Huge size classes can intimidate incoming freshmen

By NICOLE KING
Staff Writer

Jennifer Riley was lost her first day at UCF. Not only was she looking at her map all day, the sheer size of her first class made her anxiety even worse.

"I was really intimidated by the large lecture classes," Riley said. "I thought I would get lost in the crowd and I wouldn't be able to keep up." Now a second-semester freshman, Riley, 19, has adjusted to large university-size classes but admits she was surprised at the number of big classes at UCF.

"I just thought there weren't as many as there were," she said.

Riley's first-day shocks is not uncommon. Over the past five years, UCF's student population has risen steadily, by about a thousand students a year. As a result, the number of larger classes is also on the rise. Besides being mathematically different from smaller classes, classes with more than 50 students can cause other problems for students and professors.

"You tend to let your mind wander more in a larger class," said Thy Tran, 21.

As a microbiology major, Tran has taken many lecture-size classes. Tran said one of the main problems with big classes is the loss of interaction between professor and student.

"In the larger classes, the professor tends to go on and on, whereas in a smaller class, the professor will stop and answer questions," Tran said. "Also, the professors recognize you easily in smaller classes. So they might know some of your weaknesses and can help you more."

Electrical engineering major Kim Nguyen also prefers smaller classes to larger ones.

"I can concentrate more in smaller classes," Nguyen said. "I feel like I can ask more questions and there seems to be more explanation and attention given to students."

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

Love affair with sun can cause skin cancer

Ever since the 1920s when fashion mogul Coco Chanel sported her suntan after a yachting vacation, many Americans have equated sun with good health, fun and beauty.

"When I was in high school, all the girls used to cover themselves with a combination of baby oil and iodine," said UCF student Heather Summy. "It was like we were busting ourselves to cook in the sun. We didn't know then that we could get skin cancer."

Most experts attribute the dramatic rise in skin cancer to America's love affair with the sun and a lifestyle that puts more people in the sun, for longer periods of time and in more revealing outfits.

According to the American Cancer Society, more than 600,000 people were diagnosed with basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas in 1990, up from 400,000 in 1980.

Thirty-five thousand more were diagnosed with melanoma, the deadliest skin cancer.

By JAMES COMBS
Staff Writer

Mother Nature parties on the UCF campus

Earth Day was celebrated for the first time at UCF, complete with live bands, information booths and free food.

The Earth Day Blowout celebration was held outside the Student Union on April 23 and was hosted by the Campus Activities Board.

The music of Cold Spot 8, Welvville and UMJOA drew junior Jason Peterson to the event.

"I could hear the music all the way from the library," Peterson said. "I decided to check out what was going on and I enjoyed the music."

The free food from Subway attracted other students to the event.

"Any time there is free food, I am going to be the first one in line," said sophomore Amy Bland. "I thought it was cool that the CAB decided to offer free food for this."

Many students also participated in Plant-A-Flower. Students planted a seed in a little pot, and then took it home to watch the flower bloom.

"Maybe now I won't have to go to a store and buy my girlfriend flowers," freshman Marty Stopher said.

Other students enjoyed making pictures out of sand.

Sophomore Tanika Solomon used various colors to draw a picture of God. Junior Brent Creasman drew a picture of his Chevy S-10 pickup truck.

Information booths were set up by members of the Campus Information booths were set up by members of the Campus Activities Board.

Looking ahead

The staff tackles the problems of UCF's future.

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

Volunteers make the campus beautiful

By LORI CARTER
Staff Writer

Volunteer UCF (VUCF), Student Government Association (SGA) and The Garden Club teamed up for Beautification Day on April 18.

"We try to keep an eye out for what is going on in the community and sometimes we plan our own events," said Amy Pounds, director of VUCF. "We started planning Beautification Day at the end of January. According to Pounds, the group started by getting in touch with the UCF grounds crew to find out what they felt needed attention.

The SGA also had a campus clean-up day as one of their platform goals.

Keith McDonald, president of SGA, said VUCF had trouble getting a list from the physical plant, which included things which needed to be done. McDonald said SGA chipped in by notifying other UCF clubs of the event. According to McDonald, SGA also helped with advertising. SGA provided wings, finger sandwiches and drinks for the volunteers.

David Merker, who works for the grounds crew, donated 125 heavy duty garbage bags and told VUCF members what areas need to be cleaned up.

By JAMES COMBS
Staff Writer

Love affair with sun can cause skin cancer

Volunteers gather around the Administration Building to collect garbage and plant flowers.

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

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Students should not worry about tests

By LINDA RAMOS
Staff Writer

With finals becoming a heavy weight on the shoulders on many students, a few test-taking tips can come in pretty handy.

Tests are tools for comprehension measurement, according to co-authors Kenneth Graham and H. Alan Robinson of the Study Skills Handbook. Tests measure how well a student interprets, retains, organizes, analyzes and expresses class material learned during a specified period of time.

Some general guidelines can be followed before, during and after taking tests. Be sure to get 7-8 hours sleep the night before a test. Being completely rested aids in alertness during an exam. Do not arrive too early for the testing environment. You may be thinking, "Yeah right." However, your thoughts do create your reality so try to make it as positive as possible.

Brenda Smith of Bridging the Gap College Reading suggests when you receive the test focus completely on the testing environment. In other words, block out all distractions including other students and just concentrate on the exam. After receiving the test, Smith advises (if allowed by the professor) to jot down formulas, key words or concepts on the top corner of the test sheet as an aid in answering questions.

Unloading this information from memory can free up some "brain space" and help you to more fully concentrate. Don't assume you know what the directions say, always read the directions.

There are two approaches in answering test questions quickly and efficiently. Method (A) is to answer the easy questions you are sure about first which helps build test-taking confidence. Method (B) is to start at the first question and plow straight through the test until the very last question. Method (B) helps prevents careless mistakes such as questions being skipped and mismatched on the answer sheet.

Do not let students who finish early bother you. Finishing first does not mean getting the best grade. You are not being graded on the being the fastest and you are not competing with other students. You are competing with yourself to do your best.

Leave some extra time for reviewing. The purpose of reviewing is not to doubt all your answers but to catch any careless mistakes.

After completing the test, do not obsessively dwell on your performance as advised by Kevin Paul of Study Smarter, Not Harder. Believe that you did what you could do under those circumstances. Then let it go.

Linda Ramos is associated with Full Student Services (FSS), which provides word processing and research assistance to college students. Direct all correspondence to FSS, PO Box 622077 Oviedo, FL 32762-2077 or 407-525-3302.
Love in the '90s is a walk in the park

By CHRISTINE TATUM
College Press Service

Say what you will about Frank Sinatra, but one thing is indisputable: he knows how to pick up chicks.

