SGA's new cabinet coming together

By LINDSAY J. MALANGA
News Editor

With an eventful fall on the way, Student Government has been spending the summer building its cabinet and preparing for another memorable year.

As President Keith McDonald and Vice President Karen Montague head the crew into the 97-'98 school year, positions are still waiting to be filled to complete the staff.

Spirit Coordinator Chris Gonzalez plans to "do all we can to boost student morale, spirit days, and other activities that are going on to show how much fun it is to be a Knight."

Gonzalez said being a spirited person with a lot of energy and leadership positions helped him earn the spirit coordinator position. "I think Student Government persuades student enthusiasm by leading by example. All Student Government members love UCF and show it on a daily basis," he said.

Gonzalez is anticipating many new activities to elevate student enthusiasm. "A few of the things we have planned for the fall are monthly spirit days, a UCF billboard to be put up, bus rides to all home football games, a trip to Nebraska, making homecoming bigger and better than ever, and a lot of other fun stuff to make the students happy," he said.

Some of Student Government's goals include spreading enthusiasm and coordinating student events, but another aspect is not all fun and games.

Chad Hastings understands what it is like to be on the practical side of UCF's SGA, as he now holds the Comptroller position.

Hastings advises the President on finance matters, keeps track of account balances and

See CABINET, PAGE 3

Ski rope invention pulls students toward success

By SEAN CLAEYS
Staff Writer

UCF student Markham Gross, 23, and recent graduate Michael Lintzner, 22, met at college three years ago and now own a lucrative business. Gross, from Huntsville, Ala., and Lintzner, from Hartford, Conn., came to UCF, "To ski in a warmer climate and get a great education," said Lintzner.

"Training for barefoot skiing with Rick Powell [previous barefooting world champion] was one main purpose for coming to UCF. But after blowing out both knees, I decided to join SAE to meet other people until I recuperated," Gross said.

Months after their initial meeting through their fraternity, Gross and Lintzner became skiing partners. Gross joined the ski team as a trick skier.

"That was just for fun," Gross said. "Barefooting was still my main priority."

Since then, the two have built a strong friendship as well as an exceptional business, Hardline.

New course to examine 'isms'

By OLIVIA K. CURNOW
Staff Writer

The Institute for Public Media Arts has chosen UCF as one of seven colleges in the United States to implement a new class in their curriculum.

"Exploiting ISMS: Ethnicity, Gender and Visual Communication" (SYP 4932) will begin this fall and continue through next spring, giving students eight credit hours for the year.

"It's so intense that we might give them an incomplete at the end of the fall so they come back in the spring," said Dr. Maria Cristina Santana, an associate professor in the School of Communication. She will be co-teaching the class with Dr. Lin Huff-Corzine of the sociology department.

The students will begin the semester by shooting color photography and making a photo diary of themselves. The spring project will involve shooting a video of themselves and their own "I'm," whether it be racism, sexism, ageism, classism, feminism or individualism.

"This is the way they can explore their own ism," Santana said. "I'd like to create more exposure to these isms in general."

This is one of the Institute's many projects. It is being sponsored by the Ford Foundation, Time-Warner, Levi-Strauss, Lotus, Philip/Morris, and the Johnson Foundation.

"I would definitely like to create in the future a class like this at UCF without the sponsorship," Santana said.

See UCF, PAGE 3

Muscling up

Deaubrey Devine heads a new line-backing corps into battle for UCF this season.

Story on Page 12

Ebonic flu

UCF gives the controversial topic a spin.

— Page 5

No 'Contact'

New release would be better suited lost in space.

— Page 8

Postseason hope

Women's soccer team now has the opportunity to play in NCAAs.

— Page 12
UCFPD discovers illegal aliens
By DAN TUCKER
Staff Writer

On June 22, according to UCFPD reports, a white Ford pick-up was pulled over after failing to stop at a stop sign. Malagon Rigoberta, the truck’s driver, was arrested on a County warrant. The other two occupants of the vehicle, Alfredo Garcia and Louis Hernandez, were detained for being illegal aliens from Mexico and turned over to the Border Patrol.

In other campus crime news reported by the UCFPD:
• An estimated $500 worth of damage was done to Jennifer Walkley’s 1997 Saturn while parked in the back lot of the Pi Beta Phi house. Walkley parked her vehicle on June 23 around 10 p.m. When she returned to her car the next morning, she noticed several dents, scratches and shattered glass on the hood of her car.

