Central Florida Future, February 19, 1997
Cancione, crime focus of professor's new book

By MARK DEMAIHO
Staff Writer

Imagine driving women with crack addictions to a park on the water's edge to interview them on your days off. Sounds strange, but this is exactly what UCF professor Dr. Susan Mahan did as research for her book "Crack, Cocaine, Crime, and Women." Mahan has spent much of the last 19 years devoted to these topics, doing field work in jails, volunteer clinics and schools. As a veteran in criminology, she offers much insight into drug addicts, children born to addicted mothers, and methods of changing the system.

Mahan offers several issues to ponder from a park in a run-down section in Daytona Beach. So often, she says, people pretend these run-down areas of cities aren't their problem. They look down on the people who live there and blame them for their lifestyle. All the while, she says, police officers raid these sections of town in an attempt to halt the drug scene. What Mahan tries to stress

Student Government Presidential candidates debate last Thursday night.

Candidates deliver platforms

By LINDSAY MALANGA
Staff Writer

Voting time has come and you may be wondering who you elected to be student body president and vice president. The tickets represent a different perspective of what they say the University of Central Florida needs. John Turner, presidential candidate, and Chad Elliott, who is running for vice president, form a team that has combined for more than five years in leadership roles. Turner is a graduate student going for his master's in Public Administration.

"I am a very kind person who has always tried to do what is right for people, from the disabled, which I am, to those who just need advice," said Turner, a native of Hans Rey, FL. Elliott is a fourth-year junior majoring in criminal justice. He plans to join the Navy after graduation and eventually work for the FBI.

The key points of their platform include lobbying for sign language to be officially recognized as a foreign language requirement, increasing the number of on-campus job fairs, expanding Victim Advocate services, and making homelessness a community-wide event. Turner and Elliott were active members of the Student Senate and have committed themselves to various volunteer programs.

Rico Brown and Gabriela Noriega promise to take action — no excuses, just results. Brown is a senior majoring in political science and public administration. He plans to be in a public official capacity in the central Florida area. Brown says he and Noriega can serve UCF better than the other tickets.

"We have the necessary experience and know what the jobs entail," Brown said.

Noriega is a vice presidential candidate from Sarasota. She plans to pursue a career building communities in Latin American countries. Some issues that the ticket plans to focus on include expanding and improving cultural diversity awareness, designing a campus shuttle system to alleviate the parking problem, and installing an SGA Hotline for new recommendations and concerns.

Keith McDonald and Karen Montague represent the third ticket. McDonald, presidential candidate, is a senior from New York.

CHANCE BEGINS WITH STUDENTS
See Opinion page

Jones sets lecture date at Arena

By TRACY WEBB
News Editor

The voice behind Darth Vader in the Star Wars Trilogy is coming to UCF. James Earl Jones will be appearing at the UCF Arena Feb. 19 at 8 p.m. Admission is free but a donation of a canned food item is requested.

Jones will speak on a motivational topic centered around Black History Month. He will share life experiences from which he has learned lessons for succeeding. Jones' career spans from theater to motion pictures and television. He is known best for his voice-overs. As well as the newly released Star Wars trilogy, he also is the voice behind the Lion King. Jones' stage roles include numerous portrayals of Othello and a variety of other Shakespearean roles including Hamlet and King Lear. Jones also is one of the earliest actors to belong to a historic acting company known as "The Black," which launched a generation of African-American stars.

CRAICONE, crime focus of professor's new book

By MARK DEMAIHO
Staff Writer

Imagine driving women with crack addictions to a park on the water's edge to interview them on your days off. Sounds strange, but this is exactly what UCF professor Dr. Susan Mahan did as research for her book "Crack, Cocaine, Crime, and Women." Mahan has spent much of the last 19 years devoted to these topics, doing field work in jails, volunteer clinics and schools. As a veteran in criminology, she offers much insight into drug addicts, children born to addicted mothers, and methods of changing the system.

Mahan offers several issues to ponder from a park in a run-down section in Daytona Beach. So often, she says, people pretend these run-down areas of cities aren't their problem. They look down on the people who live there and blame them for their lifestyle.

All the while, she says, police officers raid these sections of town in an attempt to halt the drug scene. What Mahan tries to stress

UCF criminology professor Susan Mahan said people born into a bad situation have less of a chance.

In her book are these are people born into a poor situation with little or no hope. Thus, it becomes everyone's responsibility to treat these people like human beings and offer help. A key element in helping these people, Mahan says, is making sure mothers addicted to drugs are given proper prenatal and support before, during and after their pregnancy.

"The drugs are not the real problem. The real problem is the lifestyle," Mahan said of the majority of defects in childbirth. In order to achieve more support, the criminal justice system must stop placing such harsh penalties on drug addicted expectant mothers, Mahan said.

A few years ago, Mahan said, a national drug council made up of doctors, lawyers, treatment specialists and criminologists discussed the topic of penalties in relation to drugs. Their focus was the discrepancy between the penalties for cocaine and crack.

"Since crack is the "cheapest way to get high," Mahan said, it usually is the drug of choice for people in poverty.

Mahan also said crack use has much higher penalties because of the covert racism in the political system. Many middle and upper class people can afford cocaine, she says, and the penalties are usually lighter.

She says to give off an anti-drug positive facade, the political system

See PROFESSOR, Page 2

A grand night

UCF Athletic Director Steve Sloan takes his roasting all in fun during Saturday night's Night of Knights fundraiser for the athletic department. Story, Page 16
Candidates offer solutions

From Page 1

He is majoring in political science (international relations). He plans to attend law school after graduation.

Montague is a senior majoring in speech pathology. She plans to eventually attend graduate school and work in a rehabilitation clinic.

McDonald and Montague were members of the 28th and 29th Student Senate.

Their platform is based on spirit and tradition, student government awareness, and student services. McDonald says he and Montague can serve UCF better than the other candidates because they are "...easily approachable, enthusiastic and creative."

"We have our hearts in the right places," Montague said. "We are true examples of unselfish leaders."

Professor details cocaine use in book

From Page 1

chooses to concentrate on the lower socioeconomic minorities. The council agreed with Mahan's view and illustrated their belief to President Clinton and Congress. The proposal, though, went nowhere.

"This in the only time that this council has been ignored," Mahan said. Mahan said crack provides a multi-million dollar business and said the money does not come from within, it comes from without, meaning middle and upper class America keeps crack alive.

Her book also provides insight into treatment issues, reforms to improve policy, consequences of not addressing drug problems and consequences of not addressing policy problems.

Copies of Mahan's book are available in the special sections of the bookstore devoted to staff authors.

