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"Central Florida Future, Vol. 38 No. 47, February 20, 2006" (2006). *Central Florida Future*. 1883. https://stars.library.ucf.edu/centralfloridafuture/1883 **OPINIONS: FUTURE ENDORSES WHITE/STOUT - SEE A15**

AMNESIA, PLEASE

Men's and women's sports put week of disappointment behind — SEE SPORTS, A11



NO WINTER GAMES Greeks welcome the change of season with Spring Fling event

- SEE NEWS, A8



Candidates for lead position debate issues

Campaigning teams work the crowd, abandoning podiums to interact, directly address students

MARK JUSTICE Senior Staff Writer

The students hoping to be the next leaders of the SGA squared off in the Student Union on Thursday in what many are calling the most active debate to take place on campus in years.

The candidates addressed questions posed to them by a moderator and spent about 30 minutes answering questions from the audience. In a stark contrast from SGA debates of years past, the event got off to a heated start when vice presidential candidate Eric Eingold declared that his running mate, Matt DeVlieger, and •he were "the only ticket brave enough to promote an enrollment cap." The ticket views such action as a more effective solution to the parking problems currently facing the university.

The debate was soon taken to another level when vice presidential candidate Craig Alles left the shelter of

In a stark contrast from SGA bates of years past, the event got off a heated start when vice presidential ndidate Eric Eingold declared that s running mate, Matt DeVlieger, and

"I noticed the debate becoming a bit stale, so I decided to move out from behind the [lectern] and level with the audience," Alles said after the debate.

Mark White advocated for a more diverse use of SGA funds, citing large allocations to one or two programs such as Universal Knights as wasteful

crowd. and saying, "SGA has been on autopi-Vlieger- lot for two years."

DeVlieger quickly responded to White's remarks. He noted that White had held two of the most influential Student Government positions during the past two years, including his current role as president of the Senate.

"If SGA is on autopilot, no one is at the wheel," DeVlieger said. "Why is this plane flying itself?"

PLEASE SEE TICKETS ON A7

Going to the polls?

Voting for SGA Student Body president starts today and ends Wednesday. Students can vote at my.ucf.edu or at the tables set up in front of the Student Union. Students have to know their PID and password to vote.

The presidential and vice presidential tickets are: Matt DeVlieger and Eric Eingold, Joshua Eggnatz and Craig Alles, Richard Skandera and Ben Munson, and Mark White and Jared Stout.

Student hosts own version of TV's *Battlebots*

Small or large robots take more than 2 weeks to build

RACHEL ZALL Contributing Writer

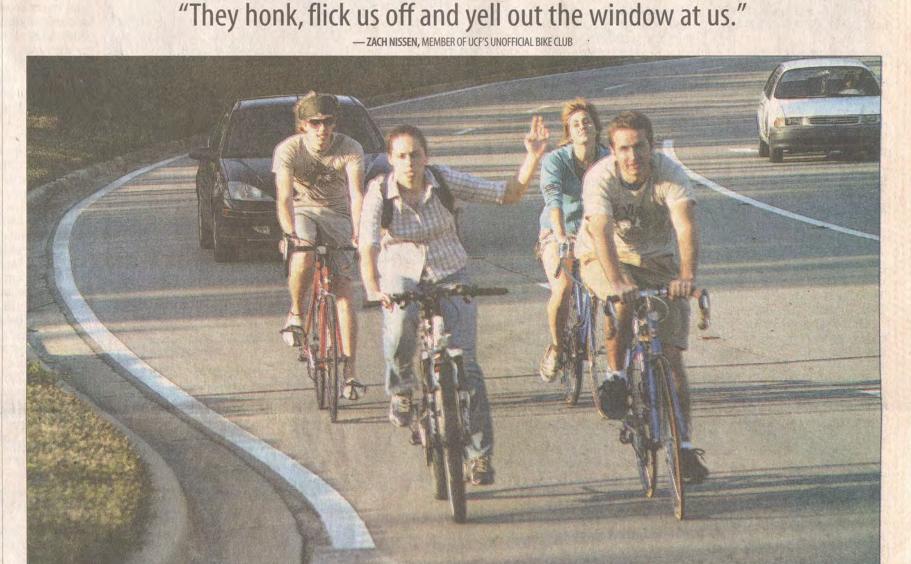
Mechanical Engineering major Phil Costanzo, 19, is bringing a new meaning to BYOB.

On Feb. 18, Costanzo held his second Bring Your Own Bots event in the Engineering II building.

The BYOB is an event that enables people of all ages from all over Florida to have their homemade robots fight in an 8-foot box constructed with a quarter of an inch thick bulletproof plastic for safety precautions.

Each robot must also have an original name. Robots are classified by weight, and each bot has two opportunities to fight another robot for two minutes.

If one robot is not knocked down or destroyed by the end of the fight, the judges decide the winner based on aggression and strategy, Costanzo coid



"It's kind of funny to see someone watching the event that has never seen it before," Costanzo said. "A blade will come at the wall, hit it, and I don't think they realize that the plastic will stop it."

On Saturday's event, there were 22 robots registered, Costanzo said. Costanzo's robot that he built for this competition cost him \$200 and weighed 1 pound. A robots' weight can range from 150 grams at the smallest to 340 pounds. at the largest and can take an average of two-and-a-half to three weeks to build, Costanzo said.

The winners of this event qualify for the Robot Fighting League national's event at the end of the year, but they must pay their own way to compete with other robot building champions from across the country.

Costanzo's interest in robots originally began when he was a freshman in high school. He was watching a television show on Comedy Central called *Battlebots* and decided to research it further. He discovered that there was a high school competition being organized and spent \$10 on a toy, put scrap metal on it and competed for the first time.

"I didn't do horribly, but it kind of broke after time," Costanzo said.

However, that didn't stop him from continuing to compete throughout high school and even until present day. One unique robot Costanzo has seen was a robot from *Battlebots* named "Megadon."

"It was made with six legs instead of wheels, three body sections and three of those sections of the body rotated around," Costanzo said. "It was incredible."

Competitors Jamison Go, 14, and Alex Grant, 17,

PLEASE SEE ROBOT ON A3

Rough riding

Members of the unofficial UCF bike club Zach Nissen, back left, Jen Whalen, back right, Dan Razzano, front right, and Jennifer Westerlund, front left, take a road trip around UCF every two weeks.

Unofficial club aims to protect its road rights

ANDREW VAN WART Contributing Writer

That bicycles and cars are separate but equal is the message pedaled by UCF's emerging unofficial bicycle club.

The club has its origins in founder Dan Razzano's parking frustrations. "I started the club the day it took me an hour to find parking at UCF," he said. However, the parking problem isn't the only reason for the bike club's endeavors.

Every two weeks, the bike club takes a road trip in the UCF area. Though small, the group is determined to send a message to motorists about its right to the road. When riding the group travels in a pack taking up a

Bike laws in Florida

 Florida public transportation statutes mandate that a bike lane be built on both sides of every major road where it would not interfere with public safety.

• Bicycles are considered motor vehicles and are required to obey traffic laws, use signals and have front and rear lights if riding at night.

• Two cyclists riding side by side are allowed their own lane of traffic.

lane of traffic.

Though many smile to see the group laughing and joking around with one another while waiting for lights to turn, not everyone is happy to see the bikers.

"For some reason, it makes drivers angry to have to go around us," said Zach Nissen, who rides a red Motobecane Mirage. "They honk, flick us off and yell out the window at us. Why is everyone in such a hurry to get to the next traffic light?"

Though the group's main purpose is to promote equality on the road for motorists, the members say there are side benefits.

"I don't have to pay for gas," said Jennifer

PLEASE SEE CLUB ON A2

ANDREW VAN WART / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE



ANDY VAN WART / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE UCF political science professor Bruce Wilson was an official observer of the 2006 Costa Rican elections in early February.

UCF Professor witnesses history at Costa Rican election

Bruce Wilson was part of a group of about 100 international observers

TAYLOR VERNARSKY Contributing Writer

Costa Rica recently had its 14th consecutive presidential election, which takes place every four years on the first Sunday of February, and UCF's own Bruce Wilson was there to witness it.

Wilson, an associate professor in the political science department since 2003,

served as an official observer for 10 days. The election, which was held on Feb. 5, was the third for Wilson; he attended the 1998 and 2002 elections as well.

Observers are usually made up of magistrates and the election tribunals of other Latin-American countries, but, because of Wilson's work in Costa Rican politics and judicial reform, he makes an ideal candidate to attend, as invited by the Supreme Election Tribunal.

"My presence is because of what I write about," Wilson said.

Wilson's book, *Costa Rica: Politics, Eco*nomics and *Democracy*, is the standard that others consult when writing and talking about Costa Rica, said Roger Handberg, professor and department chairman of the political science department.

Philip H. Pollock, another professor in the political science department and frequent collaborator with Wilson on his other area of research, the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, believes Wilson is well-suited for the job.

"I think he's the best," Pollock said. "There is a reason why they chose him to go to Costa Rica to cover the elections."

Wilson was part of a delegation of about 100 international observers to attend the

PLEASE SEE WILSON ON A7

AROUND CAMPUS

A2

News and notices for the UCF community

Applications for SGA justice seats SGA now has open justice

seats. Justices sit on a variety of appeal committees. Information and applica-

tions are available at the SGA office on the second floor of the Student Union. For more information, call

SGA at 407-823-3291.

Alex Martins to speak at UCF

UCF alumnus Alex Martins will speak at 7 p.m. today at the Visual Arts Auditorium.

Martins spent 18 years in professional sports management, including various senior-level management positions within the Orlando Magic between 1989-98.

For more information, call Stacey Malaret at 407-823-6492.

Learn by listening to languages

UCF's International Services Center will have language tables set up from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Barbara Ying Center.

Language tables allow UCF students to explore other cultures through language. Many languages will be offered.

For more information, call Paul Schatz at 407-823-5491.

Improve memory at SARC

The Student Academic Resource Center is offering an academic success workshop on memory and concentration from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. Tuesday in the Student Union Room 218A.

For more information, call SARC at 407-823-5130.

Millennial enthusiast at UCF

Best-selling author and national speaker Neil Howe will speak about his book, Millennials Rising: The Next Great Generation will speak at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Student Union Cape Florida Ballroom.

Howe's book focuses on today's post-X generation of kids and teens and where America's youth is heading.

For more information, call Belinda Boston at 407-823-6472.

International Culture Night

UCF's International Services Center will hold International Culture Night from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Thursday at

the Barbara Ying Center. This month will feature the Asian Student Association. There will be traditional dances, food, music and clothing.

Criminal justice club competes

UCF club, 2nd largest in the nation, aims to become best at upcoming conference

TIFFANY BECK Senior Staff Writer

Dragging bodies, investigating murders and shooting guns may seem like odd activities for UCF students to compete in. But for the 15 members of Lambda Alpha Epsilon who will be attending the American Criminal Justice Association's 69th National Conference in St. Charles, Ill., it is just a hint of things to come in their professional lives.

The name itself, Lambda Alpha Epsilon, stands for: "To detect, to adjudicate, to rehabilitate." This club, made up mostly of criminal justice or legal studies majors, has been active at UCF since 1992. With more than 72 members, the UCF chapter is second-largest in the nation, and it took home more awards than any other school at regional conference last fall.

"It's great networking and can help you promote yourself as a student in the criminal justice field," chapter President Pablo Vargas said.

Every other Wednesday, the club has guest speakers from the criminal justice field. It also spends time preparing for competitions.

At the upcoming national conference, the club will compete in events of physical agility and crime scene investigation. Some members will compete in a firearms competition that is unaffiliated due to liability.

At the competition, the club will also be taking different academic exams in areas such as juvenile justice, corrections, criminal law, and police management and operations.

The physical agility test is identical to the physical test required to get into the police academy. Students have to run an obstacle course that requires sprinting, jumping hurtles, climbing two walls and dragging a dummy 50 yards to simulate dragging a body. They

have to run the course in less than 5 minutes, 30 seconds.

Club SecretaryAmber Silvia said this test prepares students for the real world.

"In all actuality, at some point, you're going to have to run to chase somebody, or you're going to have to move a body out of the way," Silvia said. "It is a physical job, and, at some point, we're all going to have to face that.

"There's nothing routine about a CJ job. At any given moment in time, anything can change."

For the crime scene investigation competition, a hotel room is set up to look like a real crime scene with a person playing a murder victim. The students get a chance to view the murder scene and, based on the evidence they find, they have to come up with what type of crime it was, a possible motive and the type of weapon used. They also check for fingerprints, take pictures and write

up a police report.

The group that comes up with the most correct answers wins the competition.

"The first time I did it last. spring, I didn't quite know what was going on, but it was a great learning experience," said club member and criminal justice major Mike Cestare.

The club members who get to attend the competition had to go through tryouts within the club, especially for the obstacle course. After being picked to compete, the members start thinking about funding. Attending the event in Illinois is not cheap. The cost includes airfare, registration and lodging. This week, however, a bill working its way through SGA Senate would provide \$3,750, or about half of the club's expenses, to go on the trip this March. The club has been raising the remainder of the money through car washes and other

PLEASE SEE CRIMINAL ON A3

Club focuses on other benefits of biking

FROM A1

Westerlund, founding member and avid cyclist. "I don't have to pay for a parking pass, and I stay healthy." Westerlund, who rides to school almost every day from her house in Bonneville, commands respect from motorists with her confidence and aggressive hand signals.

On this week's trip, the group traveled south on Alafaya during five o'clock traffic. After scooting past traffic in Alafaya Trail's modest bike lane, it headed west down Lokanatosa Drive, shifting gears to the Blanchard Park Trail, where cyclists, joggers and other exercise enthusiasts get their own biggie-sized pathway that stretches from Alafaya Trail all the way to Forsythe Road. After several miles of riding down the Trail, the group stopped for refreshments at locally owned La Mundial Market, just off of Highway 50 near the intersection of Chickasaw Trail.

