Culpepper snubs NFL for UCF

By JEFF CASE
Staff Writer

"I've had a lot of factors to consider in my decision of what to do next season, and I am going to stay at UCF for my senior year," said Culpepper over the conversation accompanying his decision. "This program is building so fast that it probably needed me more than the NFL needed me."

The decision came after weeks of question dodging by Culpepper, his teammates and the UCF coaching staff whether Culpepper would forego his senior year and enter the 1998 NFL Draft.

"My mother told me over since I was little, I pretty much made good decisions," Culpepper said. "Even when I came to college, she told me that any decision I made [about the NFL] she'd support me 100 percent."

"It was also very important that I got to talk to coach Kruzcek. I look up to him and he's given me some great advice and with the things he heard from the NFL, it was probably best that I stay."

"It was obvious to me and anyone who knows the situation that it is best for me to stay. I probably need another year to hone my skills and become a better player."

Kruzcek, a former NFL quarterback for the Pittsburgh Steelers and Washington Redskins, said Culpepper's decision will only lengthen his NFL career.

"When I talked to him about honing his skills, it's mental things at the line of scrimmage," Kruzcek said. "I just felt [staring] gives him a bigger advantage."

Accusations fly over GLBSU funding

By OLIVIA K. CURNOW
Managing Editor

Although the Student Government senators passed 20 bills in the first hour of their meeting, they spent more time discussing funding for the Gay Lesbian Bi-Sexual Student Union (GLBSU).

GLBSU requested funding to host a Gay Singled Out Event and to bring speaker Chastity Bono on campus, which would cost $2,500.

To learn more about GLBSU, see Page 3

Sororities raise money for scholarships

By NATALIE NATALE
Staff Writer

Every Tuesday at 3 p.m., seven delegates from various sororities meet to discuss issues concerning Greek life. These women show dedication to their sororities and devotion to unifying the Greek system. Along with discussions about rushing new members, pledging, scholarships and housing, the National Panhellenic Conference (NPHC) is committed to service.

On Oct. 26, the NPHC hosted its annual philanthropy event, Trick-or-Treat on Greek Street.

For a $3 donation, parents brought their children to Greek Park to trick-or-treat at the sorority and fraternity houses. Sororities and fraternities supported the event by providing candy, cakewalks, face painting, costume contests and haunted houses for the children. The event raised more than $2,000 for Panhellenic's Philanthropy, the Orlando Crisis Nursery.

See CONFERENCE, Page 5

Teleconference connects colleges to discuss campus crime

By KELLY BRYANT
Staff Writer

The UCF police and housing departments in conjunction with the University of Vermont hosted a teleconference on campus safety in the Student Union on Nov. 17.

The two-hour discussion was televised from Burlington, Vt., and included a panel of seven campus crime officials from all over the country. Viewers were encouraged to either fax in their comments or use a toll free number provided by UCF to speak out on various crime concerns.

The topics ranged from explaining statistical campus crime information to underreporting by college administrators.

Bernie Plaskoff, the dean of campus life at UV, said he feels criminal activity at universities is inevitable because campuses are not sheltered from ordinary community problems. "A college campus is a microcosm of the greater society," Plaskoff said. "We have the same problems as the rest of the world has. People bring these societal problems in when they attend the school."

This inevitability is not to say precautions cannot be taken to limit the number of crimes committed at colleges. The board members agreed that schools have come a long way in making universities safer places for students and guests.

See KNOWLEDGE, Page 5

Unhappy holidays

Thanksgiving is a waste of time.

By JEFF CASE
Staff Writer

The Rainmaker
A review of the latest Grisham film.

By DAVE HOLT
Staff Writer

Seniors say goodbye
Knights defeat No. 29 Toledo in season finale.

By MIKE MARSHALL
Staff Writer
Gunshots ring in the night in front of SAE house

By ANNEMARIE MONTALI
Staff

Police were called to the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house in response to gunshots. A maroon Cadillac with three people inside stopped in front of the SAE house and pulled out a shotgun and a 9 mm handgun from the trunk.

One suspect fired two rounds into the air with the 9 mm. The three people got back into the car and left the scene at about 10 p.m. on Nov. 15. Witnesses were not able to give police a description of the suspects.

In other reports from the UCFPD:

- Quoc Vuong, 21, was arrested for burglary after police responded to a report of battery involving the man. After running a background check on Nov. 15, police discovered a warrant was out for Vuong’s arrest in Seminole County for burglary and petty theft.

- Norman Thornley, 52, was arrested for driving under the influence when police stopped Thornley after observing his car straddling lanes and driving 12 mph in a 25 mph zone.

Officers reported that Thornley smelled of alcohol, was unsteady on his feet and had blood-shot eyes. Thornley was placed under arrest after failing the field sobriety tests given to him and taken to the DUI center on Nov. 16.