Mahan teaches on UCF's Daytona Beach campus, but said she will return to Orlando and Brevard in a few semesters. When she returns, she said she will teach a class called "Women and Crime."

Great Weekend Escapes

for as low as $109

from MasterCard and United Airlines!

Take Off! For The Weekend With United Airlines

And Return The Following Monday Or Tuesday

to Get Substantial Savings When

You Use Your MasterCard® Card.

To receive these savings, use your MasterCard® card to purchase an E-Ticket between Feb 1, 1997 and May 15, 1997 for travel between Feb 15, 1997 and June 6, 1997.

To enjoy these savings, see your MasterCard® Card to purchase an In-Ticket between Feb 1, 1997 and May 15, 1997 to travel between Feb 15, 1997 and June 6, 1997. Weekend travel must be on Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays. Saturation days are Friday following Labor Day stipulated in the regulations of the travel between Zones J-A, C-A or P-A.

A-0; A-1, B-0; B-1, C-0; C-1, D-0; D-1, E-0; E-1, F-0; F-1, G-0; G-1, H-0; H-1, I-0; I-1, J-0; J-1, K-0; K-1, L-0; L-1, M-0; M-1, N-0; N-1, O-0; O-1, P-0; P-1, Q-0; Q-1, R-0; R-1, S-0; S-1, T-0; T-1, U-0; U-1, V-0; V-1, W-0; W-1, X-0; X-1, Y-0; Y-1, Z-0; Z-1. Two-day travel must be on the Tuesday following departure.

To make reservations, call United at 1-800-241-6522 or your travel professional. Please reference Weekend Zone Fare Certificate AV0027.

Terms and Conditions:

Promo Code: AV0027
Ticket Designator: AV0027
Travel Complete: June 6, 1997

United Airlines

Not valid for travel before 06/01/97.

The Weekend Zone Fare Certificate AV0027 is valid for United flights only.

Zones A: AK, AT, CT, DF, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MS, MO, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, WI, WV, WY
Zones B: AL, AR, ID, KS, MT, NE, NH, ND, OK, OR, RI, WV, WY
Zones C: AK, CA, CT, NH, OR, WA

Fares - plus taxes and surcharges:

Zone A & B & C
Roundtrip: $129 (coupon)
One-Way: $199 (coupon)

Zone A & B & C
Within Zone A: $59 (coupon)
Within Zone B: $89 (coupon)
Within Zone C: $99 (coupon)

Zone A & B & C
Roundtrip: $189 (coupon)
One-Way: $269 (coupon)

Zone A & B & C
Roundtrip: $269 (coupon)
One-Way: $349 (coupon)

Zone A & B & C
Roundtrip: $329 (coupon)
One-Way: $409 (coupon)

Zone A
Roundtrip: $149 (coupon)
One-Way: $199 (coupon)

Zone A
Roundtrip: $199 (coupon)
One-Way: $299 (coupon)

Roundtrip Rates

Within Zone A & B & C

Within Zone A & B & C

Within Zone A & B & C

Within Zone A & B & C

Fare Certificate

Fare Certificate

Valid Date:

Ticketing Restrictions: Non-refundable. Non-transferable after ticketing. Change in origin or destination is not permitted. Tickets MAY BE revalidated for a connecting flight from C to A.

Fare Certificate

Fare Certificate

Void if altered or duplicated. Void if lost or stolen. No cash value; may not be sold or bartered. Protection for luggage and personal effects is not provided. Flights to and from United Express/Shuttle by United flights only. United Express is your partner only and will not be reconfirmed automatically. Use your United/United Express ticket for travel in connection with the exchange of any miles or points with United Airlines. This program is not available for travel in connection with Headwind/Headwind Express/Shuttle by United flights.

Agent Ticketing Instructions: See E-PM0/AV0027 for detail information.

Weekender Cards for Great Savings On United Airlines.


To your travel professional or United to reserve your flight and receive your certificate.

This in the only time that this council has been ignored. Mahan said crack provides a multi-million dollar business and said the money does not come from within, it comes from without, meaning middle and upper class America keeps crack alive.

To your travel professional or United to reserve your flight and receive your certificate.

This in the only time that this council has been ignored. Mahan said crack provides a multi-million dollar business and said the money does not come from within, it comes from without, meaning middle and upper class America keeps crack alive.
ROTC ushers in new battalion commander

By AMIS WOOTTON
Staff Writer

Honor, tradition, discipline and leadership are only a few of the words that could describe the atmosphere and ceremony of the ROTC Change of Commands.

More than 150 Basic Course Cadets stood at attention Thursday afternoon as their commander handed down his authority to a new battalion commander. Former commander Cadet Parker passed the gold and black battalion flag to Cadet Lopez as though handing over a legacy.

With the intense desire to expose UCF students to the tradition and purpose of the ROTC program, not even the threat of rain could deter the officers from holding the ceremony on The Green.

Trained to think and function as a single unit, the cadets have become well disciplined in Army procedure. It only took one rehearsal for the three squads to become confident of their movement and stance.

Capt. Thomas said, “Cadet Lopez has been a great leader in the past and represents the Army well.”

Cadet Arango, Capt. Thomas said the role of a battalion commander is not easy. The training of new cadets and promotion of the ROTC program are part of the responsibilities that the new commander will undertake.

“Cadet Lopez has the potential to excel,” Thomas said.

As the largest ROTC unit in Florida, the Fighting Knights battalion also is the highest ranking cadet unit. Thomas attributes the program’s success to high standards and training.

Lopez said the upcoming challenges are just part of the job.

“After three years in the Army, I have learned a lot,” Lopez said. “Motivation and a strong drive keep the program moving forward.”

Her ideals of improvement are expanding the relationship between UCF students and the ROTC program. She encourages students to observe the ceremonies and activities the cadets partake in on Thursdays.

“We want people to know what the Army is all about,” Lopez said. “A voice that needs to be heard.”

Lopez also plans to increase the standards and improve campus showing.

On Thursday, some of the cadets will take on the challenge of an obstacle course and repelling, a exercise in which the cadet slides down a high wall by rope. In April the cadet will make a trip to Camp Landing for a special field training exercise.

More than 150 cadets were on hand last Thursday for the Change of Commands.

Photos by PETER KUNDIS
The job hunter: how to research your future employer

By Brian Krueger
College Press Service

In a job interview, you expect to be asked plenty of questions about your experience and future plans. But most employers also are interested in whether you can tell them a little about what they do, too. By doing employer research, you can set yourself apart.

Sadly, most college students know little if anything about the employer they are interviewing or even about any contact they may have with it. When I interview a job candidate, the quickest showstopper can come when I ask (whether on the phone or in person), "What do you know about our company?" If you haven't even taken the time to do any basic research, why should I commit a segment of my busy day to talking with you?"

