Central Florida Future, July 30, 1997
A year in review: the top newsmakers

Shock rock, campus construction, new SGA administration, football reaches the big time, and more...

By NORA R. KULIESH
Managing Editor

With both the fall and spring semesters over and summer coming to an end, UCF students are taking a look at the past year's events. From a new administration to the protest over Marilyn Manson that encouraged nationwide attention to the excitement over the new campus construction, there have been too many exciting things to forget.

But, as the fall approaches most start to let go of the past and look towards the good things to come.

"The Marilyn Manson hoopla seems so long ago. I guess I am the type of person that just lets go of the past easily because I am too excited about what will happen tomorrow," said junior Stephanie Mills. "I remember what I want to remember and even the things I don't, they creep up when I least expect it - like in the shower or when I'm driving.

The fall semester starts in less than one month, so before you get too caught up in the hustle and bustle, take a look at some of the top stories of this past year since The Central Florida Future began publication under new ownership on Jan. 23.

See stories and photos — Pages 6 - 7

Students struggle to avoid credit card trouble

By SEAN CLAEYS
Staff Writer

Credit card companies take advantage of needy UCF students by charging high interest rates that can double a debt in five months.

As many students have realized, various credit card representatives come on campus during the course of a year. In a year, according to a Master Card representative, thousands of students apply for credit cards, while the majority of those who apply will be granted a card from at least one company.

With so many people receiving credit cards, UCF student Graciela Noriega said jokingly: "UCF should have a course about the harmful effects of credit cards and how to be more responsible with them."

UCF student Karen Brick said credit cards are trouble.

"Many students are not working, but are charging on their credit cards and getting into huge debts," said Brick, who added students will max one card and sign up for another. Students try to alleviate their problems by paying their first card off using their second, yet eventually end up with two maxed-out cards that...

See VISA, Page 3

Cultural Diversity

Students from UCF's multicultural center dance to the "Electric Slide" during their pot luck picnic at Lake Claire, above. The multicultural center's museum features art from around the world. International students, left, from UCF enjoy the art on display.

Did you hear?
Ten stories that weren't fit to print ... until now.

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On the Screen
Entertainment takes a look at the hottest movies of summer's end.

— Pages 8 - 9

Euro-Knights
UCF basketball goes to Europe for two weeks.

— Page 12
MAKING COLLEGE COUNT

Finals week: your advantage

By COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

Two weeks a year. They can be the difference between success and failure in college.

Twice a year, for one week at the end of each semester, you have the opportunity to make a dramatic impact on your G.P.A. Unfortunately, all too often, the "impact" is in the wrong direction and an entire semester of hard work suddenly seems like a tremendous waste of time.

It doesn't have to work that way. While others are "crashing and burning" around you, you can make finals week an experience that can take you up to the next level in your pursuit of stardom.

Here's how:

First, think about finals week as finals weeks. It's a two-week period that starts the Monday before you take your first test. On that Monday, you'll need to figure out how much and when you'll need to study for each test. Plan on at least 1.5 hours per test, and possibly up to 25 depending on a number of factors, including how tough the class is, whether or not the exam is cumulative, and how well organized your study information is from earlier in the semester.

Make an hour by hour daily schedule for the two week period that includes everything from when you'll study for specific tests, to when you'll sleep, eat, and take breaks. Key here is to fill in your calendar starting with the last exam you'll take. From there, plan your time for the second to last test and continue to work your way backwards (third to last test, fourth...). Scheduling the time necessary for each. This approach will prevent you from running out of time and getting completely hammered on your last couple of tests. This, of course, assumes that once you make the schedule, you're going to stick to it.

Remember, quality study time is as or more important than sheer quantity of time spend with your face in a book. Where and when you study can make a huge difference. And finally, this in not a sleep deprivation experiment. You can't function without sleep. You won't think clearly, and quite simply, you won't do well.

If you make good decisions, finals weeks can become a competitive advantage — helping you separate yourself from the pack.

UCF SAA will be accepting applications for the Student Alumni Ambassadors Council (SAAC) starting August 1, 1997.

SAAC is a committee of the Student Alumni Association. This elite group of students will serve as a link between the student body, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of UCF. SAAC's main purpose is the positive promotion of UCF. SAAC members will assist the Alumni Association with events such as Homecoming, reunion, AlumniKnight Outs, alumni campus tours, board of directors meetings, fundraisers and much more.

For more information call 823-5453. You can pick up applications in Administration 340 after August 1. All applications are due Sept. 8.
I feel that the issues have been covered, but some more ways for student involvement should also be targeted. I feel that if there was more of a focus on clubs, activities, and UCF events, the "UCF student" would become both more well-rounded and also participate more in the campus activities.