During its break, the group of cyclists, energized by the exercise, joked around with one another for a few minutes before heading back to UCF. As the sun went down, the group discussed about which route to take on the way home. The group agreed not to ride on any main roads because of the danger posed by its prospective invisibility to motorists.



ANDREW VAN WART / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE Members of the unofficial UCF bike club must be careful when riding. The club's main goal is to increase motorists' awareness of cyclers.

LOCAL WEATHER

relates things to bikes with the saying, 'It's just like riding a bike.' So why aren't more people riding?" said Jen Whalen, junior at UCF and active member of the bike club.

Nissen joined the group because of the benefits to the environment and the fun he has riding. "It's a more environmentally friendly way to see Orlando, and it's something fun to do with people who love biking,"

cyclists and motorists. Public transportation statutes state that every road should have an accompanying bike lane on both sides of the street wherever the lanes would not be contrary to public safety. But bicycle lanes around UCF are virtually nonexistent. Even University Boulevard, the main road leading to campus, lacks a bike lane.

Also under Florida law, bicycles are considered to be a motor vehicle. This means that cyclists must ride in the road and not on the sidewalk. In fact, bike riders can get a citation for riding on the sidewalk and riding in the road doesn't afford bikers the luxuries of a pedestrian; they must obey all traffic control laws and use proper signals to indicate turning or changing lanes. If riding at night, Florida law also states that the bicycle must have both rear and front lights. Also, the law also states that cyclists riding in pairs are allowed their own lane of traffic.

"I ride my bike to school every day," Razzano said. "By starting a bike club, I'm hoping to get people that live within a couple miles of campus to consider doing the same. It would save students a lot of hassle and

NATION & WORLD

Keep current with headlinesyou may have missed

Rescuers dig in after Philippines mudslides; no survivors expected

GUINSAUGON, Philippines - Workers began burying victims of a huge mudslide in a mass grave Sunday as hopes of finding more survivors all but evaporated.

Exhausted rescue teams dug through unstable mud at a buried elementary school and village hall where hundreds were trapped inside when a river of mud swept over the farming village of Guinsaugon, killing nearly all its 1,857 people.

With bodies decomposing quickly in the tropical heat, officials ordered the burial of 30 unidentified bodies Sunday at a cemetery about five miles from the wrecked village. Twenty more bodies were to be buried there Monday.

Under a light drizzle, a Roman Catholic priest sprinkled holy water on the bodies, some wrapped in bags, others in cheap wooden coffins, then said a prayer. Volunteers low-ered the bodies to men who placed them side by side at the bottom of the grave.

The only witnesses were local health department officials, the provincial governor, some of her staff and a few other people. Some of the few survivors watched from the window of a nearby Catholic school.

No one had been found alive since Friday, when a mountainside collapsed on Guinsaugon after weeks of torrential rain on slopes that villagers said were unstable after heavy illegal logging.

Officials had said 57 survivors were pulled from the mud Friday, but on Sunday lowered the number to 20 without explanation. At least 72 bodies had been recovered, including 14 on Sunday.

Lawmakers call for rehaul of FEMA before hurricane season

WASHINGTON — The Federal Emergency Management Agency should be dissolved and rebuilt before the upcoming hurricane season, a Democratic senator said Sunday.

"FEMA has become, to many people in America, and particularly the Gulf Coast, a joke, a four-letter word," said Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., and a member of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee. He favored keeping the agency within the Homeland Security Department. FEMA was independent before it was folded into Homeland Security when the department was created after the Sept. 11 attacks. Rep. Tom Davis, R-Va., a member of the House Homeland Security Committee, said he favored making FEMA a Cabinet department. Davis said FEMA should not be competing for dollars within a department concerned with prevention as well as response, said Davis,

For more information, call Paul Schatz at 407-823-5491.

Black Atlantic Film Series

African American Studies and the UCF Libraries present the Black Atlantic Film Series every Tuesday this month in the Library Room 223.

For more information, call Brittany Bernstein at 407-823-0026.

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@ucfnews.com. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Tuesday for the Thursday edition, and 5 p.m. Friday for the Monday edition.

With gas prices at almost \$3 per gallon, some group members wonder why biking isn't more popular. "Everyone

The sentiments vary among, members of the club regarding driving as a means of transportation. However, it seems that most of them agree that cycling is their preferred method for getting from point A to point B.

he said. The Florida Greenbook, which outlines state laws for cyclist and pedestrian safety in the state of Florida, mandates that every road be constructed with adequate regard to both

money.

Bike Club UCF meets biweekly at 4:30 p.m. on Fridays at the gazebo outside of the UCF Bookstore. For more information and to join the mailing list, send an e-mail to Razzano

bikeucf@hotmail.com.

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Robot rumblers enjoy competition

FROM A

also originally learned about these competitions from Battlebots.

Grant was immediately , hooked on the concept. His first competition was at a forum in January 2002 in Alachua, Fla. with other veteran builders.

He made his first robot out of a tackle box, drill motives, lawnmower wheels and added a lamp on the front of it, Grant said.

Since then, Grant has placed first in the 30 competitions he has attended. He even went to the national competition this year in San Francisco.

Although he didn't win the \$10,000 prize and a trophy, there are other prizes that winners receive besides just a trophy and bragging rights.

"At some events, you can get really nice battery packs that you would normally use, or \$300 top of the line weapon motors," Grant said.

Unlike Grant, Go has only > been competing for about a year and a half, but he has only

lost two competitions ever, he said. He enjoys learning about the robots and engineering concepts, but he has other ulterior motives.

This is my pathway to engineering because that's what I want to do," Go said.

But sometimes winning can be secondary to having fun in these competitions.

"Everyone competes for different reasons," Costanzo said. "Some get pretty competitive and go all out. Others treat it simply as a hobby.

Some are interested in engineering and are considering pursuing it as a career, and some of the older competitors use it as a fun activity they can share with their kids."

While Grant may be competitive with his robots, he mostly enjoys the people he has met.

"We have such a great group of guys," Grant said. "There is so much personality and diversity, and it is just so much fun to get away from everything and hang out.

Since the time I was 12, the robot builders have been pretty much my best friends."

Criminal justice not just about being a cop

FROM A2

fundraisers.

The club is also hosting its own event. This Wednesday, in the Pegasus Ballroom, the club is holding a career fair. More than 90 federal, local and state agencies will be attending, including representatives from the FBI, CIA, UCF Police and eight law schools.

Vargas said criminal justice is a growing major at UCF and can present a wide range of job opportunities.

"It's a big misconception that if you are a CJ major you can only be a police officer," Silvia said. She said other job titles include corrections officer, probations officer, juvenile probation officer, victim's advocate or lawyer.

Silvia said that her overall goal is to work in investigations.

What stands out about the members of this club is their enthusiasm and sense of duty.

"It's kind of one of those fields you get into where you know the money's not going to be great, but there's going to be that sense of helping the community," Vargas said.



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The Health Center is still offering free flu shots to students. Call to make an appointment.

HIGHER EDUCATION

What's in the news at colleges around the country

BYU professor resigns after being arrested for voyeur photos

PROVO, Útah — An assistant professor at Brigham Young University resigned from his job Friday after he was arrested for investigation of exploitation of a minor and voyeurism, authorities said.

Robert Bentley Jackson, 63, was booked into the Utah County jail on Thursday. He was released on \$7,500 bail Friday, police said.

Jackson, who was an assistant professor of information systems at the Marriott School of Management, resigned Friday, said Carri Jenkins, BYU spokeswoman.

The state Division of Family Services notified Provo police Thursday that photos may have been taken of a girl under 16, said Capt. Rick Healey. Police searched Jackson's computer and found video clips showing a girl undressing, Healey said.

Court documents show the images were recorded without the girl's knowledge in a private residence, KSL-TV reported.

University of Pittsburgh student arrested for soliciting murder

BRADFORD, Pa. — A University of Pittsburgh at Bradford student was arrested on campus and taken back to Illinois, authorities said.

Nursing student Raquel Jaquez, 24, was arrested by university police and Chicago police on a fugitive from justice charge on Wednesday night.

Jaquez was wanted in Chicago on a solicitation of murder charge, which typically means that police think the suspect hired or tried to hire someone to commit murder, McKean County Sheriff Bradley Mason said Friday.

Mason told The Bradford Era in Friday's edition that officials from Chicago had referred to Jaquez before her arrest as "armed and dangerous."

Jaquez surrendered without incident, university police chief Dan Songer said, referring all other questions to Chicago police. Chicago Police Det. Saul Del Rivero declined comment on Friday and a message left for Del Rivero's sergeant was not immediately returned.

Jaquez had been studying at Pitt-Bradford for two years and had no problems at school, university spokesman Pat Frantz Cercone said. Mason said Jaquez waived her right to fight extradition during an appearance in McKean County Court on Thursday. She was held in the county jail before being transported back to Chicago early Friday, a jail official said.



The sun sets on a sub zero day behind the skyline of Milwaukee, Saturday, Feb. 18, 2006, as icicles along the Harbor walk frame the scene.

who appeared with Lieberman on ABC's "This Week."

FROM AZ

Chertoff said that is FEMA were taken out of his department, "I predict with virtual certainty that we will be much less prepared in this hurricane season than if we keep the department together and finish the job on integrating."

Chertoff as well as FEMA and the Homeland Security Department were roundly criticized by a House report issued last week on the government response to Hurricane Katrina last summer.

Chertoff, noting that his department was just two years old when Katrina hit in August, said improvements have followed in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. But he acknowledged that much more work remains in its disaster management.

Thousands in Northeast blacked out by bitter snowstorm

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — A deep freeze stretched from the Rockies to New England on Sunday as workers tried to restore power to tens of thousands of homes and businesses left dark by fierce wind that also was blamed for four deaths.

Rochester had a low of 10 degrees Sunday morning, and wind of up to 17 mph made it feel like almost 10 below zero, the National Weather Service said. In the Upper Midwest, the 8 a.m. reading of 2 below zero at Duluth, Minn., combined with 17 mph wind for a wind chill of 23 below.

As far south as Arkansas, Little Rock had a Sunday morning low of just 18. Farther west, Alliance, Neb., bottomed out at 8 below, the Christians also have become targets. Pakistani Muslims protesting in the southern city of Sukkur ransacked and burned a church Sunday after hearing accusations that a Christian man had burned pages of the Quran, Islam's holy book.

That incident came a day after Muslims protesting in the Nigerian city of Maiduguri attacked Christians and burned 15 churches in a threehour rampage that killed at least 15 people. Some 30 other people have died during protests over the cartoons that erupted about three weeks ago.

In Jakarta, about 400 people marched to the heavily fortified U.S. mission in the center of the city, behind a banner reading "We are ready to attack the enemies of the Prophet."

Protesters throwing stones and brandishing wooden staves tried to break through the gates. They set fire to U.S. flags and a poster of President Bush and smashed the windows of a guard outpost before dispersing after a few minutes.

The U.S. Embassy called the attacks deplorable, describing them as acts of "thuggery."

India begins mass slaughter of birds as Italy reports more flu

BOMBAY, India — Health officials and farm workers in protective gloves and masks slaughtered thousands of chickens Sunday in western India, a day after the country's first reported outbreak of deadly bird flu.

Officials near the affected area reported that a 27-yearold poultry farm owner had died of bird-flu-like symp-

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Tuition spikes 8 percent under new Carnegie Mellon system

PITTSBURGH — Freshmen entering Carnegie Mellon University this fall will pay 8 percent more than current freshmen under a new tiered price system.

Under the system approved by university trustees Friday, there also will be 4.4 percent increases in tuition for sophomores, juniors and seniors.

New students will pay \$34,180 annually for tuition, an increase of \$2,530, according to the university. Tuition for other undergraduates will increase by \$33,050, an increase of \$1,400. Fifth-year students will shell out \$32,560, or \$1,375 more, for their tuition.

Carnegie Mellon also raised room costs 4.9 percent to \$5,440 and board 2.8 percent to \$3,800.

The university defended the hikes, saying they're necessary to maintain and enhance academic programs.

The tiered system places a greater financial burden on students who have not yet enrolled and are more easily able to rethink their plans based on price, the university said.

University officials said the number of applications for the 2006-07 school year rose 20 percent, to 18,493, from 2005-06.

-ASSOCIATED PRESS

weather service said.

The frigid temperatures forced officials in Madison, Wis., which had a high of 3 degrees on Saturday, to cancel the "Polar Plunge" into a lake, a fundraiser for the Special Olympics. Hayward had a low of 26 below zero on Saturday. Utility officials in New

York said crews would work through the weekend to restore power. Utilities reported at least 56,000 homes and business still without electricity Sunday, down from a peak of 328,000 customers blacked out Friday when wind gusted to 77 mph at Rochester.

Thousands of customers also lost power in Michigan, New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont, where the National Weather Service reported a wind gust of 143 mph on Stratton Mountain.

Muslims assault U.S. embassy in Indonesia over prophet cartoons

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Hundreds of Muslims protesting caricatures of the Prophet Muhammad tried to storm the U.S. Embassy on Sunday, smashing the windows of a guard post but failing to push through the gates. Several people were injured.

Pakistani security forces, meanwhile, sealed off the capital of Islamabad to block a planned mass demonstration and fired tear gas and gunshots to chase off protesters. In Turkey, tens of thousands gathered in Istanbul chanting slogans against Denmark, Israel and the United States.

Protests over the cartoons, which first appeared in a Danish newspaper in September and have been republished in other European publications and elsewhere, have swept across the Muslim world, growing into mass outlets for rage against the West in general, and Israel and the United States in particular. toms. Laboratory tests were pending and the case remained unconfirmed.

In Italy, a dead wild duck and six wild swans tested positive for the highly virulent H5NI strain of bird flu, bringing the country's number of confirmed cases to 16, the Italian Health Ministry said Sunday.

Italian poultry sales have dropped 70 percent despite government efforts to isolate outbreaks and reassure consumers and poultry farmers warned that, without state aid, thousands would be out of business within a week.