Unfortunately, few are able to respond with even the basics. Strike one. Fewer still are able to articulate any information specific to our company. Strike two. But it doesn't have to be that way. Employer information, even detailed information, is usually available for the price of some simple digging. It's out there waiting for you to discover it and bring it to the surface.

The source location for this information can be found in order of ease of access: by contacting the company directly. Often, most companies are happy to oblige. Most companies are happy to oblige. Most companies are happy to oblige. Strike three. Unfortunately, few are able to respond to the basic research questions.

Although the above noted information is readily available, there is one source of employer information that is usually easily obtainable and unsurpassed in value: the annual report. Why? Because the annual report is written by the president or CEO, and unsurpassed in value: the annual report. Why? Because the annual report is written by the president or CEO, and unsurpassed in value: the annual report. Why? Because the annual report is written by the president or CEO, and unsurpassed in value: the annual report.

This information before you make contact with the employer's or its representatives. It is who are well-informed from the start who consistently are given the opportunity for the company-site interviews and eventual job offers. Job search is a two-way street. Don't just go begging for any job. Doing detailed research on each potential employer will assist you in better understanding which companies you may have an interest in working for. And it will give you the ammunition you need to be successful in eventually landing a job offer from the employer of your choice.

Although the above noted information can provide you with very detailed information, it is usually only available from larger companies. Yet nearly every size organization has a third type of information that can also greatly enhance your job search marketing information. This is one type of information that will not usually be available through public access, so it typically requires a direct call to the company. Ask to be connected to the Marketing Department, then ask if they would please send out some general marketing information on their company to you. This could be in the form of general company information or specific product information.

Most companies are happy to oblige. Do you best to become familiar with the company's position within the marketplace and how they position themselves with their customers. Get to know what they really do (or a living) and what your potential role could be within that greater company purpose.

 Ironically, most students don't attempt to gather any of the above information until after their first on-campus interview. But if you are serious about your job search, do your best to acquire the information before you make contact with the employer or its representatives. It is who are well-informed from the start who consistently are given the opportunity for the company-site interviews and eventual job offers. Job search is a two-way street. Don't just go begging for any job. Doing detailed research on each potential employer will assist you in better understanding which companies you may have an interest in working for. And it will give you the ammunition you need to be successful in eventually landing a job offer from the employer of your choice.

Note taking service

The Indiana Daily Student

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Each semester, as students arrive for their first day of classes, many professors discuss the syllabus, course objectives, and grading procedures of their particular class. Invariably, one student sits in the back of class paying attention not to what the professor says, but instead, whether or not a commercial note network will drop into one's ears. Several students take notes for the business and receive money for retying what was said during class. Many students, who skip the entire semester, then rely on that one student to teach them all they should have learned throughout the semester. The commercial networks, found near several universities, do not use rigorous standards to select the note takers because the system is based more on supply and demand rather than quality of notes. By using a commercial service, students place their education in the hands of someone else. Aside from this, what students fail to recognize is that taking notes for a commercial note network is an act of intellectual theft. Professors have spent years in the world of academia both as student and as teacher feeding their minds on their specialty. When employees from commercial networks turn over notes from that professor's class, the network receives the copyright and all the royalties. Thus, the professor's year of study are reduced to royalties for a commercial business.

Get results, advertise in the Central Florida Future call 977-1009

Wanted

Quark xpress expert to work Monday afternoons paid position.

Call 977-1009.
As student government elections approach, candidates are consumed with the last-minute details of organizing their platforms and providing sound campaigns. With so much diligence, work and effort put into these campaigns, it would seem the control and power of the outcome lies within the hands of the candidates.

However, the powerful selection of these two candidates, who will represent and speak on behalf of the student body, lies within our hands—55,000 to be exact.

Now, that's a lot of hands.

Though only a minute percentage may take advantage of this responsibility and privilege, that specific percentage determines who will help control the distribution of the activity and service fee, a fee which comes directly from the student body's pockets.

Now, that's a lot of pockets.

According to the elections commission, only 9.4 percent of 27,500 pupils actually select the representatives who help determine where our money is spent. With not even 10 percent of the student body exercising their right to voice their opinions, we may be misplacing blame and pointing fingers in the wrong direction as far as dissatisfaction among student body officials are concerned.

We shouldn't be blaming previous student body presidents and vice presidents for the misappropriations of funding, but we should be blaming ourselves for putting that control and power for the lack of voting, responsibility and knowledge taking place during these primary presidential elections.

I think the main focus and goal is unclear. In an effort to understand how the election process works, we must understand the original intent of student government presidential elections.

Presidential elections are not a popularity contest. No, that would be UCF Homecoming King and Queen. Second, presidential elections are not about selecting representatives to schmooze with UCF administrative populace for self-promotion. No, that would be President's Leadership Council.

The intent of the elections is to select dedicated representatives who are sincerely concerned for the student body's well-being and has UCF's vision in mind.

What does this mean? Well, a number of things.

How does one select a ticket? To begin with, we must examine the candidates' experience and platforms. When dealing with experience, it's not the amount of clubs and organizations and candidate is a member of that determines if they are capable of holding such a position. It's great if they are in the skydiving club, surf club, REACH, SEPS, SAA, SADD, etc.

Now, I'm not an advocate of involvement, but what about leadership?

Has the candidate held an office in any of these organizations? Does the candidate have a solid reputation? How is the candidate prepared for the job? Has the candidate worked in conjunction with S.G. before?

If so, what was their contribution? What did they accomplish with S.G.? What was the cause? Who benefited from the project? Etc.

These are real questions that give us the opportunity to see beneath the skin of the ticket. When exploring the platform of the candidates, we must search for issues that are relevant to our needs.

For instance, who's going to fight for the opening of the student union (which is long overdue)? Who's going to fight for a new recreational services building? Who's going to fight against tuition increases? Who's going to fight for more student and faculty parking? Who's going to fight to decrease student apathy? And so on.

These are questions that enable us to weed out the competition and see the candidates for who they are and what they stand for. From this criteria, we must choose (wisely) the ticket that is most concerned with issues that we care about.

But the real question is: Do we, the student body, actually care? If we don't, we should start to IMMEDIATELY change our attitude.

I care about my education, the value of my degree, and how my money is being spent. You should, too. We, the student body, have a bigger responsibility than we credit ourselves to have. We should care about our future.

Though we may not be able to control the money being spent, we can control where it is being spent by selecting proper representation.

I ask you, my colleagues, to take a painless stand and voice your opinions through a reliable liaison. Know this: We only victimize ourselves without taking action. Our votes will make the difference for our future.

Does UCF's Greek system have a color?

