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Central Florida Future

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The Student Newspaper at UCF since 1968

www.CentralFloridaFuture.com • Monday, November 19, 2007

Tamed Mustangs

Knights beat SMU 49-20 to grab hold of C-USA East Division — SEE SPORTS, A9



Philanthropic poker

Knight-Thon holds Texas Hold 'em tourney to help raise money for Children's Miracle Network — SEE NEWS, A2



HOLIDAYS

SANTA'S "HO, HO, HO" WON'T GO, GO, GO

After a controversial plan to silence Santa's historical, "ho, ho, ho" and replace it with "ha, ha, ha" at Australian department stores, the same stores announced that there would be no ban. Originally, they said the popular saying was interpreted as derogatory to women.



ANIMALS

HEATHCLIFF GOES ON VACATION



A cat named Heathcliff somehow hitched a nearly 900-mile ride from New Jersey to Georgia — most likely on a moving van, authorities said. The orange and white shorthair was reported missing Oct. 24 in New Jersey and was identified Nov. 9 at an animal shelter in Georgia. A volunteer rescue group shuttled the cat back to its owner.

AROUND CAMPUS, A2

SGA PRESIDENT HOSTS FASHION SHOW IN DOWNTOWN ORLANDO

Student Body President Brandie Hollinger and 102 Jamz radio host "Nino" will be hosting a free Big 10-4 concert and American Rag fashion show tonight at 8 p.m. The event will be held downtown at the Social.

LOCAL & STATE, A2

ORLANDO SCHOOL SUES BLOGGING PARENT FOR DEFAMATION

A private school claims the mother of a former student crossed the line in an Internet blog she wrote about her daughter's experiences there. So the New School of Orlando Inc. sued Sonjia McSween to stop her from publishing and talking about the school.

NATION & WORLD, A4

33 KILLED IN MINE EXPLOSION IN UKRAINE, 70 STILL MISSING

A methane blast ripped through a coal mine in eastern Ukraine, killing at least 33 miners and leaving about 70 others trapped, emergency officials said. The explosion occurred at the Zasyadka mine in the Donetsk region.

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TODAY'S WEATHER



PARTLY CLOUDY
80° 60°
HIGH LOW

"Our basic goal is to raise awareness to people in the community, educate people about the many uses of marijuana and the lies that have been put into people's heads."

TROY BENNETT
SENIOR EDUCATION MAJOR AND NORML MEMBER

March for MARY JANE

GREGORY TERRITO / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Alice Pemezny, an elementary education sophomore, wears a Dick Cheney mask during NORML's march for marijuana to reform U.S. drug policy. Pemezny is an officer of the Progressive Council and believes that if she was gutsy enough to wear a Cheney mask, it would attract students to take interest in the progressive platform.

Group speaks out against drug policies

ROBYN SIDERSKY
Staff Writer

Members of the UCF chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws marched near Millican Hall Wednesday in their continuing fight to get marijuana legalized.

"We had a marijuana march for the legalization of marijuana medicinally, industrially and recreationally," senior education major and NORML member Troy Bennett said.

At around 12:45 p.m., NORML members and supporters marched from the Student Union toward Millican Hall. Led by skateboarders, the group chanted slogans such as, "One, two, three, four, time to end the drug war. Five, six, seven, eight, time to get the facts straight."

As the group stood before Millican Hall, holding up signs and a NORML banner, the chant's final line evolved into a passionate statement: "Smoking weed is really great."

After the march, the group set up a

GREGORY TERRITO / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Brandon Polley, front, and other NORML members march in support of the legalization of marijuana.

tent in front of the Union to continue spreading the word about its cause.

"Our basic goal is to raise awareness to people in the community, educate people about the many uses of marijuana and the lies that have been put into people's heads," Bennett said.

"We're not a smoking group here just so we can enjoy marijuana. We're here to advocate smarter drug policy by the government to advocate non-wasteful spending."

The group is very active on campus and won the Organization of the Year award from the Knights of the Roundtable in 2005.

The group's main argument is that the government is spending too much money in the war on drugs.

According to the National Drug Control Strategy for the 2006 fiscal year, the government recommended \$12.4 billion in spending to stop drug use, rehabilitate drug users and disrupt illegal drug trafficking.

Brandon Polley, the public relations director for NORML, said that if the marijuana market were regulated, the money would go into the economy instead of being wasted.

"Marijuana never killed anyone in U.S. medical history," Polley said. "Tobacco, alcohol and aspirin kill."

Sophomore economics and political science major Chad Weatherstone said that marijuana poses no health threat in comparison to other

PLEASE SEE **MARCHERS** ON A3

2 alarms go off in Union

SGA Computer Lab suffered minor damage

JESSICA SUNDAY
Staff Writer

Dual fire alarms emptied the Student Union Friday, but damage to the Union was minimal.

Alarms in the Burger King and in the SGA Computer Lab went off almost simultaneously around 9 a.m. said Gary Campbell, the senior building superintendent for the Union. Both reopened later that day, and damage to each was minimal, Campbell said.

"It was a coincidence that it happened [at nearly the same time]," Campbell said. "It was good for us. We didn't have to evacuate the building twice."

During the process of evacuating the building, Campbell received a call from another maintenance worker who alerted him that the computer lab on the second floor was filling with smoke.

PLEASE SEE **FACILITIES** ON A7

Conference title game tix offered

MATT MCKINLEY
Staff Writer

The Knights are currently sitting atop Conference USA's East Division, and are a contender to host the Conference USA Football Championship game on Dec. 1. The Knights clinched at least a share of the East Division with the win over SMU, and can host the league championship game with a victory over UTEP on Saturday. This would be the second time UCF hosts the C-USA Championship game in three years.

If UCF hosts the C-USA Championship game, student seating will be general admission and student IDs will not be valid for admission.

A student ticket sign-up page for the opportunity to purchase a ticket for \$10 became available Sunday at 12:01 a.m., and it will continue to be

PLEASE SEE **TICKETS** ON A3

UCF cleans up by raising laundry prices

ROBYN SIDERSKY
Staff Writer

As students await a 5 percent increase in tuition this spring, the price of doing a load of laundry on campus has already gone up.

Prices per load went up for all on-campus housing communities, and students must now pay an extra quarter for both washers and dryers. This makes the price of each load \$1 for the washing machine and 75 cents for the dryer.

"I just don't get why UCF makes it so expensive," freshman business major Michael Jacobs said.

Jacobs, a resident of the Lake Claire community, said he didn't know about the increase until he went to do laundry.

PLEASE SEE **25-CENT** ON A7

AROUND CAMPUS

News and notices for the UCF community

SGA pres. hosts fashion show

Student Body President Brandie Hollinger and 102 Jamz radio host "Nino" will be hosting a free Big 10-4 concert and American Rag fashion show tonight at 8 p.m.

The event will be held downtown at the Social and will feature prizes and games. For those interested, bring one item of clothing to donate upon entry.

Alpha Delta Pi hosts fundraiser

Alpha Delta Pi will be hosting a cheerleading competition and trunk show as part of its fall philanthropic event. The event will be held tonight from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

All proceeds will benefit the Ronald McDonald Houses of Orlando. For more information, contact amarie.mulholland@gmail.com

How to eat healthy this holiday

Nutritionist Meghan Van Camp will be giving advice on ways to healthfully indulge this holiday season without packing on the pounds. The event will be held today from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Recreation and Wellness Center classroom. For more information, visit <http://www.hs.ucf.edu/events/events.html>.

Learn strategies to interviewing

Career Services & Experiential Learning is hosting a coaching session on advanced interviewing Tuesday in Ferrell Commons from 11 a.m. to noon. The event will teach students to learn practical strategies to manage all types of interviews. For more information, contact csel@mail.ucf.edu.

LOCAL & STATE

Keep local with headlines you may have missed

Orlando private school sues blogging parent for defamation

ORLANDO — A private school claims the mother of a former student crossed the line in a critical Internet blog she wrote about her daughter's experiences there.

So the New School of Orlando Inc. sued Sonjia McSween to stop her from publishing and talking about the school and forced her to pay damages.

Some say it's a case of censorship. Others say First Amendment rights have nothing to do with it.

"Lots of people, private and public, can have thin skins," said Rebecca Jeschke, spokeswoman for the Electronic Frontier Foundation, which advocates digital free-speech rights and maintains a legal guide for bloggers.

"People need to get used to this new world where everyone has a soapbox and can use it."

McSween says she created the blog to warn parents about what happened when her now 7-year-old daughter Logan attended kindergarten at the school.

The lawsuit, filed in October, says McSween posted "false and otherwise libelous remarks" alleging that students were belittled, exposed to "extreme stress" and "dictatorial conditions."

Among other things, she also alleged that the school told par-

PLEASE SEE **LOCAL** ON A4

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@centralfloridafuture.com. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday for the Monday edition, 5 p.m. Monday for the Wednesday edition, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for the Friday edition.

KNOW WHEN TO HOLD 'EM

Students gamble to create Miracles

VIRGINIA KIDDY
Contributing Writer

Students played tournament-style poker for a chance to win prizes while raising money for local sick and injured children on Wednesday.

All proceeds from the tournament went to the Children's Miracle Network, where the money benefits children by providing free treatment, health-care research and state-of-the-art equipment to children's hospitals.

On the way in, many of the 79 students who attended dropped a few dollars into the donation box set on a table outside the Pegasus Ballroom of the Student Union.

Many of the attendees came for the poker but enjoyed the opportunity to play for a cause.

"I enjoy poker, so I just decided I wanted to come out," said Adam Montana, a sophomore general business major. "And it's for charity, so that's a bonus."

Montana said he wasn't sure how much money people were supposed to donate, so he gave the \$5 he had in his wallet. By the end of the night, the donations totaled \$350.

"For the first time [ever doing this type of event] and strictly donations because we cannot charge, and we don't ask for a specific amount, I think we did a fantastic job," said Dan Samuels, director of Knight-Thon. "I cannot complain one bit."

Another student, senior English literature major Meredith Cariski, said she heard about the event through Facebook and planned to come with her friend. Even though her friend didn't attend, she said that meeting new people was fun, and the purpose of the night was great.

"I think that's very important that students are supporting a cause like helping sick children," Cariski said.

Aside from the 500 LINK Loot points earned by freshmen who attended, the grand prize winner received a \$100 VISA gift card, the runner-up won two tickets to Wet 'n Wild, and every person in the top 10 received a Gold Zone parking pass for home football games.

The tournament started a little after 7 p.m. As participants lost throughout the night, they filtered out of the room.

By the end of the night, the nine remaining players who had bluffed, betted and folded their way through the evening sat at one table. A 10th seat at that final table was auctioned off for a \$30 donation from senior marketing major Adam Levine.

"I figured it's all going to charity," said Levine, the vice president of marketing for Hillel at UCF. "Oh, of course the \$100 would have been nice, but it's not about the prize. It's important to support charities and organizations."

The Texas Hold 'em Tournament fundraiser was the first poker tournament ever hosted by Knight-Thon, the university's largest student-run philanthropic organization.

Knight-Thon hosted the event to raise money but also to raise awareness and promote its main fundraising event, Samuels said.

The annual event, the Knight-Thon 24-hour dance marathon, will be held on Feb. 23 and 24. The event is held to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network.

According to the Children's Miracle Network Web site, the organiza-



PHOTOS BY AMANDA MOORE / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Business sophomore Alejandro Garcia, top, is one of nine remaining players in a poker tournament held by Knight-Thon Wednesday. Above, aerospace freshman Charles Andrews, left, watches as business sophomore Sean Berg places a bet on the table around 10 p.m. Thursday during the poker tournament.

tion distributes money to 170 hospitals nationwide, provides more than \$2.5 billion in uncompensated charity and helps treat roughly 17 million children for everything from transplants to pediatric AIDS.

Locally, the Greater Orlando CMN donates to Arnold Palmer Hospital in Orlando and Shands Children's Hospital in Gainesville.

Samuels is also getting a certificate in non-profit organization management. He said he loves his leadership

role as the director of Knight-Thon.

"It's just a passion of mine," Samuels said. "That's my favorite word right there. I absolutely love the cause. I love helping children in need. It's what I want to do for a living, so any way I can do that, I love to. This is just where I found that passion, and this is where I've decided to put my time and my energy."

For more information about Knight-Thon or to get involved, visit www.knight-thon.com.

LOCAL WEATHER

	Today PARTLY CLOUDY High: 80° Low: 60°	TODAY IN DETAIL Today: Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of rain. High around 80. Northeast wind around 12 mph. Tonight: Partly cloudy with a low around 60. North northeast wind around 7 mph.		Tuesday SUNNY High: 82° Low: 59°

Central Florida Future

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Tickets \$10 for students

FROM A1

available until noon Tuesday. Student season ticket holders are guaranteed the opportunity to purchase a ticket at the same price but must register to do so during the required sign-up period. All other valid student entries will be distributed through a lottery. An e-mail notification will be sent to all registrants Tuesday after 5 p.m.

Tickets will only be issued

if UCF hosts the C-USA Championship game. Should UCF not host it, all entries will be discarded.

After receiving the confirmation e-mail, students must pay \$10 in cash (no checks or credit or debit cards accepted) at the UCFAA East Ticket Office, located between Gates 12 and 13 at Bright House Networks Stadium, from Nov. 26 through Nov. 28. Ticket pick-up hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Students must present their tickets for entrance into the stadium on gameday. No UCF student IDs will be accepted.