German authorities also ordered a limited slaughter of poultry on a Baltic Sea island to prevent the spread of H5N1 from wild birds to farm stocks, an official said Sunday.

Officials were still assessing how many of the island's 400,000 domestic birds would be killed. Germany recorded its first cases of H5N1 among swans and a hawk found dead Tuesday on the island of Ruegen.

The Indian government announced an aid package for farmers Sunday following confirmation that at least some of 30,000 chickens that had died in Navapur, a major poultry farming region in western Maharashtra state, over the past week were infected with H5NI.

Authorities stressed no human cases had been confirmed as they awaited test results from the poultry farm owner who died.

"At this juncture we can only suspect that the cause of his death could be bird flu," Surat district officer Vatsala Vasudev told the Press Trust of India news agency.

Anees Ahmed, the state minister for animal husbandry, said "there have been no (human) deaths" from bird flu but did not elaborate.

- ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wednesday, February 22, 2006, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Engineering 2 Building - Room 302

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

All Majors From The College Of Engineering And Computer Science And "Undecided Majors" Who Would Like To Learn More About Technical Careers

THE PANEL:

Professionals Currently Working In The Areas Of Engineering And Computer Science Who Will Answer Your Questions About Education, Work, And Succeeding After Graduation

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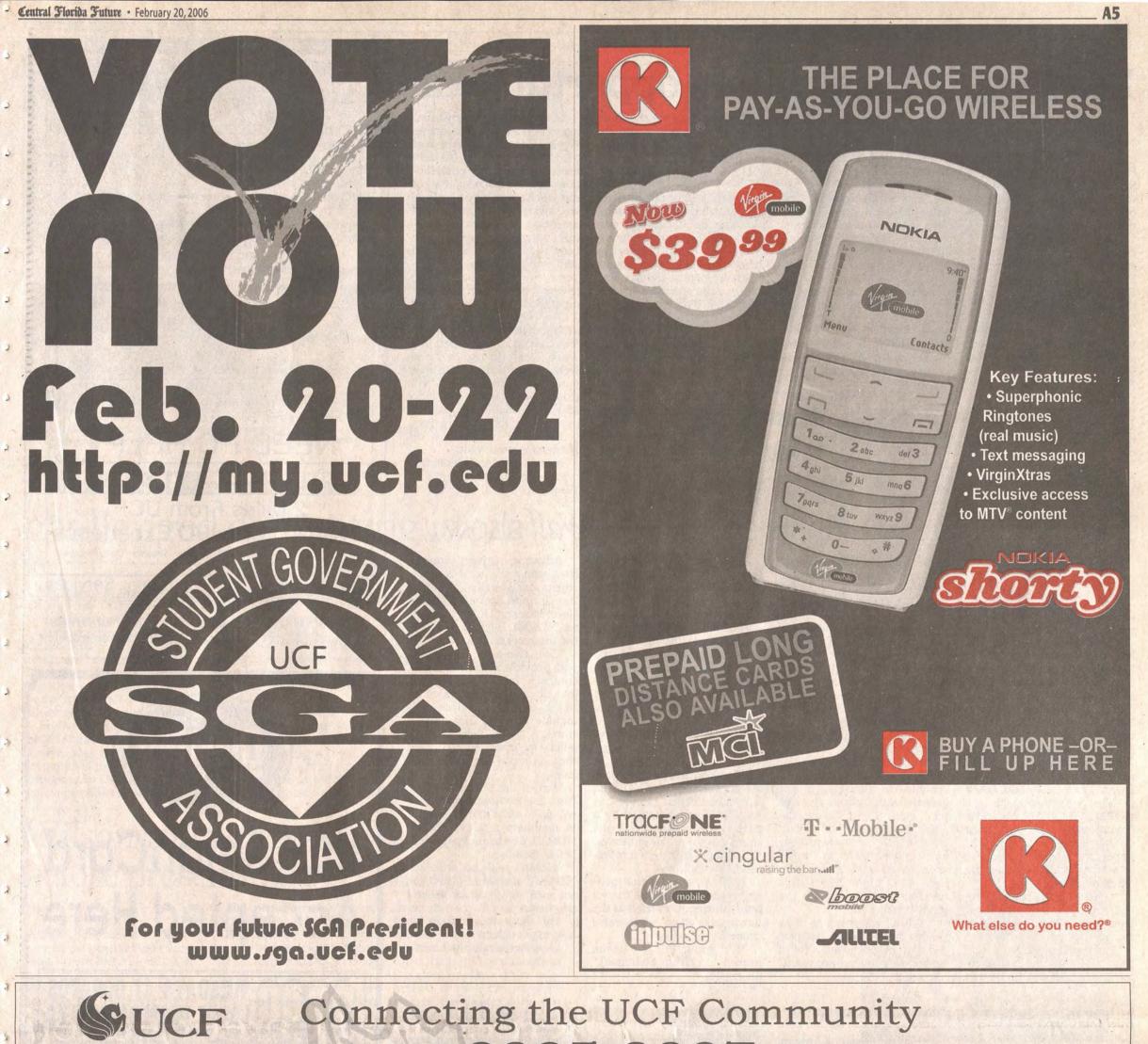
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ct Career Services and Experiential Learning Ferrell Commons, Building 7F, Room 185 407-823-2361, www.csel.ucf.edu



2005-2007 **Common Theme**



Tuesday, February 21st **Neil Howe** "Millennials Rising"

What mark will your generation make?

Neil Howe, co-author of "Millennial Rising: The Next Generation," will speak to the UCF community on his predictions for today's college age students!

> **Town Hall Meeting** 7:00-8:30PM Cape Florida Ballroom

Book Signing and Dessert Reception

8:30-9:00PM Cape Florida area Purchase books at the UCF Bookstore prior to event or from 6-7pm the night of the event.

This event is free and open to the UCF and general public. This event is LINK LOOT and LEAD IMPACT qualified.

Co-sponsored by Student Development and Enrollment Services, Undergraduate Studies and LEAD scholars

February 20, 2006 · Central Florida Future

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Leadership Week offers opportunities

MARK JUSTICE Senior Staff Writer

A6

It's hard to miss the brightly colored quilts hanging in the Student Union this week, which represent the nearly 100 organizations participating in this year's Leadership Week.

The event is a nearly a decade-old tradition originally started by the Lead Scholars Program. Student coordinator Renee Bleczinski promises that this year will be the best yet.

According to the event's Web site, "Leadership Week is an initiative coordinated this year by the LEAD Scholars Program, a department of Campus life in SDES and supported by numerous offices and departments throughout the University of Central Florida.'

Bleczinski, and the other planners who are passionate about the event, maintain that

it is so much more.

"It is the only campus event where every student organization and university department welcome and invited," Bleczinski said.

This year Leadership Week will offer more than 50 workshops and events for students, including three key note speakers. Among them are Neil Howe, co-author of Millenials Rising: The Next Great Generation, and Alex Martins, a UCF graduate currently employed by the Orlando Magic. Paul Chabot, a former Naval Intelligence officer for the Pentagon, will also be presenting during Leadership Week.

"There is definitely a workshop for everyone and programs to meet the interests and passions of all," Bleczinski said. Daniel Samuels, a Lead

Scholars peer mentor, is also excited about Leadership Week.

"This is one of the only times in the year that you see leadership from all over the campus coming together for a common purpose," Samuels said.

Another important aspect of Leadership Week is community service. This year, students will be working intensively with the UCF Creative School for Children. Students will help mentor children and improve the grounds. Leadership Week planners have also partnered this year with Dance Marathon, UCF's largest philanthropy initiative.

This year's theme, Leaders of the New America: Reaching for the Stars, is one that Jill Ehling, the faculty chair of the Leadership Week Committee takes to heart. Ehling said that as the role of leaders in the New America changes, students must "not be afraid to jump in there and move for-ward."

In addition to offering training to new leaders, Leadership Week recognizes members of the UCF community that have made exceptional contributions over the last year. Part of the week's festivities include an awards ceremony and reception on Thursday. Various student leaders who have been nominated by faculty and staff will also receive various items as a surprise on Tuesday to encourage them for their notable contributions.

Students new to the world of leadership do not have to feel left out. By attending workshops throughout the week, students can enter their name in a drawing to win prizes such as an Orlando Magic Basketball autographed by several of the team's players.

For more information on Leadership week visit:

http://www.lead.sdes.ucf.ed u/sub/eventsLeadership Week.php

Hey, you! NORML hosts special The Wall show

TAYLOR VERNARSKY Contributing Writer

Pink Floyd is coming to Orlando. No, not the band, the movie.

On Feb. 21 and 22, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws at UCF will be showing 1982's Pink Floyd The Wall at the Premiere Cinema 14 Theater at the Fashion Square Mall. There will be two showings each day at 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

"Everyone loves The Wall and everyone loves Pink Floyd," Doug Losey said. Losey is the webmaster of the NORML@UCF Web site and is mostly responsible for setting up this year's event. He said he hopes that this event can raise awareness of NORML's goals among students.

NORML works toward educating people about marijuana laws and other civil-rights issues

The organization has established nearly 120 national chapters in 42 states and the District of Columbia. International chapters are located in Canada, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Israel, Jamaica, Norway and New Zealand.

The mission statement is to create an awareness of marijuana laws and help bring about an eventual decriminalization of the possession, use and cultivation of cannabis. The organization does this through three platforms: industrial hemp, medicinal marijuana and recreational cannabis.

Over the past two years, the UCF branch of NORML has become one of the biggest progressive organizations on campus, said Chris Shon, the NORML director of public relations at UCF. Students have been more likely to attend events and memberships have increased. Shon hopes this trend will continue with the Pink Floyd event.

"I think it's going to be a really big event because NORML has garnered a lot of respect over the last two years," Shon said.

There was one showing of Pink Floyd The Wall two years ago which sold out immediately. Shon believes that history indicates the success this year's event. With four showings instead of one this time around, Shon expects it to be one of the biggest fundraisers NORML has ever done.

Shon hopes that The Wall's status as a cult classic will draw a crowd in.

"It's not a movie that everyone notices in the mainstream," he said.

Tina Kimball, the president of the UCF chapter of NORML, is optimistic that people can not only be entertained by a great movie but educated in the issues that the movie illustrates. "It's a staple to the era it repre-

ple will come out of the show a little more open-minded as the movie talks about progressive causes.

"It's going to have some impact on [the audience]," Shon said.

Advance advertisements have been made in many newspapers and Web sites, including the Orlando Sentinel and the Good Morning UCF e-newsletter. NORML is trying to advertise the event on O-ROCK 105.9.

The two-night showings will provide a wide array of contests, raffles and games, including a door prize based on ticket numbers. Prizes will include posters, CDs and Tshirts. A 15- to 20-minute talk will be incorporated to educate the audience on marijuana issues.

Part of the proceeds made from the two-night showings will go to raise money to send 16 members to the National NORML Conference to be held in San Francisco.

Tickets will be free for NORML members, \$6.50 for students and \$8.50 for general

For more information on how to get tickets visit: http://www.normlucf.com

Florida state senator to speak on diversity issues in politics

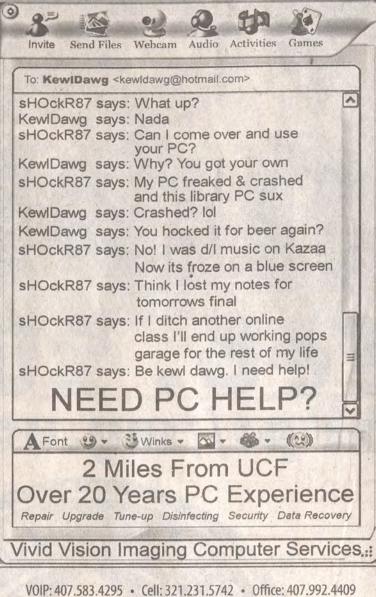
Gary Siplin says **District 19 truly** reflects America

"It is comprised of African, Haitian, Hispanics and Anglo-Americans," Siplin said on his Web site, www.garysiplin.com. "Many of the residents are average working-class Americans who love their country.

In 2000, Siplin was elected to District 39 of the Florida State House of Representatives. The first black representative to serve District 19, Siplin considers diversity a key issue for his constituents

Family Picnic has given over 10,000 school supplies to needy children, and his annual Christmas toy giveaway benefits children in the community.

Currently, Siplin resides in rlando with his wife Victo-



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sents," Kimball said. NORML expects that peo-

admission.

Tiffany Palma Contributing Writer

Florida State Senator Gary Siplin will make an appearance at the UCF Student Union Wednesday to discuss the importance of diversity in politics with students.

Siplin, who currently serves as senator for District 19, has called his district "a true reflection of America." community and family and help make Orange County the number one tourist destination."

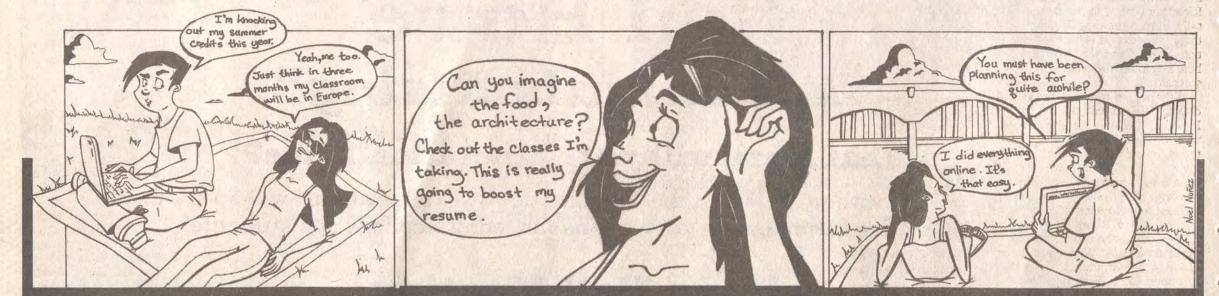
An Orlando native, Siplin grew up with his mother, Aretha Mae Dawson, and three siblings. Siplin graduated from Jones High School and went on to receive an honorary doctorate from City College in 2003.

