Campus restaurants
a hit among students

By JAMES COMBS
Staff Writer

Junior Jason Kroning frequently eats on the UCF campus. Although he admits McDonald's is his favorite fast-food restaurant, he is more than happy with the variety of restaurants on campus.

"You can find about any type of food here on campus whether it be hamburger, pizza, or subs," Kroning said. "With this kind of selection, I don't see my reason to drive off-campus and eat. Plus, it is a lot more convenient to eat here as opposed to driving off-campus and fighting traffic."

This is the attitude that Student Union Director Mark Hall and Director of Dining Services of Marriott Ron Simko want students to have. Hall and Simko realize that many students prefer eating at off-campus restaurants, and both have made strides to change that in the last two years. As a result, the campus restaurants have gained popularity among students.

"Before the Student Union opened, we weren't capturing a lot of the business here on campus," Hall said. "A lot of the other campus operations weren't big enough to physically handle the number of students here on campus. It wasn't that students didn't want to eat here, but the lines were so long and the places were so crowded that students didn't want to deal with it."

Students were surveyed before the Student Union opened and were asked to name their favorite foods. Then they named their favorite restaurant within the food category. Marriott employees conducted the same survey before opening Chic-Fil-a, Sub-Connection, Freshens, and the Pizza Hut Express.

Hall said Wendy's was the overwhelming choice in the hamburger category. Simko said Chic-Fil-a was the popular choice in the chicken category. "Obviously, we did our best to meet the demands of the students," Simko said.

Hall said that each food facility in the Student Union exceeded its sales expectation in 1997-98. He said they have earned more than $3 million in total sales.

Wendy's earned the most money last year. From July 1997 to June 1998, it earned $741,859.

"The fact that many students are in a rush and Wendy's has four lanes to get people through the line attracts many students there," Hall said.


Variety has significantly increased patronage to on-campus eateries.

Get carded for
organ donation

By TAYLOR SIKES
Staff Writer

Volunteer UCF continues to distribute Uniform Organ and Tissue Donor Cards as part of its "Get Carded" campaign. At a recent football game, volunteers distributed more than 3,500 cards. They also worked with UCF's Athletics Department to get information into the game program. TransLife had a booth set up at the game to give out additional information. Public service announcements were also made during breaks in the game.
UCF animator Sesame Street veteran

By STACEY COPELAND
Staff Writer

What would you say if someone told you that a certain UCF professor may have been working on your education as early as 30 years ago?

Sound a little far-fetched? It just might, but it’s certainly true. Animator Tee Collins, an instructor for the last nine years in UCF’s Animation Program, did much of the animation for the early Sesame Street programs where many UCF students got their first exposure to letters and numbers.

Sesame Street was created as an “experiment” almost 30 years ago and debuted on Nov. 10, 1969. The show was originally designed to reach and teach preschoolers and give them a head start in life in such areas as self-confidence, learning the alphabet, numbers and developing pro-social skills. The show was deemed revolutionary for everything from its focus on disadvantaged inner-city children to the way the creators were able to mix education with entertainment.

Almost everyone remembers sitting six inches away from the television set, gulping down cereal and repeating after Grover and Elmo as they said: “A, A is for Apple, W. W. is for Worm.” Many of those early elements of Sesame Street were Collins’ creations.

Collins said, “They would give me a letter, and I would come up with a character and a storyboard idea.” He admits it wasn’t all that easy at times. He laughed and said, “I have to say that it was a little hard to come up with a happy word for the letter ‘X.’”

It was Collins’ association with Sesame Street that took his work worldwide and earned him many awards. His work on the letter “W”, “Wanda the Witch” is even housed in the Los Angeles Museum of Fine Art.

But Sesame Street wasn’t the only place Collins made a name for himself. He was also the first African-American to establish his own animation studio in New York.

Collins’ work was honored Nov. 14 with a retrospective at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. The Schomburg Center, which is part of the New York City Public Library, was founded to promote the study of the history and culture of people of African descent. Various art collections, exhibits and performances are often held there to promote education and appreciation.

Collins said, “The Schomburg is only about two blocks from my old neighborhood. I think they probably remember me the most just for shooting hoops.”

Many others want to make sure Collins is remembered for much more than just his basketball abilities or his jump shot. His daughter, Barbara Collins Moore, a psychologist, is the one putting together the retrospective.

Collins also created “Three Ring Pete”, a character some New Yorkers might remember from the Ballantine Beer commercials that aired during the New York Yankees games. He also did some animation for the Whirlpool Corporation and worked for several years on campaigns in Puerto Rico.

Collins even found himself animating characters from other languages when Sesame Street began producing foreign versions of the show. He has worked on animating characters from the Japanese and Mideastern alphabets. He said, “Experts would just tell us the sound and the meaning of the words and with the magic of animation we could tell the story in any language. It was really something.”
By DANIEL F. MCMULLAN
Staff Writer

Karen Nguyen was 20 years old when she left Saigon on April 29, 1975, the day before the Communists overran the U.S. embassy there.

"The Communists said anyone caught leaving would have their skin peeled off," said Nguyen softly, her dark brown eyes revealing a silent yet strong will. Nguyen said that if you were friends with someone who escaped and the authorities found you, chances are you would be tortured and killed.

"So, my mom destroyed all our photographs so we could leave no trace of our existence," she recalls as her Vietnamese accent becomes more pronounced.

One of her friends was tortured, but not killed, for not cooperating with interrogators.

"They exploited her to rip her fingernails off," said Nguyen wincing.

Luckily, her mother was working for Time magazine and the bosses arranged for the whole family to escape. As a Catholic family or anyone seen as allies of the United States and Nguyen is worried that they are losing touch with their culture.

Most of the Vietnamese-American students attending UCF were born in the United States and Nguyen is worried that they are losing touch with their identity. If that happens, she said, they may never return to Vietnam to help their relatives who are living in crushing poverty.

"Sadly, most of them feel more American because of economic concerns, jobs and school work," lamented Nguyen. "It's good that they assimilate, but they have to retain their own identity, their history and value them.

Her back stiffens and it makes her small frame seem more imposing. She said she impresses upon the students to "be a part of the changes in Vietnam."

"Not just to help relieve the suffering and pain," she said. "But to give them hope by bringing money, knowledge and technology."

This action, she said, helps reinforce their Vietnamese heritage while allowing them to also be Americans.

"However, there will always come a time when they ask, 'Where am I from?'" said Nguyen. And eventually, she said, they'll want to know how they can help their people.

One such example is a student who recently pushed to get involved in her community. Her goal was to connect him with his culture and foster greater ability in speaking Vietnamese. During the fall of 1997 and spring of 1998, at her insistence, he took the language at elementary schools. He enjoyed it and it helped improve his fluency. He then moved to teaching adults within his community.

Following his teaching experience, he contacted other Vietnamese-American students at UCF and encouraged them to try what he did.

By working a part-time job, he saved enough money to take a trip to Vietnam during the summer of 1998. Once there, he found his mission in life.

According to Nguyen, the poverty and deprivation he saw, so affected the preceding student that he made a vow. Upon completing medical school, he will return to Vietnam to help his people for free.

Yet not all of the Vietnamese-American students are so moved, she said.

"Most of them are afraid to teach and speak Vietnamese to children," said Nguyen with a smile. "They're afraid the kids will laugh at them, that the kids will speak faster and better.