His line of conquests is as long and storied as Mir's journey through outer space — Laurent Bacall, Angie Dickinson, Ava Gardner (his wife number two) — as name a few. Marlene Dietrich once called him "the Mercedes-Benz of men," and Dean Martin swore that when Sinatra dies "they're giving his zipper to the Smithsonian."

Golly, and many guys nowadays have trouble even asking someone out on a date. When they do, Chad Brooks, a senior journalism major at Indiana University, said it usually goes something like this:

"Hey, Baby. How 'bout you and me grabbing a six pack and heading back to the house so you can watch me play Sega?"

"I don't do that," Brooks said. "I'm in the first group of guys. The ones who are nervous and shy because they're afraid of rejection."

Is this what the art of wooing women—a talent Sinatra defined and refined — has come to?

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, say it ain't so, said Bill Zehme, author of "The Way You Wear Your Hat," saying that men are lost when it comes to the whole dating scene, Zehme continued.

"With a woman spilled her purse or dropped a napkin, he helped her pick it up. If she entered a room or approached his table, he stood up.

"He did a lot of learning for us," Zehme said. "And he made a lot of mistakes, then he made them over again before trying something different."

They're tough questions, but Sinatra's answers are the basis for a strategy that has made the hearts of babes, broads and dames come to.

"Anytime you hear about dating Sinatra's secrets with help from Old Blue Eyes himself."

"And from the perspective of having made them over again before trying something different."

"What is the most important thing to look for in a woman?"

"A sense of humor. When looking for a woman, it always helps to find a woman who is also looking. Make her feel appreciated, make her feel beautiful. If you practice long enough, you'll know when you get it. And, by the way, look, but don't touch. You can't get into trouble window-shopping."

What should a man never do in the presence of a woman?

"Yawn."

How should a man show a woman respect?

"I may sound old-fashioned, but I want to think all women should be treated like I want my wife, daughters and granddaughters to be treated. I notice today that good manners — like standing up when a woman enters the room, helping a woman on with her coat, letting her enter an elevator first, taking her arm across the street — are sometimes considered unnecessary or a throwback. These are habits I could never break, nor would I want to. I realize today a lot more women are taking care of themselves than in the past. But no woman is offended by politeness."

"How do you get over a broken heart?"

"You don't. I think being jilted is one of life's most painful experiences. It takes a long time to heal a broken heart. It's happened to all of us and never gets any easier."

"Do you think you're a great guy?"

"I usually cry with."n

"What is the most dependable care for a hangover?"

"Don't drink to begin with."

"What, you wonder, does this have to do with wooing women?"

"Sinatra was always in control," Zehme said. "Drinking played a huge part in his life, but he thought it was about having fun and not overdosing it. He used one trick a lot; he'd order a drink, take a sip or two and put it down. Then he would walk across the room and order another drink and do the same thing over again. It always appeared that he was keeping up with everybody when he actually wasn't."

"He was always the one who could still tell witty stories into the wee hours, and he was always the one still standing at the very end when it came time to walk a woman home."

Zehme continued. "You always should be the guy who gets to walk the girl home."

Great advice, but will it work in 1998? Some perhaps, but certainly not all, said Cheryl Lavat, who writes "Tales From the Front," a column about dating and relationships.

"Opening doors for women and helping them with their coots is nice, but if I had ever seen him dropping drinks all over the place, I would have thought he was a big jerk and a phony," she said.

"Anyone who is that concerned about giving the wrong image is not appealing to me. And I question the confidence of anybody who has to plan out every little detail of their life like that. It's fine if all that appeal comes naturally, but if it's manufactured, that's not good at all."

Ouch.

"Nobody can please everybody," Zehme said.

"Sinatra's number two rule was always: "Don't despair.""

In the Dog House?

Take her to

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Saturday, May 2, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Alexandria Boulevard, Oviedo

MAGIC107
The Orlando Sentinel
Budweiser
Earth Day celebration a success

From PAGE 1

Action for Animals, the Environmental Society, the Garden Club, the Dive Club and the Air and Waste Management Association displayed an award-winning poster on disposal alternatives for wetlands. Students from the College of Engineering had won an award in Fort Lauderdale for their ideas on disposal of wetlands. The Environmental Society sold T-shirts from their annual cleanup of the St. Johns River. Members of the club also sold fruit, brownies and cookies to raise money for their club. In addition, the club asked its visitors to sign a petition to stop state officials from building a trail across the sand hill habitat at Wekiva Springs State Park.

“It is one of the few habitats left in the state of Florida,” said Dameron Black, treasurer of the Environmental Society. “If they are going to build the trail, they should put it next to the road because it would cost a lot less and save the habitat.”

According to Tia Silbasy, president of the Garden Club, the club donated two cherokee roses, six purple hearts and six hibiscus. The plants were planted around the Administration Building.

“My project was a big success,” Silbasy said. “Picking up trash didn’t help fix much because the physical plant people do that anyway.”

“Next year with a little bit more planning, we are hoping to have over 100 students,” Zelinker said. VUCF receives community support

From PAGE 1

According to Amy Pounds, the group of about 15 volunteers focused their clean up around the Reflecting Pond and the administration area, which was littered by cigarette butts.

The volunteers also picked up weeds and picked up trash.

“It went well,” said sophomore Stephanie Peaveler. “There wasn’t many people who showed up. I needed community service hours for a class that’s why most of the people were there.”

Surfers second

Billy Kaperski competes at the National Scholastic Surfing Association Eastern Championships on April 26. UCF came in second place overall for the season. Next stop is the NSSA National Championships in Huntington Beach, Calif.

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College awards alumni for professional achievement

By GWEN R. RHODES
Staff Writer

UCF’s College of Health and Public Affairs chose seven distinguished alumni from its schools and departments as recipients of the college’s Alumni Professional Achievement awards.

Each school and department selected a winner based on the individual’s career achievements, leadership qualities and contributions to their community.

The microbiology and molecular biology department chose Jacqueline Sullivan, class of 1963, as its award recipient. Sullivan is an assistant environmental engineer for the Boyle Engineering Group of Orlando.

The criminal justice and legal studies department chose Larry Deal, class of 1977. Deal is the vice president of the First American Title Insurance Company of Winter Park.

The social work department chose Marlene Richmond, class of 1975. Richmond is a licensing administrator for the Department of Children and Families in Orlando.

The nursing department chose Monica J. Cox, class of 1994. Cox is a geriatric nurse practitioner for the Senior Health Care, a division of Morton Plant Mease Primary Care in Dunedin.