"Because of the diversity of this district, we have a variety of issues that range from business development, immigration, prescription drugs, education, transportation, taxes and health care," Siplin's Web site says.

Siplin addresses issues of diversity by holding seminars, workshops, summits and job fairs. His annual Labor Day

ria, and four children: Joshua, Jacob, Gary Jr., and Angelica. He regularly attends New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church in Orlando.

Senator Siplin will be speaking at the Student Union room 220 at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday. Students will have a chance to speak with Siplin and ask questions. Drinks and snacks will be provided.



To be continued...

Office of International Studies www.international.ucf.edu



Central Florida Future · February 20, 2006

KATE HOWELL / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE Candidates for the highest SGA positions discuss prepared questions at Thursday's debate. Joshua Eggnatz, far left, and Craig Alles, left center; Matt DeVlieger, right center and Eric Eingold, far right; are two of the four teams running.

Tickets tried to clarify points, challenged competing ideas

FROM A1

Eggnatz used the debate to tell students that there is no "one critical issue."

Another tense moment during the debate occurred when freshman vice presidential candidate Ben Munson challenged the other candidates to agree on the spot to not use individual voting stations this week.

Voting reform is a key issue for the Skandera-Munson ticket, which says free pizza and promotional materials at these stations offer an unfair advantage to candidates. Alles, a former elections commissioner, said the elimination of individual voting stations created too much liability for third-party supporters.

DeVlieger, who had worked on elections reform, initially agreed that eliminating the individual stations would create more problems than it would solve.

After members of the audience began calling for an answer to the yes-or-no challenge, DeVlieger agreed to meet the terms if the other candidates would follow suit. Both the Eggnatz-Alles and

White-Stout tickets declined, maintaining that the individual voting stations were a necessary part of elections and could not be eliminated.

Another highlight of the debate occurred when De-Vlieger clarified his platform, which has beenc characterized as one-sided, concerned only with environmental activism. "Education is priority one," DeVlieger said at the debate. But he stayed true to his environmental advocacy, also saying later, "What's good for the environment is good for us."

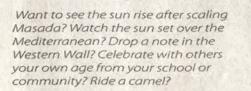
 Hillel @ UCF

 Image: State of the state of th

University of Central Florida

CLUB & ORGANIZATION

SPOTLIGHT



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Wednesday, April 12 Passover Seder Student Union 316 \$20/person RSVP by March 31 407-362-3317



A7

Pay by cash, check or credit card at the Jewish Life Center in Pegasus Landing (see www.centralfloridahillel.com for directions). You can also pay by credit card on our web site, or you can pay by cash or check at the Hillel table outside the Student Union on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

E-mail samk@centralfloridahillel.com with questions.





Wilson will return to Costa Rica before presenting work in Norway

FROM A1

election. The observers interview all the presidential candidates, meet with the election tribunals and magistrates, and observe and report on the election process. Observers turn up at polling stations unannounced to see what's going on and talk to the people and party officials there

What makes this more interesting is that Costa Rica has developed a reputation of running and controlling elections in an honest and legitiris had a vested interest in her candidate to win, Smith said.

A recount in Costa Rica is done by the election tribunal. The tribunal works as an independent body with no political representatives. This was different from what happened in Florida.

"There's no politics involved in this," Wilson said.

Right now, the process is waiting for the final count, which won't be announced until two weeks after the day of the election. At the end of this election, a declaration will be made of a new president. Fourteen parties were involved in this election, ranging from extreme left to extreme right and everything in between. Oscar Arias Sanchez and Otton Solis were the two top vote-getters with over 40 percent of the vote each. If no candidate receives 40 percent of the vote, which is the percentage needed to win, then a second round of voting begins. But this is not the case this year.

there anyway, and they know that I work in that area," Wilson said.

Wilson will be visiting Costa Rica again next month as the guest speaker at the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Costa Rican Bar Association. He recently gave invited research presentations in Santiago, Chile and London, and he will soon present his work in Norway.

Recently, Wilson has taken a step back from party politics to be involved in his other major field of research. T · · Mobile ·

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mate manner.

"It's not politics, it's process," Wilson said, "And that's one thing that Costa Ricans do well."

According to Wilson, if there were a hierarchy of how to run an election, Costa Rica would be at the top and Florida, as shown by the 2000 presidential election, would be near the bottom.

If elections are very close, as in Florida in 2000 or Costa Rica this year, it is fundamentally important that the electoral process is completely transparent and the electoral board certifies the results, Wilson said.

"It's not so much it broke down," Wilson said about the Florida elections. "It showed what the limitations of the system that we used here where many of the officials involved in administering the election process also have a vested interest in the outcome."

The Costa Rican election process has been replicated in other countries. Whereas the U.S. has three branches of government, Costa Rica has four. The fourth branch is in charge of everything related to the election process. That includes birth and death registration, maintaining voter registration and issuing voter registration cards, campaign finance, ballot design, and similar tasks.

The branch, which is made up of five magistrates, is twice removed from the political process. The five permanent magistrates are elected by the Supreme Court, who is elected by the Legislative Assembly, who is, in turn, elected by the voters. This ensures that those serving have no political ax to grind, Wilson said.

Katherine Harris, the Florida Secretary of State at the time of the 2000 presidential elections, was co-chair on the Bush campaign in Florida. The secretary is also the person who certifies the vote in Florida. The problem was that HarWilson is asked to attend these elections.

"They know I'm going to be

"Bruce has developed a reputation as an expert on judicial reform in Latin America," Handberg said.

Wilson is currently on sabbatical leave and will not be teaching any classes this year, which is good for him, as it devotes more time and energy to his research.

From Wilson's experience in Costa Rica, he believes that the process used there is a good example of how to run an honest election.

"They actually have complete confidence that this organization will do this properly," Wilson said.



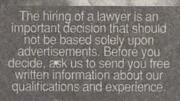
Attention Ortho Evra Birth Control Patch Users

Users of the Ortho Evra birth control patch

may be at an increased risk of developing blood clots and related disorders. The FDA recently warned that the Ortho Evra birth control patch delivers excessively high hormone levels. Elevated hormone levels are associated with increased risk of blood clots and related disorders.

If you or a loved one has used the Ortho Evra Birth Control Patch and developed a blood clot or related condition such as stroke, heart attack, deep-vein thrombosis, or pulmonary embolism, you may have a valuable legal claim.

For a free and confidential consultation, please contact us at 1-877-810-4808 or via our website at www.AWS-LAW.com. We're Here To Help.





WEEK IN HEALTH Health study suggests a doubled risk of blood clots for birth-control patch users

JENNA GOUGH Staff Writer

Women who use the Ortho Evra birth-control patch may have double the risk of developing blood clots than women who use the pill, the Food and Drug Administration said.

A study with these results was made public Thursday by the patch's manufacturer. The study is considered preliminary, the FDA said, and, for now, women are not being asked to take any other precautions besides speaking with their doctor

The results came from one of two studies that the makers

of the patch, Ortho Women's Health & Urology, conducted comparing the patch and the pill, the company said.

The first study did not find any increased risk of clots for women who use the patch, but the results of the second study suggested that the risk of blood clots in the legs and lungs nearly doubles for patch users, Ortho said.

Dr. Daniel Shames, director of the division of reproductive and urological drug products at the FDA, said that for women who do not use birth control, the risk of a nonfatal blood clot is one in 10,000. For women who are using birth

control, the risk is between three and five out of 10,000.

The studies are ongoing and will look at the risk of heart attack and stroke for birth-control users, Shames said. Currently, there is no difference in the numbers, but Shames said it will be only 18 months before results are ready.

In November, the patch label carried a warning that women who use the patch expose themselves to 60 percent more estrogen than those who use the pill, Ortho said.

Since the patch was introduced in 2002, over 4 million women have used it.



SPRING IN THE AIR

Kappa Alpha Theta hosts charity field day

ASHLEY BURNS Newsroom Manage

Kappa Alpha Theta sorority hosted its annual philanthropy, Spring Fling, yesterday at Lake Claire. The event is a fundraiser for Court Appointed Special Advocates, a group that benefits a number of causes, including aiding children who come from abusive and neglecting homes and live in foster homes.

Spring Fling featured a series of field day events, including a dunk tank, tug-of-war, banner competition, Save-A-Theta and other fundraising activities.

Fraternities and sororities competed in the different events during the afternoon, and they were rewarded with trophies for victories.

Theta also hosted its annual Mr. CASAnova event last Wednesday.







UCF Dining Services & The UCF Bookstore

would like to congratulate Shontel Marsh, our Spring '06 Dining Membership winner!

Shontel is an Engineering major at UCF. When awarded with her \$600.00 Scholarship for textbooks at the UCF Bookstore for the Spring semester, she said: "I can't believe I don't have to pay for books because I eat at The Marketplace! Winning this scholarship was great!!"

We would like to thank Shontel and all of you that signed up for Block and Residential Dining Memberships this Spring semester. We hope to see all of you again this Summer and Fall '06. We are excited for you to see all of the new locations and services that we are bringing to you in the new academic year.

UCF Dining Services and UCF Bookstore Team





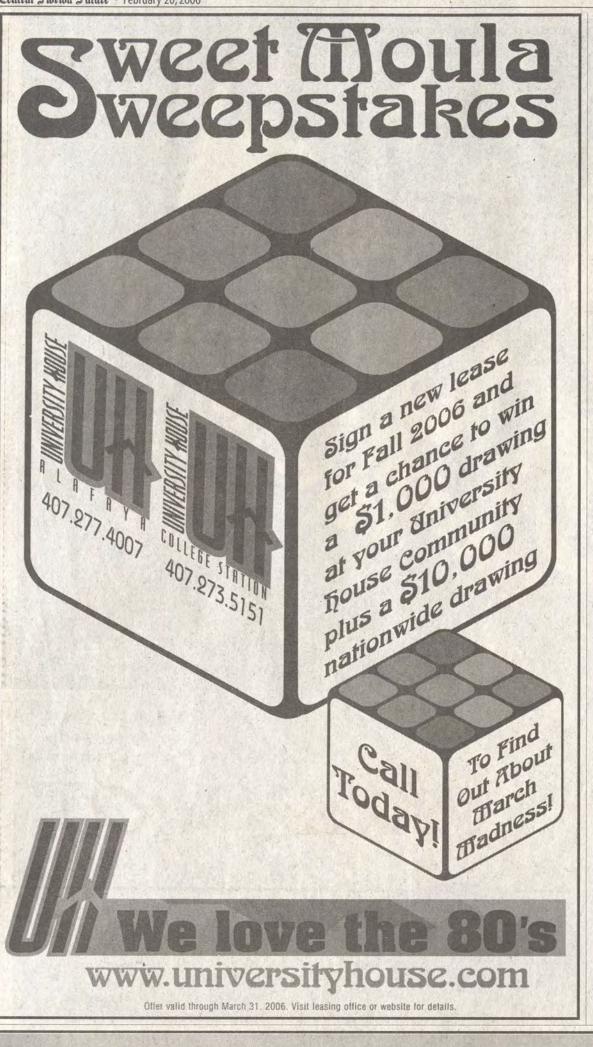
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Picture caption (from left to right): Wendy Shively: Director of Operations for UCF Dining Services, Marvin Grand: UCF Dining Services General Manager, William O'Brien: UCF Dining Services Executive Chef, Shontel Marsh: Winner of \$600 Scholarship for textbooks at the UCF Bookstore, Denise Berrios: General Manager UCF Bookstore, Heleria Falcon: Assistant General Manager UCF Bookstore.

Central Florida Future · February 20, 2006





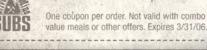
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Visit www.researchweek.ucf.edu or 407.823.2766 for details.

2006 UCF RESEARCH WEEK

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Central Florida Future

Softball team continues fast start

Knights split with B-CC, defeat Ohio State and Stetson

MELISSA HEYBOER Staff Writer

The UCF softball team is proving early on that not only can it hang with the big teams, but it can beat them, too.

After taking two games from Texas Tech last weekend, the Knights entered this week with Big Ten powerhouse Ohio State and long-time rivals Bethune-Cookman and Stetson University on their plate.

Going into their Wednesday double-header against Bethune-Cookman, the Knights were looking to improve upon their .500 season with a series sweep against the Panthers.

Those hopes would fall early as the Knights would give up four runs in the first inning off one hit, one hit batter and three errors.

"They just didn't show up ready to play," UCF Coach Renee Luers-Gillispie said. "They came out flat with lack of communication and lots of errors."

Amber Lamb would add a firstinning home run and an RBI double later to bring the Knights within two. The Wildcats, however, added two more runs in the top of the seventh on a Tiffany Bowser single to right field.

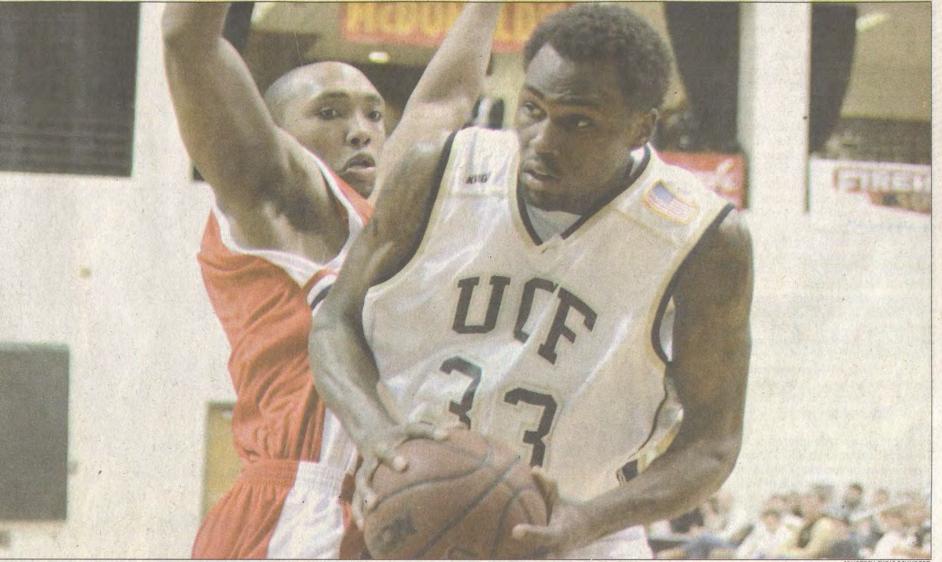
Unfortunately for the Knights, they would leave the bases loaded in the bottom of the seventh inning, allowing the Wildcats to go on to win 6-2.