Nguyen said she is still pleased with the result of her efforts and longs to return to Vietnam with her Vietnamese husband, Thomas, son, John, 18, and daughter, Mai Linh, 16.

And the conditions are right. The Vietnamese government is new, implying they may return to help bolster the flagging economy.

"They won't hurt us now," said Nguyen. "They need the money, bad.

But Nguyen said she won't go back just yet because the Communists need the money.

"We have the Communists," she said defiantly. "The money and gifts we bring back, bikes or medical supplies are all to help our people."

The Communists said anyone caught leaving would have their skin peeled off.

--- Karen Nguyen

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Downtown Academic Center

Spring 1999 Course Schedule

(semester begins January 5, 1999)

Ac. CRS # Sec. Title

College of Arts & Sciences

3355 INP 3541C 0054 Advanced Applied Psychology 01
3746 INP 3314C 0054 Advanced Applied Psychology 01
3355 INP 3541C 0054 Advanced Applied Psychology 02
3356 INP 3541C 0054 Advanced Applied Psychology 03
7007 PLA 3504 0057 Property Law 01
7122 CGS 3170C 0054 Internet Applications I 01
7058 SPC 3445 0154 Leadership Through Outbound Communication 01

College of Business

5245 GOR 3031 0155 Marketing Management 01
1423 MAN 3025 0153 Management of Organizations 02
9410 GOR 3031 0154 Management of Organizations 03
7120 MAN 3034 0154 Marketing Management 02
6246 MAN 3034 0154 Quality & Productivity Management 01
4290 GOR 3211L 0056 Core Business Discussion 01

College of Engineering

8809 ENG 3240 0153 Engineering Analysis 01
8965 ENG 3540 0153 Thermodynamics 01
6915 ENG 3210 0154 Engineering Analysis and Computation 01
8967 ENG 3321 0154 Engineering Analysis-Dynamics 01
7032 STA 3052 0154 Probability & Statistics For Engineers 01
6915 ENG 4264 0154 Engineering Administration 01
7905 ENG 3813 0154 Engineering Economic System 01
7325 EML 5061 0154 Fluid Mechanics 01

[Note: university schedule of classes for listing of FEEDS (video) courses]

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Dr. Lach Introduces...
A Friday the 13th experiment

By ROSS STEIN
Contributing Writer

"Good morning. Are you superstitious? Dare your friends, dare your loved ones. Care to step under our ladder on Friday the 13th?"

That is just what was being said in front of the library on the morning of Friday the 13th, as two students attempted to solicit passers-by to participate in an artistic experiment. The simple task: stroll under a rickety old ladder. The experiment, conducted by art major Nancy Portugal and her assistant Ryan Mus, was part of a project for a class titled Art Happenings.

"I thought it would get a lot of attention," Portugal said as she marked another slash in the "no" column of her people tally. "Art Happenings is supposed to be performed outside, for the public to see. When I saw the ladder in my classroom, the idea just popped into my head."

The experiment indeed drew attention. Photographers for UCF and the Orlando Sentinel, as well as a news crew from WKNM Channel 6, were on hand to witness the hour long event.

Over 200 students participated, and over half threw superstitious喜爱 the wind and walked under the ladder. The rest either ignored the challenge, or were frightened of the consequences.

"I've got a test this morning, and I'm not taking any chances," said one student who declined the offer.

Other students, enrolled in the class taught by Art Professor Walter Gaudak, conducted their own experiments, including one that involved voodoo-dolling Barbie and Ken dolls. Of the 155 students who did, 40 by the fall of '90, the next admission period. "A lot of people will come over when they can't get into the physical therapy program," he said.

Hudson said the program is unique because of the internship possibilities.

"We have a rotating system where students will spend internship time at a lot of different places like high schools, colleges, sports medicine clinics, and pro and semi-professional sports teams. There are opportunities at local high schools, here on campus and with teams like the Orlando Magic and the Solar Bears."

Hudson said UCF has only one of four athletic training programs in the state. As of now, the program does not have a limit on the number of students allowed in, but Hudson said he expects the program to have to implement an interviewing process for applicants and become limited access.

"It's a growing field and the need is there. UCF could become the focal point for sports medicine in Central Florida because of Disney and other organizations. The area could be a leader in the field and we want to be a part of that."

For more information on the Athletic Training Program, contact the College of Health and Public Affairs at 823-0010 or at http://www.cohta.ucf.edu/health.
Proofreading essential to good writing

By LINDA RAMOS
Staff Writer

Proofreading is one of the most essential skills in the writing process. What you may think as evidence of genius while writing the paper, may sound like gibberish when proofreading it—and this is why proofreading is so important. It helps refine writing to an art form.

Putting aside aesthetic value, why do students really need to proof their writing? Virginia Tech's Division of Student Affairs' pamphlet on proofreading suggests that writers are susceptible to two types of "unconscious errors."

First, writers make mistakes out of habit. For example, if a writer has a tendency to confuse the difference between affect and effect, then the likelihood of missing them increases.

Second, thoughts occur faster than the writer can actually write them. This leads to missing words, incomplete sentences, and illogical transitions. As this pamphlet points out, even professional editors are vulnerable to these errors and must proofread material as many as 10 times!

General proofreading strategies advocated by the Virginia Tech pamphlet include:

- Read the material aloud and slowly. It's difficult to proofread one's own material because there's a tendency to see what you feel should be what you wrote. By reading aloud, the eyes slow down to catch any mistakes such as spelling and the ears can hear any sentences that just don't sound right.
- Identify your problem areas while proofreading. Spelling? Grammar? Creating transitional paragraphs?
- Wait awhile between writing and proofreading. Your mind will be refreshed and uninitiated.
- Have someone else read the paper. In addition, West Virginia's Shepherd College Writing Center offers tips to improve proofreading with word processing programs. The advantage of the computer is to be able to isolate parts of the paper to help you proofread and edit by blocking, cutting, and pasting. Use the spellcheck and grammar check features, but don't rely on them! These features may not catch the homonym errors (stationary/stationary) or typographical errors (then/than). There are three areas that should be checked when proofreading as described in the proofreading handout from the Purdue University Writing Lab (Indiana): overall organization, sentence structure, and spelling/punctuation.
- First, make sure that the paper is structured logically. Find your thesis statement. Does the entire paper relate to the thesis? Eliminate unrelated paragraphs and sections. Examine each paragraph for consistency, transitions, and length.
- Second, proof the sentence structure—basics-subject/verb agreement, proper/noun agreement, and parallel structure cohesion (i.e., "not only... but also").
- Third, have the necessary writing tools at hand—dictionary, thesaurus, and grammar book. The usual grammar problems are comma splices, sentence fragments, and run-on sentences.

Proofread more than once. However, don't become obsessed because it's very difficult to catch all mistakes. Just as good evidence aids in an investigation, good proofreading skills add in the skill of writing well.

Linda Ramos is associated with Full Student Services (FSS) which provides word processing/typing and research assistance to college students.
Monsters of the Midday help hype Homecoming

By AMBER FELDMAN
Staff Writer

UCF's Homecoming FanFare, held before the game on Saturday, Nov. 14, was sponsored by Clear Channel Communications. Clear Channel owns radio stations nationwide. They are the owners of six local stations, several of which were present at FanFare.

