Detroit — If you've watched any Super Bowl coverage this week (C'mon, you know you have. How could you avoid it?), then you've noticed that Detroit isn't such a bad place. Contrary to popular belief, everyone who goes to the Motor City doesn't end up frozen to death with multiple

gunshot wounds.

But, I digress.

While the Super Bowl circus takes place up north this weekend, it's not the only big-time occurrence in the world of sports that you need to be worried about. On Saturday at 3 p.m., the biggest UCF athletics event ever to hit campus will take place at the UCF Arena: for the first time ever, a UCF men's basketball game will be broadcast from campus

to a national audience by CSTV.

Now it's the job of UCF fans to make it a spectacle.

With UCF's football team not playing on campus for at least another year and the only other UCF game to be nationally televised from campus coming last month when the UCF women's basketball team defeated UTEP, this is clearly

PLEASE SEE **MEN'S** ON A12



## AROUND C-USA

### Marshall (8-10, 1-4 C-USA)

On Saturday, two teams at the bottom of the Conference USA standings will face off when Marshall and Tulane meet in New Orleans.

Both Tulane and Marshall have been on the losing end of the majority of their conference games.

Marshall will look to Mark Patton to anchor its team in the middle. Patton has been the rock for the Thundering Herd all season, leading the team in scoring as well as rebounds.

Tulane will turn to leading scorer David Gomez to slow down Patton. Gomez is averaging slightly more than 12 points a game and will go one-on-one with Patton all night.

### Houston (12-6, 3-3)

While Houston is fighting to climb up the C-USA standings, its opponent on Saturday, East Carolina, is looking to not become last in the standings.

Houston has an even win/loss record, winning and losing three games. Houston is fifth in the overall standings, only a half game behind UCF.

East Carolina will have the task to try to slow down the Cougars' starting guard Oliver Lafayette. Lafayette has been the leading scorer for the Cougars, averaging 15.8 points a game.

For the Cougars, their main concern will be in the frontcourt with Corey Rouse. Rouse has been the lone bright spot for the Pirates all season. Rouse averages a double-double with 14.5 points and 10.6 boards a game.

### Memphis (19-2, 5-0)

The high-powered, highly athletic, No. 3 Memphis Tigers face off against the Rice Owls on Saturday.

For the Owls, this matchup does not seem to be a fair fight. The Tigers are ranked third in the nation, aiming for a trip to the Final Four, while the Owls are struggling to be a 500 team.

The Owls will look to star guard Morris Almond for any hope in this game. Almond has averaged close to 20 points a game.

For the Tigers this game should not be too much of a struggle, but it can not be overlooked. Look for forward Rodney Carney to shoulder a bulk of the duties against Almond throughout the game. Along with scoring 18.2 points a game, Carney is an excellent defender.

### SMU (10-8, 2-3)

Looking to climb out of the cellar of the C-USA standings, Southern Miss faces off against SMU on Saturday.

For Southern Miss, this season has not been what it envisioned. With a record of 7-14, 1-5 in the conference, it hopes to turn things around quickly.

SMU is fighting to climb up the standings. Its record in the conference is 2-3, but it's only two-and-a-half games out of third place.

SMU has looked to senior guard Bryan Hopkins all season to lead them. The Mustangs' guard has played nearly 34 minutes a game and has scored 171 points per game.

### UTEP (12-5, 5-0)

The UTEP Miners visit Tulsa on Saturday looking to keep their perfect conference record alive.

The Miners are fighting and waiting for an opportunity to gain control of the conference, hoping Memphis loses a C-USA game.

UTEP is led by two seniors who have been carrying the team all season. Forward John Tofi has averaged more than 14 points a game and nearly nine rebounds a game, anchoring the frontcourt; guard Jason Williams is averaging 13.6 points a game and 7.3 rebounds a game, securing the backcourt.

The Golden Hurricane will need to bring their A game and hope the Miners are looking toward Memphis.

—ZACH MOORE

## C-USA GAME 6: UAB AT UCF • SATURDAY, 3 P.M.



UCF forward Lavell Payne, left, guards a Marshall player during a loss at the UCF Arena last month. UCF is 3-2 in C-USA as of Wednesday.

## Pressure defense awaits UCF

FROM A11

ond-place team, UAB, comes in with a chip on its shoulder, looking to overcome a close loss to Memphis and re-establish itself as a threat to the Top 25.

"My goal is not just to be one of the better teams in the conference, but to be one of the better teams in the country," UAB Coach Mike Anderson said.

