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OWL DROPPINGS

Quarterback Kyle Israel's 327 yards, 3 touchdowns not enough as Knights fall to Rice 40-29 — SEE SPORTS, A9



FINDING MAÑANA
Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist comes to UCF to tell her story.

— SEE NEWS, A2

Central Florida Future

FREE • Published Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

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Coping with grief, DISBELIEF

SGA helps choose majors

JENNIFER ALVIRA
Staff Writer

Some students are waiting too long to declare a major, but the Student Success Center and Student Government Association hope to narrow down those choices, said SGA Vice President Jared Stout.

"We have students that get very deep into college life without having picked a direction, and we want to help students find a place where they will be comfortable," Stout said.

SGA and the Student Success Center are partnering together to sponsor Undeclared Week, an event free to all UCF students who are undecided, considering a double major or just interested in learning about different career paths.

There will be free food, LINK loot points and a Best Buy gift card door prize. Undeclared Week will be held Oct. 23-26 in the Student Union, with each day following the

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS ON A6

Breast cancer survivor to speak

NICOLE BLAKE
Contributing Writer

As she walked into her physician's private office, Vanessa Echols knew something was wrong.

Like a tourist in a foreign country, she recalled surveying the pastel-colored office and glancing from the Kleenex box on the coffee table to the blank television screen. Thirty seconds elapsed as she sat in silence and shifted her eyes toward the railroad track beyond the office window.

When the doctor entered the room with a folder of notes clutched in her hands, her mouth soon formed the words that would forever change Echols' life.

"Hearing cancer is a very scary thing," Echols said. "My mind was racing and she said

PLEASE SEE CANCER ON A3

NADA TAHA
Staff Writer

Nine hundred students didn't show up for class at nearby University High on Friday, the day after 15-year-old sophomore Michael Nieves was stabbed to death near the school's bus loop. Stephanie Gonzalez, Nieves' 17-year-old girlfriend, was one of them.

"School is the last thing on my mind," Gonzalez told the *Central Florida Future*, on Sunday. "[Nieves] used to walk me everywhere, and I know going to school, I'm going to have memories, and I don't want to break down in front of everyone. I'm trying to be strong."

Gonzalez said Nieves touched many lives. "You wouldn't even imagine how many people loved that kid," she said. "He was always happy and always making people laugh."

Reports speculated that Nieves and Kelvin de la Cruz, 17, who is being held without bail on a charge of first-degree murder, were fighting over Gonzalez. Her friend Daniel Garcia, 16, a junior at University, said that was untrue.

"Everybody who knows Kelvin and Stephanie all know that it wasn't over her," Garcia said. "She never went out with Kelvin. He treated her like everybody else, he hardly talked to her."

Gonzalez said "I have no idea how people got it into their minds how it was over me. [De la Cruz] just didn't like my boyfriend. It was just him being stupid and talking behind [Nieves'] back."

Friends and family described Nieves as a "good kid" who loved to play baseball. He was the "quiet type, who would have never started a fight."

Nieves was remembered during a moment of silence observed at University High on Friday morning.

His death also touched lives at UCF, where University High alumni reminisced about their old school.

"I was listening to the radio, and I heard murder, and I heard UHS, and I couldn't believe it, I was shocked," said UCF freshman Ahmed Abdallah, 18. "I was there all four years. There were drugs, and there was fighting, but nothing to that extent."

PLEASE SEE SLAYING ON A8



JOE KALEITA / ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stabbing death at nearby University High shocks students and alumni



ROBYN SIDERSKY / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

University High School students, top, console each other after finding out that classmate Michael Nieves died after being stabbed on campus Thursday. By Friday morning, the beginning of an informal memorial on school grounds had been constructed from candles, flowers, beads, a cross and photos of the victim.

Campus political groups debate hot issues

AMANDA MOORE
Contributing Writer

The College Republicans and College Democrats held their first debate since 2004 to raise awareness of key issues facing the U.S. in the upcoming Nov. 7 gubernatorial election.

The debate was held Wednesday in the Key West Ballroom in the UCF Student Union.

Political science professor Aubrey Jewett moderated the event and posed questions to the panel.

Edgar Robinson, College Republicans vice chairman and panelist, said in a phone interview that the debate was held to "mobilize voting on campus."

To advertise the event, Robinson invited about 900 people via the Web site Facebook.com.

When some of the chairs remained empty the evening of the debate, College Democrats President Michael Mendoza said it was a "reflection of general apathy" on campus.

College Republicans kicked off the debate by discussing economic policy.

Republican Michael Krones noted that while stocks are soaring, the unemployment rate is low, and revenues continue to increase. He said America would benefit from the FairTax plan, a 23 percent inclusive tax that would be applied once at retail level.

Because used items could be purchased without taxation, the poor could use the prebate to gain independence and invest in the future, he said.

Krones said the FairTax plan

would get rid of W-2 forms entirely, make taxes universally understandable, and make American production more competitive.

College Democrats member Jared Adelman said the income gap among classes is the largest since the 1920s. He proposed creating new jobs and protecting those already in existence while maintaining current taxation.

College Democrats refuted the FairTax plan as it "would call

PLEASE SEE WAR ON A7



BRIAN BUSTOS / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

College Republicans' Mike Krones debates the issue of a possible FairTax on Wednesday. Taxes were just one of the issues covered, along with abortion, immigration and the war in Iraq.

AROUND CAMPUS

News and notices for the UCF community

Student Memorial

The Vietnamese American Student Association will have a booth in front of the Student Union in memory of Nhat Anh Tran today from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tran, a UCF student, was slain last week, and VASA will be handing out ribbons to raise awareness of domestic violence. They will also be collecting donations for a memorial fund for Tran.

The Forensic Science Association will also be in front of the Union, taking donations and letting students soak chemistry professors in a dunk tank.

At 1 p.m., they will hold a moment of silence.

For more information, contact VASA at everyoneelovesvasa@gmail.com.

Fitness Orientation

The Recreation and Wellness Center will be holding fitness orientations today from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the initial meeting in Room 204.

These fitness orientations are scheduled 60-minute sessions designed to introduce students to the machines and facilities of the recreation center.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact Stephanie Gaski at (407) 823-2408.

English Honor Society meeting

The UCF chapter of the Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society will meet today from 4:30-5:30 p.m. in Communication Building, Room 210.

Current members, new members, and students interested in joining are welcome to attend.

For more information, contact Ashley Carney at ashleycarney_ucf@yahoo.com.

Homeless volunteering

Volunteer UCF will participate in feeding the homeless today, with a carpool meeting at Millican Hall at 6 p.m. and returning at 8 p.m.

For more information, contact Chris Goyzueta at (407) 823-6471.

Resume workshop

Career Services and Experiential Learning will hold a résumé workshop on Tuesday from 10 to 10:45 p.m. in the Career Resource Center, Building 7F, Room 185.

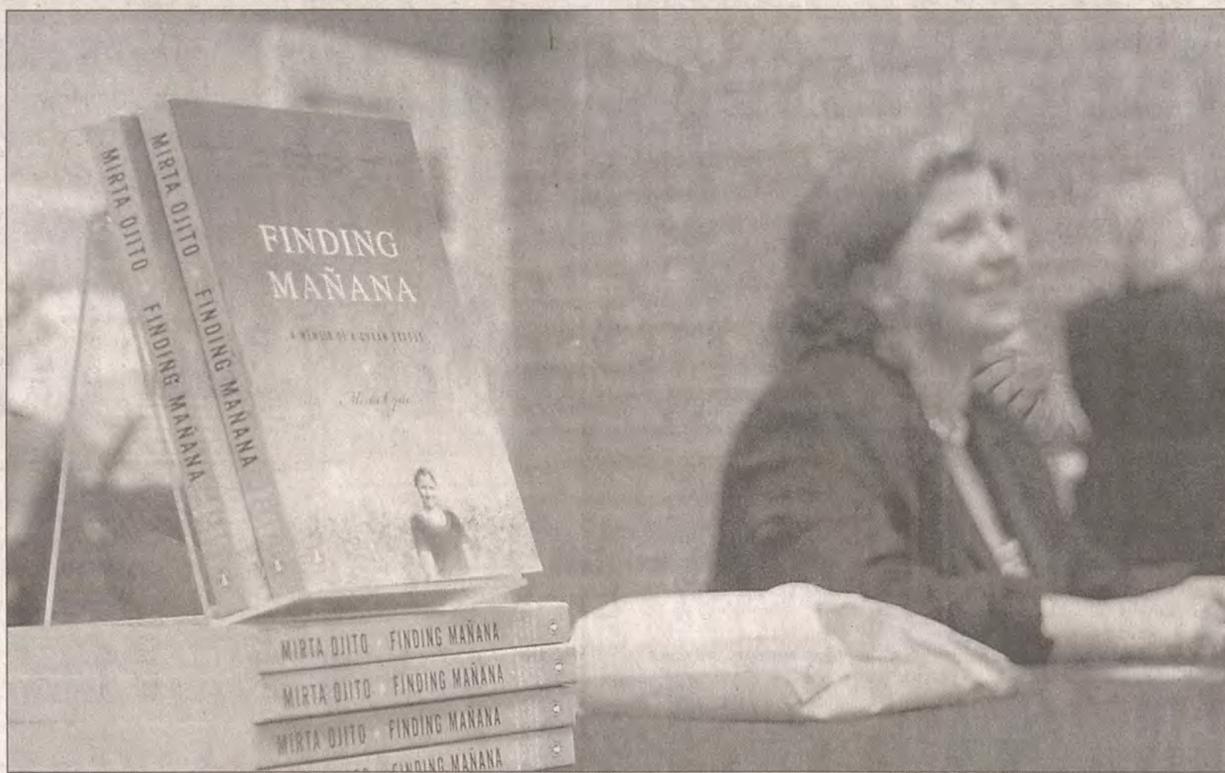
For more information, contact Annie Ware at (407) 823-2361.

Language program

International Services Center will host a cultural program at the Barbara Ying Center on Tuesday from 4 to 5 p.m.

The program, called Language Tables, will explore cultures through foreign languages.

For more information, contact Paul Schatz at (407) 823-5491.



Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, author, and Cuban-American Mirta Ojito talks with students about her memoir, *Finding Mañana: A Memoir of a Cuban Exodus*, Oct. 16 at the UCF Arena.

