Technology helps people see the person behind a disease

By NATALEE NATALE
Staff Writer

Senior Jessica Mesker has a pen pal. A course at UCF and the Internet brought them together but they have become closer because of a deadly disease.

"Her own daughter doesn't even know she has HIV," Mesker said. "She found out she was infected 11 years ago when her husband became sick and checked into the hospital."

"He died 13 days later of AIDS. They were married for 76 days and she was seven-months pregnant when he died."

Mesker is enrolled in HSC 3591, HIV Disease: A Human Concern, a course dedicated to educating students about the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

This undergraduate course in virology covers topics such as epidemiology, substance abuse, ethical issues, immunology, transmission, sexuality, symptoms and statistics of this disease.

As of 1997, there were 62,200 reported cases of AIDS in Florida.

The virus begins with infection and passes through the asymptomatic stage, the symptomatic stage, and then develops into AIDS. It attacks and breaks down the body's immune system leaving the body vulnerable to serious, often deadly infections.

Professor Sharon Douglass began the course in 1985 with 12 women registered for the class. Enrollment has since passed the 200 mark. The class has become known as a favorite for many students.

See STUDENTS, Page 4

Econlockhatchee gets cleaned by the Environmental Society

By DANIEL E. McMULLAN
Staff Writer

The UCF Environmental Society led 67 volunteers on a cleanup of the Econlockhatchee River, which contributed to the collection of more than 40,000 pounds of trash.

The cleanup was part of the third annual St. John's River Celebration on March 21. They picked up cans, bottles, styrofoam coolers, shoes and pornographic video, according to Kyle Purer, society member.

Dean Ahrens, an environmental engineer, has been the president of the Environmental Society for a year. He grew up along the shores of rivers.

"Slow lazy rivers," Ahrens said. "It's kind of fond of them, and the St. John's River is certainly among the laziest rivers in the world. It is the longest river in Florida."

Ahrens said the St. John's River is 310 miles long and 50 feet deep. The Econlockhatchee, Wekiva and Ocklawaha rivers are the major tributaries to St. John's.

UCF is centered in the

See VOLUNTEERS, Page 4

Engineering students help NASA clean its ground water

By JAMES COMBS
Staff Writer

Five UCF students are hoping a three-week project will help clean the underground water at Kennedy Space Center's Launch Complex 34.

The project, which was completed in March, may serve as a means to eliminate water pollutants.

During the moon exploration of the 1960s, NASA used trichloroethene (TCE) to clean its Saturn rockets. The TCE was dumped into the ground and worked its way into the groundwater. It degraded slowly and caused contamination.

Three years ago, NASA called administrators at the College of Engineering and asked them to use a new technology to clean the water, said Debra Reinhart, associate dean of the College of Engineering.

The project involved driving a hollow pipe 40 feet deep into the ground and filling it with iron filings.

The process involves removing the pipes and leaving the filings. The ground is churned with a powerful auger to get an even mix of filings and dirt.

This creates a four-feet thick permeable wall for the contaminated water to flow through. The TCE reacts with the iron filings, thus cleaning the water.

Eventually, the iron filings get created with corrosion products causing the reaction to slow down. To eliminate this problem, the students used ultrasound to knock off the corrosion products and restore the reaction.

"It is just like using ultrasound to clean jewelry except we had to stick it in the ground," Reinhart said.

To get the ultrasound in the

See COMPUTER, Page 7

Features

Puppet master
Ventrilouquist Jeff Dunham to exhibit his talents at the UCF Arena.

— Page 12

Mercury Rising
Surprise! Bruce Willis is in a new action movie.

— Page 10

Last chance
Culpepper has one more chance to win the Black and Gold game.

— Page 20

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April 8

1998
Cars aimed at college students and their wallets

By OLIVIA K. CURNOW
Managing Editor

SEOUL—If you’re in the market for a new car, you may want to wait until the summer. That’s when you have the opportunity to drive a car free for six months.

Daewoo Corp., a Korea-based industry that manufactures automobiles, ships, tankers and television, is releasing a new line of cars into the United States in August. The three cars, Lanos, Nubira and Leganza, are aimed at the college market, according to Daewoo Chairman Kim Woon-Choo.

Because the company will not advertise through traditional means of television and newspapers, they have developed the “Ride and Buy” program. Through this program, interested buyers can apply for the short or long term test drives. Criteria include a driver’s license and no history of DUIs or other serious traffic violations.

The test drives will give prospective consumers the opportunity to drive one of the cars free of charge, with the insurance provided by Daewoo. One thousand cars will be available for the program. The short term will last one week and the long term test drive lasts six months. The drivers are expected to report on others’ opinions of the cars every week, thus enhancing their word-of-mouth ad campaign.

“We want to invite people to test drive our cars;” said J.C. Park, one of four regional managers in the U.S. “We want to let them understand that there are cars at an affordable price.”

Park realizes the problems that may become associated with the program. Either Daewoo must set stricter guidelines for eligibility or provide more cars for the program.

“There must be misuse of opportunity, we expect that,” he said. “But, we have to take that risk. I think after a couple of tries, most people will appreciate the opportunities.”

The Daewoo stores will open in Los Angeles, Atlanta, Chicago and New Jersey, then expand to major Florida cities, such as Miami, Tampa and Orlando.

LANOS
My first test drive was the Lanos, the smallest car in the line-up. With an appearance similar to the Honda Civic Hatchback or the Geo Metro, the exterior of the Lanos was, for lack of a better word, “fun and sporty.” However, the interior left much to be desired. The patches of lime-green, mauve and gray design was unsettling on the eye. I thought it was too flashy for my tastes, and nearly everyone I spoke to agreed.

The drive was a good one, though. The Lanos doesn’t have much pick-up, but it’s pretty easy to maneuver. Because of its size, though, I was more than careful with the amount of maneuvering I did—I was afraid I’d flip over on my side. Also, the rear of the car was unusually high, presenting a foreseeable problem with children or animals passing from behind as you put your car in reverse.

“I liked the Lanos the best,” said Rick Wong, a student at University of California-Los Angeles. “It’s a fun car, it’s cute. When I drove it, I felt like I could really get around and go crazy driving.”

The Lanos is expected to sell for $10,000 to $12,000.

NUBIRA
The Nubira was, I must admit, my absolute favorite. Reminding me of the Ford Escort or the Toyota Tercel, it was the easiest of the three to drive. It had speedy pick-up, and when making quick turns, I didn’t feel like I was going to get thrown to the other side of the car.

Unfortunately, the interior did not suit my tastes once again, but was much tamer than the Lanos. Both the front and back seats were very roomy and comfortable.

“It had decent power,” said Devon Kirchbaum, a graduating senior at California State University. “I noticed the European suspension is a lot stiffer than American suspension. The interior was kind of boring, there was nothing special about the interior, the instrument panel was run-of-the-mill.”

The Nubira is expected to sell for $14,000 to $16,000.

LEGANZA
The Leganza was classy. It resembles the Toyota Camry or the Honda Accord. The leather, roomy interior was the most comfortable in the lineup. The ride was smooth and stable, not as jolted or quick as the other cars.

