Hungry to make some money?

Selling real estate has the potential to earn a person more than $100,000 a year.

By BRIAN SMITH
News Editor

The UCF South Campus will begin a course for people who are interested in becoming certified to sell real estate in Florida. Lou Principe, who has specialized in real estate sales for 30 years, will teach the course.

"There are two types of salespeople," Principe said. "Those who are hungry to make big dollars and someone who isn't." The course is intended for people who are looking for additional full-time or part-time work.

Students are encouraged to work for home builders, Principe said. Graduates receive the money from the sale of a house right away and they have a steady paycheck every week and it averages around $350 to $500.

Graduates can earn a minimum of $55,000 a year, he said. People from other professions are starting to sell real estate.

"More physicians are getting out of their profession to make what they're worth," Principe said. "Physicians have things such as overheads and taxes that take away from their incomes, but those who work in real estate don't have as many income reducing variables." Robert Brown, XL homes, was a law student before enrolling in Principe's course. "I was drowning in debt when Lou said to me 'when you're ready to make money come see me.'" Brown said. "I went through the training program and learned different techniques in selling.

In the future, real estate courses could be expanded at the university. "We're waiting for the final See ANYBODY, Page 4

Teddy bears, toys are specialty of Circle K

By LORI CARTER
Staff Writer

Do you have one day a month to spare?

The Circle K club, which is affiliated with the Kiwanis club, puts its time and energy into helping others who are less fortunate.

"I wanted to get involved with a volunteer organization," said Bel Baca, vice president. "I received a lot of scholarships, and I want to help people because they helped me."

According to Baca, one of the biggest projects completed was the teddy bear drive for underprivileged children during the Christmas season.

The group spoke to several professors who in return spread the word throughout their classes.

Mary Ann Wigmore, school of accounting, gathered 70 bears and Dr. Michael Luckett, school of marketing, gathered 650, according to Baca. Dr. Maria Lou Principe, who has specialized in real estate sales for 30 years, will teach the course.

"There is a little some­thing for everyone," Principe said. "We're waiting for the final See ANYBODY, Page 4

Kiss the camel

Student Lauren Aquino gets a special smooch by "Sir Gus," the Shriners' mascot, who made an appearance at Moon Bounce on Feb. 17.

UCF opens a tantalizing 'Whorehouse'

By BETH CONLEY
Staff Writer

After a week of sun-bathing, sleeping, and partying 'til you drop, you probably aren't ready to get back into the same old grind of classes. Theatre UCF has a little something to take your mind of all the term papers, midterms, and speeches being dished out by your horrible professors. If you're interested in a little comedy and down-home fun, you must go see "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," running from Thursday March 5 until Sunday March 8.

"The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" will have you rolling in the aisles with laughter. Sheriff Ed Earl, Miss Mona, and the entire Texas Aggie team will dance, sing, and laugh their way right into your hearts. You will travel with Miss Mona and Sheriff Ed Earl through their past together at the Chicken Ranch and see how the Whorehouse began.

"They should probably have said that they were starting to sell real estate because there are two types of salespeople," Principe said. "Those who are hungry to make big dollars and someone who isn't." The course is intended for people who are looking for additional full-time or part-time work.

According to Baca, one of the biggest projects completed was the teddy bear drive for underprivileged children during the Christmas season.

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See ORGANIZATIONS, Page 6

Opinion

Testing your patience

The CLAST is a waste of time and money.

— Page 11

By NATALIE NATALE
Staff Writer

Lambda Chi Alpha and Alpha Delta Pi bounced for two days to raise money for the Shriners Hospitals.

Lambda Chi Alpha's serenade to Kris Kross's "Jump! Jump!" kicked off its spring philanthropy project, Moon Bounce, on Feb. 17 in front of the Student Union.

Participants kicked off their shoes and bounced in the inflated, red and blue trampoline. They tossing beach balls, tumbled and studied inside the Moon Bounce.

The 48-hour bounce-a-thon was broken into one-hour bouncing shifts. "Whenever a new bouncer entered Moon Bounce, we bombarded them with plastic beach balls," said junior Christie Harell.

Harell bounced during the opening shift from noon to 1 p.m. on Feb. 17.

UCF will be a No. 2 seed in the conference tournament.

— Page 28

Don Pablo's Mexican restaurant offers a variety of spicy dishes.

— Page 15

Women prepare for tourney

See FUND, Page 7
Wellness Expo to screen students’ mental health

By NICOLE KING
Staff Writer

Students who are concerned about eating and anxiety disorders will have the chance to find out how to help themselves.

On March 4, the Wellness Expo will take place outside of the Student Union from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. Eating and anxiety disorder screenings will be offered to students.

Dr. Michael Burgan, associate director of the counseling and testing center, said the expo will give students an opportunity to get information about anxiety concerns and stress.

“They’ll find out specific ways of coping with anxiety,” Burgan said. “Most of all, we hope that they find out that this is something we can manage and it doesn’t have to interfere with a student’s goals.”

Burgan said students will be given a questionnaire, and a video about anxiety will be shown. The questionnaires will be scored and the results will be reviewed individually.

Burgan said if a student scores within the range of concern, he or she will be advised to make an appointment with one of the counseling and testing center’s professionals. The process should take about 30 minutes.

Burgan said a general anxiety disorder is the most common.

“That’s when you have a strong feeling of nervousness or muscle tension,” he said. “You usually have sleep problems, your concentration is poor, you also have trouble with your appetite and relationship difficulties.

“If it doesn’t affect you in two or more areas of your life, then it would be more about stress, but when it gets to the point where it’s significantly affecting you, that’s when you need the professional help like we have here.”

Waleska Wilson, psychological specialist at the counseling and testing center, agreed professional help is key to recovery.

Wilson will be administering a questionnaire designed to determine eating disorders.

“I think particularly for eating disorders, there is such shame around it,” Wilson said. “It’s the dirty little secret they want to hide.

“Coming to counseling at the testing center provides a safe place where they can come and talk about their issues without any judgment with people who are there to help.”

Wilson said the most common eating disorders she runs across are bulimia, overexercising and combinations of disorders.

“Not many cases are pure anorexia or pure bulimia,” Wilson said. “People will go a couple of weeks and fast and then binge eat and cycle between the two.”

Wilson encouraged students to come to the expo.

“If you’re not dealing with it, chances are there’s a friend, a roommate, a schoolmate who is,” she said. “It’s good to know what to look for. The biggest thing is education and letting them know about our services.”

Cathy Barbano, UCF’s dietitian, will also be at the expo.

Barbano said it will give her a chance to talk with students and encourage them to make an appointment to see her if they have concerns or questions about eating or nutrition.

“Someone diagnosed with an eating disorder will usually work with a counselor, a physician and herself,” Barbano said.

She said most of the students she sees are at extremes.

“They are either real restrictive with their eating, eating only healthy foods, or they’ll eat fast food every day,” Barbano said. “What I help students do is find that middle ground so that they can enjoy some of the things they like to eat but not over do them. I also help get rid of the guilt around eating.”

Barbano said she has noticed an epidemic on campus called “disordered eating.”

“These are the people who are terrified of fat, Barbano said. “They are binging and craving, they are just not vomiting.

“They’re not doing the purging yet,” Barbano said. “They want to, they’ve maybe tried it one or twice. They’re just not there yet.”

Barbano said she hopes the expo will help reach students who do need help or knows someone who does.