- Dori Ware, 22, reported she was sitting in a cubicle on the third floor of the library when a person who was sitting behind her, reached over and put his hand under her coat, which was thrown over the back of her chair. Ware said she felt something and turned to find the person with his hand in her bag and attempting to take her coat. When Ware yelled, the person and another male ran out of the library on Nov. 17. Ware is willing to prosecute.

- Dr. Karen Verkler, who teaches educational foundations, reported a theft from the Education Building. Verkler left her sweater on her chair and locked her office door at about noon on Oct. 6 and noticed it was missing 2 to 3 days later.

On Nov. 17, Verkler left her office and returned a few hours later to find a picture had been moved. Verkler believes an unauthorized person has taken a key decal from the rear window of her car. There are no suspects or witnesses at this time.

- Mark Rawls, 31, was arrested for driving with a suspended license and being in possession of cannabis. Rawls was pulled over by police for having a broken tail light at about 1:15 a.m. on Nov. 14.

When Rawls said he did not have his license, officers ran a check on him and discovered his license had been suspended. After being placed under arrest, Rawls’ car was searched, and police found cannabis and other drug paraphernalia. Rawls was taken to Orange County Jail where he was booked.

- A banner was reported stolen by Jason Lewis, 21. The sign was placed on University Boulevard by the Campus Activities Board office on Nov. 6 and was noticed missing on Nov. 11. The banner was black and yellow and read “The Students Would Like to Welcome Back All Alumni to UCF.” It was valued at $120. Lewis is willing to prosecute.

- Mike Ruggieri, 20, reported that someone had spray painted miscellaneous words on the west side door of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity house. There are no suspects or witnesses at this time. The fraternity is willing to prosecute.

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11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
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Midnight Breakfast
Brunch
UNIVERSITY DINING ROOM
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GREAT ESCAPES
FAST BREAK

Mon. - Sun. 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
9:30 p.m. to Midnight
Midnight to 5:00 p.m.
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**DECEMBER 8 - DECEMBER 14**
CROSSROADS CAFE
KNIGHTS’ PANTRY
GREAT ESCAPES
FAST BREAK

Mon. - Thurs. 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
5:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**THE KNIGHTS PANTRY**

On Behalf Of Our Staff...
Thank You For Your Business
Over The Fall Semester!
Have A Safe And
Happy Winter Break!

Central Florida Future • 2
Club offers support for students uncomfortable with ‘coming out’

By JAMES COMBS
Staff Writer

The Gay/Lesbian/Bi-sexual Students Union (GLBSU) is an organization that is not well-known on the UCF campus but it has existed since 1976.

The GLBSU is willing to lend a hand to help the Orlando community.

The organization has done volunteer work for building houses for the poor. It has held food drives for the poor and it helps the Gay and Lesbian Community Services by assuring people on the telephone in time of crisis.

Faculty advisor Ken Kazmerski said GLBSU is moving in a positive direction with its increasing number of members. However, he said he feels the GLBSU is still discriminated by Student Government.

“I think they have a hard time understanding that a lot of the things we do is part of our culture,” Kazmerski said. “They seem to think that the things we do are scandalous.”

Recently, SG voiced opposition about funding GLBSU for an event that was to take place during Les Bi Gay Awareness Week. The opposition concerned whether the game would be open to students who were not homosexual.

“We said if they wanted to have a heterosexual part of that event it would be fine with us,” Kazmerski said. “But if they were doing a dating game, they would never think of having a homosexual couple.”

Kazmerski said SG wants to eliminate its guest speaker for its Les Bi Gay Awareness Week, Chastity Bono.

“SG feels Bono, the daughter of Sonny Bono and Cher, does not appeal to the entire campus,” he said.

“If Pamela Anderson came on campus, I’m sure they would fund money for her,” Kazmerski said. “I think the fact that Chastity is a lesbian makes people opposed to her making an appearance on campus.

SG pro-temore James Barnard said Bono is more political than educational.

“We’re not up there trying to bash any club,” he said. “We’re trying to be diligent to follow any rules. We’re not there to fund one side, we’re there to fund both sides.”

Barnard mentioned an instance at the University of South Florida when a political speaker was brought to campus.

“We offer a place of belonging to those who otherwise feel excluded because of sexual orientation,” Kazmerski said. “We are a place of self-discovery that is free from the threat of judgement.”

The second goal is to promote mutual sensitivity between the heterosexual and homosexual communities at UCF and in the Orlando community, he said.

“We work very hard to bridge the gaps of misinformation between cultures,” Kazmerski said.

GLBSU has two events each year.

One event is called “Light in the Closet,” which takes place every October. It is a celebration of coming-out day. This year the event took place on the steps of the Orlando City Hall.

During the event, GLBSU had its flags out and had speakers who shared their coming-out stories. It also had members of the Parents and Families of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) spoke to the crowd.