Walkley is willing to prosecute.
• Michael Brunbaker reported the Alpha Tau Omega volleyball net was stolen on June 24. The net was last seen on June 23 at the court.

Elena Feliciano’s bike was stolen from the bike rack at the Administration Building on June 24. Feliciano put her bike in the rack at 11:45 a.m. and returned 30 minutes later to find it missing.

• On June 25, Dr. John Leeson notified police that six homework assignments were stolen from under his office desk between June 11-13. Dr. Leeson told police he may know of a few suspects since several of the papers were identical.

---

THE Crossword

Across
10. US president (5)
15. Noreen's saint (9)
19. Black order (11)
22. Garage's center (14)
24. Cobber's common (16)
26. Cheers for Juan (18)
27. Kind of cover (20)
28. Chart of Alan (22)
29. Anti-U.S. hero (23)
31. Theater award (25)
32. Gable's stab (26)
34. Go to bed for (28)
36. Cake sections (31)
37. Point Military (37)
38. Adios (38)
39. Learn or Gray (40)
40. Email and spottiness (41)
41. Make preparations (43)
44. Aware of (44)
45. phổre's servant (46)
46. Suddenly stork (47)
48. Flair (48)
49. Discot (50)
52. Something to model (54)
53. Top drawer (55)
55. Sea eagle (56)
56. Fish name in cosmetics (57)
58. — but...! (59)
59. Rip (60)
61. Thin Man's dog (61)

Down
1. Power briefly (2)
2. Exchange pre- (3)
3. Cartoon page (4)
4. Team (4)
5. Hollywood awards (5)

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WORD OF THE WISE

estivate v. 1. to spend the summer 2. to pass the summer in a dormant state, as snails

—SYN. hibernate.

Estivating UCF students choose to spend scorching summer days in the cool air conditioning.

Life as a team sport: an interview edge extra

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

From intramural athletics and extracurricular activities to group case study classes and in-class team projects, it seems everywhere you turn you’re asked to interact with other students. The truth is, more than ever, life is a team sport. Whether it be in college or the world of work, it is the way of the 90s and will most certainly be the way of the 21st century. Given this, recruiters today are looking for candidates with group skills for their organizations.

It’s one of the “winning characteristic” upon which interviewers make hiring decisions, so you’ll want to be able to prove to them that you are strong in this area. Being interesting and a good conversationalist is an excellent way to develop and sharpen your group skills. They almost always involve teams of students working together over a number of months to complete large, complex projects. Key here is that if you’re going to develop and be able to demonstrate that you have group skills, you’ll need to go a step beyond just joining the organization. You’re going to actually get involved after you do.

Fortunately, if you pick an activity that you are genuinely interested in, you’ll enjoy the experience rather than considering it work. You’ll learn from the interaction with the more experienced members who will be managing the projects. And, if you do a good job, you’ll earn the respect of the others in the group, giving yourself the opportunity to take a leadership role in the organization. So, get involved and get a head start toward getting the job you want.

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Students find success making ski ropes

and lighter rope that doesn’t snap. It responds like no other out on the market,” Lintzner said. “We originally made one [rope] for ourselves, but when we used to take it to our tournaments, all these skiers thought it was awesome and wanted to buy it,” Gross said. “Realizing that we needed to do something besides both of us majoring in psychology, Mike and I started Hardline.” After talking with several business professors at UCF, Gross and Lintzner obtained a business license and officially started Hardline out of their house last February. Since then, they have sold hundreds of ropes, to not only barefooters but wake boarders and slalom skiers as well. Hardline has persuaded more than 23 professional skiers to switch to their product. Tie names such as Shannon Best, Thomas Horrell, Cobe Mikacic, Randy Harris, and UCF students Todd Benedel and K.C. Martin, all use the Hardline “shoe lace” ski rope. "It is definitely the best rope I have used. It allows me to load the line so I can shoot across the wake to reach my next buoy,” said Brian McDonald, tournament slalom skier and owner of Blue Dot, a new wake boarding clothes line. "It’s like a real cable so it doesn’t stretch when I’m trying serious tricks,” knee boarder and barefooter Bill Collins said. Hardline is an official sponsor of Boardstock ’97, a large two- stop wake boarding competition. Also, it was used in the ’97 Xtreme- Games for barefoot jumping, partly due to other ski ropes breaking under the high resistance landings, Gross said. Gross and Lintzner said they plan to expand Hardline in other areas of the water-ski industry. The two innovative ski pioneers plan to design and manufacture ski handles for wake boarding, barefoot trick skiing, and barefoot jumping. "Plus,” Gross said, “we have in-the-closet projects that we shall not divulge at the time.” “We were never looking for a big money maker, just something to pay the bills,” Lintzner said with a smile. “I have caught a glimpse of the real world, and I’ll do whatever it takes to avoid living with that stress. My goal is to keep Hardline producing the best quality ski merchandise, and to retire as soon as possible.” They appear to be off to a good start for a successful future, considering they already have their product in many ski stores in the United States, and are expanding to Australia. In addition, Hardline is close to merchandising their rope in Overton’s ski catalogue, which reaches more than 800,000 potential buyers. Gross and Lintzner agreed, without the knowledge acquired from schooling at UCF and the drive toward excellence so necessary, but for intensive classes that will make me think in large terms. This class sounds incredible, I hope students take advantage of the experience it is offering,” said Nicole Blume, a UCF junior. Since the areas covered in the class are highly sensitive, some of the exercises will be anonymous. Respect and honesty will be stressed to the students. "We really want to give a voice to the students — let them find their own voice,” Santana said. The class is limited to 20 students and there are currently six enrolled.