Sophomore civil engineering major Kevin Nicola already signed up for the lottery. Despite being right before final exams, Nicola is excited about UCF potentially hosting the championship.

"I think it would be a huge step in our quest for C-USA greatness," Nicola said.

Internship anxiety rises

Students apply early for summer

CAITLYN MCMANUS
Contributing Writer

As the days until Thanksgiving break decrease, so do the number of summer internships available to students.

Although some students may not be sure what they are doing over the Thanksgiving holiday, others are confirming plans for internships for the summer term.

"A lot of the internships I want to apply for need nine months security clearance," political science major Nick Camargo said. "So if you want a summer internship, you have to apply no later than September."

Those students who are taking the initiative to apply early are gaining an advantage over the competition and ultimately making their career aspirations a more possible reality.

According to Bucknell University's Web site, "many students aren't aware of these earlier deadlines and often miss some otherwise interesting opportunities."

Whether summer, fall or spring, applying for internships is beneficial to employers and students.

"I've had my internship for two years," said Stephanie Constantin, a business economics major and intern at the UCF Global Perspectives Office. "It has helped me network, meet international figures who have come to UCF, and I've learned to do research and media reports."

Constantin said she will have an advantage over oth-

ers when it comes to applying for a job because she has been able to network.

Employers have begun hiring interns earlier in the year because it gives them the opportunity to see if the interns are capable of using their potential to get the job done. Results from a 2007 Experience Inc. survey of more than 50 employers, indicated that 65 percent have formal internship programs and 22 percent are currently in the process of creating them.

The survey also reported that the respondents hired interns for two reasons: 54 percent of employers view their internship programs as a pipeline for full-time hires, while 31 percent view their interns as extra resources to help complete projects.

Experience Inc. is a university-endorsed career network that delivers jobs, internships and career resources to college students and recent graduates. Experience Inc. uses an eRecruiting platform and an award-winning network to connect millions of members from 3,800 colleges and universities with more than 100,000 employer searches a year. For more information, visit www.experience.com.

There is no better way to see if someone is suitable for a job than giving them real-world experience. The value of the internship is not reflected in a dollar amount but rather the experience that could possibly secure a full-time job.

Some degree programs do not offer internships, but there are still opportunities for students to gain real-world experience.

One example is the College of Nursing students who participate in a practicum in their final semester that pulls everything they have learned into a practical application.

"It is getting them ready to step out on their own and prepare them for the real world," said Linda Hennig, the associate dean of Undergraduate Affairs for the College of Nursing. "It really helps on a resume for this major and others if they have an internship or practicum for getting hired."

It is never too early to apply for an internship or think about researching what internships would be beneficial to a certain career.

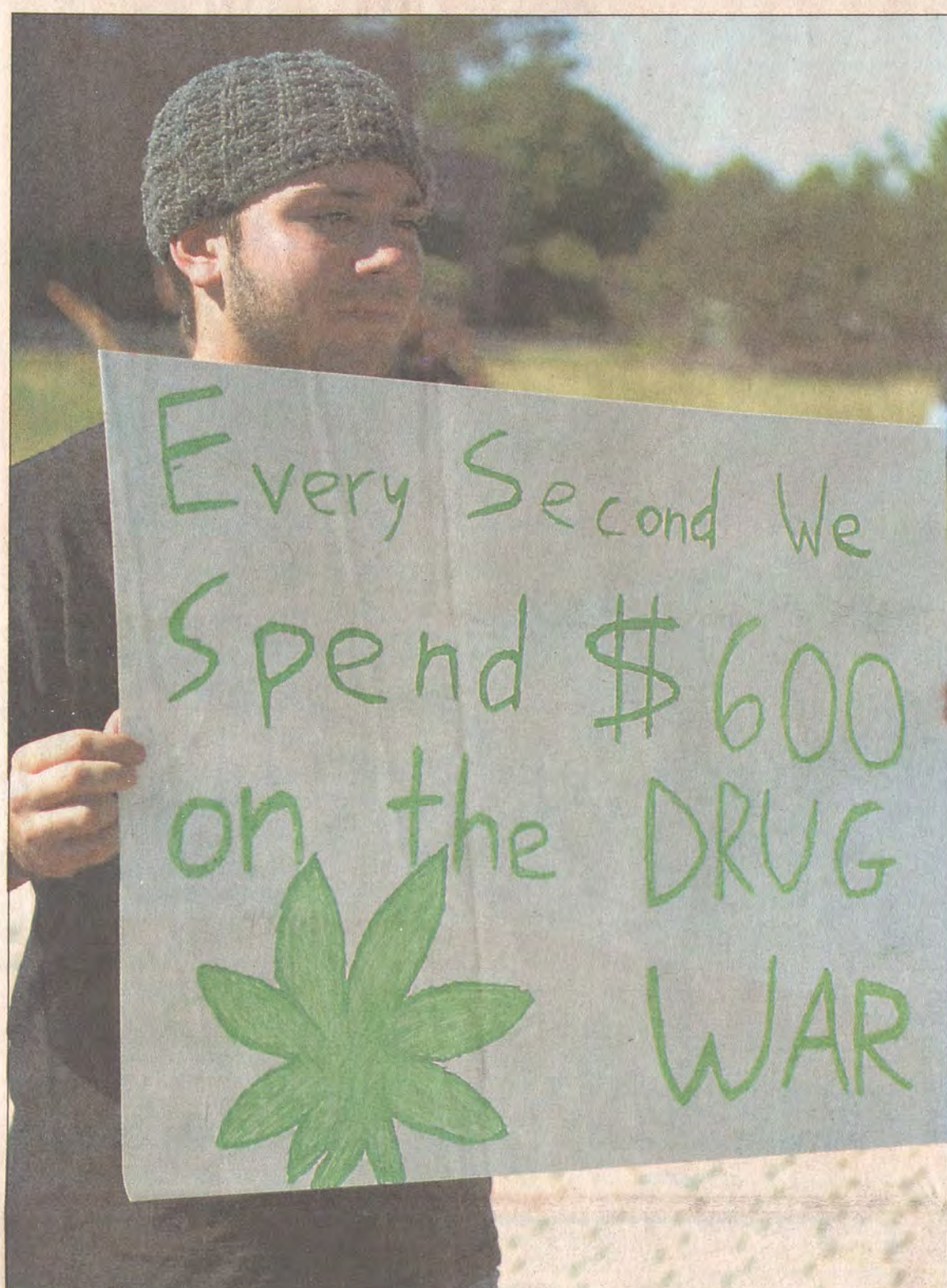
UCF's Career Services and Experiential Learning offers an array of resources for those seeking an internship. Students who are interested in an internship can find information on the CSEL Web site: www.csel.ucf.edu.

The Web site lists which internships are available for the different majors and contact information for the internships. Helpful links offer sample resumes, resume tips and successful interviewing skills.

Careerbuilder.com, MonsterTrak.com and Vault.com are Internet directories that also offer a list of job openings.

As the weather cools down during Thanksgiving and winter break, the competition for an internship is heating up.

According to CollegeJournal.com, "the humble summer internship is becoming one of the most sought-after prizes on college campuses."



Freshman business student Richard Rodgers holds a sign outside of the Student Union on Wednesday to support the march for marijuana sponsored by NORML. Marchers met at the Student Union before moving toward Millican Hall, bearing signs and banners.

Marchers rally near Union

FROM A1

legalized drugs.

"It's the safest drug out there," said Weatherstone, who is also the treasurer of NORML. "Government just doesn't make sense to me."

Polley said that it would be better and safer if marijuana

were sold in stores rather than by drug dealers.

James McIntyre, the vice president of NORML, said the group tries to hold marches once or twice every year.

He has his own personal reasons for being involved in the organization.

"It's something I'm pretty

passionate about," McIntyre said. "I've had so many friends arrested by police."

McIntyre said NORML is the perfect medium to get involved.

"Being involved gives me a great opportunity to meet people and make connections," he said.

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Tuesday 11/20
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
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Come and showcase your talents at Open Mic Night. Open to all talents.

Wednesday 11/21
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
VUCF Get Carded presents Green Ribbon Day.
Meet at the Get Carded table outside of the Student Union at 10:45

Hiya Everybody!
My name is Mark De Sqwerell. Join my
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LOCAL & STATE

FROM A2

ents how to run their homes and threatened them for speaking negatively about the 120-student school.

The kindergarten-through-eighth grade school alleges that McSween deliberately told unflattering lies, causing enrollment to drop.

It alleges defamation, libel, slander and interference with business relations.

Human remains discovered under Madeira Beach business

MADEIRA BEACH — Workers renovating a Madeira Beach business made an unexpected discovery — human skeletal remains under the floor.

Detectives are working to identify the person and figure out the cause of death.

The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office said homicide investigators were summoned Saturday when the workers came across the bones at a shop formerly known as Wicked Gifts.

Woman killed after horse stumbled during event

OCALA — A woman died after her horse stumbled during a cross country jumping event and crushed her on Saturday, authorities said.

Eleanor Brennan, 21, of Esmont, Va., was attending the 2007 Horse Trials, an international horse event, at the Florida Horse Park, a statement from the Marion County Sheriff's Office said.

Brennan was riding an 11-year-old male named Mister Barnabus.

The horse struck a gate during the event, tumbled onto his neck and landed on Brennan, the statement said.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

HIGHER EDUCATION

What's in the news at colleges around the country

House education committee passes higher-education bill

WASHINGTON — On Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives education committee voted unanimously to approve a bill that would set federal higher-education policy for the next five years. Most of the vast legislation is uncontroversial, but provisions dealing with accreditation and file sharing have drawn sharp criticism from colleges.

The bill, which would reauthorize, or renew, the Higher Education Act, the major law governing federal aid to students and colleges, now heads to a floor vote in the House, expected in December or January. The Senate passed its version of the bill in August.

Before approving the bill on Thursday morning, the committee considered seven amendments that remained from Wednesday's debate and adopted two of them on a roll-call vote.

The first, an amendment by Rep. Jason Altmire, Democrat of Pennsylvania, would provide grants to colleges that team up with local employers to align their programs with labor needs.

The second, an amendment by Rep. Robert C. Scott, Democrat of Virginia, would allow recipients of TRIO grants, given to needy students, to challenge the Education Department's decision not to renew their grants. The amendment was prompted by recent complaints from cut-off grantees in one of the TRIO programs, Talent Search. Mr. Scott's proposal would allow grantees to argue to an administrative-law judge that the education secretary had improperly scored their applications.

The committee rejected five Republican-sponsored amendments, including a pair by Rep. Ric Keller of Florida. One amendment would have required institutions in the direct-loan program to certify loans from lenders in the competing guaranteed-loan program. The other would have authorized the education secretary to penalize institutions that raised their tuition in direct response to Pell Grant increases.

— CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

NATION & WORLD

Keep current with headlines from around the globe



Ukrainian Emergency Ministry rescuers prepare to go in the the Zasyadka mine in Ukraine Sunday. A methane blast ripped through a coal mine killing at least 33.

33 killed in mine explosion in Ukraine, 70 others still missing

KIEV, Ukraine — A methane blast ripped through a coal mine in eastern Ukraine early Sunday, killing at least 33 miners and leaving about 70 others trapped, emergency officials said.

The explosion occurred at the Zasyadka mine in the Donetsk region at a depth of more than 3,280 feet at around 3 a.m., the Emergency Situations Ministry said. Oleksandr Soldatov, a spokesman for the ministry's regional branch, said that 33 bodies had been found. The ministry's chief spokesman, Ihor Krol, said another 70 miners have remained missing throughout the sprawling mine. Rescue workers were trying to bring them to the surface.

Authorities evacuated 359 miners, and 19 were hospitalized, Krol said. The Donetsk region is about 400 miles southeast of the capital, Kiev. Ukrainian mines are among the world's most dangerous. The mines can run deep and often use out-of-date equipment.

UN panel warns of human suffering, species extinction

VALENCIA, Spain — Global warming is "unequivocal" and carbon dioxide already in the atmosphere commits the world to an eventual rise in sea levels of up to 4.6 feet, the world's top climate experts warned Saturday in their most authoritative report to date.

"Only urgent, global action will do," said U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, calling on the United States and China — the world's two biggest polluters — to do more to slow global climate change.

Ban, however, advised against assigning blame.

Climate change imperils "the most precious treasures of our planet," he said, and the effects are "so severe and so sweeping that only urgent global action will do. We are all in this together. We must work together."

According to the U.N. panel of scientists, whose latest report is a synthesis of three previous ones, enough carbon dioxide already has built up that it imperils islands, coastlines and a fifth to two-thirds of the world's species.

As early as 2020, 75 million to 250 million people in Africa will suffer water shortages, and residents of Asia's large cities will be at great risk of river and coastal flooding, according to the report. Europeans can expect extensive species loss, and North Americans will experience longer and hotter heat waves and greater competition for water, says the report from the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which shared the Nobel Prize with Al Gore this year.

The panel portrays the Earth hurtling toward a warmer climate at a quickening pace and warns of inevitable human suffering. It says emissions of carbon, mainly from fossil fuels, must stabilize by 2015 and go down after that.

In the best-case scenario, temperatures will keep rising from carbon already in the atmosphere, the report said. Even if factories were shut down today and cars taken off the roads, the average sea level will gradually rise over the next 1,000 years to reach as high as 4.6 feet above that in the preindustrial period, or about 1850.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gas pipeline and explosion kills 28 in eastern Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — An explosion and fire on a gas pipeline killed 28 workers in eastern Saudi Arabia, the Saudi national oil company, Aramco, said Sunday.