The communications disorders department chose Marcia Shapiro, class of 1991. Shapiro is the director of the speech pathology department at Florida Hospital Waterman in Eustis.

The public administration department chose Dean Sprague, class of 1986. Sprague is the city manager of the City of Maitland.

The health professions and physical therapy department chose Jeffrey Elsberry, who received his Ph.D. in 1977. Elsberry is the dean of instruction of Morton Group of Orlando.

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Congratulations Graduates!!!
Army offers more money for college graduates

By KATHIE BULLARD
Staff Writer

The United States Army has allowed a pay raise for people involved with the Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) in college. The SMP program is for Army ROTC students who are in the Army Reserves or National Guard.

The pay raise means once a cadet has become an officer in the active Army, they will receive more pay per month than the average second lieutenant. These kinds of benefits Army personnel receive makes one wonder how beneficial the Program ROTC.

According to the 1995-1996 UCF Employment & Salary Report, of 4,795 UCF alumni, 2,669 who remained in Florida were making an average of $25,463 a year.

As second lieutenants, they can expect to make at least $22,000 a year with increases to more than $50,000 after four years. However, a soldier can receive free housing and an extra $1,868 a year for basic allowances. There are many other extra payments per month a soldier can earn, such as flight pay and temporary duty pay. Benefits also include free medical and dental care. In addition, 30 days leave each year.

The Army provides consistent promotion rates and averages a 2.5 percent cost of living. The benefits continue after retirement and a retirement pension is also guaranteed after 20 years service. Even if a college student is not looking for a career in the military, the Army can still be very beneficial. Scholarships are awarded to pay for school, and graduates of Army ROTC are required to serve only 3-4 years. During this time, a graduate that enters the Army after college will gain experience, become proficient in leadership situations and have excellent credentials compared to their peers who did not join.

Those who do not join the Army are forced to spend two years finding someone who would hire a new graduate with little experience and make minimum wage to support themselves.

Looking at the benefits the Army offers and knowing the typical immediate future of the average college graduate, one should seriously look into the great benefits waiting for them, right here at UCF Army ROTC.

According to the 1995-1996 UCF Employment & Salary Report, of 4,795 UCF alumni, 2,669 who remained in Florida were making an average of $25,463 a year.
Every year the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Union paints the freedom circle near Polk and Lake Halls for LesBiGay Awareness Week. This year it took us two weeks and over 15 hours of labor to paint the circle. We decided on a pink triangle cutting into a rainbow surrounded by the words, "UCF GLBSU presents LesBiGay Awareness Week April 12-17." What was so absolutely revolting about this is that someone felt it needed to be destroyed, not once, but twice. How can one justify such destruction and blatant displays of hate and intolerance? Furthermore, how can one consciously hide the evidence of such intolerance as someone from UCF's staff did?

The first time, some unknown person wrote the eloquent message, [expletive] on the pink triangle. Along with taking pictures, we reported it to the police who had someone erase the black marker. On the morning of April 17, it was discovered that someone had once again defaced the circle with witty additions in orange. Without reporting the vandalism to the police, without notifying someone from GLBSU, and without taking any pictures of the sabotage, someone made the hasty decision to have people from Physical Plant paint the entire circle over in white (I'm sure in an effort to save face in front of visiting parents and prospective students). I speculate whether anyone from Physical Plant had any intentions of reporting this incident whatsoever.

One of President John Hitt's goals for UCF is diversity. The issue of sexual orientation is quite underrepresented in this campaign to promote a sense of diversity, tolerance and inclusion on campus. What took place that day was a glaring example of this. The vandalism of the freedom circle was not only a crime but an act of hate committed against a perceived group of people: gay, lesbian, and bisexual UCF students. Every time a hate crime is committed against gays, lesbians and bisexuals, the incident is rarely taken seriously and is quickly covered up and swept under the rug.

I am disgusted with this unjustifiable trend. The university should have an established procedure for handling hate crimes on campus. The matter must be formally investigated as the university is under an obligation to report the incident pursuant to the Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1996. Obviously the Federal Government takes this matter very seriously. Has UCF's rapid growth inflated its ego to such a degree that its administration feels superior enough to discount the seriousness of what is now nationwide policy?

This is not the only time hate crimes such as this have been reported and consequently disregarded. UCF has a problem with gay related hate crimes on campus. In the library, copies of The Advocate, a gay publication, have been found urinated on in the men's restroom. Last December, while GLBSU was fighting to receive funding from Senate to bring Chastity Bono to campus, our faculty advisor received a death threat.

I myself received a harassing message on my answering machine a few days prior to LesBiGay Awareness Week. It's unfortunate that gay-bashing seems to be the last socially acceptable discrimination in the United States. No form of prejudice should be even remotely tolerated on this campus, but my experience tells me differently.

—Marie Armantrout and Ryan MacDonald
Co-Vice Presidents
GLBSU
Chuck Shepherd's
NEWS OF THE WEIRD

LEAD STORIES

• Former Maryland accountant Scott Lewis Rendelman, 42, who was convicted of embezzling clients' money in 1986 and sentenced to four months in prison, has managed to parlay that sentence into 11 years and counting, because he will not stop sending threatening and sexually offensive letters to U.S. presidents, judges, prosecutors and prison officials. In April, he was convicted in Sacramento, Calif., where he is currently housed, of sending death threats to Gov. Pete Wilson and his wife. A long-time friend says Rendelman's big mistake is he always acts as his own attorney at his trials.

• The New York Times reported in March on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposal to set pollution-discharge limits on livestock farms within seven years. U.S. farm animals produce 130 times the manure that U.S. humans do, and one farm now under construction in Utah will produce more than all of Los Angeles. Also, unlike cities, farms do not have treatment plants. "Sometimes in the night, in the summer, when they start pumping effluent, it wakes you up," said one Missouri farm neighbor. "You are gaggling!"

• In March, the Oregon Lottery Commission awarded a $124,000 contract to a company to advise it on how best to restore its gambling games to plants. In the summer, when they start to advise it on how best to restore its gambling games to plants, it wakes you up. In November, it took rescuers an hour and a half to cut through the flanks of the Jaguar at Alltel Stadium in Jacksonville to free Andy Wilkinson, 9, who had stuck his head in the statue's mouth and couldn't get it out.