—Scott Blinkhorn, Sophomore, Communication, Jacksonville

The Central Florida Future has done an adequate job. The information has been fairly interesting. However, more financial aid tidbits and the university calendar should be a consistent part of the newspaper, to ensure that the topics are student oriented. Since, the student body of UCF is composed of people from very diverse cultures, it would be both appropriate and interesting to highlight these different cultures. Maybe highlight a different culture each issue.

—Donna Allen, Senior, Social Work, Cocoa.

Yes. But I would like to see more written about UCF's Engineering department.

—Randy McCoy, Senior, Electrical Engineering, Orlando.

Yes, I would like to see both the improvements and renovations of old campus facilities, and the construction of new facilities covered.

—Said I. Jardaneh, Junior, Political Science, Gainesville.

Yes. I often read the Central Florida Future. It's very educational, and has good motivational stories about fellow students. I also like the ad which have discount coupons for us students. Of course, we can never get enough discounts! A good future topic, I'm sure that would interest other students is, how to convince UCF to actually expand the parking lots. Not only is the campus growing, but the student population is also booming too. It's not a very good thing for you to be late for class, because of parking being such a major task.

—Melinda Ortiz, Junior, Psychology, Queens.

Yes, but I think that the Central Florida Future needs to elaborate more on job-related issues and also upcoming school events.

—Heather Short, Junior, Human Resource Management, Palm Beach.

"The truth you speak has no past and no future. It is, and that's all it needs to be."

—Richard Bach

The class conspectus was somewhat misleading for the incoming freshman who expected an easy "A".

VISA, Mastercard, and AX become some students best friend

"Credit cards can be trouble, but if the students can control their impulses, they can be very helpful," said Noriega.

Many students have credit cards more for a protective cushion than anything else. Credit card company airline ticket promotions allowed for Noriega to fly to her family reunion at a low price.

Tejatanalert never needs to worry about not receiving money on time from her family. And Panarello uses her credit card to buy books for school since her loans are always delayed.

"One good reason for having a credit card is it helps you build your credit so you can qualify for car or house loans when you're older," graduate Greg Bible said.

"If you use them wisely, they can be very helpful. Many students don't resist the temptations and end up in debt that can haunt them for a lifetime."
Ford on cruise control

From PAGE 9

stake. As one chief Pentagon official says, "He's not making this decision as the President, but as a husband and father..." Oldman's gun-wielding gang locks the hostages up in a conference room where they'll kill one every few minutes, or however long it takes to negotiate with hijacker Gary Oldman.

hostages up in a conference room where they'll kill one every few minutes, or however long it takes to negotiate with hijacker Gary Oldman. Unfortunately, Knightro held his head in shame as he was forced to explain the entire afternoon to his fans. Unfortunately, Knightro gave no clear explanation and continued to apologize over and over. In an exciting turn of events, the famed "Chicken," perhaps the most famous of all mascots, called in the middle of the press conference to voice his opinion. The Chicken mounted the highest praise for his prodigy and said: "Even the best of us make mistakes!" Those sage words of advice seemed to be all the press needed to forgive Knightro. In his closing words, Knightro issued this statement: "I know children and fans look up to me and that I have a reputation to uphold. I especially want to apologize to the cheerleaders I jostled. I only hope that they can forgive me. Thank you." You gotta’ love that Knightro!

1. Last August, there was a surprising rate of freshmen who did not initially register for classes. This was the most unprecedented turn of events this school has seen. Initially, it was believed the new freshman class was trying to make a political statement. Freshman Greg Homer said: "Our revolt is for all the starving people out there in the world, because, you know, there's like, a lot of hungry people out there, somewhere. And besides, if my not registering for classes gets one person in, like, Norway or something, a decent meal, then I feel that my sacrifice was well worth it." It turns out the fresh were just confused by the frequency of a "Dr. Stiff" teaching nearly half of the classes offered for the fall semester.

2. A man who calls himself Father Brother has been preaching to passers-by behind the Visual Arts Building and is gaining some respect among the street-preaching crowd and the students. Father Brother seems to have a unique style that sets him apart from the others. Instead of preaching about hell fire and the Armageddon, he preaches of love and respect for one another. Father Brother preaches on his own accord and for the good of "his soul." The only problem students seem to have with Father Brother is that he has a habit of preaching completely naked. His only coverup is a cross hanging around his waist, thank God! When asked why he preaches in his birthday suit, Father Brother replied. "As I am naked I hide nothing from my brothers and sisters. I hold nothing up my sleeve nor in my pocket, only the word of the Lord!"