In addition, a chorus sang various songs. Kazmerski said they usually have a Disney comedian who adds to the entertainment. It also had visual candles as a memorial for those who are afraid to come out of the closet.

“We always have a major turnout for this event and the whole community was very supportive with the exception of a few prank calls,” Kazmerski said.

GLBSU’s second event is the Les Bi Gay Awareness Week, which takes place in April.

During this event, the GLBSU will display books, art and culture regarding homosexuality in the library. The club also will have an exhibit in the UCF Bookstore where it will display a manuscript wearing a T-shirt that promotes its cause.

In addition, GLBSU invites guest speakers to appear toward the end of the year.

One year, the guest speaker was Keith Meinhold, who was the first gay soldier tried under the “Don’t ask, Don’t tell” policy.

GLBSU also participates in Gay Pride Month every June. Kazmerski said in the past years the club has led gays in marching parades and proudly displayed its banner.
Muslim students host an inter-faith forum

By PETER KUNDIS
Staff Writer

This past week was designated as "Islamic Awareness Week" by the UCF Muslim Student Association. On Nov. 19, the UCF Muslim Students Association hosted an inter-faith dialogue between local religious leaders. It was originally intended to be a three-way discussion between representatives of the Jewish, Christian, and Islamic religions, but unfortunately the scheduled Jewish speaker was unable to attend. Represented at the dialogue were, Imam Muhammad Musri, of the Islamic Society of Central Florida, and Michele Machado, of the First Baptist Church of Sanlando. Mastafia Saeed, the president of the Muslim Students Association, moderated the dialogue.

"Family Values," and how they are treated by each of the represented religions was the focus for this dialogue. The dialogue was a very non-confrontational and pleasant way for all to discuss the many differences and essentially highlight the similarities of these different religions. Each of the speakers was allotted about 25 minutes to express his/her particular views on the relevant issues of the importance of marriage, the decline of moral and spiritual values in the West, homosexuality, sin and forgiveness. Also touched upon during the dialogue were the specific doctrines that are followed by these two religions. Both speakers took turns answering questions from members of the audience.

Eleven students gathered from NFL scouts and scouting combines rated Culpepper as a late first or second-round selection.

"General managers of NFL teams, the scouting combines and NFL scouts from individual teams know where Daunte is rated [this year]," McDowell said. "If he comes out [next year] and is a legitimate frontrunner for the Heisman Trophy next year, and has another great year and wins that trophy, his ranking will go up substantially.

"If Daunte stays healthy, will have a chance to be not only the first quarterback taken, but the first pick in the NFL draft, which means that his initial signing bonus will be way above what it could [have] been this year. I'm not going to make any prediction about winning any record next year. But, I think we will have an outstanding football team next year and we are whole lot better football team with Daunte than without Daunte.

By remaining for his final year, Culpepper said he hopes his success will improve recruiting for future UCF squads. "I can't get caught up in all the outside stuff outside of football (the Heisman race)," Culpepper said. "It's great that people think highly of me, but I still have to go out and keep my focus on whatever I'm doing, playing football. That's the most important thing.

"I want to have a winning I-A season here at UCF because it is so important for that to happen for [good] recruiting. I think that if we have a winning season and the team does well, I think everything else will fall into place."
Knowledge is power to fight crime

From PAGE 1
aid to those who are victims. For example, UCF has a wide array of victim service programs. Educational speakers are available for lectures on sexual assault, prevention, domestic and relationship violence, victimization and other pertinent college topics.

UCF offers counsel from the University Judicial System, and Victim Advocates are on-hand 24 hours a day to help students in need. Rosalind E. Andreas, a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin, said she thinks colleges are doing a remarkable job with crime prevention, especially since the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act was passed. This act requires universities to report crimes by distributing statistics to students and faculty. Colleges are also required to have policies on how to handle a rape victim and prevent sexual assault.

"It provides us with the opportunity to give people programs provided by campus security," Andreas said. "It also encourages schools to form services dealing with hate crimes and sexual assault. Teams across campuses join together to prevent these things from happening."

There are more campus crime prevention organizations than ever before. The International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators and Security on Campus Inc. (SCI) are two examples of how far campus crime prevention has come in the past 10 to 15 years. "The same things were happening on campuses 15 years ago but it was all going unreported," said Lee Liggett, a consulting attorney in Houston, Texas. "Now students know where to go for help and there's a lot more of it out there."

SCI is trying to get the Accuracy of Campus Reporting Act passed through Congress. The act would help get a better look at what is really happening on college campuses and how to prevent crimes from occurring. Right now, there is some discrepancy with the way schools are reporting their crime figures.

While one college may include crimes that only occurred directly on campus, another school may take into account crimes that happened half a mile off school grounds. Daniel Carter, vice president of SCI, said she feels knowledge is power concerning crime. "There are much greater risks if you are unaware," Carter said. "Students always think it is not going to happen to them."