"I think one of the by-products of that is going to be being one of the team's people are going to talk about."

Anderson knows what it takes to get people talking about his team. In 2004, he was one of the nation's hottest coaching commodities, shocking top-seeded Kentucky in the second round of the NCAA Tournament before losing to Kansas in the Sweet 16. His game plan, which he developed as an assistant at Arkansas under Nolan Richardson, became a catchphrase.

"40 Minutes of Hell." It's about pressure, forcing the other team's hand and throwing off its rhythm. It was on display in Memphis, where the Blazers fought back from down 13 to take the lead midway through the second half and be down just two with 1:47 remaining. The Tigers' athleticism took over at that point, breaking the full-court press and pulling away for a 73-66 UAB win, but Anderson knows what his team showed in defeat.

"I thought our guys came out, especially in a hostile environment, and gave themselves a chance to win," Anderson said. "I think we just ran out of time. It wasn't because of the effort, but we had some mental breakdowns."

Memphis was able to build an early lead on the Blazers with solid shooting, especially from long range. That could be a problem if UCF intends to use that strategy. The Knights struggled against the press in Memphis, shooting just 40 percent. Over the course of the season, they have not shown the consistency of shooting the ball to prevent opponents from pressing.

But the Knights' struggles against Memphis are not a true indicator of their potential for the remainder of the C-USA schedule. Sitting in fourth place right now means controlling their own destiny for a first-round bye when they make their way back to Memphis for the C-USA Tournament.

"To be 3-2 in the conference is good for us at this stage of our development as a program," UCF Coach Kirk Speraw said.

If the Blazers intend to stunt the Knights' development, guard Derrick Broom can help by providing a repeat effort of Saturday's win over East Carolina. The senior started for the first time this season and responded by hitting seven-of-nine shots from the field and scoring a career-high 19

points.

"Derrick gave us a shot in the arm that we needed," Anderson said. "He came in and gave us a big lift."

Broom's starting status is up in the air for Saturday, but the rest of the Blazers lineup has been consistent, with guards Cardell "Squeaky" Johnson and Marvett McDonald joining forward Frank Holmes. Wen Mukubu and Lawrence Kinnard are the other top forwards, though Anderson has swapped them in and out of the starting lineup over the past few games.

It will be interesting to see the lineup Anderson comes out with and how Speraw responds. Both teams have the entire week off leading up to Saturday, so the early matchups could provide a window into each team's preparation.

"Hopefully we can use [the week off] to our advantage," Anderson said.

"We'll have some workouts leading up to it. It's a game that we got to be prepared and go play against a team that's going to be charged up for us," Anderson added.

"I think it can be a good time if we take advantage [of the week] in the practice sessions and work on things that we haven't been as sharp with, get in better shape, get a little healthier," Speraw said. "Hopefully it can set us up to close out the conference season in a strong fashion."

## Prep, juco recruits fill 2006 class

FROM A11

Adding to the offensive line commitments are tackles Mike Buxton and Jah Reid, who bring unbelievable size for high school recruits. At 6-foot-8, 315 pounds, Estero-native Buxton will be the tallest player on the team next year, and Reid, a 6-foot-7, 355-pound Haines City native, will be right behind him. Both have said that they expect to redshirt in 2006.

O'Leary loaded up on the opposite side of the trenches as well, signing two ends and two tackles. Tackle Torell Johnson comes from Conyers, Georgia, and turned down offers from Maryland, Ole Miss and Minnesota to sign with the Knights.

Johnson has the size to step right in and play as a freshman. At 6-foot-3, 345 pounds, he provides a big body to make up for the graduation of Frisner Nelson.

At end, O'Leary added Hialeah High School's Rashidi Houghton and Lexington, South Carolina-native David Williams. Houghton comes in at 6-foot-3

and 235 pounds, with Williams at 6-foot-2, 225 pounds.

The skill positions are loaded with returning talent, from quarterback Steven Moffett to running back Kevin Smith and wide receiver Mike Walker, but O'Leary signed two of his top recruits to add to his potentially explosive offense.

Quarterback Terry Mayo is the most intriguing recruit of the class, a 24-year-old junior college transfer who turned down offers from Oregon and Utah to join the Knights. The former Milwaukee Brewers prospect brings physical tools similar to former Texas quarterback Vince Young, running a 4.6 40-yard dash in a 6-foot-4, 245-pound frame.