I'm colorblind. No, I really don't have a vision problem, but what I do have is rare. I don't see the color of a person's skin when I am first introduced to them—rather I find a distinguishing characteristic that makes them unique.

When I first came to college I came from Miami, the biggest melting pot in all of Florida. As a transfer student to UCF, I decided like many others to go Greek. But what I've found over the past year has astonished me. I was first told there were African-American sororities and Caucasian sororities. I didn't quite understand, how could this be? An African-American friend of mine explained to me that for years the prestigious "white" sororities did not accept people of color. So they began organized themselves. African-American women devised their own organizations. Since the beginning sororities have been segregated. The problem is that although sororities are not segregated anymore (by law or in practice) they are segregated in reality.

I don't know about you, but I thought segregation ended in the 1960s. Growing up, I was taught by my parents that we were all equal—whatever color you were. I had diversity all around me and grew up with a group of friends that came in all shapes and sizes, from all ethnicities, races and religions. There were no "white" groups or "black" groups where one type of person was dominant. Rather, the melting of people that became my support group were a rainbow of colors.

And so here I sit—still wondering, still baffled.

Does UCF's Greek system have a color?
If you tell them, they will come.

8pm UCF Arena Wednesday, February 19

JAMES earl JONES
MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

Admission is free • Please bring a canned good.

Funded by Advisory and Service Fees set aside by Student Government Association.
CAB
Campus Activities Board

Board of Directors
Director Applications
Due Thurs., Feb. 20th
by 5pm

Student Director
Spectacular Knights
Special Events
Speakers
Concerts
Cultural Arts
Public Relations
Graphic Design
Cinema
Video Productions
Popular Entertainment

Call 823-6471 for more information

Applications available February 5, 1997
Must Submit a cover letter and resume with application
provided by Activity and Service Fees as allocated through Student Government Association
Local filmmaker casts spell with documentary on witchcraft

By DEAN G. LEWIS
Entertainment Editor

Patrick Cox, a motion picture producer from Orlando, heads his own production company after years of professional speaking, painting, recording and civil engineering.

Cox's career evolution hit full stride several years ago with the release of his first film, "The Eye of the Beholder". A small-scale, expensive love story, "Beholder" enabled Cox to finance his next project, "The Hydronator". A horror yarn about a toxic waste monster that rises out of a retention pond and terrorizes a community, "The Hydronator" established Cox's trademark fetish for the macabre. His latest project, "Witchcraft", is a 74-minute documentary that chronicles the history of witchcraft and uncovers how young people in Orlando are turning to it as a religion of choice.

While the number of adolescents involved in black magic seems to be growing, a visit to a nudist colony on Brevard's Playasland beach, a gay man's craze for body piercing and patrons who regularly consult palm readers also seem to imply witchcraft is sinful and corrupt.

In Cox's hands, "Witchcraft" pleads with us to accept the notion that people who are seen as different should be treated equally. The documentary's anti-persecution theme may be obvious after repeated viewings, and, just recently, I had the opportun-
Learn to give car salesmen a run for their money

By BRANDY GILL
Web Editor

Americans, as opposed to many other nations, have a real infatuation with the automobile. Mass transit systems in most areas really stink and everything is so spread out it's often hard to get anywhere on foot. Therefore, at one time or another, most people will unfortunately have to buy a car. The most common method being utilized is the services of a new or used car dealer and the process can be a real drag.

First, you have to get an idea of what kind of car you like. You then proceed to a dealership and get pounced on by overzealous car pushers who can't take no for an answer. You either end up buying a car you didn't want and can't afford or you barely escape with your life and a price quote. Personally, I've been through this process and it's far too frustrating and time consuming. I'd rather have a double root canal while chewing glass... well, you get the point. This is where the beauty of technology, more specifically the internet comes in quite handy.

On the recommendation of a friend, I browsed a site on the net which can be found at www.edmunds.com. The site is produced by Edmunds new and used car price guidebooks. The site provides a photo of the car you're interested in buying or selling, all the technical information and specifications you can handle, available specials and rebates which many dealers have especially for college grads, insurance quotes and most important prices.

There are listings of a dealer's actual cost and it shows you how to calculate a fair price. For example, if you're interested in purchasing a 1997 Honda Civic LX, it's list price is approximately $15,000. The dealer's invoice is approximately $12,800. The dealer marks up the car to include a profit margin - of course, but also because they get kickbacks from a manufacturer for selling so many cars a month over a certain price. This doesn't go to the salesperson, but to the dealer-although you're allowing a 5-percent profit margin and a commission on sales, you're not getting ripped off!

I used information I gleaned from this web site to purchase a car I really wanted, but couldn't afford. I was quoting statistics, prices, percentages and it was all I could do to not verbally acknowledging my amazement at his very existence considering even the body’s autonomic functions require a somewhat functioning brain.

Anyway, if you're in the market for buying or selling a new or used car check it out. If you have any questions, comments, or recommendations e-mail me at blg47360@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu.
Student issues a priority to Florez

By GUANINA RODRIGUEZ  
Staff Writer

UCF junior Alan Florez has students' concerns on his mind. As Director of Governmental Affairs, he works with the UCF Student Government and Florida Board of Regents, addressing issues such as the proposed tuition increase for Florida universities. Florez also is president of the Hispanic American Student Association and has been involved in Hispanic affairs and Student Government since his sophomore year. He was vice president of Hispanic American Student Association as a sophomore.

The Washington Senate Program gave Florez an opportunity to intern in Washington D.C. "Being vice president of HASA allowed my interest to be more defined in Hispanic affairs, and that's how I ended up interning in Washington D.C.," he said.

Florez worked with the Central American Resource Network, an organization offering political advocacy and legal services to immigrants from Central America and Latinos in the Washington D.C. area. Florez helped coordinate citizenship classes, establish volunteer programs and translate documents.

"It was a good experience because I had to learn quickly and grow up fast," said Florez, 20. "You deal with a lot of sensitive issues." The program allowed Florez to meet many representatives, including Connie Mack.

Florez said he has been inspired and influenced by his father.

"My father is an immigrant (from Columbia) and came to work hard," Florez said. "He was very conscientious of us and worked to get us out of a bad neighborhood with a poor education system."

Florez's experience with Hispanic and governmental affairs have helped him become a leader on campus.

"The best leader is able to lead other people and make sure the best qualities they possess are maximized," Florez said. "You use your experience with the eagerness and knowledge of others and use that to maximize. You let people do what they can do best and establish confidence. I've found that to be a good leader you need to be assertive, responsible and lead by example."

Florez is trying to help establish Lambda Theta Phi, the first Latino fraternity at UCF. His future goal is to become a civil rights lawyer.