'A Cuban epic in prose'

SHAHDAI RICHARDSON
Contributing Writer

Mirta Ojito, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, came to UCF Oct. 16 and delved into how her critically acclaimed book, *Finding Mañana: A Memoir of a Cuban Exodus*, came to be.

"Having lost my country, I wanted to make sure I didn't lose myself," Mirta Ojito said to UCF students, faculty and staff in the UCF Arena.

Ojito came to America from Cuba in 1980 and has since preserved her determination and cultural identity with her reporting and writing.

"It was the book I wanted to read, and couldn't find anywhere," Ojito said.

Finding Mañana was chosen by the UCF Department of English as required reading for its Composition I courses, and they, along with the Hispanic American Student Association, were the ones to bring Ojito to campus.

The memoir describes Ojito's experience in 1980 as a 16-year-old Cuban girl brought to the U.S. on a boat called the *Mañana*.

Finding Mañana is classified as a memoir, but has been referred to as a novel and even an autobiography.

Jose B. Fernandez, dean of the arts and humanities department, introduced Ojito after relaying his interpretation of

the book.

"I like to think of it as a Cuban epic written in prose," Fernandez said.

Ojito focused her memoir on the 1980 Mariel boatlift, which resulted in over 125,000 Cubans being brought to America from the port of Mariel, Cuba, over a course of about seven months.

Most of the Cubans ended up in South Florida, including Ojito, who arrived on May 11 aboard the *Mañana*.

Cubans, including Ojito's family, were leaving Cuba because they did not like living under the power of Dictator Fidel Castro. They did not support what Castro considered the revolution in Cuba and therefore were not loyal in his eyes.

As a result, in May 1980, Castro allowed disloyal Cubans to board ships headed for the U.S. at the port of Mariel.

According to Ojito, what sparked the creation of *Finding Mañana* was an article in *The New Yorker*.

"I read *The New Yorker* every week," Ojito said.

The article was about a woman with a prosthetic arm. The story unexpectedly resulted in Ojito seeing a mental image of the captain of the *Mañana*, who she remembered had a fake arm.

"I should find the captain, I thought, if only to thank him," Ojito said in her book.

From there, Ojito began her journey to find the captain of the *Mañana*, and others who had been there when she came to America. Along the way, the idea of a book took hold, and her memoir was the outcome.

After finding and interviewing other Cubans who had been on the *Mañana*, Ojito's most difficult search yet was for the captain, Mike Howell. Ojito addressed how she had put ads in boating magazines, and even spoke to a private investigator to try and find Howell.

Her search for Howell was unsuccessful, until it was brought to her attention that boats are listed.

After narrowing down which boat had been the *Mañana* she had traveled on, Ojito found Howell. She contacted him, and Ojito had what she considered a long conversation, rather than an interview, with Howell.

"It was just a beautiful, wonderful moment," Ojito said.

"What it took for me to write this," Ojito said, "was memory — sensory memory — and reporting."

Because Ojito felt that she, as well as those she interviewed, could not remember exact words said in 1980, quotation marks were not used in *Finding Mañana*. However, Ojito makes it clear that everything in her book is true, as far as she knows.

From the reporter angle, Ojito also used newspaper articles to gather information for her book.

"I learned the importance of newspapers," Ojito said. "If the reporting is wrong, then my book is wrong."

In the end, Ojito wrote a memoir in the style of a reporter. She said it is probably an uncommon style, but that is just how she happened to write it.

As a journalist, Ojito also expressed her feelings about current events in Cuba, as well as the impact of her book.

Recently, Fidel Castro became ill and turned power over to his brother. A student from the audience asked Ojito how she felt Cuba will be affected when Castro dies.

"The end of Fidel is not the end of the regime," Ojito said, pointing out that it is Fidel's brother who has power now. "I don't think a democracy will enter Cuba any time soon."

Ojito feels that her book will connect with many of those who experienced leaving Cuba in 1980. "It was a very traumatic time for a lot of people, especially the children," Ojito said.

What *Finding Mañana* is really about, explained Ojito, is regular people.

"Regular people change history," Ojito said. "I knew I could recreate history, and I did."

NATION & WORLD

Keep current with headlines you may have missed

Discovery of more remains at WTC site stirs renewed anger, anguish

NEW YORK — Police and forensic experts dug through rubble at the World Trade Center site Friday in search of more human remains after bones were discovered as utility crews excavated a manhole there this week.

The discovery Thursday angered families of Sept. 11 victims. Some called for all work at the site to be halted for a new, systematic search and for Congress and the state to investigate.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Friday gathered top city officials for an emergency meeting at City Hall to determine why human bones were still being found at the site five years after the terrorist attack and what areas of the site should be searched again.

Construction work on several ongoing projects at the site — the Sept. 11 memorial, the 1,776-foot Freedom Tower and a transit hub — continued without interruption Friday, said Port Authority of New York and New Jersey spokesman Steve Coleman.

The remains, some as big as arm or leg bones, were found by a Port Authority contractor working with a Consolidated Edison crew excavating a manhole, Coleman said. The location is next to where a podium is put up on Sept. 11 anniversaries for families to read the names of their loved ones.

The World Trade Center attack killed 2,749 people. The families of about 1,150 of those victims still have not received word their loved ones' remains had been found.

The excavation of the 110-story twin towers began the evening of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and lasted for nine months. About 20,000 pieces of human remains were found. The DNA in thousands of those pieces, many small enough to slip into a test tube, was too damaged by heat, humidity and time to yield matches in the many tests forensic scientists have tried over the years.

The city told victims' families last year that it was putting the project on hold, possibly for years, until new DNA technology is developed, because every known process had been tried.

Polls open today for early voting in the 2006 general election

TAMPA — Voters can begin casting early ballots today in general election contests to pick the state's next governor and a U.S. senator, and decide several close congressional races that could help change the balance of power on Capitol Hill.

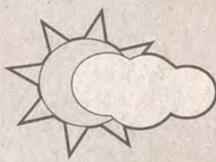
The practice of opening the polls early in Florida was expanded after the botched presidential election in 2000. Officials hoped having selected polling sites open early would help keep lines shorter on Election Day.

The 2006 general election is Tuesday, Nov. 7.

In the race for governor, Republican Florida Attorney

PLEASE SEE NATION ON A4

LOCAL WEATHER



Today

PARTLY CLOUDY
High: 76° Low: 51°

TODAY IN DETAIL

Today: Partly cloudy skies with a small chance of showers. Winds north-northwest at 10 to 20 mph.
Tonight: Mostly clear skies as the temperature drops. Winds north-northwest at 5 to 15 mph.



Tuesday

SUNNY High: 69° Low: 48°



Wednesday

SUNNY High: 75° Low: 57°

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Cancer death rates highest in blacks

FROM A1

malignancy, and she said other words that I don't remember because my mind was elsewhere. I was thinking about what comes next."

Further testing affirmed that Echols, a WFTV-Ch. 9 Eyewitness News anchor, was one of an estimated 213,910 women who were diagnosed with breast cancer in the U.S. in 2004.

Echols' fight for survival is fresh in her mind as she prepares for her keynote speech at UCF's 2006 Breast Cancer Update on Wednesday. Accompanying her at the fourth annual event will be various speakers who have been affected by breast cancer and healthcare personnel who will address the biological, social and psychological diversity of this cancer.

On Feb. 23, 2004, Echols was faced with a verdict that would later result in six months of chemotherapy, 30 radiation treatments over six weeks and surgery. She was exposed to three different chemotherapy medications that caused total hair loss, fatigue and nausea.

"Hair loss is like an outward sign that [says] 'yes I'm sick,'" Echols said. "When you see yourself bald you can't deny that you're sick."

She said it taught her that health was more important than her outward appearance. Her determination to defeat cancer and help others do the same is the foundation of her survival story.

Last year's keynote speaker was Dr. Jean Leuner, the director of UCF's School of Nursing. She discussed survivorship and her personal account of living with breast cancer while handling the duties of an administrator.

Leslie Lieberman, the director of the Women's Research Center at UCF, is the coordinator of the upcoming event. She views Echols' involvement as a story of triumph that shows how breast cancer can be dealt with in a public manner.

This year's event will look at the diversity issues surrounding breast cancer.

Non-Hispanic, white women are diagnosed with breast cancer in higher frequencies than Hispanic and black women, Lieberman said. However, the mortality rate due to breast cancer is higher for black women, and this may be due to delayed diagnoses.

As an African-American, Echols represents minorities who have survived, Lieberman said.

"She was very open and soft-spoken and sincere, and I realized that since she was a survivor she has a mission to bring breast cancer awareness to everyone and that's what's needed," said Sherlean Lee, president of Sisters Network Orlando Chapter, which is an affiliate of a national organization that strives to inform black women about breast cancer.

Lee is a breast cancer survivor and said that Echols can help women to become proactive about breast cancer.

"Stop the silence" is the organization's motto, because silence is "killing us [African-American women]," Lee said.

Echols' community involvement has allowed her to further connect with local residents through other organizations, such as Relay for Life, which brings the community together to honor cancer survivors and those who have passed away.

"She has a great presence about her," said Lauren Nelson,

senior community representative of the American Cancer Society. "She is able to bring the message home about how important it is to raise awareness and early detection."

After receiving the news that she had breast cancer, Echols told her boss, who later informed the other staff members via e-mail.

She went public with her diagnosis a couple of months after treatment and worked throughout most of her 10 months of treatment, even if that meant working two days out of the week.

"I think that it is very brave, not many people wish to actually express something that makes them weak," said Audrey Adair, a broadcast journalism major at UCF.

Adair said she admired Echols' decision to remain in the public eye while undergo-

ing treatment, and she hopes to attend the upcoming event.

Although the months of treatment affected Echols emotionally and physically, she had the help and support of parents who devoted themselves to the needs of their daughter.

Her parents lived in Alabama, but her mother made the decision to move to Orlando and take care of her. Echols' father alternated between staying in Orlando for two weeks and going back to Alabama for one week.

"I feel that they gave up a year of their life for me," Echols said.

"It's almost like the whole family has been diagnosed."

In light of the effect that breast cancer had on her family, Echols said that it was important for college students to be aware of the realities of

breast cancer.

Young people are being diagnosed with breast cancer and it is important for people to understand the symptoms and the treatments that are available.

"Knowledge is power is not just a cliché, it is something that can save your life," Echols said.

She remembers sitting in her physician's office as her eyes began to tear up when the doctor told her that she may have breast cancer, but she had to remain calm and listen to the results.