The drive was a good one, though. The Leganza doesn’t have much pick-up, but is very easy to maneuver. Because of its size, though, I was more than careful with the amount of maneuvering I did—I was afraid I’d flip over on my side. Also, the rear of the car was unusually high, presenting a foreseeable problem with children or animals passing from behind as you put your car in reverse.

“I loved the Leganza,” said Grace Jang, a student at University of California-San Diego. “I would definitely buy it, if I had enough money. Due to financial reasons, though, I would probably opt for one of the other cars first, then buy the Leganza once I get into my career.”

The Leganza is expected to sell for $17,000 to $20,000.

Despite the heavy competition in the automobile industry, Daewoo expects to be one of the top ten automakers in the world by the turn of the century.

“We understand our position, we are newcomers, and we have to start from the bottom,” Park said. “We are challenging to establish a status quo. This will bring a sound and healthy competition to the market. After Daewoo, we cannot see any other manufacturer in the world big enough to enter the (U.S.) market.”

Olivia Curnow was one of eight college students from the U.S. invited to preview the new Daewoo line in Korea.

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Grants given to develop preventive drugs

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

The UCF Center for Diagnostics and Drug Development (CD3) has awarded its first grants to six faculty researchers in their efforts to develop new drugs and new testing procedures for life-threatening diseases.

The grant recipients represent UCF's chemistry, microbiology and molecular biology departments; Dr. Salhe Saleh Naser, Dr. Otto Phanstiel, Dr. Karl Chai, Dr. Ratna Chakrabarti, Dr. Cristina Fernandez-Valle and Dr. Harry Price.

"We have three goals in mind for CD3," said Dr. Howard Miles, CD3 co-director. "We want to improve the education and training of our students, promote community development of our students, and new testing procedures for life-threatening diseases." But the entire health care industry and establish research in a way that will open the way for the entire health care industry and establish research in a way that would allow more efficient detection of substances which inhibit the growth of pathogenic organisms and cancerous cells. Price said he has been working on the concept for more than two years.

"This grant means that I am now provided with the funds that I need to start these experiments," Price said. "It will allow me to support a student to perform supervised research so that we can get this project past its initial phases."

"We will be able to actually set up and demonstrate that our research will go a lot further than CD3," said Price, who holds a doctorate degree in chemistry. "We are working on developing fluorescence-based assays for the detection of inhibitors of DNA directed enzymes."

Phanstiel is working on a project which involves looking in tropical plant species for drugs which are active against the germs associated with tuberculosis. These pathogens are increasingly resistant to existing drugs and there is a constant need for new drugs to replace them.

"Our research will go a lot further than CD3," said Price, who holds a doctorate degree in chemistry. "We are working on developing fluorescence-based assays for the detection of inhibitors of DNA directed enzymes."

Phanstiel is working on a project which involves looking in tropical plant species for drugs which are active against the germs associated with tuberculosis. These pathogens are increasingly resistant to existing drugs and there is a constant need for new drugs to replace them.

"Because of the development of fluorescence-based assays for the detection of inhibitors of DNA directed enzymes, Phanstiel is working on a project which involves looking in tropical plant species for drugs which are active against the germs associated with tuberculosis. These pathogens are increasingly resistant to existing drugs and there is a constant need for new drugs to replace them.

"We have just finished producing the first four drug candidates and are evaluating their ability to accomplish their task," Phanstiel said. According to Miles, the growth of CD3 will also improve the education and training of UCF students by enhancing current graduate programs and creating new doctoral programs.

"It will also give our students more opportunities for internships and for getting jobs in the area after graduation," Miles said.

With the formation of the center, UCF hopes to become closer to its goal of Research I university status. Research I is the highest rating in the country and is determined by the number of federal research dollars a university generates and the number of doctoral level programs it offers.

The UCF center is unique in the nation by including diagnostic and drug development in an academic setting. The only other institute, which is somewhat similar in regard to identifying pharmaceutical leads, is located in the school of pharmacy at the University of Mississippi.

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Student Government Senate Allocations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill #</th>
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<th>Purpose</th>
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<td>Bangladesh Night</td>
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Students use internet, e-mail to communicate

climbed to include 210 male and female students.

"My goal as a teacher has always been to make a difference in student's lives," Douglas said. "I always hope for positive changes."

In 1981, Douglas became intrigued by the disease, which suppresses the immune system, after reading an article about HIV from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

In 1988, Florida passed the AIDS Omnibus Act. Douglas was driven by the act to spend 15 hours each day giving HIV presentations to health professionals.

UCF's universal Internet and email access have been incorporated into her course. Students are now given the option of developing an educational program about the prevention HIV or receiving an HIV-positive Internet pen pal.

Students who choose to have an Internet pen pal are required to interact with the friend at least twice a week via email, direct instant message or chat room.

Mesker has spoken to her pen pal via email, phone, and in person. "We are frank with each other. I didn't pull any punches on her about my heroin addiction, and she gave me a glimpse into the relative risks and dangers in her life."

Junior Kim Benjamin and sophomore Andrey Willett opted to develop traditional educational programs.

Benjamin and Willett have created a calendar filled with pictures, statistics, events and poems about AIDS.

Douglas encourages freshmen to register for the course.

"This class opened my eyes to the critical disease that is affecting my generation," said senior Amy Naylor.

Volunteers get involved, made a difference

From PAGE 1

Econlockhatchee watershed.

"The fact that the UCF campus is located in the Econlockhatchee watershed tells us that the health of this river depends upon our every day activities," Ahrens said.

The society has been working with the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD), the Little/Big Econlockhatchee State Forest, Watershed Action Volunteers (WAV) and Hidden River Park to improve the river's health.

For the St. Johns' River Celebration, the society and volunteers cleaned the Econlockhatchee from Highway 50 to the Lake Pickett Bridge. The celebration continued at Blanchard Park following the cleanup. Awards were given for the wearest piece of garbage collected.

Prizes were awarded to participants and the title of Weirdest Trash was awarded to the "solenoid," a battery powered device.

The X-rated video did not get brought out for the awards ceremony due to the number of children present, Parer said.

Dean Ahrens, president of the Environmental Society, and a fellow member kayak along the Econlockhatchee River.

Dean Ahrens, president of the Environmental Society, and a fellow member kayak along the Econlockhatchee River.

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ALDARA is a prescription cream both men and women can use at home to treat external genital warts. Just see your doctor for a diagnosis and a prescription, and ALDARA cream can get rid of the warts—so you can stop worrying.

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Students enter new generation in new building

By KATHERINE MARTIN
Staff Writer

UCF recognizes the need for more classroom space and feels the pressure to adapt with the latest technology. The new generation building is an attempt to meet those needs.

"The administration has committed UCF to being one of the top technology schools in the nation," said project manager Tom Woodruff. "The lecture halls are similar to the main auditorium in the Computer Sciences Building, except [the new auditoriums] are an advancement upon it. We are trying to use the latest technology and systems with this building."