“It will make it really convenient for those who are on the verge of wanting to get help to do it anonymously and get the treatment they need,” Barbano said. “I think it will let students know about the resources on campus to help them, even if they don’t have an eating disorder.”

The Wellness Expo is an annual event hosted by the Student Wellness Advocate Team.

The anxiety questionnaire will be administered in the Student Union’s Egmont Key Room and the eating disorders questionnaire in the Garden Key Room A.

Tell mom most of what you’re up to.

1-800-COLLECT
Students’ driving skills to be put to the test

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

Test your driving skills during the 1998 Autocross UCF, which will be held on March 15. The event will take place at the Education Building parking lot.

An Autocross is usually held, low to medium speed auto race where contestants drive their vehicles through a miniature road course navigating curves and straightaways.

An Autocross is usually held in large parking lots and unused airfield runways. The course is laid out with orange traffic cones and each driver completes one at a time. The Autocross is intended to test driving skills and not speed. Any type of vehicle can participate.

A mandatory safety inspection will be performed prior to the event. The inspection includes ensuring seat belts work and batteries are secured. In addition, the car must have working brakes, a good return spring on the throttle linkage, tight lug nuts and an interior free of loose articles. It is recommendeds cars be cleaned out of all unnecessary items before they leave home.

Tires should be in good shape with no tire chord showing and have at least 42 pounds per square inch of pressure to help during cornering on the race course.

Also, a Snell certified helmet must be worn. The club will provide helmets for those who do not have their own.

Registration and technical inspections will begin at 8:30 a.m. and racing is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. Entry registration will be held on Feb. 19 from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the Student Union.

The Autocross is open to UCF students, faculty and staff. Entry fees are $10 per driver or $15 per driver the day of the race. Vehicle classes will include four, six and eight cylinder stock and modified, rotaries and trucks. It is a UCF student association dedicated to helping students pursue their interests as car and truck enthusiasts.

Originally established as a car club for classic muscle-car enthusiasts and named in honor of UCF’s mascot, the association has grown to include several divisions.

The most popular one is based on Knight Rider, a former television series. Some club activities include: helping students to find a new car, assisting owners of classic cars with restorations and participating in KnightCon ’98, which is a convention held for fans of Knight Rider.

Performance by Academy alumni have been nominated for 70 Oscars®, 50 Tonys and 168 Emmys. If you’re ready to be part of that tradition, train with the absolute best, and test your craft in the practical arena of performance, then come and check out the University of Central Florida.

Coming Wednesday, March 18, 1998
The University of Central Florida

PART-TIME & SUMMER JOB FAIR

In the Key West Room (218) of the Student Union

Come and Check Out
Central Florida Part-Time & Summer Employment Opportunities

Wednesday, March 18, 1998, From 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Sponsored by the Career Resource Center
Anybody can be a success

From PAGE 1

approval for teaching real estate in all the foreign lan-
guages,” Principe said. “We’re working to develop a master’s
degree in real estate. It’s a won-
derful, highly specialized field.”

There are 120,000 licensed
real estate agents in Florida,
Principe said. Since only 50
percent are active, he said he
offers assistance to graduates to
increase the number of active
agents.

The course offers job place-
ment, free sessions in the prin-
ciple of selling and non-verbal
communication and advice on
career planning.

Graduates of the course cred-
it their success for selling real
estate to Principe’s teaching
philosophy.

“They started (Masterpiece Homes) and we brought Lou in
because we were a fast grow-
ning company but we wanted to
do more,” said graduate Jerry
Davis. “We needed to do some-
th ing different and be taught us
how to get better results.

“We have increased the
number of homes we have sold due
to his techniques. We have all
generating leads due to his
coaching.”

“Principe has taught us how
to listen, watching for things
they are not saying and reading
body language,” Davis said.
“He also has taught us that sell-
ning should be a relationship
building process between peo-
ple. People buy people other
than homes and it is important
to build a trust with the client
instead of simply showing the
house or demonstrating a prod-
uct.”

“It’s a better technique in sell-
ing with people to build confi-
dence and loyalty,” Davis said.
“We’re becoming a housing
doctor by prescribing a pre-
scription. We know what’s ail-
ing them.”

Brown said anybody can be a
success after taking the course.
“I was green when I entered
the business,” he said. “I had
no experience except for the
training theories he taught. I
wrote a contract for a house I
sold on my first day. Last year,
I was the top salesman and I
made more than $100,000.

“If someone goes into it with
an open mind and does every-
thing they say, you can’t fail.
You’re going to be a success.”

The course will run Tuesday
through Thursday between 6
p.m. and 10 p.m. The $299
course fee includes books, fin-
guering, photo, class exam,
review for state exam and vet-

Organizations with little money receive gifts

From PAGE 1

Cristina Santana, school of com-
munication, heard of the project
and helped gather toys also.

The teddy bears and toys went
to various organizations: The
UCF Creative School, Boys
Town, Seminole Childrens’
Village, Great Oaks Village, The
Grove, Red Cross, First Baptist
Church of Oviedo, Salvation
Army and Florida United
Methodist Childrens’ Home
(FUMCH).

The teddy bears are given to
kids for Christmas, birthdays,
special occasions and to new
residents, said Stephen
Hartsfield, director of public
relations at FUMCH.

“We rely on people like Circle
K to do things like this,”
Hartsfield said. “It was a very
nice gift from Circle K.”

Hartsfield said about 90 chil-
dren are housed there at any one
time and about 100 to 150 chil-
dren are likely to reside there
in a year. There is very little money
for extras.

Baca said completed projects
include: cleaned-up area in the
residence halls, boxed and sort-
ed food for Second Harvest
Food Bank, Special Olympics
and Valentine Day cards for the
elderly.

Dr. Gurth Jenkins, associate
dean of students, said the club
has about 20 to 25 members and
has been going strong since
receiving its charter last year.

“It [the club] is very important
for those who are interested in
community service,” Jenkins
said. “Joining a club promotes
leadership and social aware-
ness.”

According to Baca, the club
has scheduled numerous pro-
jects in the future: Special
Olympics at University High
School, a softball tournament
with Florida Easter Seal, a car
wash with House of Hope and a
dance marathon for the
Children’s Miracle Network.

“I think everyone should do
volunteer work once a month
because if everyone does it, then
it adds up,” Baca said.

“Dr. Robin Lustig

$9.45
includes shipping and handling
payable to
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J.A. Dorsey
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How to

BECOME A GENIUS
by Andre Beauchamp

“This gem should be part of every school curriculum.
An essential part of the success mechanism. A must
read.”

For those interested in joining
contact Jenkins in the
Administrative Building or
email gjenkins@mail.ucf.edu
University of Central Florida
Office of Student Activities

Leadership Positions

Campus Activities Board
Cultural Arts Promotions Cinema Video Productions Popular Entertainment
Student Director Spectacular Knights Special Events Speakers Concerts

Volunteer UCF
Student Director Animal Care & the Environment The Arts & Recreation Children & Education Community Service Criminal Justice & Domestic Violence Disabled & the Elderly Literacy Substance Abuse Hunger & Homelessness Health Care & Mental Health

Consultants for Effective Leadership
CEL is a group of select students who are trained to present leadership workshops to UCF student organizations. They are available to attend retreats, meetings, educational sessions, and classes. This energetic group of students provides organizations with an informative, interactive, and discussion-oriented presentations.