UCF 1 of 7 colleges to offer ‘isms’ class

Other colleges involved in this project this year are Central Washington University, University of Arizona, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, University of Michigan, Webster University and Golden West College in California. Jacqueline Cooper, a radio-television major, changed her schedule around so she could enroll in the class. “I think it will be an interesting learning experience,” Cooper said. “I hope to contribute to the class with my own ism — racism, sexism.” “This is why I came to college. Not for the ‘ism’ class necessarily, but for intensive classes that will make me think in large terms. This class sounds incredible, I hope students take advantage of the experience it is offering,” said Walter Morgan, a UCF student. He said the students’ enthusiasm comes from the fact that “there is dishonesty, I will be waiting to be filled are: Internal Auditor, Clubs and Organizations Advocate, Attorney General, Judicial Advocate, and Multicultural and Nontraditional Advocate. Applications are available at the Student Government office on the second floor of the Student Union.

Cabinet prepares for fall

in preparation for the fall, Hastings has met with administrators to learn about past faults so he can improve them. “I think with our staff and a good senate, we can really be in the public spotlight. We can only organize and try to implement, the students’ enthusiasm comes with pride,” he said. Hastings plans to change Student Government’s image. “If there is dishonesty, I will be there to stop it. I will do my best to curb wasteful spending,” he said.

One of the many positions available is for writers. Call today before it’s too late.
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Q: Of all the classes you have taken at UCF so far, which has been your favorite?
2.) Why is this one your favorite class?

BY PETER KUNDIS

1.) Of all the classes you have taken at UCF so far, which has been your favorite?

1.) Human Nutrition.

2.) Aside from just being a very interesting subject for me, Stephanie Norris was both quite approachable and genuinely concerned about her students.

—Stephanie Smith, Senior, Organizational Communication, West Palm Beach.

1.) I would have to say American History 2020.

2.) Although it was a three-hour course, Professor Johnson really did make it very interesting. He helped me to look at history from a very different perspective, and the class was very entertaining too!

—Camil Reyes, Sophomore, Communicative Disorders, St. Petersburg.

1.) Interpersonal Communication, with Mrs. Johnson.

2.) Mrs. Johnson was an incredible professor. The class was based on the interaction and communication between the students. The class gave us the opportunity to develop some lasting relationships with our fellow students, along with learning about the fundamentals of interpersonal communication.

—Amy Atchison, Senior, Liberal Studies, Boynton Beach.

1.) Humanities I.

2.) It was very interesting for me to learn how the Arts and Literature helped to influence the social patterns of cultures, from the different periods of history.

—Joe Liguori, Sophomore, Business, Orlando.

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1.) Most of the classes have been very informative for me. The most interesting class was Women and Politics.

2.) Because it is interesting to learn that, although women comprise over 50% of the US population, there are less than 5% in the legislature. This great imbalance of representation in government means women's issues and problems don't receive the amount of attention that they deserve. I was very impressed with both the intellect of Dr. T.S. Fine and her insights.

—Wajiha R.Khan, Junior, Political Science, Lahore, Pakistan.

1.) Digital Circuits.

2.) I have always enjoyed hands-on electrical circuits, and this particular class provided me with the best training. My professor was quite through, fair, and also very professional in every aspect, which enabled me to enjoy this course even more.