Woodruff said construction will begin in July. The classroom building will be three stories high with computer rooms, classrooms, two large-capacity lecture halls, anatomy labs and docking stations in the hallways where students can plug in a laptop computer. The project's cost is estimated at $19.5 million and will be funded by the state.

According to junior Shannon Taylor, UCF has docking stations in the main computer lab. "I think it's pointless to have more docking stations," Taylor said. "Not many students use them now and they are planning to build more. It's pointless to build something we've already got."

The auditoriums along with several classrooms will be equipped with the capabilities of distance learning, where several classrooms can link together and learn from one instructor and each other.

"There are monitors facing the students and the instructors," Woodruff said. "At the same time the instructor is teaching to students here on campus, they are teaching to more students at the Breward, Daytona Beach and downtown Orlando campuses."

If someone in a remote location asks a question then a camera is activated and the instructor can talk with that student one-to-one, Woodruff said.

"The students love it," Woodruff said. "They don't have to drive 60 or 70 miles each way to go to school."

For some students this is an advantage over other schools but others have their doubts.

"I wonder how effective it is for the students," said professor Trenton Holland. "It's harder for the students to come see you during office hours."

"We should definitely make use of distance learning technology," said graduate student Avela Carter. "Personally, I like the classroom format better, but it should be available to service a particular type of student."

The classrooms will also have the capability of digitized presentations. Holland said the building and existing auditorium need to have the capability for traditional slide presentations.

"They expect everything to be in a digitized format," Holland said. "I have hundreds of slides and it would take a long time to digitize them all. They don't need to do away with the media at the expense of another."

Woodruff said many classrooms are already equipped with this technology, but UCF eventually plans to take this concept further.

"We lead the way, every student will have an laptop issued to them," Woodruff said. "[The students] will purchase the laptop and turn it in at the end of the year, much like a book at the book store."

The classrooms will ultimately broadcast on a frequency that will only be received by a computer with an id chip. If the student is within range of the frequency, then they could take their classes on the laptop.

"By risking this technology available for all of the students, then everybody has the same level of technology," Woodruff said.

"Everybody has an equal chance, not just the student who has money. Then the only limits are what you put upon yourself."

The general classroom building will be located next to the satellite utility plant and diagonally across from the Communication Building. It is anticipated to be ready for students in the fall of 1999.

Senate puts differences aside, gets down to business

By JOHN TURNER
Staff Writer

Unlike previous weeks, the Senate meeting on April 2 ran smoothly. A result, senators were able to focus on issues that affect the student body.

Funding bills for several clubs and organizations were passed with $6,612 allocated. (bu~)

"It's a great reflection of the organization," said chair of the organization, appropriation, and finance committee (OAF), officially introduced the 1998-1999 activity and service for budget.

He was asked many questions about the process the proposed budget must undertake before it is sent to the administration for final approval.

Siegel said any senator seeking to add more money to a particular program proposed in the budget would have to be taken out from another agency's request.

Siegel also said the "consequence of doing this is not pretty and will face the wrath of the particular club or agency you cut money from."

Sen. Chris Day noted a particular organization received a 500 percent increase, which would benefit the student body in a positive manner.

"Student government has been hard to fund noteworthy clubs and agencies all year, such as Volunteer UCF, whose funding on the proposed budget has increased to 300 percent," Day said. "This is because the organization is a great reflection of the students that go to this university."

Siegel said there are 53 other clubs and organizations that made finding requests from the $180,000 in the Senate working fund.

These clubs and organizations will be contacted sometime within a couple of weeks for an appearance before the OAF-committee.

Scott Ambrose, a spectator at the meeting, said the meeting went smoother than usual.

"I am impressed in the change from one week to another," Ambrose said. "The Senate was run with professionalism and maturity. This is what I expect in the leaders I vote for in the office they serve."

Sen. Jamie Halscott said he was proud to be a senator.

"This is the Senate that I have always wanted to be a part of," Halscott said. "I would prefer if the student body president would send an memo addressed publicly, rather than hear him cause a ruckus, which disrupts the normal flow of business in this legislative body."
Someone removes lion's nose with a sledgehammer

By ANNE MARIE MONTALI
Staff Writer

Michael Brantley, 22, reported the lion statue belonging to Sigma Alpha Epsilon was damaged on the nose and right eye.

None of the members of the fraternity knew who could be responsible. The damage appears to have been done with a sledgehammer.

The value of the statue is $3,000.

In other reports from the UCFPD:

• Timothy Frederic, 20, was arrested for possession of alcohol under the age of 21 and possession of an altered Florida driver's license. Police observed Frederic standing next to his vehicle behind the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house.

After approaching him, officers noticed Frederic to have blood shot eyes and to be unsteady on his feet. Two 12 packs of beer were found in his car.

After being asked for identification, Frederic first replied that he did not have one. Police later found an altered license in his wallet. Police placed Frederic under arrest.

• Police observed a black jeep traveling the wrong way on Knights' Court at about 12:30 a.m. on March 29.

When officers approached the vehicle, they noticed a fire extinguisher had been removed. He was placed under arrest after failing them.

• Matt Hausman, 23, reported that somebody broke into his vehicle sometime between 8:45 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. on April 17 at Ekana Golf Club.

He was placed under arrest after failing them. Police found a cooler with five beer bottles in Young's trunk.

• Matt Hausman's radio was damaged but nothing was taken.

Fingerprints were taken from the scene, but there are no suspects at this time.

• While on patrol in the parking garage, police noticed a fire extinguisher had been removed from the wall and was laying on the ground.

After further investigation, police found the extinguisher had been discharged along with several others on the fourth floor. The physical plant has been notified to replace the broken fire extinguishers.

• Todd Taylor, 19, reported a theft from his room in Polk Hall.

Taylor reported that sometime between 5:45 p.m. and 6 p.m. on March 25 somebody entered his unlocked room and removed several items.

Among the missing items are three Sony PlayStation CD games. There was no signs of forced entry. Fingerprints were taken from the room. One of the missing games is valued at $40. Taylor is willing to prosecute.

• Jeffrey Zinnert, 19, reported that sometime between 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on March 31, someone removed three credit cards from his wallet. Zinnert's wallet was in an unsecured locker in Building 39 on campus. Zinnert attempted to cancel his credit cards but was told someone charged $200 on his Visa card.

• Terry Langford, 50, reported two area floodlights were taken from outside one of the trailers near the Wellness Center.

The floodlights were last seen on March 16 at about 7:30 a.m. Officials at the Wellness Center are willing to prosecute.

• Stephen Olender, 20, reported to police that his vehicle had been damaged while parked on campus.

Olender parked his car at about 11 a.m. on March 24. When he returned an hour later, he noticed his driver's side door had been dented. Fingers were taken from the scene, but there are no suspects at this time.

• Stephen Olender is willing to prosecute.

In Greek news:

• Sigma Chi · Σ·X

The Greek House of Sigma Chi · Σ·X is holding its annual 5K run at Greek Park.