4. Due to the supposed lack of "good bands" that come to UCF, the Campus Activities Board actually pulled off one of the greatest steals in UCF history. On a complete whim, they hustled the Dave Matthews Band into playing on campus Tuesday. It was a last-minute thing and there was very little planning. Because of the lack of advertising only about 45 students showed to enjoy the show. Dave played a short 45-minute set to the lackluster crowd. The next big-time band to play at UCF will be Winger, the pop rock band that hit big with the song "Seventeen."
Opinion

The top 10 stories you didn't hear about

By JASON HEIRONIMUS
Opinion Editor

We are soon to embark upon another strange and exciting adventure into the world of academia. It is a dark, dank world which does not welcome us with open arms. We must push and shove our way through the crowd to achieve.

However, it would not be right if we did not at first examine our past before we move to the future. Some great philosopher once said: "The keys to our future are found in the past."

I'm sure I misquoted him at least a little bit but he's probably dead now so who cares?

Many newsworthy events took place over the last year that have summed up many different emotions. We laughed, we cried, we scoffed. But what you did not know was that there was a whole world of interesting stories happening right under your nose, which none of the local newspapers chose to cover. We've been out here trying your lucky chance to catch up on all the news that wasn't fit to print. For the sake of the reader and space constraints, we have narrowed it down to the top 10 stories you never heard about.

1. During last Saturday's football game, UCF mascot Knightro seemed to get very disoriented after he stormed the field at halftime. Though the jousting of the cheerleaders seemed to get the crowd even more excited, Knightro was removed from the field by two linemen. There was no explanation as to the behavior of Knightro.

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3. As a charity event that took place Nov. 15, 38 students were taken out of class and given Buick Skylarks and were asked to try and find a parking space as soon as possible. For every minute the students were trying to find a space, $100 was donated to the Guatemalan Lesbians for a Clean Environment Fund (GCLEF). The event was deemed a success by its coordinator, Joe Wilson: "We never expected this big of a turnout. Of course no one is here for the event but it sure crowded with the parking lot so full. We would like to thank UCF for its cooperation and the kids still driving around in the Buicks trying to find spaces. We've been out here for an hour and so far not one person has found a spot. The girls in Guatemala are going to be so pleased!"

4. In a bizarre accident, freshman Jo Buck Twead was violently struck by a car at the crosswalk in front of the Administration Building. The car, driven by senior Billy Hanson, did not make a complete stop at the stop sign and connected with Jo Buck while he was walking. The bizarre part of the story, however, is that neither Billy nor Jo Buck were hurt, only the car. It seems as if there was a severe dent in the right-side bumper where Billy struck Jo Buck. He believes it was his heavy weight that protected him. He weighs nearly 400 pounds. Billy Hanson is now suing for damages his car received.

5. This past week, ground was finally broken on the new parking garage. The silver shovels were brought out and the very first step in the long, arduous construction process was finally put in motion. It was a happy day for students and administration alike. It marked the end of UCF's parking woes and the beginning of a bright future. However, no one expected to find what they did when their shovels were hoisted into the soil. As the fourth shovel was pushed into the ground, a mighty rumble vibrated around the premises. At first it was believed to be a mild earthquake until a huge outflow of pure black Florida oil came bursting out! The land that was originally conceived for a garage is now being considered as a major oil well, and one which UCF would reap the benefits from for years to come.

6. In a scrimmage on Tuesday, our UCF Knights clobbered the University of Florida Gators. Though it was only a scrimmage, the game proved to be an all-out battle with our Knights coming out on top, way on top. The final score was 48-6. The Gators' only score came when quarterback Daunte Culpepper felt bad for the opposing team and simply gave the ball to a lineman. Though the lineman passed out on his way to the promised land.

7. Though Culpepper decided fair and gave the Gators six points, Florida coach Steve Spurrier was later overheard crying hysterically and calling out his "mommy" after the disappointing loss.

8. 64-year-old Clive Simmons shattered UCF's acronym of "U Can't Finish" by finally graduating in the spring of 1997. He was the oldest living continuing student at age 64. He was honored at graduation for his sheer determination and perseverance.

9. Though Clive had to eventually retake nearly three-fourths of his classes, he believes his academic trip has been a strange and enlightening adventure. When asked what he was going to do after graduation Clive responded: "I'm going to start applying.

10. There was no explanation as to the behavior of Knightro. None of the local newspapers chose to cover. When asked what he was going to do after graduation Clive responded: "I'm going to start applying.

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**Dr. Pete Fisher uplifted thousands**

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"He was like a brain surgeon without surgical tools and he could fix broken hearts. There are lots of counselors, but few that are as outstanding a human being as Pete," said longtime friend of the late Dr. Pete Fisher, Eric Yount.

Fisher died suddenly of a brain infection on June 1. He was a political science teacher, founder of UCF’s peer counseling program, founder of UCF’s Lambda Chi Alpha chapter and "the most incredibly sensitive and caring individual!" said Joyce Clampitt, Associate Vice President of Administration and Finance. "He had this incredible ability to make anyone he came in contact with feel very, very special."