"Leaving the bases loaded is frustrating," Luers-Gillispie said. "But it's early. We know we can work on it, learn from it and keep improving." The Knights would come back

The Knights would come back strong in game two of double-header Wednesday.

"They knew how important it was to be ready for the second game." Luers-Gillispie said. "We knew we need solid defense, no big innings and to just play fundamental

IT WAS A FRUSTRATING WEEK FOR UCF ATHLETICS, WHICH SUFFERED LOSSES IN MEN'S BASKETBALL, BASEBALL AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



Sports

A WEEK TO FORGET



www.UCFnews.com • Monday, February 20, 2006

COURTESY CHRIS SCHUBE

softball."

The Knights struck first in the second inning off a Jennifer Tomasetti single to left field which scored Magon Paul.

Tomasetti and Cici Alvarez would strike again in the fourth for the Knights with an RBI apiece, allowing the Knights to take the lead, 3-0.

PLEASE SEE SOFTBALL ON A12

FROM THE SPORTS DESK Men's and women's tennis teams fall Both teams travel

south to be swept by Hurricanes

The UCF women's tennis team traveled to Miami to take on the No. 13 Hurricanes this weekend, losing all nine matches in a 7-0 defeat.

The Hurricanes took all three doubles matches by a score of 8-3 to take the first point, then went on to sweep the remaining six singles matches to close out the day.

UCF junior Megan Hunter lost her first match in five appearances this season 6-1 and 6-2 to UM's Patricia Starzyk.

Sophomore Kyla McNicol gave the Knights their best opportunity to win a match, bouncing back after a first set sweep to win the second set 6-2. UM junior Ana Rupic won the

PLEASE SEE FROM ON A12

MATT POLLITT / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTUR

Top, Anthony Williams of the UCF men's basketball team protects the ball during Wednesday's loss to Houston at the UCF Arena. The men's basketball team also lost on Saturday night 77-55 to Southern Methodist in Dallas. It was the Knights' fifth loss in their past six games, dating back to mid-January. Bottom, Conference USA Preseason Pitcher of the Year Tim Bascom throws during Friday's loss to UNF. UCF has yet to win a series in two tries this season, and was shutout in back-to-back games for the first time since 1983. UCF also lost its series against Florida International University, dropping a two-game series to the Golden Panthers on Feb. 12.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

WHY THEY LOST

Houston as well as Southern Methodist. The low point

came in Saturday's first half

The UCF offense suffered a

weekend, getting shut out

Friday and Saturday and leaving the tying run on 3rd in the 9th inning on Sunday.

Women's basket-

The Knights picked up a 77-

62 win Sunday afternoon

half lead into a win has

haunted them all season.

especially Friday vs. UAB.

Men's basketball:

Coverage of Sunday's 6-5

loss to UNF completing the

A full recap of Wednesday's

-SEE PAGE A12

-SEE PAGE A14

INSIDE

Baseball:

loss

sweep

against Memphis, but their

inability to convert a second

complete power outage this

when UCF shot 28.6 percent.

Men's basketball:

UCF had a hard time shooting the ball against

Baseball:

ball:

Mustangs overrun Knights in first half on their way to a 77-55 C-USA home rout

ANDY VASQUEZ Sports Editor

For the last three years the UCF men's basketball team has been at its best when it has counted most: in February and March.

Unfortunately, for this incarnation of the Golden Knights, late-season success has been hard to come by in their inaugural season in Conference USA.

On Saturday, UCF suffered its fifth loss in six games in a 77-55 rout by Southern Methodist. Coming into this season, the Knights were 21-9 in February and March since 2003. So far this month the Knights are only 1-4.

Knights are only 1-4. On Saturday, the Knights' inability to make shots and establish an inside game did them in early as SMU controlled the game from start to finish.

The Mustangs nearly doubled up the Knights' point production in the lane for the game (38-20). Not only did the Mustangs beat UCF inside on offense, but they outrebounded the Knights (35-33) and blocked seven UCF shots.

PLEASE SEE SMU ON A12

BASEBALL

Ospreys swoop in and sweep Knights on the backs on Papelbon brothers and Olinto

CHRIS HOYLER Staff Writer

It took the University of North Florida baseball team more than two and a half hours to score its first run Friday night, but once they got started, the Ospreys carried the momentum to win the series on Saturday.

After nine scoreless innings Friday, the Ospreys defeated UCF 1-0 in 10 innings. After an 18-hour break, they came right out Saturday afternoon and matched their Friday night hit total before recording their first out en route to a 13-0 win.

"I never, ever remember in my life being shut out at home twice in a row," UCF Coach Jay Bergman said.

Bergman can be excused if the moment slips his mind. The Knights have not been shut out at home since 1983, Bergman's first season at the school, when his alma mater Rollins and Saint Leo pulled it off.

"We don't have any changes," Bergman said. "There's no other

PLEASE SEE UNF ON A13

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Knights suffer painful loss to Blazers after giving up control in final 10 minutes

BRIAN MURPHY Staff Writer

The UCF women's basketball team fell to the UAB Blazers on Friday night, 74-65 at the UCF Arena.

The Golden Knights have lost in a myriad of ways this season, but UCF Coach Gail Striegler called this game one of the most painful losses of the season.

The Knights did recover nicely on Sunday afternoon with a 77-62 win over Memphis, but that didn't take away the sting from Friday's loss to UAB.

For a majority of the game, the Knights were in control. They were shooting over 50 percent and their defense was doing a respectable job of keeping the league's second-best scoring offense in check. With 10:17 to go, sophomore guard Amber Long nailed a 3-pointer to give the Knights a 56-44 advantage.

But after that, everything that looked so positive for the home team disappeared.

Over the final 10 minutes, the Knights made just three field goals and committed

PLEASE SEE TURNOVERS ON A14

Softball wins first two games over **OSU**, Stetson

FROM A11

Those runs would never be matched as Allison Kime would throw her first career no-hitter, striking out four and allowing no walks.

The Knights took that momentum into this weekend's Stetson Invitational as they continued their winning ways

The Golden Knights were able to take the first two games of the tournament with wins over Big Ten team Ohio State and in-state rival Stetson.

Game one of the invitational proved to be a nail-biter as UCF battled Ohio State for eight solid innings. The Knights were led by Kacie Feaster who would go 3-8 from the plate with a double and two RBIs. Getting her second win of the season on the mound was Kime, who gave up just one run off of 6 hits and no errors.

An early first-inning triple by Ohio State's Chelsea Baker would threaten the Knights, but the Buckeyes would fall just short of plating a run.

The Buckeyes would threaten again in the third off a Liz Caputo double to left-center field but once again would come just short of posting the first run of the game.

The Knights would answer back by loading the bases on a hit and two fielder's choices, but the Knights would also end the inning with no runs

A scoreless seven innings would force the Knights to go into a decisive eighth-inning tiebreaker. The Knights handled the rest with back-to-basics softball. Cat Snapp laid down a sacri-fice bunt to allow Tomasetti to advance to third base. Tomasetti would score on an error by the shortstop and Alvarez would remain safe at first. After a stolen base, wild pitch and single by Feaster later, the Knights would be up by two.

The Buckeyes threatened in their half of the eighth, but they were only allowed one run, letting the final score stand at 2-1.

The Knights continued their scoring drive into the second game against crosstown rivals Stetson.

After reaching on an error, Feaster would score the only run of the inning off a single from Breanne Javier to right field.

The Hatters were able to fight back in the second inning, tying the score up at one apiece.

Feaster would continue her solid offense for the Knights in the fifth inning with an RBI double into left field, allowing Alvarez to score from second.

A Lamb sacrifice bunt followed by an RBI ground out from Javier would help the Knights tack one more run on the board.

Red-hot Houston shooting dooms UCF

Knights fight back late, but strong effort by Taylor not enough to overcome deficit

ANDY VASQUEZ Sports Editor

After pulling off one of its most impressive wins of the season at Houston, the UCF men's basketball team was looking at Wednesday night's home matchup against the Cougars as an opportunity to build momentum in the second half of its Conference USA season.

Instead, the Knights suffered a disappointing loss to Houston, becoming the seventh straight team to fall to the redhot Cougars, 78-71 at the UCF Arena.

Houston (17-6, 7-3 C-USA) got the

victory with hot outside shooting - 12of-25 on 3-pointers — and overcame a late UCF (10-12, 4-5) run in a game that was not as close as the final score indicated.

After trailing by double digits for most of the second half, UCF cut the lead to 74-69 with 40 seconds remaining. After a missed Houston layup, UCF's Jermaine Taylor had an opportunity to cut the deficit to two with 26 seconds remaining, but his 3-point shot rimmed out to end the threat.

Guard Lanny Smith led Houston and all scorers with 25 points on 9-of-12 shooting, which included four 3-pointers, as both teams finished with four players in double figures.

UCF was able to limit the Cougars from the outside after halftime as Houston's second-half success from the field (56.5 percent) was a product of both its solid shooting and ability to get easy baskets on a UCF defense that was lacking at times.

"It's not unusual for them to shoot that well," UCF Coach Kirk Speraw said. "They've got a lot of firepower there, and they really challenge the defense. We certainly didn't close out on shooters as well as needed to in the first half.

"I thought we closed out better and prevented some of their [outside opportunities] in the second half."

UCF used the full-court press effectively in the second half, forcing Houston into 19 turnovers on the game. But every time UCF seemed to get close to trimming the deficit to within striking distance, the momentum would swing back Houston's way.

With 12:52 remaining - only moments after trailing by 15 - UCF had an opportunity cut the lead to 10, but forward Anthony Williams missed two free throws. On its next possession, Houston beat UCF's pressure to score on an easy dunk, pushing the deficit back to 14 and reclaiming the momentum.

It was that kind of night for UCF,

which struggled to keep the same level of intensity throughout the game.

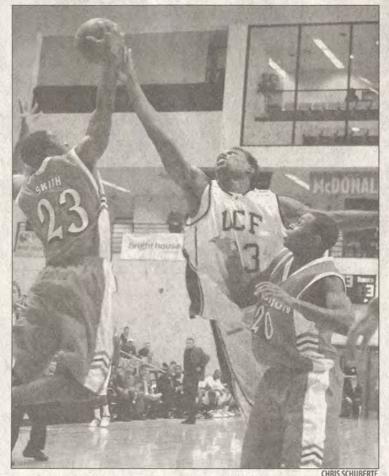
"We have a hard time focusing and playing every possession," Speraw said. "When we're focused and we play with great energy, we're pretty decent. When we're not focused and we don't play with the energy, we make mistakes. That inconsistency has been a problem all year, whether it's game to game, practice to practice, or possession to possession."

"We played hard, but we didn't play hard all 40 minutes," Taylor said. "When we won at Houston, we played hard all 40 minutes."

UCF forward Josh Peppers, as well as Taylor, came off the bench to lead UCF with 17 and 16 points respectively. Starting forward Anthony Williams finished with 16 points and 11 rebounds.

Taylor's 25 minutes and 16 points were both career highs for the freshman, who was 6-of-11 from the field in the loss.

PLEASE SEE FRESHMAN ON A14

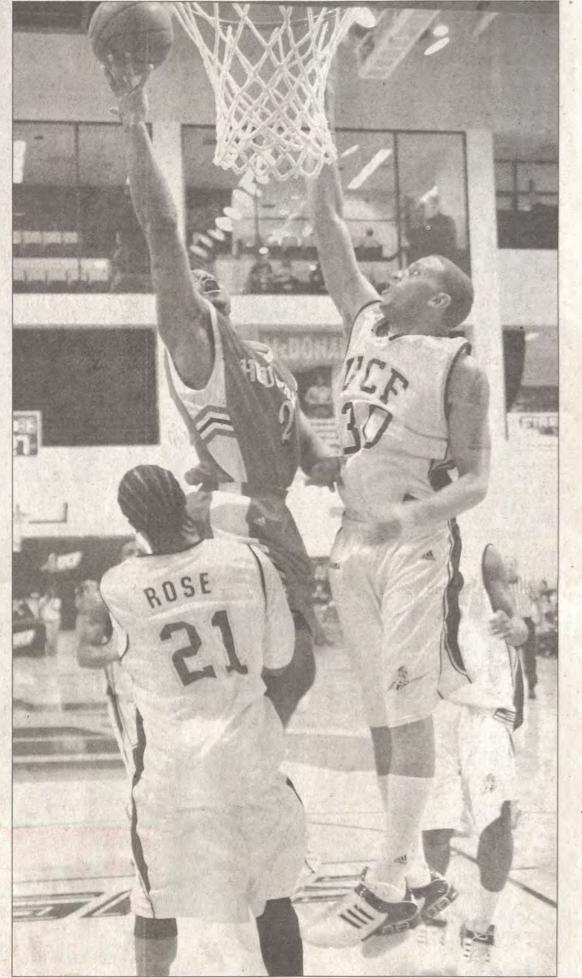


Above, UCF forward Anthony Williams battles for a rebound in the first half of Wednesday's loss to Houston. Right, UCF guard Justin Rose and forward Josh Peppers defend during the first half on Wednesday

SMU horsepower too much for UCF

FROM A11

junior forward Josh Peppers



UCF would go on to beat the Hatters 3-1. Getting the win for the Knights was Lexi Gresham, who allowed just one run on four hits and two errors.