• Lucy Rendelman Lives: In November, it took rescuers an hour to cut through the flanks of the Jaguar at Alltel Stadium in Jacksonville to free Andy Wilkinson, 9, who had stuck his head in the statue's mouth and couldn't get it out. And in February, researchers at the University of Texas at Austin announced they had found physical differences in the inner ears of lesbians and straight women (perhaps the first evidence of a pre-birth determination of female homosexuality). And in February, burglar Calvin Sewell became the first person in Britain to be convicted with the help of his earprint. He had claimed an extraordinary ability to detect whether a house was empty just by pressing his ear to a door for a few minutes.

Further Evidence Why Women Are Better Nurturers

• In March, near Canyon, Texas, Justice of the Peace E. Jay Hall said he found what his wife called "a high-crime area."

• According to authorities at the Hampton, Va., jail in March, a civilian attendant from the jail's canteen was pushing a cart full of snacks past the locked cell of Anthony Tyrome Darden, 21, when Darden reached through the bars, hit the man on the head with a brown handle, and took two packs of peanut butter crackers. Darden was apprehended pretty quickly, and the Nabs were confiscated.

• In March, Dan Graham asked a technician-friend to have a look at the stereo cassette recorder he said he paid $60 for at a Bountiful, Utah, store but whose buttons wouldn't stay down when Graham pressed them. Problem: Four pounds of cocaine (value $200,000) had been wrapped in a 20-year-old Miami area newspaper and duct-taped to the inside, jamming the buttons. Police are investigating.

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Another Recurring Theme

In 1991, News of the Weird reported that the Pasadena, Calif., Humane Society had built a $4.3 million dog-and-cat shelter, with towel-lined cages, skylights, an aviary, sculptured shrubbery, "adoption counseling pavilions" for pet-client meetings, and, according to the architect, "a very subdued classical painting scheme" (all this amid criticism that it was better to be a homeless pet in Pasadena than a homeless person). In March 1998, a similar $7 million SPCA shelter opened in San Francisco but deflected criticism by almost immediately proposing to allow some sleepers to homeless people as companions for dogs.

No consensus on the key ingredient

Among the variety of substances used in recent spousal poisonings (all successful): cyanamide (an alcoholism-treatment drug), Madrid, Spain, February; anifreeze, Perry, Okla.; October; thallium (heart-test chemical), Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; July; liquid flea killer, Bangkok, Thailand, July; and pond water in the wife's IV tube, Darlington, Wis., September.

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LIVE MUSIC: JEFF HOWELL

$1.25 Drafts

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Tijuana Flats Huntclub is located at: 444 S. Huntclub Blvd. in Apopka 774-0402

PARTY LIKE THERE'S NO MAÑANA!!!

Students complain about auditorium class size

From PAGE 1

The type of anonymity lecture classes offer is usually the reason why so many students dislike them. But for some, it's just what they want.

"It's easy for people to get lost on their own," Riley said. "For those people who do not necessarily get a lot out of lectures but study on their own. In a smaller class, I feel like I'm insulting the teacher when I don't show up, like it's a personal insult. I like the independence of the larger classes."

Cherie Geiger, associate professor of chemistry, said feeling like no one will miss your presence in class is often too tempting for first-time college students.

"It's easy to be absent because nobody notices," Geiger said. "In a class of 50 or 60 people, I notice when somebody is not there. With a big class, they are on their own.

I think an 18-year-old in his first semester here needs the kind of contact that a smaller class offers. They need to know that someone notices them and knows they are alive."

Most students agree that success in a large class depends not only on the student but also falls heavily on the professor.

"A lot of professors don't care whether you're doing the reading not," said Stacey Meagher, 19. "They should take their time and realize that everyone has the notes before they change the overhead. You might miss something important."

"They tend to lecture straight from the book," Trun said. "They should use other sources and make it more interesting, bring in other related topics.

Riley said that if a professor makes the class interesting, students will want to go to the lectures.

"In a large lecture class, it is usually morestructured," Riley said. "A lot of times, they don't want to slow down. There are always people who take the class and already know everything, and then there are people who are taking the class for the first time and the teacher says, 'Everybody get up, we're moving on' and the rest of us are left behind."

Geiger agreed with students that professors share the responsibility in a lecture class situation.

"The responsibility is on the professor to interact with the students and focus on them," Geiger said. "I walk around and make eye contact with people and talk to them."

"I try to do demonstrations on how things work," said Steve J. Lyle, associate professor of health services administration. "I change the pace of things. During my classes, I do a lot of activities. It's not just me up there giving a lecture."

Considering all the disadvantages associated with large classes, the advantages are hard to find. By offering classes that accommodate large numbers of students, the university is able to get students through the system faster than having them wait to fill the classes they need. "The technology offered in some of the more advanced lecture halls is also beneficial to students. The audiovisual support is often vital to understanding material. This type of support is rarely used in small classes."

Most professors and students agreed that lecture-size classes are an efficient way to transfer information but not knowledge or understanding.

What is a student to do when knowledge and understanding are vital to a class?

Bonnie Warren is the coordinator of Instructional Support for the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC). SARC offers students a voluntary program called Supplemental Instruction. Supplemental Instruction is a series of weekly-study sessions for students taking courses which have been difficult for students in the past.

The leaders of the study sessions are usually students who have already taken the courses and successfully passed them. The student leaders attend class with the student and act as model students, taking notes and asking questions. During the study sessions, the groups practice critical thinking and problem-solving techniques.

The emphasis of the group is to teach students how to become independent learners and to get the most out of a very depersonalized classroom setting. Students are taught note taking and how to read their text effectively.

Warren said study sessions are set up for classes which have a low overall GPA and a high DFW (Drop-out, Withdrawal and Failure) rate.

Sessions are also set up at the profes­ sor's request or at the request of a department chair.

Warren said that freshmen are the group most at risk to be negatively affected by large classes.

"Everything is so new," Warren said. "Then they hit those large classes and they don't have a support system and they feel lost."

Warren said the problem has become so pronounced that a few years ago SARC began offering programs specifically for freshmen. Students are acquainted with the university and are immediately in touch with a support system of other freshmen.

"Some of the classes are weed-out classes," Warren said. "They are not intended to pass them all because they (the university) really can't handle them all."

Warren said many freshmen come to UCF not expecting to have such large classes.

"All they have to weigh is against their high school experience," Warren said.

Students have a different take on the situation. Some say UCF's admissions department misled them. Trun said he was surprised at how big some of his classes were.

"In some of the literature I had read about UCF, I read that the average class size was under 20," Trun said. "When I got here my first semester, three out of four of my classes were more than 500 to 400 people. I guess they figure janitors and staff into that equation to get that ratio."

Litter and presentations given by the admissions department to incoming freshmen indicate the faculty to student ratio is 17 to 1. Susan Burritt, associate director of admissions, said students understand that that ratio has nothing to do with class size.