One of Clear Channel's successful stations, WTKS 104.1, set up a booth at FanFare in conjunction with MindSpring Internet Service Provider, WTKS, also called Real Radio, an all-talk radio station throughout the week and plays "cutting edge" music on the weekends. The "Monsters of the Midday" occupy the 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. slot, following the infamous Howard Stern.

The "Monsters" were all in attendance at FanFare to sign autographs, including Russ Rollins, Bo Rhodes, Dirty Jim, Sexy Savannah, and Bert (Bubba "Whoop Ass") Wilson. The Monsters have been vocal in their support for UCF football. Recently, Rollins was approached by Jeff Ferguson, a salesperson for 240 AM, their sister station. Ferguson discussed the creation of a new UCF fight song with Rollins and he immediately suggested that Wilson be written the theme song for the 1984 World's Fair and I knew he could do it. He is a musical genius," Rollins said.

With encouragement from Rollins, Wilson wrote a UCF fight song. He performed the song on center stage at FanFare with Derek and the Slammers, a popular local band. Derek and the Slammers played throughout FanFare. Originally, the song was recorded with Wilson singing it solo on WTKS, but later he asked Derek and the Slammers to add back-up vocals and music. The song was then re-recorded, with help from Sean Quinn of Derek and the Slammers who produced the track for Wilson.

Wilson hopes the song will catch on. "I am a character on the radio and it's fun, but I am a songwriter," Wilson said.

The song will be available in its studio-recorded version by early next year on Wilson's new CD. He emphasized that this song was not written for financial gain. "I wrote this song to help UCF, not to make money," Wilson said.

Following the performance of the UCF fight song, Real Radio sponsored a human football game that was held directly in front of their booth. Twenty-five individuals had signed up earlier to compete in matches held that afternoon. Jennifer Armstrong, of WTKS promotions, gave participants Real Radio T-shirts.

The headlining match was between Dirty Jim and Sexy Savannah. Each of them formed teams of five. The teams consisted of faithful and devoted listeners that accompany the Monsters to many events. Several of the dedicated team members actually had the logo of "The Monsters of the Midday" tattooed on various parts of their bodies. Savannah added that none of the Monsters had the logo tattoo themselves. Before the match, the teams huddled to prepare strategies. "My team better win. I hate to lose," Savannah said before the game began.

The football game was played inside an air-filled ring. Each contestant was secured to a line by a waist belt and was only allowed to move within a certain range. Each goal was guarded by one person and a rubber ball was used. Dirty Jim and Savannah opted to be the gaolies for their respective teams and the game began. Dirty Jim's team scored two points in a row before Savannah's team got in the game. Savannah's competitive nature was displayed as she kicked the ball with such force that it split and deflated.

After a short delay, the game resumed. In the end, Dirty Jim's team was victorious, winning 3-2.

Dirty Jim said: "We're just better than them. Savannah's stupidity led to their downfall. If Savannah could spell her own name, they might have had a chance. They were inferior athletically. It was a morose killing.

"I only let her score twice so we could still work together," he added.

Rollins, considered the leader of the Monsters, has given many free endorsements to UCF football while on the air. When asked why he supported UCF, Rollins answered, "Because it's local and people care about it. We like to support what the people in the community are into and their support is with UCF." Savannah said that she and some of the Monsters have attended recent UCF games and encouraged listeners to get out and support UCF football.

"Before the year is over, I'm going to be talking about getting behind UCF. We've come to some of the games and even tailgated. We try to get behind everything that's local, no matter what it is, bands, soccer, comedians, local music. In all actuality, we're just proud to be a part of it," Savannah said.

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November 25, 1998 www.UCFfuture.com Central Florida Future • 6
Education key to understanding

From PAGE 1

"It was a great opportunity to get education out there," said Zelniker. "People are just confused about what it is. I think that once you educate people they are less apt to ask so many questions and more will help out.

Volunteer UCF's partnership with TransLife began two years ago. Zelniker said TransLife is trying to mold the program in order to take it to other schools. The program's main focus is aimed at UCF students she said.

"It is a really popular program with what the catchy slogan and all," she said. "We are trying to gear it toward college age kids.

"We have had people come in here who took about 200 cards and made it their personal mission for that week to do this."

The Coalition on Organ and Tissue Donation said that nearly 60,000 Americans are currently waiting for a life saving organ transplant and that hundreds of thousands more would benefit from a life enhancing tissue transplant.

The Coalition also said that every day 12 people will die waiting for a transplant. Every 16 minutes another name is added to the waiting list. For more information on Get Carded or other Volunteer UCF programs, call 823-6471. For further information on organ donation, contact TransLife at 897-5560 or check the Coalition on Organ and Tissue Donation's website at http://www.sharesyourlife.org

She’ll even attend class for a

Older and Wiser

Valencia Community College, but figured that she hadn't had much luck in community colleges in the past.

"Maybe I should try a real college this time," she said.

Willard said she enrolled in four classes this semester. She hasn't really settled on a direction, though.

"I'm settled down, but I still haven't completely settled on a direction," she said. "I don't really know what I'd like to major in or anything like that."

In the meantime, she said, she's majoring in attending classes.

"I'm just working part time, but I'm managing to get to every meeting of every class," she said. "And, I'm even doing my homework. It's pretty amazing if you ask me."

She said she's been pretty lucky to have "the Bank of Daddy" through all of her attempts at college. Her father, she said, has helped finance each of her attempts at taking classes. This time, she said, he was a little hesitant to agree to help again.

"But I promised him that if I didn't make at least a B average that he could cut me off," she said. "And that I'd pay him back for that whole semester."

Willard said that she doesn't like to admit that she's almost 30 and that her father is still paying for her to go to school, but now that she's made a commitment to herself to attend school and to get a degree, she said she'll do whatever it takes to make it through.

"If I even go to class," she said.

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Knightro’ s Copy Kingdom open for business

By NICOLE KING
News Editor

A copy center specifically for students opened earlier this month. Knightro’s Copy Kingdom is funded by Student Government and is located in the Student Center, Room 133. Black and white copies are 3 cents each, color copies, 50 cents each. Student Accounts should return to Student Accounts. Telephone extensions will remain the same. Student Accounts should return to the same. Student Accounts should return to the Administration, 8 tickets per person.

Graduation participants at the main branch must pick up their tickets between Dec. 7 and 12 at the UCF Bookstore. Candidates may order and pick up tickets at their area campus. Tickets must be ordered Nov. 16-21. At the Brevard campus, contact the BCC Bookstore. At the Daytona Beach campus, contact the Administrative Services Office. A photo ID will be requested upon pick up.

Doctoral candidates and platform party guests must contact the Constituent Relations Office at (407) 823-6609 for tickets.

・The Student Union has also been very pleased with the student turnout so far,” Hall said. He said a new restaurant is going to be added to the Student Union. Hall said it will most likely be a fast-food restaurant. He expects to hear a decision on the restaurant selection in the next two or three months.

Because of the success of the Student Union, the Marriott restaurants lost nearly 30 percent of its business in 1997-98. Since replacing Great Escapes with more popular names, Marriott’s restaurants have gained that ground back. “But we don’t view the Student Union as competitors because our real mission here is to keep the money here on campus,” Simko said. Simko said the Pizza Hut Express was added to Knightro’s Pantry to give residential students a place to eat in the evenings. The store stays open until 11:30 p.m. for students who are taking night classes.