STATE & NATION

No. 1 Connecticut 81, No. 11 West Virginia 75

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. - Josh Boone scored 18 points and No. 1 Connecticut dominated inside for an 81-75 victory over No. 11 West Virginia on Saturday, the Mountaineers' third loss in four games.

Connecticut (23-2, 10-2 Big East) took over sole possession of second place in the Big East from West Virginia. The Huskies are one-half game behind No. 4 Villanova, which hosts No. 17 Georgetown on Sunday.

The Mountaineers (18-7, 9-3), who were second in the NCAA with 10 3pointers per game, finished 10-for-28 from beyond the arc against the Big East's top 3-point defense.

Mike Gansey led West Virginia with 25 points, while Kevin Pittsnogle had 13 of his 15 in the second half. Johannes Herber added 14 for the Mountaineers and Frank Young had

UConn is 8-1 against ranked teams this season while West Virginia is 4-4.

No.5 Gonzaga 79, Loyola Marymount 70

LOS ANGELES - Adam Morrison scored a career-high 44 points -37 in the second half — to give Gonzaga a share of its sixth straight regular-season West Coast Conference title.

After missing all three of his 3point attempts in the first half, Morrison was 8-for-10 in the second half, firing 3s from all over the floor, usually well behind the arc.

The win was the 13th straight for Gonzaga and its 20th consecutive in conference.

- ASSOCIATED PRESS

"We knew that this was going to be a tough ball game," UCF Coach Kirk Speraw said. "SMU has some talented players, and their size also hurt us. When we got down, we did not do some things offensively that would have allowed us to get back into the game."

UCF held an 11-9 lead early on after a Justin Rose 3-point play, but SMU capitalized when the Knights missed 14 of their next 15 shots. The ensuing 18-2 run by the Mustangs put UCF in a 13-point hole from which it could not recov-

UCF's 28.6 percent shooting performance in the first half was met with a 48 percent effort by SMU, which led to a 36-22 halftime lead for the Mustangs.

It didn't get any better in the second half for the Knights, who were outscored 41-33 on the way to 22-point loss.

SMU finished the game shooting 54 percent from the field, led by a 7-of-10 performance from senior guard Bryan Hopkins, who finished with a game-high 23 points.

The Mustangs also forced 16 UCF turnovers and shot 74.1 percent from the freethrow line, while UCF shot only 55.6 percent on free throws.

Coming off the bench for the third consecutive game,

tiebreaker 10-6, ending the match and

its mark to 4-3. The loss concluded a

tough weekend for UCF, who lost to

No. 25 Florida International a day

earlier by a 6-1 score. The Knights

return to the court Wednesday at 2

p.m. when they visit Jacksonville.

UCF falls to 3-4 while Miami ups

the day for both teams.

FROM A11

led the Knights with 14 points. Peppers shot 6-of-13 from the field but only 1-of-7 from beyond the 3-point line. Senior guard Troy Lindbeck was the most impressive UCF player, finishing with 12 points in 27 minutes, which included four 3-pointers and no turnovers. After a careerhigh 16 points in Wednesday's loss to Houston, freshman guard Jermaine Taylor struggled Saturday, going only 1-of-6 from the field for two points. Senior forward Anthony Williams also had an upand-down game, shooting only 3-of-12 from the field, but pulling down 13 rebounds.

It was the first meeting between the two teams, who are each in their first C-USA season. SMU moved from the Western Athletic Conference, while UCF moved from the Atlantic Sun Conference.

UCF's loss on Saturday night, coupled with fourthplace Houston's win over Tulsa, puts UCF 3.5 games out of fourth place with only four games remaining. Only C-USA's top four teams earn a bye in the first round of next month's C-USA Championship in Memphis.

UCF returns to action on Wednesday when it hosts East Carolina at the UCF Arena. UCF defeated the Pirates 64-59 earlier this season on the road. Tip-off is slated for 7:30 p.m.

COURTESY CHRIS SCHUBE

East Carolina at UCF • Wednesday 7:30 p.m. • UCF Arena

Records: UCF (10-13, 4-6 C-USA) East Carolina (8-16, 2-9) Broadcast: 740 THE TEAM-AM Last Meeting/All-Time Series: January 2 at ECU, UCF 64 ECU 59; UCF leads series 3-0

UCF: The Knights found a rare shooting groove in their first meeting with the Pirates, shooting 60.9 percent from the field in the first half and 45.9 percent for the game...It was also a rare complete effort for UCF, who led for the entire second half and never let the Pirates gain momentum on their home court...This will be the second meeting between the teams in Orlando as the Knights won 88-81 on Dec. 30, 2002...Guard Dave Noel played his second-



highest minute total of the season in the Knights' loss to SMU on Saturday. His 23 minutes are his highest total in the conference schedule and second to the 28 minutes he played on Nov. 29, a 61-48 win over Bethune-Cookman.

ECU: Forward Corey Rouse is one of the most complete players in Conference USA and the only player in the conference to

average a double-double per game. His 14.0 points, 10.7 rebounds average also makes him one of just 14 players in Division I-A to average a double-double... In the loss to the Knights last month, Rouse paced the Pirates with 22 points and 12 rebounds. ECU has won one game on the road this season, 66-62 at Wofford on Nov. 30, and is 0-5 in C-USA play away from Greenville

Projected Starting Lineups

UCF: G Mike O'Donnell • G Justin Rose G • Troy Lindbeck F • Anthony Williams • C Adam Gill ECU: G Tom Hammonds • G Courtney

Captain • G Sam Hinnant • F Corey Rouse • F **Tyronne Beale**

- CHRIS HOYLER

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Men's tennis also swept by UM

The UCF men's tennis team also made a road trip to take on the Hurricanes, losing 7-0 to the host at the Neil Schiff Tennis Center in Coral Gables.

The No. 24 ranked Hurricanes improved to 5-1 on the season, while Coach Bobby Cashman's UCF squad fell to 3-2 in its first game since Feb. 4. UCF did claim one doubles match

to avoid a complete sweep in the nine matches, winning the top doubles spot with sophomore Sinan Sudas and freshman Norman Alcantara defeating Luigi D'Agord and Vivek Subramanian 8-5. D'Agord, the No. 25 ranked individual player in the nation, gained a measure of revenge in his singles match with Sudas, winning 6-1, 6-2.

UCF freshman Brock Sakey was

also able to win a set for the Knights, taking the first set over Subramanian 4-6 before getting swept in the second set and losing the tiebreaker 10-

The team traveled to Boca Raton to take on Florida Atlantic Sunday morning. Results were not available at press time.

UCF has come away with only one win this season in their first six games

UNF pitchers silence UCF bats

FROM A11

changes I can make. I mean, I wish I could."

Friday's game was a case of outstanding pitching buoyed by good defense, as both offenses rarely had opportunities to score in the first eight innings.

The Ospreys had their best chance in the first inning, putting two runners on with just one out against UCF All-American pitcher Tim Bascom. A visit from pitching Coach Craig Cozart seemed to settle Bascom, who retired the next two batters to end the frame.

"Timmy got by his first inning, got his confidence rolling and then he took off from there and really did a nice job for us," Bergman said. UCF could not build off a

couple of potential opportunities early. They put the leadoff man on in both the second and fourth innings, but right fielder Dave DiNatale was forced out on a fielder's choice after reaching second with no outs in the second. Catcher Ryan Bono hit into a double play after first baseman Kiko Vazquez led off the fourth with a walk.

UNF pitcher Jacob Dixon matched Bascom pitch for pitch, keeping his fastball low in the strike zone and forcing the Knights to hit the ball on the ground. In seven innings, he struck out six and walked just one, allowing two hits.

The Knights had another chance in the sixth, when Vazquez stepped to the plate with two outs and third baseman Matt Ray on third. Vazquez drove a 1-2 pitch to the right side, but shortstop Matt Oxendine ranged to his right and made a diving stop, recovering in one motion to make the throw that got Vazquez by a step. Bascom finished off his night in the eighth, walking pinch-hitter Travis Martin to lead off the inning and getting an out on a sacrifice by second baseman Andy Warren. When Bascom was removed, he received a standing ovation for an outstanding outing that covered 7.1 innings. He allowed just two hits, striking out five and walking two, lowering his earned run average for the season to 1.54. Left-hander Brian Brooks came on and got out of the inning, but not before a wild pitch allowed Martin to advance to third and Oxendine flew to the warning track in left center. In the bottom of the ninth, UNF reliever Dicarlo Thompson hit second baseman Matt Horwath and walked Vazquez, who was attempting to bunt, to lead off the inning. Josh Papelbon took over for the Ospreys and allowed cleanup hitter Bono to sacrifice a bunt before intentionally walking pinch-hitter Mitch Houck to load the bases and set up the double play. Designated hitter Dave Lambert worked the count to 2-2, nearly getting hit by a pitch, but he swung at a high fastball and struck out. Papelbon then forced shortstop Eric

The Ospreys had four hits in ten innings Friday

The Ospreys scored four runs on four hits Saturday before recording their first out.

The number of wins UNF has as a member of Division I-A, 60 percent of them coming against UCF.



Baseball Notes

Here's a break down of the Knights' second series of the season. The UNF Ospreys are in thier first Division I-A season.

Knights have a weekend to forget

It was a historic weekend for the Knights at Jay Bergman Field. But it was not the type of history of which they can be proud. The 13-run defeat on Saturday was the Knights' worst home shut out loss in the program's 34-year history.

The University of North Florida Ospreys became the first team to shut out the Knights in two consecutive games in a single series since Rollins. Saint Leo did the trick back in the 1983 season, which was Coach Jay Bergman's first year at UCF.

The two contests also marked the first time that the Knights have lost their opening two home games to a nonranked team since 1999.

Freshmen start for the Knights

For the first time ever, a pair of freshmen started in a weekend series on the mound. Right-handed pitcher Kyle Sweat started on Saturday while lefthanded pitcher Mitch Herold took to the mound on Sunday. Taylor Cobb was the last freshman to start in a weekend series back in 2002.

Herold was the first freshman lefthander to start a game for the Knights since Burt Clark started the 2001 Atlantic Sun Championship game versus Jacksonville.

Bunell has a rough debut

With 14 freshmen representing the 2006 Knights, a lot of players will be getting their first taste of collegiate baseball this year. Left-handed pitcher Tyler Bunnell's first taste was quite sour.

On Saturday, the Orlando product did not retire any of the four batters he faced, allowing two runs on three hits, a walk and a wild pitch.

For a couple of Ospreys, pitching runs in the family.

Osprey junior left-hander Jeremy Papelbon limited the Knights to just three hits over seven innings on Saturday. But he is not the only pitcher in his family to give hitters fits. His twin brother Josh is a right-handed pitcher on the Ospreys. He threw two scoreless innings in the series opener on Friday. Their older brother, Jonathan, is a top-prospect hurler for the Boston Red Sox.

Coaching connection

This weekend's series matched up two head coaches with over 1,000 career wins, Bergman and the Osprey's Dusty Rhodes. Both coaches also served as assistant coaches with the Florida Gators. Rhodes donned the Gators' orange and blue from 1982-86, while Bergman

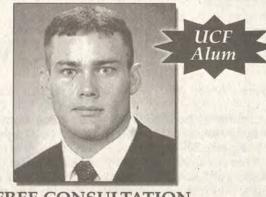


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Kallstrom to hit a ground ball to Warren to end the threat.

Catcher Ryan Bono looks on during UCF's loss to UNF on Friday afternoon. The Osprey's shut

out the Knights in back-to-back games. UCF hadn't suffered cosecutive shutouts in 23 years.

Contral a State Testati

In the top of the 10th, the Ospreys did score when they loaded the bases as Oxendine's grounder to third led to Ray's throw home for a force that was misplayed by Bono. The unearned run was charged to Brooks, and the Knights went down quietly in the bottom of the 10th.

"We pitched pretty well," Bergman said. "We told the players all week long that you going to have one or maybe two chances with the bases loaded, and, if you don't cash in, you are not going to win. We pitched well and played good defense until the end with the error." Josh Papelbon earned the win on Friday, and twin brother Jeremy picked up where Josh left off, dominating UCF for seven innings of the Ospreys' 13-0 win. Jeremy allowed three hits, struck out seven and walked two, but he perfected the formula Dixon created, inducing 11 groundouts. Bergman, however, was sparing in the superlatives for the right-hander. "I couldn't figure it out," Bergman said. "He threw no off-speed pitches. He had a little cutter and a very average fastball." Jeremy was the beneficiary of continued solid defense from UNF. The fifth inning seems innocuous in the box score, but third baseman Grant Rogers and shortstop Oxendine made fantastic back-to-back diving stops to get the first two outs, and Jeremy helped himself by grabbing a hard ground ball by third baseman Ray to end the inning. The Ospreys essentially ended the game before it began, leading off the game against freshman right-hander Kyle Sweat with a double, single, double and three-run home run.

and drove it down the rightfield line, making it 4-0 and earning Sweat a mound visit that may have been a batter too late. He settled down, allowing just one hit, a home run by Rogers, over the next three innings, but the damage had been done and it seemed to change UCF's usually conservative offensive approach.

MATT POLLITT/ CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTUR

"He settled down," Bergman said. "He got his slider to become effective. He just buried a hole for us, couldn't get out of it."

Catcher Brandon Diaz added a long two-run homer in the sixth and UNF sent 12 batters to the plate in a 6-run eighth inning to complete the scoring.

A13

Left fielder Damon Olinto reached out at a low fastball



served as an assistant from 1973–75 before being named head Coach of the Gators in 1976.

-BRIAN MURPHY

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February 20, 2006 · Central Florida Future

Olinto's bat completes sweep

Early balks and late bombs give Rhodes' Ospreys the three-game sweep over Knights

BRIAN MURPHY Staff Writer

After being shut out in the last two games in which it mustered just six hits, the UCF baseball team collected 16 hits on Sunday against the University of North Florida Ospreys. But it still was not enough as the Ospreys edged the Knights, 6-5.