The event will begin at 7 p.m. Cost is $60 for students and $75 for all others. Cost is $12 for people who wish to eat dinner only. Greek House memberships are also available.

The four-player, shotgun scramble event begins at 1 p.m. Registration starts at noon. For information, call UCF-ALUM.

— A CFP Staff Report

Sororities collect derbies to aid hospital

By DAWN MYERS
Staff Writer

Sigma Chi will begin its annual philanthropy on April 15. Derby Days is a week-long event with games and activities.

Sororities compete and earn points for collecting toys that will be donated to the Arnold Palmer Hospital for children and women.

Throughout the week, the fraternity members will be wearing derbies.

The sorority that collects the most derbies will compete and earn points for administrators and directors, have been invited.

In other Greek news:

• The Student Wellness Advocate Team (SWAT) is holding its annual 5K run at Greek Park. People can register in advance for $4 or on April 17, which is the day of the race ($5). UCF students can register for free. T-shirts will be given to the first 250 people and prizes will be awarded to the team with the most spirit.

• The Greek VIP breakfast will be held on April 9 in the University Dining Room. Presidents from each fraternity and sorority, along with campus administrators and directors, have been invited.

• The first Greek Senior Seminar will be held in the Student Union on April 14.

There will be speakers to help with resume building, networking for a job and informing students on being active in an alumni. The seminar will be held at 7 p.m.

Education alumni chapter golf tournament set

The UCF College of Education Alumni Chapter will hold its annual scholarship golf tournament on April 17 at Ekans Golf Club.

All proceeds benefit scholarships for UCF students pursuing a career in education.

In addition to golf, participants receive free use of the driving range, goodie bag, lunch, beverages on the course, barbecue dinner and are eligible for awards.

Cost is $60 for students and $75 for all others. Cost is $12 for people who wish to eat dinner only.

The four-player, shotgun scramble event begins at 1 p.m. Registration starts at noon.

For information, call UCF-ALUM.

— A CFP Staff Report
Computer models, ultrasound aided in research

The students dug four-inch wells in the middle of the permeable wall. They inserted a probe that permitted the ultrasound waves to reach the ground. The ultrasound saved the students' time and money from having to pump the ground water out and treat it above ground every five years. Reinhart said UCF has a patent on this method.

Student Marc Cannata was responsible for figuring out how the ultrasound would be used in the ground. "We had to set up tests to measure its effectiveness in soil," Cannata said. "That was the hardest part because it had never been done, and we had no guidelines to go upon. We were breaking new ground!"

Cannata liked that everyone worked as a team on the project. "All of our work came together as one," Cannata said. "We all enjoyed the field experience and that something you couldn't learn in the classroom."

Student Stephen Burwinkel had to gather the purchase orders ready for the project. "It will be unbelievable for my career and working on it for so hard for so long and then just getting the chance to do the actual project was very satisfying," Burwinkel said.

Hernandez did what needed to be done

From PAGE 1

you knew.

Gary Orwig, interim chair of the College of Education, said Hernandez was very willing to teach large sections of courses with no help.

"He contributed very freely to the administration of the College of Education," Orwig said. "Every time there was something that needed to be done he was more than willing to do it."

Kim Hilsenroth, a student of Hernandez's, enjoyed taking his classes.

"He was really a good teacher," Hilsenroth said. "His class was very enjoyable and he was really upbeat."

According to Hilsenroth, the class used to conduct court cases and he would come into class with a judge's gown on and play the part to a tee. Webb-Joels said Hernandez was thoughtful and helpful to the students, but he did not give away A's. Students had to earn them.

Hernandez loved Scotland and the Lake District of Northwest England, a place he visited frequently. Webb-Joels said. "I will miss him very, very much."

Memorial Contributions can be made to The Carter Center, One Highland, 453 Freedom Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30307. Attn: Gayle Becker.

The contributions should indicate that they are in memory of Hernandez and are to be used for research of mental illness.

LEAD STORIES

- In January, Iowa became the second state to require employers to provide reasonable restroom breaks, and in April or May, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration plans to issue the first-ever federal directive on the topic. OSHA acted after hearing from employees who routinely were not permitted to leave their stations for hours at a time. Some reported having had to soil themselves, others brought empty bottles to their stations; and others refrained from liquids the whole day. An organizer for the Food and Commercial Workers Union said denial of restroom access is the No. 1 issue among poultry industry workers.

- Open Season: Three weeks before a U.S. Marine Corps pilot clipped a ski gondola in the Dolomite mountains in Italy, killing 20 people, a British air force Harrier jet accidentally dropped two half-ton, unarmed bombs on a farm in southern Italy, killing four people. The head injury caused death of a 12-year-old girl, he said, to make sure her cell phones were not permitted to leave their stations for hours at a time. Some reported having had to soil themselves, others brought empty bottles to their stations; and others refrained from liquids the whole day. An organizer for the Food and Commercial Workers Union said denial of restroom access is the No. 1 issue among poultry industry workers.

THE CONTINUING CRISIS

- In September in Des Moines, Iowa, federal prosecutor Kevin Query, 40, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for defrauding the federal government of about $450,000 by claiming disability benefits from a World War II hand injury while working full-time as a house painter. Once a month for 22 years, he put on an arm brace, got into a wheelchair, and reported to the local federal building to pick up his "paycheck." (The jury deliberated 12 minutes before finding him guilty.)

- In order to get around local ordinances that shut down their stripper bars, entrepreneurs in Erieoka, Calif., and Ladson, S.C., converted their businesses. Tom Razoody's Top Top Club became a recreational vehicle promotion facility in November, and now customers sitting under the flashing lights are handed numerous brochures for RVs while they watch women do pole dances. In January, Ladson's Jerry Colley converted his Club 2000 into the "Church of the Fuzzy Bunny's," featuring Bible-reading followed by a procession of pastie-wearing dancers.

SCHEMES

- In December in Fort Pierce, Fla., William Alfred Hitt, 71, was sentenced to four years in prison for defrauding the federal government of about $450,000 by claiming disability benefits from a World War II hand injury while working full-time as a house painter. Once a month for 22 years, he put on an arm brace, got into a wheelchair, and reported to the local federal building to pick up his "paycheck." (The jury deliberated 12 minutes before finding him guilty.)

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JUSTICE FOR ALL

- In August, the three murder convictions against Michael Pardue, 41, which sent him to prison 24 years ago, were dismissed by the Alabama Supreme Court as the product of a coerced confession (and a sister of one of the victims said she accepts that Pardue is innocent). However, the state Board of Pardons and Paroles said in November that it will not release Pardue, because of three subsequent convictions during those 24 years, for attempting to escape from the prison that was wrongfully holding him.

- Right Place, Right Time: In October, a federal judge in Albuquerque refused to send convicted casino robber Loretta Martinez, 61, to prison for stealing $7,000 in an April 1997 holdup. The judge noted that, in the interim, that particular casino was found to be without proper state authority and thus was operating illegally at the time of the heist. Martinez was not required to make restitution, the judge said, that would be like reimbursing a drug dealer for his losses.
U of I’s Chief Illiniwek on His Way Out?