"I think there are a lot of issues out there that have to be addressed as far as civil rights is concerned," said Florez, who would like to return to Washington D.C. and work in civil rights.

If you have a nomination for Student Leader of the Week call the Central Florida Future newsroom 977-1009.

Alan Florez has been influenced by his father, a Colombian immigrant.

Central Florida Future • 10

Nurses association plans drawing

A CFF Staff Report

The Student Nurses Association will hold a drawing for two Littman Stethoscopes, a crystal clock and a numbered Disney lithograph. Tickets can be purchased at a bake sale on the Green or through the CNA. The drawing will be held Feb. 26. For information, call (904) 427-8111.

Volunteer opportunities

• Visiting Nurses Association needs volunteers for its book sale Feb. 22-23. Please contact Karen Hilbert at 975-2274.

• Info's the Streets is volunteering at a Renaissance Festival for the elderly on Feb. 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• The Special Olympics is looking for volunteers on March 1. Contact Suzanne at 481-2935 for information.

• Volunteers are needed for Workout for Hope on April 19 at Pleasure Island. Call (800) 272-2310.

Chillers

A VERY COOL BAR & GRILL

Wednesday  
Dollar Drink Night  
A Wed. Tradition  
$1 Frozen Drinks  
$1 Bottled Beer  
$1 Wells, Shots, Jello

Thursday  
Live Music  
“Hangin’ W/ VON RA”  
$1.50 Select Beer  
$1 off Select Daquiris

Friday  
Weekend Kickoff Party!  
“It Takes Two”  
Hot Music, Cold Drinks, & A Cool Staff!!!  
$2 Drinks All Night!!  
$2 Daquiris, Beers.

Saturday  
Drinks Specials  
Well’s, Shots, Draft

Monday  
2 Mexican Beer, $2 Rum Runners, $2 Purple Orgasms, $1 Sex on the Beach, & $1 Kamikazes!!!

33 W. Church St., Downtown Orlando  
649-4270

BOWLING...$1.00

BOWLING SHOES...$1.00

16 OZ SODA...$1.00

LARGE POPCORN...$1.00

SMALL NACHOS...$1.00

16 OZ DRAFT BEER...$1.00

HOTDOG WITH CHIPS...$1.00

BECOME AN AIR FORCE OFFICER.

Take the first step to becoming a leader in today’s Force. Put your college degree to work in the Air Force Officer Training School. After completing Officer Training School you can become a commissioned Air Force officer with:

• great starting pay
• medical and dental care
• 30 days vacation with pay per year
• management opportunities

Discover how far a career in the Air Force can take you and what it takes to qualify. Call

AIR FORCE OPPORTUNITIES
TOLL FREE  
1-800-JOB-USA

AIR FORCE

OVIEDO BOWLING CENTER

"JUST A BUCK"  
COLLEGE NIGHTS
MONDAYS & THURSDAYS 9:00 PM

Special pricing valid for college students with proper ID.

BOWLING...$1.00

BOWLING SHOES...$1.00

SIP & DINE AT GRAND OPENINGS

at ORLANDO AIRPORT

Come join our opening team!

From Marriott Services has a number of different restaurant concepts opening soon in the Main Terminal of the Orlando Airport! If you're looking for an opportunity to join a leading company in the local area, we'd like to meet with you. We're looking for:

• SERVERS • COOKS • BARTENDERS • DISHWASHERS

Please call, fax or email us to request an interview.

FULL & PART TIME

INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD SATURDAY & SUNDAY 7-9 AM at the Orlando Airport.

Call (407) 825-1939

For information call (904) 954-1009.

AIR FORCE OPPORTUNITIES
TOLL FREE
1-800-JOB-USA

AIR FORCE

378 E BROADWAY...366-5000

Restaurant hourly positions

The Shipyard

at Orlando Airport
Supermarket needed: M-F 8am-4pm
Outside: I need help to get people to buy in my store.
Light bookkeeping
Call 977-1009 or x5280
Call after 4pm - 559-3425

Alternative Spring Break: ‘97
Explore nature, sea, and new friends
7 days, music, dance, sports, yoga
14-volunteer - Mission Rockies
$555 800-999-2000

RESEARCH
FOR
tourist attractions, including more than 50,000 Earth’s best!
Inquire: 800-399-4998
Cruise Employment
Call 297-8718

Computers
*(Orlando’s Best Internet Value**
Web browsing, e-mail, newsgroups, voice mail & more. Half price!
Switch from your current provider and pay no activation fees. Internet Connect Co.
Call 1-800-422-2936
http://www.internetconnect.com

ROOMMATE
Roommate needed in their 3BR Home 
For More Information, call 928-7460 x263 
or fax your resume to John Bonsall@682-0025 

When You Work For The DIALAMERICA Team.

DIALAMERICA MARKETING INC., the worlds leader in telemarketing is experiencing phenomenal growth in our Orlando location. Due to this unprecedented growth many positions have been created.

DIALAMERICA MARKETING INC., welcomes college students. Whether you have morning, afternoon or evening classes, we can create a convenient schedule around your education.

DIALAMERICA MARKETING INC., offers morning, evening, and afternoon shifts. Paid training, guaranteed salary plus one of the highest commissions paid in the industry today! Our clientele reaches from coast-to-coast so you’ll never be limited when it comes to leads! We are currently taking applications for our next training class.

Your income is only limited by your hard work. If you possess excellent verbal, written and communication skills call for a confidential interview.

Use CFF classifieds to:
• Find a roommate
• Find an apartment
• Find a job
• Buy or sell
• A computer
• Airline tickets
• Furniture
• Books
• Stereos
• Electronics
• Bicycles
• Advertise your business
• service clubs
• organization meetings
• Place a personal

or whatever it is
you’re looking to buy, sell or trade.

Call Today 977-1009
Ramadan ends

A party to celebrate the end of Ramadan was held Feb. 8 at the Barbara Ying International Center. The Eid-Al-Fitr party was sponsored by the newly formed Arab Gulf Students Association. More than 70 guests attended the event. Students pictured represent Louis Ramadan, Librarian at 823-5427.

Art exhibitions set at library

The following items will be on display in the library during February:
• Fan Xin Lin: the African artist, by Fan Xin Lin.
• Black History Month, by Andrea Mahan, Reference Librarian, Library.
• Edward Albee, by Dr. Karl-Henrich Barsch, Office of International Studies.
• Dr. Charles C. Hankins, New Location! Promenade Blvd Shopping Center (Public Place) on corner of Promenade Blvd. and Winter Springs Blvd., Suite 114.

Now that we have your attention. Read below about our new location and contact lens offers.

