Football player sent to hospital

MARC SCHAU / StaffWriter

During on-field oxygen considerations over the weekend, Wednesday, UCF football player Brandon Davis "required transportation to Florida Hospital East, where he currently remains, under observation, according to a UCF Athletics release.

Leigh Turbin, a sports information director for UCF, wrote that HEPA privacy laws do not allow the school to discuss Davis' medical status.

Calls Thursday to Florida Hospital East could not confirm Davis' presence at the facility.

According to The Associated Press, Davis collapsed at Wednesday's practice after he became delirious.

Davis, a true freshman, was sent to Florida Hospital East on Wednesday, according to ESPN.


Book prices still on the rise

Economists affect textbook buyback

SARAH E. PARKER / Staff Writer

Buyback season is in the most wonderful time of the year. Or, not, depending if you are buying or selling used textbooks.

According to survey findings from a 2007 State Public Interest Research Group / Consumer Union report, "How the Current Practices of the Textbook Industry Drive Up the Cost of College Textbooks," textbook companies have increased the prices of new books by 63 percent since 1994. While the actual amount varies among the finished goods have only increased by 34 percent.

The same study stated that, on an average, new editions of textbooks cost approximately 60 percent more.

"Physical therapy is not only painful, which there is only as much as we can do to relieve the physical pain, but it can also be boring and isolating," said Billie Smith, an associate director of the Media Convergence Lab and a digital media professor. "If there is a way to add more socialization, to make it more fun, than there is at least something to get their mind off the pain."

In Phase 1, the lab created an interactive virtual reality prototype called Smash Me. With the use of head-mounted goggles and a small hand-held motorized paddle, the patient would attempt to smash a cute virtual insect, resembling a big-eyed cartoon mosquito, with the paddle. By attempting to catch the adorable little pest, the patient will be able to improve their hand-eye coordination. The therapists will then use this experience to edit their range of motion.

"We use them to maneuver through traffic and buildings, and is on the main way of papillomas, which are non-malignant virus in the United States. The four types of HPV, the most causing 70 percent of cervical cancer."

"We know that 50 percent of women who want to prevent themselves from cancer."

"College students need information and access to affordable health care services in order to prevent HPV-related cancers."

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"Mark Schaub / Staff Writer"
Mixed martial arts member kicks butt like a girl

On the ground with her legs wrapped around his waist and her arms locked tightly around his neck, Amelia Miramonti is on Jonathon Geddes’ back attempting to “choke him out” and cut off the blood flow to the brain so he is forced to either tap out or pass out.

It is grappling practice night at UCF’s mixed martial arts club, and Miramonti is the only woman in a circle of seven who will take turns grappling with every man in the circle covered floor, including Geddes, who weighs roughly 100 pounds more than Miramonti.

On any practice night, the group begins with a warm-up that consists of 60 push-ups, 60 sit-ups, 60 squat thrusts, 60 jumping jacks and 60 seconds, after which they stretch and start their drills.

This week, the drills were in grappling, Club president Chris Suda would describe and demonstrate a move before the group paired up and practiced what they witnessed. After a few tries, the guys would “go live” and really grapple, putting each other in various holds that affected different areas of the body.

Miramonti, a sophomore majoring in criminal justice, is not afraid to grapple with the guys.

In her turn with club member Robert Bieber, she was flipped over his left shoulder and onto his back but recovered quickly and moved to take her turn and do the same to him. In most of her attempts with the new moves, she was successful. When the match, which Jonas coordinated helped her.

She fights as if she has years of experience, but it was only one year ago that Miramonti said that she knew nothing about MMA.

She said that on her way out one day into a bowling alley and saw a guy practicing MMA techniques and discussed it briefly with him but had no second thoughts about it. In fact, she said she forgot she heard about it until the Perdue Community Auditorium on her campus. The doors were wide open, and she could see her friend grappling with another claimant, andMiramonti was intrigued.

Dressed in a skirt and obvously to the sport, Miramonti stepped into a closed room.

She spoke with the club president at the time, Zach Williams, and quickly went home to change and returned to practice that same day.

She learned basic punches that day, sqabbling with her left hand and used her whole body to punch with her right.

At her second practice, she was the only girl, and she went right two girls giving her for Williams helped her adjust.

"The took me aside, one on one, said he didn’t know anything about martial arts," Miramonti said.

Soon enough, Miramonti was a regular MMA club participant.

"I was the only girl who came out to practices," Miramonti said.