"He's a kid that came out of high school in North Carolina," O'Leary said. "He's a good athlete. He's an older fellow, I think he's 24, married with two children. Again, I think for what we want to get done, what I've seen on film when I've met with him I think he's a very talented athlete."

Parkway Academy (Miami)

wide receiver Keith Houston was a late commitment with an interesting story of his own. After transferring from Krop High School to Norland High School in August 2005 due to a supposed falling out with his coach, Houston was prohibited from playing football for his senior year. That led to schools like Miami (Fla.) and Ohio State dropping off his radar and giving UCF a chance to pick him up. He could push returning receivers Rocky Ross and Willie Thornton for the starting spot opposite Walker in 2006.

"He had committed to Illinois initially, he was obviously on the radar at Florida when (then Florida, now Illinois Coach) Ron Zook was there," O'Leary said.

O'Leary credited his assistant coaches for the strong class and said there was one thing he would not promise a recruit.

"I didn't promise anybody a starting position," O'Leary said. "The only thing I promised each and every athlete that we brought in is that they'll graduate as long as they want to graduate."

## Women's team falters despite solid effort

FROM A11

points. Six Blazers scored in double figures on Sunday. Five of those six, like Ingram and Jones, did not start the game. The Blazers' reserves accounted for 65 of the team's total points.

Regardless of the defenses they showed, the Knights just could not stop the Blazers when it counted. UAB's 90 points were the most recorded by the Blazers since a 95-73 victory over Florida Atlantic on Dec. 19, 2003.

The Knights' loss overshadowed a near-perfect game for senior forward Shelby Weber.

She left Birmingham with a career-high 25 points on eight-of-nine shooting from the field and a perfect nine-of-nine from the foul line.

"She's capable of doing that every night," Striegler said of Weber, "and if she hits her first shot, she is a lot more apt to continue to shoot the ball. But, she knocked her first one down and we kept going back to her and she had some really big shots for us throughout the night."

The Blazers improved to 11-8 overall and 4-4 in Conference USA. The Knights fell to 5-15, 3-6 in C-USA. They rank 11th out of

the 12-team league.

The Knights stay on the road for their next game against Southern Mississippi on Saturday night. The Lady Eagles (9-11, 6-3 in conference play) are winners of four of their last five and sit in third place in Conference USA.

When the Eagles and Knights met back on New Year's Eve in Orlando, the visitors earned a 61-50 victory. In that game, the Knights shot just 34 percent from the field and converted eight-of-16 free throws.

The Knights face Southern Miss on Saturday at 6 p.m.

## CSTV puts men's team in the spotlight again



The UCF men's basketball team will hope to pick up a win during its first-ever home game on national television.

FROM A11

"And a lot of other schools around the nation, when they're on national television, have a uniform look to their colors. I think it looks very school spirited and uniform, so we're trying to go for that look as well."

CSTV will broadcast the game between the Knights and Blazers. It marks the second time in a week that the men's basketball team will play on national television. Last Saturday, UCF lost a road game to Memphis, which was also carried by CSTV.

"We need everybody's sup-

port for this game," Eller said. "It's a critical time as far as conference play is going, and this is a big showing for our team and our university and national television."

Saturday will also be a day to remember the remarkable turnaround of the 2005 UCF football team.

At halftime, the UCF Athletics Association will honor Coach George O'Leary and his team. Last season, the Knights captured the C-USA East Division, winning their last five games of the regular season and earning a spot in the C-USA Championship Game.

## Men's basketball team could be on the verge of big run

FROM A11

the highest athletic exposure ever to hit UCF's main campus.

It has been a rocky road for the UCF men's basketball team this year, which is to be expected. They are playing undoubtedly the toughest schedule in school history and are now in one of the better basketball conferences in the nation.

No disrespect to the Atlantic Sun, but it has nothing on Conference USA.

Despite the roller-coaster ride, the team is actually sitting pretty in C-USA. With a 3-2 C-USA record, the Knights sit behind only Memphis (5-0), UAB (5-1) and UTEP (5-1). A win against UAB on Saturday could go a long way toward the Knights making a run in C-USA.

A win over UAB could provide the spark that UCF needs to make that run, and, if history holds true, that run is coming. In the last three years, UCF has been 21-9 in the months of February and March.

UCF has a lot to play for. If the Knights could make a run over the next few weeks, there is more than a good chance that they could be hosting another game on national television. The ESPN family tele-

vises the National Invitation Tournament. Wouldn't it be something to see a first-round game live from the UCF Arena?