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Chief Illiniwek’s days as the University of Illinois’ mascot are numbered as far as many students and faculty members are concerned.

Support to remove his image from campus is growing. With a vote of 97-29, the student senate approved a recent resolution declaring its intentions to retire Chief Illiniwek.

“The time has come to reconsider an issue that has been sitting on the table for a long time,” said History Professor Dan Littlefield. “The issues need to be aired publicly.”

The student senate is planning to present its concerns to the university’s board of trustees, which has already announced its intentions to retire Chief Illiniwek. Trustees are scheduled to meet soon to discuss the university’s plans.

“Illiniwek has become more of an embarrassment than a symbol of pride,” said John Lynn, the university’s anthropology department head. “It’s a mistake to get rid of the chief,” he said. “We could use him as an educational tool in ways that could make both sides happy.”

Trustees are scheduled to meet soon, and discussion regarding Chief Illiniwek is not on their agenda.

Reverse discrimination charged at Bowling Green State

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio — A federal jury has awarded $223,000 in damages to a journalist professor who claims he was denied a position at Bowling Green State University because he is a white male.

According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, John K. Hartman, an instructor at Central Michigan University since 1984, applied for a job in Bowling Green’s journalism department in 1994. The department instead hired Debbie Owens, a black woman who Hartman said had less experience and fewer publications to her name than he did.

To support his case, Hartman charged that the school bowed to pressure from an accreditor that was demanding the hiring of more female and minority faculty members.

Hartman also pointed out that the university’s Minority Enhancement Fund was established to pay salaries of minority faculty members — and that he had financed the position for which he had applied.

“Do not include any of them, Hartman argued. ‘I hope this verdict will cause all accrediting agencies to remove provisions that encourage universities to hire people based on race and gender.’”

Hartman reportedly said. University officials said they were disappointed with the verdict, and still believe the decision to reject Hartman stems from job qualification, but not discrimination. They said Owens was a better candidate for the job because she is an expert in issues related to ethnicity, gender, and race.

A judge will decide this challenging case when the College of Education appeals. The college of education is also challenging him. The school accepted applications from white candidates even though it never intended to hire any of them, Hartman argued.

“I am very thankful that the university recognizes what he has brought to our world and this art form,” said Janine Thompson, assistant professor and movement specialist in the university’s theater department.

The college of education has been teaching a new course that focuses on the college of education’s Native American culture. The school accepted applications from white candidates even though it never intended to hire any of them, Hartman argued.

“We should focus on the issue of race and gender,” he said. “It’s...
The latest of the Bruce Willis action flicks turns out to be as bad as one might think. Director Harold Becker, whose credits include "City Hall" and "Sea of Love", breaks into the blood and guts genre in a very stylistic way. Mercury Rising has a refreshing mix of intense action, skilled performances, and a good storyline that are usually absent in this type of movie.

Bruce Willis stars as FBI undercover agent Art Jeffries, whose job is on the line due to a botched assignment and a questionable psychological profile. Reduced to low level assignments, Art is called in to investigate a missing autistic child whose parents were found dead in a presumed murder/suicide. Art finds the boy, Simon, played by Miko Hughes ("Zues and Roxanne") and has him rushed to the hospital.

While investigating, Art meets Simon, a nine-year-old autistic savant who becomes the target of assassins after inadvertently deciphering a top-secret government code in "Mercury Rising." Art is in such danger that he is fighting for his own life and getting away successfully. Art finds that the real battle has only just begun. The new battle lies in trying to find out why Simon's life is in such peril and, even worse, how to get Simon to trust him enough to tell him what he might know. This proves very difficult for Art because, to Simon, Art is a stranger, and every kid knows that you "never talk to strangers." After a few more attempts to silence Simon, however, this rule goes out the window and Simon and Art form a bond of trust and friendship.

While this is all going on, two men who work for the killers, contact Art and inform him that the sadistic killers that he is fighting really work for the National Security Agency, at the top of which is Lt. Colonel Nicolas Kadrow played by Alec Baldwin ("The Shadow"). They tell Art that the reason Simon is in such danger is that he inadvertently cracked a government supercode named Mercury. It was printed in a puzzle magazine to test its strength against some the most feared groups known to man, the geeks. Although Simon is autistic, he is also a genius and managed to decipher this mega sophisticated code and now he is the NSA's number one target.

Mercury Rising provides some excellent action scenes that aren't too unbelievable, a lot of really good acting, and a pretty original storyline. Miko Hughes does an incredible job in his performance and being way too adorable for his own good only adds to this. As always, Alec Baldwin does a great job and is expertly intimidating and wonderfully evil in his role.

However, while it does have many good points, this movie is not perfect. For one thing, every single time the kid looks at the jumped mercury code, they play this totally cheesy $1 billion man music to show how his genius brain is deciphering this supercode. After the third time this becomes simply comical. Another downer is that the action throughout the film does a great job building up to what is hoped to be a great climax and while the final confrontation is OK, it doesn’t quite deliver what was expected. It does end on a warm and touching moment that stays well out of the "totally sappy" zone. All in all it’s a good flick that should be enjoyed by an action going person or one who wants a good story.

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and
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Welcome to the Future
Outcast FBI agent Art Jeffries (Bruce Willis), must prevent Simon (Miko Hughes), a nine-year-old autistic savant who becomes the target of assassins after inadvertently deciphering a top-secret government code in "Mercury Rising."
LISTEN UP!

By Shannon Whay

Put this CD in your player, sit down and open the inside flap. Read "I want to say what’s happened to all the rage that live and die in Detroit everyday. Then you’ll get the gist of where Moodymann is coming from. At first, I thought this album was OK, nothing great, so great lyrics that make you think about truth, justice, and the American way. However, once you just chill with Moodymann’s way of blending music, you’ll see where he is, Detroit. This isn’t Detroit music. I said to myself, then I looked on the inside cover and glanced at all of the family pictures of Moodymann himself, his grandma, him with weird faces, & his baby pictures. Then, as I listened to what Moody was saying through his music, I understood what he was trying to put across to everyone. "I Can’t Kick This Feeling When It Hits." Features a lot of talk, mumbo jumbo night you say. "Demons" begins just like they all do, with a simple repetitive beat, that increases with momentum as the keyboards continue to play. Moody seems to play on a bass beat for a while (there is no rush with his music), then he’ll add a slight difference to the mix. Some chimes, a sax here and there, whatever sounds good at the time. Moody himself looks slick in the 70’s, with his get-out-of-tow-also and his cool circular shades, which he can appeal to the 90’s style of house and jazz, with a touch of hip-hop, and R&B. Of course whenever he feels the need to change the simple beat that originated at the beginning of the album, he does.