APPLICATIONS DUE
March 6th by 5pm in Student Union Room 208
Pick up application today in room 208

823-6471

Funded by the Activity & Service Fee as allocated by SGA
Award-winning author will discuss ‘The Art of Memory’

Tobias Wolff, author of “This Boy’s Life,” is coming to UCF on March 19. Wolff will speak on “The Art of Memory” at 8 p.m. in the Visual Arts Auditorium, a lecture that is free and open to the public.

“This Boy’s Life” was the subject of a major feature film starring Robert DeNiro and Ellen Barkin, and won the Los Angeles Times Book Award. “In Pharaoh’s Army,” an account of Wolff’s service in the Vietnam war, was a finalist for the National Book Award. His short novel, “The Barracks Thief,” won the PEN Faulkner Award.

Wolff is widely acclaimed by critics as one of America’s foremost writers of short fiction. In addition to his novels, he has had his work published in many periodicals, including The New Yorker, TriQuarterly, and Esquire.

A reception will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Art Gallery. Tickets are $8 for adults, $5 for students and include a reserved seat at the lecture.

In other news:

• It’s not too late to cast your vote for the next Student Government president and vice president. SG runoff elections are being held on March 4 and polling stations are open until 7 p.m. The remaining candidates are Jason Murphy/Richard Rodriguez and the Communication main stations are open until 7 p.m. in the Education gymnasium. Clubs Educational Showcase is an event for students to learn more about community organizations, public school systems, and the College of Education.

It will be held on March 18, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Education gymnasium. Clubs from the college, the Central Florida Holocaust Museum, Junior Achievement and the Orlando Science Center are expected to attend.

• The faculty and staff of the School of Communication and the film and animation department moved into their new home over spring break.

The Communication Building is located behind the Visual Arts Building and adjoins the Communications main office in COM 238 and the film department main office in COM 271.

• UCF students will dance to benefit children’s hospitals on March 20 to 29.

The Second Annual Dance Marathon, a 24-hour student run event, benefits Shands Children’s Hospital at the University of Florida and Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children and Women in Orlando through Children’s Miracle Network.

Dancers are required to remain on their feet at all times. To make it a little easier, activities are scheduled every hour, such as line dances, games and contests. Scheduled breaks, regular meals and first aid will be on site to ensure safety.

For more information, contact Jason Murphy at 974-6660 or Cathy Droke at 671-9999.

Choosing a leader

Rob Rodriguez casts his vote for Student Government president and vice president on Feb. 17. Runoff elections are on March 4.

How Would You Score?

LSAT

GMAT

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Take a Free Test Drive and find out!

Sponsored by the Student Alumni Association
Saturday, March 7, 1998 - 9:00 AM

Health and Physics Building
Registration begins at 8:45 AM

CPA and an additional GMAT will be given at the Downtown Campus on March 9 at 6:00 PM

Call today to reserve your seat!

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Fraternity ready to write its chapter at UCF

By DAWN MYERS
Staff Writer

Phi Sigma Pi's Gamma Chi chapter was chartered on Feb. 1 at UCF. The chapter initiated more than 200 students who will be installed on April 15.

The fraternity was founded on the principles of scholarship, leadership and fellowship. It accomplishes its goals through dedication to scholastics, service projects and socials.

The national fraternity was founded in 1916 as a traditionally male charter. However, it has evolved into a coed fraternity comprised of more than 100 chapters.

The national fraternity was founded in 1916 as a traditionally male charter. However, it has evolved into a coed fraternity comprised of more than 100 chapters.

UCF was chosen as the next chapter site because of its high number of scholastic achievers and leaders.

Phi Sigma Pi does not seek out only the smartest students. The ideal candidate is a well-rounded individual, someone who can balance good grades, display effective leadership in the community and maintain good social standing with other members in the community.

“We seek the brightest, most motivated, most fun to be around students on campus,” said Chapter Rush Advisor Beau Ratliff.

If you are interested in joining Phi Sigma Pi, you must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. Informational nights will be held at the end of the spring semester as well as the beginning of the fall 1998 semester.

Funds to aid Shriners hospitals

The sisters of Alpha Delta Pi elected Tena Perrone and Tiffany Russo to Moon-Bounce chairs.

Communication, collaboration and organization were key ingredients to the success of Moon Bounce.

“Getting an early start on Moon Bounce moved the fraternity into a prime position for raising funds,” said Jacobson.

Lambda Chi Alpha has had success in past civic-oriented events.

It has raised more than 40,000 pounds of food for Second Harvest Food Bank, more than $2,300 for the Heart and Lung Association and more than $2,600 for the ESTEEM program of Winter Park.

Jimmie's Chicken Shack

"...concoctions of heaviness and hooks, with hints of psychedelic thrown in. Jimmie’s Chicken Shack doesn’t sound like any other band..." – Request

Includes the hits "High" and "Dropping Anchor"

See them live at
House of Blues
on March 4
Lake Buena Vista
By VICKI DeSORMIER
Staff Writer

Janet Reiley said she went back to school after a nearly 30-year hiatus because she wanted to finish college before her daughter did.

"It was a matter of pride, I guess," the 49-year-old mother of an FSU freshman said. "I have another year and a half to go and I don't want my daughter to finish before me. I've had too much of a head start to let her pass me by."

Reiley said her husband and daughter support her in her quest to earn her degree. "For a long time, it just wasn't important to me," said Reiley, a liberal studies major. "I had a fairly good job and I was involved in so many things that at first I barely even had time for the children that I wanted. When my daughter was born, I got involved in activities for her and I never even thought about school."

Education was important to her and she always made sure her daughter studied hard and had the goal of attending college. She said she wasn't about to let her daughter get away with only a high school diploma.

"These days you need more than that high school diploma to get ahead in this world," she said. "Even auto mechanics need to have some sort of post-secondary education. I made sure my daughter learned that."

Reiley said she has struggled in work, gaining a lot of on-the-job training to push herself ahead in the retail industry where she has attained a managerial position in a regional store.

"But I've had to work twice as hard and I don't make anywhere near the money I could have with a [college] degree," she said. "It's been an uphill battle sometimes."

Reiley is set to graduate in 2000. She doesn't really foresee a change in her employment status as a result of her degree, but she believes she will have greater self-confidence as a result of having that "sheepskin."

She also believes her degree, had it come earlier in her career, would make the difference.

"There is nothing more important than your education," she said. "Even if it takes three decades, get that degree."
If you’re going to learn, do it with style

By LINDA RAMOS
Staff Writer

The most comfortable way you learn information is called your learning style (LS) as explained by Carol Kaian in “The Confident Student.”

Some learning difficulties may be overcome by simply identifying and using your appropriate LS. In short, your LS is your greatest studying ally.

In Kevin Paul’s book, “Study Smarter, Not Harder,” three basic LS are described: visual, auditory, and kinesthetic.

The visual student learns by reading and observing visual depictions of information from videotapes, graphs and tables. To maximize this style make sure to read the texts paying attention to figures, illustrations, and regroup class notes as visual stimuli. Diagrams, time lines, and charts serve as visual stimuli.

If you have an auditory LS, hearing is the educational mode you should emphasize. The auditory learner may benefit more from hearing a well-structured lecture than by viewing an educational film. For studying purposes, these learners should orally recite their class notes, tape their recitations and periodically listen to those tapes. If allowed by the professor, tape class lectures and hear them repeatedly.