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Ebonic plague sweeps across nation

BY JASON HEIRONIMUS
Opinion Editor

There are very few things Americans can agree on. Apple pie, Uncle Sam. The United States of America. These are all things that may put a bad taste in our mouths, but ideally they are fairly good things. I haven’t seen anyone protesting apple pie, at least not yet. However, like I said, there are far too many things Americans can disagree on.

We are nation with an identity crisis. While diversity is always a good thing and should be applauded in one of our strengths, perhaps too much diversity encourages adversity. It seems as if little, benign “hot topics” get in the way of our progression as a country and as human beings. Almost everyone has a unique perspective on the latest issue of the day. With so many different views it is nearly impossible to find a middle ground. A middle ground is what our country needs, a middle ground is what they will find is that it is just as hard for an ebonies-speaking child to achieve in an English classroom as it is for a child who only speaks Cantonese.

The question as to what is the official language of the United States has been largely debated for years. In states such as Florida, California and Texas the issue is obscured by the overwhelming immigration crisis. Every year Spanish-speaking immigrants come to this country seeking a better life. The problem, however, is that it is very difficult for them to make a smooth transition into a country which relies so heavily upon English as its main language. Now the issue is no longer a language with roots to a foreign country, but rather a new language which seems to have its roots planted firmly in ignorance. Ebonic plague was first originated when African-Americans were brought to the United States through the slave trade, probably this country’s saddest period in history. Because the slaves almost never spoke any English their language became a broken mix between their native tongue and English. At this time they were ignorant of the native speech patterns, so they did what they had to do to survive. Today ebonies is no longer a matter of survival. It is in only proof that there is a breakdown in the American educational system.

However, I can understand someone wanting to speak in every-day life the way they do with their friends. It is a more relaxed tone. It is much more poetic and fluent than our boring, straight English. I have decided that for the rest of my life I am going to speak strictly pig Latin, or Funny Lazy Vernacular English, as the experts like to call it. I feel more comfortable in that dialect, it is how I grew up. In my family’s house we were strictly pig Latin. Sure it made it tougher for me in school, and it will be much tougher for me to get a job when my interviewer is trying to figure out what I am saying. But hopefully people will catch on and eventually pig Latin will be recognized by some school so that my children will be able speak their native tongue in class. I can see it now, “lay av hay an estionque.”

I believe that ebonies-speaking children should be placed in Special Education classes. They are starting school with a decided advantage against them, they don't speak the language. Special Education students have disadvantages which tend to impair their learning ability, an inability to speak English seems to be one of these disadvantages. These students will undoubtedly need special attention in class and most likely will need attention outside of the class as well, assisting the student to properly learn and understand English for his/her benefit.

Parents of these children should feel no shame in placing their children in Special Education. It is not an indication of how intelligent the individual may be, they may be the smartest in the school, it only indicates that they have a small roadblock in their path to getting a quality education.
Feeling 'left' out? Not any more for these lefties

Business etiquette class covers finer points of dining

Holly Jones polishes her resume. Her cover letter looks good. She's settled on what to wear. Then the unexamined assumption: She finds out the job interview will be over lunch. Ugh . . . not the business lunch.

"I was afraid. Of that prospect," says Jones, a student at Widener University, in Chester, Penn. "What do I do?"

Fear was just a few motivating factors for Jones to sign up for a university-sponsored seminar on business dining etiquette.

The instructor: Lynne Tully, owner and founder of The Professional Edge, based in York, Penn. Her skills in the etiquette arena played no small role in helping her to coach the Miss Pennsylvania title in 1997.

But Tully runs seminars on how to put your best foot—or fork—in a business environment.

"I've had people tell me that for their company, the business lunch is a weeding out process," says Tully. "With that in mind, one should expect that . . . it very well could be a test."

As college graduates prepare to enter the work force, many of them face the daunting task of trying to sell themselves to prospective employers while trying to avoid embarrassing themselves.

Tully says students fear the business lunch for one main reason: Dining at fancy restaurants just isn't the norm for today's fast-food generation.

"Students tell me, 'I can go through an entire day and not use a utensil,'" says Tully. "Imagine it. They may eat four apples for breakfast, a burger for lunch and a slice of pizza for dinner. Then all of a sudden they see four, five or six utensils at a business lunch. Let's face it: it's not going to be your comfort level."

To ease student's worry, Tully advises them to remember that business, not food, is the primary purpose of the meeting.

"The conversation is primary, the food is secondary," she says. "If you have food that's not cooked to your liking, it may be best in this situation, to avoid the impulse to send it back. The potential employer could think you're not that person's favorite."