The fire broke out while contract workers were linking a new pipe to the line late Saturday, Aramco said in a statement.

It said 28 workers, including five Aramco employees, had died in the fire, which was put out early Sunday some 18 miles from its Hawiyah gas plant.

The company did not specify how many people had been injured in the blaze, or give the victims' nationalities.

"The company is taking all necessary measures to guarantee the continuation of the normal gas output," it said.

Saudi Arabia's national oil company, Saudi Aramco, is the world's largest oil producer, located on the country's east coast.

The Hawiyah plant produces 310,000 barrels of ethane and liquefied natural gas daily.

Death toll surpasses 2,220 in Bangladesh cyclone

DHAKA, Bangladesh — The death toll from a cyclone that devastated Bangladesh has surpassed 2,200, officials said Sunday, while rescuers struggled through blocked paths to reach hundreds of thousands of survivors awaiting aid in wrecked homes and flooded fields.

The government deployed military helicopters, naval ships and thousands of troops to join international agencies and local officials in the rescue mission following Tropical Cyclone Sidr. The U.S. and other countries also offered assistance.

At least 2,206 people have died since the storm struck Bangladesh on Thursday, said Selina Shahid of the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management. The toll could rise still higher as more information comes in from battered regions.

Disaster Management Secretary Aiyub Bhuiyan met Sunday with representatives from the United Nations and international aid groups to discuss the massive relief effort.

Rescuers struggled to clear roads and get their vehicles through, but many found the way impassable. "We will try again ... on bicycles, and hire local country boats," M. Shakil Anwar of CARE said from the city of Khulna.

At least 1.5 million coastal villagers had fled to shelters where they were given emergency rations, said senior government official Ali Imam Majumder in the capital, Dhaka.

The worst-hit area was Bagerhat district, where 610 people died, said Ashraf Zaman, an official at a cyclone monitoring center in Dhaka.

Sidr's 150 mph winds smashed tens of thousands of homes Thursday in southwestern Bangladesh and ruined crops just before the harvest season.

Ferries were flung ashore like toy boats.

Aid organizations said they feared food shortages and contaminated water could lead to widespread problems if people remain stranded.

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Salary still hot issue at session

LAUREN PAULASKAS
Staff Writer

The latest Collective Bargaining session between the United Faculty of Florida and the UCF Board of Trustees Tuesday focused on salary increases and budgeting for summer classes.

The article weighing heaviest in the discussion was Article 23, Salaries. With the tight budget situation, the BOT members said they still don't have enough money to provide raises across the board.

The BOT once again recommended using merit awards to supplement the loss of raises.

These awards are used to reward employees for their work in teaching, research or both.

The BOT also suggested using leftover money from a college's budget to allow the university to counter offers professors may have received from other universities.

Sheryl Andrews, associate general counsel for the BOT, said UFF doesn't agree with this policy.

"Faculty don't have any input from their point of view," Andrews said. "The dean [of any college] could only make counteroffers for people he likes. It's purely up to him."

Jim Gilkeson, chief negotiator for UFF and a finance professor at UCF, said that the process is flawed.

"We think it's been abused a bit at UCF," Gilkeson said. "[In terms of ranking], it's at the bottom of our list. I get their [BOT] point of view, but many times, they waste a lot of money."

UFF, in its fourth proposal regarding the salary article, lowered the administrative discretion money from 1 percent to 0.10 percent and raised the across-the-board salary increase from 1.6 percent to 2.69 percent.

Gilkeson said that UFF planned to propose the amount of the increase if the tuition increase was approved.

After the BOT put its second proposal for Article 8, Appointments, on the table, heated debates about the budget for summer classes ensued.

Gilkeson asked for clarification in reference to the

BOT's guidelines for the summer class budget.

"It means whether it's economically feasible to offer the course," said Michael Mattimore, chief negotiator for the BOT.

UFF said that the BOT, as management for the university, decides how to spend the money and because of poor budgeting, it doesn't seem to have a lot of money left for the summer.

"They [BOT] have way more money this year than last year," Gilkeson said. "And that's a fact. They're just choosing to starve the summer budget."

The BOT had a different explanation.

"We have to work within certain financial restraints," Andrews said. "[The summer is] on a different budgetary schedule than the rest of the year."

Another differing point of view was in regard to Article 16, Disciplinary Action and Job Abandonment.

This article provides guidelines for university employee conduct and outlines what kinds of employee actions should receive punishment.

"The BOT wants to impose discipline on things off campus," Gilkeson said. "That's the ultimate thing that scares us."

UFF proposed that employees be paid while they are under investigation, so they don't suffer financially.

Gilkeson provided a recent example of an employee who was put on involuntary leave for investigation in April. That employee was still awaiting a decision in September with no pay during those five months "because the university hadn't made up its mind yet," he said.

UFF connected this delay in the university's decision making to the delay in contracts for employees.

"We often have people start teaching here that don't have a contract yet," Gilkeson said. "They are notoriously behind on paperwork."

So, with several articles already finished and several more to go, UFF and the BOT may be bargaining for some time.

"We've got quite a few things we're different on," Gilkeson said.

Turkey Day brings options to the table

WILLIAM BUCHANAN
Contributing Writer

Sitting at home with her head in her hands, Allyson Wood looked at her work schedule for Thanksgiving and sighed.

This is the UCF junior's first time living away from home, and all she wanted was to have a day off and eat some good food with her family.

But days off for Wood are nearly nonexistent between a full-time school schedule and working more than 50 hours a week at Walt Disney World. On top of that, she just volunteered to help a co-worker by covering his shift on Thanksgiving Day.

"This was going to be his fourth year missing Thanksgiving with his family, so I took his shift," Wood said. "No one should go that long without family."

Wood is not alone. While most of the UCF population will be going home and visiting with family during the break, some students, like Wood, will be staying around campus due to hectic work schedules.

Students toughing it out locally have a few choices on how to celebrate this Turkey Day, such as volunteering, dinner with friends or having a potluck.

This year, the only Thanksgiving meal offered by UCF is a lunch at the Marketplace on Nov. 20 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. This meal will include all of the Thanksgiving essentials: turkey, ham, stuffing, sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, carrots and green beans. Chef Manager Rebecca Lane said she may add some other items, including desserts and salads.

"We're doing it early so at least [some] students can have a Thanksgiving dinner," Lane said.

Janel Paige, a 19-year-old interpersonal and organizational communications major who works with the Student Government Association, said it wasn't the plan to forego a Thanksgiving dinner.

She said that when events are planned and held by SGA

and other organizations, they want as many people as possible to come. However, Paige said, because most students are going home for the holiday, holding a school dinner wouldn't be a wise use of money.

"We want to use the students' money to the best of our ability," Paige said.

UCF won't be offering any dinner to campus over-nighters this holiday break, but that doesn't leave students without options.

Senior Hilary Tarabour said she is lucky enough to have Thanksgiving dinner with family this year, but the past few years, this 22-year-

old is located at 444 N. Bumby Ave., and a detailed list of food items on the Thanksgiving menu is available on its Web site: www.drunkenmonkey-coffee.com.

Creek requested that students who are interested in volunteering RSVP in advance with the volunteer coordinator at www.rock-forhunger.org.

The breakfast will probably last about an hour, and will include eggs, oatmeal, orange juice, toast and whatever else people donate.

"Volunteers are always welcome to Rock for Hunger events," Creek said. "We love them."

Another option is for students to have dinner at a friend's house with their



old organization-

has celebrated Thanksgiving in many different ways. The last three times included volunteering to feed the homeless, dinner with a friend's family and a potluck dinner.

"It's Thanksgiving," Tarabour said. "You just shouldn't be alone."

If a student does decide to volunteer, there are plenty of venues to choose from, including UCF's own Volunteer UCF.

At 8:30 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, a breakfast for the homeless will be held at the post office in downtown Orlando, hosted by the non-profit group Rock for Hunger. It's free, and while volunteers don't need to bring anything, people are welcome to bring breakfast items, clothes, socks, warm clothes, blankets and hygiene products.

"Everyone deserves meals

family, which gives them the opportunity to experience a new tradition.

Stephie Palacios, a 20-year-old political science and history major, said she is traveling to Williamsburg, Va., to have dinner with friends.

Along with the traditional Thanksgiving trimmings, this UCF junior will be enjoying authentic Puerto Rican dishes, including arroz con gandules — a rice and pea dish with diced ham and sautéed onions, garlic and peppers.

"I'm excited because [our friend] Katia is an amazing cook," Palacios said.

If a student is short on friends, a coffee bar called Drunken Monkey is serving a full traditional and vegan Thanksgiving dinner at three separate times on Thanksgiving Day: 2 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.; 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.; and 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. The cost of the meal is \$19.99, and diners must pre-pay by Nov. 21. Drunken Monkey Coffee Bar

is located at 444 N. Bumby Ave., and a detailed list of food items on the Thanksgiving menu is available on its Web site: www.drunkenmonkey-coffee.com.

"We're doing it just to offer people a place to come with a family-style meal," said Larry Hardin, part-owner and manager of Drunken Monkey.

On the other hand, if friends are available, students have the option of a potluck dinner with many pre-made meal items available at supermarkets.

Publix, for example, is offering a complete holiday dinner for only \$39.99, with a turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy and cranberry-orange relish. Other available entrees include seasoned pork loin, oven-roasted turkey breast and sweet-slice ham dinner.

For anyone who wants to design his own meal, however, all sides are available for individual sale, and the Publix Web site offers instructional videos on how to roast, carve and serve a turkey and provides a gravy recipe.

Sean Meyer, a 24-year-old accounting and finance major, said that his potluck dinner last year made for a great Thanksgiving.

One of his roommates received a turkey from his work at the Orlando International Airport, and the group decided to have dinner together. The rest of the sides were easy-to-cook foods such as mashed potatoes, green beans and cranberry sauce from the can.

"My only suggestion is you look up how to cook a turkey before you do it," Meyer said.

As for Wood, she smiled looking at her work schedule.

Of all the choices she had for Thanksgiving, she knew that she did something good for someone else. She closed her laptop and started studying for a test in her language development class.

Although she wouldn't get to spend Thanksgiving dinner with her family, she said she had friends bringing her leftovers.

"I just better get some yams," Wood said.

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Two alumni make waking up their business

LAUREN ERLICH
Staff Writer

David Batchelor was just a student at UCF, looking to make a few extra dollars.

He started a wake-up call business from his Jefferson Commons apartment, calling people at all hours of the night based on their specifications.

That tiny business, which started from his bedroom, is now a global enterprise that works to provide wake-up calls and reminder services to both individuals and national companies.

WakeUpLand.com is the combined effort of Batchelor and Christopher Casale, both UCF alumni. Batchelor had the idea and Casale had the computer know-how to turn the automated phone system into a computerized mechanism.

The company offers a menu of services, but most of their business comes from requests for wake-up calls.

"If you travel to hotels, you can call the concierge for a wake-up call," Casale said. "[Batchelor] thought it would be a great idea to start a business centered around that, where you could bring that into the home for consumers."

The wake-up call has become more than just a phone call. Customers can determine what they want to hear on the other end of the line. The Web site offers options such as a joke of the day, fun facts and sports reports.

The most popular feature, Casale said, is the weather report.

"There are a lot of people that love getting up and knowing what the weather is before they hop in the shower and lay out their day based on that," he said.

Batchelor and Casale said that they try to keep in touch with their clientele in order to offer new and varied services. They have expanded to add reminder calls that alert customers when it is time to take medicine, go to meetings, etc.

WakeUpLand.com offers per-use rates as well as

monthly and yearly plans. A single wake-up call or reminder begins at 95 cents. Unlimited calls for a month start at \$4.95, while a yearly subscription goes for \$44.95.

Casale emphasized that the Web site offers something that not all alarm clocks can: reliability.

"With an alarm clock, you're relying on power," he said. "What if the power goes out? I can't tell you how many times that has happened to me."

Going beyond individual consumers, WakeUpLand.com is now contracting with large companies to offer reminder services to interested businesses. Casale said that they have been in talks with Greyhound Bus Lines about taking over all the dispatch calls to drivers.

Casale added that they also work with many concierge and group apartment homes to provide wake-up calls.

"Anything that you can think of that needs an out-bound call," Casale said, "we can come up with a solution for it."

As the business continues to grow, Casale said he credits UCF with much of his success.

"A lot of the ideas and concepts that we used to come up with this were based on our experiences at UCF," he said.

In fact, Batchelor got the idea from looking to his peers as well as the Internet for a void and then aiming to fill it.

"I looked for a business online that didn't exist, and I figured that a wake-up call service would be cool," Batchelor said.

In 2001, when Batchelor began WakeUpLand.com, there was only one other wake-up call business, and they operated through the telephone, not the Web.

Originally, the clientele was all UCF-based but has since grown into a national and even international system.

Batchelor said that he was just trying to make a few extra dollars. Until two years ago,

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WakeUpLand.com, a business started by two UCF alumni, offers a variety of services, but their most popular service is wake-up calls. They offer wake-up calls to individuals and businesses, and customers can specify what they want to hear when they wake up. Options include a joke of the day, a fun fact or a sports report. The most popular is the weather report.

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said that although the business is impressive, she will stick to her alarm clock.

"It's free," she said.

Gee acknowledged that, while she may not utilize the wake-up services, it's encouraging to see two UCF students fare so well.

"I think it's great that two students from UCF started this company that is now getting well-known," she said.