The third LS is the kinesthetic, which requires hands-on learning experience. Students with this style may not benefit from hearing or observing a lecture but would magnify the retention of information by performing in a lab or field project.

Most students have one preferred learning style and that’s the style you need to accommodate. To assess your style ask yourself the following:

- Do I easily learn information by observing others? (yes, visual LS)
- Do I naturally follow directions better when someone reads me instructions? (yes, auditory LS)
- Do I prefer to work with equipment or conduct a project? (yes, kinesthetic LS)
- Take advantage of your dominant LS.

The lesser dominant styles are not your weaknesses but challenges as pointed out by Jeanno Shay Schumm and Shawn A. Post, co-authors of “Executive Learning: Successful Strategies for College Reading and Studying.”

Incorporate these challenges into the learning process because the more ways you learn something, the better your chances of retaining and recalling the information at a later date.

Next, determine the best time to use your LS.

The Early-Bird Student thrives at 5 a.m.; the Night Owl Student excels at 11 p.m. Besides the time of day, the environment in which you learn should be comfortable.

Do you prefer the traditional teacher-centered classroom where the teacher formally lectures? Or do you prefer the participatory student-centered class where class discussions are the focus? You may not be able to control when your classes are offered or which learning environment your professor chooses to foster, but you can control your motivation.

Your motivation to attend class, participate, study, and learn will be related to the use and understanding of your LS.

Linda Ramos is associated with Full Student Services (FSS), which provides word processing/typing and research assistance to college students. Direct all correspondence to FSS, PO Box 622077, Oviedo, FL 32762-2077 or 407-523-3302.

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Opportunity for participants 12 years of age or older, who meet study requirements, to participate in a nationwide research study comparing two antibiotics for the treatment of strep throat and tonsillitis.

As a participant you will receive at no cost a physical exam, lab work, and study medication. There is no cost to you or your insurance company.

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Please Call:
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ORLANDO CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER is studying an investigational medication to treat this infection. If you qualify, all program-related care is provided at no charge, including office visits, physical examinations and study medication.

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Make the Call that Could Make the Difference!
LEAD STORIES

• The Lingering Influence of Mike Tyson: In West Monroe, La., in February, a 35-year-old mother allegedly bit a teacher, a teacher's aide and the principal during a parent-teacher conference. And in January, a couple filed assault charges on behalf of their son against his Clay County (Ky.) High School basketball coach, Bobby Keith, for allegedly biting the kid during a game. And in January, the Nebraska Court of Appeals ruled that teeth are not a "dangerous weapon" under state law and thus that bites should be reported in January on the thriving "purification." The London Daily Telegraph reported in January on the thriving addiction clinics of Dr. Robert Lefef, who specializes in helping people who are obsessed with helping other people. Among the 500 patients a year he sees in London and Kent are a number of women who compulsively marry alcoholics so they can cure them. Another recent patient was hospitalized for exhaustion after caring for an overweight woman, including obsessively rolling her in her wheelchair to many places she did not want to go.

• Timothy Lobdell, 20, escaped from the Fairbanks (Alaska) Correctional Center in January but was picked up the next day after several people identified him. Lobdell, who was awaiting sentencing for assaulting a police officer, made a decision a couple of years ago that limits his flexibility as an escapee. He has an expirative (the specific word was not revealed in newspaper accounts) tattooed in-inch-high letters on his left cheek.

THE LITIGIOUS SOCIETY

• Bowler Stella Terminino filed a $500,000 lawsuit against Monterey Bowl in Edwardsville, Ill., in December after a piece of popcorn that was stuck to her shoe caused her to lose her balance during her approach, sending her sprawling on the lane just behind her ball. She claimed Monterey Bowl should have posted warnings about popcorn on the floor.

• In November, Vickie Toghan, fired as women's softball coach at Oregon State University, won $1 million from a jury in her sex discrimination lawsuit. She showed that she was paid less than the men's softball coach and argued as irrelevant her win-loss record (9-12 in conference games, 0-24 in her last season) and the fact that two mostly female search teams had recommended she be replaced.

• In December, Kingston, Ontario, inmate Patrick McGuir, 58, won about $52,000 (U.S.) from the prison for a 1989 injury that occurred when a bale of hay fell on him during a work detail. He was in prison for murdering his wife.

• A Hindu man, Mukes K. Rai, filed a lawsuit in Ventura, Calif., in January against Taco Bell for causing him to do the equivalent of eating his ancestors," said his lawyer, by negligently substituting a beef burrito for a bean burrito. Rai then required medical attention, he said, was forced to miss work, and will have to travel to India for "purification." Taco Bell offered to calm the angered man by exchanging the beef burrito for a bean burrito, but, according to Rai, refused to refund him the price difference between the two.

• The family of Karen Seaton, who died in 1995 when she fell off a barstool and hit her head at Wild Willow, seized upon her death to cast doubt on the win-loss record (9-112 conference games, 0-24 in her last season) and the fact that two mostly female search teams had recommended her to lose her balance during her approach, sending her sprawling on the lane just behind her ball. She claimed Monterey Bowl should have posted warnings about popcorn on the floor.

• In November, Vickie Toghan, fired as women's softball coach at Oregon State University, won $1 million from a jury in her sex discrimination lawsuit. She showed that she was paid less than the men's softball coach and argued as irrelevant her win-loss record (9-12 in conference games, 0-24 in her last season) and the fact that two mostly female search teams had recommended she be replaced.

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By JASON HEIRONIMUS
Opinion Editor

Welcome back! Aren’t you glad to finally be back in school? Nine days was way too long. Someone should do something about that, like make spring break two days or something, or, even better, make spring break a week after school starts so that we have as little time away from school as possible!

No, I haven’t gone crazy, I’m just struggling with a little known disease called Post-Traumatic CLAST syndrome, or, PTCLAST. I recently had the pleasure of taking the CLAST, and let me tell you, it was well worth it. Luckily I only had to take the math portion of the test so the experience was only 1/4 as bad as it could have been, the aforementioned statement being a possible test question by the way.

When I first transferred to UCF I was privy to a little known fact: that the CLAST was going to be phased out in the very near future, and that there was no need for me to take it. Well, after nearly a year and a half, this annoying “skills test” is still forcing students to wake up at the crack of dawn on a Saturday and be expected to perform to someone else’s expectations. Sometimes they even make students take these tests on the first day of spring break. Someone out there in academia has an outrageous sense of humor and over and over again the joke seems to be on me.

If you are unfamiliar with this test of tests, let me fill you in. It is supposed to measure the average skills that every college student should know before they move on to higher education. CLAST simply is an acronym for College Level Academic Skills Test, another possible test question. This test is filled with information that one should know in order to appropriately survive in the real world like: what is the degree of an angle of a right sided rhombus perched on an oak tree with a small boy named Simon playing cops and robbers next to it?

These are questions where if one of the answers was “the question is too ridiculous for me to dignify it with an answer” you would mark that one down every time. What exactly is the point here? When I graduated from high school, I had hoped to be rid of all the ridiculous filler that they taught me in order to fill state requirements. It is an interesting transition when one goes from deciphering Joyce to figuring out which car makes it to Albuquerque quicker if one is using diesel and the other premium. Is this stuff that we need to know? Somebody please tell me because if we have completely misunderstood the entire educational system.