They also offer three different meal plans at the Knight’s Pantry. Each one costs $875. “Between the program changes that we implemented this past year, we have almost doubled the number of meal plans,” Simko said.

Simko has also been very pleased with Chie Filer. “They have a very good perception out there as a healthy product,” he said. “They prepare it right in front of you and the food is very nutritious.”

Simko said Marriott will do surveys asking students about customer satisfaction. “We do a lot of data gathering and research,” Simko said. “Whether than guessing what the students want, we want to hear from them directly.”

He said that Marriott plans to remodel some of its current operations and would like to build some more restaurants on-campus in the future.

“I feel good about it because we are in a growing institution,” he said. “It’s not only growing in numbers but stature as well. We just have to make sure that we are in tune with the direction of the university.”

New restaurant to be added to Student Union

From PAGE 1

brought in $430,128.51; Java Express earned $149,034.50, and Sweet Retreat made $104,140.75.

Last year, Hall assigned people to stand at every entrance to the Student Union and count how many students enter the building by using clickers. They conducted each test on different days. The average number of students who entered the building was 8,750. They also conducted capture rates and determined that nearly 70 percent of those students did something while in the Student Union.

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Bad hair days are inevitable

By CRAIG MCCOOL
College Press Exchange

I got my hair cut the other day. “Make me look like a geek,” I told the girl. And she did. That is my excuse, anyhow.

For as long as I can remember, I have been having a hair crisis, by which I mean that my hair simply refuses to conform to any sort of style. Through the years I have tried all sorts of different hairstyles without much success.

My first recollection of a failed style attempt comes from grade school, which was sometime during the mid-’80s. Back then, at my school anyway, the spike was the “in” thing. Remember the spike? Every boy in my class was going for that DANGER - High Voltage! look. All the third-grade boys made their mothers purchase enough hair gel to style a prehistoric Woody Mammoth and we all walked around with these deadly spikes of gel-encased hair sticking up from the tops of our heads.

The spike went out of style because kids would get tired in class, rest their heads on their arms and wake up at the second hall without much success. Thus, we picked up a new trend known as “the shelf.” The shelf hit my school around the fifth grade. It was the style that appeared as if someone had placed a mixing bowl over your head and shaved everything sticking out underneath.

I was extremely excited about this new style. Here, it seemed, was something my hair would actually do - and still does, in fact. But when I proudly showed my new haircut to my grandparents, who are critical people, they said they could have given me the same haircut for free, using the bowl method described above. And they could’ve done a better job too because my shelf, it turned out, was about an inch higher on one side than the other.

I spent the better part of the fifth grade walking around with my head cocked to one side to compensate for my crooked shelf. Because of spinal damage among fifth graders caused by crooked shelf haircuts, a new style was called for, one which would not endanger students’ lives or cause permanent posture problems. I was determined to set this new trend. Thus, from about the seventh through the ninth grade, I invented a new hairstyle in hopes that it would catch on.

My new style involved parting my hair on the side and sort of “threshing out” the lesser half. My school pictures - if I ever lose track of them and you happen to see one - can attest to the half fluff style. It was no surprise that my new trend never actually caught on. As I recall, my grandparents were the only ones who actually liked it, which should’ve tipped me off immediately. Instead of inventing a new style, I somewhat contributed to the invention of the swirl.

In my junior year of high school, I abandoned my dream of being a trendsetter and said goodbye-to the half fluff forever. I decided instead that I would grow long hair, but I wasn’t 100 percent certain that I wanted long hair. What happened next was quite possibly the worst hair decision of my life.

I grew long hair but only in the back. By the time it reached my shoulders, it was nearly impossible to distinguish me from the “average redneck.” Had it gotten any longer, I fear I might have ended up with a pickup truck and several of those Jeff Foxworthy tapes you find that are for sale in Southern convenience stores.

When I cut my hair after that, I decided it was time for a serious change. So I dyed it. I don’t even really want to talk about this phase, except to give you this friendly warning: if you ever attempt to dye your hair with something you picked up at a grocery store, it’s not going to turn out the color you think it should! It will most likely wind up a tint that previously didn’t exist on planet Earth and your relatives will all ask you, “What do you call that color?”

My most recent attempt at a hairstyle was long hair - hippie - but typically, things didn’t work out. I got sick of showering in the morning and having my hair finish drying just as I went to bed at night, so I cut it all off about two weeks ago.

I went into the hairstylist shop with only a vague idea in mind about what I wanted my hair to look like. I didn’t want history to repeat itself. So I told the girl only, “No shelves, leave a little length on top, make it look as though a weed-eater cut it.”

She did a great job with the weed-eater part, but there is a distinct shelf running all the way around my head. So if you have me in one of your classes you know what to make fun of my new hairstyle, because it’s not mine.

Also, if my shelf is crooked, please don’t tell me. I am just now getting over my fifth-grade spinal injuries.
Welcome to the funeral service for the cinematic comedy.
Dearly Beloved, we are gathered here today to remember the comedy. We are here to remember what comedies were like before it was deemed necessary to shock people in order to obtain laughter. We shall remember such comic successes as What About Bob?, Annie Hall, and All About Eve, for they used actual wit instead of gross-out methods to humor their audiences.

Unfortunately, the gross-out seems to be the wave of the future. Take, for example, There's Something About Mary, which made a mint at the box office. And now, taking the genre to the extreme, we have Very Bad Things, the directorial debut of Peter Berg, of Chicago Hope and Aspen Extreme lore.

In this sick, twisted, downright demented piece of celluloid, we are given several morals to the story. 1. Death is funny, and the more gruesome, the more of a knee slapper it is. 2. Disabled children falling down all the time are riotous. 3. A three legged dog hobbling around is the damned funniest thing since the invention of comedy itself.

I could list the ways that Very Bad Things makes its core audience laugh, but I think I'll just leave it up to your imagination. Those who don't find the aforementioned occurrences funny will definitely NOT want to see the film, while those of you who do believe there is laughable value in those parts of the movie... well... I guess I'll do you a favor and not tell you what other goodies there be in this film.

For those of you who haven't seen the trailers or commercials, the dealie-yo with Very Bad Things goes a little something like this: A soon-to-be-married office worker (Jon Favreau, mugging like there's no tomorrow) and his four friends go to Vegas for his bachelor party. There's some drugs involved, and a stripper, who, by the way, ends up dead in a fashion that I would dare not spoil for you fellows who will see the movie. There are witnesses, so they, too, must be exterminated. Let's just say that the body count ends up surpassing that of the original I Know What You Did Last Summer.

There are some redeeming values to this film. I guess Christian Slater, for instance, turns in a great manic performance, in the spirit of Jack Nicholson. The few scenes that don't require below-the-belt humor (i.e. Stern's paranoia at a convenience store as several cops enter) are also well done. As a matter of fact, those scenes did more for me than the more gruesome parts that were intended to induce chuckles. For instance, a scene where a car accident leaves two characters as invalids got a big laugh from most of the audience. For a brief second, I felt a small laugh trying to fight its way through. Then I actually thought about what this scene was trying to accomplish, and I thought, "Wait a second. They actually find this (expletive deleted) funny???

After seeing all the death in this film, and the way that Berg wanted us to react to these demises, I wonder, how could anyone have laughed at this? And if this is the way that comedies are going to unfold over the next generation, God help the cinema.
Memories of true holiday spirit

Truman Capote (Rus Blackwell) walks down memory lane as a child (Lance Noe) growing up with his elderly cousin (Mary Baird) in the Orlando-UCF Shakespeare production Holiday Memories.