Fisher dedicated his life to education and service. He received his doctorate in education administration and was a master’s in counseling education. With those tools he found it possible to touch the lives of all who knew him.
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**M & M — The next administration**

The presidential election proved successful for Keith McDonald and Karen Montague who took office on April 27.

The partnership said the hardest part about running for office was competing with good friends and being able to balance their commitment to run along with their class schedules. But, they did it.

The new president and vice-president took on many responsibilities, including the allocation of their $4.89 million budget. Plans for the fall include creating an executive branch that will be efficient and effective in accomplishing the goals they have for their term.

The next order of business will focus on homecoming as a way to increase school spirit on campus and bring the students and community together.

"We want to get the Orlando community involved as well as our alumni. Right now homecoming caters to Greeks and we want to change that," said Montague.

Provide-A-Ride program is also a goal for SGA. The two hope it can be enhanced as much as possible and are willing to support that program in any way.

"$30,000 is being requested from the budget, and we want to support them as much as possible," said McDonald.

The duo is enthusiastic about their new positions and can’t wait to start making a difference.

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**Richardson dies in crash**

The UCF community was stunned on Aug. 30 when news came that women’s basketball coach Jerry Richardson was killed in an automobile accident.

Richardson, 48, had been the Golden Knights coach since 1993. He was an inspiration to many because of his love of people and his belief that hard work can result in accomplishment and success.

Richardson immediately led UCF to victory, with his first two teams making back-to-back TAAC tournament appearances. In 1995, UCF won the TAAC tournament, earning a berth to the NCAA tournament for the first time in school history. His career record at UCF was 42-68.

Lynn Bria, who was to work as an assistant for Richardson, took his position on an interim basis and was named head coach after the season.

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**SGA, beer, burgers, and more**

Located directly behind Computer Science Building, the new Student Union has made way for a more unified student body.

The building, which includes offices for Student Government and Student Activities Center, conference rooms, a coffee shop, fast food restaurants, a pub and stores, is going to be central for UCF’s campus.

"I won’t have to go downtown to grab a beer or meet up with my friends. I think it will be great for the students who live on campus, too. All they have to do is walk outside the dorm practically," said Muria Freedman, a junior accounting major.

The building was long awaited and there are plans for restaurants and stores to open in the fall, students can’t be more thrilled.

"Whenever I have to go to a meeting or talk to someone in SGA, I feel like our school is starting to look better and better all the time," said Freedman.
the top stories of the school year

Campus survives Manson

The shock rock group Marilyn Manson spawned an explosion of concern and gained national recognition with their April concert at the UCF Arena. Christian groups prayed outside the concert for the “sinners” inside while parent’s stayed at home watching the 11 o’clock news for some horrid details of the night’s event.

The Office of Public Relations was bombarded with over 3,000 phone calls asking to cancel the concert, but the decision was made in favor of upholding the U.S. Constitution.

“As one who has sworn to uphold the fundamental laws of nation and state, I must observe the law’s requirements and resist the temptation to silence constitutionally protected views with which I vehemently disagree,” said President Hitt.

The concert, in terms of shock value, was most likely a disappointment but for UCF it made a powerful statement about the integrity of the university.

Football reaches I-A

The long-awaited move to Division I-A took place for UCF when it kicked off its 1997 season.

The school that played its first game in 1979 on the Division III level had finally reached college football’s big time. The schedule reflected it too.

UCF went on the road against South Carolina, New Mexico, East Carolina and Georgia Tech. Although all four ended in losses for the Knights, nobody can say they were outplayed or outclassed.

UCF finished 16th in the nation in passing offense with 275 yards a game.

Gene McDowell’s string of 10 consecutive winning seasons came to an end when the team finished 5-6, though it finished strong, UCF won four of its final six games with the two losses coming at a combined eight points.

Spreading the word

angry arousal at the student. “His judgmental way is not the way of the lord,” said Heather, a member of the Chi Alpha Christian Ministry Group.

“He’s making religion like a cult,” said freshman Alyson Rollmann.

His quick tongue and loud preaching got him arrested at the Marilyn Manson concert in April, giving his opposition more reason to discredit him. “It is really embarrassing to me that someone who claims to be a good and decent Christian can get himself arrested at this concert,” said Patricia Cole, Manson proponent.

He can still be found in Apollo Circle, wearing a suit, holding a bible and arguing his message with anyone who can get a word in edge-wise.

Tuition increase

The Board of Regents proposed a higher education tax which translates into a 10 percent tuition increase for students.

Students from Florida universities banned together and went to Tallahassee in protest of the increase.

“There are hundreds of people around the state involved in organizing this rally, so we know it will capture the attention of legislators,” said Alan Florez, Director of Student Lobbying for UCF SGA.

Although the rally gained attention, it was not successful enough to influence legislators against the tax.

The increase will not make a substantial difference in tuition, but students are not happy over the swell in class prices.