With the win, the Ospreys became the first team to ever sweep the Knights in a homeopening three-game series.

The Knights drew first blood as freshman first baseman Kiko Vazquez ended the Knights' scoring drought at 18 1/3 innings with an RBI double in the first inning that plated junior infielder Matt Ray.

In the second, both teams scored a run, assisted by costly balks. In the top of the inning, senior catcher Jonathan Hodach moved to second on a balk. After a ground out moved him to third, Hodach crossed the plate on a sacrifice fly by junior outfielder Jon Dandridge.

The Knights struck right back when sophomore outfielder Tyson Auer moved to second on a balk and scored a couple of pitches later on a two-out single from Ray.

The big blast of the day came off the bat of the Osprey's junior outfielder Damon Olinto. His two-run shot off of the eventual losing pitcher, Jeremy Thorne (0-1), put the visitors up to stay. It was Olinto's second home run in as many days.

The Knights were able to get a run across in the ninth, but the clutch hitting was too few and far between. The Knights stranded 12 runners in the contest, including four in the last two innings.

Freshman starter Mitch Herold pitched well for the Knights through three innings. But

he started to unravel in the fourth. After walking three batters and being called for his second balk, Herold was relieved with one out in the inning.

Herold, the first left-handed freshman to start for the Knights in a weekend series since 2001, allowed no hits and struck out six in his 3 1/3 innings of work. But his control was inconsistent, as he gave up two runs on five walks, two balks and a wild pitch.

On the other side, senior right-hander Ryan Amason (1-1) earned the win for the Ospreys. He allowed four runs and eight hits in 52/3 innings.

Auer and Ray led the Knights offense with three hits each. They combined to score four runs and steal three bases. The Knights are now 1-5 on the year while

the Ospreys have improved to 5-3. The Knights will continue their 11-game

home stand on Friday night when they begin a three-game series against the Stony Brook Seawolves. It will be the first meeting between the two teams. First pitch is set for 6:30 p.m. at Jay Bergman Field.

> UCF guard Amber Long dribbles during the Knights' 77-62 win over Memphis on Sunday afternoon. The UCF women have defeated Memphis in both meetings this season.

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Turnovers give UAB win

FROM A11

six turnovers. The Blazers used this futility to end the game on a back-breaking 30-9 run.

"That's called turnovers," Striegler said. "And the shots that we got, I don't think were good shots. We were playing not to lose. That's exactly how we looked."

For the game, the Blazers scored 25 points off of the Knights' 22 turnovers.

In the first 30 minutes, it could not have gotten much better for the Knights.

With an average of 70 points

60 percent from the field in the opening half. Of their 41 points, 26 came from inside the paint. But the Knights added just six points to that total in the second half. Some of that can be attributed to the virtual absence of the Knights best post player, senior forward Shelby Weber.

Over the previous five games, Weber paced the team by averaging 15.6 points and 7.4 rebounds a game. Against the Blazers, Weber was in foul trouble all day and only played 15 minutes before fouling out. She ended with no points on three wheth and two priors do opening round of the conference tournament in less than two weeks.

MATT POLLITT / CENTRAL FLO

Freshman guard Britney Jones led the Blazers with 21 points, hitting 5-of-6 shots from above the arc, Guzman recorded her second double-double of the season with 14 points and 11 rebounds.

Long led the Knights' cause with her first career double-double with 19 points and 11 rebounds. Houston and junior forward Keunta Miles both came off the bench to score in double figures, 16 and 12 points respectively.

16 and 12 points, respectively.



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TAMPA

a game, the Blazers like to push the ball up and down the court quickly. But, in the first half, the Knights were the squad with the high-powered offense.

At the 10:04 mark of the first half and up 18-15, the Knights were carried by Long and junior forward Francine Houston. Over the following four and a half minutes, the duo went on a 15-4 run, extending the lead to 33-19 with 5:37 to go. A couple minutes later, another basket from Houston gave the Knights their biggest lead at 39-24.

But, instead of closing out the half on a high note, more turnovers from the Knights gave the Blazers some easy baskets to cut their deficit to seven, 41-34, as the teams reached halftime.

"We just had turnovers, which turned into their points," Long said. "Anytime that somebody scores the first basket, your teammates are going to build off that and they did and we just didn't stop them."

The Knights shot a blistering

snots and two rebounds.

"It's a huge factor for us because she just didn't have one of her best nights," Striegler said about Weber. "We have to get 10 points out of Shelby at least every night and about 10 rebounds."

The Blazers' junior guard Carmen Guzman tallied the first basket of the second half to trim the Knights' margin to five. But, the Knights did regain their first half stroke, going on an 11-4 streak and pushing their lead back up to 12 as the game reached its turning point.

The Blazers improved to 14-10 overall and 7-6 in Conference USA. The Knights' fifth-straight loss dropped them to 5-19 on the year, 3-10 in C-USA.

What may have made this loss hurt so much more was the fact that the Knights came very close to beating a team that they might see in the postseason. With the Blazers bunched up in the middle of C-USA, the Knights could very well be facing a team of this quality in the sunday was senior Day for the team, and, even though it was a day to commemorate the success that they have had in time at UCF, no one wanted to see their career end with this type of season.

"It is just extremely frustrating that we are playing this way and with the seniors, this being their last year," Long said. "I can't even imagine how they are feeling right now."

Striegler added: "I think it is incredibly hard on them, and I feel horrible for them because they have had such a great career here. They have won three conference championships. It has just been one of those kind of years.

"I personally feel like I have let them down."

The Knights were scheduled to close out their home schedule for the season on Sunday against the Memphis Tigers. Results of the game were not available before press time. A full recap of the game will be available in Thursday's edition of the *Future*.

Freshman Taylor impressive in loss

FROM A12

"He's doing everything that he's supposed to do as a studentathlete," Speraw said. "He's gotten better in the last two to three weeks in practice, and he's taken better advantage of his time in games."

After a 21-point win over Tulane on Saturday night, UCF was 4-4 and in a legitimate position to compete for a first-round bye in the C-USA Championship — only the top four teams in the conference earn that bid.

But Wednesday's loss to the fourth-place Cougars and Saturday's 22-point loss to Southern Methodist put UCF in a tough spot.

"We've got to continue to find the people that are doing what we ask and making those steps in the right direction," Speraw said. "There are just five ball games left in the regular season now, so our seniors need to understand that and play all out for those five games. There's still a lot of basketball to be played in this league schedule."

Despite the importance of Wednesday night's game, only 1,031 fans were in attendance, UCF's lowest total for a C-USA game this season. With an average of 1,549 fans per home game UCF continues to have the lowest attendance average in C-USA, despite having the conference's highest enrollment.

Houston jumped out to a 37-29 halftime lead on the strength of an impressive 3-point shooting performance. The Cougars made only 12-of-33 field goals, but they went 9-of-18 from beyond the arc, including 3-for-7 from Oliver Lafayette and 3for-4 for Smith, who led the Cougars with 14 first-half points.

UCF held the advantage through the early part of the game, but Houston took its first lead at 19-17 off a Smith 3-pointer with 10:05 remaining.

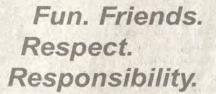
The Cougars pulled ahead to a six-point lead, but UCF narrowed the gap to 28-25 with 2:41 remaining. Houston guard Lafayette hit a 3-pointer seconds later, added another in the final minute, and Smith capped a 9-2 Houston run to end the half with a 3-pointer of his own with less than 10 seconds remaining.

Williams was UCF's leading first-half scorer with 13 points, including 7-for-10 from the freethrow line. Rose was limited to only five minutes in the first half due to foul trouble and proved to not be a factor, as he finished with only 2 points in 15 minutes for the night.

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Central Florida Future

The Student Newspaper Serving UCF Since 1968

Opinions

www.UCFnews.com • Monday, February 20, 2006

OUR STANCE

Future endorses White/Stout

he Future is endorsing Mark White and Jared Stout for SGA Student Body president and vice president because White has the most experience in SGA and has shown himself capable of managing a team of student leaders as speaker of the SGA Senate.

The ability to lead is one of the most important qualities a Student Body president needs. White has shown himself capable of dealing with fractious, often unruly student senators with an even, professional hand. As an SGA senator, White has frequently cut through the governmental bureaucracy to introduce bills that directly benefited student organization. He also spearheaded a resolution that encourages professors to turn in their book orders on time, allowing the bookstore more time to order more used books and therefore saving students money.

White has also campaigned for more student jobs in the Student Union and the Recreation and Wellness Center while on the Activity and Service Fee Committee. In addition, White had worked with fellow senators for the past few months in giving the student body the final say in pending additions to the RWC.

White has attended almost every faculty and student event concerning the betterment of the university. He was a regular face

at Board of Trustee meetings and regularly spoke out in favor of an on-campus stadium.

Stout will be a capable compliment to White. Stout got his feet wet as a SGA senator where he advocated for many religious, cultural and minority organizations, a sometimes difficult task in a senate known for its funding of engineering groups. He wrote the bill for the First Interfaith Trialogue, a strongly attended open discussion between Hillel, Campus Crusade for Christ and the Muslim Student Association. He was also key in organizing the Hurricane Katrina Relief Concert.

White and Stout have garnered more than 25 endorsements from student organizations, including the Interfraternity Council, Honors Congress, the Free Thought Alliance, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, and NORML.

Also worth an honorable mention is the team of Matt DeVlieger and Eric Eingold, running for Student Body president and vice president. Though the Future is strong in its belief that White and Stout are the most qualified candidates, DeVlieger and Eingold would also do an excellent job if elected.

DeVlieger especially has a history of advocating for the students and boasts an varied career in student leadership positions, including a position in the SGA Senate.

Though Eingold does not have leadership experience, he is an intelligent and engaging leader who would be passionate about any position he achieves.

The Future encourages these two to remain active in campus politics even if they do not achieve the positions they now seek.

Student Body president is an important position. As the highest student position in SGA, it is obviously a resume coup for whoever is elected. Also, it is a paid position; the president is paid \$770 every two weeks. More importantly to the students, the Student Body president is the only voice for the students on the Board of Trustees.

In addition, the president appoints all the cabinet officials as well as the members of the Activity and Service Fee Committee, which decides how the millions of dollars taken in by Activity and Service Fees are allocated among clubs and organizations.

SGA executive elections are arguably one of the most important events at UCF and it is the responsibility of the students to make an informed vote. Democratic leadership is a leadership of the people, and that can't happen if the people don't lead.

OUR STANCE



READER VIEWS

Owner has gripe with White

As a small-business owner in the area and a UCF graduate student, I am appalled at the campaign of Mark White. Last year, when Mark had the power to bus students to and from downtown, instead of acting, he sat by and let the deal grow stale, never even proposing legislation to get it through.

He was the point person in a relationship with local-business owners that would have helped to fund the transportation from the business' pockets. That's right. He had the opportunity not only to get it done, but to deliver to the students cheap access and free tickets to the venues most frequented by the students.

Now that he is running for SGA Student Body president, he's tagged his name on an issue that he deliberately let fall to the wayside. Just so there are no mistakes, I am the local-business owner who was organizing the funding from venues like Hard Rock, Backbooth, the Social, TaBu, and Wall Street, who were ecstatic about the opportunity to provide safe transportation to and from their venues, with the sanction of the students.

During that six-month period, other senators drafted legislation while White neglected meetings and forgot to return phone calls. White's inaction as Senate pro tempore has cost his student body hundreds of thousands of dollars. His campaign has sucked him dry of political clout and, as president, White will do what he is best at - get ready for his next election. I know nothing about the other three tickets except what I read in the Future, but I do know, because of my personal experience with White, that ambitious neglect of the students' interest is exactly what he stands for.

- PAUL GELLER

net would be something more fulfilling. Ha! Not only was my position not worthwhile, but the people above me were full of it.

Craig Alles, the current chief of staff and vice presidential candidate, has a position that hasn't existed in previous cabinets for this simple reason: it's useless! This does not qualify him to be the vice president of Student Government. That brings me to the reasoning of my firing.

Of course Willie Bentley Jr. does not agree with my assessment of Alles, and he doesn't have to. That's the beauty of free speech. Everyone in cabinet has a right to their own opinion aside from work, even the director of public relations or so I thought.

Last week, in a public Interfraternity Council meeting, I came out in support of Mark White and Jared Stout as a representative of my fraternity, not SGA. Less than four hours later, I was terminated from my position for failure to represent the administration properly.

Was Bentley or McClain Woosley actually present at this meeting where I supposedly misrepresented them? Nope, but, according to them, five people claim that I did. In a meeting of close to a hundred people, five people from the Eggnatz/Alles camp claimed I said something wrong. Heck, I'd claim that too if I had just lost an endorsement and the election in one fell swoop.

But the blame doesn't fall on their shoulders. Instead it falls on the man in charge. Shame on you, Willie, for using your power to try to intimidate people to agree with you. Your plan of strong-arming the executive cabinet by making an example of me will not go unnoticed. Remember the middle word of your whole campaign last year? Obviously you don't, so let me remind you: integrity. I still have mine, but I can't speak for yours anymore.

Public relations a global priority

n a press conference Friday, the jobs they were hired for is U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said that al-Qaida is beating America when it comes to public relations and media attention. The most alarming statement Rumsfeld made was that the U.S. government operates as a "five-and-dime store in an eBay world" when it comes to the media. It's great to know that in an age when the media are at their height, the U.S. apparently can't hold a candle to the terrorist organization that it has made the prime target of all military efforts. According to Rumsfeld, the Pentagon's "propaganda machine" operates eight hours per day, six days a week, and he labeled that a "dangerous deficiency." If this nation's top line of defense and intelligence is truly operating in such a lackadaisical manner, then we have more to worry about than just terror alerts and threats from terrorist cells. Rumsfeld's suggestion for making this problem better was that U.S. military P.R. officers should be rewarded with promotions for responding faster and anticipating news in a more timely manner.

to be rewarded for nothing more than going through the U.S. military's PR officers are involved in.