Tully says students usually know they should order within the price range of those they're trying to impress, "but verbally they don't know how to execute that."

The easy solution: "Ask, 'What do you recommend?' I've never been here before," she says. "Whatever they recommend, that's your price range."

Order foods that would be easy to eat, and don't overload it, Tully adds.

"Don't assume that you have to order any appetizers. Don't take a second roll. Never use more than two packets of sugar in your coffee. I also wouldn't expect to see this food," she adds.

"You certainly don't want to sit eating a dessert when everybody's watching you," she says.

"So, do you order a dessert?"

"People usually say, 'I never know how overindulgence is going to be perceived,'" Tully said.

"You come across as desperate, but you never know how overindulgence is going to be perceived."

For Jones, the seminar could not have come at a better time. "I learned a lot more about business etiquette that I didn't know before. Like how to use silverware, how to wait for everyone to sit down and be served to eat," she says.

Jones had the chance to test what she learned at a Business Administration Banquet held a few days after Tully's seminar.

Remembering the cardinal rule to take only one bread roll, Jones grabbed a roll and put down the basket. That was a mistake, she says.

"I remember, 'Oh, my god, you're supposed to ask the person next to you if they want a roll,'" she recalls.

"So I did. And then it got passed around to everybody at the table," adds Jones, laughing.

Here are some additional tips Tully offers would-be hirees:
- "Remember to put the napkin on your lap. A common mistake is not getting in the habit of putting your napkin on the lap. That's one of the first things that gets noticed," Tully says.

- When sitting at a large table, how do you determine which glass is yours? "Do you want to place the roll on the table?"

- Tully offers a useful method to remember this rule of etiquette: F-O-D-D has four letters.

- Meanwhile, the six utensils [at a business lunch] include:

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Trying to follow director Robert Zemeckis is much like tailing an unpredictable hurricane. You don’t know which way it will turn, how far it will go, or how strong it will become. In other words, the track record of Zemeckis is anything but proven. Having won an Oscar in 1994 for “Forest Gump”, Zemeckis returns with “Contact”, a sci-fi drama tailor-made for grown-ups. Adapted from the 1985 novel by the late Carl Sagan, “Contact” is a droll hybrid between “Close Encounters of the Third Kind” and “Communion” (the little-seen sleeper that starred Christopher Walken as author Whitley Streiber whose accounts of alien abduction were widely documented). Yet it is Zemeckis’ undoing that undoes the picture. Thinking it’s safe to revisit the computer FX tactics perfected in “Gump”, Zemeckis retools a few and spits them out intermittently during “Contact’s” lengthy endeavor.

Jodie Foster (in her first screen role since “Nell”) stars as Dr. Eleanor Arroway, an astronomically obsessed scientist who closes shop on her Puerto Rico outpost to set up station at a new, federally-funded New Mexico observatory. There she receives the sound waves from outer space that will change everyone’s ways of thinking. From a suspicious national security adviser (James Woods) to Foster’s sexist mentor (Tom Skerrit) to a writer (Matthew McConaughey), making contact with these math-crazy terrestrials proves to be a labyrinth of spiritual renewal and faith, could get spaced out from the heavy-duty acting demands.

Particularly in trouble are McConaughey whose long locks and southern drawl are off-line with his Christian-author alter ego. Angela Bassett (whose accounts of alien abduction were widely documented) plays Foster’s blind associate. He and Foster save the film from overwhelmingly bad casting decisions.

In the first three, making the middle adventures, “European Vacation” and “Christmas Vacation”, entertainingly enjoyable. But its comic name-sake is nowhere in sight this time around. Low dice numbers strand the cast on the playing table. Chase is up to his old antics as usual, yet age and weight have taken its toll. What he seriously needs is fresh material. Ethan Embry (“That Thing You Do”) plays little son Rusty, bringing his boyhood, comic charm to the role. Dry comedy goes damp at the Hoover Dam, The City of Lights has received better PR before. Skip the desert heat and book your flight to a more meaningful, worthwhile destination. (D-)

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* 1/2 (out of four) C-
2 hrs. 25 min. Rated PG.