“So many people go to school and can’t afford it now,” said freshman Katie Tayge.

Somebody bring me some water...

Signs were posted in the Education and Fine Arts buildings the last week in March, warning students, faculty and staff: “Do not drink the water.”

The scare was due to a simple testing procedure that is mandatory after the water pressure drops below 20 pounds per square inch.

After a water pipe in the Education building broke, pressure dropped to zero, and since the water pressure in Fine Arts was not known, precautionary measures were taken with the signs.

Unfortunately, signs were not noticed until some had already consumed the possibly contaminated water.

“I made a pot of coffee and drank a cup before I ever saw a sign,” said Ron Smith, a journalism professor.

The scare was mostly in the warning signs posted around the two buildings and nobody knowing what the problem was.

“It was one of the biggest scares because I had drank the water and for days everywhere I went there were these danger signs. I thought I was going to die,” said Sara Park.

In the end, the broken pipe was fixed quickly and there was no contamination in the water, just a little dehydration around campus.
By DEAN G. LEWIS  Entertainment Editor

Demi Moore plays tough and ready Navy lieutenant Jordan O’Neil who undergoes the rigorous SEAL training to become the first woman Rambo of today’s generation. How timely could the face of our military’s generation firmly planted in Scott’s latest, a female INTEL officer (Moore) “G.I. Jane” be now in the face of our military’s gender prejudices, downsizing, and sex scandals? Pretty timely, so to speak. All these controversies are hit or miss since 91’s generation. How timely could the film’s training sequences, a few of them superbly rendered, and most disturbing since Kubrick’s Vietnam opus “Full Metal Jacket,” the bunch does manage to get a little R&R at a bar where Bad Company’s rock classic “Feel Like Makin’ Love” rambles in the background. Scott even infuses Three Dog Night’s “Mama Told Me Not To Come” into Demi’s hair-levs head. Kudos go to an actress unafraid to clip her locks. Demi has never looked finer. She’s never before looked this masculine.

Supplying the technical melodrama for “G.I. Jane” rests on a hard-to-swallow subplot in which Anne Bancroft, as an influential senator, knocks her way around DOD in a bid to get Demi a starring role in the Pentagon’s premiere-setting “test case” for gender equality within the stiffest ranks of our armed forces. “G.I. Jane” is eerily reminiscent of the much better “Courage Under Fire.” While a bloody knuckle brawl between Mortensen and Demi may have some remembering a similar rank vs. rank fight in Taylor Hackford’s “An Officer and a Gentleman” (1982). “G.I. Jane” prefers to tread on a long road march, succumbing in the end to the moviedom infirmary. Perhaps a smaller, art-house pet project might be more suitable for Scott’s next film. For those who grew up on his “The Duetists,” “Alien” and “Blade Runner,” those were the days.

“G.I. Jane” is scheduled to open in local theaters on August 15.

As ‘Jane’, Demi is standard government-issue

The British Ridley, who’s been hit or miss since 91’s “Thelma and Louise” garnered him an Oscar nomination, scores an intermediate miss with David Tweddy and Danielle Alexandra’s semi-factual story of what could possibly occur if a respected female INTEL officer (Moore) subjects herself to the same rigid combat practices that male recruits have been enduring for years. Viggo Mortensen ("Daylight", "The Indian Runner") is the disgruntled Master Chief in charge of O’Neil’s wild bunch. At first, her male comrades are unwilling to take up arms. Eventually, they come to respect the sweet stench of O’Neil’s guts.

In between the film’s training sequences, a few of them superbly rendered, and most disturbing since Kubrick’s Vietnam opus “Full Metal Jacket,” the bunch does manage to get a little R&R at a bar where Bad Company’s rock classic “Feel Like Makin’ Love” rambles in the background. Scott even infuses Three Dog Night’s “Mama Told Me Not To Come” into Demi’s hair-levs head. Kudos go to an actress unafraid to clip her locks. Demi has never looked finer. She’s never before looked this masculine.

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On the Screen


“Mrs. Brown”

By DEAN G. LEWIS  Entertainment Editor

Superb performances from Judi Dench and Billy Connolly punctuate this somber, powerful BBC production from Britain. Director John Madden ("Ethan Frome") scores an intelligent accomplishment with "Mrs. Brown," a true tale of England’s Queen Victoria’s Dench) who, in 1861, locks herself in isolation and unrelenting grief after the death of her husband Albert (from typhoid. Victoria comes out from her to take charge of her daily chores.

Scripted by Jeremy Bruck, "Mrs. Brown" is straightforward, mature drama. Photographed on location in Scotland and England, the film’s sumptuous details take due care to explore the fragile and potentially isolation and untreatable grief after the divisions below it. Definitely an essay on. Although Victoria comes out from her to take charge of her daily chores.