If they're incapable of han-

That sounds like a fantastic idea: promoting and rewarding people for doing the jobs they were hired to do.

If the best incentive for the U.S. military's PR agents to do motions and releasing news in a timely manner, then it's time to find better people to fill these positions.

People in media-related occupations need to be held accountable for the duties entailed in their jobs.

There's no difference between a U.S. military PR representative and a regular newspaper writer. They have jobs to fulfill, and neglecting any important aspects could lead to hazardous mistakes.

Rumsfeld highlighted the best example of a hazardous mistake in his conference. Newsweek magazine reported allegations that U.S. military officers were abusing prisoners at Abu Ghraib and that some of those officers flushed a copy of the Koran down a toilet.

Rumsfeld said that Newsweek's article concerning these allegations was irresponsible because it's still unknown if such violations ever occurred, and the U.S. government wasn't given sufficient time to investigate these matters.

He couldn't have been more correct, seeing as 16 people were killed in protests concerning the alleged violation of the Muslim holy book.

Newsweek eventually retracted the story, but the immense irresponsibility of even running the story in the first place shows the kind of battle that the dling the backlash from such allegations and the magnitude of America's international image, then it's time to get people in these positions who are willing to simply do their jobs.

The fact that CNN's Web site actually has a poll asking readers to vote on whether the U.S. or al- Qaida has better PR is both appalling and disturbing. At press time, 61,900 people had voted in this unscientific poll, and 70 percent agreed that al-Qaida was winning the media war.

A militant group that hides in caves and depends on cowardly terrorist tactics and second-rate weaponry is beating the greatest nation in the history of mankind in the one area that it has more outlets than any other modern nation. It's an abomination.

The U.S. has more resources than any country, especially when it concerns the media. The fact that the government cannot harness this global power and use it to its fullest advantage is not only a shame, it's a flat out embarrassment.

The global image of the U.S. is anything but stellar. But there is no other nation that is more capable of correcting such a problem.

If P.R. really is such a problem for the military, then Rumsfeld needs to close his mouth and solve it.

æ

UCF GRADUATE STUDENT

Former SGA employee speaks out

I left the limelight of being a columnist at the Future this time last year because I felt that a position in the Bentley/Woosley cabi-

- SHANNON MAU

The Future encourages comments from readers. Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and must include full name and phone number. We may edit for length, grammar, style and libel. Send letters to editor@UCFnews.com, submit them online at www.UCFnews.com or fax them to 407-447-4556. Questions? Call 407-447-4558.

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JEREMY PINKERTON Business "Yes, definitely."



RYAN BRIMMER Marketing "Heck yes."



JASON HERRINGTON Public Relations "Yes."

Central Florida Future

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February 20, 2006 · Central Florida Future

Regardless of the tickets, all that matters is voting

It's tough to make an endorsement with so much quality



MOUTHING OFF **ASHLEY BURNS** Newsroom Manager

I've never fully understood the mentality behind SGA presidential campaigns. The people involved in tickets pump ridiculous amounts of money into signs, T-shirts, stickers, blah, blah, blah, and, other than that they receive a pretty hefty paycheck, I'm not sure what they ever get out of it.

I have worked on four winning campaigns in my absurdly long college career, and I finally gave up because the whole idea made me sick to my stomach. It still does.

Some people who are few and far between these days actually care about making a difference with student politics at one of the largest university's in the nation.

I haven't known a person with such a quality since Brian Battles was president. We may never see another person who legitimately cares about what students deserve. What we've grown accustomed to are tickets filled by people who are bent on pimping their resumes and earning fat paychecks while they kiss every proverbial baby to keep the small percentage of students who vote

in the elections satisfied. The truth is that too many students couldn't care less about SGA elections. Every year sees the same pathetic response. Maybe it's because people have grown tired of presidents who care more about their image than they do about taking a stand, or maybe it's due to the laziness of students.

I gave up on SGA a long time ago because it never helped people like me. Even the students I helped get elected didn't do what I expected them to.

There's a good possibility that I don't know enough about the position, but there's also a greater possibility that I'm dead-on in my assumption that too many presidents have idled through their administrations.

ets running, and I have issues with all of them. Call me the old coot who tells kids to get off his lawn, but I'm weary of SGA at this point.

Basically, instead of trying to analyze every little thing about each ticket, I'm going to just look at it like a regular person. Then again, the regular person at UCF really doesn't care about the elections anyway.

First and foremost, I know absolutely nothing about the Richard Skandera/Ben Munson ticket except what the Future printed last issue. Maybe these guys have good intentions, or maybe they're in it for the green like past tickets. Either way, I'm indifferent. It's mostly ignorance, but records speak loudly.

As for the Matt DeVlieger/Eric Eingold ticket, I think there are great intentions involved. **DeVlieger** likely doesn't recog-White has nize it, but I

have a good shown me a amount of respect for what lot in the he's tried to get done at UCF. past year, My problem is the personal and I fully attack he took at me after the fatal shooting of UCF police offi-

endorse him for the next cer Mario Jenkins. He accused SGA me of using Jenkins' passing as a soapbox. He president. said I was in the administration's

pocket, and I was "the man" trying to keep students down.

I've always understood that people don't necessarily agree with my opinions, but careless statements ring loudly. Actions speak louder than letters to the editor, and DeVlieger has done a lot to help — or at least attempt to help — the student body. All personal attacks aside, I know his heart is in the right place, but I honestly don't believe there's much credibility in the leadership offered because ideology can't hang with reality.

A few years ago, I had to

That's the situation I found myself in when I was informed that Mark White and Josh Eggnatz were running against each other for president. I consider both of them friends, and the situation doesn't benefit anyone when endorsements are involved.

Truth be told, the Future began endorsing candidates only a few years ago. In my years with this paper, I've endorsed Kevin Peters and Willie Bentley Jr. Am I a big fan of endorsements? Not at all. If I had my way, I'd probably endorse Damon Jones' suit at the NBA Slam Dunk Contest before I threw my hat in the SGA ring.

For all it's worth, I know that either candidate would probably do a good job.

They're both great people with quality running mates, and I'm almost entirely posi-

tive that they're in it with the best intentions. A lot of people have expected me to endorse White because we share the same fraternal ties. People assume that since we wear the same Greek letters that I'm going to give him that advantage. I've never believed in that, and, if people want to

think that's the reason I'd give an endorsement, then I'm not going to lose my breath trying to dispute it.

The fact of the matter is that I really didn't like White at all when he joined my fraternity. As I always do, though, I gave him the benefit of the doubt, and I got to know him.

He's a good leader, and he genuinely cares about the student body's best interests. I'm not saying that the other tickets don't because I think they all do.

But White has shown me a lot in the past year, and I fully endorse him as the next president of SGA.





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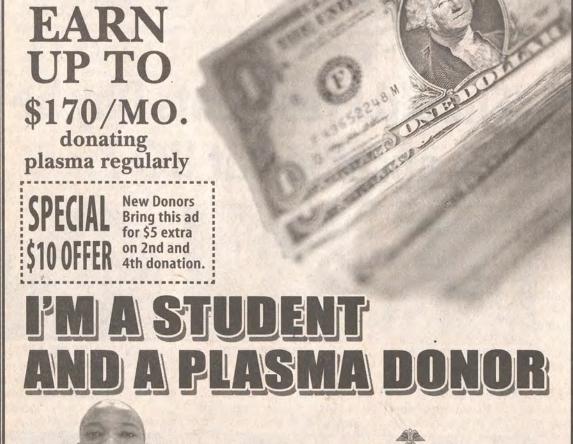


That brings us to today's election. There are four tickmake a personal decision when my friends Marco Pena and Brian Battles ran against each other for the top office in SGA.

It's always tough to choose between friends, and most people would be alarmed at how offended people can get when it comes to elections.

Regardless, the most important decision belongs to students. Just vote, people. It may seem trivial, but it's worth it.

> Ashley Burns can be reached at newsroom@UCFnews.com



Name: Erik Brown Occupation: Student Hobbies: Video games, sports, reading Why I donate plasma: "Not enough people donate. I don't think people realize, for two hours a week they can give someone a second chance at life." lame: Tamara Ahrens Occupation: Student Hobbies: Reading, watching TV, hanging out with my friends, and just relaxing Why I donate plasma: "I like to save lives,

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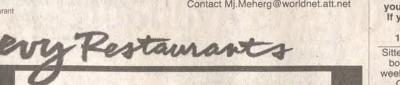


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Apt. in Village at Science Drive. Avail. Now! Must move in by end of Feb. \$520. Private rm w/bath, walk-in closet, Ethernet, furnished. F Only.

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Quiet, Utilities included! \$500.00 E-mail DJ Carl at cbfw@psualum.com bdrms avail in a private 3 bdrm home with patio, jacuzzi, pool table. \$500/mo each, all utilities included. Female only.

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Large 1/1 in a 2/2. Avail in Pegasus Connection. \$599/mo all util incl. Avail Immed. Call Lisa 727-686-9641

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1 bd avail. in 4/2 at Pegasus Connection. \$485/mo incl. all utilities. Pool, volleyball cts., etc. Avail May 1. M roommates. Call 407-965-2903 leave a message.

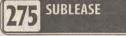
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Is Economics Your Thing? Do You Want to Meet New Friendly Interactive People? Join the Economics Club

http://www.bus.ucf.edu/econclub Get involved! Campus Crusade for Christ presents CRAVE-Thursdays at 9:15pm Ferrell Auditorium. Meet new people & learn about a relationship with God.

Learn about Congressman Jim Davis, Democratic candidate for Governor. Meeting will be in the Student Union room 220 Wed Feb 22nd at 8pm.

We need business and financial officers to lead social affairs, & game needs experienced modelers and programmers. www.developersclub.org

Sigma Tau Delta - English Honor Society is hosting a FREE Chronicles of Narnia interactive lecture on Tues Feb 21 at 7pm - Student Union Pegasus Ballroom C

Looking for a fun and unique activity? Check out the Fencing Club at pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~fencing or e-mail: fencingknights@hotmail.com

Alpha Xi Delta loves Delta Upsilon Good luck with your Philanthropy Xi Love, Alpha Xi Delta

Panhellenic Council would like to wish all the candidates good luck in the SGA election. Also thank you to all the Rho Gamma and recruitment exec. applicants. IEEE International Electron Device and

Materials Colloquium Friday, Feb 24: 8:00am - 5:30pm

Student Union Cape Florida 316AB HASA: The Largest & Oldest Hispanic Student Organization on campus. For

more info: www.hasa-ucf.org, Next meeting 2/20, SU 218A, 3/6, SU 221AB AMERICAN RED CROSS CLUB

meeting Feb. 23 at 5pm in Communications Bldg Rm 111. Come see what you can do to help others!



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given to the Student Government for auction later this semester. UCFPD Property and Evidence. 407-823-5980

Hope For The Children of Haiti By partnering with Against The Odds Inc, you can help empower us to shine the light of Jesus Christ into the darkness of their lives. Your compassion and

donation will help give them hope for a brighter future. If you would like to impact the lives of the children of Haiti, send your donations to ATO, Inc. P.O. Box 4293, Apopka, FL 32704. For more information visit our website www.ato-inc.com or call 407-299-1648.

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#	¥7	Collegiate Village Inn (CVI)	Transit Center
#	#8	Riverwind at Alafaya Trail	HPA/Engr I &
#	¥9	Research Park (IST/OTC/P-1/P-2/RP/BRA/HR)	Health Center
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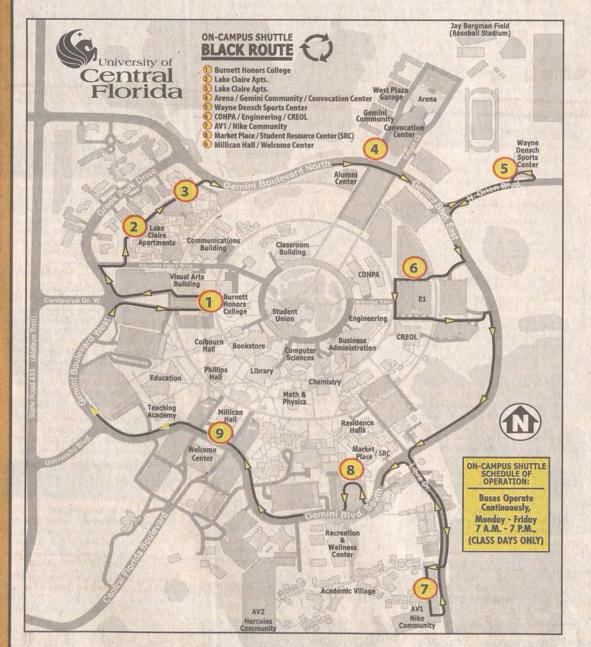
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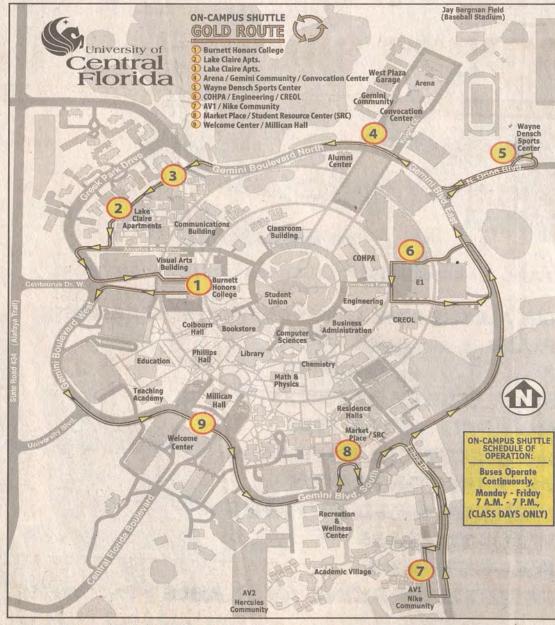
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