Students are encouraged to use the programs offered by the Victim Advocates and may discuss these campus crime topics on an Internet chat room located at listserv@list.uvm.edu.

Conference impacts campus

From PAGE 1
Greek community.
Each delegate gave weekly reports of how many As and Bs students earned on papers and tests. Kappa Delta won the contest and a pizza party. "With all the social and philanthropic obligations, it's often hard to focus on academics, but UCF's Greek system always manages to make scholarship a priority," said Amy Aichison, Panhellenic scholarship chair.

As evidence that NPHC has made a significant impact on the campus, UCF's Greek system was rated No. 1 in Florida by Florida Leaders Magazine.

Panhellenic is derived from the Greek "pan," which means all, and "hellenic," which means Greek. Established in 1902, the National Pan-Hellenic Council has 26 active sororities. In addition, it will unite predominantly African American sororities.

Chi Omega will join the NPHC spring. "As a founding sister of Alpha Xi Delta, I am very excited about Chi Omega coming to UCF," said Beth Eschenberg, a Panhellenic delegate. "They will be a great asset to our school and community."

The 1998 officers for the NPHC include: President Happiness, Kappa Delta; Vice President of Risk Management Jen Sardone, Kappa Delta; Vice President of Rush Kyle Wiedma, Alpha Xi Delta, and Director of Chairs Kelly Keefe, Delta Gamma.

The secretary and treasurer will be announced on Nov. 25.

‘What are you afraid of?'
Fariello

From PAGE 1
nature of the speaker.
"I think the issue here is fear," Sen. Dominic Fariello addressed the senate. "What are you afraid of? These are students. I don’t care what they represent. They’re not doing anything wrong, why not fund them?"

Sen. Cheryl Baum agreed with Fariello.
"If the senate is voting based on personal bias and prejudice, then we have then broken the Code of Ethics, which we as senators have written and are required to follow," she said. "If we don’t pass this, that’s discrimination on our part."

The senate did pass the GLBSU bill with Turner in favor of it. Turner then made a motion to reconsider the vote and put it on the next meeting’s minutes for discussion.

According to Robert’s Rules of Order, the purpose of the motion is to prevent a temporary majority from taking advantage of low attendance at a meeting where a vote may have opposition by most of the community.

Pro-tempore James Barnard said only those who vote in favor of the bill can favor this kind of motion.

“When you have death hanging over your head, then you talk to me about fear," he said. "I’d rather vote for a speaker who talks about what gay students go through rather than someone who is such a political activist."

This issue will be discussed further at the Dec. 4 senate meeting.
LEAD STORIES

- In December 1996, Phillip Johnson, then 32, of Johnson Bottom, Ky., shot himself in the left shoulder with his .22-caliber rifle, "to see how it felt," he told ambulance personnel. On Oct. 2, 1997, an ambulance crew was again called to Johnson's home, where John was bleeding from another left-shoulder shot fired by a .22-caliber rifle. A source told the Inez Mountain Citizen newspaper that John said the December shooting "felt so good," he had to do it again.

- The government of Italy revealed in September that it had recently asked a court in Rome to take jurisdiction of a lawsuit it plans to file against Yousef al-Molqui, who was convicted of the 1985 Achille Lauro hijacking and murder. The govern­ment says when Al-Molqui failed to return to an Italian prison from a pass last year, he embarrassed the country, and now it wants to sue him for the harm to its international image and for betraying the trust of jail officials. (Al-Molqui is still at large.)

- At the Vatican's request, Brazil's leading religious artist, Claudio Pastro, is at work giving the image of Jesus Christ a makeover designed to update it for the third millennium. According to an October Knights-Biblieker news service report, the new image will be of a serene and victorious Jesus (rather than a suffering one) and will have traces of Asian, black and Indian features in his face.

THE LITIGIOUS SOCIETY

- Daniel Lima filed a lawsuit in New Britain, Conn., in May against the Minshing-Gold Course for at least $15,000 in damages after being hit in the nose by an errant shot. The shot was by Lima, himself, as his fairway drive hit a yardage marker, bounced back, and hit him in the face.

- In March, New Jersey Nets basketball coach John Calipari admitted that in a moment of rage, one called reporter Dan Garcia of the Newark Star-Ledger a "Mexican idiot." He later apologized, and Garcia accepted the apology. Furthermore, the National Basketball Association fined Calipari $25,000 for the outburst. Nevertheless, in July Garcia filed a lawsuit against Calipari and the Nets, claiming that the phrase hurt him to the tune of $5 million.

- In June in Detroit, coach Robert L. Wiggins Jr., whose ten-year-old Poey League baseball team was eliminated in a playoff game, filed in federal court for a temporary restraining order and $75,000 in damages, claiming that his team should have won and thus remained in the tournament. Wiggins offered to present testi­mony from parents and specta­tors that several of the umpire calls in the third inning were wrong and that his team should thus have won 12-8 instead of losing 10-9.