Casale said he encourages anyone with an idea or a dream to pursue it and sees himself and his partner as an example of the possibilities.

"Students can see that if you have an idea or a business or just something that you want to do, give it a shot," he said. "Both Dave and I were UCF students, and now we're doing it. It's something great."

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FROM A1

This was the case for many students.

"It seems like they should at least post something outside of the doors," said Devon Cobb-Tappan, a sophomore art history major and a resident of the Hercules Community.

Cobb-Tappan debated bringing her laundry to the laundry room closest to her building, but she said once she heard about the increases she changed her mind. She said she waits until she goes home to do her laundry now.

Peter Mitchell, the associate director of Business Services for university Housing and Residence Life, said that the increase was set to take place during the break between the summer and fall semesters, but it didn't happen that way. Instead, the change took place about a month into the fall semester.

"We did not give it a lot of thought," Mitchell said in reference to notifying the students of the change.

PRICE INCREASE HAMPERS SPIN CYCLES

- Prices have increased to \$1 for use of the laundry machines and 75 cents for use of the dryers.

- This price increase affects all on-campus housing, including Lake Claire, Academic Village and the Towers.

- This is the first time UCF has raised the laundry price in the past five years.

- UCF has also increased the dry time on the dryers from 30 minutes to 45 minutes.

- 53 percent of the profits from laundry go for programming in the residence halls; the remaining 47 percent goes back to the vendor.

- UCF's laundry prices are still lower than other state universities- UF students pay \$1.25.

Mitchell said the change was so late because the vendor didn't follow through with its promise to make the price change between semesters.

To make up for the error, Mitchell said that the vendor promised free wash days for the students in the next several weeks, where students can do their laundry for free, and the vendor would even provide the soap.

The free laundry days took place two weeks ago, from 2 p.m. on a Tuesday through 10 a.m. on a Thursday.

Laundry prices have stayed the same at UCF for at least the past five years, and when it came time to renew the contract with Mac Gray, the vendor that owns all the laundry machines on campus, Mitchell thought it would be a good time to raise prices.

"For a very long time, we haven't changed the price," Mitchell said.

At most other Florida universities, the prices are higher. At the University of Florida, students pay \$1.25 for each load in the washer and dryer.

Students have the option to do their laundry off campus, but it's an expensive alternative. At local laundromats, the cost of laundry is much higher, ranging from \$3 to \$5 per load.

Wayne Smith, a representative from Mac Gray, said that the average price of a wash and dry is \$1.83.

Mac Gray works with 30 different colleges, private and public. Smith said the pricing of laundry at the different schools ranges. He said a few have a 75 cents wash, the majority have a \$1 wash and some have a \$1.25 wash.

Another change was made to the UCF dryers to increase the dry time. Instead of 30 minutes, the dryers now run for 45 minutes. The change was made after students noticed an inconsistency in the dry times around campus.

"We've spent a lot of time and energy to make it consistent," Smith said.

At the University of Miami, the price of laundry is included in the fee students pay for their housing.

Mitchell said that's an option that has been discussed at UCF, but he said it's not possible to do that.

The advantage to doing

laundry on campus, besides the convenience, is that the money from the machines goes back to the university, and 53 percent goes directly to the residents for programming in the residence halls, Mitchell said.

The remaining 47 percent of the laundry money goes back to the vendor.

Because the price of everything has gone up over the last five years, the programming requires more funding.

"It's just one more thing that's going up," Mitchell said.

Junior history major Jeffrey Harris, a resident of the Towers, is unhappy with the change as well.

"That's kind of autocratic," Harris said. "Someone makes a decision, and everyone has to deal with it."

Mitchell said he didn't think the change would be such a big deal to students.

Jacobs was so unhappy that he started a group on Facebook. The group is called "Students Against Price Raise to Wash/Dry Clothes," and has 169 members.

For the 6,000 students who live on campus, an extra quarter per laundry load can quickly add up.

Harris said he does three

loads of laundry per week, which used to cost him \$15 per month. The extra \$6 it's costing per month now could be used to get scantrons or lunch instead, he said.

Sophomore elementary education major Danielle Smith, also a resident of the Towers, said she goes to a friend's apartment off campus to do her laundry.

"I did it since the prices went up," Smith said. "My freshman year I did [my laundry] on campus. Then I got smart about my money, and I tried to keep within my budget."

Smith said it doesn't sound like a lot of money to spend on laundry, but it does add up.

One of Jacobs' complaints about the laundry system was the quality of the machines. Smith addressed the problem directly.

"It's imperative that students take the initiative to let us know that a machine is out of order," Smith said. "All we have to do is be made aware there is a problem."

Students should either tell their resident assistant, or call the Mac Gray company directly if they notice a problem with one of the washers or dryers.

Facilities reopen later in day

FROM A1

"We walked around and searched every avenue," Campbell said. "After half an hour, we discovered it was a ballast that burned out in one of the lights."

A ballast, also known as a control gear, is a device that is made to limit the amount of current that flows in an electric current.

Although the fire department and other workers didn't know for sure what caused the alarm to go off in the Burger King, Campbell said he believes the exhaust fans were not turned back on from the previous night when a cleaning crew worked in the restaurant.

Campbell explained that if the temperature gets too hot without the exhaust fans being on, the Ansal System, a chemical fire suppression system, will cause the alarm to go off.

"That would be the only reason we feel that would happen," Campbell said.

The computer lab was open a couple of hours after

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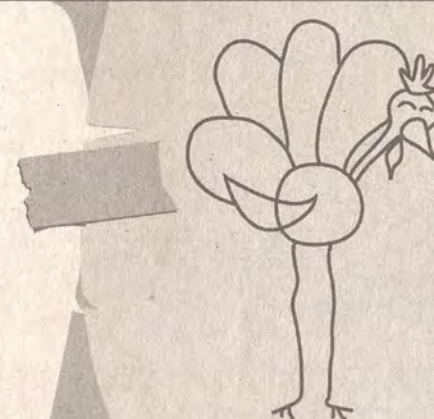
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Football fans poke, perturb opposing players

VIRGINIA KIDDY
Contributing Writer

UCF students are using a Facebook group to antagonize opposing teams' players, poking them by the thousands before each game.

The group "Poke the Opposing Team's QB!" organizes and encourages students to poke whoever the "target is for that week."

Last month, the group got extra attention when the Uni-

versity of South Florida quarterback, Matt Grothe, publicly commented on how obnoxious the group was because of "6 million UCF fans" poking him.

Similar groups exist at other schools, and fans of opposing teams poked UCF quarterback Kyle Israel both this year and last.

"I think if our students are trying to annoy the other team's quarterback, and that is the goal of that group, then I think it's a good thing," Israel said through

comments provided by the Athletics Media Relations Office. "It is getting its job done because I definitely experience that."

Israel said he does not pay attention to the pokes he receives, but he writes to Facebook officials, and they are able to delete them all.

"It is definitely something that when you get on the Internet, you notice it," Israel said. "You don't look at what people write or the type of messages they send you, but it is annoying

to have to go through the process of having them deleted."

Dan McKee, a junior physical education and kinesiology major at the University of Arizona, started the original Facebook group last year.

McKee, who is also a cheerleader, said in a phone interview from Tucson, Ariz., that he and his roommate came up with the idea while celebrating a big win.

They didn't take it seriously until hundreds of people suddenly started joining.

"At the time, we were in the midst of having the best football season we'd had in a while," McKee said. "Everyone was real into football; everyone was real pumped up for it. At the time we put it out, everyone was just super stoked on it, and it took off pretty rapidly."

Since then, copycat groups formed at the University of Tennessee, Penn State and others, including UCF. Similar groups aimed at basketball players were also started.

Students at other schools contacted McKee to ask for his permission to create their own groups.

"I'm kind of flattered," McKee said. "I think it was just one of those 'Damn, why didn't I think of that first?' kind of things."

He said he gave them all the thumbs-up to do it, and many of those groups still credit McKee on their pages.

The UCF chapter of the group was started last season by sophomore Michael Yamauchi, a hospitality major.

"Back then, everyone was telling me it was a waste of time and that I should just give it up," Yamauchi said. "This year, everyone is saying it's the best group they've ever joined or ever thought of. Attitudes have definitely changed."

During the time of the USF-UCF game, poking got a little personal. In the week leading up to the game, Yamauchi said he received more than 300 pokes from USF fans and was still getting poked after the game.

He said he received messages "all over the place" from fans, but someone from USF took it too far and sent Yamauchi a message threatening to beat him up if he saw him.

McKee said he gets similar reactions from the fans in Arizona. He said during the games against their rival, Arizona State University, the group picks up the most. They encourage people to send messages and poke everyone on the team, not just the quarterback.

"It's ugly when they get together every year, no matter what it is," McKee said. "That's really what everyone gets their kicks from."

Although the group aims to aggravate players, fans become targets too.

"After I showed my face on those groups, I received about 100 pokes one day from USF students," said Lily Hafter, a junior public administration major and member of the UCF Rowdy Knights. "It was a good feeling knowing that they were trying to get to me, but it wasn't going to happen. I poked them all back."

She poked the entire USF team, and she said she even started a Facebook friendship with one player in the process. He poked her back, and they started messaging about football.

"I wished them luck on the Rutgers game, and I think that threw them off and made them lose," Hafter said. "But it's all fun and games. People have to understand that."

Another student in the group, Jennifer Kinsella, a junior marketing major, said she tries her best to be a football fan. Kinsella said she joined the group because "it's kind of twisted and cruel in a non-violent way."

She didn't know UCF's starting quarterback by name, but she said she makes sure she and her roommate poke the other teams' quarterback every week.

Even if it doesn't really change the outcome of the game, Ron Yahr, another student from the Facebook

group, said he feels like he has done his part if he pokes and comments on the group's wall.

"I guess it's something we can do as fans that makes us feel like we're helping the team, when it's really just nonsense," said Yahr, a junior sports and fitness major. "It's a way we can feel more involved with our school, which is a good thing."

"It's very amusing. It's something that I would have never expected and 20 years ago never could have happened."

Besides just collaborating to annoy other team members on their personal sites, online communities such as Facebook have changed the way people are able to communicate with their own student athletes.

Israel said he has seen people use it in positive ways, such as telling students to wear a gold shirt to the game and informing people about events such as the group for the Knight Walk.

"I think it has done a lot of good things for school spirit and for people to be able to show their support for us as players," Israel said. "It has definitely been something that has been a positive, and as long as people keep using it like that, I think it's a good thing."

With college football season winding down, only a couple more games are left for fans to get in a few last pokes.

Several players from the list have canceled their Facebook accounts or at least changed their settings so people can't poke them. It's unclear whether the UCF group had any effect on those changes.

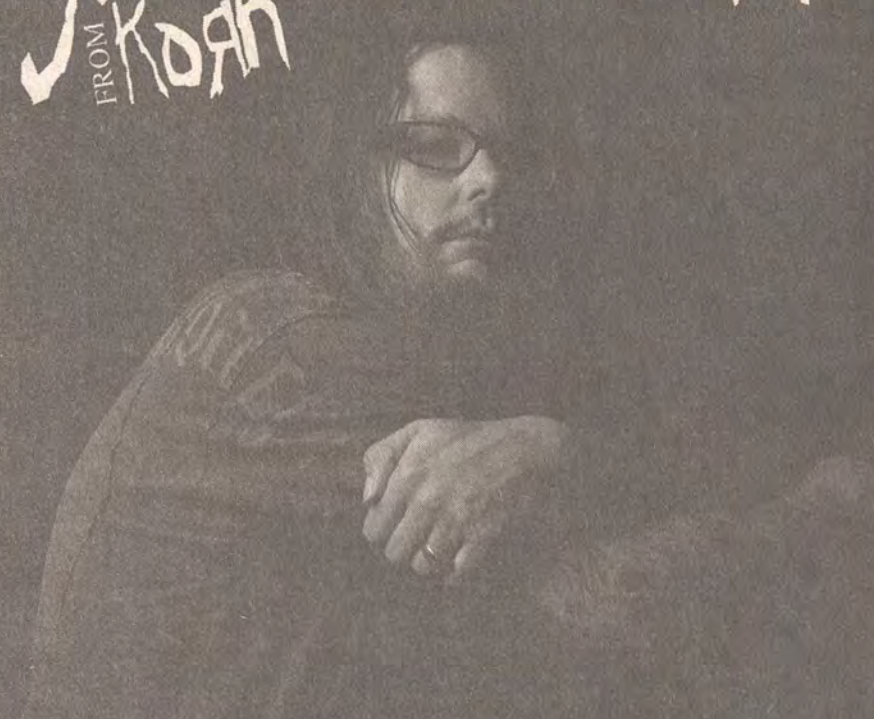
McKee said it was cool that so many other people thought it was a good idea. He said that around the UA campus, students would ask him, "Are you the quarterback poking guy?"

"It was kind of weird to gain popularity like that," McKee said, "especially over Facebook."

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The write stuff



BILLIE HARTL / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
UCF grad student Pamela Baker teaches 9-year-old Keanna Harden to write dialogue by staging conversation between rubber insects at the Community Service Center of Central Florida on Nov. 5. Baker, along with several other UCF students, is teaching a children's writing workshop at the CSC of Central Florida as part of a service learning project with UCF's Literary Arts Partnership.

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Schedule

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
JACKSONVILLE
TODAY
7 P.M. (HOME)

Coming off their first win of the season Thursday, 57-47 over North Florida, the Knights will face the Dolphins at the New UCF Arena.