Although there were other women at the women’s only session that the club few came out on a couple nights, and few were regular participants.

Currently, there is only one other regular female member of the club, according to Soba, who said that of those two, Miramonti is the better fighter.

Some women were not present at the three practices viewed for this article.

Miramonti said “No holds barred” for Geddes for her three loses andability to really dig in and hang on during a match. Geddes said he was able to hold her other arm.

Although she didn’t practice as much, Geddes really quickly, within first five or six practices, and was excited to start using it in practices drills because the guys underestimated her.

"It is a type of lock that hyper-extends an opponent’s elbow. On the ground, he has to do this by using his legs to trap his opponent’s arm up by his back, straightening it out and raising his hips to apply pressure to the joint."

"Guys were caught off guard," Miramonti said. "They were like, ‘What? She actually knows what she is doing.’"

For her, it was an exciting new experience.

"I was yeah, I did that!" Miramonti said.

Jennifer Holt is a freshman in the club, who said that she was surprised to see a woman involved.

"I didn’t think girls were really into MMA," Holt said.

Holt was Miramonti’s partner during last week’s drills that involved a lot of practice doing basic kicking and reaching in a round-turndown type of stance.

"Jonathon is the vice president of the MMA club, the only female officer, and one of two regular women to attend practices."

She said she would like to continue with the sport after college, but for now she is focusing on school.

"It’s a love of the sport and a desire to have that adrenaline rush complete with stress relief that keeps Miramonti coming back to MMA three nights a week, she said. "It’s just a great feeling of self accomplishment, she added."
Phase II to begin in spring ’09

FROM UCF

n will be a cognitive rehab person, along with an occupa­
tional and physical therapist," Smith said.

With Phase II to begin in the first quarter of 2009, the VRMC will come into the picture to help turn the prototype into a more practical program. The therapy, is primarily known for its use of virtual reality in treating anxiety disorders and social phobias.

The company uses a virtual reality exposure therapy by placing the patient in a controlled computer-generated virtual world to walk them through their phobias.

"Our goal has always been to branch out into all forms of medical training and treatment using simulation technology," VRMC’s Orlando director of operations Angela Salva wrote in an e-mail interview. "Although our company was founded on treating patients with anxiety disorders using VR, we have been engaged in medical training and treatment for several years."

Smith said Phase II will only take a year before moving into Phase III, which is the commercialization portion in which the lab rolls out the final product onto the open market.

They hope to remove the head-mounted displays entirely in Phase II in order to introduce a screen projector that will display the images.

They are unsure how exactly the prototype will change within Phase II as they will bring in a new control group, Smith said.

"VRMC was UCF’s commercialization partner in the development of the Smash Me game as a precursor to our prototype system: The Mixed Reality Rehabilitation System, " Salva said. "Smash Me served as a proof of principle, and we are all excited about the future. Whatever the outcome is, they hope that it will be beneficial to the rehabilitation community.

"Many what we’ve found is that the rehab folks know the tools that they have are lacking," Smith said. "They are looking for ways that they can put through the vetting process to make sure they are as effective, if not more, that allow people to gather data and bring the real world context into a controlled environment. Where I might have chaos, but it’s chaos that I control.”

This controlled chaos will be used to help rehabilitate patients and hopefully in the meantime, help them forget about the pain they are in. In order to do this, Smith uses three elements of human interaction to divert the patient’s attention from pain. Those three elements are story, play and game.

The play environment is like an exploratory environment in which the patient can take his or her time to use the program and practice his or her range of movement.

The game environment will put a competitive edge on the therapy, where patients could challenge their grandson or significant other to a game of who can smash the most bugs in less than a minute. These two environments are linked together by a story that, by adding narrative, will hopefully immerse them into the atmosphere.

"We love narrative. Humans are hard-wired for it," Smith said. "Play is absolutely essential, because it’s the environment before game. Once you reach the game environment, there are rules and there are winners and losers."
New precedent in Florida courts over false light case

CASSIE MODRIN

A Florida Supreme Court ruling recently helped defend teachers and other employees of the First Amendment for their statements. The ruling opened the door for newspapers and media to take action against public school districts in Florida. The case, which began in 2006, is a significant victory for teachers and journalists who have struggled to protect themselves from false light claims.

The case, which began in 2006, is a significant victory for teachers and journalists who have struggled to protect themselves from false light claims. In the case, the teacher was sued by a former student for comments made during the teacher's speech about the student's father. The student claimed the comments were false and defamatory.