February 19, 1997 Central Florida Future • 12

Women take 9th-place finish at spring invitational

By MERIDYTH STANLEY Staff Writer

The UCF women's golf team had a rough start its first day at the FAU and UM Spring Invitational last weekend.

The women shot a 325 on the first day but came back strong on the second and third day with 318 and 317.

Freshman Line Berg and senior Jenny Hagman tied for sixth overall. Berg shot 76-76-76-238 and Hagman shot 75-76-78-231. The team finished ninth of 17, 24 shots out of first place.

Coach Jill Fjelstul remains positive.

"Our high score day one put us behind the pack. Days two and three were respectable scores but they weren't enough to put us in contention," she said.

She was very encouraged with Berg's performance.

"I am very pleased with Line's scores," Fjelstul said.

"Tied for sixth overall is a great finish for her first tournament."

UCF's next tournament is Feb. 28 in Gainesville at the Lady Gator Invitational.

"The girls realize their potential," Fjelstul said.

These two weeks will be good practice for them to prepare and work on getting four scores low on the same day."

Golf

Berg

Hagman tied for sixth overall. Berg shot 76-76-76-238 and Hagman shot 75-76-78-231. The team finished ninth of 17, 24 shots out of first place.

Coach Jill Fjelstul remains positive.

"Our high score day one put us behind the pack. Days two and three were respectable scores but they weren't enough to put us in contention," she said.

She was very encouraged with Berg's performance.

"I am very pleased with Line's scores," Fjelstul said.

"Tied for sixth overall is a great finish for her first tournament."

UCF's next tournament is Feb. 28 in Gainesville at the Lady Gator Invitational.

"The girls realize their potential," Fjelstul said.

These two weeks will be good practice for them to prepare and work on getting four scores low on the same day."
Professional football league tries out former players

By TIM SPRINGER
Sports Editor

The Regional Football League held a formal tryout at the UCF football practice facilities Saturday morning. A rain-soaked field may not have allowed for outstanding 40-yard dash performances, but former UCF players Nakia Reddick, Tarveres Tate and Donald Huzzie refused to let unfavorable conditions hinder their dreams of playing football at a higher level.

Drills included the bench press, vertical jump, broad jump, shuttle run and 40-yard dash. Reddick turned in a 40 time of 4.6 seconds while Huzzie and Tate ran a 4.7 and 4.8.

"We went out and just basically showed what we have," Reddick said. "If we didn't impress [the RFL] we'll try to impress someone else. Continuing to play football is what's most important."

Nearly 300 potential RFL players participated in the combine, including former players from East Carolina and Northeast Louisiana universities.

What's our Quadruple Cheese Melt all about?

Mozzarella, Romano, Fontina and Swiss cheeses melted to extreme satisfaction.

Texas bound

The University of Central Florida baseball team celebrates during an earlier-season victory. The Knights coming off a week in which they went 4-0, beating Southwestern Louisiana and Campbell. UCF which played Bethune-Cookman Tuesday night, will compete in this weekend's Houston Invitational Tournament. UCF plays Southwest Texas State on Friday, Houston on Saturday and Oklahoma on Sunday. Second baseman Eric Riggs headed into Tuesday's game with a seven game hitting streak.

For the best coverage of UCF athletics read the Central Florida Future each week.
1st defeat doesn't dampen men's team

By DEREK GONSOULIN
Staff Writer

Highlighted by Sunday's victory against Florida International (ranked 7th nationally) UCF went 2-1 last week.

Led by Matias Akesson and Ted Tandjung's singles and doubles victories, the Knights (3-1) defeated FIU (3-3) 4-0.

Akesson, who missed UCF's loss to Marquette with an illness, defeated FIU's Gustavo Lopez 7-6, 6-3 in the top-seeded singles match.

Tandjung, who combined with Akesson in the clinching doubles match, won his sixth-seed singles match 6-3, 6-2.

The road victory against a higher ranked team impressed Coach Gail Falkenberg.

"I'm not used to the team playing so well on the road," Falkenberg said.

If UCF had not had their match with Florida Atlantic rained out Saturday, Falkenberg said, "We were up 3-1 with three sets to play when it was rained out," said Falkenberg, who said she will ask the league office if they make up the TAAC game at a later date. "We didn't get the win, but we were the better team that day."

After topping Stetson 4-3 on Feb. 12, UCF lost 4-3 to Marquette (3-1) on Feb. 14. Despite playing a team used to the cold of Wisconsin, UCF was the team to wilt under the pressure of a four-and-a-half-hour contest in the Florida sun.

Falkenberg said not having Akesson due to illness contributed to the defeat. "[Akesson] is not playing changed everything," Falkenberg said.

"He felt he was sick and that it was more important to be ready for the conference games over the weekend."

UCF faces Jacksonville and No. 43 Florida State on Thursday and Friday in Tallahassee. Falkenberg said the Florida State game is another big test for the Knights.

"I was impressed by our ability to go on the road and beat a team like FIU," Falkenberg said. "We'll see if we can do it again."

Freshmen lift women

By DEREK GONSOULIN
Staff Writer

As Coach Gail Falkenberg's women's tennis team competed at Florida International, she could have asked how it won with three freshmen for the first time on the road.

Maybe she knew the answer all along.

UCF defeated FIU 6-3 on Sunday, continuing its unbeaten season (4-0). In the span of eight days, the Knights have defeated Georgia Tech and FIU (3-3), teams ranked higher than UCF to start the season.

"We're just playing great right now," Falkenberg said.

"Veronica is undefeated in singles, defeating some ranked competition and Ronen is doing well also," Falkenberg said.

Sophomore Rachna Ashar made amends for her loss in No. 2 singles by combining with Widyadharma in their No. 1 doubles victory against Sotomayor and Celeste Frey 8-2.

Rain canceled Saturday's match against Florida Atlantic. UCF led 4-1, with Ashar up 5-1 in the clinching set when the rain came.

The Knights warmed up for their trip to Miami by beating Jacksonville 8-1 on Feb. 13. UCF plays host to Stetson on Feb. 25.

Notables: The only American-born player on the roster has left the team due to a lack of playing time. Walk-on Jodi Bell of South Plantation will stay at UCF. Falkenberg said she can try out for the team next year.

Beat writers wanted to cover news, sports, features or business-related issues.

Paid positions available call CFF 977-1009
By DEREK GONSOULIN
Staff Writer

February 19, 1997
Central Florida Future

Players leave behind glory for minors

As an ambler sun blankets UCF's base-
ball stadium, the crowd gives its well-
practiced shouts for yet another home-
town hero circling the bases in his
neatly tailored uniform. As the cheers
fade into small talk, the sound of wood
connecting with a baseball echoes
throughout the quieted stadium like a
gunshot.