We all saw the fans get behind the UCF football team this season. More than 5,000 fans made the trek to Tampa to watch the Knights lose their nation-leading 17th game in a row.

So, it isn't that much of a stretch to get 5,000 fans to make the comparatively short trip to the UCF Arena on Saturday afternoon, especially to watch a team that has been successful in a far more meaningful game.

UCF Sports Marketing and the team — which have been seeking the support of the student body all year — are asking fans to come out and show their support by wearing all black.

Everyone has a black shirt, and tickets are free for UCF students, so there's no reason that this shouldn't be the most highly attended game this season.

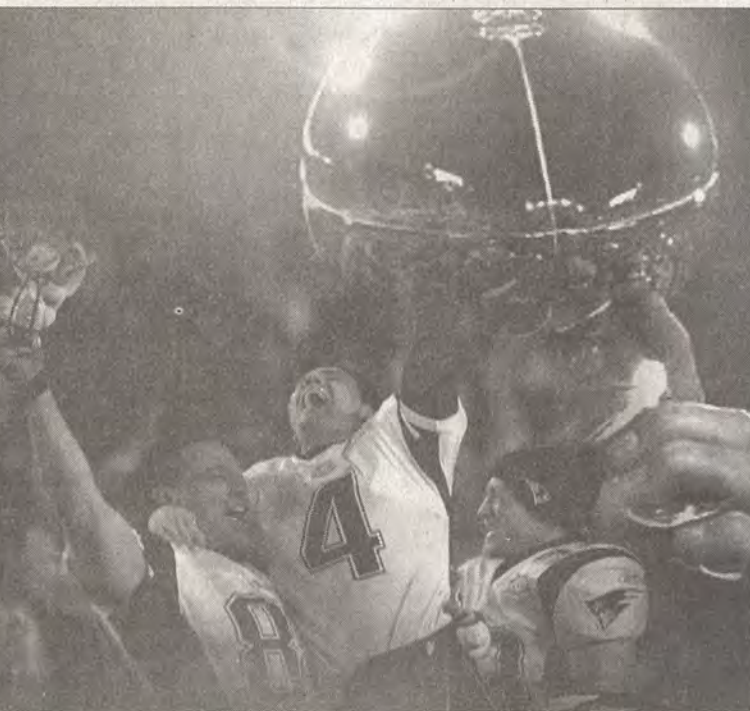
Besides, the 3 p.m. starting time is late enough for your hangover to be mostly gone and too early to interfere with your Saturday-night excitement.

Andy Vasquez can be reached at [sports@UCFnews.com](mailto:sports@UCFnews.com)

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- Overall US automotive fuel efficiency has fallen 8% since 1988
- Known oil production and reserves will barely meet world-wide demand through the year 2030
- Over \$220 billion dollars per year is spent purchasing foreign oil, with \$40 billion going to Saudi Arabia alone

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OUR STANCE

## State of the Union just empty promises

President George W. Bush delivered his State of the Union address Tuesday night, and he didn't fail to provide Americans with everything they've grown to expect from the annual speech: too many patriotic one-liners broken up by hollow applause and reinforced with equally hollow promises.

Bush opened by noting the death that day of, and his admiration and respect for, Coretta Scott King, the widow of slain civil-rights leader Martin Luther King Jr.

Bush's respectful praise was short-lived as he immediately returned to the matter at hand and told the nation that the union is strong, and he expects Republicans and Democrats to work together to make it stronger in the coming year.

It would take a miracle for any president to recognize failure within his own administration, but to refer to the state of the current union as strong is a leap of unimaginable faith.

Between the typical barrages of applause from Bush's supporters, he tackled the challenges facing his second term from the war in Iraq to domestic surveillance.

Fighting terrorism was the initial theme, and Bush started off by offering every human's right to freedom as the reasoning behind more than 130,000 troops continuing to fight in the Middle East.

He said that countries who do not exist under a veil of

democracy must eventually offer its citizens the same freedoms of democratic countries.

Interestingly, Bush used Syria, Burma, Zimbabwe, Iran and North Korea as examples of nations depriving its people of freedom, but then called the main source of democratic opposition the nation of Islam.

It's one thing to call out a group of countries that are already entangled in poor relations with the U.S., but to throw in an entire religion before backtracking to blame only those who misinterpret Islam is a dangerous game of ignorance.