Moodymann
Silent Introduction
(Planet E)

City of Angels
from the Motion Picture Soundtrack
"City of Angels"
(Mortal Sound/Reprise Records)

Before I go into the details of how delightful (yes, delightful) this CD is, let me first spell out the bands that are featured within this soundtrack. U2, Alona Morisane, Peter Gabriel, Goo Goo Dolls, Sarah McLachlan and Grammy award winner Paul Simon Cole. A-W-E-S-O-M-E. This album highlights a captivating collection of songs from some of today’s most celebrated superstars and features new material as well. I’m sure you’ve heard a couple of these songs that have already been done like Alanis’ "Unmoving" but first new recording since Jagged Little Pill or U2’s "If God Will Send His Angel", but maybe you haven’t experienced Sarah McLachlan’s "Angel", my personal favorite on the album. This delicate song of hope and personal faith is as serene as the singer herself, and Ms. McLachlan always seems to create those songs that make you sit back and think. She even felt as though the movie itself "pulled at all the right heart strings." The Goo Goo Dolls also feature an charismatic "Yes," that seemed to perfectly fit the theme of the film. "What moved me most about the film," commented John Rzeznik of the Goo Goo Dolls, "was how it presented a metaphor of the defeces we develop to protect ourselves and how taking a leap or risk is so important to really live; to be really alive. I love when respected artists like those come together for a soundtrack that they truly enjoy making, I think that it shows throughout this album how dedicated each group/artist felt while produc­ing these songs.

Agents of Good Roots
One by One
(RCA records)

One by One is the third CD put out by this Richmond, Virginia’s foremost. Their music is extremely varied, so varied that each song seemed to hold a different sound and a distinct atmosphere. Brian Jones (drums/lead vocals) even commented on this contrasting collection, "we’re kind of a moody band and on this record, with three vocalists and so many styles, it lends itself to various moods." Out of the 12 tracks on this album, nine featured a mixture of electric guitar & heavy metal ballads that resembled Nirvana slightly. One other track was the wryness "Mass Misbelieving" and one was an upbeat poem, with a percussion background and a touch of pianist class. However, beneath this melting pot of mediocre musical notes was one great song, one inspiritional beauty that the entire CD should have been named after: "I’ll be back." It begins buoyantly with a tender piano entrance that introduces a story of someone’s self. It’s not about coming back to an old love and it’s not about returning to a missed hometown. It’s about falling out of who you are and coming back. I’m trying to patch up the pieces of broken time. I’m sorry I ran so far away from myself, but I swear I’ll be back." Writing these words down, really does the song justice, so no justice. It may seem sappy now, but believe me, it’s worth going out of your way to listen to. It’s the only song that I honestly liked and it is the only one I’ll listen to again & again.
Comedian performs for charity at Arena

By BRANTLEY TATE BROWN
Staff Writer

Ever seen a jalapeno on a stick? Ever see one talk? You will on Thursday night at 8 p.m. when comedian and ventriloquist Jeff Dunham appears at the UCF Arena. This is his second performance at UCF and the Los Angeles based comedian is donating all of the proceeds to UCF Victims Services Unit. Dunham recently won the American Comedy Award for "Standup Comic of the Year." He has also appeared on ABC’s "Ellen," NBC’s “The Tonight Show," and "Comic Strip Live." Anyone familiar with his work knows that it is his onstage pals that steal the show. His sidekicks are Walter, a grumpy pinched-faced bald-headed man who looks like a prune sticking on a lemon and who doesn’t like anything; Jose Jalapeno-on-a-stick, a giant green sleepy-eyed pepper who is the "politically incorrect part of the show;" and Peanut, a purple potbellied "woooze" with green hair and one shoe. However, it is the talent of Jeff Dunham who breathes life and believability into his characters. Astonishingly, he not only speaks for his dummies but also drinks a glass of wine while speaking for them.

The show will begin with a representative from the Service Unit that will speak on sexual rape, battery, and domestic violence. Then a music and dance video on sexual violence will be viewed, and then Jeff Dunham will take the stage. The night will surely be a crowd pleaser and an educational event for all and should not be missed.

Tickets for the show can be purchased through Ticketmaster or by calling the UCF Arena box office. Free student passes can be picked up in the Student Union in room 215. Also being offered are 20 VIP passes for $10 which will be given out Wednesday afternoon in front of the Union on a first come, first serve basis. The pass includes guaranteed second and third row seating and a signed autograph picture.

The UCF Victims Services Unit is available to assist any member of the university community, including students, faculty, and staff. Mary Ann McCunn from the Victims department stated that, "In the past, some of the funds have been spent putting victims up in a hotel for the night, providing transportation for court appearances, medical appointments, or outside assistance with legal aid and counseling."
A midsummer night’s riot

BY STACEY COPELAND
Staff Writer

Theater is always one of two things: excruciatingly bad or marvelously good. Luckily, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” is certainly the latter. The Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival kicked off it’s 1998 Spring Repertory Season last week with the opening of “Midsummer,” which is said to be Shakespeare’s favorite comedy.

The play is centered around the marriage of Duke Theseus and Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons. A young maiden, Hermia, must choose between the convent, death and marriage to a man she detests, Demetrius. Hermia instead chooses to run away and to Athens with her true love, Lysander. They are pursued by Demetrius and his scorned love, Helena. That night they are arguing over custody of a young Indian boy. Oberon decides to play a trick on Titania, and anoints her with a magic flower that will make her fall in love with the next thing she sees. A group of workmen happen to be rehearsing a play in the woods that night. Titania falls in love with Bottom the Weaver even though he has had a donkey’s head put on him as a joke. Oberon also orders Puck, his lieutenant, to use the magic flower to help poor Helena win the heart of Demetrius. But Puck messes that one up big time. Soon everyone is falling in love with the wrong person! Does this sound like a really weird episode of some daytime soap opera or what?

It’s a little hard to grasp on paper if you aren’t familiar with the play but you’ll have no such trouble in the theater. The roles are played so well and the characters are so memorable that it is impossible not to know who’s who and who’s doing what. One thing that is truly surprising about this play is how funny it is. In several scenes it’s downright hysterical. This is due in part to the funny man who plays Bottom the weaver, Philip Nolan. His silly antics with Flute (Marc O’Donnell) in a scene near the end of the play had the audience wiping tears of laughter from their eyes.

One word of warning, the first half of the play is a little slow and by the end of the play had the audience enraptured with their laughter.

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By HENRY SPRINGS

Staff writer

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The owner says they are

delicate brown. The mix of oregano,

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It's mixture of tomatoes, cucumbers,

and oregano, just to name a few.

The menu includes everything

big on Greek. He's Greek and he's

been in the business for

more than two decades.

The roasted potatoes had been

overpowering. The chicken still tastefully tasty. The skin was roasted to a

crisp. (The term "roasted" applied in the case of chicken is used as a

noun, not a verb.)

The desserts are typically Greek:

Baklava, rice pudding, or pie. The

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April 8, 1998

There are many happy returns with IRS site

By VICKI DESORMIER
Staff Writer

OK, you've procrastinated long enough. The clock is ticking and unless your parents are still claiming you as a dependent, which they can do until you're 24 as long as you are single and in school, you had better file your taxes.

The tortuous task of filing your income tax return is made a little easier by the Internal Revenue Service's website at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov/prod/cover.html.