RIDER
FRIDAY
7 P.M. (AWAY)

UCF will travel to Lawrenceville, N.J., to face the Broncos, who are 2-1 on the year with 13-point wins over Monmouth and Hofstra.

MEN'S BASKETBALL
VILLANOVA
THURSDAY
7 P.M. (AWAY)

After starting off the season with a 2-0 record, the Knights will have a huge test against the No. 23-ranked Wildcats in their first game of the Old Spice Classic at the Disney Wide World of Sports Complex in Lake Buena Vista.

FOOTBALL
UTEP
SATURDAY
2 P.M. (HOME)

UCF will play the Miners for a chance to host the Conference USA Championship game for the second time in three years.

80

Running back Kevin Smith had an 80-yard touchdown run in the third quarter. He has three scores of at least 80 yards long this year, the most in Division I.

5

The triumph over SMU extended the Knights' winning streak to five, which matches the team's longest winning streak during the George O'Leary era.



UCF running back Phillip Smith runs out of tackle attempt by SMU's Devin Lowery during UCF's 49-20 win on Saturday. Phillip Smith filled in for UCF starting running back Kevin Smith in the second half and rushed for 90 yards and two touchdowns.

Knights blow out Mustangs to claim share of C-USA East title

MELISSA HEYBOER
Editor-in-Chief

SCOREBOARD

49-20
UCF vs. SMU

Sixteen seconds was all the UCF Football team needed Saturday night to put any thoughts of another UAB scare to rest.

Just 16 seconds.

Freshman Khymest Williams returned the opening kickoff 99 yards into the SMU Mustangs end zone for a quick 7-0 UCF lead. It was the first touchdown of his career and tied for the fourth-longest kickoff return in UCF history.

The Knights needed just three quarters to finish the Mustangs off with a convincing 49-20 win and continue their hopes of a Conference USA East Division title.

And once again, the Knights did it with a little help from Smith — both of them.

Running back Kevin Smith scored the Knights' second touchdown of the game on a 22-yard run to put UCF up 14-3.

After a nine-play, 57-yard scoring drive from the Mustangs that made the score 14-10, backup running back Phillip Smith would follow in his predecessor's footsteps with a 7-yard run that would put UCF back up by 11. He finished the day with two touchdowns and 90 total yards.

Kevin Smith would rush for one more touchdown in the first half that gave the Knights a 35-13 halftime lead. It wasn't just any touchdown, however. Smith made this one count.

After an interception from Joe Burnett in the end zone, UCF took over at its own 20-yard line. Smith wasted no time, taking the first play 80 yards down the SMU sideline. It was his third run of 80 yards or longer this season.

Smith, who didn't play in the second half, finished the day with 177 total yards — his 10th 100-yard game this season. He now has 2,145 yards on the season, and

PLEASE SEE **STRONG** ON A10



UCF's Antonio Wallace, left, and Travis Timmons tackle SMU's Emmanuel Sanders in the Knights' 49-20 win over the Mustangs on Saturday in Dallas.

Quick start powers Knights to easy 49-20 win

BRIAN MURPHY
Staff Writer

Saturday's game for the UCF Football team was a big change from the last time it hit the field. Most glaringly, there was no first-half laziness. It was evident that the importance of playing 60 minutes was stressed again to the Knights during week, and they got the message. Instead of creating suspense, the Knights

did what they needed to do to the 1-9 Mustangs: Beat them decisively. In doing so, the Knights clinched a share of the Conference USA East Division crown.

Here are the storylines that came out of UCF's 49-20 victory:

Defense buckles down, not under

It allowed 25 first downs, 404 yards of total offense and 10 points in the first quarter, but

UCF's defense was substantially better Saturday than during the first half against UAB. They allowed the Mustangs to drive on them, but really tightened up when they were running out of real estate.

The Mustangs reached UCF's 7-yard line on their fourth possession of the game, but the Knights were able to hold them

PLEASE SEE **BACKUPS** ON A10

UCF falls to Florida on PKs

PADRICK BREWER
Sports Editor

FLORIDA 4 | UCF 3

GAINESVILLE — After trouncing Auburn 3-1 on Friday in the first round of the NCAA Tournament, the UCF Women's Soccer team battled the Florida Gators and ended up losing 4-3 on penalty shots.

The Gators dominated on offense for most of regulation and the two overtimes, piling up 25 shots — eight of which were on goal.

Manis played stellar for the Knights, keeping Florida at bay and making eight saves in the match.

The teams played an even 110 minutes of soccer and headed to the penalty kick tie-breaker.

The Gators put themselves in a hole at the start when Stacy Bishop missed the first shot. The Knights grabbed the early lead off of a Lauren Halbert make.

The Knights and Gators went through the first five shooters tied at 3-3, with Jessica Jackson, and Becca Thomas scoring for UCF and Megan Kerns, Shelley Lyle and Daniela Sanchez scoring for UF.

With the teams into their sixth shooter, Florida's Ameera Abdullah scored, putting the rest of the UCF season at the feet of Hanna Wilde. The junior ended up having her



UCF goalkeeper Jennifer Manis makes a save in Sunday's loss to the Florida Gators. For the match, Manis registered eight saves and kept the Knights in the game all afternoon.

shot blocked by goalkeeper Meghan Berlingo, sealing the win for the Gators.

To get to Sunday's game, the Knights plowed through Auburn on Friday.

Though the Tigers pressed their offense early and often, it was the Knights that prevailed 3-1 Friday in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

The Knights got two goals from midfielder Becca Thomas — she had two coming into the match — and another from freshman Amanda Martorana to overpower the Tigers at James G. Pressly Stadium in Gainesville.

Auburn forced the issue for the first five minutes, capitalizing on a

PLEASE SEE **KNIGHTS** ON A10

Men's hoops drop Spartans

BRIAN MURPHY
Staff Writer

UCF Men's Basketball head coach Kirk Speraw expects his team to be perfect. UCF's performance against Norfolk State on Friday night had its flaws, but it was good enough for the Knights to come away with a 78-64 victory.

Despite missing 7-of-9 free throws, forward Jermaine Taylor led the Knights' offense Friday with 20 points against the Spartans, including four 3-pointers.

The Knights took a 9-0 lead nearly three minutes into the game when Taylor hit his first 3-pointer of the night from the left elbow. Taylor opened the game on 3-of-5 shooting and scored 10 of UCF's first 16 points.

With UCF up 23-14 a little more than halfway through the first half, guard Chip Cartwright scored six straight points in a two-minute span to give the Knights a 29-14 lead. Starting point guard Mike

NEWS TO NOTE

TERRIFIC TAYLOR

Guard Jermaine Taylor rebounded from a poor shooting performance against Nevada with a 20-point, seven-rebound effort. He shot 7-of-16 from the field, including 4-of-8 from 3-point range.

CHIP'S AHOY

Guard Chip Cartwright came off the bench again and contributed 11 points while leading the Knights with seven assists.

O'Donnell made only 2-of-9 shots, but his backup in Cartwright picked up the slack with 11 points off the bench and seven rebounds.

"[Chip] is playing with a lot more confidence than he did a year ago," Speraw said. "He's just in the paint all the time, and that's critical to have someone that can break down defenses. He created a lot of havoc."

O'Donnell's two baskets

PLEASE SEE **CARTWRIGHT** ON A11

UCF earns first triumph

Knights win 57-47 over UNF Ospreys

RYAN BASS
Staff Writer

There were a couple of firsts for the UCF Women's Basketball team in its trip to North Florida on Thursday. For the nine freshmen, it was their first game away from the UCF Arena and, for the first time this season, the Knights trailed at halftime. But the combo also translated into the first victory of the season for UCF.

Tia Lewis collected her second double-double of the season with 22 points and 14 rebounds and helped the Knights (1-2, 0-0 in Conference USA) come back from a 27-21 halftime deficit to collect a 57-47 triumph. Lewis, who shot 7-for-13 from the field and played 38 minutes, leads UCF in both points (14.7) and rebounds (11.0) per game early on in the season.

The Knights grabbed a season-high 50 rebounds, including 21 in the first half to outrebound the Ospreys 50-34 for the game. Emma Cannon led the Knights with 15 of those rebounds. She also contributed 10 points for her second double-double of the season.

The Knights, who shot 37 percent from the field and 27 percent from beyond the arc for the game, connected on only seven field goals in the first half and ended up being down by six at the break.

The Knights, who committed a season-high 36 turnovers in their previous game against Coppin State, turned it over 23 times in the game. UNF scored 19 points off those turnovers.

Led by Lewis and Cannon, the Knights went on a 23-7 run out of the break, including a string of 11 unanswered points



ANDY JACOBSON / CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
UCF center Tia Lewis goes up for a ball during the Knights' 82-73 loss to Rollins College on Nov. 4. Lewis had 22 points and 14 rebounds in UCF's win over North Florida on Thursday.

to go up 44-34 with 5:44 to play. The Knights struggled down the stretch, not hitting from the field for the final minute and 56 seconds, but the Knights had built a 12-point lead at that time to help them seal the victory. Lewis and Cannon combined for 20 points and 20 rebounds in the second half to help UCF

secure the victory. The win also marked the first for head coach Joi Williams in her first campaign as the head coach of the Knights. UCF is hoping that it can also capture its first home win when they host Jacksonville tonight at the New UCF Arena. Tip-off is set for 7 p.m.

Backups shine in victory

FROM A9

to a field goal. The Knights then forced a turnover on each of the next two possessions, both of which came when SMU had the ball inside UCF's 30-yard line.

The Mustangs found themselves deep in UCF territory on their first drive of the second half, but cornerback Johnell Neal stepped in front of a pass along the SMU sideline and took it 72 yards for a touchdown. That effectively ended the game early in the third quarter as it gave the Knights a 42-13 lead.

Cornerback Joe Burnett came away with two interceptions and recovered a fumble. The Knights also had four sacks. The total amount of yards that the Knights allowed probably concerns them, but in the end, it really didn't matter. The Knights' defense continually responded when its back was against the wall and was the main reason for such a lopsided score.

The replacements

After a couple weeks of saying it, UCF head coach George O'Leary finally followed through with his want to see more playing time for backup running back Phillip Smith. And he played him a lot, actually.

Smith received a handful of carries during the first half, including one that turned out as a 7-yard touchdown run, before he played the entire second half. He finished the game with 17 carries for 90 yards and two touchdowns.

Quarterback Michael Greco replaced starter Kyle Israel at the start of the third quarter. He completed only 3-of-7 passes and ran just once for two yards. Sidney Haynes and Khymest Williams caught one pass each, bringing the total of Knights with at least one reception this season up to 15.

NEWS TO NOTE

BACKING UP

Backup running back Phillip Smith ran 17 times for 90 yards and two touchdowns filling in for starter Kevin Smith, who didn't play past halftime.

THE BALL IS MINE

The Knights' defense picked off three passes against SMU, including two by cornerback Joe Burnett. Johnell Neal returned an interception 72 yards for a touchdown to start the 2nd half.

Defensively, freshmen Darin Baldwin and Darius Nall combined on a third quarter sack, which was the first of their UCF careers.

The use of these backups accomplishes at least two objectives for the Knights: It improves their depth and improves the chances of their starters staying healthy.

The inevitable Kevin Smith paragraphs

The most important starter that the Knights need to keep healthy is Smith. He only played a half Saturday, but Smith proved once again that he is unbelievably good. He collected 177 yards and two touchdowns in 20 carries.

Smith ran up the middle on his first touchdown run from 22 yards out. He was almost brought down by a leg tackle, but showed incredible balance as he spun away, dodged a few more tacklers and scored.

His second touchdown run was long in yardage, but quick in time. On the first play after Burnett picked off a pass in the end zone, Smith burst through the left side of the line and went untouched as he ran down the sideline for an 80-yard touchdown. That was his third score this year of 80 yards or more, which is the most in Division I.

Smith set another bunch of records on Saturday, and was

on pace to set even more if he had kept playing. But with the Knights leading 42-13 before the offense even took the field in the second half, he didn't need to, and O'Leary made the smart move in getting Kevin out of the game and out of harm's way.

Smith had 116 carries over the last three games coming into Saturday, including two games where he had more than 40. He has had at least one moment in each game this season in which he looked to be injured. How Smith has changed the school record books is amazing, but for once, his individual numbers took a back seat to his ultimate value to the team.

Final words

First, it was becoming bowl eligible. Next on the Knights' list of goals is to become C-USA East champions. They can accomplish that goal in Bright House Networks Stadium on Saturday. All that stands in their way is a UTEP team that will come to Orlando with a five-game losing streak and a defense that is allowing 507 yards per game.

The Knights are 4-1 at home this season. Their only loss was a 3-point defeat to the Texas Longhorns, who were ranked No. 6 when the teams faced each other on Sept. 15. In those other four games, the Knights won by an average of nearly 30 points.

It's unlikely that the Knights will falter at home on senior day against such a flawed opponent. It's possible, but this isn't the 2006 Knights. This team hasn't found ways to lose games. It has won and won with room to spare. If the Knights can win one more time this Saturday, they will win their second division title in three seasons and set up the opportunity to accomplish their most important goal: winning a conference championship.

Strong effort on defense leads UCF

FROM A9

his 25 total touchdowns are a Conference USA record.

Similar to how the Knights started the first quarter, UCF scored quickly at the beginning of the third quarter as cornerback Johnell Neal took an interception back 72 yards for the Knights' sixth score of the game.