She made a conscious decision to prevent breast cancer from interrupting her normal routine and taking over her life.

"I had to show cancer I'm winning and you're not," Echols said. "You cannot only survive after cancer but [you can] thrive."

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HIGHER EDUCATION

What's in the news at colleges around the country

Standoff in Penn State apartment ends with gunman's suicide

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — A 24-year-old man shot and killed himself Sunday inside a Penn State University apartment, ending an 8-hour standoff with police, the school said.

The man barricaded himself inside one of the apartment's four bedrooms, university spokesman Bill Mahon said. University police, and then state police, were negotiating with him from the kitchen, he said.

The suspect, who was not a student, was visiting his sister who lived in the apartment and attended Penn State, Mahon said.

Just before 9 a.m. Sunday, state police negotiators "felt their negotiations were going badly and thought that he was going to harm himself," Mahon said.

"They made a decision to try to enter the bedroom and get the gun from him."

Tear gas and percussion grenades were fired into the room, but the man did not come out, said Mahon.

After several minutes, police used more tear gas, then went into the bedroom and discovered the man had shot himself, Mahon said.

The school said the shooting capped a series of events that apparently started late Saturday night after an altercation at a bar.

Police were called to the second-story apartment shortly before 1 a.m. after neighbors reported a man with a handgun, Mahon said.

Investigation continues in elevator death of Ohio State student

COLUMBUS, Ohio — An elevator in a campus dormitory where an Ohio State University student was pinned and killed has been sealed while state inspectors and police investigate.

Elevator inspectors from the state Department of Commerce will return Monday to continue looking into the death of Andrew Polakowski, 18, of Erie, Pa., said spokeswoman Denise Lee.

Polakowski was the last person in a group of students to enter the third-floor elevator Friday night when it unexpectedly began to descend with the doors open, said Rick Amweg, assistant chief of the campus police.

Polakowski, a freshman pre-business major, was pinned when he tried to escape through a gap between the top of the elevator and the third floor, police said. It was unclear if he jumped or tried to climb out, Amweg said.

Caress Russell, a third-floor resident, came upon Polakowski after he was pinned. She said she ran to the front desk to have someone call 911 when she saw him unconscious.

Police and state inspectors would not say whether the elevator malfunctioned.

BYU professor resigns amid Sept. 11 theory flap

PROVO, Utah — A Brigham Young University physics professor has resigned from his post Friday, six weeks after the school placed him on leave for making controversial remarks about the attacks of Sept. 11.

"I am electing to retire so that I can spend more time speaking and conducting research of my choosing," physics professor Steven Jones said in a statement released by the school.

Jones began teaching at BYU, which is owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, in 1985.

He recently published theories about U.S. government involvement in the events of Sept. 11, including that explosives inside the World Trade Center — not airplanes striking the twin towers — brought the complex down.

BYU stripped Jones of two classes and put him on leave in early September, beginning an investigation of his research.

The school abandoned its review Friday after reaching a retirement agreement with Jones, BYU spokeswoman Carri Jenkins said.

Jenkins said the school did not pressure Jones to retire.

NATION & WORLD



Sally Regenhard, right, holding a photo of her deceased firefighter son killed in the Sept. 11 World Trade Center attacks, reacts to the discovery of human remains at the WTC site.

FROM A2

General Charlie Crist faces U.S. Rep. Jim Davis, a Democrat.

In the U.S. Senate race, Republican U.S. Rep. Katherine Harris is challenging incumbent Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson.

The contest to fill Harris' southwest Florida seat is one of several congressional races getting national attention. In that district, Republican auto dealer Vern Buchanan is in a tight race with Democrat Christine Jennings, a retired banker.

There are also six constitutional amendments on the statewide ballot.

Sudan orders U.N. envoy to leave the country within three days

KHARTOUM, Sudan — The Sudanese government Sunday ordered the chief U.N. envoy out of the country after he wrote that Sudan's army had suffered major losses in recent fighting in Darfur.

The order against the envoy, Jan Pronk, is likely to complicate international efforts to halt the killings, rapes and other atrocities in the strife-torn region of western Sudan.

He was given 72 hours starting at midday Sunday to leave, the news agency said.

In New York, U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said Secretary-General Kofi Annan had received a letter from the Sudanese government asking that Pronk be removed from the post.

Pronk, a blunt-speaking former Dutch Cabinet minister, drew sharp criticism from the Sudanese armed forces after he wrote this month in his personal Web blog, <http://www.janpronk.nl>, that Sudan's military had suffered heavy losses in recent fighting with rebels in northern Darfur.

The Sudanese armed forces said Thursday that those remarks amounted to "psychological war against the Sudanese army" and declared that Pronk was "persona non-grata."

One day later the military demanded an official apology.

Even before the blog appeared, Sudan's government had been at odds with Pronk over Western efforts to get Sudan to allow a U.N. force of 20,000 troops to take over peacekeeping in Darfur from a 7,000-member African Union force.

Violence has risen dramatically in recent weeks in Darfur, where more than 200,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million displaced in three years of fighting.

Israel admits using phosphorous bombs in war against Hezbollah
JERUSALEM — The

Israeli army dropped phosphorous bombs on Hezbollah guerrilla targets during their war in Lebanon this summer, an Israeli Cabinet minister said Sunday, confirming Lebanese allegations for the first time.

Until now, Israel had said it only used the weapons — which cause severe chemical burns — to mark targets or territory, according to Israeli media reports.

But Cabinet Minister Yaakov Edri said Israel used the weapons before an Aug. 14 cease-fire went into effect, ending its 34-day war against Hezbollah. Edri said he was speaking on behalf of Defense Minister Amir Peretz, according to his spokeswoman, Orly Yehezkel.

The Lebanese government accused Israel of dropping phosphorous bombs during the war. Edri did not specify where or against what types of targets the bombs were used.

White phosphorous is a translucent wax-like substance with a pungent smell that, once ignited, creates intense heat and smoke. The Geneva Conventions ban using white phosphorous against civilians or civilian areas.

The United States acknowledged last year that U.S. troops used white phosphorous as a weapon against insurgent strongholds during the battle of Fallujah in November 2004, but said it had never been used against civilian targets.

Israel is a signatory to the Geneva Conventions. The Israeli military said in July its use of weapons "conforms with international law."

More than 1,200 civilians were killed on both sides during the conflict, which started with Hezbollah's kidnapping of two Israeli soldiers in July.

U.S. diplomat says America showed 'arrogance' in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A senior U.S. diplomat said the United States had shown "arrogance" and "stupidity" in Iraq but was ready to talk with any group except Al-Qaida in Iraq to facilitate national reconciliation.

In an interview with Al-Jazeera television aired late Saturday, Alberto Fernandez, director of public diplomacy in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs at the State Department offered an unusually candid assessment of America's war in Iraq.

"We tried to do our best but I think there is much room for criticism because, undoubtedly, there was arrogance and there was stupidity from the United States in Iraq," he said.

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Location: Student Union;
Pegasus Ballroom



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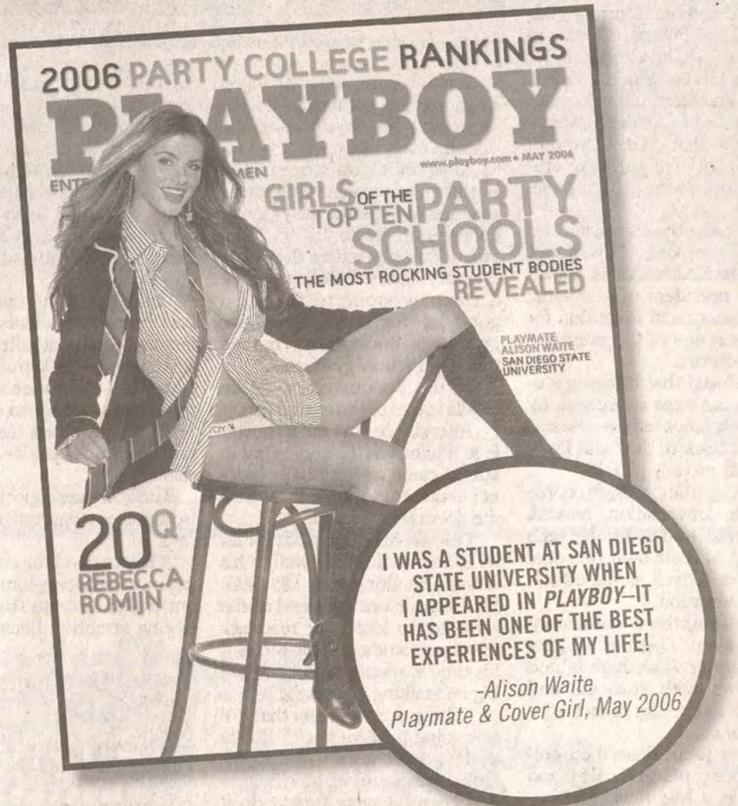
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Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Carpool/Meet
@ Millican Hall

CAB & MSC Speakers Brian and Rose:
FX's "Black.White."
Time: 7pm
@ SU Cape Florida 316

WEDNESDAY OCT. 25

VUCF Talent Show at The Bridge Assisted Living
Time: 1:15 pm - 4:00 pm Carpool/Meet
@ Millican Hall

THURSDAY OCT. 26

CAB Cinema and Special Events
"Slither" and a Haunted House
Time: 6pm @ SU Pegasus Ballroom

HEROES UNLEASHED FRIDAY OCT. 27



Homecoming Kickoff Concert
Time: 6:30
@ Memory Mall

VUCF Adult Book Drive
Time: 12:15 pm - 3:20 pm
Carpool/Meet @ VAB

CAB Cultural and Fine Arts:
International Piano Series Piano-
Laurent Boukobza, Violin- Eric
Crambes, and Cello- Xavier Gagnepain Concert
Time: 8pm @ VAB 132

SATURDAY OCT. 28

VUCF Voices of Victory Gala
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
@ SU Pegasus Ballroom

VUCF Halloween Spooktacular
Time: 3pm-11pm
@ Carpool Millican Hall

Men's Soccer Game
NEW Time: 1pm
@ Soccer Fields

SUNDAY OCT. 29

Homecoming Chalk on the Walk
Time: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
@ Chalkwalk in front of VAB

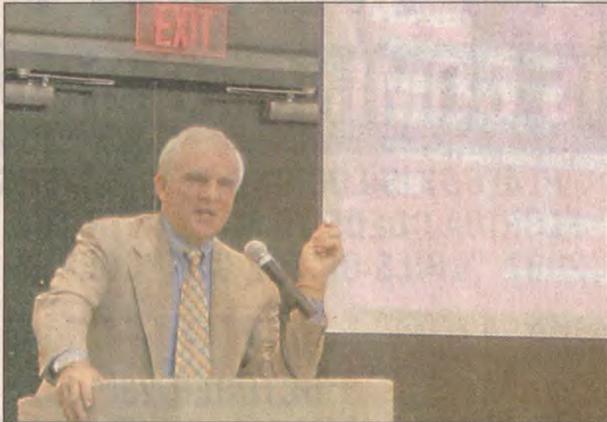
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Merrow: College system in crisis

TAYLOR VERNARSKY
Staff Writer



John Merrow brought his presentation on higher education in America to UCF on Wednesday.