"The students know that there are 2500 professors but they know that some of the classes are held in large lecture halls," Burritt said.

Burritt defended the accuracy of the ratio.

"The ratio is mathematically correct," Burritt said. "There are a lot of faculty who do not teach."

Regardless of what the ratio actually means, students still misinterpret it to mean the average class size is around 17.

"It is misleading to say that because that's not how students understand it," Trun said. "The smallest class I have is around 28. Most of my classes have a ratio in the 40s and not the 20s or 10 that they indicated.

Despite complaints, Burritt said her department has no plans of changing its policy.

"What you're suggesting is that we tell the student that the average class-size is 16 or 17 to 1," Burritt said. "We would never do that."

As UCF's student enrollment continues to grow, so will the number of auditorium-size classes. From 1993 to 1997, undergraduate enrollment at UCF has increased from 18,631 to 22,754. With the increase in auditorium-size classes, many students like Riley have had to adapt.

"I can't get lost because they don't watch you," Riley said. "They aren't there to spoon feed you. You have to keep up and it is an effort. But you learn to adapt."

Letters to the Editor Policy

All letters should be on one subject and include the writer's name and phone number for confirmation. The Central Florida Future reserves the right to edit for content and space consideration.

The Future will not print anonymous letters. Letters can be faxed or emailed.

Fax us at 977-0019, e-mail us at tik1994@aol.com.

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April 29, 1998

COMICS

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How do you plan to spend your summer vacation?

Between having crew practice, working for my Dad, running, classes, work, and trying to work in some "quality time" with my baby girl, I'll be busy if I just survive this summer.

— Richie Wilholt, Junior, Psychology, Titusville.

I have to take between 12 to 15 hours of class over the summer, so it kinda sucks. But I do hope to get away for a couple of days and go to Georgia. After all, the sooner I graduate, the better.

— Joe Collins, Junior, Criminal Justice, Elemont, N.Y.

I'm planning to spend my summer vacation playing basketball, working, and just having fun. During the summer, I say that everyone should "just chill" have some fun, and come party with me!

— Bucky Hodge, Junior, Liberal Studies, Lake Wales.

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Tans look good but are hazardous to your health

From PAGE 1

Melanoma is the number one cancer in women under 35, according to Dr. Vincent DeLeo, assistant professor and director of environmental dermatology at the Columbia Presbyterian Center in New York. "While some people are heeding the message about safe sun exposure, most experts acknowledge that many others pay no attention at all," DeLeo said. "Further, they realize that few people can totally avoid sun exposure. As a universal precaution, people should learn to wear a sun-screen regularly, particularly if they plan to spend any length of time in the sun."

According to William Gilbertson, director of the Federal Drug Administration's division of over-the-counter drug evaluation, consumers can expect to get the kind of protection the labeling specifies. "Generic sunblocks are just as safe as brand names but consumers need to be aware of brand differences," Gilbertson said. "Sunscreens are formulated differently so they affect people's skin differently."

A recent issue of Consumer Reports evaluated various sunscreen products and found a few didn't live up to their claims. Most of the major brand names include Coppertone and Bain de Soleil, as well as some drug store brands such as Rite Aid and Walgreens were tested.

All of the products tested had at least a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or better, meaning they absorbed at least three-quarters of the sun's rays. A 100 percent UV block is not possible, so the sunscreen's SPF rating is the amount of time the user can spend in the sun without burning. A product that blocks 97 percent of the sun's rays will protect the skin for 1 1/2 times as long as a product rated at SPF 15.

The SPF rating is based on the amount of each wavelength that is blocked. The lower the number, the greater the amount of protection. The American Cancer Society recommends an SPF 15. Lower num-

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<td>All Day Extended Protection</td>
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If you are in the sun for long periods, those rays can cause sunburn. To make sure you do not burn, put the sunscreen on thickly because spreading a sunscreen too thinly can reduce its effectiveness. It is advised that you reapply sunscreen after two hours and reapply it again if it rubs off or if you have been sweating.

Make sure your sunscreen has not passed its expiration date and avoid staying in the sun more than 2-3 hours between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Buy sunscreen that shows the expiration date on the back of the pack and throw it out once the date is passed. Also, sunscreen can lose its effectiveness sooner if stored in a very warm place. For example, in a car in the Central Florida summer heat.

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It's the end of the year. Summer is here and soon you'll be off to isolated places where your University email address isn't going to do you a lot of good. Like a white sand beach beside a distant azure bay. (Or your parents' house.) But as you surrender to your wanderlust, there is one question: how are you going to keep in touch? The answer is quite simple: Hotmail. Hotmail is free portable email you can take with you anywhere - from Baja to Brussels to Baton Rouge. You can check Hotmail from any computer with Web access. And best of all, your Hotmail address is totally free for life. That's a lot of adventures. So start packing.

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A trucker, some tramps, and a lizard

By STACKY COPELAND
Staff Writer

Did everyone survive April's dreary selection of movie openings? Don't worry, May's new releases promise to be much, much more entertaining. One of these flicks might even inspire you to peel yourself off the couch and head out to the theater before the humidity hits too much. You'll probably have a better time on the interstate. Huh?

• Black Dog (May 1) - Starring Patrick Swayze, Randy Travis, Meat Loaf. Oops, did I say there were good movies coming out this month? This doesn't promise to be one of them. Every possible means of woeing an A-trailer is explored in this $30 million "thriller." Swayze plays an ex-con who hauls guns on the interstate. Huh? If you're in the mood for lots of slammed metal, you'll probably have a better time if you head down to Bithlo and catch the school bus racing events. The acting is probably better over there, too.

• Les Miserables (May 1) - Starring Liam Neeson, Claire Danes, Unis Thurman, and Geoffrey Rush. This looks like a good movie. IF these actors can pull it off. The Broadway play based on Victor Hugo's 1862 novel about revolution, love and heartache has already been a success for thousands of shows. Critics are saying the movie doesn't capture the emotion the play has captured. Who knows? I like thousands of other Broadway fans, will be flocking to the theater just to make sure.

• The Horse Whisperer (May 15) - Starring Tea Leoni, Morgan Freeman, Robert Duvall. This is the $75 million tale of an earthbound comet that neither the President (Freeman) nor an aging astronaut (Duvall) know how to get rid of. The trailers that have been showing in theaters since about 1982 looks rather fascinating. But don't worry, this isn't the only time civilizion will be destroyed this summer. There seems to be an overabundance of these comet flicks.