But it wasn't his accusations of democratic injustice that raised a collective eyebrow concerning military presence in the Middle East. Bush asserted that the U.S. would remain in Iraq and other surrounding countries until the fight against terrorism is a victory because "there is no peace in retreat" and "there is no honor in retreat."

What Bush should have included as well is that there is no honor in an American soldier being killed for a drawn-out war based on false intelligence.

The trouble of his address, though, is the answers and the plans Bush has for solving any potential crisis in addition to the war. Year in and year out, every president makes claims that most never see come to fruition.

In his past four State of the Union addresses, Bush has promised national health care reform, improved and consistent

Social Security planning and an end to al-Qaeda.

To this day, the U.S. does not offer internationally competitive health care, and terrorist groups are on the rise at an alarmingly progressive rate.

Bush also recognized that the generation once endearingly referred to as "baby boomers" has now reached its retirement age. Social Security is about to take a crippling hit, and there is still no solution in sight.

Bush called the looming Social Security threat a "challenge" as opposed to a "personal crisis."

It's fair to say that any middle-class 60-year-old baby boomer faced with retirement after a blue-collar career isn't concerned with banding together as a nation to face this challenge.

The 78 million people facing retirement this year are going to want their Social Security checks. They don't care about excuses.

There's a reason Social Security is taken from every person's paycheck and that's so they don't have as much to worry about when retirement comes.

Bush's vision for the final years of his second term is certainly optimistic and patriotic.

Bush has always had a solid grasp of what is important to the people of the free world.

The difference is that it's time to stop promising and start fulfilling. Maybe then he'll deserve a round of applause.



SPAIN FISCHER / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

READER VIEWS

### Drug rule should stay intact

The resolution backed by NORML displays exactly the kind of stereotypical convoluted logic one would expect from [the group]. That is not to insult NORML; indeed under the right circumstances, I too, would probably vote for the legalization of soft drugs.

However, I am opposed to those pushing for a resolution that would end the denial of financial aid to convicted drug users and dealers. The rules as they currently exist are not unfair or discriminatory and are not even really that harsh. It takes three convictions for a drug user or two convictions for a dealer to be indefinitely denied financial aid. There are a host of other reasons why these provisions are right, but in the interest of brevity, I will stick to refuting the points made by Sen. [Tina] Kimball and Sen. Caroline [Talev] in the Jan. 30 article. ["Students: Repeal drug rule"]

1. It hurts low-income families. There is no guaranteed right to financial aid. It is a privilege. If more people from low-income families become drug using/dealing criminals then that is indicative of societal problems that need to be fixed. Reducing the negative ramifications of criminal actions like drug use is no way to help low-income families.

2. It has a discriminatory impact. There is nothing wrong with discriminating against criminals. There are situations when a criminal's right to vote is suspended. There are parole and offender registration programs, as well as many other practices where constitutionality has been questioned and upheld. The argument that no other class of offenders is subject to these rules is more applicable as an argument to broaden the rules' application, not to strike it down.

3. It punishes students twice for the same crime. As said above, there are numerous practices that technically punish people multiple times for the same crime. However, in this case especially, it is not an additional criminal sanction, simply the denial of a privilege that no one is guaranteed.

4. It won't solve the nation's drug problem. No, this measure won't solve the drug prob-

lem. However, it is not intended to. It is meant to solve the "drug users/dealers getting aid when non-criminals cannot" problem. It provides one more needed deterrent to those who break the law by using and selling drugs, and it helps reward those who do not. It would be more damaging to society and to good sense to give badly needed resources to criminals while taking them away from law-abiding citizens. I am more concerned that the hardworking, law-abiding families, who are too often denied financial aid, receive whatever we can give.

5. Taking away aid may steer students away from education and into a cycle of failure. The argument that taking away financial aid from drug dealers might send them into a downward spiral holds no more merit than any of the others. I would point out that the downward spiral began long before financial aid was ever denied to them, probably with or before their decision to engage in activities that are against the law. Removing penalties for breaking the law will do more damage by reinforcing the idea that selling and using drugs is acceptable. It will remove one worry or consideration that might stop someone from breaking the law and entering that cycle of failure.

I am not unsympathetic to NORML's cause or to those who might sincerely benefit from the aid despite past mistakes. I am more sympathetic, however, to the students with no history of drug-related criminal activity that might also benefit from the same aid. There are no good reasons to repeal these rules. There is nothing wrong with saying no to drug dealers who want help paying for education. Perhaps those working for this cause should spend their time counseling others not to break the law and telling them to save their money for school instead of spending it on illegal drugs.