The CLAST, however, is not unlike any of the other bubble tests you have taken in your life. You still have to get up early to take the damn thing. It is as if we are doing them a favor. “Excuse me sir, would you mind if I wasted time out of my schedule to take your ridiculously pointless test, and if so, please make it as easy as possible so I can make sure that I’m as tired and foggy-headed as I can possibly be, thank you.” Though it is nice to get the thing out of the way, how can we expect them to perform up to their standards when the game must be played by their rules? I wonder if those that are in charge of the CLAST ever had to take the test themselves, and if so, under what conditions.

The irony of all of this is that there is a distinct possibility that I may have to take the test again. I remember taking the test and thinking that I had reverted back to high school, and was suddenly afraid that one of the proctors would discover that I had chewing gum in my mouth. But if I discover that I did not pass the CLAST, I wonder if those that are in charge of the CLAST ever had to take the test themselves, and if so, under what conditions.

I’m as tired and foggy-headed because I was too careless to waste time on that problem because I couldn’t dredge up silly math problems that I learned six years ago! Is everything that I had learned in college completely null and void because I was too careless to waste time on that problem with the dog, the train and the vacuum cleaner? Or does it just mean that I wouldn’t be able to survive in the real world without the knowledge that the CLAST tried to provide for me?

I believe that if anything my experience with the CLAST actually helped nor hurt me. I believe politicians just use the test so that they can measure test scores from state to state, and say, “Hey look, Florida dropped another 2.5% in math, but increased 1.8% in English, ooh that’s good, that will positively reflect upon me, yippee!!!” The CLAST is a waste of everyone’s time and money. This test should turn into action, especially before it’s time for me to take it again.
March movies: Psycho moms, wild girls, a giant

By STACEY COPELAND
Staff Writer

Okay, I know all you people like to talk during the previews for upcoming movies when you're in the theater. So, here's some info on a few movies set for release during late February and March. Enjoy!

- Dangerous Beauty (Feb. 20) - Catherine McCormack stars in this tale about a 17th-century Venetian post-prostitute. This looks like a nice romantic chick flick. There's only one problem, I've yet to come across a theater where it's actually playing!

- U.S. Marshals (March 6) - Tommy Lee Jones, Wesley Snipes and Robert Downey, Jr. star in what is being hailed as a 20th-century Venetian poet/prostitute. This looks like a nice romantic chick flick. There's only one problem, I've yet to come across a theater where it's actually playing!

Show offers many emotions

From PAGE 1

(Also known as the "Whorehouse" and you even meet all of the 'girls' at Miss Mom's fine, clean establishment. You will become wrapped up in the plot will you become that you may actually feel a tear or two trickle down your cheek at the end of the play. This show offers a variety of emotions: happiness, sadness, pity, and hopefulness. If you do not go see this play, you are missing the best play of the entire season at Theatre UCF. "The Best Little..."
Listen up! By Shannon Wray

**Soul Food**
Music from the motion picture (Laface Records)

This R&B collection is not only in sync with the down home theme of this movie, but also with the current demand of pop charts. With artists like Boys II Men, Milestone, Dru Hill, Tony, Toni, Toya, and En Vogue, there really is no need to promote this album more because it simply does it all on its own. This CD includes one of my personal favorites that is already skyrocketing to No. 1 on the charts. Dru Hill's sad tale of a falling out of love with "We're Not Making Love No More." Without a doubt, "Soul Food" definitely houses a stylish variety of songs with easy-flow rhythms, sad lyrics that need to be hummed, and attitude. There's even a flashback track from Earth, Wind, and Fire that fits in perfectly with the atmosphere and sets the tone for an upbeat tempo throughout the album. Out of all the artists that came together to accomplish this soundtrack, think for a minute who could have composed them into an epic collection like this? Of course, with a classically smooth producer like Babyface, this soundtrack is nothing short of a great mix of songs from the soul, that satisfies any hunger for a great album. Need I say more?

**Great Expectations**
Music from the motion picture (Atlantic)

Tori Amos sets the stage for this interesting and unique soundtrack that is to say the least, fluffy. The very first track, "Finn," features Tori's high-pitched moans in an instrumental orgasmic state that is amusing. Despite her attempts at turning listeners on, I enjoyed her second song, "Siren," a little bit more, mostly because I could follow it. Don't get me wrong, I am a big Tori fan, however, the intro is just a little too out there. All of these original tracks have an alternative feel to them and there is a variety of exceptional artists that contribute to this soundtrack. Songs such as "Wishful Thinking" by Duncan Sheik, "Today" by Poe, and "Walk This Earth Alone" by Lauren Christy are a mixture of dizzy guitar beats and deep lyrics that are truly mesmerizing. Although I didn't see the movie, the soundtrack certainly speaks for itself. With the delicate, yet strong themes accompanying the women's voices, I felt liberated and motivated and the remaining tracks by the men were soothing. While all of the songs did make me curious to see "Great Expectations," I've heard mixed reviews about the flick. Regardless, this soundtrack is definitely a love it or leave it type of collection, I chose, of course, to like it.

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www.orlando.digitalcity.com/future
By VICKI DeSORMIER
Staff Writer

Do you ever find that your hectic life is overwhelming? Are you having trouble remembering your boyfriend's birthday or when your club meets, while still trying to concentrate on your classes? Do you wonder whatever happened to that gorgeous guy from high school or are you trying to find Aunt Ethel who used to live down the street? Well, PlanetAll may be the answer to your problems.

The website at www.planetall.com offers some unique services that can unclutter your life as well as keep you up-to-date on some of the people you may be wondering about or trying to find. PlanetAll is designed for the busy executive (or student) who doesn't have the budget or the justification for hiring a full-time secretary. You just have to take a little time at the beginning to fill out some information and they do the rest.

Click on the calendar and fill in the dates and times of birthdays, anniversaries, meetings and travel and you'll get e-mail from PlanetAll on a daily, weekly or monthly (you decide which) basis reminding you of the things you filled in.

Click on the "groups" section and you can find groups of people to contact based on things such as the high school or college they attended or common interests or a number of other shared characteristics. PlanetAll will update you on the new people who have joined the group when you get your e-mail from them. They'll also let you know who has tried to contact you or who has added you to their personalized PlanetAll address book.

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As we slip into the last half of the semester, you have enough to worry about with papers due and exams. You don't need to have the added pressure of trying to remember where you need to be when or whose birthday is coming up this week.

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After all ... what's a good secretary for?

If you come across a good website when you're surfing the net, let me know about it (e-mail me at wordgal@rocketmail.com) and I'll review it in a Future article.

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Central Florida Future 14
Sewell, the hardest working Brit in the business

By IAN SPELLING
College Press Service

Rufus Sewell isn't the busiest British actor working these days. It just seems that way.

The handsome young actor, who scored big on the art house circuit with "Cold Comfort Farm" and "Carrington," has four films either in theaters now or headed to theaters over the next few months.

First up is "Dangerous Beauty," a drama set in 16th century Venice which casts the actor as an artist in love with the great love of his life, Veronica (Catherine McCormack). Sewell, who's of a lower class than him and less wealthy, Heartbroken; becomes a courtesan, an educated, fun-living, classy, prostitute.