- Kalamaqoo, Mich., heart sur­gery patient Charles Bostick Jr., won $3.96 million jury verdict in October in his lawsuit against Wal-Mart for injuries he suffered in a store parking lot. Butler tripped over a trailer hitch while walking to his car, hurting his spine so badly that he now suf­fers trembling hands, ending his career. Wal-Mart pointed out unsuccessfully that the trailer itself was 18 feet long and 6 feet high and contained a large com­mercial barbecue grill, and that a person so unobservant as to not notice must surely be fac­ing a winning career as a sur­geon.

- Edward Candill, 32, filed a lawsuit in September in Greenup, Ky., against Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, claiming its personnel hastened his father's death from an auto accident in 1996 by not giving him blood, allegedly because the man's wife said not to on religious grounds. The wife herself died from her injuries four hours after the hus­band. Because Candill's father died first, his estate was inherit­ed by the wife (and on her death, by her family) and not by Candill. Candill pointed out that his father had never signed any document declining life­saving procedures and thus that the hospital was legally required to try to save him.

- Several newspapers in Stockholm, Sweden, reported in March that a prostitute's .22-caliber rifle, fired by a .22-caliber rifle. A source told the Inez Mountain Citizen newspaper that John said the December shooting "felt so good," he had to do it again.

- In October, sheriff's deputies in House Springs, Mo., near St. Louis, reported that someone launched a Civil War-type can­nonball that crashed into the trailer home of Leonard and Kathy Mickelson, lodging in a bathroom wall. Authorities did not immediately know if the can­nonball was thrown, catapulted or fired from a cannon. (Texas and Cheerleaders, Again: In September, a federal grand jury in Tyler, Texas, indict­ed the wife of a high school prin­cipal for writing and mailing a death threat. According to the indictment, the wife, Tamela Ellis, sent school trustee Ginger Moody a note warning her to stop criticizing the school administration or Moody's daughter, who is a cheerleader, would "never live long enough to cheer at her first football game."

- According to a Times of London report in August, trains in Johannesburg, South Africa, are being systematically equipped with fans to blow away the increasingly common cannabis smoke. Frequently, cannabis smokers take over the front car of a train in order to blow smoke playfully through the keyhole into the train engi­neer's cab. Earlier in August, one driver had to stop a train for almost an hour because he was rendered dizzy by the smoke.

- According to a news report in the June issue of the magazine of the Ontario College of Nurses, one of the college's members was suspected for six months recently for "vulgar and offen­sive" behavior. According to the report, she perhaps accidentally broke wind while working in the presence of a patient's wife, who took offense. However, the disci­pline committee found that the nurse compounded the problem by asking the wife if she "wanted more" before passing gas direct­ly into her face.

- Road Rage Lite: Danny L. Jones, 44, described by co-work­ers at the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles as "Mister Rogers friendly," was charged in August with aggravated menacing for using the office computer to track down motorists who offended him and writing them nasty letters. Typical threats, should the driver not mend his ways: Jones will "poke your eyes out" or "cut your head off and hand it to you on a platter" or "dispose of you like trash." Said a bureau spokesperson, "From what I hear, Jones is a (keep-to-himself-type person.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 8306, St. Petersburg, 33734, 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 $.25 shipping.
Thanks comes cheap when overshadowed by school work

By JASON HEIRONIMUS
Opinion Editor

We have a lot to be thankful for, don’t we? After all, the holidays are upon us and it would seem that even if we don’t have anything to be thankful for we should at least act thankful. I believe it to be simply the name of the most recent holiday that is lingering over us. Thanksgiving, to be the root of all this unnecessary thankfulness.

Right now, in the midst of a ridiculous amount of work, I really don’t feel that thankful. In all, the hol-all this unnecessary thanking.

My requests, in all likelihood, will go ungranted. I will have to tough out the short holiday and enjoy it while it lasts. Though stress will undoubtedly be my co-pilot as I head back home for the holiday, I must remain strong and realize that at some point, somewhere down the road, all of this will help me out in some way. I’m not sure why but I’m not sure how, but they tell me so I guess I’m just gonna’ have to trust them.

I’m bitter, I am not totally unreserved to the tradition of the thank you. Thank you guys for taking the time to read this, I hope you all have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!
The Rainmaker' loses a few drops

By GARY ROEN
Book Critic

For any woman of the '90s who has worked for equality the book "The Rules" by Ellen Fein and Sherrie Schneider (Warner Books $5.99, 174 pages) is a direct slap in the face.

Women are told to go back to the days when they were seen but not heard. The authors tell females to let the man ask her first, let the man make the phone calls and to not initiate a conversation with a male.