• Bulworth (May 8) - Starring Warren Beatty, Halle Berry, Oliver Platt, and Paul Sorvino. Beatty stars as Jay Bulworth, a U.S. senator from California on the verge of both re-election and a nervous breakdown. Shortly before his campaign he begins doing this wacky thing called "telling the truth." Berry costars as a South Central harlot and Platt as his harried chief of staff. It sounds kind of goofy but the trailers are hilarious.

• The Horse Whisperer (May 15) - Starring Michelle Pfeiffer. This is the adaptation of the recent best-selling novel. The story is about a young girl who is traumatized by a horse-riding accident. Her mother decides that the only way the girl will recover is if her horse is rehabilitated. The mother calls in an expert horse doctor and, voila, the perfect treatment for a love story. Sounds like the perfect chick flick.

• Godzilla (May 20) - Starring a big, nasty lizard. Two words: James Cameron. This "Titanic," action/whelser/monster movie will no doubt make this man even richer than he already is. Don't worry, you'll be hearing much more about this flick. There's already a spaceship out there that has the prime "Godzilla is twice as tall as this building!" painted on its side. Hey, he has to do something to top his last flick, huh?

• Almost Heroes (May 29) - Starring Chris Farley and Matthew Perry. This is a historical piece. Sort of. It's set in Lewis and Clark country in the 1800's. Perry stars as Farley's cohort who leads a band of misfits across the frontier. The director claims this is a broader acting part than Farley had ever done before. He did, however, have to leave the set quite often to attend AA meetings. Farley's last movie is probably worth checking out, but scenes with his moonshine-swiggin' character might ring a little too true for some folks.

• Hope Floats (May 29) - Starring Sandra Bullock and Harry Connick, Jr. If you've been frantically thumbing through the movie listings looking for this love story, don't worry. The release was just delayed for a month or so. This story of a young mother and her romantic woes will soon be in a theater near you!
The administration is ready to go into office and is looking for students to join their Cabinet and Staff. Now is the time for you to get involved and make a difference.

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SGA InfoLine
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Lovers not simpatico on how to spend ‘their’ day

CHICAGO — If you really want to make sure you enjoy Valentine’s Day, celebrate with someone of the same sex, a recent study conducted by Bistro Inc. suggests.

The lip balm manufacturer surveyed 500 men and 500 women across the United States and found — surprise — that what it comes to love men and women speak different languages.

Forty-seven percent of men ranked kissing on the couch as their biggest Valentine’s Day turn-on — above dancing to a favorite song (19 percent), relaxing with a foot massage (15 percent) and sharing a decadent dessert (12 percent).

Women, on the other hand, said smooching on the couch is their least favorite thing to do on Valentine’s Day (18 percent). Instead, dancing with their significant other topped the best-gift list for both men (21 percent) and women at 30 percent.

A candlelight dinner topped the list for women (7 percent), followed by the foot massage (21 percent) and sharing a decadent dessert (21 percent) and a night in (18 percent).

Among his examples was a pair of identical courses.

Higher PSAT/NMSQT scores for high school seniors last year were boys, compared with an average of 61 percent in the late 1980s and early 1990s; according to figures in a recent annual report.

For years this decade, the Evanston, Illinois-based organization designated to release numbers on the ground that they were not relevant, said spokesman Elaine Detwiler.

“Since most of the students are expected to take the SAT or the ACT, taking the PSAT won’t count for much because it’s sort of a practice test. The PSAT can be used for PSAT/NMSQT scores for high school seniors last year were boys, compared with an average of 61 percent in the late 1980s and early 1990s; according to figures in a recent annual report. For four years this decade, the Evanston, Illinois-based organization designated to release numbers on the ground that they were not relevant, said spokesperson Elaine Detwiler.

“The gap is smaller and we think that it coincides with the better academic preparation of women,” she said.

University ordered to reimburse students for illegal tuition increase

CHICAGO — The University of British Columbia must reimburse past and present students as much as $1 million (Canadian) in fees because it raised tuition illegally, a Canadian provincial court ruled Jan. 22.

Four students filed suit against the university last year after it raised two fees included in tuition costs and required students to pay them before they could enroll in classes, get their grades or graduate. The increases violated a 1996 law that froze tuition at postsecondary educational institutions from April 1996 until March 31 of this year, students said.

The university began raising the fees in the 1992-93 academic year before the law took effect and totaled 4.5 percent of basic tuition by the end of the 1996-97 school year. University officials argued that the extra money was justified because it helped improve student services. They also said they tacked the fees onto tuition costs to help students get larger income-tax breaks.

Judges sided with the students, and ordered that the school reimburse about 33,000 students. The average student will collect about $30 (Canadian), school officials said. Only students enrolled in 1996-97 qualify for the reimbursement.

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Arena improvements could attract better competition

From PAGE 24

resembles a large-scale Lite Brite dangling from heavy-duty wires.

The scoreboard is simple to say the least. Unlike the scoreboard at my HIGH SCHOOL, the current board does not tell fans the numbers each of the current players or how many points, rebounds, assists and fouls they have.

A new scoreboard with these features is needed for the arena to set it closer to rival facilities at South Florida, Florida, Florida State and Miami.

2. Seating in the arena is terrible and there is a distinct lack of college atmosphere at any game. Although the latter could be said of most UCF sporting events, any attempts to support the team is nullified by the seating.

First, the walkway between upper and lower seating inhibits viewing. Spectators who sit in the upper section must almost stand to see the floor from their seats. The arena also has no seating under either basket, which allows opposing free throw shooters a distraction-free opportunity to score.

By adding seats under the basket, the fans would be able to create a more intimidating atmosphere for opposing players while a true second level of seating would allow all fans to have a more memorable experience.

3. The playing floor at the arena needs revision. As one of my friends put it: “They need to redo the floor and get rid of that 1940s looking UCF logo they have now at center court.”

Featuring a picture of Florida with the letters “U-C-F” plastered over it, the floor needs to be changed to the school’s new Golden Knight logo as seen on the UCF homepage.

Also, the key area of the basketball court could be repainted black with a gold trim to better advertise our school colors and add flair to the arena.

4. Think of an alternate name for the UCF Arena. Although the name “UCF Arena” should be used when bands and other acts visit the multi-purpose facility, students and fans should refer to the arena under another name, such as “The Dungeon.”

Come on, even USF Bulls fans call their home, the Sun Dome, “The Corral.” As a school trying to hang with the “big dogs” of college sports, UCF needs to make sacrifices to reach that point. By adding onto the arena, UCF could quicken its chances of joining a major conference, like Conference USA, and thus be able to get more annual revenue from sporting events.

The expansion would force intramural participants to continue using outdated facilities, but the school could earn enough money from fans, proud, alma mater-supporting alumni and hopefully a television deal that it would eventually be able to build the recreational services building students so desperately want.