Sewell likes the film, now playing at a theater near you, just fine. But he hates that title. "I'm sure they're right, that a lot of people would see a film called 'The Courtesan,'" Sewell says. "If you do that, write a sentence. Don't make a film. It doesn't give easy answers. It asks interesting questions. It will make you wonder about what you've seen as you walk out of the theater, and that's enough. If you come out wondering about the nature of the soul, wondering if we're the sum of our experiences, I'll be even more pleased."

"Alex had this movie in his head for a very long time and I'm glad it worked out. He trusted me to answer my own questions to my own satisfaction and I trusted him and liked him. "Dark City" is truly his vision. He was honest with me, and that's all I needed, because his eye is good and his taste is good."

Still, "Dark City" is true-blue sci-fi, and that may scare people off. Sewell knows that, but seems none too concerned.

"I really like it," he says. "It's dark and it's weird. Some people won't like it and some people will, and that's fine. That's the way it should be. I'm not worried about everybody liking it. Interestingly enough, in test screenings certain people didn't understand it, so they went and changed things. The result was that people who didn't understand it still didn't understand it, and the people who used to like it didn't like it as much. So they changed it back. I thought that was interesting."

After wrapping "Dark City," Sewell, who's single and lives in London, moved onto two other films, "Illuminata," directed by John Turturro, and "Martha Meets Frank, David and Lawrence." Both are to be released later this year.

"I'm very excited about "Illuminata,"" Sewell says. "It was a pleasure to work with John, who's someone I've really admired. Susan Sarandon and Christopher Walken are in it, too. I don't know what the finished film will be like, but I had such a good time doing it. And I just loved my character in 'Martha Meets Frank, David and Lawrence.' He's a man who's just so bitter and twisted. It was very fun."

So, what's with the sudden Rufus Sewell film festival? "It seems like I've just been doing back-to-back-to-back films, and I've not," says Sewell, who's currently shooting the drama "At Satchem Farm" with Minnie Driver.

"What you're seeing is three or four years of work. What happened is the films' releases were just delayed, for whatever reason. I've had to endure people coming up to me, even other actors, going, 'Didn't you used to do a bit of work at one point?' People truly suspect that I wasn't going off to Australia to work or 'Cold City,' but that perhaps I was just going off to hide in my house."

Sewell laughs.

All of these films coming out now at least proves that I have been working."
The golden sunset fades into the distance. The traffic is a bit hectic and the air is filled with exhaust. The traffic slowly treads on. Just beyond University Boulevard's view there's a scene into the sunset. It's the end of the day. They should be following the taste of the Southwestern tradition such as Chi Chi's or Taco Bell. We're talking about one of Orlando's newest Mexican imports, Don Pablo's at 11400 University Blvd., 'The Real Enchilada.' A taste of Tex-Mex cuisine worth sampling.

Don Pablo's isn't housed in a ranch but with all the atmosphere it offers you'll hardly know the difference. There are pictures of real, pint sized, and Mexican cowboys that dot the walls, original taken in Alice, Texas. While waiting for the food to arrive I had the opportunity to sample an original Don Pablo's concoction, 'The Real Margarita.' Although I'm not big on alcohol I enjoyed the mixture of lime juice, tequila, powdered sugar, and another liquor, Cointreau. It was refreshing. A rather generous portion in a large glass ($5.95). Needless to say I didn't drink the whole glass, for purely personal reasons. It had nothing to do with the taste.

'100 percent customer service with authentic Mexican food,' is what the General Manager, John Stewart says is the philosophy that Don Pablo's tries to live by. From the general public response in the 12 days it's been open, I wouldn't be the only one to say that Don's does more than meet it's expectations. Although Don's doesn't pretend to be an experience in fine dining it's much more than just a fun atmosphere. It takes its food and customers seriously.

Minutes after making a selection my dinner was served. I was surprised by the warmth of the food and the eye catching presentation. I tried a special called The Matador. It included two crispy chicken flautas, a cheese enchilada with red sauce, a beef taco, and a chicken enchilada with sour cream sauce($8.95). The chicken enchilada also tasted wonderful. It's seasoned with peppers and onions topped off with sour cream sauce. The ground beef taco was exception­ally good. Despite the similarly seasoned ground beef along with fresh tomatoes, lettuce, sharp cheddar, and the shell Don's version transcended what I was used to. The shell was crisp but not hard. It didn't break into pieces like an egg shell. The refried bean sauce, or refritos, covered with melted cheese also added unique spicy sensations to a menu that lacked immediate familiarity. Chicken Enchiladas Flautas, asked myself the same question before lifting one to taste. I immediately fell in love. The flautas, rolled tortillas, are made from a delicate corn meal batter that's deep fried with chicken and topped with guacamole and sour cream. It'll introduce you to a whole new world of the Tex-Mexican tradition. The ingredients are made fresh," says Kelly, a bartender. You can taste the difference from your first chip dipped with salsa to your last forkful of chicken enchilada. The fresh flavor of the tomatoes and the pungent spices really make a difference. But you'll notice that way before you taste the food. Perhaps in the aroma hot off the griddle, or the traditional mesquite logs as they smolder.

Don Pablo's proved to be a sizzling skillet full of surprises. They offer nine types of dinners and combos. Everything from chicken and cheese enchiladas with red chili sauce or sour cream to chicken or beef tacos with bean, red, or chili sauce. The combos also include stuffed peppers and shredded pork tamales along with garnishing and more side salsas than I can mention. With names like El Matador, El Presidente, Enchilada Taco Combo, or the Mexican or san Angelo Dinner, the sky is the limit (56 - 9.85).

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Do you feel that the university should recognize proficiency in Sign Language as fulfillment of the foreign language requirement?

UCF should definitely add sign language as a choice for the foreign language requirement. Sign language is a language per se, and a very important one. Also, people should be able to have a working knowledge of Sign Language, just in case they might need to use it in the near future.

— Karen Rodriguez, Senior, Marketing, Oviedo.

It would be a great advantage to everyone, if they know a little bit of everything. But, as far as Sign Language being recognized as a choice for the foreign language requirement, I don’t see anything wrong with that. I think it should be recognized, and would be a great learning experience.

— Cheryl Jane Favis, Junior, Health Service Admin, Lakeland.

Yes, because Sign Language is just as difficult to master as the other languages that are covered by the “foreign language” requirement. If students were able to fulfill this requirement by learning sign language it would help to further close the present communication gap.

— Caroline Michaux, Junior, Psychology, Orlando.

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Kent State votes to open hearings

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

KENT, Ohio — Students who get into trouble at Kent State University will have to face more than the judicial court when their disciplinary hearings roll around.

The university's board of trustees voted Feb. 3 to open such hearings to the public unless a victim or alleged victim wants them closed. Hearing officers also may close a proceeding if information being discussed could harm a victim or witness.

Though a few public universities have opened their hearings under order from the courts, it is unusual for one to do so voluntarily.

"People don't trust colleges and universities," R.F. Flynn, the university's coordinator of judicial affairs, told the Chronicle of Higher Education. "They don't believe that we act in the best interest of the students and taxpayers and various other constituents. I tell you that we do. But us telling you that isn't good enough. People need to see what we do for themselves."

Two other public universities in Ohio are caught in litigation over whether students' disciplinary records are public information. Last month, the U.S. Department of Education filed suit against Ohio State and Miami universities, claiming the schools are violating the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, also known as the Buckley Amendment, when they release disciplinary records with students' names attached.

The amendment prohibits colleges and universities from releasing education records containing "personally identifiable information" without a student's permission. At issue is whether disciplinary records can be considered education records.