There are 35 rules the writers say women should follow to find sex. In simple terms they are acting around men that can help any woman win the heart of the man of her dreams. Sounds too good to be true?

It is. Even the authors had their doubts. Makes one wonder about the writers and purpose of the book.

The tactics these women propose will separate the sexes more than they already are.

"The Rules" is just plain bunk.
Older students make most of college experience

By VICKI DeSORMIER
Staff Writer

It's not easy being a college student over the age of 25. You don't know if your peers are the students or the professors. You're often juggling school, work and kids. And, frankly, it's pretty scary.

Stepping onto the University of Central Florida campus for the first time was a terrifying experience for Karyn.

College is a daunting enough experience for most students, but the 41-year-old mother of three had not been in a classroom for two decades. She said she worried that she'd get lost just trying to find her class.

"I was scared out of my mind," she said. "I felt like a grandmother compared to all the kids around here and then I didn't know where anything was."

She said she drove in circles for an hour trying to figure out where to park and how to get to her first class, but the education major said she was determined to appear calm.

"These kids weren't going to do better than me," she said. "I'm older and wiser, right?"

Karyn laughs now, but she said the challenge of returning to school after 20 years was a monumental one.

She had decided that after rearing her children to an age where they were all fairly self-sufficient, it was time to finally pursue her dream of becoming a teacher.

"I'm almost done now," she said, "but I thought I'd never survive the first semester."

Dave said he knows how Karyn felt. A computer science major, he is a junior at the age of 30.

"I just wasn't ready for college at 18," he said. "I wanted to go out there and make money. Education wasn't that important to me."

After many years in business, however, it became clear he wasn't going to make as much money without a degree.

"So I enrolled the day my daughter turned 10," he said. "A single father rearing a daughter and a son, Dave said it's difficult to juggle a full-time job and his classes."

"But I gotta do it," he said. "It's not a matter of wanting to take classes. I have to do this if I want to give my children what they deserve."

Dave said he has brought his kids with him on more than one occasion and left them in the library to read or do homework while he was in class. He doesn't like to use the library as a babysitter, but he said there are times when he simply doesn't have a choice.

"I have friends who are willing to watch them, but sometimes they're busy, too," he said.

Shawnda shakes her head at the thought of having to juggle childcare, work and school.

"I wouldn't want to have to do all that," she said. "That's why I waited so long to come back to school."

Students at UCF come in all shapes, sizes and ages, each with his/her own set of challenges. If you're an older student, facing the challenges of going back to college (or going for the first time) we'd like to feature you in an upcoming column. Or, if you have a problem that is unique to the older student that you'd like investigated, drop me a line at wordgal@rocketmail.com.
November 26, 1997

Classifieds

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Universal Studios Florida

STAR IN THE BIG PICTURE.
UCF hosts groundbreaking ceremony

By BRIAN SMITH

November 26, 1997

Central Florida Future • 11

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THE Crossword

ACROSS

1. Edible hat (20)
2. Antonym of "measles" (10)
3. Allied (10)
4. Approved (6)
5. Place of contest (10)
6. Meet (6)
7. Casino (11)
8. Made entire (4)
9. Computers (5,6)
10. Require (11)
11. Speak (11)
12. On the ocean (2)
13. Military hugging (2,4)
14. Classification (6)
15. Detergent (6)
16. Spiritualism (6)
17. Powerful stream (6)
18. Work by Pindar (4)
19. Flip (4)
20. Writer Bret (6)
21. Youngster (4,6)
22. Sweet (6)
23. Victim (6)
24. Board (4)
25. Dinner (2,4)
26. Side (6)
27. Customer (6)
28. Limerick, e.g. (6)
29. Pindar (6)
30. Common (4,6)
31. On the ocean (6)
32. Southern (4)
33. Antidote (6)
34. Upper (4,6)
35. Detergent (6)
36. Topper (6)
37. Piece (11)
38. Upholstered (6)
39. Antitoxin (6)
40. Sound (6)
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DOWN

1. Eating facility (6)
2. Long story (6)
3. Birthday cake (6)
4. Capital of Oregon (6)
5. Poet (6)
6. Beef (6)
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ANSWERS

1. Indian garment (11)
2. Slight (4)
3. Cairn (5)
4. Capital of Oregon (6)
5. City of Oregon (6)
6. 19th century (11)
7. Magellan (11)
8. Aristarchus (6)
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Women's basketball - UCF Tournament, UCF Arena, noon, 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m.

Women's basketball - UCF Tournament, UCF Arena, 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m.
No. 29 Volleyball at No. 27 South Florida, 7 p.m.
Men's basketball against Toledo, UCF Arena, 8 p.m.

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Benito led the defensive charge, finishing the game with seven tackles and two sacks. Benito (10.5 sacks, 100 tackles) tied Emory Green for fourth on UCF's all-time career sack list with 20.5. He is only the second lineman in school history to record triple-digits in tackles.