John Merrow told UCF Wednesday that large class sizes, uninterested students and faculty, and a losing battle against other nations are causing a crisis in higher education.

Merrow, an education correspondent for PBS, takes his interactive presentation, *Higher Education: Does It Really Need Washington's Help?*, to college campuses around the country to address public and governmental issues concerning higher education.

"I do believe there is a crisis in higher education," Merrow said.

Fritzlaine Powell, director of Partnership Development of Campus Life for Student Development and Enrollment Services and coordinator for the presentation, said that SDES brought Merrow to UCF to make students more aware of the problems.

"We know the issues, and we know the problems," Powell said.

Dr. Mark Allen Poisel, associate vice president of Academic Development and Retention for SDES, was one of the presentation's sponsors.

Poisel said that bringing students in can raise awareness. By raising awareness among the student population, they can learn not to fall into any pit falls.

"It's important to hear people engage in conversation," he said. This allows students to become involved in their own personal education as well as the education of the nation.

Clips from the documentary, *Declining by Degrees: Higher Education at Risk*, highlighted interviews with students and teachers discussing higher education issues.

One student described college as being plucked naked and placed in a big, new environment. Students have to learn how to motivate themselves and connect on their own.

The documentary said that students don't have anyone to watch over them, so they have to depend on themselves. Because of this, students can do what they want, when they want. Eating pizza at 2 in the morning, sleeping until the afternoon and putting off important assignments are some of the choices college students make.

Students are not challenged or motivated enough to do the work for a better education, the documentary claimed.

Much of it comes from them not being motivated enough, as the majority of students entering college only do so just to find a job, not an education, the documentary claimed. College is just a stepping stone to finding a good job for some, as college graduates make more money than high school graduates.

In the documentary, Robin Bhalla is one of those students.

Attendance isn't taken in college, and he has the choice not to attend class, giving Bhalla independence to do what he wants, the documentary said.

Despite his poor study skills, he is able to do fairly well in his classes, resulting in a 2.85 GPA. Bhalla waits until the end of the semester to look over readings, notes and study guides. Most of his time is spent partying, drinking and talking to girls.

"These are the years that I'm not going to have back," Bhalla said. "I don't want to be 30, 50, looking back and wishing I'd partied then because I can't do it now."

Bhalla is a prime example of a student beating the system by buying the books, knowing what is on the tests and keeping a low profile. As a result, he coasts through with minimal effort and will get grades good enough to graduate with a degree, the documentary claimed.

Merrow argued that the point of college is to be challenged and educated. When students do find jobs, employers might not be

impressed with mediocre skills and education.

Students are not entirely to blame for the descent of higher education as professors share part of the blame, Merrow said. Some professors who are hired don't know how to teach and there is no reward for being a good teacher.

This is the non-aggression pact between students and professors, which states that the professors won't ask much of the students if the students leave the professors alone to do their research. In return, the students will get good grades, Merrow said.

Large classes especially suffer from the non-aggression pact, he said.

They're good for encompassing more students into the class, but it also leads to students not paying attention because there

are so many students attending. In classes with an upwards of 500 students, it's easy to be anonymous, he said.

The situation can be fixed with professors actually wanting to teach students and students taking classes where they can be challenged to be their best. Some professors do this by using technology to engage and educate students in large classes, he said.

But much of the problems stem from a lack of government aid to public universities. Taxpayer money isn't enough and many students suffer because they have to worry about things like increased tuition, he said.

Students also have to worry about paying off fees while attending class, he said.

Zephyr Wilkins, a 21-year-old senior and an English language arts education major, found the presentation to be very informative. Most of all, he was surprised by the fact that half of students leaving high school go to community college and that more than half of students who enter college don't complete it.

"The study was very interesting," Wilkins said.

Powell said that the presentation was helpful to everyone who attended.

"The documents really helped people learn more about higher education and the issues it involved," Powell said.

Merrow hoped he got his message across that college is a remarkable opportunity to grow and figure things out. He wants students to be challenged when it comes to classes and take more chances than they normally do.

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Students get help

FROM A1

step-by-step process of the Academic Exploration Program.

"We have a model on how to declare a major, it's a four-step process," said Zephyr Wilkins, SGA academic services coordinator. "First you assess, explore, plan and then decide. It's a four-day program; each day takes one topic and delves into it."

AEP's first step, the assess stage, will be held on Oct. 23 in Room 221AB of the Student Union from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The second step, explore, will be held on Oct. 24 in Room 316D from noon to 1 p.m. The plan stage will take place in Room 218A from 2 to 3 p.m., and the last stage, decide, will be on Oct. 26 from 1 to 3 p.m.

At the beginning of fall 2006, UCF launched a new undeclared policy, which states that all students who enter or continue at UCF must declare a major by the time they reach 45 credit hours or a hold will be placed on the student's record preventing future registration. Undeclared Week is a great way for students to get encouragement and guidance in exploring and choosing a major, Assistant Vice President of the Student Success Center DeLaine Priest said.

"It's not a punitive policy," Priest said. "For students who have not declared a major, the requirement is that they must meet with an academic adviser to explore major possibilities."

For 2005, there were 412 undeclared undergraduate students, which ranged from sophomores to seniors. But for 2006, that number dropped to 335. Priest said he doesn't want students to see the new undeclared policy in a negative way.

"What we are trying to do is to help students connect with their colleges earlier, to help students in their exploration of majors and careers, and move students forward in terms of deciding on a major," Priest

said.

Stout said it is important to pick a major, especially before gaining 60 credit hours because it helps with direction and new possibilities.

"Knowing a little bit earlier rather than later what you're interested in and what you want to study can help you in those goals," Stout said.

Wilkins said that it's common for students to know what field they want to get into but are unsure about what path to take within that field. Undeclared Week can help students explore those options, he said.

"One of our biggest concerns with undergraduate students is that people think that they aren't undeclared and they don't need to come to Undeclared Week events because they go 'oh, I'm a business major,' but really they don't know what part of business to go into," Wilkins said.

Priest said college is all about experiencing new things, and discovering ultimate career goals, but it's important for students to utilize UCF's resources in deciding which career path is best.

"We want to help them [students] move through UCF and graduate," Priest said. "Persistence is good, but ultimately we want to graduate students."

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Plan key to major success

BRITTANY CURRIER
Contributing Writer

For some students who have yet to declare, the process of deciding on a major can be a long and arduous one, fueled by uncertainty, and aggravated by a waning interest in their majors-of-the-moment.

A policy implemented this fall places a hold on the records of undeclared students who haven't met with an adviser after earning 45 credits hours, providing further incentive to choose.

Feeling the pressure, some students choose a major only to realize they have no desire to pursue a career in it.

According to Dr. Bill Blank, associate director of Career Services, lack of initial planning and not enough career exploration at the beginning of the decision-making process leads students to choose careers outside of their majors.

Nolan Amuso, a psychology major, may be one such student. "I chose psychology because I knew I would enjoy taking a lot of the courses," Amuso said.

Acknowledging his lack of interest in psychology as a career, he is now considering a future in physical therapy. After a sports injury in high school, he spent a couple of months as a physical therapy patient.

"Every day I was there, I would think to myself how per-

fect a career like this would be," Amuso said. "I like to see immediate results, I like to help people, and I'm interested in human anatomy and how we function."

In order to better prepare himself for applying to physical therapy school, and also to experience the other side of physical therapy, Amuso plans to try for an internship with a practicing physical therapist.

Michael Suave also found psychology enticing.

"When I first came to UCF, I grabbed a course catalogue and highlighted all of the classes that I found interesting," he said. "The majority of those classes fell under the psychology major, so that was originally how I decided."

After delving more into psychology classes, Suave lost interest in the major and in becoming a psychologist. He has only three classes left before he graduates, so he said it was useless to change his major this late.

Deciding not to pursue graduate studies in this field, he tried to find something else that interested him. Having always been interested in law, he took the LSAT test and now hopes to attend law school.

Last fall, junior Elizabeth Kenner started taking classes for her major in radio-TV, but she soon realized that it wasn't what she expected.

"The radio-television program at the university focuses on news journalism and production," she said. "It is the field of radio-television that does not interest me at all, and I felt like I was wasting my time and talent in a program unrelated to a career I would like to pursue."

She said she still aspired to make her mark in TV, though, so she changed her major to cinema studies the next semester. Although she said she didn't plan to pursue a career in film, she said that her new major focuses more on the creative aspect of entertainment, such as scriptwriting and acting.

Blank said that a way for people to ease indecisiveness about career choices is by investing the time up front to explore themselves — their values, interests and aptitudes — and by learning more about career possibilities, as well as knowing what academic options exist at UCF.

He said Career Services and Experiential Learning at UCF has the tools to help students make career choices.

"By making an informed decision up front, students can spend their time developing within their major as well as within their career field through academic clubs, professional organizations, internships, co-ops and service learning," Blank said.

War in Iraq still controversial

FROM A1

for a complete reformation" of the nation's tax code, particularly the 16th Amendment.

Adelman said that while the unemployment rate was down, it "only means that if you want that job at Wal-Mart ... it's yours."

The College Democrats began the next topic, immigration, by saying there is a 5 percent native unemployment rate in the U.S. and immigrants have posed no adverse effect on the number of jobs available.

College Democrats opposed President Bush's Guest Worker Program, which intends to grant legal status to workers for a set period of time, because it would "create a permanent underclass." Instead, the Democrats proposed corporate accountability and working with other nations to protect borders.