Sure, there is nothing pleasant or easy about all that accounting, unless, of course, you're getting money back. But the friendly atmosphere of the easy-to-use website sponsored by one of the most hated government agencies makes the adventure easier.

There's a little humor interjected throughout the site, part of an effort to make the government seem more user-friendly and less Big Brotherish.

The Digital Daily is presented by the Department of the Treasury and the IRS. It is, they tell you, the "fastest, easiest, tax publication on the planet" and it is fun, helpful and easy to use.

All of those lines and figures you never could quite figure out are explained one by one so you put the right numbers in the right line. Of course, it doesn't hurt to double-check your figures when you're done.

One of the best things about this virtual IRS office is you can't misplace anything. The 1040 form mailed in January along with an explanation book was probably tossed out long ago after your friend spilled a beer across the kitchen table.

And if it didn't get thrown out, it's really not the kind of thing you want to send in. Not to worry — you can print out a whole new form and the instruction booklet ... or just leave them on the screen while you fill them out for easy reference.

And nothing can be more soothing than doing your taxes at the last moment, if that's what you need to do. If you can get through on the IRS's toll-free line, it probably will not be able to get you that form in time via traditional snail mail. Not to worry — you can just print that form from their website.

The site also includes tax stats, tax information for individuals and businesses, electronic services, help and education and even a "meet the commissioner" feature.

The site is easy to navigate and, if you haven't misplaced that shoe box crammed with receipts, you should have your taxes done in no time.

But if you're still young enough, you might want to have mom and dad claim you as a dependent ... that's the easiest way to do it!

UCF honors student-athletes

From PAGE 20

UCF with a 10:56 time in the 3,000-meter run, placing 13th. Amber Twyman placed fifth in the javelin with a 129-foot, 11-inch throw while freshman Karen Beaud placed ninth in the shot put with a 42-foot, 5-inch toss.

UCF will compete next at the Raging Bull Twilight Invitational on April 11 at the University of South Florida.

Athletes awarded for academic achievement

UCF honored a recipient from each sport for academic excellence at the UCF Arena on April 1. These awards are given by the National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS) to individuals who exemplify the ideals of National Student-Athlete Day of balancing athletics, academics and life pursuits, and to those who go above and beyond to assist others in reaching those goals.

Here are the people UCF honored and their sport: Matt Laboytynski (baseball), Brad Traina (men's basketball), Stacey DeVeaux (women's basketball), Jennifer Polz (crew), Lou Stulich (men's cross country), Anne Panagia (women's cross country), Michelle Rolke (track), Dustin Culpepper (football), Kristian Svojverb (men's golf), Emma Soderlindh (women's golf), Erik Rihahlet (men's soccer), Alyssa O'Brien (women's soccer), Brian Brunskog (men's tennis), Rachna Aahir (women's tennis) and Dawn Hoffman (volleyball).

Men's tennis team loses 2 of 3 on road trip

The men's tennis team defeated Texas El Paso on April 3, 5-2, but lost to Nevada Las Vegas, 6-1, on April 1 and New Mexico State, 6-1, on April 4. No. 1 singles player David Winberg struggled on the road trip, losing all of his matches to fall to 15-4. UCF's (12-9) No. 3 through No. 6 singles players all had victories against UTED. The only other singles victory on the trip was No. 4 Greg Novak's 7-6, 6-1 win over NMSU's Jess Bulleyer.

Women finish third at Ryder

The women's golf team shot a final round 305 to finish third at the Ryder Florida Women's Collegiate Challenge played April 3-5. UCF finished tied with South Florida and Florida State with a three-day score of 941. Florida (900) and Miami (913) took the top spots.

The Knights were paced by Tatiara Londres's 225 (Tied for fourth, 81-73-71) and Emma Soderlindh's 230 (Tied for ninth, 78-75-77).
Student, 32, feels she can cash in with degree

By VICKI DeSORMIER
Staff Writer

Kate Warner says if she had to do it all over again, she would have finished college in her early 20s, but at the time she thought work was more important.

"I wanted to make money," she said. "I wanted to get rich and studying just didn't fit into that plan."

Warner said she dropped out of school after her sophomore year to take a management position at the fast food restaurant where she had worked since high school. She believed she would be able to purchase her own franchise after a few years and that would lead to her financial independence.

"Of course I thought I would earn more than $6 an hour," she admitted.

And, she said, after a few years she realized that without more education into the intricacies of business and management, her dreams of owning her own businesses would remain just that: a dream. Even if she could afford the restaurant, making it a success required more than practical experience.

By then, however, she thought she didn't have time for school. She had to work 50 hours a week just to make ends meet.

"It took a while — 10 years — but I finally came back to school," she said.

At 32, she is nearly a junior and hopes to have a degree in business or computers within two years.

The mother of two pre-school daughters, she still works 40 to 45 hours a week while maintaining about eight hours of classes per semester.

"You just make the time for school," she said. "There's time to do what you need to do if you make the time."

Warner said she still has dreams of opening her own restaurant. Her husband is a chef, she says, and they feel they could operate a strong business.

"But I'm not even going to try it without my degree," she said. "I really believe that is the difference between operating a marginal business and operating a successful business."

While she admits no one could have told her these things when she was a young woman, she intends to stress the importance of a post-secondary education to her children.

"I used to think 'who needs to go to school? I have all the on-the-job-training I need.' But I figured out you need a lot more than knowing how to answer someone else. Ultimately, you need to know every aspect of running a business if you're going to be successful."

She believes the courses of study she is pursuing will help her find the knowledge she needs to be successful.

"There are no guarantees," she said. "But, then, there are no guarantees in life, are there?"
Kruczek to coach Culpepper in annual Black and Gold Game

From PAGE 20

but I hope Culpepper's continued health keep you on the sidelines and it's largely due to the system the coaching staff uses to break up the team.

In the days of Gene McDowell, can't you imagine the circle-timmed glasses, Bear Bryant-hat and half-chewed single right about now? The offensive and defensive coordinators would split the team up via a draft. The rules were whoever got the first pick, the other coach would get the next two selections to compensate and then they would go back-and-forth, taking one player at a time. A key role was that if a coach took a starter at a certain position, the other coach immediately got the backup.

To make a long story short: In 1997, when then defensive coordinator Brian VanGorder took Culpepper with the first pick, then offensive coordinator Kruczek took the team's best pass rusher, the team's starting left tackle and he got Thorpe, all before VanGorder got to choose a second player.

The results: Kruczek's Black team quarterbacks had all the time they needed to throw, while Culpepper was running defensive end Jermaine Benoit most of the afternoon. Look at the numbers: Thorpe went 17 of 22 for 198 yards and a touchdown, while Culpepper was nine of 16 with two interceptions.

Black 31, Culpepper 20.

Kruczek said.

"The rules on dividing the players will be the same this year, but Kruczek said he will coach Culpepper regardless of which team he is on. Kruczek is hoping a spring game victory will strengthen the bond between them.