"It was my senior year I wanted to play every down like it is my last game because tomorrow is not promised." Benito said. His accomplishment didn't lessen the pain of a losing season.

"It's a little painful (to go 5-6), but everybody knows we had a tough schedule, so we had to work our way up. Slowly but surely, we are going to get there."

Benito, who is a potential 1998 NFL Draft selection, was observed by scouts from the Minnesota Vikings, Tennessee Oilers and New York Giants during the Toledo game.

Benito said the chance to play in the NFL is nothing but a dream and is not aware of who is interested in him. Outside linebackers coach Charles Huff said the departure of the seniors, especially their heart, will be felt on UCF's defense will be felt.

"The seniors saw the benefit of their hard work - a positive foundation to coach three seniors has made my job very easy," Huff said. "Three excellent players and I'm going to really miss them and I hate to see them go; they will be missed at UCF."

Huff expects to see Benito playing on Sundays next fall.

"I'm pretty sure Benito will get the opportunity to play at the next level, but he'll probably have to play an outside linebacker," said Huff. "After talking to the scouts, he should be a late round pick. It just depends on what teams need and how free agency goes in the NFL." Benito said Benito played a balanced game of rushing and passing in what could be record-setting quarterback duel.

Culpepper's last game at UCF Culpepper threw for 219 yards, marking the 10th consecutive game he has passed for more than 210 yards. Culpepper's performance gave him the school's single-season record for passing yards with 3,086. His 25th touchdown pass of the season is also the second-highest single-season mark in Knight history. Culpepper also had a 1-yard quarterback sneak in the second quarter, giving him five on the season and plac­ing him eighth on the school's career rushing touchdown list.

UCF's 143 rushing yards was the first time in four games the Knights managed to gain over 100 yards. The Knights were led by junior tailback Mike Grant's 12 carries for 65 yards. Coach Gene McDowell said his team's performance was a testi­mony to his play all season. "It was a really good win," said McDowell. "Going 5-6 with this schedule, our players overachieved in probably nine out of those 11 games this year. Winning is not the only thing. How you play is what counts." Thanks to the team's play against that tough schedule, McDowell said the Knights could have been best signing class ever. With an influx of Division I-A talent, the coach hopes the team will have the depth to win those close games in the future that it couldn't win this year.

"This football team is not nearly as good as it is going to get," he said. "Recruiting is what solves a lot of personnel problems. The reason I say we overachieved this year is because we accomplished what we accomplished with a I-AA football team. It is unbelievable what these guys did and they did it with a bunch of heart."
Volleyball plays South Florida in season finale

From PAGE 16

Knowing that the NCAA selection committee would frown on UCF conference competition, Smith set up a match with South Florida on Nov. 29, one day before the seeds are announced for the national tournament. She said a good showing late in the season will give the team a first-round bye or that the Bulls, ranked two spots ahead of UCF in the national poll at No. 27, would not frown on the opportunity.

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Volleyball player is TAAC’s finest

The Trans American Athletic Conference volleyball all-conference teams punted another standout season for UCF, with Tyra Harper earning player-of-the-year honors. Harper, a senior middle blocker, is the fourth UCF team to receive TAAC first-team honors in the past three years (1996-Renata Menchikova, 1995-Emily Quicser) and four out of the last five (1993-Emily Fridzon).

Central Florida, the six-time defending TAAC Champion also had outside hitter Renata Menchikova and setter Amanda Fielding earn TAAC First Team honors. Menchikova the 1996 TAAC player-of-the-year and now three-time first-team honoree, is currently ranked seventh nationally in kills per game with 5.49. Fielding was also named to the all-newcomer team. Outside hitter Lisa Libenjoquist earned TAAC third-team honors. Voted as TAAC coach-of-the-year in Laura Smith, Smith, in her seventh season at UCF, also earned the honor in 1993. She has led the Golden Knights to their 25-2 record this season and a 185-72 (.720) mark in her

Women’s basketball wins season opener

The women’s basketball team opened the regular season on the road with a 86-72 win over Radford University on Nov. 21. Senior center Scacey Deveaux scored 19 points and sophomore LaDonna Larry had 15 rebounds and 15 points as the Knights (1-0) defeated Radford (1-1) 86-72 at the Dedmon Center in Radford, Va.

UCF opened the game strong, as 15 of its first 10 points were from three point range. RU’s defense kept it close, forcing the Golden Knights to commit 22 turnovers in the game.

RU led at the 15:08 mark of the second half, but turnovers (RU had 14 in the game) and eight straight points by UCF’s Deveaux in a 3 minutes, 10 second span, gave the Golden Knights the lead for good at 48-46. Deveaux’s play sparked an 18-5 UCF run that broke the game open for UCF.