Robinson criticized the Democrats "slack stance" on the issue.

"If so many illegal aliens can get across the border, what's stopping terrorists?" he asked.

While Robinson did not condone a dragnet, he insisted that major U.S. cities must reinforce existing laws.

In possibly the most controversial topic of the evening, College Republicans member Patrick Stauffer said, "We [the U.S.] are right to stay until the job's done," referring to the war in Iraq.

The College Republicans listed three main goals of the war: to engage an Iraqi political process, to restore and reform Iraq's economy, and to initiate national security.

"If we leave now, al-Qaida will see it as their victory," Stauffer said.

Mendoza said, "Since paying Iraqi journalists to publish ... propaganda written by American generals, we [the U.S.] have lost all credibility."

Mendoza said the situation in Iraq wouldn't worsen if the U.S. withdrew and that Iraq will naturally evolve. "If terrorists can't provide for the people, the people will revolt."

On the topic of abortion, College Democrats member Brit-

ney Keck said that since Roe v. Wade in 1973, which legalized abortion in the U.S., the number of abortions has remained steady.

"In countries where abortion is prohibited, unsafe abortions are the leading cause of maternal death," Keck said.

Women should make an informed decision with access to all options, she said. "Pro-choice is not pro-abortion."

According to College Republicans member Erin Stillson, however, it is. Clinical abortions today are "no safer than back-alley abortions," she said. Citing several physicians, she called it an "exploitation of women" and "the largest genocide."

Despite rifts between the two parties, both managed to reach the same conclusion on a single subject: drilling for oil off of Florida's coast.

Keck said Florida's economy is based on tourism and the state is a sanctuary for various life forms. Robinson agreed and also sided with Gov. Jeb Bush and Charlie Crist's decision to help protect the environment.

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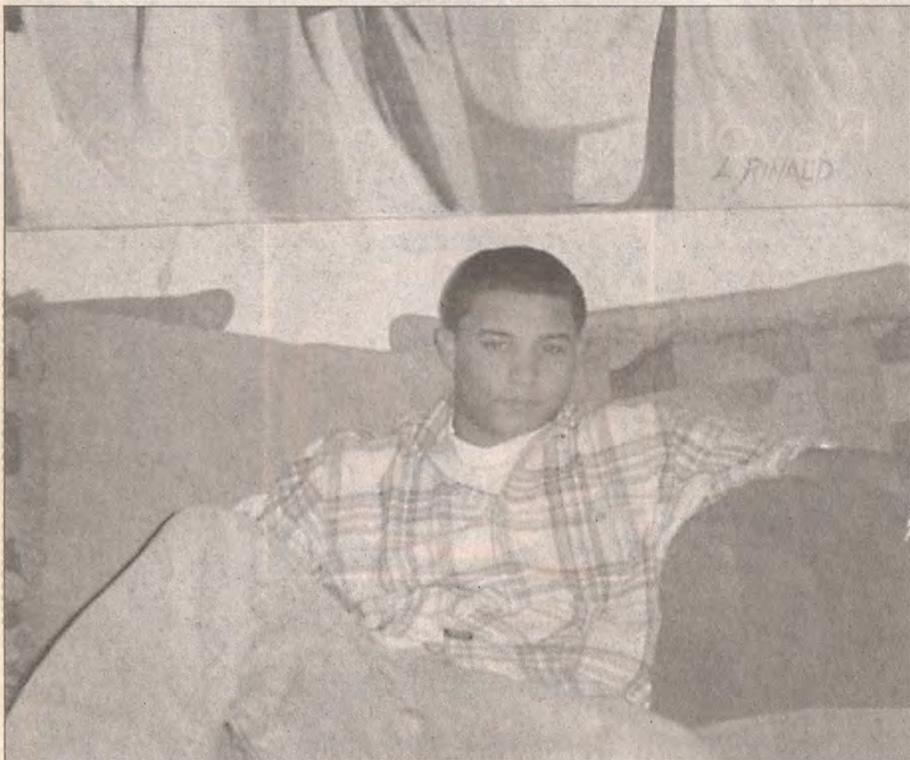
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Fifteen-year-old University High School sophomore Michael Nieves, seen here, was stabbed to death Thursday near the bus loop at his school. COURTESY WKMG-TV CH. 6

Slaying 'isolated incident'; no UCF changes planned

FROM A1

A UCF student, 20-year-old forensic science student Nhat-Anh Tran, also was stabbed to death in an unrelated crime Thursday, but Sgt. Troy Williamson of the UCF Police Department said there would be no changes on campus because of the University High stabbing.

"We're all adults here, as opposed to children that are under 18, so I think that everything will remain as status quo," Williamson said. "We are still going to do our job as we always do. This seemed to be an isolated incident, and this is not something UCF students should fear about."

Nieves' death was the 49th slaying in Central Florida this year and the third at a Central Florida public school since 1995. The previous slaying on a school campus also occurred at University, in 1998.

Still, alumna Jennifer Prendergast, now a UCF freshman, said she always felt safe at University High because its administrators were always quick to break up fights.

"The deans stand in the courtyard and lunch area," Prendergast said. "Everywhere the students are, there are deans close by. If they see something, they all run to that one spot. No less than 30 seconds. It's almost instantaneous. If there was a fight, they were running."

But according to eyewitnesses, that wasn't the case

Thursday.

Garcia said he watched as Nieves lay in a pool of his own blood with no administrators in sight.

"The fight happened, no administrators," Garcia said. "He was walking, no administrators. He fell, no administrators."

"The kids were the ones holding him with his blood. It shocked me that it took so long for the deans to get there."

Garcia said the fight occurred near the exit of the school leading to the bus loop, where a dean usually stands to direct students.

"The first dean to get there was Mr. [John] Lewis, and he came from the freshman campus, and I saw Mr. [Fernando] Vazquez come from around the front office," Garcia said. "[Nieves] was on the ground for a while, and there were no administrators. Usually, when the first punch is thrown, administrators are there to stop it."

Area Superintendent John Edwards disputed that account. He said at least two deans were on duty nearby: Vazquez at "the plaza" and Dale Maynard at the bus loop.

"The usual number of administrators was there," Edwards said. "People were on duty at the bus loop, but it happened too quickly to stop it."

Garcia described de la Cruz as someone who was annoying and sometimes "stupidly

getting in trouble."

"I didn't think he would ever fight," Garcia said. "Kelvin talks a lot. He was someone who was all talk but would never do something."

Garcia said he didn't think de la Cruz intended to kill Nieves.

"They just never liked each other, it had nothing to do with Stephanie," Garcia said. "It all started that day at lunch. They gave each other bad looks and started confronting each other that day."

According to University students, some have circled the de la Cruz household since the slaying, threatening to harm the family.

Kelvin's younger brother, Gregory, who also attends University, was said to have received threats.

But some students have already learned to forgive de la Cruz for his role in the fight.

"We all know Kelvin wasn't a bad person," Garcia said. "We all felt bad for him. ... people say he should get a life sentence. I don't think he should, I don't think he meant to do it."

Even Nieves' girlfriend is trying to forgive the person who killed her best friend.

"No matter what they say to me, no matter how many tears I cry, he'll never come back," Gonzalez said. "This isn't a dream, he isn't going to come back to me on his little skateboard."

(Elizabeth Propper, Robyn Sidersky and Jessica Sunday



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
INTERNATIONAL SERVICES CENTER

OCTOBER EVENTS

The International Services Center invites the UCF community, faculty, staff, and students to attend our events.

All of the following will take place in the Barbara Ying Center:

Global Coffee Hour (4pm-5pm) - 31st
Informal conversations on current topics and news from around the world to promote global understanding and a sense of international community on campus. Refreshments are provided.

Language Tables (4pm-5pm) - 24th
The purpose of this program is to explore other cultures through exposure to foreign languages. Multiple languages are offered to allow for an exciting opportunity to interact with people from around the world.

International Movie Night (5:15pm-7:30pm) - 25th
ISC features a film that highlights certain cultures and/or regions from around the world. The movies are presented on a 150" LCD projection screen.

Cross-Cultural Awareness Series (3:30pm-5pm) 18th & 25th
This series addresses the various themes and topics related to the cultural and academic adaptation or adjustment of international students.