"My opponents the last two years have taken him," Kruczek said. "I promised Daunte last year that he and I would work together in his senior year, so that's what we're going to do. I'm going to coach one side, unlike Gene [McDowell], and probably Paul [offensive coordinator Paul Lounsberry] and Chiz [defensive coordinator Gene Chizik] will coach the other side and Daunte will be with me. We haven't lost too many of these things," Kruczek said.

"That's all I know," Kruczek said. He was the previous two years against Culpepper by drafting heavily on the defensive side of the ball, which is a theory Lounsberry will likely imitate. Kruczek said the coaches meeting often get as heated as the players during the game.

"It's pretty interesting," Kruczek said. There's a strategy thing that goes on Tuesday morning. There are arguments, I mean it gets crazy in there. It gets worse than the players."

"The game has a friendly feel, but when you put these guys in a competitive situation, as far as football is concerned, it's going to get crazy," Kruczek said.

"I'm pretty sure who the head coaches will be, but I know one thing: it's not going to be me," Chizik said. "That's all I know."

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Receivers have mediocre performances in scrimmage

From PAGE 20

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"It was a lot better than last week as far as over-
all performance by both sides," coach Mike Kruczek said. "Last week the offense dominated
and the defense kind of rolled over. They've been
stepping it up all week. It was a much better
effort and they executed well and forced the
offense into some errors."

Dropped passes and the solid defense frustrat-
ed Culpepper, who completed only four of his
last 14 passes. Culpepper finished the scrimmage
11 of 24 for 158 yards and two touchdown pass-
es to Nonsant. He also carried 12 times for a
scrimmage-high 107 yards.

Culpepper had one of his better plays shortly
after one of his worst. The series after Moore
intercepted a deflected pass, Culpepper drew the
defense offsides on a third and one and then took
the free play and ran through the middle of the
defense, breaking three or four tackles en route to
a 45-yard gain. Kruczek rated the standout quar­
terback's effort as OK, adding that the senior-to-
be can do better. Culpepper said there is plenty to
work on before the Sept. 5 opener at
Louisiana Tech.

"Our execution level wasn't up
down," Culpepper said. "We just have to
keep stepping it up all week.
"We dropped more balls today than in the other
ten practices combined," said Kruczek.

"You cannot drop passes in a passing attack and
remain consistent moving the ball. Joey Hubbard
dropped them, the backs dropped them and the
receivers dropped them. You can't do that."

Wide receiver Charles Lee had the most effec-
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Baseball team hopes to regroup with Stetson series

FROM PAGE 20

Senior pitcher Todd Bellhorn (8-0, 1.29 ERA) struggled against FIU, giving up three earned runs and seven hits over 4.2 innings on April 3.

"A Typical example of not walking ahead in the count," Bellhorn said. "You have to get the ball over the heart of the plate when the count is 2-0 or 3-1. We didn't let the game get out of hand and I think they had a sense in them in the last two innings of the first game and five in the sixth inning of the second. We didn't let them get a couple of guys on."

The team's late-inning luck ran out in the April 4 doubleheader, as FIU made late scoring surges to tie the season series in 1997, 3-3, but the Knights defeated Stetson 14-9, to win the tournament, 14-9, to win the 1997 TAAC Championship.

"We just have to get back to hitting and playing UCIF baseball," Riggs said. "Sometimes you get the bounce, and sometimes you don't. As long as you hit hard, you can't do anything else."

Looking Ahead: A rematch of the 1997 TAAC Championship Game is set for April 10 as UCF will play a three-game series with Stetson University (19-14-1, 3-3) April 10-11. The team led the season series in 1997, 3-3, but the Knights defeated Stetson in the tournament, 14-9, to win the TAAC title.

"The Knights might be able to cut their offensive woes against Stetson. No one on Stetson's starting staff has a winning record and its best pitcher, Jeff House, is 3-4 with a 5.40 ERA. Although the Hatters team ERA (6.06) is almost twice as high as UCF's (3.15, first in the TAAC), their offense is in steady.

Senior shortstop Ken Serrano leads the Hatters in batting average (.503), RBI (42) and hits (78). Stetson's hitting (.325 team average) compares favorably to UCF's (.292). Statistics aside, the outcome of the series may again come down to late game performance, Bergman said.

"You have to approach every game in the conference just like it's the only game," Bergman said. "There's so much parity between the four schools in the conference that we just have to go out and play hard, take advantage of the situation and score some runs. It's not really that hard to figure out."

Notebook: Before facing Stetson, the Knights played at South Florida on April 7. UCF will face the Bulls two more times in April: at USF on the 14th and at home on the 21st. The Knights won the most recent match-up 10-7 on March 30th to tie the season series at 1-1... UCF leads the all-time series with Stetson 40-32. The doubleheader between with Stetson April 11 will be televised on Sunshine Network. The first game begins at noon... Coach Jay Bergman received his first ejection of the season in the early game against FIU on April 4 after arguing over a close call at first base. FIU center fielder Jim Molina hit an infield grounder to the left of the pitcher's mound. UCF pitcher Chris Miller threw the ball to first baseman Matt Bowser, who appar­ently tagged the base seconds before Molina arrived. Molina crashed into Bowser, jarring the ball loose and the first base umpire ruled Molina safe... Catcher Erik Johnson is on a 14-game hitting streak, which breaks his previous best of 12... UCF earned a No. 25 ranking in the Collegiate Baseball Division 1 Baseball poll for the week of March 30.

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Defensive improvement makes for competitive scrimmage

By TONY MEJIA
Staff Writer

UCF's first-team defense had to be thinking "here we go again" after Daunte Culpepper dissected it in the first two drives of the second scrimmage of spring on April 4. After all, Culpepper led UCF to six touchdowns in seven drives in the first scrimmage, and made his 8-yard touchdown run and a 17-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Mark Nonsant look effortless.

The defense rallied, however, holding Culpepper and the potent first-team offense scoreless in their next six drives.

"The defense stepped it up tremendously," Culpepper said. "It was their attitude that made the difference. Their attitude was so much better than it was last week. They were tenacious, sliding around creating good sticks and good hits on the ball. They did everything that you look for in a defense."

The second-team defense was impressive as well, forcing turnovers in each of the second-team offense's first three possessions and not allowing a score in the first six.

Jeff Mauldin and Tito Rodriguez each had two sacks, while Paul Miranda and Justen Moore secured interceptions. The defense also forced a pair of fumbles.

By GEOFF GONSOULIS
Sports Editor

Quarterback Daunte Culpepper is going to have the best season of his collegiate career under the new regime of coach Mike Kruczek.

That statement should come from opinion to fact, barring injury (Shut up!), quite early in the upcoming season. With a softer schedule, well softer as coming from bugging your head against reinforced concrete to plate glass, Culpepper should be a Reisman front-runner, especially given the new regime and he wants to win the final one.

That statement should turn from thinking "here we go again" after Daunte Culpepper dissected it in the first two drives of the second scrimmage of spring on April 4. After all, Culpepper led UCF to six touchdowns in seven drives in the first scrimmage, and made his 8-yard touchdown run and a 17-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Mark Nonsant look effortless.

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