We all get a little nostalgic sometimes. Take Truman Capote (Rus Blackwell), who casually strolls onto the stage at the beginning of Holiday Memories and launches a good sitting full of childhood episodes. You can’t blame him. The holiday season has officially begun, which means this is the time of year when most Americans allow themselves to get as sappy and cheesy as possible, and anyone who can’t get enough of it should have a seat with Truman.

Holiday Memories, the latest production from the Orlando-UCF Shakespeare Festival, has provided a satisfying meal for anybody that likes to eat the spirit of the season up with a spoon. Based on two short stories by Truman Capote and a talented cast take their share of light comedic moments and not-too-heavy emotional ones, all at a brisk pace that can keep everyone’s mind from wandering. It’s difficult to relate to a time period that less and less people are able to identify with, especially when most of the situations of the show seem very dated. But then again, there must be a certain degree of flexibility to make a show for people of all ages, and the simplicity of Holiday Memories serves that purpose as well as keeping the emphasis on the holiday season up with a spoon.

The meat of the show lies in the Christmas Day adventures of Buddy (called Buddy by his cousin) must endure a huge dinner in Alabama for the first time in his childhood in 1950’s rural Alabama (like there was anywhere in Alabama that wasn’t rural) as a kid growing up in a big old house with his elderly cousin Miss Sook (Mary Baird). The first story takes place during Thanksgiving, when Truman (called Buddy by his cousin) must endure a huge dinner that is being attended by town bully Odd Henderson (Richard Width). An impending lesson is learned, and in the second half we follow the amusing adventures of Buddy and Miss Sook’s preparations for Christmas Day. Of course, impending lessons ensue.

Designed with families in mind, Holiday Memories has its share of light comedic moments and not-too-heavy emotional ones, all at a brisk pace that can keep everyone’s mind from wandering. It’s difficult to relate to a time period that less and less people are able to identify with, especially when most of the situations of the show seem very dated. But then again, there must be a certain degree of flexibility to make a show for people of all ages, and the simplicity of Holiday Memories serves that purpose as well as keeping the emphasis on the holiday season up with a spoon.

Most will quickly forget that Miss Sook only paid $2 for that quart of whiskey or that Buddy uses a belt to keep his books together rather than a JuSport backpack. The most of the show lies in the strong acting. Blackwell and Baird provide the dramatic punch in the old Truman and Miss Sook. As Trumans brood over everything that happened, Miss Sook maintains Buddy’s voice of compassion and reason during tense moments. Both actors bring a remarkable depth to the characters. As for laughs, Richard Width and Brenda Shou play multiple parts, rounding out all the eccentricities that Buddy and Miss Sook deal with. Their sporadic bursts of schizoid energy are a welcome presence from the three leads. Only Lance Noe as Buddy leaves room to be desired. There’s nothing wrong with a grown man playing a seven-year-old, but when Noe’s voice started sounding like Carmen from “South Park,” he crossed the line from being cute to annoying.

One warning that should be issued before seeing Holiday Memories is that only true lovers of Thanksgiving and Christmas will appreciate the show. If you’re not big on all the whole thing, though, you might actually leave more fed up with this time of year than ever before. Otherwise, let Capote and a talented cast take you on a relaxing and inspiring journey.

Holiday Memories plays from now until December 12 at the Orange County Historical Museum Theatre. For showtimes and ticket prices call 245-0985.
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Placebo
Without You I’m Nothing
(Virgin Records)

Let’s see. I was going to write a review about this here group. Placebo, but I can’t seem to remember what they sound like. Can you give me a bit of time? Thanks.

(on hour later...) Ok. That’s better. So...Placebo...a perfect sample of Without You I’m Nothing it’s opening track, “Pure Morning.” The music is somewhat catchy, but it’s nothing truly special; it sounds like so many other all-rock bands that have gone before them. What truly being “Pure Morning” (and too many other selections) down are the lyrics. After a clever opening verse, the words simply don’t make sense; it’s as if the songwriter simply threw his/her eyes peeled for more differences between regular weed and modern theory, which was digitally mixed by Markus Schulz. MAFDDAP stands for: Mothers Against Fat DJs and Producers. Just some background information of Markus Schulz. He was born in Germany, after moving to the United States he started DJing. He settled in Phoenix, Arizona where he became known for his energetic, crowd pleasing sets. He was resident at The Works, the premier late night club in Phoenix. He then started his own radio show which was called “The Edge Factor,” which airs every week to over 4 million listeners. Taking “The Edge Factor” name into his own recording, Schulz has done remix work for several big name artists. Still he continues to be putting it mildly. Another plus for Plakisk Records, a label his wife started but you can be sure that you will here him play in Florida, especially after his legendary performance at Simon’s New Years Eve 1997. With the help of DJs like: Sandy, Andy Hughes, Mike and Charlie, John Sexton and others they have put together a CD perfect for any house party. High energy dance music for the nineties. Tracks like “I Got Live” by Mike and Charlie whose own Just Funkin Records keep the spirit alive with samples of someone getting high and contemplating the difference between regular weed and kind bud. And one of my favorites “This is Fresh” written by Sandy and Mike Hinazik which was produced in Orlando. You can’t go wrong with this CD, it’s a nice combination of talent and great music. Keep your eyes peeled for more MAFDDAP releases and as always support your local DJs.

-Mercedes McLemurry

Galactic
Crazyhorse Mongoose
(Capricorn Records)

This CD is comparable to a magician who only knows one trick. The bad news is that it does get repetitive. But the good news (at least in this case) is that it’s a pretty good trick. The second release by this New Orleans band, Coolin’, Off, was released in 1996. Crazyhorse Mongoose is a funky set-back to the soul style of music that gained in the late sixties to early seventies. To say that the twelve tracks on C.M are toe-tapping would be putting it mildly. Another plus for Galaxies is the asserted musical performance by Teryl deCloset. His style is very reminiscent of Isaac Hayes, Scott in his own words is a DJ that plays drum ‘n’ bass, who not only plays it from the physical aspect but from a conceptual aspect as well. Mixmag has six other titles in their CD series but this is their first drum ‘n’ bass CD which features tracks by: DJ Krass, Adam F, Otis Texas, Jonny L and Art of Noise just to name a few. Each track introduces a different approach to this style of music and allows the listener to explore all that is wonderful and unique about drum ‘n’ bass, “Life” by Decoder takes a darker perspective with harder and faster beats while “Symbiosis” by Jonny L brings the tone down and adds a surreal effect for the finale. Props go to Doc Scott for putting the CD together and being knowledgeable enough to pick out 13 excellent tracks which I am sure had to be a difficult task.

-B. W. Earl

Lost In Drum N’ Bass
Mixed By: Doc Scott
(DMC Publishing Ltd)

Mixing is one of America’s leading club culture magazines and with the help of Doc Scott who compiled and mixed this CD they have put together 13 anthems from across the spectrum of drum ‘n’ bass. Doc especially with all the talent there is this is his ever expanding world of musicians.