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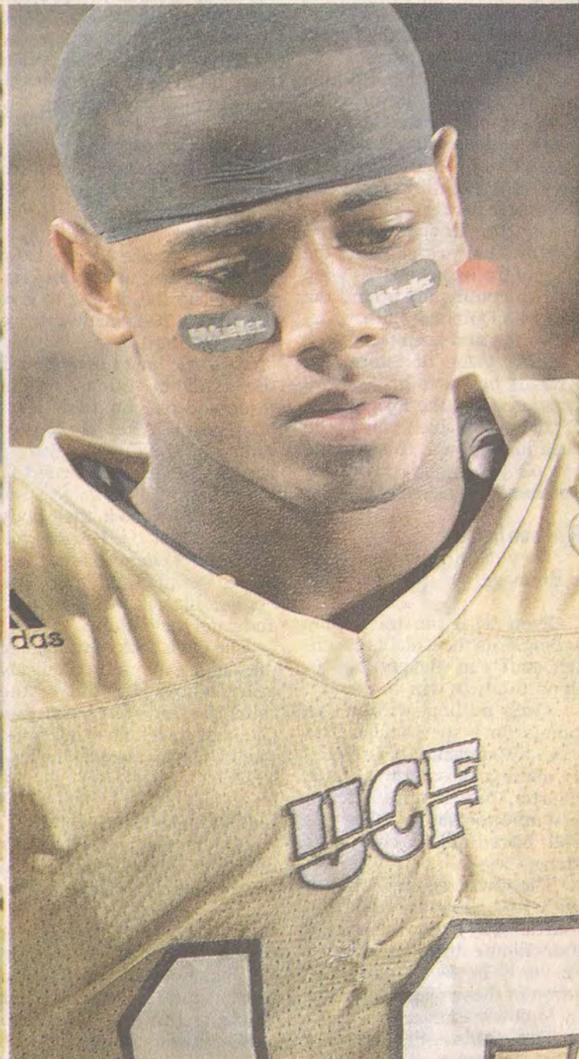
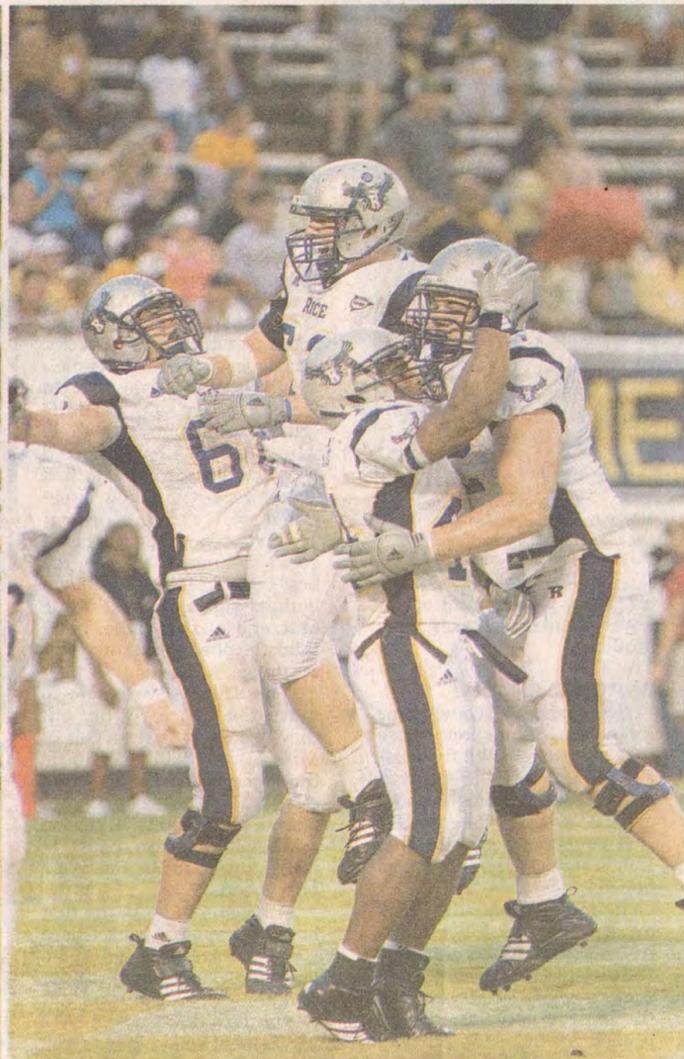
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RICE 40 | UCF 29



Rice running back Quinton Smith, left, runs for one of his three touchdowns in the Owls' victory over UCF on Saturday. Middle, teammates celebrate with Smith after his touchdown. After the loss, Joe Burnett, right, said that the Knights need to "keep the family together."

Rice-fried Knights

Owls hand UCF embarrassing loss

BRIAN MURPHY
Staff Writer

Offensively, the UCF football team did all they could Saturday night against the Rice Owls.

But once again, it was the defense that let the Golden Knights down as they fell to the Owls, 40-29.

Rice brought a very productive duo to Orlando in quarterback Chase Clement and Jarett Dillard. But, it was Rice's running game that repeatedly burned UCF on Saturday.

Senior running back Quinton Smith played a leading role in the Rice ground attack with 183 yards and three touchdowns on 21 carries. Rice came into the contest ranked ninth out of 12 teams in Conference USA, averaging 110 rushing yards per game. But, on this night, they gashed the Knights for 250 yards.

"I think it is tough to win any game when you're not stopping anybody," UCF coach George O'Leary said.

This was evident when the Owls started a drive with 7:44 remaining in

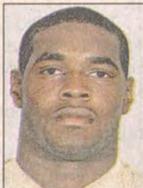
7 KYLE ISRAEL



Position:
Quarterback

Against Rice:
27-of-42 passing with 327 yards, three touchdowns and one interception in first start since 2004.

11 MIKE WALKER



Position:
Wide receiver

Against Rice:
Caught 13 passes for 169 yards and a touchdown.

the game. UCF wide receiver Mike Walker had just caught a touchdown pass to cut the Knights' deficit to five, 27-22.

As Rice got the ball back, everyone in Orlando knew that the Owls would keep it on the ground to control the clock. Still, they cut right through UCF's defense. On the drive, Rice ran the ball on seven straight plays and averaged over 10 yards per carry, capped by a 19-yard touchdown from Smith.

"Obviously, it is a work in progress

with the defense," O'Leary said. "We had many opportunities to get the ball back and we did not. We just got to step up and make more plays on defense. We are making some, but not enough."

The Knights did their best to keep up on offense, led by quarterback Kyle Israel.

Making his first start since 2004, Israel threw for 327 yards and three touchdowns. The Orlando native had

PLEASE SEE **DEFENSE** ON A10

GAME BREAKDOWN

Blame should be on coaching staff after another terrible loss

ZACH MOORE
Staff Writer

Where does the blame need to be placed after another disturbing loss? Fans don't need to look solely at the players after the debacle against the Rice Owls, instead this time maybe directing a little more attention toward the coaching staff is warranted.

With that being said, don't forget the players play the game, not the coaches. At times Saturday night, the Knights looked apathetic on the field and their playing was just as discouraging.

UCF lost because ...

Poor play-calling. Neither the offense nor the defense had an idea on what was coming next. Offensively the Knights had a great attack with Kevin Smith, but in the

second and fourth quarters they abandoned the running game completely.

In the first quarter, Smith was able to run the ball 11 times for 80 yards. He was continually gashing the Owls for big gains averaging 7.3 yards a carry in the quarter. In the second quarter, however, the offensive play-calling abandoned Smith and the run game. Through the entire second quarter Smith had two carries for seven yards.

After halftime the Knights came out and re-established the dominant running game they showed in the first quarter. Smith sliced and diced his way through the defense with ease. In the third quarter he carried the ball eight times for 65 yards.

Yet despite being down only 11 points entering the fourth quarter, the coaching staff once again abandoned the running game. Through the entire

PLEASE SEE **KNIGHTS** ON A10

NCAA WRAP

Last-second interception seals victory for Miami over winless Duke

DURHAM, N.C. — Willie Cooper intercepted Thad Lewis' pass at the goal line as time expired, and short-handed Miami held off upset-minded Duke 20-15 on Saturday in the Hurricanes' first game since last week's on-field fight.

Kyle Wright had two touchdown passes to Sam Shields for the Hurricanes (5-2, 2-1 Atlantic Coast Conference), who nearly blew an 18-point lead and were without 13 players due to suspensions for their role in last week's brawl with Florida International.

Duke (0-7, 0-5 ACC) had 380 total

yards to Miami's 329 and nearly pulled off the huge upset after rallying from a 20-2 deficit with two touchdowns in the fourth quarter — an 11-yard touchdown pass from Lewis to Raphael Chestnut, and a 7-yard touchdown run by Re'quan Boyette.

Duke had two chances in the final five minutes to win it. The first attempt failed when Lewis' fourth-down pass to Jomar Wright was juggled near the 20 and dropped with 3:39 remaining.

The Blue Devils got the ball back with 1:35 to play and used two long Lewis-to-Jomar Wright passes and a

pass interference penalty on Miami to move to the Hurricanes 6 with three seconds remaining.

Lewis threw toward the end zone to Wright, but Cooper picked off the pass and returned it to the Duke 15, where he fell down to seal the Hurricanes' fourth straight victory.

No. 22 Boston College 24, FSU 19

TALLAHASSEE — DeJuan Tribble's 36-yard interception return for a touchdown capped a 21-point second quarter and Boston College held off Florida State.

Larry Anam intercepted a desperation throw by Florida State's Drew Weatherford in the end zone on the game's final play to preserve the victory and send the defending ACC champion Seminoles (4-3, 2-3 ACC) into last place in the league's Atlantic Division.

Weatherford arced his pass for 6-foot-6 Greg Carr, who was smothered by five BC defenders on the play.

The game was largely settled in the last minute of the first half.

Boston College (6-1, 3-1 ACC) scored two touchdowns in the final 51 seconds to take a 21-10 lead. Steve Aponavicius'

26-yard field goal boosted the lead to 24-10 after three.

No. 5 Texas 22, No. 17 Nebraska 20

LINCOLN, Neb. — Ryan Bailey made his first collegiate field goal a memorable one.

The Texas walk-on made a 22-yarder with 23 seconds left to give the No. 5 Longhorns a 22-20 victory over No. 17 Nebraska on Saturday.

With the Cornhuskers on the verge of pulling off an upset, Texas (7-1, 4-0

PLEASE SEE **RICE** ON A10

Knights dominated by Rice offensive line

FROM A9

fourth quarter Smith had three attempts for three yards.

On defense the Knights couldn't get a step ahead on the Owls. At first the Knights were trying to defend the passing of quarterback Chase Clement they sunk back into soft zone coverage nearly every play. With the linebackers and safeties in a back pedal on the snap of the ball, the Owls were able to continually pound the ball with Quinton Smith.

To try and counteract the running game of Smith, the Knights began to bring more pressure from the linebackers. Clement was able to avoid the rush just enough to scramble for 67 yards and throw for another 170 on 16 completions.

Rice won because ...

They dominated the line of scrimmage.

Even with the inept play calling from the Knights coaching staff, the players had an opportunity to win the game.

After pulling within five points on a spectacular pass from Kyle Israel to Mike Walker midway through the fourth quarter, the Knights defense had an opportunity to get the ball back and possibly the game.

The Owls received the ball with 7:44 seconds left in the fourth. They then went on a four-minute drive that covered 72 yards in seven plays. All seven of those plays were runs by Smith or Clement.

The Owls offensive line

basically mauled the Knights into submission. This drive topped off a night where the Knights allowed 250 yards rushing on 35 attempts for an average of 7.1 yards a carry.

Key play of the game ...

Smith's 69-yard touchdown run for the Owls late in the third quarter.

Smith broke free from numerous arm tackles and ran straight up the middle to give the Owls a 20-16 lead with 5:16 left in the third.

After the long run by Smith, the Knights offense went three-and-out on their next possession. After a 22-yard return by the Owls, a listless Knights' defense returned to the field.

It was obvious in their body language that the Knights felt as if things were just coming apart. Defenders hands were on their hips, moving slowly to and from the huddle.

The Owls took advantage of the Knights and scored quickly again before the end of the third quarter on a pass from Clement to his favorite target Jarett Dillard to stretch the lead to 27-16.

Coaching move of the game ...

Coach George O'Leary's decision to start Israel and leave him in the entire game.