Rolling the Dice

“Vegas Vacation”

Cher and Beverly D’Angelo reprise their roles for the fourth time in “Vegas Vacation”, an insipid third sequel to the 1983 hit. National Lampoon has its stamp of approval on the first three, making the middle adventures, “European Vacation” and “Christmas Vacation”, entertainingly enjoyable. But its comic name-sake is nowhere in sight this time around. Low dice numbers strand the cast on the playing table. Chase is up to his old antics as usual, yet age and weight have taken its toll. What he seriously needs is fresh material. Ethan Embry (“That Thing You Do”) plays little son Rusty, bringing his boyhood, comic charm to the role. Dry comedy goes damp at the Hoover Dam, The City of Lights has received better PR before. Skip the desert heat and book your flight to a more meaningful, worthwhile destination. (D-)

Continued on next page
**Honeymoon in Vegas**

Before he left Vegas for frequent flier mileage on board this summer's "Con Air", Nicolas Cage had a memorable blast in Andrew Bergman's "Honeymoon in Vegas". Cage plays a newlywed whose rookie wife (Sarah Jessica Parker) runs off with billionaire James Caan. Cage, garbed in an Elvis outfit, drops in on their plans from a plane. Having sneaked his way into a travelling sky-diving troupe called the Flying Elvises, Cage makes for a hilarious, if passable, impersonation. Bergman's comic hijinks are even better when there's a Presley tune blaring on the soundtrack. This is the first film Bergman did after "The Freshman". Since then he's given us "It Could Happen To You" and "Stripes". Bet safe on Vegas and rent this Bergman jewel. (B+)

**Casino**

Martin Scorsese, America's best and most consistent filmmaker, took an unfair whipping from some critics for what they called a rehash of his earlier classic "Goodfellas". Aside from De Niro and Pesci, screenwriter Nicholas Pileggi, and the usual mafia mayhem, this one's a summer. High rollers De Niro and Pesci cruise the strip while overseeing the ops of a dozen or so gambling meccas. Sharon Stone plays a local moll who falls under the watchful wings of De Niro. Too bad her pimp (a gruesomely James Woods) wants her back. Scorsese again uses violence as a tool, not a weapon. A hoodlum gets the squeeze put on him via a vice. Pesci gets it in the head at bloody batting practice. Longtime Scorsese editor Thelma Schoonmaker provides the rapid cuts, most notably in the film's action and gambling sequences. Like most of Marty's other flicks, this one made my 1995 Top Ten. (A-)

**Leaving Las Vegas**

Writer-director Mike Figgis, the author behind the hideous "Mr. Jones" (the Richard Gere drama from 1993), managed a 360-degree turn-around when he adapted this semi-autobiographical novel for the big screen. A startling, dark portrait of a drunk committed to drinking himself to death in the course of several weeks, "Leaving Las Vegas" gave Nicolas Cage a well-deserved Oscar. He finds some range in a role that's been played all too often in Hollywood. Cage's suffering soul is at the end of his rope. Just dumped by his screenwriting firm, he departs for the City of Lights where he meets a young hooker named Sera (Oscar nominee Elizabeth Shue). Figgis' unsentimental writing will have you touched, while Shue's intimate interviews on camera might lead some to recall Jane Fonda's "Klute" (1971). Never has redemption, love, and addiction been this hard to swallow. Meditative, perceptive work. Film requires patience on part of the viewer. This 1995 release also made my Top Ten. (A-)

**Letter to the Editor**

Insurance policy disturbs international students

Dear Editor,

We, the international students of UCF, are writing regarding a matter which we feel has to be brought to the attention of the UCF community. We are writing about the recent decision of the university to combine the insurance policies of the international students and domestic students.

The State of Florida Board of Regents rules that international students must have health insurance in order to enroll or register in university classes. As a result, all international students have to purchase health insurance that meets the minimum requirements mandated by the state. International students are dropped from classes if we do not have proof of insurance.

For the past two years, the International Student Services office managed to get health insurance premiums at reduced rates and we had hoped that this trend would continue for the 1997-1998 annual year. Unfortunately, the recent decision to combine the insurance of international and domestic students has made the insurance $75 more expensive for international students. The combined health plan means that international students will be paying a higher premium to subsidize domestic students. This is unfair.

To some people $75 is not a lot of money, but for the international students it's a lot due to the monetary exchange rates. Often, we pay more to meet the American dollar.

We have written to the President regarding this, but haven't received any reply or explanation regarding the decision. A few of the administrative staff have also voiced the unfairness of the combined health insurance plan but has fallen on deaf ears. UCF's mission statement that "UCF is committed to the free expression of ideas, the equality of all people and the dignity of the individual" has ironically been abused in this situation.

We hope our concerns have been expressed to the UCF community so that more than 1,000 international students can see the light in this unfair and disturbing situation.

Sincerely,

UCF International Students
Great Art!