-Mercedes McLemurry

The Best Of
MAFDDAP
Mixed by: Markus Schulz
(MAFDDAP)

This CD is another continuous mix of MAFDDAP material which was digitally mixed by

The candidature of Prof. Gaudnek’s students got me thinking about art and academia. Is there something explicitly paradoxical about studying art in a university? What legitimizing process results in the artist of obviusly profound performed by the happening’s participants? Before seeing the current faculty show at the U.C.F. Art Gallery, I was told by Kevin Hans, the gallery’ss young visitor curator, that whatever I write, it should be “from the heart.” Although I’m not sure what that means in visual art, seeing that some of my unininuities at witnessing the abovementioned “happening” to rest.

Resulting in an undervalued paradox, the show, the story represents a variety of styles and media. The lack of space has a number of consequences, good and bad. Most notably an inability to see some of the larger pieces like Ke Francis’ “Babylon Bounce-On” from a comfortable distance and the heuristically enabling aspection of Hadl Abbas’ “Ceramic Jars,” — in close proximity they’re more readily interpreted as related variations of a common theme. Abbas’ work, simple and expressive, is the highlight of the show. I’ve heard that the U.C.F. is strong for ceramics and after seeing Abbas’ offerings for the exhibition, I wouldn’t doubt it. I thought the Faber’s two architonic “Habitats were easier to take than his “Circular Linguisticities,” but maybe that’s my own personal conceit. Perhaps the scene missing of some of my unininuities at witnessing the abovementioned “happening” to rest.

The show is worth seeing. It’s not very happy about his approach to art, and is working in the visual arts building. If something doesn’t catch your eye within five minutes, you have your permission to leave. No hard feelings.
Chuck Shepherd's

THE NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Unclear on the Concept

Chicago juvenile court judge Fe Fernandez ruled in February that a father’s fouling and tweaking of his adolescent daughter’s breasts and adolescent son’s genitals were not sexual abuse because such displays are culturally acceptable in his native Sicily. (A local Sicilian-American group disputed that, and in September, Fernandez was transferred out of juvenile court by Chicago head-changer Orlando Piu, federal judge.)

What’s the Problem?

In November, Donald Hermonius, 46, was given a 30-year sentence in Kitchener, Ontario, for killing his wife: Robert Wayne Shleton. A 1989 early-released murderer who was featured in a “Willie Horton” ad in the 1998 Texas governor’s race: Gary Wayne Last, 41, was convicted in October in Provincetown, Ala.: Morris Wayne Givens (along with his friend, the not-spit: Andreana Dewayne Barnett).

Mixed News on Arsenic

The New York Times reported in November that Bangladesh officials believe that well water in two-thirds of the country has been contaminated with arsenic. Neighbors of a murderer who was featured in a “Willie Horton” ad in the 1998 Texas governor’s race: Gary Wayne Last, 41, were convicted in October in Provincetown, Ala.: Morris Wayne Givens (along with his friend, the not-spit: Andreana Dewayne Barnett).

People With Too Much Time on Their Hands

Author-athlete Sri Chinmoy sponsored an endurance race for runners in New York City this summer, won by Yisau Sipos of Hungary, who finished the 3,100-mile course in 47 days (6 a.m.-midnight) after running non-stop on the concrete ground in Queens school, including faculty about 115 times every day (only once a trophy and a photo album). Said one runner, “To me, what the race is all about is the blossoming of the human spirit,” but according to the wife of another, the runners are “nuts.”

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Alanis steps up to Junkie

Alanis Morissette might break the sales charts of “Jagged Little Pill” when her new album debuts this month.

By CHRISTINE SELVAGGI
Staff Writer

I basically came very close to wanting to not do it anymore and not do another record and start fresh somewhere else. It was an extreme emotional response to just having been inundated with so many things that I wanted to get away on every level. That’s the intellectual inter-course girl in an October interview with Billboard Magazine. It was at the end of the Jagged Little Pill tour that Alanis Morissette considered not returning to the music industry. Having spent all of her time and energy on her album, personal relationships and private goals were becoming something of a lost place.

“I did a lot of things that I had not been able to do, because I’ve been in the music industry, I spent a lot of time with people and nurtured friendships that I wasn’t able to nurture because I was always touring. I went to India and Cuba.” Much of this personal time taken is blatantly exposed on Morissette’s latest effort, Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie, the follow-up to 1995’s Jagged Little Pill, which sold 28 million copies worldwide.

The 17 song disc, with aired song “Thank U,” sits in Billboard’s #1 spot for the second week. It may not sell like U’s predecessor, but both fans and holiday shoppers alike will leave store shelves bare. Because this record was so eagerly anticipated, reviews and opinions will be more critical than usual. What else can one expect when dealing with Alanis? Morissette has not moved too far from the likes of Pill. Overall, the songs are longer and more musically driven. Although Morissette and veteran producer Glen Ballard wrote the album (as with Pill), an entire band was used in recording this time around.

Morissette’s vocals are more of a spoken word on songs like “Symphonic Character’” and “Unsent” rather than actually harmonizing with the music. It’s harder to be just another catchy tune on the list, but is a comfy break from the cycle on Supposed. “With any songwriter, it comes down to what the priority is...[my] priority is I want what’s in me to come out in whatever shape or form it wants to come out without being too precious about it or overly restrictive.” Mission completed.

One of the most vicious elements on Supposed is the vocal arrangement. Singing lead as well as back up, Morissette clearly declares that even her piano, harmonica, and flute skills can’t compare to her best resource, her voice.

Morissette ran a 13-date club tour in October. There are no dates set for a national tour as of yet, but if you can be sure that you’ll be sitting in an arena-size venue for her next concert.

As a free service to the UCF Community, the Central Florida Future proudly asks you to CHECK YOUR HEAD every week with Dr. Daphne. Spill your guts online and let our local problem solver whip some common sense into your head. No question too big or too small, and names will be withheld. Let it all out and send it to DrDaphne@hotmail.com and hang in there... the Doc’ll be in soon.
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Volleyball team season ends in disappointment

By TRAVIS BELL
Staff Writer

The UCF volleyball team’s year-long struggle came to an end in the Trans America Athletic Conference Tournament semifinals on Friday night.

Florida Atlantic, the team who ended UCF’s 65-match winning streak, won the match in five games, eliminating the Golden Knights.

“It was a good match, but to end the season with that much effort is tough,” Coach Miriam Ochoa said. “It was a terrible way to lose 15-13 in the fifth game.

The Knights won the second and fourth games of the match, but didn’t have enough to pull out victory in the end.

UCF won their first-round match earlier in the day with a three game sweep of Jacksonville State, which helped prepare UCF for the match-up with FAU.

“I think the game against JSU didn’t hurt us because we need more warm-up than any other team,” Ochoa said. “FAU didn’t get to do anything (before the season, which accounted for 75 percent of UCF’s offense. She doesn’t have the luxury of the team, but understands that this season was difficult to handle.

“People will say that it was my first year, but everyone has to have a winning attitude,” Ochoa said. “For another three weeks I’ll be in mourning. I’m at a loss and still upset.”

Now Ochoa will look forward to next season, but she is skeptical of who will step up after this year’s struggles.

“Tough all of my starters would step up this year,” Ochoa said. “Honestly, I don’t know who will step up next year. I think Lisa (Liljenquist) and Stephanie (Notest) will step up as seniors next year, and I expect the freshmen to step up.”

Ochoa hopes next season will be much better for the Knights and they will return to the form of 1997 when they went 28-4 and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

“This hope was a year of learning experience, and that this year was a thistle,” Ochoa said.