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Distracted by events, Victoria (Judi Dench) is escorted by loyal servant John Brown (Billy Connolly) in "Mrs. Brown".

"Career Girls"

By DEAN G. LEWIS  Entertainment Editor

British author Mike Leigh completed this flashback-filled comedy-drama days before heading out to last year’s Cannes festival to promote “Secrets and Lies”. In the slight, sometimes effective “Career Girls”, Leigh gives us a thin and forgettable tale of two working-class women whose friendship spans almost a decade of '80s Care records, imperfect men and psychology classes, all while living as roommates in a flat upstairs from a Chinese food stand. Katin Cardidge (“Breaking the Waves”) stars as Hannah, a manic neurotic who adores the heavy literature of English novelist-poet Emily Jane Bronte. The nervous Hannah pours hits and pieces from “Wuthering Heights” on her newfound roommate and pal Annie (Lynda Steadman). In Bronte’s words lies the key to Annie’s hidden bliss.

Unlike “Secrets and Lies” there is no real plot in “Career Girls”. Yet again, Leigh works his narrative into numerous improvisational scenes, most notably the ones with Ricky (newcomer Mark Benton, in an authentically-tailored pair), a classmate and heroine of Annie’s. His prolonged verbal pansies, eclipsed by an unusual stammer, mar any communication between his defenseless male self and the hothead ladies he hangs around with. They talk up hustler, most of which meander in unconventional riffs towards the teary farewell at a train station. Just as our two “Career Girls” must say goodbye, we must bid our own. Nothing really gained or lost.

"Career Girls” is scheduled to open at the Enzian theater on August 22.

"Mrs. Brown”

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By DEAN G. LEWIS  Entertainment Editor

British author Mike Leigh completed this flashback-filled comedy-drama days before heading out to last year’s Cannes festival to promote “Secrets and Lies”. In the slight, sometimes effective “Career Girls”, Leigh gives us a thin and forgettable tale of two working-class women whose friendship spans almost a decade of '80s Care records, imperfect men and psychology classes, all while living as roommates in a flat upstairs from a Chinese food stand. Katrin Cardidge (“Breaking the Waves”) stars as Hannah, a manic neurotic who adores the heavy literature of English novelist-poet Emily Jane Bronte. The nervous Hannah pours hits and pieces from “Wuthering Heights” on her newfound roommate and pal Annie (Lynda Steadman). In Bronte’s words lies the key to Annie’s hidden bliss.

Unlike “Secrets and Lies” there is no real plot in “Career Girls”. Yet again, Leigh works his narrative into numerous improvisational scenes, most notably the ones with Ricky (newcomer Mark Benton, in an authentically-tailored pair), a classmate and heroine of Annie’s. His prolonged verbal pansies, eclipsed by an unusual stammer, mar any communication between his defenseless male self and the hothead ladies he hangs around with. They talk up hustler, most of which meander in unconventional riffs towards the teary farewell at a train station. Just as our two “Career Girls” must say goodbye, we must bid our own. Nothing really gained or lost.

"Career Girls” is scheduled to open at the Enzian theater on August 22.
Ford not in full command aboard ‘Air Force One’

By DEAN G. LEWIS
Entertainment Editor

In “Air Force One” President Harrison Ford kicks butt. He's a new kind of action hero. Served in Vietnam, the guy has a medal of honor. As Commander-in-Chief James Marshall, Ford uses his same old charismatic star appeal we've seen a dozen times before. Reality, his President is one-dimensional, a survivor who's been in stickier moments than this. When a militant group of terrorists, headed by the ever-memenacing Gary Oldman as Korshunov, somehow hijacks Marshall's uneventful life, the guy has a medal of honor. As Commander-in-Chief James Marshall, the guy has a medal of honor. As Commander-in-Chief James Marshall, the guy has a medal of honor.

ON THE SCREEN

America's stance on terrorism. There will be no negotiations whatsoever. Once Marshall's travelling quarters are abruptly taken hostage, he faces the irony of his speech. Should he bargain with Oldman's loonies or not? Is it morally right for the head of the country to give in to the demands of Cold War revolutionaries? The situation gets tight when Marshall's wife (Wendy Crewson) and daughter (Liesel Matthews) happen to be on board. Their lives he must protect at any cost. Or should he?

The married man, thinking adultery, accepts a discounted offer by one of the staff members at the studio. In no time he'll learn all the foot-stompin' steps to such dances as the rumba and swing. And where is one of our lovelier routines we proudly call the tango? Nowhere in this film. "Shall We Dance?" is virtually comprised of one dance sequence after another. The steps get tiring after awhile. A lazy plot involving a detective and his reporter-photographer derails the picture, slows it down to an almost complete stop, and proves why certain generic narratives, if not written with care and intelligence, can make a story all the more corny than it actually is.