- The Tokyo-based theatrical company O'M2, in a performance at the Kitchen in New York City in October, set up 11 mobile pens inside which the audience sat while the 20 cast members stared at them and moved the cages from place to place. The goal, said the New York Times, was "blurring the line between artist and audience, and the ever-popular audience dis-comfort."

- Syrian artist Bul Lee's display at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City in March, which consisted only of revolving fish in sealed bags and glass cabinets, was abruptly pulled by officials after only several hours' display because the ventilation equipment failed. The show was titled "Majestic Splendor."

- In April, Russian performance artist Oleg Kulik opened a two-week show, "I Bite America and America Bites Me," in which he stayed in character as a dog from the time his plane landed in New York City until the time he left town. Kulik holed up in a gallery cage wearing only a dog collar and exhibiting the gamut of dog behaviors and emotions, and visitors could enter the cage to play with him only after putting on protective padding in case Kulik bit them. Kulik has been arrested in three countries for biting his audience.

- In a February show at San Francisco's Capp Street Project building, artist Glen Scator reproduced to exact scale the outside of the Capp Street Project building and the street that abuts it. Scator used 115 tons of gravel, 30 tons of asphalt, and 100 tons of sand and re-created details down to the placement of poster staples on a telephone pole. And sculptor Lowell Davis, who made News of the Weird in 1995 when he burned down his studio and the ventilation equipment failed. The driver of the men's car for following too closely, 32 percent the fault of the driver who stopped his car, and 66 percent the fault of American for putting the signs up (and American was assessed an additional $10 million in punitive damages). The Chicago Tribune reported in December that local convicted felon Frank Evans had fraudulently obtained a credit card under the name and Social Security number of Richard F. Johnson about 20 years ago and had used it regularly without detection since then because he always borrowed modestly and made the minimum monthly payment. A few weeks before the Tribune story was published, Evans shot himself to death with a gun registered in the name of Richard F. Johnson. Former magazine editor Jean-Dominique Bauby, 44, passed away unexpectedly in March, about a week after his memoir went on sale. Bauby had been paralyzed since 1995 (as the result of a stroke) and dictated the entire 137-page book by blinking his left eye according to a code because that was the only part of his body that he could move.

Inexplicable

The New York Times reported in December that Odell Sheppard, a "middle-aged handyman," had just passed his ninth consecutive year of incarceration in Cook County Jail in Chicago, even though he has not been charged with a crime. He was sent to jail for failing to reveal the whereabouts of his daughter Deborah, who was the subject of a child-custody dispute between Sheppard and Deborah's mother, but Sheppard maintains he has no idea where the girl is.

Bottom of the Gene Pool

Toby L. Sanders, 34, was charged with aggravated battery in Carmi, III., in January for chopping off the right middle finger of Lester E. Massey, 35. According to police, each man agreed to let the other chop off a finger, but apparently Sanders reneged after he saw how bad Massey's hand looked. (Police said alcohol was involved in the original agreement.)

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 8306, St. Petersburg, 33738, or Weird@compuserve.com. Chuck Shepherd's latest paperback, "The Concrete Enema and Other News of the Weird Classics," is now available at bookstores everywhere. To order it direct, call 1-800-642-6480 and mention this newspaper. The price is $6.95 plus $2 shipping.)
UCF linebacker Mike Palmer, left, and defensive coordinator Brian Van Gorder will have a huge challenge to tackle this season.

Linebackers looking forward to answering call this season

From PAGE 12

The three agree that preparedness is something the outgoing trio taught them last year. Another quality they say they learned was tenacity.

"They went 100 percent all four quarters, and we see ourselves that way," Palmer said.

"We have to be tenacious," Green said. "The first three games set the pace for the season, and we'll have to show a lot of character and tenacity."

Those three opponents, Mississippi, South Carolina and Nebraska, will show the fledgling I-A Knights no mercy. The linebackers will have to rely on their tenacity and ability to help avoid an 0-3 start to a season that includes other tough matchups.

But the newcomers to the starting lineup will back down to no one.

"We play with a big heart, and we fight until the end," Palmer said. "I feel that nobody is going to blow us out."

Schedule to challenge women

From PAGE 12

the veterans that have been through our current run in conference can bring the younger players along."

Outside of the NCAA play-in, the 1997 schedule includes a challenging opener against perennial powerhouses Duke and Georgia in the UCF Soccer Classic on Aug. 30. The Knights travel to Gainesville on Oct. 3 for a match with Florida. The longest road trip of the year comes when UCF flies to the west coast for games against UC Irvine and San Diego State in late October. The regular season ends at home with Auburn on Nov. 2.