Each team would score once more to make it 49-20 at the end of the third quarter. UCF scored its final touchdown of the game off a five-play drive that started with a Phillip Smith 8-yard run and ended with a Phillip Smith 10-yard run into the Mustangs end zone.

SMU answered right back off a Zach Rhodes 26-yard pass to Columbus Givens for a touchdown.

Both defenses would hold each other scoreless through the fourth quarter.

The Knights' defense deserves a lot of credit after containing a tough quarterback in Justin Willis, who finished the day with just 112 passing yards, two interceptions and no touchdowns. He left the game in the third quarter with an injury.

In fact, SMU's leading rusher, Cedrick Dorsey, had

just 62 yards, and their leading receiver, Givens, had just 53.

While UCF controlled much of the game on the ground, the Knights still managed to make their presence shown in the air.

Quarterback Kyle Israel continued his consistent play by turning out 173 yards on 11-of-16 passing. Backup quarterback Michael Greco finished with 49 passing yards.

Four UCF receivers finished in double-digit yardage. Rocky Ross led the Knights with 92 yards, followed by Kamar Aiken (48 yards), Sidney Haynes (38 yards) and Sergio Joachim (25 yards).

The win was the fifth consecutive victory for the Knights, which matches their longest winning streak under head coach George O'Leary.

The Knights have one more hurdle standing between them and the division title — the UTEP Miners.

Luckily for the Knights, this Saturday's game won't be on the road. The Knights will host the Miners (4-7 overall, 2-4 in C-USA) at Bright House Networks Stadium, where they are 4-1 this season.

Saturday's game will be the first between the Knights and the Miners. Kickoff is set for 2 p.m.

Knights down Tigers

FROM A9

sluggish UCF team and forcing UCF goalkeeper Jennifer Manis to keep the game equal.

The Knights were able to strike first, however, when Thomas took a free kick from just outside the box at the start of the 10th minute.

Auburn goalkeeper Allison Whitworth was able to get her hands on Thomas' shot, but she deflected the ball up and it bounced off the crossbar and back down and into the goal.

UCF scored again in the 43rd minute, when Martorana netted the first collegiate goal of her career, which ended up being the game-winner.

Danielle dos Santos worked with the ball at the top of the box and sent a pass to Martorana, who put the ball past Whitworth.

Thomas scored again at the outset of the second half off a pass from Schooley.

Manis held the Tigers' offense at bay the whole game, making nine saves.

"I thought Jennifer Manis was stellar in goal," Cromwell said. "I can't say enough about her."

Auburn's Caitlin King scored the lone goal for the Tigers in the 88th minute when they were essentially playing with nine players forward, desperately trying to save their season.

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Volleyball's season ends with C-USA tourney loss

RYAN BASS
Staff Writer

A 9-23 season has come to a close for the UCF Volleyball team Thursday, and an 11-match losing streak down the stretch seems a far cry for a group that began the season so promising.

The Knights capped off their 2007-08 campaign with a Conference USA Tournament opening-round loss to No. 5-seeded Memphis. The Knights, who were seeded No. 12, fell in four games 27-30, 30-24, 30-26 and 30-18.

Stephanie Serna recorded a team-high 13 kills and Erin Campbell chipped in nine kills and 16 digs for the Knights, who went winless on the year in C-USA at 0-16.

"It is tough [to not win a game in conference]," Campbell said. "Especially with the talent we had. For a while, the losses keep racking up and racking up, and you have that fear [of losing] instead of saying 'we are going to win this game.'

"Volleyball is a very mental game, and it is a hard thing to change when you become accustomed to something. I have never really become accustomed to losing, and I don't think anyone on this team really has, but it became very routine."

A Campbell kill got the Knights to within three at 6-3 early in the fourth game, but the Tigers went on a 16-9 run that forced UCF to call a timeout down 22-12. Ashley Liford, who had 30 kills in the match for Memphis, had six kills down the stretch to finish off the Knights.

"Losing is a mentality," Campbell said. "That is what we have to completely change and make sure that we don't have during the spring."

UCF got off to a good start in the first game to push to match to a fourth game. Down 7-3, the Knights went on a 12-6 run, capped off by a Campbell kill to go up 15-13. An ace by Cassie Ramaekers put UCF up 22-18. A Kerry Brown kill put the Knights up 29-21, but Memphis went on a 6-0 run to get within two at 29-27. But a Campbell kill finished off the Tigers and gave the Knights their 12th game one victory of the year.

"We definitely were leaning pretty high in that first game," Campbell said. "We kind of let them get the momentum back, which carried into the second game. We felt really confident about our chances of beating this team, and we hit really well and played smart and

good defense. There was just a sense of a now-or-nothing sort of thing."

The Knights came back in game two and pulled to within one at 25-24 off a Jenny Heppert and Brown block, but the Tigers went on a 5-0 run to close the game.

Despite winning the first five points of game three, the Knights allowed Memphis to battle back and tie the score at 11-11. The Knights and the Tigers battled back and forth, but with the Knights down by two at 27-25, the Tigers finished the comeback.

With the loss, the Knights finished off the season losing 17 of their last 18 matches after improving to 8-6 after beating George Mason on Sept. 14.

The Knights had key injuries during the season, including the loss of their star player, senior Schanell Neiderworder, early on in the season.

"Schanell was a key player and losing her was a big issue," Campbell said. "I just think we have had a lot of bad karma with injuries. We have to work toward that even if one player goes down that we have to be able to compensate for it."

Campbell did all she could for the Knights this

season. The sophomore blossomed on the court, playing in 31 matches for UCF and finishing the season with 346 kills and 314 digs, all team-highs.

"I did it for my teammates," Campbell said. "I wanted my teammates to be successful. I wanted to do everything I possibly could, whether it is digging or whether it be to put points on the board. I wanted whatever job they wanted me to do I

wanted to do the best I could do at it."

The Knights have now gone 14-47 over the last two seasons and have won just one match in C-USA play. The good news for the Knights is that they only lose two seniors off a roster that returns Serna, Campbell, Heppert and a bunch of freshmen that will now become sophomores. Campbell wants to help change the mentality of the team, imitate the start

from this season and help transform their good play to an entire schedule.

"Being a veteran, I am going to do my best to help these kids to completely forget about [the past couple of seasons] and change the mentality," Campbell said. "Our season last year was very bad as well, and we made a point to change it in the spring, and it showed in the beginning of the season that the losing mentality was gone."

Cartwright sparks UCF

FROM A9

came on consecutive possessions as he hit a couple of 3-pointers that put the Knights ahead 39-28 with two minutes to play in the first half. The Knights led by double digits for most of the first half until a crazy play at the end gave the Spartans some momentum heading into halftime.

The Spartans missed a couple of shots with time running out, but solid offensive rebounding allowed them secondary chances to end the half with a basket. On the team's third attempt to score, guard Kevin Worsley gathered the ball along the left baseline and backed up behind the 3-point line. The 6-foot-4-inch Worsley quickly turned and launched an off-balance shot over 6-foot-9-inch Kenrick Zondervan that rimmed in as time expired, making the score 41-33.

The Knights took that momentum away quickly in the second half as they went on a 17-9 run in the first five minutes to push their lead up to 58-42. After a couple of scoreless minutes for both teams, guard Mike Battle hit a couple of 3-pointers for the

Knights to give them a game-high 20-point lead at 64-44.

The Knights were very effective outside the arc Friday night. They hit 10-of-22 3-point attempts, led by Taylor's four.

"I don't think we need to make that many 3s, I think we just take that many 3s because they're open," Taylor said. "That's what we do. We're a shooting team, so if they're wide open, we'll take them."

The Spartans cut their deficit to nine with a few minutes to play, but a few more points from Chip Cartwright sealed the UCF win. It was the Knights' 16th straight win in the month of November. Dating back to the 2001-02 season, UCF is 23-2 during the month.

Forward Corey Lyons led the Spartans with 25 points. Guard Tony Murphy added 13 points, even though he missed 14-of-18 shots from the field.

The Knights still need improvement in some areas, like free-throw shooting and defensive intensity. They made just 12-of-23 attempts from the line and admitted that they let up a bit defensively in the second half. But

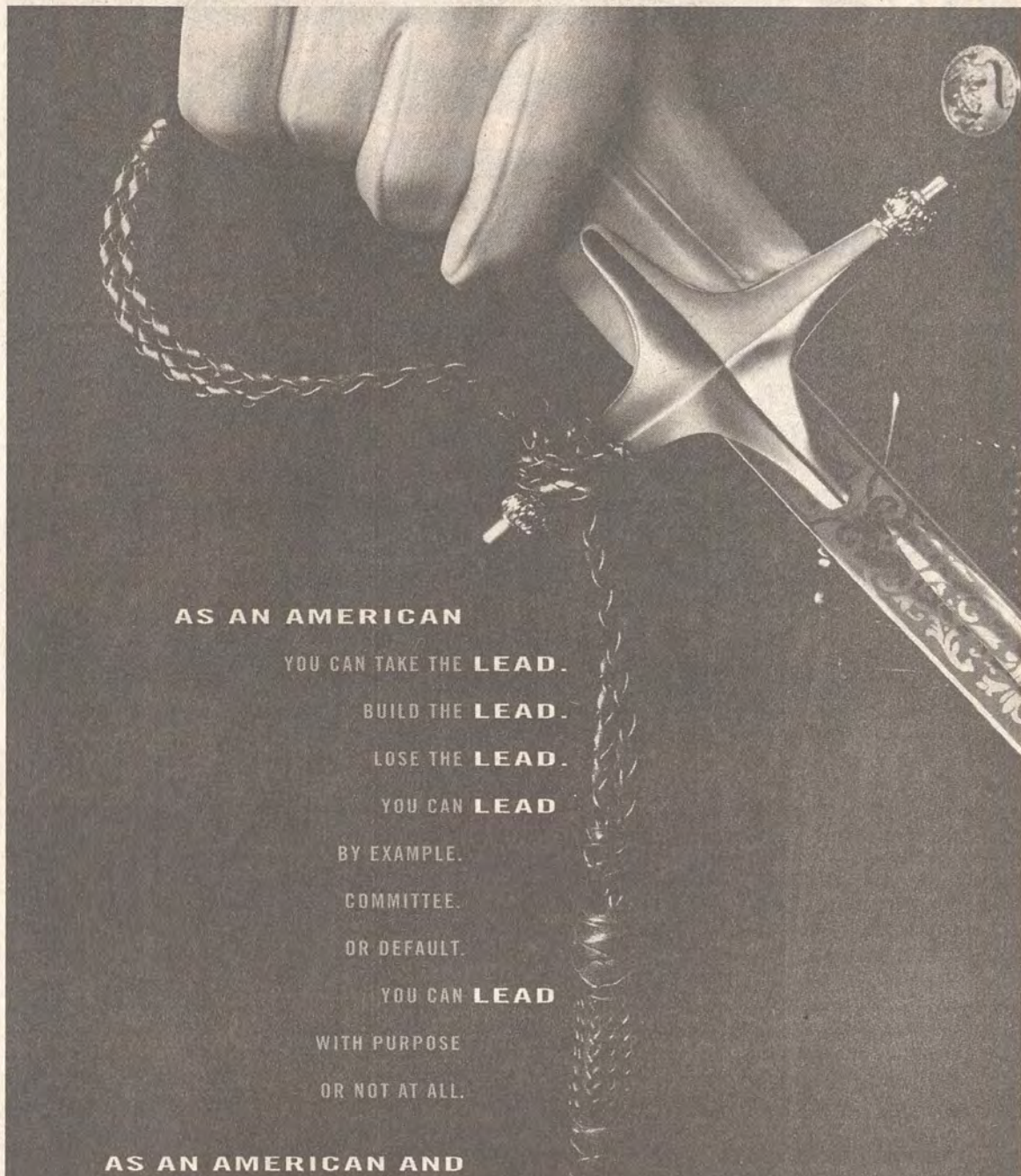
But Taylor said that the Knights' victory over Nevada gave them some valuable self-confidence.

"I think we know we're a good team now," Taylor said. "We beat Nevada not playing our best play, so I think that'll give us some confidence, playing some big teams, like Villanova."

The Knights' next opponent will be the No. 23 Wildcats, as the two teams will face off in the Old Spice Classic on Thanksgiving at Disney's Wide World of Sports. The Knights will participate in the tournament on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, and may face a couple other teams with postseason tournament experience, such as Kansas State and George Mason.

Speraw said that no matter whom UCF plays in the tournament, each game will be tough. He said the Knights will find out a lot about themselves over the weekend, but it is a great opportunity for his players. As for those players, they sound prepared to try to knock off some big-name teams.

"I'm anxious, I'm ready," Cartwright said. "Bring them on."



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OUR STANCE

The war on drugs takes wrong aim

The debate on the use of medical marijuana has been written so many times before. It's a battle that will never be won until more research is done.

Right now 12 states have legalized medical marijuana, but Florida is not one of them. The latest state to pass the law is New Mexico this past March and it went into effect on July 1. The state will now register users and give permits to distributors.

That's 12 states down and 38 more to go.

To us, the use of medical marijuana is apparent and has helped many people deal with their sicknesses.

By making medical marijuana illegal the government is automatically criminalizing patients who need it to ease their pains and criminalizing the doctors who prescribe it.

There are two sides to the issue. There are those who have found positive results from its medical use and those who oppose that use because they have found negative results.

The use of marijuana as a medicine can be traced back 5,000 or so years ago according to USMarijuanaLaws.com. Here in the U.S., hemp became a major crop in Kentucky. In 1860 it produced 40,000 tons of hemp.