I am stumped at the widespread acclaim in recent weeks for "Shall We Dance?" Universal appeal to me means run-of-the-mill, seen-it-before fluff. This film is that. There's no substance in it. The last dance is near.

In Japanese with English subtitles.

"Shall We Dance?" is set to open at the Enzian theater on August 6.

By DEAN G. LEWIS
Entertainment Editor

Samuel L. Jackson plays a Brooklyn high school teacher who, after being stubbed a dozen times by a vengeful student, goes on leave in L.A. only to step back in the classroom when a substitute position opens up. In "187" (the police code for homicide), director Kevin Reynolds ("Waterworld") goes back to basics with a much smaller budget. Are the results better? Not really.

In the press notes, Reynolds said that, after his "Waterworld" debacle, he desired to make a film in which he could concentrate only on acting and directing. No big budgets, effects or other hootheads whose gang affiliations make life a living hell for Jackson; we have John Heard ("Decoding") in a follow-up instigator at the end of his rope; we have a female interest (and co-worker) for Jackson; but mostly, we have people who are not real for one second. No matter how hard we try to believe, these caricatures are as real as those bod­

© Courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Hijack mastermind Korshunov (Gary Oldman) and the President (Harrison Ford) confront each other in “Air Force One”, now playing in area theaters.

© Courtesy of Miramax Films

The dance floor begins to shuffle for Masayuki Suo's "Shall We Dance?"

“Shall We Dance?”

By DEAN G. LEWIS
Entertainment Editor

Japan goes ballroom in “Shall We Dance?”, a saccharin tale of longing, loneliness, and love. A workaholic executive feels the pressure of the repeated routines in his uneventful life. One night on his way home from the office, he takes the train that passes by a private dance studio. Expensive lessons are offered for beginners. He follows the bright neon sign inside where a beautiful dance instructor quietly teaches her students. She's serious about the craft, having already suffered humiliation years ago when she and her partner inadvertently collided with another couple.

The married man, thinking adultery, accepts a discounted offer by one of the staff members at the studio. In no time he'll learn all the foot-stompin' steps to such dances as the rumba and swing. And where is one of our lovelier routines we proudly call the tango? Nowhere in this film. "Shall We Dance?" is virtually comprised of one dance sequence after another. The steps get tiring after awhile. A lazy plot involving a detective and his reporter-photographer derails the picture, slows it down to an almost complete stop, and proves why certain generic narratives, if not written with care and intelligence, can make a story all the more corny than it actually is.

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© Courtesy of Miramax Films

The dance floor begins to shuffle for Masayuki Suo's "Shall We Dance?"
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Central Florida Future • 10
Europe trip should prove interesting for young players

From PAGE 12

Assistant coach Don Burgess, who excelled at Radford just a few years ago, suited up so the team could scrimmage. When D'Quartis Stewart had to sit out the second half of practice because of back spasms, Speraw filled in, putting his spin on the role as player/coach by knocking in the first day of practice in going into the season. We still want to get better down his lone three-point attempt, filling in, putting his spin on the 46 percent of the time.

"It's a great opportunity for some guys to step to the forefront and take up some of the leadership roles, and step up defensively," Speraw said.

"We also need to see who is going to go step up offensively. Who is going to want the ball at the end of the game? Which players are going to step up and move their game up a notch? This will provide an early opportunity to get some answers."

Jones eager for regular season

From PAGE 12

Jones comes in with a reputation as a slashing scorer. He averaged 9 points a game as a sophomore. but has improved his game since. It's been pick-up games and scrimmages for Jones, who will miss out on the upcoming trip to Europe because the trip is relegated to include only the members of last year's active roster.

"It's unfortunate that I can't play, but for my teammates it's going to be a good experience. They get to play with older professionals. When the season starts it will help us as a team.

Jones lists the improvement of the team as his main goal. In fact, the main reason he made the trek to Orlando, leaving behind everything. "It's hard because of back spasms, Speraw said. "We're going to step up and move their game up a notch."

"I expect a lot of growth from our team," Crossman said.

"The punter position was not a strength of last year's defense. Crossman hopes that if they have to drive 70-70 yards, they have to give the offensive unit some time to make a mistake."

"More plays also gives the opponent a chance to call up their playbook," Carter said.

"That's a big goal, to eliminate those this year." Yet, Crossman's attention is not just on the coverage units. The Golden Knights have to replace multi-talented Charlie Pierce, who held the placekicking and punting duties the last four years. He accounted for 57 points kicking and a 44-1-yard punting average last year.

Junior Fred Waczewski, an Orlando native from Cypress Creek High School, will take over as placekicker full time. He earned kickoff duties late in his freshman year and held them all last season.