Flynn said he doesn't think Kent's new policy violates the amendment because students must give permission for their disciplinary hearings to be open.

And the band played on

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, Ill. — It was a song that normally makes their playlists, but one many students at the University of Illinois said their pop band should have dropped when President Bill Clinton spoke on campus Jan. 28.

"What are they thinking?" one young man yelled to reporters who snickered as the band belted out Kansas' 1970s hit "Carry on Wayward Son." Still reeling from the wake of an alleged sex scandal involving former White House intern Monica Lewinsky, Clinton walked on stage to a standing ovation. However, the irony of the music that preceded him wasn't lost on many students sitting in the audience.

The song's first verse: "Carry on my wayward son. There will be peace when you are done. Lay your weary head to rest. Don't you cry no more."

As Clinton departed, the band played the theme song from "Rocky."

AIDS Deaths Decline In U.S.

CHICAGO — A 44 percent drop in the number of AIDS deaths across the United States during the first half of last year indicates the success of new treatments to control the disease, say officials of the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Deaths from AIDS peaked in 1994 and 1995 but fell in 1996. The downward spiral continued at an even faster rate last year, the CDC reported. According to the CDC, 12,040 Americans died of AIDS during the first six months of last year, compared to 21,460 who died during the first half of 1996.

Experts say the encouraging figures are the result of better treatments, not improvements in disease prevention efforts. "Cocktails" — a three-drug mixture made up of two older AIDS drugs and more recently developed protease inhibitors — have dramatically changed AIDS care and are giving many sufferers longer life expectancy.

With fewer people dying, the number of Americans living with AIDS is up 13 percent to 259,000. While the CDC cannot say precisely how many Americans are infected with HIV, it estimates between 400,000 and 650,000 people. StudentsBulk At Suiting Up With Nike

TUSCON, Ariz. — Many students and faculty at the University of Arizona question whether the school's senate has the authority to accept a three-year, $6 million deal with Nike, the world's largest athletic company.

"People don't trust colleges and universities," physics Professor J.D. Garcia told Scripps-Howard Western Service. "The fact that other universities do silly things doesn't mean that we should."

Students who are challenging the proposed deal — which university Athletic Director Jim Livengood said is within a few months of completion — are focusing on allegations that Nike runs sweatshops overseas.

Under the proposed deal, the shoe and clothing manufacturer would give the university's 18 athletic teams, shoes, workout clothes, uniforms and sporting equipment. In return, athletes would be expected to wear and use Nike products during games and practices.
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Presented in association with Campus Activities Board
Author proves reality doesn’t always bite

By MERCEDES McELMURRY
Staff Writer

"Coming of Age in Babylon, Finding Your Reality," is a colorful assortment of essays, constructed for young college students. I would like to start by saying that I definitively enjoyed this book (two thumbs up). This is the Doug De Bias' first book, and I have to say his first shot was a good one. De Bias uses wit, compassion, insight, and honesty to attack those hard to discuss issues that are extremely important to all of us: drugs, religion, politics, sex, parents, and partners.

"Finding Your Own Reality" is a helpful guide to growing up in the 90's. It is our reality doesn't always bite. That's obvious and simple to prove. That's obvious and simple to accept, but for some reason we still get caught up in this 'who's who, wearing what, better/worse, black/white.' It's garbage and all pointless in the grand scheme of life. My only complaint about the book was the part on 'The Clone.' The way the word 'clone' was being referred to (good clone, bad clone), I wanted to see the word karma. I really got caught up on the way the word was being used. My definition of a clone was different than the way he was referring to it. De Bias sympathetically agreed with me, and explained that in a sense I was trying to give a little something to some people who were very good friends of mine. This just reassures me what I've learned in Dr. Butler's 'Communication and Human Relations' class that "words are symbols, language is symbol, and its interpretation lies in the eye of the beholder." So true, don't you think?

"Finding Your Own Reality" is published by New Spring Publications, which is run by his wife and himself. De Bias has two daughters around our age group, and when they were about ten, De Bias started thinking that their (our) generation would be a new improved version of the late 60's, as do I. His daughter Catalina is a sophomore at the University of North Carolina at Asheville. She is the talented artist whose charming and creative drawings add that extra touch to the book. Doug says that he essentially wrote the book because, "This is the book that I wish I had when I was 20 or so." And I'm just glad I got the opportunity to read it at age 21.

If you're wondering where you can purchase this excellent book, right now the book can't be purchased anywhere. Fortunately, it is listed on Amazon.com, and can be ordered there, or through their e-mail: nswspring@bellsouth.net, or you can call #1-800-883-7407. De Bias was going to call our bookstore, so you can probably just purchase it on campus, but no where else for a little while. The book is $12.00 a copy, plus $2.00 shipping for the first book and $1.00 for each additional book. I definitely recommend purchasing the book, or even getting two or three people together and splitting the cost and taking turns reading it. For this reader, 'Coming of Age in Babylon, Finding Your Own Reality,' awakened more of my own inner reality and brought me several steps closer to finding out the whole reality.
UCF looking for revenge against Mercer

From PAGE 28

Home court —
Awaiting UCF will be the winner of the Georgia State and Troy State game. Georgia State enters the tournament with the No. 3 seed after finishing the season winning six of their last eight games. UCF defeated GSU, 73-69, in their only meeting on Feb. 14. UCF defeated TSU, the sixth seed, handily in both of their meetings this season, winning at home, 86-61, and at TSU, 101-70.

Sitting in the top bracket is the tournament favorite, Florida International, and the only team to defeat UCF this season, Campbell University. FIU finished the season 15-1 in the conference and was ranked No. 14 in the nation at home both of their meetings this season.

UCF is the No. 3 seed after finishing the season winning six of their last eight games. Georgia Southern defeated UCF, 69-67, in Buies Creek, N.C. and will hope to do the same at Miami. Regardless of who it plays, UCF will have to win three games in three days to win the tournament, which requires extreme endurance and depth. Bria believes that could play to her team’s favor. "If we had an opportunity at FIU, I wanted to get them in the third game," Bria said. "I think we could get them when maybe they are a little bit tired, it is an advantage for us. FIU is a good team, but they are not a deep team."

Bria’s confidence has reached her players, who feel they have as good a chance as any to become conference champions. "The momentum is going to carry over," Davis said. "Everyone is pumped. We are ready to play the TAAC."

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Frontcourt to have plenty of depth next season

Knights’ season, as the UCF proceeded to win its next eight games, including a dramatic 86-83 win in its home finale FIU.

The Knights also upset the TAAC’s top team, the College of Charleston, on the road to end the regular season. UCF played well in the TAAC tournament, dropping the same Samford team that beat them 78-66 at home in mid-January. The Knights shot 70 percent from the field in eliminating the Bulldogs, 94-81.

UCF had its share of superb individual performances this season. Jones was TAAC co-player of the year of honors as well as the newcomer of the year award. Jones also set TAUC Division I records for most points in a game (42), in a season (383) and be finished among the top 30 in the nation in scoring (20.8) and led the Knights in rebounding (7.4 a game).

Junior forward Brad Traina, who hit 12 of 13 field goals in February,” UCF had its share of superb individual performances this season. Jones was TAAC co-player of the year of honors as well as the newcomer of the year award. Jones also set TAUC Division I records for most points in a game (42), in a season (383) and be finished among the top 30 in the nation in scoring (20.8) and led the Knights in rebounding (7.4 a game).