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Stuart Brown St. Petersburg BS Mechanical Engineering
Todd Pingaro Tampa BS MIS
Regina Entref Tampa BS Finance
Catherine Jooste Tampa BBA MIS

From Your Friends at

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Football team could make jump to Conference USA

From PAGE 24

clear that they don’t belong in the same boat with the Campbell and Centenary Colleges of the world. Former UCF coach Gene McDowell said that he would not play Samford in football anymore because there was nothing to gain from the experience.

Well, Samford is a member of the TAAC as well, so what do we get out of playing them every season in other sports? Don’t get me wrong: they are competitive in some sports, but they shouldn’t be able to play in our league. UCF should be recruiting from a pool of athletes Samford could never select.

Unfortunately, because of the small conference tag, those athletes stay away, making it impossible for the Knights to continue their growth spurt. In fact, UCF’s growth is stunted because of its allegiance with the TAAC.

Sloan knows all of this. He’s a brilliant negotiator, a class individual and has been largely responsible for our success thus far. He’s working on a solution to the problem, but when is that solution going to come? The Sun Belt conference would love to have UCF, and Sloan wisely balked at the idea.

Although the Sun Belt is a much better conference than the TAAC, they would have wanted football as part of the package. Playing yearly contests against Louisiana Tech, Northeast Louisiana, Southeastern Louisiana and every other Louisiana school on the planet is not the direction this university wants to go in.

Florida International jumped ship to the Sun Belt, largely to provide stronger competition to its basketball and baseball programs. When our southern neighbors did this, it produced strong speculation that we would follow suit. Fortunately we didn’t, and Sloan’s reluctance to align with the Sun Belt proved even wiser when the University of Denver accepted a Sun Belt invitation last week.

Denver? Yearly trips to South Alabama, Arkansas State, Arkansas Little-Rock, SW Louisiana, Western Kentucky, FIU, Louisiana Tech, New Orleans and Denver? Way to go, Steve. More than anything else, the Sun Belt is not a major conference, which is precisely where UCF wants to reside by early next century. So we turn our noses at the thought of moving up a baby step and hope for an invite from the Big East or Conference USA.

2001 is the year when all of the television contracts are up. It is expected that Syracuse will leave the Big East for the Big Ten and Big East commissioner Mike Tranghese is expected to go raiding Conference USA for members to replace it. Louisville and Cincinnati would be the ideal candidates, opening the door for UCF to go filling their slots. UCF has expanded its football this year with football-only invitations to East Carolina and Army. South Florida will join the party when it becomes a Division I-A member. What will come next? More importantly, how will it all affect UCF?

Will UCF accept a football-only conference bid with a major conference, or will Sloan use our appealing program to gain all the other sports a release from the dreariness that is the TAAC? Last year UCF enjoyed the most media attention it has ever received. The Boston Globe ran a piece mentioning how we would be good for the Big East. Quarterback Daunte Belt invitation package.

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Sweeping Stetson could give UCF South title in school history.

Sweeping Stetson could give UCF South title in school history.

April 26, said the last home game had a touch of irony in it. Lubozynski said. "That game was a huge difference in the South standings," said Lubozynski, who pitched the late game on April 26, and ended up that way (pitching the last game with senior rings, a memorable moment at the TAAC Tournament, Lubozynski said. The winner of the TAAC Tournament automatically receives an NCAA Tournament spot.

Looking Ahead: With their sweep of FAU, the Knights must sweep their upcoming series with Stetson (25-26-1, 6-9 TAAC) and hope that Florida International (31-20, 11-4 TAAC) loses two of three against TAAC Tournament representative at the schedule sign was awarded a slice of pizza. Matt Lubozynski on his most memorable moment at the UCF Baseball Complex: "It would have to be the 29-game winning streak back in my freshman year (1994)." We came in here everyday and knew we weren't going to lose and most of the wins happened here on this field." UCF's seniors, Bellhorn, Lubozynski, Cruzy, Troy Wolfe and Pat Williamson were honored before the game on April 25 with senior rings, a UCF tradition. - Jason Arnold (1-2, 2.22 ERA), who already owned UCF's single-season save record, earned saves in both ends of the doubleheader, his 10th and 11th, in pitching 1.2 innings, allowing one hit and no runs.

FAU proved the team could rebound after losing two of three at FIU on April 3-4.

"Coming back from FIU, we were really disappointed because we didn't play up to how we could," Lubozynski said. "We had a chance to take two of three and we didn't do it. We played really lackadaisically and we wanted to come back here and show that we are a quality team and we can bounce back."

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Men’s golf team struggles at TAAC championships despite Opal’s 72

From PAGE 24

“Peach is a fundamentally sound player,” Bria said. “She is physical,高速出, can step up and shoot the high post shot and her college experience is a definite advantage. She has taught a lot of the little things, the fundamentals, that put her a notch ahead of the rest of the class. I expect her to step in and play right away.”

Williams is a 5-foot-11 point guard who played one season at Auburn University before transferring to Valencia Community College, so she enters UCF as a junior. She averaged 10.5 minutes a game as a freshman at Auburn and scored 3.1 points a game.

Men’s golf finishes 6th at TAAC

Led by Jason Opal’s final round even-par 72, the men’s golf team shot 309 April 21 and finished seventh at the Trans America Athletic Conference Championships in Clarksville, Ga. Tournament host Georgia State shot 295 and won the 12-team event by 10 shots over the College of Charleston. Opal tied for seventh at three-under-par for the tournament, three shots behind Jacksonville State’s Heman Rey.

Final Results

Trans America Athletic Conference Championships The Orchard Golf Course Clarksville, Ga.

Par 72


Individual Results


Highly-regarded RB signs fully qualified

Running back Omar Howard, arguably the most decorated high school athlete UCF has ever signed, is a full academic qualifier.

Howard, a high school Parade All-American from Syracuse, N.Y., achieved the necessary score on the SAT and will enroll at UCF in the fall as a freshman.

Syracuse originally signed him out of Comercio High, but he did not qualify academically and spent last year in prep school.

Howard is also a Blue-Chip Illustrated All-American and two-time all-state runner. In two seasons, Howard rushed for 3,100 yards and 45 touchdowns. Howard will remain in Syracuse where he will work the summer. He will report to early camp in the fall, a three-day period for incoming players only.

Crew team does well at Southern

The women’s crew Lightweight 4+ and 2- finished first at the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship in Oak Ridge, Tenn., April 18.