If a majority of the senators' constituents really are behind repealing the provisions then I suggest a more moderate course of reform like that offered by Sen. [James] Diroff.

— DAVID A. FEAR  
GRADUATE STUDENT

OUR STANCE

## Free legal advice levels playing field

The first thing any good lawyer will tell a friend or relative who comes to him for legal advice is "Never represent yourself."

It seems obvious enough. The legal system is by far an insider system, geared for the use of lawyers, judges and other legal professionals.

Some might even argue that it is a self-perpetuating system that serves to make lawyers more and more necessary for even the simplest legal maneuver.

In a word, it's complicated. So what happens to someone who can't afford an attorney but has a legitimate lawsuit?

The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in Chicago has opened a free help desk to assist people who file pro se federal lawsuits, meaning they represent themselves in court. Unusual though this action is, as it's unprecedented in federal courts, it will help many people in many ways.

The laws that govern this country are not simple, and though the U.S. boasts the highest per capita rate of lawyers in the world, as a whole they rarely work cheap.

At the same time, just because a person cannot afford a lawyer does not mean their case is worthless. In a perfect world,

somehow by magic, people with reasonable, legitimate suits would get lawyers and people with frivolous, unjustifiable ones would be denied the privilege. However, the world is not perfect.

More often than not, frivolous lawsuits are brought to court by lawyers while justified suits are either ignored because the person who would file them can't afford a lawyer or is lost in the bureaucratic maze of paperwork that is the U.S. legal system.

Chicago's solution, one that has been in use in many state courts for a few years, provides a two-fold solution. It helps people with legitimate cases while filtering out many of the frivolous cases or cases that do not belong in federal court.

District Judge William J. Hibbler, who was involved in the founding of the program, summed up the program when he told *The Washington Post*, "Lots of times we've had pro se complaints that are totally gibberish. Trying to make heads or tails of their complaints was a big effort."

"There might be a kernel of a case there, but it's so poorly articulated that it gets dismissed. People need technical help to formulate complaints in such a fashion that we can deal with

them."

This is how the process works: If someone thinks he has a valid case, he goes to the lawyer with federal court experience who staffs the help desk full time. If the lawyer thinks the complainant has a valid case, the lawyer will help prepare the complaint, related papers and filings.

As it would be near impossible for one lawyer to be an expert on all matters that fall under the umbrella of federal court, student loans, bankruptcy, employment discrimination and administrative issues with Social Security being a few, the help-desk lawyer has access to a staff and to other lawyers.

This will help a variety of people. In the Northern District of Illinois alone, more than 1,000 people representing themselves filed lawsuits, on topics varying from civil rights to patents. The ability to pay a lawyer should not determine a case's success.

It is hoped that this is an idea that will catch on in other federal courts. State and circuit courts and bankruptcy courts around the country have successfully implemented similar programs.

It's now the federal courts' turn to give this potentially very useful part of the justice system a shot.

## MAN ON THE STREET

### THE WORD AROUND CAMPUS

## 'Who do you want to win the Super Bowl?'



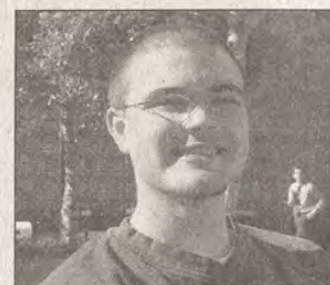
**SOBIAH IMAM**  
Microbiology

"Seattle because Michelle wants them to win."



**MICHELLE JOSEY**  
Forensic science

"Seattle because I'm going to Seattle in February."



**NEIL BEAUGARD**  
Forensic science

"Seattle because I hate Pittsburgh. I hate all of Pittsburgh's teams."



**MATT SEALY**  
Aerospace engineering

"Seattle because everyone else is going for the Steelers."



**ERIKA GEIER**  
Hospitality management

"I don't even know who's playing. I am just gonna watch for the hell of it."



**NIKKI LIVELY**  
Business

"The Seahawks. I am not a big fan of either team."

## Central Florida Future

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## And the Academy Award goes to ... some movie I have never seen

Don't worry, no Super Bowl chatter today.

I'm as tired of thinking about it as everyone else from Detroit to the Himalayas is of reading about it. In fact, no matter what happens, I'll be so glad when it's over. Besides, we make too much of a big deal about the Super Bowl anyway.