The win for UCF head coach Lyn Bria over Radford head coach Lubomyr Lichonczak, whom she was assistant for at Radford in 1992-93, was Bria’s second consecutive season-opening victory.

RU’s Kelli Tull scored 16 points to lead the Highlanders. Tull scored 12 points in the first half, but did not score in the second until 30 seconds remained in the game.

Culpepper up for another honor

Junior quarterback Daunte Culpepper is one of 10 quarterbacks nominated for the Davey O’Brien Award, honoring the nation’s top signal caller. Three players will be chosen from that list to attend the 1997 Home Depot College Football Award show Dec. 3 in Orlando. The other nominees include: ThadBuscarthy (FSU), Tim Couch (Kentucky), Dameayne Craig (Auburn), Brian Grieser (Michigan), Brock Howard (Washington), Ryan Leaf (Washington State), Donovan McNabb (Syracuse), Cade McNown (UCLA) and Peyton Manning (Tennessee).

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Knights look to blast off against Rockets

By TONY MEJIA
Staff Writer

Following late Tuesday’s result against Bethune-Cookman, UCF turns its attention to Toledo, a MAC member who will provide a solid measuring stick as to where the program stands early in the season.

Led by center Casey Shaw, an All-MAC candidate, the Rockets will face pressure from UCF’s scorers despite struggling with sore legs and a bad thigh bruise. His play will go along way in dictating how the Knights do.

“I’m not going to make any excuses about my thigh,” said Jones. “I’m just gonna go out and play. I’ve sat out for two years, so naturally when you get back you really want to play well. I don’t think I’m playing as well as I can. Hopefully with more games under my belt, I’ll play a lot better. I can do more.”

Shouldering much of the scoring and rebounding responsibilities, Jones has played superb basketball, and is admittedly his toughest critic. Another test presents itself on Saturday night, and Jones is up to the task. Equally important is that it’s a chance to make a statement against a tough opponent at home. It’s an opportunity he relishes in.

“If we can get our fans to come out and support us it would mean a great deal,” said Jones. “It’s a chance to make a statement against a tough opponent at home. It’s an opportunity he relishes in.

“Just gonna go out and play. I’ve sat out for two years, so naturally when you get back you really want to play well. I don’t think I’m playing as well as I can. Hopefully with more games under my belt, I’ll play a lot better. I can do more.”

The Auburn game was a great atmosphere, and I think it showed in the way we played for most of the game.”

After the Toledo game, UCF will hit the road for a game at Winthrop before returning home to face Nova Southeastern and St. Thomas in mid-December.

UCF basketball coach Kirk Speraw hopes his team doesn’t overlook teams like Bethune-Cookman, Toledo and Winthrop over the next few weeks.

Senior guard Mark Jones averaged 19 points through the first three games, but Florida held him to 13 in the Gators’ 100-85 victory on Nov. 18.

UCF basketball coach Kirk Speraw hopes his team doesn’t overlook teams like Bethune-Cookman, Toledo and Winthrop over the next few weeks.

For more information call (407) 823-6028
Seniors give football fans a fond farewell after victory

By KEN JACKSON
Staff Writer

A fitting day for the Golden Knights' seniors was summed up with 2:03 left in the game when fullback Kendrick Moore bust through the Toledo Rockets' line for the final score of the season.

Linebacker Shane Moore used the backdrop of his final collegiate game to add to his own family - he proposed to his girlfriend.

On both sides of the ball, the 17 seniors gave a performance indicative of the Knights' season-long overachievement. It's unbelievable what these guys did this year," coach Gene McDowell said following the finale. "They did it with heart."

Jermaine Bonnot, the team's headline all season on defense, recorded his 100th tackle of the season on the next-to-last play of the game, marking the second time in school history a lineman reached that mark. His 10.5 sacks also lead the team.

"We wanted to go out letting everyone know UCF is for real," Bonnot said.

Five other senior starters had performed well, including defensive backs Darryl Latimore (team-high eight tackles), Kenton Rickerson (seven), and Donnell Washington (six), linebacker Emory Green (four), and linemen Jameel McWhorter (two) and Mike Osuna (two, one sack).

Osuna was one of the better stories for UCF having walked on to the team.

He said he's happy about the extension, because leaving UCF would be like leaving part of his family behind.

"I've heard the good things people say, and it makes me feel real good to hear it," he said.

The new contract reportedly includes a raise about his current base salary of $113,000. Although unconfirmed, reports say UTC offered a contract with a starting salary around $150,000.

"When you invest this much time into a community like this, there are certain things that you want to accomplish. Things are still left to be done here, like getting a conference affiliation," he said.

Sloan, 53, was hired by UCF in 1993, after serving as athletic director at North Texas University for three years. Among Sloan's accomplishments at UCF are spearheading the move to Division I-A in football and satisfying Title IX requirements for gender equity in the athletic program.

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