The Lightweight 4+ of ‘A’-D Nguyen, Amy Feghali, Christin DePrimo, Christina Baxter and coxswain Sara Miller beat out Florida State, Tennessee-Chattanooga, Tampa and Northwest Louisiana State in 7:28.1 while Melissa Bellard and Angela Henley placed first ahead of UCF, Willingham, Florida Tech, Seworino, Maricopa and Alabama-Huntsville, in 7:44.7.

UCF finished fourth in the Lightweight/Novice 4+ ‘B’, fifth in the JV 4+, and sixth in the Lightweight/Novice 4+ ‘A’ and Novice 8+ races.

The Knights are off until the Dad Vail Regatta in Philadelphia May 8th and 9th.

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School needs an attraction to replace Culpepper

From PAGE 24

UCF could have been in better position to win the Day award. The soccer team lost to Georgia State, 2-0, in November’s conference title game. The track team, which doesn’t compete as part of the award next year, won the TAAC title.

Not being able to help clinch the all-sports award doesn’t dampen track coach Marcia Mansur-Wentworth’s spirits.

“We won, that’s most important to me,” Mansur-Wentworth said. “In support of UCF, I’d liked to have seen us win the trophy. Maybe it was a catalyst (for including track). Hopefully next year we’ll be able to contribute to the award.”

And freshman Tatiana Londono, a member of the golf team, signed an incorrect scorecard in the final round of the TAAC Championship, disqualifying her and dropping the team from third to sixth. It cost UCF nine points in Sherman Day competition.

Londono says she feels bad for her teammate, but feels there are positives to take from it.

“It was a sad way to finish my first year,” she said. “But I think everybody learned from it double check your score.”

As for the men, while UCF’s lowest finish was sixth (soccer), the Knights could do no better than the basketball team’s fourth-place showing.

UCF, which hasn’t been to the NCAA Tournament in the past five years, felt there were positives to take from the award.

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SPORTS

For UCF, 2nd in TAAC race good enough

By KEN JACKSON
Staff Writer

While UCF's men's athletes wondered what didn't go right this year, seniors on the women's teams left their underclassmen teammates something to accomplish next season.

For the second straight year, the Golden Knights were runners-up in the chase for the Sherman Day Trophy. The award goes to the school with the best overall women's program in the Trans America Athletic Conference.

The Knights won two TAAC titles (volleyball and tennis), finished second in two others, and tallied 189 points. With the softball (the only sport UCF does not compete in) championship still to be played, Georgia State has the award locked up with 196.5 points. Florida International is third with 162 points and must take first or second in softball to pass UCF.

Kaufmann said the standings are a reflection of the Golden Knights' winning ways and are a way to express public appreciation. "It shows we are able to recruit selectively," Kaufmann said. "Combined with a budget afforded by Title IX, this emphasis on our ability to field competitive athletes has resulted in more skilled athletically and academically. Certainly it contributes to help recruit coaches who have coached winning Division I programs.

See SCHOOL, Page 23

Baseball earns home game for TAAC tourney

By JEFF CASE
Staff Writer

After sweeping the season series against Florida Atlantic University, the UCF baseball team is peaking as it heads into the Trans America Athletic Conference tournament.

Outscoring the Owls 20-11 for the three-game series April 25-26, UCF (35-17, 10-5 in conference) clinched second place in the TAAC's South Division and will host a TAAC Tournament Play-In game May 8.

But the team, which posted the first undefeated mark (6-0) against FAU (27-25, 4-11 in conference) in team history, hasn't other long-term goals, said UCF coach Jay Bergman.

"You've got to get on a roll before you go into a tournament," said Bergman, whose team is the three-time defending TAAC Tournament Champion.

"You don't want to go into it flat and you don't want to go into it not playing well.

"At the end, you need to win as many as you can and get us close to 40 [wins] as you can." The Golden Knight pitching staff led the way against the Owls, allowing only 17 hits over the three games. Troy Satterfield (5-2, 2.31 ERA), who has been put into the lineup as a regular starter, pitched seven innings on April 25, allowing a series-low three hits.

UCF's final regular season home game, a 7-5 victory against Florida Atlantic.

and two earned runs while walking none and striking out four.

Seniors Todd Bellhorn and Matt Luboyanski, who both began their UCF pitching careers in 1994, closed out UCF's final regular season home games, on April 26. Bellhorn (3-0, 2.03 ERA) earned the win in the early going, allowing five hits and three earned runs while striking out a series-best six batters over six innings.

With the win, Bellhorn posted the fifth-best single-season win total in school history.

See SWEEPING, Page 20

The great conference debate continues

By TONY MEJIA
Staff Writer

Potential. Like a hitter with great natural instincts, a power forward with soft hands and good footwork, or a quarterback built like a linebacker with a cannon arm and blazing speed, the University of Central Florida is filled with potential.

It is growing in a growing city which boasts a tremendous airport. The Knights play their football in a downtown venue with 70,000 seats, and their fan base and boosters increase daily.

Among the heavyweights, UCF is the program on the rise. Despite all the positives, UCF remains one of the few Division I-A independents in football and plays all other sports in the Trans America Athletic Conference.

This is a serious problem. UCF Athletic Director Steve Sloan has overseen the emergence of this rising program. Using his extensive network of contacts, Sloan has put lines on the map. The athletes and coaches have done their part as well, gaining plenty of notoriety for the school with their performance on the playing field.

As UCF has grown, it has become a serious player in its conference and a threat to the South Carolina powerhouse.

The Jesse C. Fletcher Trophy, the men's all-sports award, also went to Georgia State as the men are seventh among the 12 TAAC schools with the baseball championship left to be played. Georgia State has won four of five TAAC titles and have locked up the hardware with 172.5 points to College of Charleston's 132. This marks the fourth straight year UCF has placed in the top two. The Knights won the trophy in 1995 and '96.

Assistant Athletic Director Mary

Revising arena can revive UCF

By JEFF CASE
Staff Writer

OK, I'll just come out and say it.

UCF needs to expand the UCF Arena more than it could ever need a new recreational services building.

Now I realize by saying this I may seriously jeopardize any chance of getting a good call from recreational services officials in future intramural games, but I am willing to risk that.

UCF officials are currently deciding whether to add 5,000 more seats to the arena or build a recreational services building that would include indoor basketball courts and a new weight room.

While not opposed to helping to finance this facility, how will it help UCF draw better opponents, such as Auburn, into the UCF Arena for the November 9 game against Liberty?

Quite simply, it won't.

Anyone who has attended sporting events at the 5,100-seat arena since its 1990 opening knows that improvements are definitely needed. Here are some good places to start:

1. The scoreboard at the arena. I have never seen a scoreboard that so closely