Everyone knows the true definition of a professional football player isn't whether or not he can win some oversized ring. The measure of a man is how he performs in the NFL Pro Bowl. For one glorious day, grossly overpaid athletes half-ass a game in Hawaii just so they can spend the rest of the weekend making sexual innuendos about leis.

That's what truly defines a professional football player. What defines the rest of us? Well, a tirade, of course ...

The Academy Award nominations were released this week, and the competition is tighter than — on second thought, I promised no *Brokeback Mountain* jokes, so let's just say the competition is heated.

While the *Future* has an excellent movie expert, William Goss, I wanted to take a stab at my predictions anyway. It was a very tough process for me because these movies and actors were all so great, or at least people told me so.

For best picture, the nominees are *Brokeback Mountain*, *Capote*, *Crash*, *Good Night, and Good Luck*, and *Munich*. This is such an incredibly close race this year, especially considering I didn't see any of these movies.

I watched five minutes of *Crash* one day, but *Fletch* was on TBS, and who knows the next time that will be shown?

I may not have seen any of these, but I know one solid fact that will predict the outcome of this category: Black-and-white movies mean business. *Good Night, and Good Luck* is the only black-and-white movie nominated this year, so it wins. This cannot be refuted.



**ASHLEY BURNS**

Managing Editor

The best actor nominees are Philip Seymour Hoffman in *Capote*, Terrence Howard in *Hustle & Flow*, Heath Ledger in *Brokeback Mountain*, Joaquin Phoenix in *Walk the Line* and David Strathairn in *Good Night, and Good Luck*. Again, we're in a bit of trouble here because I've only seen one of these movies. So I'm going with an old corollary for this prediction. I'm going to look at past movies.

Aside from *Boogie Nights*, Hoffman's movie history reads like the ingredient list on a bottle of extra-drowsy cough syrup. Ledger? Three words: *A Knight's Tale*. That should haunt him for the rest of his career.

Phoenix was in *Signs*, and I still haven't received my check for \$7 from M. Night Shamalamadingdong for seeing that dud. Strathairn was in *Eight Men Out*, and bad baseball movies enrage me.

As for Howard, he was in *Four Brothers*, which is one of the most re-watchable movies in recent history. But his turn as a pimp-gone-rapper in *Hustle & Flow*, which I saw, was pretty damn good. He gets my Oscar nod, but the fact that Ludacris wasn't nominated for supporting actor is a crime.

As for best actress, the nominees are Judi Dench in *Mrs. Henderson Presents*, Felicity Huffman in *Transamerica*, Keira Knightley in *Pride & Prejudice*, Charlize Theron in *North Country* and Reese Witherspoon in *Walk the Line*.

I'll use the prior corollary for

this category, considering I have seen a whopping zero of these movies as well.

I know, too, that some people would expect me to award best actress based on physical merit, but I won't because that's not fair to Dench, who I'm sure was quite the cockney hottie back in her day. But Dench plays M in the latest James Bond movies, and that's a good push for her.

Theron has so many movies that I love, but the trash live-action version of *Aeon Flux* that she starred in was a direct slap in the face to the original cult classic's fans.

Knightley? Five words: My name is Domino Harvey. Pick your poison with Witherspoon. I'd rather shoot nails into my eyes than watch either *Legally Blonde* movie.

My money is on Huffman, who could have been the first actress ever to be nominated for best actor and actress ...

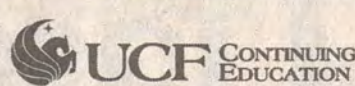
Lindsay Lohan needed 10 stitches after she was cut by a shattered teacup while she and some friends were cooking breakfast the other morning. In a related story, *The Associated Press* is facing termination after allowing a story about Lohan being cut by a teacup to be considered news ...

Anyone who has purchased The Pussycat Dolls' CD should lose their ability to hear for one month ...

Finally, I'd like to thank Hallmark, Victoria's Secret and the rest of the stores in any mall on the face of the planet, The Vermont Teddy Bear Company, every franchise restaurant in Central Florida, network television, cable TV, every women's magazine ever printed in the entire history of magazines, and every girl who has a pulse for reminding men everywhere that Valentine's Day is right around the corner.

I mean it in all sincerity when I say "Bah humbug."