Eventually, the use of marijuana became taboo and now here we are debating on where the legal line should be drawn.

In 2005 the Supreme Court ruled in *Gonzalez vs. Raich* that the federal government can prosecute patients who process, grow or consume medical marijuana in medical marijuana states.

Believe it or not, public opinion actually rules in favor of medical marijuana. A 2001 poll, conducted by The Pew Research Center, asked people about their attitudes toward doctors prescribing marijuana for medical purposes. Seventy-three percent said doctors should prescribe it if necessary.

The Institute of Medicine released a report titled, "Marijuana and Medicine: Assessing the Science Base" in 1999 that found that the accumulated data suggested that marijuana helps with pain relief, antiemesis and appetite stimulation.

"For patients such as those with AIDS or who are undergoing chemotherapy, and who suffer simultaneously from severe pain, nausea and appetite loss, cannabinoid drugs might offer broad-spectrum relief not found in any other single medication," the report states.

The Drug Enforcement Agency's former chief administrative law judge said in 1988 that marijuana is one of the safest "therapeutically active substances known" and that "it would be unreasonable, arbitrary and capricious for the DEA to continue to stand between those sufferers and the benefits of this substance."

Obviously the DEA didn't implement his ruling.

On the opposite side of the spectrum is a British Lung Foundation report titled, "A Smoking Gun? The Impact of Cannabis Smoking on Respiratory Health," which listed the cons of smoking marijuana.

The Foundation found that three to four marijuana cigarettes a day have the same effect as 20 tobacco cigarettes a day. It also claims that marijuana weakens the immune system.

The report states that lung infections are more common because the smoke causes damage to the cell lining of the bronchial passage and impairs the principal immune cells in the small air sacs, which transfers gases.

It also reports that the tar in marijuana cigarettes contains much of the same carcinogens as tobacco smoke. The concentrations can even be up to 50 percent higher in the marijuana smoke.

Seven patients are receiving marijuana from the government for their medical conditions. Irvin Rosenfeld, one of the patients, who has been to the UCF campus a few times to speak, has been receiving 11 ounces of marijuana every three weeks for 25 years.

Rosenfeld has multiple congenital cartilaginous exostosis, a rare bone disease which causes tumor growth. It causes pain, muscle tears, muscle spasms, hemorrhaging and inflammation of his joints.

Rosenfeld was prescribed painkillers including morphine and Valium. He wasn't expected to live into his teen years. Marijuana changed that.

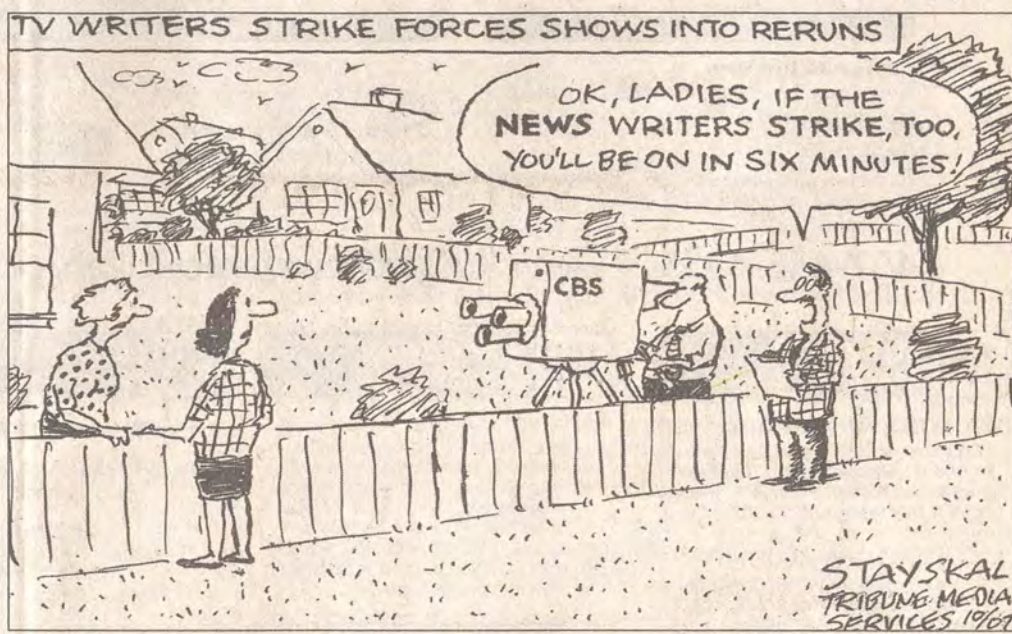
"The cannabis keeps the tumors in check. I have not had a new one or one grow in 30 years," Rosenfeld said.

Patients like Rosenfeld are being helped by an herb that reduces their pain better than any pill.

Shouldn't we be rejoicing in a drug that does wonders for such patients? We should, but we're not.

The country is ready but the government is not. Maybe they figure if they give us an inch we'll run a mile.

These patients should be given that inch and maybe 11 ounces of help.



WAYNE STAYSKAL / TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

Thanksgiving break breaks school cycle

This week is Thanksgiving and we get time off from school. We're probably going to try and make a trek to a dinner somewhere far away from campus because it's a holiday week/weekend. Despite the fact, I'm counting down to Thanksgiving Day and the following weekend and thinking "How am I going to be able to work around this?"

It's kind of sad. Turkey Day is getting in the way of my school and work schedule. I don't have to turn anything in on Turkey Day or have any work yet I still feel like the day is interrupting the flow of things this year. Everything before this week, in school, has been mounting up; all of my professors are introducing the last-ditch class projects before the end of the semester.

Thanksgiving is coming up this week and all I can think about are the assignments that I'm going to have to prepare to be turned in amid a house full of my New York relatives who made the drive down the coast to come see me. I feel bad for the UCF students who have to board a plane home, cross state borders and still have to worry about all of this.

It isn't like my school work could have been done earlier, either. Though in most cases I'm crunched for time because of my procrastination (I can't help it, I swear) this week is different.

Most of the new projects were started more than a week before the school's break and are due for grading shortly afterward. At a time when I'm supposed to be eating my brains out and enjoying the company of family I haven't seen in months, I'm worrying about things I worry about every day. I don't know how

JENNIFER LARINO
Staff Writer

much more articulate I could be: It sucks.

I can't blame the teachers. They're trying to get things done before the end of the semester and they want to challenge us students with projects and assignments that will push us outside of the box. Still, things could have been started a lot earlier.

It feels like it's all piled up in the last two weeks of the semester. As Christmas decorations are being put up in store fronts and Wal-Mart is setting out stands of Thanksgiving Day food, I can't help but worry about when I'm going to have time to write my paper in between work and my parents wanting me to come home for the entire weekend.

I hate to sound like I'm complaining, which I probably do, and I guess in a way I am. Why should the time with loved ones that we should be cherishing have to be set aside for school work?

For me, it's been going on since middle school. There was always that teacher that gave you the paper to start the Monday before Thanksgiving. I would finish my dinner and then get to working.

The same thing will most likely follow through into our work lives. Our companies will want us to come in on holidays, tempting us with bonus paychecks.

It feels like our culture has come to perceive our free time as sloth. It shouldn't have to be that way.

We need a break. And we're given a Thanksgiving break, so it should be just that: a break.

I can't wait for this semester to end. Although I enjoy my classes I want to have that break. For now, it's going to have to be a balancing act between work and play.

READER VIEWS

Reader finds animal activist 'ridiculous'

This letter is in response to the article "Fighting for life beyond bars." The article was a waste of print space. For [Peter] Young to say that he wishes he could have freed more animals, and he has to live with that "haunting" of not doing so is absolutely ridiculous. Mr. Young said he had freed minks in this article and brags that he shut down two of these farms.

I am so happy to know that those farms did not actually employ people, because if they did, now those people and their families are out of a job. He is called a terrorist by the police, and he is. He is a terrorist to those who wish to earn a living through the fur industry. I'm glad to see he is so proud of going out "between sunset and sunrise" and vandalizing, trespassing and forcibly entering these places to set back these companies and research firms, because he is haunted. Go to an exorcist.

I hope he does not develop a life-threatening disease, because many of those animals are there to try to find a cure for those diseases. The research firms are held to the strictest of standards and only the largest and most-funded are able to stay in the black, because the restrictions and fees and maintenance costs are so high with these animals.

This article was a joke and an embarrassment to me as a UCF student. The protesting here on campus is becoming ridiculous and annoying. I cannot walk to class without hearing how I am killing the ozone, or I need to legalize pot or how the war in Iraq is killing soldiers. I wonder what the people on the campus tours think of these people when they see them on their potential school grounds. Sometimes I wonder if I am going school or going to be told what a bad person I am?

MATTHEW TABER
PSYCHOLOGY

Congressional bill will save billions of dollars

In the coming days or weeks, Congress will make its final decisions on an energy bill that will promote conservation, cleaner fuel and power and more energy independence for America. Sen. Bill Nelson and all members of the Florida delegation should help Congress pass a final energy bill that includes strong renewable electricity and fuel efficiency standards.

Currently, the Senate version of the bill has no expansion for renewable energy, known as a Renewable Electricity Standard (RES), and the House version does not include an increase in the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE). Whether the bill will be a modest step forward or a historic one hinges on Congress adopting both the House's boost for renewable energy sources like wind and solar power, and the Senate's long overdue increase in automobile fuel economy standards.

By putting these provisions together, Congress can succeed in making America more energy independent and more secure, retaining and creating jobs, sparking economic growth and saving consumers money. These provisions also help cut pollution and make real progress in reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that are polluting the atmosphere and altering the climate, bringing along with it intensified tropical storms and hurricanes, sea level rise, beach erosion and coral bleaching.

A final bill that includes these two provisions will save consumers billions at the pump and on their energy bills. A 15 percent national RES will help to lower energy bills, saving as much as \$18 billion by 2020. Clean, renewable electricity can be the power source of the future if we make the investment nationally. Already, 24 states have enacted their own versions of an RES and Florida's Gov. Charlie Crist has signed an executive order calling for 20 percent renewable energy for our state.

SARAH RIDLEY
UCF ALUMNA

The *Future* encourages comments from readers. In order to be considered for publication, letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words; we may edit for length. Submit them online at www.CentralFloridaFuture.com or fax them to 407-447-4556. Questions? Call 407-447-4558.

Get your comedy fix from politicians

Hollywood writers are on strike, but the presidential debates are being aired on TV.

You should turn on the debates. You couldn't write that snappy dialogue if you tried. It's full of he said, she said and "Oh no, they didn't" moments. Not even Dr. Phil could mediate this stuff.

All we know is mudslinging has taken up a completely new meaning.

It's the beginning of the political winter because the debates are getting cold-blooded. These politicians are slinging insults back and forth, but they never give a clear yes or no on what they stand for.

Debates are the events where the candidates get to inform the public of their platform and get questions from citizens. Only half of that is occurring.

It makes us wonder: If these politicians aren't clearly stating their platform, how is anyone ahead in the polls?

The best man — or woman — should win. At this rate the fastest mouth will win.

Debates and commercials have turned pretty brutal — or have they always been?

What ever happened to a debate? What they're airing isn't a debate. We've never heard a candidate admit to being wrong or say that they'd consider their view. Not once have we heard a candidate say that someone else's plan wasn't a bad idea, but there's

is slightly better.

For candidates it tends to be all or nothing. The others are awful and they're the best choice you can make.

The debates are either egocentric displays or plain boring. There's no middle road.

Take that back, they can be funny, an example being Al Gore's "lock box" discussions. Who doesn't know about the "lock box?" Gore's come a long way since then.

During this election the democratic candidates have set their eyes on a target: Hillary Clinton. The other seven candidates are banding together and picking on the only woman.

Clinton's husband, former president Bill Clinton, said, "Those boys have been getting tough on her lately."

Hillary Clinton isn't playing the gender card though. Clinton said, "They're not attacking me because I'm a woman. They're attacking me because I'm ahead."

Maybe she's right and their badgering her simply because she's ahead. Clinton is ahead by about 20 points in every survey.

Does anyone know exactly why she has such a large advantage?

After watching the debate at University of Nevada-Las Vegas, we're even more confused.

When a candidate is asked their stance on a particular issue, shouldn't the answer be a simple yes or no with some backing?

Instead of the simple answers

we're hearing something around the lines of, "Well, my plan is this, but have you seen his plan? It's awful."

People have to vote on the issues, not anything else. Clinton may very well be ahead for the same reason she's picked on — her gender. Does Barack Obama's age make him seem cool and hip?

Maybe Oprah's endorsement has given him a big boost. Is it because Oprah is endorsing him? She sure can sell a book so maybe she can even manufacture a candidate.

People have some pretty crazy reasons for why they vote for particular candidates. Some of those reasons were: the candidate being cute, cool, or looked like their grandfather.

Not everyone votes this way, but there are some that do. It's scary.

We encourage all of you to know your candidates platform. Go to www.speakout.com/votematch and take the quiz. It has 20 questions and will match you with the candidate that best matches your views on the issues based on your answers.

There are many Web sites like this one that can help you decide. Don't take the sites' word for it either. Do some research based on your results.

We don't know how many times we can say it but know your candidate. You should know why you support them and why you want them to represent you.

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CASH DURING FINALS WEEK - if you have 6 + hours a day to devote on Wed-Thur-Fri of finals week you can earn extra cash at CB&S Bookstore. Want to work longer? We can arrange that too. Contact dfox@nebook.com for details.