It had to be difficult for O'Leary to bench Steven Moffett, his senior quarterback and leader, but it was needed. While at times Israel wasn't perfect, he ran the offense with



BEN EDELSTEIN / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Mike Walker celebrates his 20-yard touchdown catch in the fourth quarter of UCF's loss to Rice on Saturday.

efficiency and committed far fewer mental mistakes than Moffett.

What does this all mean?

The chances of a bowl game for the Knights are pretty close to non-existent. With five losses through their first seven games, even winning out and going 7-5 wouldn't be enough.

This game means that the Knights aren't as good as we all hoped.

It means that the look toward recruiting season, a new stadium, a new schedule and a new starting lineup will begin a whole lot sooner than the players and the coaches wanted.

Defense looks for positives after loss to Rice

FROM A9

been locked in a rotation with quarterback Steven Moffett for most of the year. Although O'Leary had said that he wanted to use both quarterbacks, Israel played the entire game.

"I thought Kyle played well," O'Leary said. "I didn't see any stage of the game where I could have yanked Kyle and put Steven in. I think every week it is a new situation there."

"I just tried to do the best I could and move the team the best I could," Israel said. "I am definitely disappointed in the outcome of this game, but I think the offense did some better things."

The Knights were able to move the ball early on, but they had to settle for a pair of Mike Torres field goals to tie the game, 6-6, in the second quarter. This has been a problem for the Knights all season as they have scored just 12 touchdowns in 30 red zone possessions.

With 7:04 to go in the first half, Rice quarterback Chase Clement gave his team a 13-6 lead by making something out of nothing.

On third down at the UCF 10, Clement rolled to his right, then avoided pressure by running back to the left. As he scrambled near the line of scrimmage, Clement flipped a pass out to junior wide receiver Joel Armstrong, who was wide open for the score.

It is these plays, where UCF defenders seem to be in position to make a play but let it slip away, that concerns O'Leary.

"It is one thing if you are fooled on a play," O'Leary said, "but when you are there to make a play and you don't make it, that's when you have to go back and really check out what's going on with some of these kids."

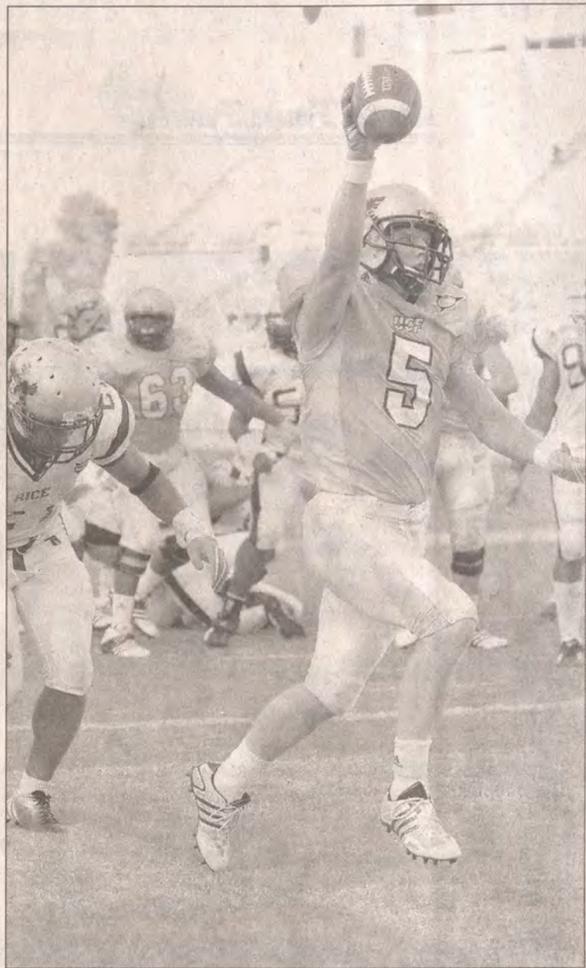
Just before halftime, wide receiver Rocky Ross caught a two-yard slant pass for a touchdown to tie the game at 13.

In the third quarter, another Michael Torres field goal gave the Knights their first lead of the game at 16-13.

But after that, it all began to fall apart.

Rice regained the lead 64 seconds after the field goal on Smith's quick feet. On another critical third down play, Smith busted through the middle of the Knights' line and could not be caught on his way to a 69-yard touchdown.

The Knights did their best to limit Rice wide receiver Jarett Dillard on Saturday. The reigning C-USA Offensive Player of the Week was held 10 yards below his average, but for the 10th-straight game, Dillard found his way into the end



JAMES ANDRES / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Rocky Ross scores one of his two touchdowns in the Knights' loss to Rice on Saturday. Ross had five catches for 85 yards in the game.

81 JARETT DILLARD



Position: Wide receiver

Key Play: Caught a 26-yard touchdown pass late in the third quarter to give Rice a 27-16 lead.

16 CHASE CLEMENT



Position: Quarterback

Against UCF: Ran for 67 yards and threw for 170 yards and two touchdowns. Also did not turn the ball over.



PHIL COALE / ASSOCIATED PRESS
Florida State wide receiver Caz Piurowski, left, fumbles a second-quarter pass as Boston College's Sulaiman Sanni, 41, and Brian Toal, 16, defend on the play. BC beat the Seminoles 24-19.

Rice's legs carry undefeated Rutgers to victory over Pittsburgh Panthers

FROM A9

Big 12) caught a huge break when receiver Terrence Nunn fumbled and Marcus Griffin recovered at the Nebraska 44 with 2:17 left.

Colt McCoy drove the Longhorns to the Nebraska 5. Texas coach Mack Brown turned to Bailey for the final kick after Greg Johnson missed two field goals and had an extra point blocked.

Nebraska (6-2, 3-1 Big 12) tried to ice Bailey when coach Bill Callahan asked officials to review the previous play to see if the Cornhuskers had intercepted a pass by McCoy in the end zone. Replays clearly showed that the ball bounced on the ground.

No. 7 Tennessee 16, Alabama 13

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Arian Foster dove into the end zone with 3:28 left, completing Tennessee's rally.

The Crimson Tide (5-3, 2-3 Southeastern Conference) nearly kept the Volunteers out of the end zone for the first time this season.

The Tide went ahead 13-6 at the end of the third quarter on Tim Castille's 2-yard run, which was the first touchdown scored in this series in two years. But Alabama couldn't score again.

Alabama frustrated the normally high-scoring Vols (6-1, 2-1

SEC) for the most part, but Tennessee scored 10 points in the fourth quarter for the victory and stayed alive in its chase of Florida for the SEC East division title.

No. 10 Notre Dame 20, UCLA 17

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Brady Quinn threw a 45-yard touchdown pass to Jeff Samardzija with 27 seconds left to give Notre Dame an improbable comeback victory.

It appeared as though Notre Dame had squandered its last chance to win when Quinn was stuffed on a fourth-and-one from the Notre Dame 35 with 2:25 left. But the Irish held UCLA (4-3) to three-and-out to give Quinn one last chance.

Because the Irish (6-1) were able to stop the clock twice with timeouts during the Bruins' short series, they got the ball back with 62 seconds left.

Quinn hit Samardzija with a 21-yard pass and David Grimes with a 14-yard pass to move to the UCLA 45. He then threw the touchdown pass to Samardzija, who cut inside safety Dennis Keyes at the 20-yard line. Samardzija kept his feet and made it to the end zone, keeping the Irish's hopes for a berth in the Bowl Championship Series alive.

It was just the third time Notre Dame has won a game with a touchdown in the final

30 seconds. The other two times were in a 17-16 win over Penn State in snowy conditions in 1992, and in a 35-34 victory over Houston in the Cotton Bowl at the end of the 1978 season.

No. 19 Rutgers 20, Pittsburgh 10

PITTSBURGH — Ray Rice's 63-yard run set up his own short touchdown run in the fourth quarter immediately after Pittsburgh had closed to within three points, and Rutgers won its first big test of the season.

Rice carried 39 times for 225 yards to nearly outgain Pittsburgh by himself and put Rutgers in position to make a major move up the Associated Press poll if it can beat No. 6 Louisville at home on Nov. 9 — as long as it beats Connecticut on Oct. 29.

Rutgers (7-0, 2-0 Big East) hasn't been unbeaten so deep into a season since 1976, when it was ranked as high as No. 17 but played mostly against Ivy League-type competition.

Pitt (6-2, 2-1 Big East) had won four in a row and was in position to break into the Top 25 with a victory, but fizzled against a Rutgers defense that was No. 1 nationally in scoring defense and No. 2 in total defense.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

zone, giving Rice a 27-16 advantage. Dillard's scoring streak is the longest active streak in the nation.

The combination of Clement and Dillard was UCF's biggest worry coming into the game, but both did not put up their usual numbers. Clement, who had racked up over 1,000 total yards and 13 touchdowns in his last three games, threw for just 170 yards and two touchdowns. Dillard scored on Saturday, but he had crossed the stripe seven times in his last three games.

"The scoreboard doesn't show it," UCF defensive end Chris Welsh said, "and we made some mistakes and we failed at times when we needed to succeed, but I'll go out on a limb and say this: I am proud of the defense."

"I think some guys actually grew up. For all the things that we may not have done right and it resulted on the score at the end of the game, we did some things good. I am hoping that carries over into the following week."

The Knights' rushing

offense had another solid game as running back Kevin Smith gained 155 yards on 24 carries. But, it could have been

a much bigger day for Smith if he had been given the chance. In the second and fourth quarters combined, Smith rushed the ball just five times for 17 yards.

The Knights stayed close for most of the game, but UCF play calling had Israel throw 42 passes on Saturday.

UCF has now lost four of their last five games and has fallen to 1-2 in C-USA (2-5 overall). With the win, Rice is 2-2 in C-USA (3-5 overall).

With the Knights going through tough times, many of the players are stressing the importance of team chemistry.

"We have got to stick together and stay as a family," sophomore cornerback Joe Burnett said.

"We have got to go back to the drawing board and work from there. We have got to talk to the guys and keep them up. We just got to keep the chemistry up and keep the family together."

"We have got to stick together and stay as a family. We just got to keep the chemistry up."

— UCF CORNERBACK JOE BURNETT AFTER UCF'S 40-29 LOSS TO RICE

BLACK+GOLD NATION
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Men's Soccer:

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UCF Students get free admission with Student ID!