Junior forward Brad Traina, who hit 12 of 13 field goals in February,” said sophomore center Davin Granberry, who hit 12 of 13 field goals in the TAAC tournament. “This time we came in real focused, with the correct mindset to play them, and it showed that we were ready.”

It seemed like the Knights were ready to play for the entire second half of the season as UCF lost only one game in February, which came in the TAAC semifinal to eventual tournament champ Charleston.

The Knights led the Cougars by one point with nine minutes left, but the Cougars went on a 21-5 run to close out the game to win 81-66. Coach Kirk Speraw appreciated the effort his team gave this season.

“I’m really proud of the way this team grew up and responded to the challenge,” Speraw said. “This was a season where we faced a lot of adversity and played some good teams awfully tough. It was great to see that our guys turned things around and played tremendous basketball in

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SPORTS Weekly

Wednesday
Women’s basketball vs. Mercer, TAAC tournament first round in Miami, 1 p.m.

Friday
Women’s basketball, TAAC tournament in Miami.
Men’s tennis vs. Michigan, varsity tennis courts, 2 p.m.

Saturday
Baseball vs. Centenary College, UCF baseball complex, 7 p.m.
Women’s basketball, TAAC tournament championship in Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Women’s tennis vs. Seton Hall, varsity tennis courts, noon.
Women’s crew at the Metro Cup in Winter Park.

Sunday
Men’s tennis vs. Illinois State, varsity tennis courts, noon.
Baseball vs. Centenary College, UCF baseball complex, 7 p.m.
Women’s track vs. Wake Forest, UCF Arena Track.

Monday
Women’s tennis vs. Miami (Ohio), varsity tennis courts, 2 p.m.
Baseball vs. Centenary College, UCF baseball complex, 1 p.m.

Tuesday
Men’s tennis vs. UNC Charlotte, varsity tennis courts, 2 p.m.

Thursday
Women’s basketball vs. Mercer, TAAC tournament first round in Miami, 1 p.m.

Central Florida Future • 25

March 4, 1998
www.orlando.digitalcity.com/future
Ely brings more to Knights than three-point shooting

From PAGE 28

Football signs 3, including all-American

From PAGE 28
By JEFF CASE
Staff Writer

After spending 17 of its first 19 games on the road, the baseball team will return home March 6 looking to improve its struggling offense.

UCF (8-9) has lost its share of close games, with five of its nine road losses coming by three runs or less. The Knights have had little problem getting hits on the road, averaging 7.6 a game, a marginal difference to their opponents' 7.9.

UCF has a higher run per game average (4.6) than its road competition (3.7), but the Knights haven't gotten the clutch hitting to win the close games. In their 16-game road trip, the Knights were shut out twice; 4-0 against then No. 11 Auburn at the Olive Garden Classic and 2-0 against Santa Clara at the Florida Marlins Tournament.

UCF coach Jay Bergman says his team's offensive woes are easy to detect.

"Our offense hasn't cranked up yet and that's a concern," Bergman said. "It's only because our guys haven't hit over .300 (batting average) yet and they're struggling to find themselves right now."

The Knights are hitting only .234 as a team, but their opponents are only hitting .254.

Things could get worse as Will Crowd, UCF's leader in runs (16) and batting average (.356), is out with a groin injury. Crowd did not play in UCF's two games against Sam Houston State Feb. 27-28.

The team split the two-game series against SHS, losing the first game 3-2 and winning the second 5-2. Bergman said he is unsure if Crowd will be available for this weekend's three-game series against Centenary College, the TAAC opener for both schools.

Even though the Knights have struggled at the plate, the pitching staff has kept UCF close. Posting a team earned run average of 3.53, the Knights have three pitchers with ERAs under 4.00. The group is led by senior All-America candidate Todd Bellhorn, who is currently 4-0 with a 1.33 ERA. Bellhorn, who splits time between pitching and the outfield, is also leading UCF in plate appearances (66) and is third on the team in runs (11) and doubles (3).

His pitching led UCF to a 6-4 victory over the University of Kansas, the team's only win at Houston. The win also snapped a three-game losing streak.

UCF followed the win with a 5-3 loss to then No. 22 Oklahoma, despite ousting the Sooners 12-6. UCF split their two-game series with host University of Houston, losing their first game 9-4 on Feb. 22 and winning the second, 4-3, on Feb. 24. Battling the flu and taking on their second opponent in two days, UCF found enough energy to rally late and defeat No. 9 Rice University on Feb. 25.

The Owls lead 3-2 heading into the final inning, but hadn't scored since an unearned run by Rice's Bubba Crosby in the sixth. Bellhorn delivered again, however, holding the Owls to just two singles and no runs in the final 2 1/3 innings for a 4-3 UCF win.

Bergman said the Owls overzealousness probably cost them the game.

"Rice tried to turn a ball into a double play that wasn't a double play ball," said Bergman. "It was just a ground ball, that was the essence of it all. They got a force out at second base and the second baseman tried to turn it into a double play, but he overthrew it. The ground ball tied it up but they tried to make something happen that wasn't there."

Bergman downplayed the team's first win of the season over a ranked opponent.

"It wasn't really an upset," he said. "We played hard and probably could have scored a few more runs."

UCF's ability to keep games close bodes well for the future, Bergman said.

"All of our losses on the road were close and if we were losing by a lot I would have been worried," Bergman said. "As long as our pitching stays where it is, we are going to hit the ball. It's just a matter of starting to relax at the plate and [then] good things will happen."

Junior Erik Johnson and the Knights play their first home game in over month when Centenary College visits March 6-8.

FUTURE file photo

"It was a great win," Bergman said. "We played hard and probably could have scored a few more runs."

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Men's basketball finishes tough season on a high note

By TONY MEJIA
Staff Writer

The 1997-98 men's basketball season started out as one with great promise for UCF. The Knights featured a pair of highly touted transferrals from Minnesota (leading scorer and rebounder Mark Jones) and Georgia Tech (junior center Lucky Hodge), as well as many sophomore holdovers ready to challenge for the TAAC championship.

Strong efforts against Auburn (63-70), Florida (85-100), Toledo (64-69), and South Florida (72-73) demonstrated that the Knights could play at a high level, but at the same time there were disappointing performances, like home losses to Campbell and Samford.

Inconsistency plagued UCF en route to a 9-10 record, as they fell under .500 for the last time after a 95-86 loss to Florida International in Miami. UCF shot 60 percent from the field in the losing effort, proving they could play with the conference's best. That loss to the Panthers may have inspired the turnaround the Knights needed to make its second appearance in three years in the conference tournament. The Knights enter the tournament as the No. 2 seed, their highest ever.

The first match-up for UCF is a rematch with Mercer, which on Feb. 16 defeated the Knights, 76-73, in Orlando. Mercer finished the season 7-9 in the conference, winning three of its last four games. Bria said her team learned some important lessons from that loss.

"I think when we played them here, we did not play real hard, we made a lot of mistakes," said Brin, who has yet to coach UCF in a win over Mercer in her two years as the Knights' coach (0-3). "I think we've got to play harder and we've got to play smarter."

Freshman forward Kelli Ely said the players are excited about the first-round matchup because they want revenge on the Bears.

"Good," Ely said. "We wanted another shot at Mercer because they beat us on our home court."