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Contact: info@eggonorcenter.com

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Upscale downtown Orlando gay bar is looking for male go-go dancers. Base pay plus EXCELLENT TIPS! Must have a defined/tone/muscular body. Height/weight proportionate. "Boy Next Door" looks preferred! If you've got the right look and can dance, we have shifts available! Please include at least one picture with your reply. jobs@savoyorlando.com

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POSITION: Sanford firm seeks college student for part-time administrative position. Typing with Microsoft Word required. Flexible work schedule. Fax resume to 407-323-5423 or email Gcraddock@LanierCPAS.com

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GRE math tutor needed to refresh me on algebra & geometry. 2 hrs/wk for 5 wks, Mon or Tues. \$20/hour cash paid. Prefer secondary education/math major. Please email Amanda at pickamandaish@yahoo.com or call 321-663-4506 w/ credentials/availability

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Looking for bright, energetic, dependable person for Account Supervisor. Must be able to multi-task Spanish a plus. Close to UCF. M-F 8AM-2PM & 3PM-9PM \$9.50/hr (407) 657-7585.

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Townhome. Cambridge Circle, Close to UCF & S.R50. 2 beds. 1.5 bths, Fenced small Patio. Rent \$850/mth.- Call reeta 321 363 6345

200 FOR RENT: Homes

4/2.5/2 Private home in Waterford/UCF area. \$1550/mo + sec. deposit. All appliances included, separate family room and laundry room. Tile & carpet. Ceiling fans in all bedrooms/family room. Lawn maintenance includ. For more info call (407) 568-7608.

3/2 w/ bonus room. 2200 sq. ft. All appl, W/D, fans, warm colors, screened in lanai, above ground pool w/ wood deck, fenced, \$1300/mo 1st & last sec. dep. Towne Center Realty. Call Jeanette 407-924-7416



2 level, 3BR/2.5 Bath, Grntr Ctr Tops, Stainless Steel Appliances, 2500+ Sq Ft, Hardwood/Tile Throughout, 3 Car Garage, Fenced Back Yard, Pets Welcome, Stoneybrook Gated Golf Community, Minutes from UCF, Call (407) 658-7858 for details. \$1350/mo, Available Jan 1st

Rooms for rent in 6 bedroom home. Behind UCF. Internet/Cable, utilities, W/D, dishwasher, community pool, \$525/month. 1 room avail. immediately! M/F. Call 407-876-5697 or 407-408-0803

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3/2 neat, clean, new paint, nice yard \$995 per mo. + dep. Non-smokers no pets, 14819 & 14837 Sussex Dr. S. of UCF 421-7344

Looking for F reliable and respectful roommates. 3 Rooms for rent in large 5/3 house in Tanner Crossing overlooking lake. Must be clean, and considerate. Avail. Dec Rent incl. util, yardwork, H.S. Internet. Call info 913-908-8185 or rentucf@yahoo.com

2/2 Condos for rent-must see!! FREE WATER AND CABLE remodeled w/ w/d, gated comm. from \$895-\$1000/mo CALL FOR MOVE IN SPECIALS! 321-689-3612 Victoria Equities Realty

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Luxury Condo For Rent - 3Br/2Ba Granite Counter Tops Kitchen and Baths, Hardwood Floors, new carpet, new appliances, rent includes swimming pool, internet, cable, fitness center. 5 minutes from UCF. \$1,300 per month (407)-451-5137

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250 ROOMMATES

\$350/mo+1/2 utils in 2/2.Own bdrrm & bthrm.Walk dist UCF.Studious rmrate needed.Male or female.Send ph no Cyrus000077@yahoo.com

1 female roommate needed for a 3/2 apartment in Waterford! Comes with washer/dryer, gated community, luxury pool, gym, and 2 wonderful roommates! Move in mid-December, first payment not until January! Call Rachel @ (727) 251-0793

2/2.5 Luxury Townhome in gated comm, marble floors, HD TV DVR, W/D, furnished, private patio, 15' X 14' room, alarm system, \$600, near UCF. Call 305 924-7813 Available Jan 1 2008.

Avalon Park - 1 bed + private bath available in 3/2.5 townhome. N/S student preferred. \$550 includes utilities. 386-214-3899

UCF AREA! 2 M Looking for 1 M/F in a Fully Furnished 3bdrm 2bth Home. A Must See and Pics Are Available Through Email. \$500/month includes Water, Electric, Internet, Cable TV, Pest Control, & Lawn Care. For More Info: (407)409-6206

1 N/S roommate needed for 3/2 in Alafaya Woods house. Fenced backyard \$400/mo plus utilities. Call Neal 321-431-1708

250 ROOMMATES

1 Roommate needed for Spring. Nice 3/2 house: 3 miles from UCF, fully furnish, \$500/mo includes all utilities. (407) 462-8000 PattonLB7@aol.com

Room Available ASAP!!! Dean Rd. - Female n/s no pets.\$475/month (includes utilities) 609-330-3673

Looking for F roommates to share 4/2 house located close to UCF. \$400 + split utilities. Includes walk in closet, W/D, cable, wireless intrnt, room partly furnished. Avail Dec. or Jan. Call Naty 407-683-7413 or naty.busy@gmail.com

M/F \$332/month, 1/3 utilities and \$267 deposit. Walking distance from UCF. No pets or smoking. Available 12-01-07. Call 407-506-6091

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Some furniture available in master if you need it! Rest is fully furnished! Need someone to fill A.S.A.P. before Dec. 1st

Contact Ryan at 551-445-7983 or email at ryanbeck@yahoo.com View apt. complex at www.alafayawoodsapts.com

East Orlando- room for rent. 3 mi from UCF on E. Colonial. Private bath, security, cable, kitchen and laundry priv. \$500/mo all util incl. Call John 407-482-4972

3Bed avail in house. 5 min from UCF! Kitchen and living room furnished Bedroom size: 13x10. h/s internet, W/D, cable incld. \$500/mo Call 407-435-4892 or 407-435-4904

ROOM and BATH Share Kit LR W/D in 2/2 Condo Gym,Pool,UCF Student \$500 mo.TopC9@hotmail.com

Seeking two n/s roommates (m/f) in a gated community close to the UCF campus. One room available immediately and the other on 12/15. Spacious 3/2.5 townhome in Avalon Lakes. \$600/month everything included. Call Mike @ (954) 234-3953

M roommate needed ASAP for 2/2 in The Crest- Waterford area. \$550/mo + electric/cable. Call Nancy Century 21 Manhattan Realty 321-266-7993

Need a place for Spring? 3 rooms avail in large 5/3 \$505/mo everything included 913-908-8185 or rentucf@yahoo.com

N/S F Wanted Near UCF (Waterford Lakes Conservation Area) in nice quiet clean house \$450/mo. utility & w/d incl. Call 407-277-4112 or 407-249-2059

1 Room available in a 3/2 home off University. 7 mins from UCF. Mature or grad student wanted. \$575/mo util. incl. wireless internet, W/D. (407) 617-0805

Roommate to Share a 2/2.5 Townhouse 1/4 mi. from UCF & Research Park W/D, Water, Elec. & Cable included, \$550/Month Call 407-310-6583

275 SUBLEASE

\$450/mo in a 4/2 male apt. in Pegasus Point. Includes water, electricity, furniture/appliances, internet, cable- (HBO). Right next to pool, gym, mall, guest parking, ping pong/pool hall. Need to move back home, looking to rent out for spring sem. Dec 7th. Call (954) 655-9043.

Female needed to sublease in 4/2 house with 2 female roommates. Only 5 min from UCF. Available Dec 16th! \$425/month plus utilities. NO DEPOSIT! For more info contact Katie @ 904-610-9221

Female Roommate needed to rent Master Bathroom/Bed with other responsible UCF student and recent grads. Rent is \$485 per month and 1/4 utilities. House is brand new and located in a new subdivision off Curry Ford and Alafaya. Call Ashley at 941-586-4252, dont pass on this great home! Available January 1st or couple weeks prior.

Going out of town Jan 1st- May 15th. \$300/Month+utilities@AlafayaClub. 954-295-7843

4/2 Apt in University House - Alafaya! \$500/mo includes util, cable w/ 3 HBO's, internet, pool! Apt RIGHT next to shuttle stop! (954) 829-8243

1/1 in beautiful Lofts! Brand new! furnish, w/d, pool/hot-tub, billiards, gym, security, Perfect Location for UCF. Avail. Now! (954) 655-8121

I'm looking for a female to sublease my room in Tivoli. The unit is a 1/1 in a 3/3. Rent is \$469 a month with a \$300 deposit, and the room is unfurnished. Utilities are not included, but internet and cable is. The room includes a patio, walk-in closet,shuttle service to ucf. Lease is until July 2008. Available December 7,2007. December's rent WILL BE PAID! Contact Kendia via email at platinum917@aol.com or 954-448-1925

Room available for spring semester at the Village @ Alafaya Club. 1/1with large walk-in closet. All girls, very friendly and clean. No pets. Contact Shira at 863-409-4268.

F roommate needed in December in priv. 1/1 in a 3/3 at Northgate Lakes. Free shuttle, pool, and gym. \$560/mo all util and furn incl. Call 954-401-2629

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2/1 CONDO ON LAKE FOR SALE or rent to own. \$135,000. Owner fin. avail. New kit. & bath, all appl. incl. W/D 1-story w/ patio on ski lake/dock/gazebo boat storage. Behaved pet OK. SAFE, charming Casselberry, 20 min. to UCF. (407)294-4487 or (813) 361-8642

325 FOR SALE: Automotive



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6	9		2				1		
				8					
4		1	7	6					5
	6								3
8	5			3			4	1	
9							8		
5				7	2	1		6	
				9					
	8				3		5	4	

su|do|ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

Monday puzzle:
Easy level

Wednesday puzzle:
Medium level

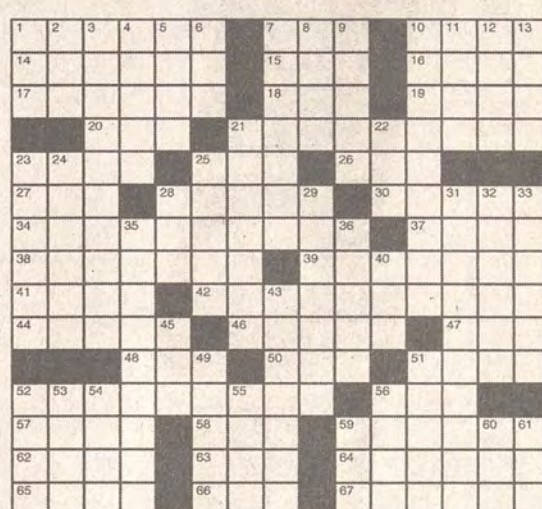
Friday puzzle:
Hard level

Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Totally swamp
- 7 Cruces, NM
- 10 Golfers' norms
- 14 Metcalf or Anderson
- 15 Be obligated
- 16 Hydrox rival
- 17 Put on for show
- 18 "Oedipus"
- 19 Hourglass contents
- 20 Wine choice
- 21 Changes one's residence
- 23 Herring's kin
- 25 Chum
- 26 Male progeny
- 27 Mighty long time
- 28 Change to fit
- 30 Brought to heel
- 34 Sums
- 37 Judd Hirsch sitcom
- 38 "The Faerie Queen" author
- 39 Frustrates
- 41 Holm oak
- 42 Of the pelvis
- 44 Rock bottom
- 46 Art medium
- 47 Lennon's love
- 48 Acoustic organ
- 50 Golfer's peg
- 51 Aardvark munchies
- 52 Hateful objects
- 56 Mineral deposit
- 57 Rani's garment
- 58 Actor Linden
- 59 "Respect" singer Franklin
- 62 Chip in chips
- 63 European peak
- 64 Breathed in short gasps
- 65 Satisfies a debt
- 66 Arthur or Lillie
- 67 Goes into

- DOWN
- 1 RRs on trestles
- 2 Journalist
- 3 Promised
- 4 Incited
- 5 Told a whopper
- 6 Govt. agent
- 7 Rhine temptress
- 8 Leaves slack-jawed
- 9 Genders
- 10 After birth
- 11 Caspian's neighbor
- 12 Actress Russo
- 13 Lays turf
- 21 Dilapidated dwelling
- 22 Little tyke
- 23 Becomes entrenched
- 24 Fanfare
- 25 Layers
- 28 Smith and Gore
- 29 Makes another attempt
- 31 Puppet with strings attached
- 32 Still existing
- 33 '70s nightclubs
- 35 Worries
- 36 Gave off bright light
- 40 Humor



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11/19/07

MASTER	TRAP	SAW
STOOGES	RENO	QUE
TENURE	APTITUDE	
RESIDUE	SAID	
ASK	TENET	JETTY
WARS	CREPE	
ABOLISH	DIAGRAM	
RENEGE	ENRAGE	
DRAWLED	ARSENAL	
OKAYS	WIPE	
PATIO	NAILS	SEE
IRAN	MCNALLY	
NEWSWEEK	AYEAYE	
CNN	OGRE	MELLOW
HAY	EASE	ARLENE

Last issue solved

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 43 Indian bean tree | 53 Anna Sten film |
| 45 Yay, team! | 54 Bohemian |
| 49 Ford Clinic, e.g. | 55 Manly |
| 51 Looks everything | 56 Algerian port |
| 52 Rush letters | 59 Simian |
| | 60 That girl |
| | 61 Circulars, briefly |

Solution and new puzzles in next issue's Classifieds

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