"Fred has a good leg, and we are confident and comfortable with him, despite some spring injuries," said Crossman, who added Waczewski needs more reps in game situations. In his two years at UCF, Waczewski has only one field goal attempt. But he showed off his leg in last summer's Black and Gold game by connecting on a 54-yard attempt.

The punter position was not won outright in the spring. The incumbent, Shane Hargert, signed by UCF out of Northwest Miss. CC, has shown brief flashes of brilliance but has shown inconsistent field vision.

"Hargert and Merrick Buscher, a Division II transfer, are fighting for the position. But neither have been in UCF game situations, either," Crossman said. The rest of the special teams players are proven veterans. Senior Scott Karalius will return at snapper. UCF also signed Mike Hedge, one of the state's top high school long snapper prospects, out of Clearwater.

Junior Ezidore, a backup wide receiver, returns as the holder.

"I have faith in those guys putting the ball where its supposed to be," Crossman said.

"If something happens, it won't be because of the snap or hold.

Told Cleveland will again return kicks. Cleveland returned 16 kicks last year for a 23.4-yard average, including a 93-yard touchdown return against Samford. Many opponents chose to keep the ball out of his hands by kicking away from him or putting the ball deep in the end zone. Sophomore running back Eddie Mack will share kickoff duties.

"Cleveland will also split time in punt returns," Crossman said.

"They get to play with our team," Crossman said. "I've won every game I've been close to where I've been. It will help us as a team."

Cleveland will also split time in punt returns, said Crossman. "I've won every game I've been close to where I've been. It will help us as a team.

"I can help the waiting game for Jones. When he comes back after being unable to finally decide to play in the waiting game for Jones. When he comes back after being unable to finally decide to play in the...
Impatient Jones longs for his turn

By TONY MEJIA
Staff Writer

Jones, a 6-5 guard from Milwaukee, Wisc., transferred from the University of Minnesota following the '95-'96 season. He was ineligible to play last year, being forced to sit the season out in compliance to the NCAA transfer requirement, which forces a player to sit out a season after transferring.

"It hurt me and Bucky [Hodge, a transfer from Georgia Tech] to watch the team struggle last year. We knew we could go out and help our teammates win games, but weren't eligible to do so," said Jones. "It helped that I practiced with the guys last year, so I know how they play and they know what type of player I am. When I step in it may take some time to get everything clicking but the faster we get into it, the better we'll be."

See JONES, Page 11

Basketball takes game to Europe

By TONY MEJIA
Staff Writer

The '97-'98 UCF men's basketball team is looking to take its game to another level this season. With all but one player returning from last season to join a solid group of newcomers, the Knights are well on their way to achieving that goal. If anything, they'll at least be taking their game to another continent.

UCF will take its game overseas to play five to seven games against European pro teams in Southern France, the Italian Alps, and southern Switzerland. The team departs on Aug. 6 and returns on the 19th, the day before classes start. Last year's active roster will make the trip, except for leading scorer Harry Kennedy, whose eligibility has expired. Also not making the trip will be this year's newcomers, Mark Jones, Bucky Hodge and Beremi Simms.

"This is something we pursued. About a year ago we started talking about going overseas. We got a feel for it, and when the NCAA allows a trip out of the country every four years, this is something that hasn't been done here in the past because of financial reasons. Luckily we are fortunate to get to take part," said Coach Kirk Speraw.

UCF is allotted 10 days of practice before the trip, and the Golden Knights got an early jump on things, on Sunday. Everyone is extremely excited about the trip, and at the thought of being up and practicing while the competition sleeps.

"There are only positives out of this. We get 10 days of practice we wouldn't normally have, and we're playing competition that's really good," said Speraw. "Then, of course, there is the experience of going out of the country, which the team should enjoy, so we're really looking forward to the experience.

Only nine players were able to take part in the inaugural practice, as none of the newcomers are cleared by the NCAA. Also missing was Joe Cooper, who is attending to personal affairs, and senior guard Chad Steckline, currently rehabbing after knee surgery.

"Right now, it hurts to play with the knee ailments. I had a hole in my femur bone I didn't know about, and it bothered me all last year, which is why I never got on track," said Steckline. "I'm looking forward to doing some sightseeing on this trip, and hopefully getting a couple of minutes of playing time here and there. I'm just trying to get back to being healthy."

See EUROPE, Page 11

Field position is a 'special' job

By KEN JACKSON
Staff Writer

The loose pre-season All-America candidate on the UCF football roster sits impatiently on the bench, watching the team's first practice. He's used to being in control.

Another year, same scenario: Golden Knight guard Mark Jones remains unable to play.

"I'm a basketball fanatic so it's difficult to see my teammates practice without me, but hopefully come the first exhibition game I'll be able to play," Jones said. "I have been just watching for over a year though, so I guess I'm getting used to it.

UCF Coach Kirk Speraw directs practice on Sunday in preparation for the Aug. 6-19 trip to Europe.