Even with these high-caliber teams, Richter still considers the two regular-season games with TAAC nemesis Florida International, the only team to hold a share of a conference title with UCF (1993), as the Knights' priority during the preseason.

"It gets harder and harder every year to win the conference," she said. "Every game a conference opponent plays against us it is their best game of the year."

linebackers geared up to fill the gaps

By KEN JACKSON
Staff Writer

A message to Golden Knight football fans unless you're real familiar with last year's squad, be prepared to buy a program.

You probably won't recognize the faces at all three linebacker positions.

Gene are John Bryant, Kendrick Thomas, and Nakiia Reddick, last year's starters who leave big shoes to fill. They combined for more than 300 tackles and nearly a third of the team's sacks last year.

The Knights reload their linebacking corps this year with sophomore Dewabrey Devine, junior Mike Palmer, and senior Tommy Green. Each saw limited playing time last year serving as understudies to "JB," "K-Tom" and The Ballhawk.

"All three are capable to hold starting roles," defensive coordinator Van Goether said.

"Getting Dewabrey's weight down is a concern, but they have the capabilities to do what we expect our linebackers to do.

While their ability is not in question, Van Goeder expressed concern about their experience.

"They have now has is limited to certain situations," Van Goeder said.

"They weren't in the game last year when we were trying to get the ball back with two minutes left. They haven't faced every situation that comes up in a game and there are so many.

"There will be a lot of firsts for them this year and that is the concern," he said.

They weren't aware before last season ended they would shoulder a lion's share of the defensive load.

"We knew going into this year we would have a major responsibility in the defense with the role the linebackers play," Green said.

"We know we have big shoes to fill," Palmer said.

"But we should be able to fill them. I don't think the position is the question mark it says it is. Our depth is a problem, but we've become real close as a unit."

Depth also concerns Van Goeder. Despite having junior college players Chris Gano and Rich Batikovski signed, Van Goeder said they are behind in learning the team's defensive schemes.

"Our main goal is to try to be better that last year's linebacking corps," Devine said.

"As far as watching more film than they did, they were key into game situations and on top of our assignments."

See LINEBACKERS, PAGE 11

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Football season tickets to surpass 1996 total

The UCF athletic ticket office said more than 7,000 season tickets have been sold for the 1997, four-game football season. Alyson Barnes, manager of the athletic ticket office, said the 1996 total of just over 7,000 should be surpassed before the end of July.

"The fans are getting excited about Division I-A football," Barnes said. "They just want to get involved in the future of a growing program."

The 1997 season ticket package is $60, $15 cheaper than 1996 because there are four games instead of five.

Last season, UCF averaged 15,433 fans with a year-high of 18,013 attending the first game in Division I-A for the Knights, a 39-32 victory over William and Mary.

1996 UCF Football Home Attendance

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<td>Orlando</td>
<td>18,013</td>
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<td>Samford (Homecoming)</td>
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1997 UCF Football Home Schedule

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NCAA play-in gives women's soccer hope

By DEREK GONSOLIN
Sports Editor

After years of dominance in the Trans America Athletic Conference, UCF women's soccer may finally get a chance to get a shot at the NCAA tournament.

For four consecutive years, UCF has won the TAAC championship. But because their conference lacks an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, the Knights have had to plan for next year rather than play for a national championship.

"One year we beat N.C. State and it came down to us or them for the final bid," UCF coach Karen Richter said. "The selection committee took them and I still can't explain it. We could have won a couple of close games we didn't, but I don't know if it would have made a difference."

In 1997, UCF may not need explanations: an NCAA play-in game between Conference USA and the TAAC will be played Nov. 11. Richter said the team is excited about the opportunity, but she wants it to first focus on qualifying for the conference tournament.

"I wish we had not put the TAAC championship dates on our schedule," she said. "We have a young team and I want the kids to focus on the present. I think we have to earn the conference title before we worry about the NCAA's."

Sixteen of the 23 players on the 1997 roster are freshmen or sophomores. Richter feels the return of junior goalkeeper Alyssa O'Brien (82 saves, 0.89 goals against average), who played every minute at the position in 1996, and seniors Sara Kane (third team All-TAAC selection at forward) and Karen Flizga (coming off knee surgery) have the experience to match last season's 13-7-1 record.

"We'll see how the team gels in the preseason," said Richter, who is currently playing for a women's professional team in Tampa. "We are hoping to get a couple of new faces into the lineup."

See SCHEDULE, PAGE 11