The Florida Supreme Court ruled that the teacher was protected by the First Amendment because the comments were made in the course of a school-related activity and were not made with malice or reckless disregard of the truth. The court also ruled that the teacher was entitled to attorney's fees and costs.

The ruling is significant because it is the first time a state Supreme Court has ruled in favor of a teacher in a false light case. It is also the first time a state Supreme Court has ruled that a teacher is protected by the First Amendment in a false light case.

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Athletics says Davis remains at Florida Hospital East

Police say ATVs good for patrol

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**SPORTS WRAP**

**FOOTBALL**

The Associated Press (AP) - The New Orleans Saints announced Thursday that they have placed LB Jonathan Vilma on the physically unable to perform list.

**POLICE INVESTIGATE PIERCE’S ROLE IN BURRESS CASE**

The AP - Authorities say that former NFL player Tiquan Pierce has not been implicated in the death of fellow New England Patriots player Aaron Hernandez.

**DOPING SUSPENSIONS**

The AP - The NFL has banned five New England Patriots players for violating its policy on performance-enhancing drugs.

**WRAP**

The AP - The NFL Players Association (NFLPA) is considering legal action against the league.

**INTERNET EXTRA**

The AP - The NFLPA has filed a lawsuit against the NFL.

**TOP-RANKED TAR HEELS DESTROY MICHIGAN STATE**

The AP - The Tar Heels defeated the Spartans 86-67 on Saturday.

**GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT**

The AP - The AP has clarified its stance on the use of steroids.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

The AP - The Knights lost their third consecutive game on the road.

**NEWS TO NOTE**

The AP - The AP has noted an increase in drug use among college athletes.

**COLLEGE**

The AP - The AP has updated its database on college basketball.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The AP - The AP has reported on a variety of other sports-related topics.

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**FEELING RENEWED**

South Florida: The Associated Press (AP) - The AP has noted an improvement in South Florida's overall performance.

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**SOUTH FLORIDA**

The AP - The AP has provided updates on South Florida's athletic events.

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**BRIAN MURPHY**

The AP - The AP has reported on the career of Brian Murphy.

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**A SEASON OF WONDER COMING UP FOR UCF ATHLETICS**

The AP - The AP has predicted a successful season for the UCF Athletics department.

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**COLLEGE**

The AP - The AP has reported on a variety of college-related topics.

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**INTERNET EXTRA**

The AP - The AP has provided additional information via its internet extra.

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**SPORTS**

The AP - The AP has provided updates on various sports-related topics.

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**THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT UCF SINCE 1956**

The AP - The AP has highlighted the history of the student newspaper at UCF.
Victor was seen as one of the nation's top players before breaking his wrist in the preseason and missing 40 games. Good will the Knights suffer before breaking his wrist in the season's third game, and UCF will need a replacement to bring the team's starting five back to full strength.

Despite the team's success, O'Leary is not shying away from problems for the future. "I think we have a lot of problems, but we're not going to quit," he said. "I think we have a lot of problems, but we're not going to quit."
Amusement at the misery of others, Ave. Q

WHITNEY HAMRICK

Avenue Q

A final bow for Avenue Q flowering, Dec. 2, at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre in Orlando through Dec. 7.

"Avenue Q" is one of the popular hits of the year and is based on the book "Avenue Q" which appeared in the New York Times. The show features music, dance and puppetry. It is based on the real-life experiences of the cast members, who graduated from college and had to struggle to find their way in the big city.

The show tells the story of Princeton, a 21-year-old college graduate who is trying to make it in the big city. He moves into Avenue Q, a run-down neighborhood, and meets other characters who are also trying to make it. The show is a dark comedy about the realities of life in the big city.

The cast member who plays Princeton is Seth Rettberg, a dance captain, puppeteer and actor. Rettberg and the other cast members have been working on the show for over a year and a half, and it is now time for them to say goodbye to their characters.

"It's a break from normal life," Rettberg said. "I can assure you that it will be a great night out. The show is full of humor and music, and it will make your day.

"It's a great opportunity to laugh every once in a while," Rettberg added. "Especially with how things are going in the world right now and everything, I think it's a good thing to give yourself a break and enjoy the show."

"I hope you all have a great time," Rettberg concluded. "And remember, if you see me around town, you can ask me for a discount on the show."

The show is playing at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre in Orlando through Dec. 7, and tickets are available for purchase.
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