Ashley Burns can be reached at [Editor@UCFnews.com](mailto:Editor@UCFnews.com)

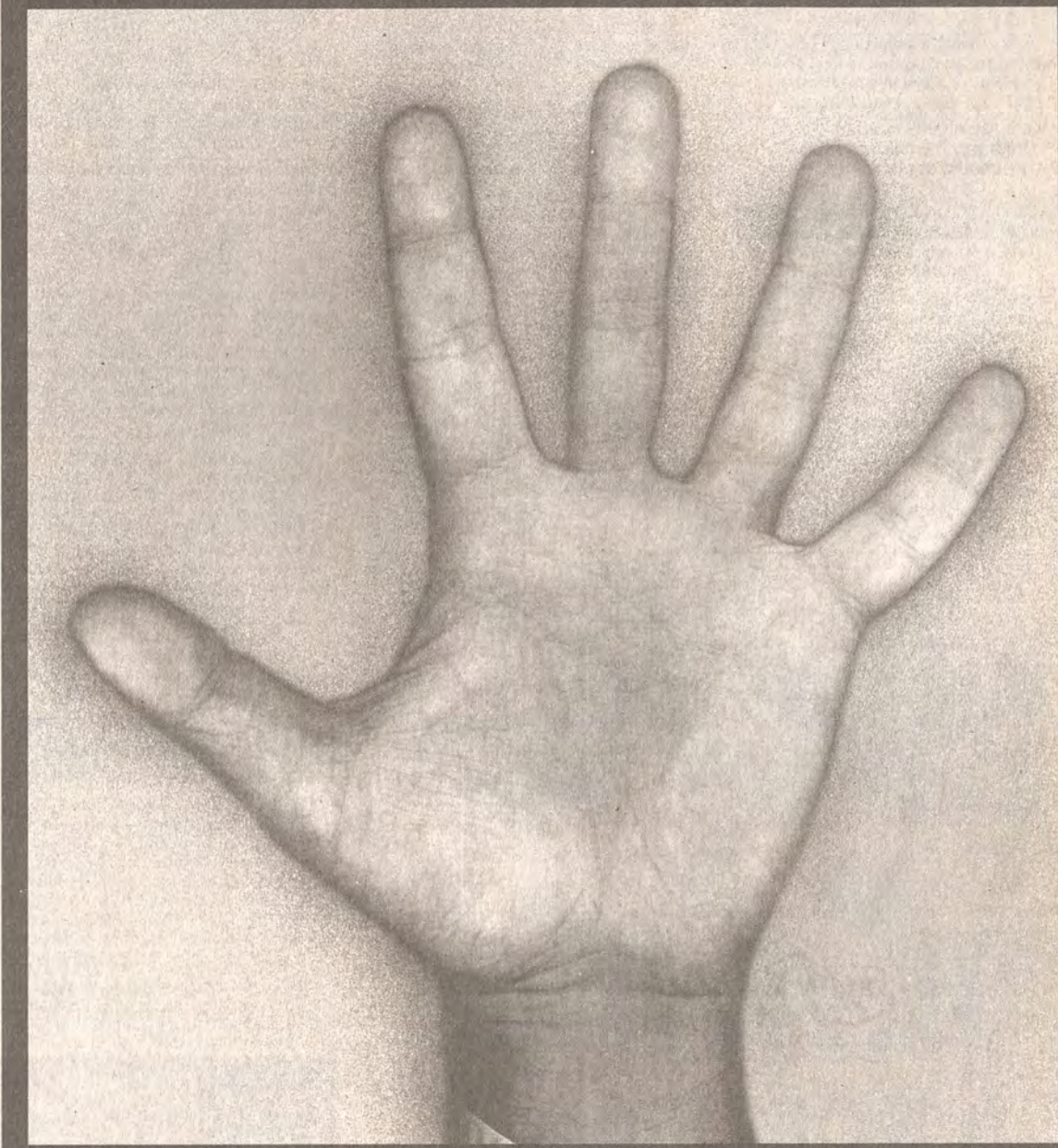


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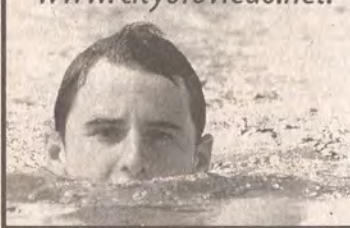
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### 250 FOR RENT: Roommates

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- Rara
  - Grad. degree
  - Madame Bovary
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  - Still not up
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  - Blacksmith, at times
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Crossword solution in Monday's classifieds

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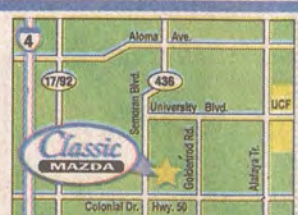
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