OUR STANCE

Future explains violence coverage

On Wednesday, the *Future* ran the photo of UCF business major Douglas Wilgo on the front page. The graphic photo showed Wilgo flat on his back near a pool of his own blood as rescue workers shone a flashlight in his face.

Wilgo was badly beaten by at least six men, some of who wore Halloween costumes. Out of the reported six men who accosted Wilgo, only two have been arrested and charged.

The editorial staff of the *Future*, along with our editorial consultant, debated on Tuesday whether the photo should run. The chief concern was that the photo wouldn't pass the "breakfast test," meaning it was too disturbing to see on the front page of the paper.

We were also concerned that the photo would appear sensational and damage our credibility in the eyes of the UCF population. We also questioned whether students would even pick the paper up when they saw the photo.

After a lengthy debate, we realized we had an obligation to run the photo.

Crime is news. When a student gets beaten badly enough to warrant reconstructive facial surgery, we have an obligation to print it.

And crime in Orlando is at a record high.

Sometimes, students can feel complacent about our campus. It feels like a safe bubble, nestled away and immune from the rampant killing rates that are plaguing Orlando.

But it isn't. We aren't always safe, and reminding the students that crime can spill over onto our higher learning insti-

tion is something that the student newspaper should do.

That photo served as a jarring reminder of that grim fact.

And more importantly, that photo shone a spotlight on a particularly heinous crime. Four of the men who officials said beat Wilgo haven't been arrested.

That photo, and the subsequent attention placed on the crime, may help find these men.

We were concerned that because we didn't have a full-fledged article to run with the photo that no one would pay attention to the news in the small caption under the image.

But we knew that we would have an article by the next edition of the paper, and we also knew that we couldn't run the photo later. It just wouldn't have had the impact it did as a breaking story.

And what about Wilgo?

We are journalists, but that doesn't mean we are cold-hearted. Most people don't want a picture of themselves like that on the front page of a paper that circulates to nearly 20,000 of their peers.

But we spoke with Wilgo. He was the one who told us that he needed facial surgery. And he supported our decision to run the photo.

The concerns of our readers also factored into the decision.

There is no doubt the photo was sensational. It forced people who may have walked past the paper on any given day to stop and pick it up.

Some people thought the photo was disgusting, that we should have never ran it, and that we were doing a disservice to UCF by putting it on the front page.

But we hope that you, the readers, will understand why we ran it, even if you wouldn't have made the same decision if you had control of the paper.

The Society of Professional Journalists has a guide to ethics that tries to answer some of the tough ethical questions the *Future* faced last week.

The first and foremost tenet of SPJ's guide is "to seek the truth and report it."

It was only after the perseverance of our news editor, Melissa Patterson, that it came out that Wilgo needed reconstructive surgery. Early reports said that he was out of the hospital, with just a few cuts and bruises.

The second tenet of the code of ethics is to "minimize harm." By making the effort to speak with Wilgo, we made every effort to assure that he wouldn't be shocked by the photo of him the next day in the *Future*.

The third tenet of the code is to "act independently." There was some outside pressure to kill the photo from witnesses and friends of the victim.

But we did not bow to outside desires to influence the news. The public's right to know was our first concern.

And the final tenet of the code of ethics is the reason we wrote this editorial. We, as journalists, are to "be accountable." This means that we are supposed to clarify our decisions when it comes to news coverage.

We want to know what you, as readers, students and faculty members, think. If you feel that we shouldn't have run the photo or if you think we did the right thing, we want to hear from you.



SPAIN FISCHER / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE

Changing the face of the presidency

Illinois Sen. Barack Obama all but threw his hat into the ring for the '08 presidential election when he made an announcement Sunday, and I couldn't be happier.

It's not because I'm endorsing him; it is much too early for that. And I also don't know nearly enough about him to endorse him.

What makes me happy about Obama running is that it shows the traditional ideas of who can become president are breaking down.

For those of you who don't know much about the relatively young senator, he is of mixed race and has a black father and white mother.

The image of the white protestant male has been ingrained as the face of the presidency since the 19th century, but with the possibility of Obama and Hillary Clinton running for the Democrat nomination, that image might be on its way out.

Now I know that there are probably several of you who are getting ready to write in and inform me that Obama is far from the first black candidate to run for president. However, I think that he is the first to have a real chance at winning. I don't think that Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson can be considered serious candidates.

I'm sure that there will be plenty of people who are less than thrilled about Obama running, besides the racists.

We've shown in the past that we are hesitant to elect someone that strays from our ingrained image of the president. John F. Kennedy's Catholic faith drew suspicions, questions and some outright anger. Some even credit Joe



TROY HILLIER
Editor in Chief

Lieberman's Jewish faith with Al Gore's loss of the 2000 election.

This means that the people happiest with Obama entering the race might be the Republicans. I'm sure that a large part of the population won't be ready to elect a black president, and I'm sure the Republicans will be there to provide a white Protestant male.

The Democratic Party will have to decide what is more important to them: winning this upcoming election, or showing the country that they are ready to fully support a candidate that completely breaks the traditional mold.

I doubt that they will be able to do both. But even if nominating Clinton or Obama means that there will be another Republican president for the next four years, the GOP would probably be forced to nominate a more moderate candidate than usual to try to capture the "alienated" Democrats.

For the past couple of years, I've been hoping that Sen. John McCain could somehow get the Republican nomination.

Unfortunately, the 2000 election showed the Republican necessity to cater to the stark conservatives in the party, and the idea that the party could nominate a moderate seemed almost laughable. But with Obama's entrance into the race, it seems like '08 could be a race of moderates, something that we probably haven't had since 1992.

I don't feel strongly about President Bush one way or another, but it has been far too long since moderates have been well-represented in Washington. I hope the '08 election will change that.

Build a memorial at ground zero

New York City officials shut down construction at the former site of the World Trade Center last week, ordering a new search after workers discovered human remains in an abandoned man-hole Friday.

Workers unearthed nearly 100 pieces of human remains Friday and Saturday. The remains ranged from less than one inch to 12 inches long, and there could be leg, arm, rib and vertebrae bones among them.

The surprise discovery outraged family members of Sept. 11 victims, who called for a new federally led search of the site.

The active search for victims' remains ended in 2002 after 20,000 pieces of human remains were found during a massive cleanup of 1.5 million tons of rubble.

But this discovery shouldn't be a surprise. The remains of more than 1,100 victims of the Sept. 11 attacks have never been recovered. These victims are still buried in the earth some-

where in Manhattan. They will never be laid to rest and their families will never have a place to mourn their loved ones.

Some might say that we shouldn't care about these fragments of bone because time, heat and humidity have probably damaged the remains so badly that DNA testing won't be able to accurately identify who these people once were.

Some might say that construction should continue. After all, we are talking about a large chunk of prime, riverfront property in downtown Manhattan.

But the Sept. 11 attacks were the most devastating event our generation has ever faced. It forced the youth of this country to quickly grow up and learn that America, despite all its glitz and glory, isn't safe.

And the site where 2,749 people lost their lives at the hands of terrorists should be a sacred place, not the site of some new, shiny office building. The Freedom Tower, the

proposed skyscraper that will take the place of the Twin Towers, shouldn't be built on what we now know is still a mass grave.

The new tower does have space for a Sept. 11 memorial and includes several subtle architectural elements that will remind viewers of the WTC. The beam of light that the Tower would emit from its spire, if built, will no doubt evoke memories of the Sept. 11 memorial lights that shone two beams of light into the heavens.

But we must remember those who died here. This shouldn't be a new office park; it should be a somber place where families, friends, and those who just remember the pain and fear of that day can congregate to reflect.

A true memorial park encompassing the entire site is the only befitting tribute for these victims.

Anything less and we truly won't be honoring their memories.

MAN ON THE STREET

THE WORD AROUND CAMPUS

'If you were in SGA, what would you change?'



RACHEL HOAR
Psychology

"I would create a shuttle service to downtown like [the University of Florida's] Later Gator."



HOANG NGUYEN
Molecular and Microbiology

"More services from the Student Union to parking. It's hot out here."



WARREN JACKSON
Theater

"I want to see community activities like car washes and class basketball games."



JAMES CASEN
Aerospace Engineering

"As a freshman, I haven't had the chance to find out all that SGA does or doesn't do."



CARMEN PENN
Nursing

"I wouldn't change anything, really."



SARA BIBBENS
Advertising/Public Relations

"Class structure — courses don't always fit the major."

Central Florida Future

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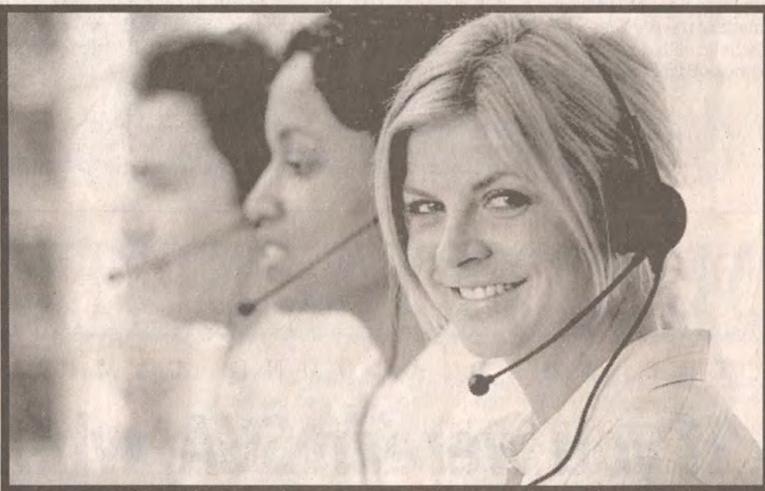
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47 Theda of silent movies
50 Heavy-lidded

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325 FOR SALE: Automotive

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BRAND NEW, Tempur-pedic type Memory Foam Mattress Set w/ warranty. \$1800 value. Must sell \$495. Call 407-423-1202.

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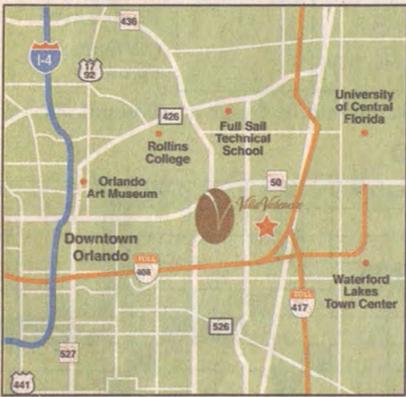
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