But no one notices.

Behind the bleachers rests a tired bat-
cage. It has worn nets and mud sur-
rounds the entire aluminum skeleton.

Inside the cage, two stocky men in shorts
and T-shirts laugh while taking batting
practice. A third man, bigger than the
other two, watches. The men work with
overused baseballs and broken bats taped
heavily at the front.

Uncomfortable with the wooden bat in
his hands, the man hitting swings and
fouls off a fastball. The hitter curses him-
self for the error and rubs the barrel of
the bat. "I got a new one today," he
laughs. With a grin. The hitter, former
UCF standout Brad King, looks up from the bat to the back
of the bleachers as if he could see
through them. "I feel like I should still be
out there," King says as he points
through the old nets and through the
bleachers to the field. "But it sounds like
they don't need me today."

But King gave up his days of being the
UCF hero when he decided to forge his
senior year and play professionally. He

gonzo's growl

will play infield for a Chicago Cubs
minor league team when training camp
begins in late February and he knows
things will be different.

"It's a big step up," King said. "The
pitching is stronger and you've got to be
ready emotionally and ready to play
everyday."

Even the weapon is different. King says,
"With the aluminum bat. I used to hit
the ball off the end and drive it between
the outfielders in left field." King says,
picking to the end of the broken bat.

"You have to hit the ball with the meat
of this guy to do anything with it."

The next hitter, Mark Belhorn, is an
infelder in the Oakland Athletics farm
system. Having left Auburn a year ago,
Belhorn knows how life in the minors is.

"Everyone is good," Belhorn says as he
throws the scattered baseballs back to the
pitcher. "You're traveling all the time,
you have to get used to players coming in
and out and you have to get used to rook-
es, veterans, Dominicans - it's a differ-
ent world."

The pitcher, John Sutero, a minor-leag-
ger for the California Angels, throws a
half-effort pitch to Belhorn. Ducking
behind the safety net, Sutero watches the
line drive pierce the position he once
held through the stumps. Laughing,
Sutero straightens himself and bunts a
fastball right by Belhorn.

The pitcher answers with a gloat, "I
once got Josh Booty out to win a game in
high school."

Bootsy is a teenage baseball and foot-
ball phenom who signed with the Florida
Marlins out of high school last year. A
month ago he enrolled at Louisiana State
University to play football, but tennpered
with his inability to make it past the
Class A level.

UCF coach Jay Bergman said the reali-
ties of minor-league baseball can cause
many young men to lose heart. "Some
players realize when they finally get to
that point that there are other things to
do and I have to get on with my life," he
said.

With his normally strong voice show-
ing signs of breaking, King says he hopes
to make it to the majors one day. "I plan
on making it," he says without making
eye contact.

Collecting all the baseballs and throw-
ing them into a 5-gallon bucket, King
can hear the fans he left behind cheer for
the players he once called teammates.

Just 50 feet of bleachers, foliage and fans
separate him from the field he once
played on, but he knows he cannot go
back.

"I basically played for my scholarship
here at UCF and I'll be playing for a pay-
check (in the minors)," King says. "Now
I don't have to worry about school so I
can focus on baseball."

Belhorn knells down on one knee and
begins tossing baseballs in the air for
King to hit into the net. "It is true that
one of the tougher things is getting used
to it, is playing everyday," Belhorn says as
he feeds the balls progressively faster.

"But even tougher is that realizing it's a
job now and if you don't do well, you
could be out very quickly."

Sports State
Feb. 20
Men's Basketball vs. Florida International,
7:30 p.m.
Women's Basketball vs. Georgia State, 5 p.m.
Feb. 21
Baseball at Houston Invitational vs.
Southwest Texas State, 4 p.m.
Men's Tennis vs. Jacksonville (at FSU), 3 p.m.
Feb. 22
Baseball at Houston Invitational vs.
Houston, 4 p.m.
Men's Basketball vs. Florida Atlantic, 7:30 p.m.
Women's Basketball at Mercer, 7 p.m.
Women's Crown at Stetson Invitational
Men's Tennis at Florida State, 2:30 p.m.
Feb. 23
Baseball at Houston Invitational vs.
Oklahoma, noon

King did not play well in the instruc-
tional leagues leading up to this, his first
professional season, according to
Bergman.

"It's not like college," King admits as
he pauses a moment from the fatigue of
swinging repeatedly in a short time. "If
you don't perform, you're history."

"Baseball is a game of adjustments," Bergman
said.

"You adjust to the pitcher, you adjust to the
weather, you adjust to what you have to
adjust to. I don't know how well
[King] will do because it will be up to
him, mentally, to struggle with it."

The situation leaves King alone to get
through the coming trials.

Do something great with your summer!

YMCA Camp WeWa is hiring men and women who will
lead and mentor young people in a beautiful camp set-
ting. We are looking for leaders who have proven hon-
esty, caring, respect and responsibility because these
counselors will serve as role models
for a cabin group of 12 campers and
will also be teaching an activity such as water sking,
rieffly, climbing, volleyball and more. Camp WeWa is
putting together a team of motivated leaders to
work at a coed
overnight camp
located near
Orlando. If you want to be a part of this
team and you are looking for a fun filled, exciting, action packed sum-
mer and wish to make an impact on the life of a young child, contact
Mike or Greg today at (407) 886-1240.

Camrad hopes crew team
can gain on competition

By JEFF CASE
Staff Writer

"Maintain and gain." It's not exactly "just win, baby!" but for crew coach Dennis
Camrad, it's his pathway to success.

Camrad, founder of the UCF crew programs, explains his philoso-
phy.

"The events we were successful in last year we hope to maintain
that success, and those events we didn't quite reach the goal that we
may have set, we hope to gain on," Camrad said.

First on the list of "gains" will be to average a close loss (less than a
second) in the Metro Cup Regatta. The race, which pits UCF
against rival Rollins College, takes place March 8 and serves sever-
al roles. Camrad said losing the race provides motivation for the
season, as it did last year.

A victory helps set the pace for the year and the team started
gaining on competition in March.

Whatever the result, Camrad said learning is victory enough.

"We take it [the outcome] and use it during the rest of the season," Camrad
said.

Another "gain" will be for a better showing in the President's Cup
Regatta in Tampa on March 15. Although strong programs from Yale
and Georgetown University dominated last year, UCF was able to
leapfrog to a second-place finish. UCF barely missed participat-
ing in the medal round, coming up four-tenths of a second short.

The team hopes to also "gain" a medal in the Southern
Intercollegiate Rowing Championship on April 19. Also, Camrad
said the team has set a finals berth in the Dad Vail Regatta
bigger at Oklahoma City.