UCF failed to win a TAAC title for the first time. They had won every championship since joining the conference. Photo by Keith C loos.

Variety of school records broken in season finale

From PAGE 24

- It was a tremendous feeling to bring one back,” Burley said. “I knew I could do it and was just waiting for the right opportunity. Once I hit the team and made somebody miss it happened.”

- Culpepper exited the game with 1:50 seconds remaining to a standing ovation. Coach Mike Krzyzewski called a time out to give the senior quarterback a chance to be saluted.

- “He’s done so much for us. I wanted to have a chance for him to get the acknowledgement he deserves from our crowd,” Krzyzewski said. “I also wanted to get Jason (Thorpe) in the game, because he deserved to be out there as well.”

- Thorpe, who is credited by Culpepper as a major part of his success, took advantage of his final opportunity, connecting on long passes with former quarterback Tyson Hinson, with the latter, a 25-yarder, going for six more points to give UCF its final margin of victory.

- “I couldn’t have written a better script for how this should end,” a misty-eyed Krzyzewski said after the game. “You won’t find a better group of kids. This is very gratifying.”

Baseball team signs four top prospects

UCF baseball coach Jay Bergman announced the signing of two outfields, a catcher and a pitcher to national letters of interest.

Center fielder David Lemor (Ennis/Ennis HS) and outfielder Matt Alligro (Lake Mary/Lake Mary HS) join catcher Rich Wallace (Orlando/Bishop Moore HS) and pitcher Greg Hubbard (Orlando/Dr. Phillips HS) as members of the 2000 recruiting class.

Lemor hit .322 with 16 doubles and 39 home runs en route to earning first-team all-conference, county and state honors as a junior while Alligro is one of the area’s top prospects after leading Lake Mary deep into the high school playoffs last season. A member of Bishop Moore’s state championship participating team the past two seasons, Wallace is an outstanding hitter that led the city in doubles last year. Hubbard is a strong right-hander who is playing his first season at Dr. Phillips after transferring from West Orange.

Prized hoops recruit commits

UCF men’s basketball coach Kirk Spivey announced the signing of Alton Miller to a letter of intent.

Miller, a 6-foot point guard originally from Washington, D.C., is currently at Maine Central Institute in Pittsfield, Maine. Last season while playing at Covidien High School in Washington D.C., Miller averaged 18 points, 7 assists and 2 steals a game.

Maine Central Institute is one of the top prep schools in the nation. Coach Max Goode has produced other players who have signed letters of interest to Division I schools this year. Those players are headed to UNC-Chapel Hill, Pittsburgh, Oklahoma State and Georgetown.

“We’re very pleased to have Al join our program,” Spivey said. “He is coming from one of the best prep school programs in the nation. His year at MCI will help to prepare him to join our program next year.

Liljenquist Earns Second Team All-TAAC Honors

UCF right side hitter Lisa Liljenquist (Oviedo/Oviedo HS) was named to the All-Trans America Athletic Conference second team as announced this afternoon.

The junior leads the team in aces (37), is second in assists (251), and ranks third in kills (231), digs (13) and blocks (56) per game. A third team all-conference selection in 1997, Liljenquist earned Most Valuable Player of the Week honors this year.

1998 UCF Women's Basketball Classic

WHO

UCF
Northern Iowa
High Point
Canisius

WHEN

Friday, December 4th & Saturday, December 5th

GAME TIMES

6:00 pm & 8:00 pm

WHERE

UCF Arena

Tickets are $10 for a two-day pass, $7 for individual day pass and Kids 5 and under are free.

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Culpepper exited the game with 1:50 seconds remaining to a standing ovation. Coach Mike Krzyzewski called a time out to give the senior quarterback a chance to be saluted.

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All-American Cleaves will provide difficult challenge

From PAGE 24

there.

Cleaves has plenty of help on his side, with front court aces like Antonio Smith and Andre Hutson, who are two of the top rebounders in the Big 10. Sophomore shooting guard Charlie Bell enters the game against UCF as Michigan State's leading scorer, and will be matched up with D'Quarius Stewart, who will be returning to his home town for this contest.

"I'm excited to be going home and all, but we're going to be out there to play a basketball game. That's our focus," Stewart said. "I know how great a team they are, so we've got a challenge in front of us."

The challenge is even greater considering Stewart is also coming off an injury. In fact, with Brad Traina being hampered by back problems and Mario Lovett by foot problems, UCF's starting lineup consisted of only one healthy player against Auburn, Bucky Hodge.

"We have to get the job done regardless. We came out really flat and didn't execute well against Auburn," Hodge said. "We have to play better defense and come out with more intensity to have success."

The Knights/Spartans winner will play the winner of the UNC-Wilmington/Western Michigan in the Championship game with the losers facing off in the consolation match. Both the Seahawks and Broncos present a more adequate opponent for UCF.

UNC-Wilmington features another terrific point guard in 5'11 senior Stan Simmons, while the Broncos, coming off an NCAA victory last season, lost 4 starters and return only senior power forward Shaun Jackson.
By TRAVIS BELL
Staff Writer

The senior class of 1998 finished their careers with a 38-6 victory over New Mexico, compiling a record of 25-19 during the past four seasons, with the past three years coming at the I-A level. It's been an improbable ride, best summed up by defensive captain Mike Palmer.

"When I was a freshman, I never thought we'd be here, but we've gotten to this point, and it's just a great feeling," Palmer said. "You couldn't ask for anything else, and hopefully we make it to a bowl game. Actually, I could ask for something else: that bowl game."

After the final game of their careers at the Florida Citrus Bowl, these seniors still have a chance for one last game if the Knights are selected to play in a bowl game. It would be a fitting end to a team who tied the regular season mark for victories with a 9-2 record. However, the question of "What if?" still remains in the minds of some players after tough losses against Purdue and Auburn.

"I thought we could have finished better," wide receiver Mark Nonsant said. "The two record-setting career of Daunte Culpepper and the effort that the 6-foot-4, 245-pound quarterback has had. Culpepper's career has brought national attention to himself and UCF, but through all the records and notoriety that he has received he still is quick to credit his teammates with a lot of the success."

"The last four years have been great to me, and I'm just glad that I get the gratitude and everybody shows that they've appreciated me and UCF football," Culpepper said. "I treat all those kind of things (records) as a reflection of my teammates. I have to give them credit because without them, I wouldn't have done any of that."

The 1998 season brought many positives for the Knights, but one player in particular is just glad that he and to play on the field."

Offensive guard Ryan Gillis fought through cancer and the NCAA to earn a sixth year of eligibility, and he will never forget his time at UCF.

"It was a blessing," Gillis said. "Everything happens for a reason, and it worked out to where I could be part of it. I just thank God that I could just come back and be a part of this 9-2 team. It's really great."

The 11-game schedule that began in Ruston, Louisiana on Sept. 5 will soon be a memory. And it all came to a quick end on Sunday in front of 19,025 fans.

"Earlier I said I was ready to go and get out of school," corner-back Paul Miranda said. "But toward the end of the game, I was sort of like 'this is really over with.' Now, I don't know if I'm all that eager. I've enjoyed it so much."

"Hopefully, Miranda and the Knights can continue to enjoy their season for one more game, as each senior would like nothing more than to step on the field one more time wearing the black and gold."

"Hopefully everything falls into place for us, and we do go on and play another game," Culpepper said. "We don't really care where. We just want to be able to say that we were the first team to go to a bowl game."