Camrad offers two team goals:
Maintaining its Florida Rowing and Petrakis Cup championships.
Equaling or surpassing Camrad’s strategy in team unity. He chooses
to not single out individuals.

"If nine people aren't totally together in a race, then that one per-
son isn't going to do it ... they each have to take care of their busi-
ness," Camrad said.

The team's first test is this weekend. UCF will be competing in the
Stetson Invitational on Feb. 22 to open the spring season.

If the team stays dedicated to its philosophy, there should be no
limits to its "gains."
Women get lost among FIU trees

By DEREK GONSOULIN
Staff Writer

Through the trees that constituted Florida International's front line, Chariya Davis penetrated like a chain saw, cutting her way through double and triple teams. The penetrating became a habit Saturday evening for Davis, who finished with a team-high 19 points and five assists.

But when the Knights trailed by three with six seconds to play, Davis fell victim to the routine. With no defender in front of her at the three-point line, Davis drove to the basket, rather than take the potential game-tying shot.

"At a point guard, I'm a little disappointed in that she should know the time and the score," Bria said.

With the 73-70 loss to the Panthers, (15-8, 9-4), UCF now has a harder decision to make than whether to shoot or drive. The third loss in four conference home games have the Knights (9-13, 6-6) have to fight to keep their place in the Trans America Athletic Conference tournament.

"These next four games will make or break our season," Bria said. "We're not sure in the tournament yet.

Those next four games will begin at ninth-seeded Georgia State, a team like 10th-seeded Florida Atlantic that is fighting to be eligible for the TAAC tournament. Only the top eight teams are eligible for the conference tournament.

"It's a scary game for us," Bria said.

"It looks like we're in and [Georgia State] is not so they have nothing to lose. For them, they can just hang loose. They're on the down court and for us it's a chance to get knocked out of the tournament.

When the Knights took to the floor against last-place Florida Atlantic last Thursday, they were in fourth place in the TAAC with a 6-4 record. With four of the last six games at home, the season looked to be turning around for Bria's team.

Yet as the final minutes of the 81-54 loss slipped away, the starting five for UCF sat on the bench and stared at the floor with their faces resting on their hands. The Knights had been out-shot (33 to 50 percent) out-hustled (33-46 rebounds) and out-done by a team with nine losses in its first 11 TAAC contests.

Bria found few explanations for the defeat. "We take games one at a time, so I don't think we were looking ahead to FIU," she said. "Thank goodness this one is over.

After being handled by the Owls, UCF played more focused against the taller, higher seeded Panthers. Trailing by as many as 15 in the first half, UCF rallied behind its defense pressure. The Knights forced six FIU turnovers the final five minutes of the half to trail just 39-36 at intermission.

But FIU used its height advantage to out-rebound the Knights 48-37. "The skyline" of 6-foot-5 Yoana Aramberti, 6-4 Ginger Bostock and 6-1 Dana Michelle and an open bar go together like scholarships and charity.

The play of the game came from Aramberti, who finished with a game-high 20 points, 17 rebounds and four assists.

Shantrice Saxton (22) and her teammates battled their way into the conference tournament.

Photo by TIM SPRINGER

Community, boosters truly made this a night for all Knights

By TIM SPRINGER
Sports Editor

University of Central Florida Athletic Director Steve Sloan put his humility on the line in the name of the alma­noght scholarship last Saturday at the annual "Night of Knights charity dinner."

The $100-a-plate golf affair boosted alumni and an opportunity to be part of helping UCF keep its scholarship fund thriving. Master of Ceremonies and Orlando Sentinel columnist Larry Guest led the roasting of Sloan as the guest of honor took more shots Saturday night than he had during his entire football career. Coaches, former players and friends hit Sloan with their best material followed by their true feelings.

Bobby Bowden, Bill Curry, Johnny Majors and Steve Spurrier were heard from on Sloan's behalf as was Cleveland Indians general manager and UCF alum­nus John Hart. Each gave Sloan verbal noogies then proceeded to enlighten Sloan's alma­noght on many exciting items — including a golf package to Pebble Beach, tickets to the Final Four or 10 percent ownership of a potential champion thoroughbred horse appropriately named Golden Knight.

But perhaps the most sought-after item was a pound of gold that was raffled at $100 a ticket. The lump of gold is estimated to be worth nearly $10,000. The charity dinner proved successful once again as organizers estimated to have raised between $25,000 and $75,000, unofficially.

But the fun didn't end there.

Guests included former NBA great Artis Gilmore, former Cy Young award winner Frank Viola, Warren Sapp of the Buccaneers, and former UCF athletes — to name a few. A fun round of golf was all the celebrities were a part of.

Witnessing the fund raising weekend gave me ideas. I plan to have a charity dinner in the name of funding two more semesters at UCF. And with the tuition increases sky rocketing, I may need to charge a bit more than $100 a plate. It all my friends show, I should make enough to pay my parking tickets.

Now finding people to say good things about me ... that could become a prob­lem. Overpowered in the paint and outworked on the boards, the UCF men's basketball team was the Edmund Center in DeLand and lost Saturday facing a grim reality: For the first time in the Kirk Sparrow Era, UCF may fail to make the postseason TAAC tournament.

Nate Miller led five Knights in double figures as Stetson executed brilliantly in beat­ting the Golden Knights 85-70. The Hatters shot 57.5 percent from the field, hitting 16 of 24 shots in the second half. Post players Jeff Waterman and Fred Entenmann made 12 of 15 shots collectively, and scored 15 and 11 points.

They continually backed down UCF defenders and set up easy shots for them­selves and teammates. Miller nailed five three-pointers, leading the Hatter perimeter attack. Down the stretch, Stetson held on at the line, shooting 73 percent to hold onto a lead which they commanded most of the second half.

"During that crucial stretch at the begin­ning of the second half, they had just a lit­tle bit more fire than us and they executed tremendously. That is where they won the game," Sparrow said.

Up 27-26 at the break, Stetson used a 12-3 run to open the half to stay on top for good. The Hatters overwhelmed a solid perform­ance by Harry Kennedy, who hit six of nine shots, making five three-pointers to lead the Knights with 20 points. Also lost in the UCF setback was an excellent per­formance by freshman point guard Cody Perry, who scored a career-high 18 points while dishing out a team-high five assists.

UCF is in the running for a spot in the final spot in the TAAC tournament. It will have to rely on Florida International and Florida Atlantic to defeat the Hatters to have a shot. That's the easy part, however, as the Knights would have to upset those same two teams at the UCF Arena on Saturday.

In their earlier meetings this season, UCF dropped by 41 points, while FAU won easily 78-55 in Boca Raton.