It would be another accomplishment to add to a growing legacy for the 1998 senior class.
Will UCF's magical year be rewarded with a bowl?

By TONY MEJIA
Sports Editor

UCF's football team has inspired me to be optimistic. I couldTurning away from the playoffs. You may also be interested in the bowl's own state. If we're not out looking for tickets to tee, but we're not out looking because of our commitment to the Big Ten," Mitch Morrall, executive director of the Micron PC Bowl said. "It's a tremendous program that has been built there. We understand it's up and coming and were there last year because we wanted to be the first to them. We understood the situation of the developing reputation and Heisman Trophy-candidate quarterback."

The Micron PC was represented at UCF's home finale against New Mexico. What he saw had to be impressive, especially with the outpouring of emotion surrounding the final game for Culpepper and the rest of the seniors.

"It's all up to them. I think we've done enough," Culpepper said. "We've got such an exciting football team and we have great fans. Right now, all we can do is wait.

There are no more games in which UCF can convince a bowl it's worthy. "Taking care of business," as Mike Kruczek called the last two games, has been accomplished. Now the Knights must sit, watch, and wait. And hope they won't be kept home watching.

"We're definitely worthy of a bowl appearance," senior Shaka Burley said. "But there is nothing we can do to sell ourselves and make them take us. Somebody has to show up to see a piece of history.

If Michigan State loses to Penn State this weekend, the Micron PC bowl will have to look at-large, and where better to go than in the bowl's own state?

Should a 9-2 team be kept at home? No. Absolutely not. Is there a 9-2 team other than UCF with its future up in the air? No, there is not one team with that good a record that will be staying home in December/January. We'll see the exception. I'm going to be optimistic. A bowl-worthy football team inspired that.

12/19 Las Vegas
WAC #2 vs #3 Open
6:30 pm ESPN

12/21 Motor City
MAC #1 vs Open
8:00 pm ESP2

12/25 Jeep Aloha
Pac-10 #4 vs Open
3:30 pm ABC

12/26 Michigan vs Pitt
Big East #4 vs Big 12 #5
8:30 pm ESPN

12/29 Music City
SEC vs Open
7:00 pm ESPN

12/29 Micron PC
ACC #4 vs Big 10 #6
7:30 pm TBS

12/30 Humanitarian
Big West #1 vs Open
4:00 pm ESPN

12/30 Holiday
SEC vs Big 12 #1
8:00 pm ESPN

12/31 Liberty
CUSA #1 vs SEC/Big East
1:30 pm ESPN

12/31 Sun
Pac-10 #3 vs Big 10 #5
2:00 pm CBS

12/31 Peach
ACC #3 vs SEC #4
5:00 pm ESPN

12/31 Independence
SEC's Big 12 #6
8:30 pm ESPN

1/1 Outback
SEC #6 vs Open
11:00 am ESPN

1/1 Gator
ACC #2 vs Big East #2
12:30 pm NFC

1/1 Citrus
Big Ten #2 vs SEC #2
1:00 pm ABC

1/1 Cotton
Big Ten #3 vs SEC #2
1:30 pm FOX

1/1 Rose
Pac-10 #1 or BCS Pick vs Big 10 #1 or BCS Pick
5:00 pm ABC

1/1 Sugar
SEC #1 or BCS Pick vs Big 12 #1 BCS Pick
8:30 pm ABC

1/2 Orange
SEC #1 or BCS Pick vs Big East #1 BCS Pick
8:00 pm ABC

1/3 Fiesta
BCS #1 vs BCS #2
8:00 pm ABC

WHAT'S HOT: WHAT'S NOT:

• Being a member of the UCF Alumni Association
• A personalized Class of '98 Alumni T-shirt
• Fun parties & road trips
• Career assistance
• Great discounts
• Pegasus Magazine
• Lots of free stuff

$25

*Personalized invites include the names of those who have completed the necessary requirements to graduate on December 19, 1998 as verified by UCF's Office of Records.

To find out what's hot & receive your free t-shirt, complete and mail this form by December 1, 1998 to: UCF Alumni Membership, PO Box 160046/AOM340, ALUMNI Orlando, FL 32816. Or phone (407) UCF-ALUM.

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Join the UCF Alumni Association Today!

Join today, and you will receive a personalized Class of '98 T-shirt on graduation day!
Culpepper among all-time elite

Quarterback Daunte Culpepper ended his career with virtually every passing record in the UCF record book. But with his performance against New Mexico, he became the third player in NCAA history to pass for more than 10,000 yards and 250 touchdowns. Culpepper set the NCAA record for single-season completions with 296 passes in 2001.

Coach Mike Kruczek said, "Anyone who is wondering why we played him that often can try to do what he did. It's impossible." Culpepper also set the NCAA record for single-season completion percentage, surpassing the record of former Brigham Young quarterback Steve Young. Young had a completion percentage of 73.8 in 1983. Culpepper completed 296 passes in 402 attempts for a 73.8 completion percentage.

Burley breaks receiving record

With his 10-catch, 100-yard performance, Siaha Burley, and the school record for single-season receptions with 88, still has one catch shy of last year's record of 78 set in 1993. Burley finished the year with 1,119 yards tying him for third place all time with Ted Wilson, just behind Bernard Ford (1,180) and Rhodes (1,159). It was also Burley's sixth 10-catch performance, surpassing the record of former Brigham Young quarterback Steve Young. Young held the record by proposing to Jennifer Hughey immediately after the game. It was the game's ball.

Mike Dickinson when he returned a punt 86 yards against Troy on October 25, 1998.

The godsend walked off the field at the Florida Citrus Bowl one last time with 1:50 remaining in the fourth quarter. He received a standing ovation as he left addressed the crowd following the game, thanking them for their support. During a private moment, Kruczek and the godsend were seen huddled together, perhaps Knuczek giving one last bit of advice before sending him out into the world. "I just told him I loved him," Knuczek said.

"I'll still keep his eye on Culpepper every day, especially on Sundays."

Culpepper gets game ball in final appearance

From PAGE 24

The quarterback completed his second consecutive game winning drive with a perfect record, going 5-0 at home this season, outscoring their opponents 168-35. They were also an overall 8-0 in 1997. UCF now has an all-time home winning streak, the longest in school history, with the last time the Knights lost at home being a 29-38 setback against Northeast Louisiana on October 29, 1996. During the winning streak, the Knights have outscored their opponents 413-133.

Post-game proposal for defensive captain

After the Knights completed their 9-2 season, senior linebacker Mike Palmer had a surprise for his then-girlfriend, Jennifer Hughey. In front of the 18,025 fans during the post-game ceremony, Palmer proposed to his new fiancee. She was so surprised that she could only think of one thing to say. "She said 'I love you,'" Palmer said. "I don't think she could think of anything else to say," Palmer said. "She had all the cameras around and she's not used to that. She had no idea. She was floored."

UCF sets record for consecutive home wins

The Knights completed their second consecutive home schedule with a perfect record, going 5-0 at home this season, outscoring their opponents 168-35. They were also an overall 8-0 in 1997. UCF now has an all-time home winning streak, the longest in school history, with the last time the Knights lost at home being a 29-38 setback against Northeast Louisiana on October 29, 1996. During the winning streak, the Knights have outscored their opponents 413-133.

Knights notes

Tyon Hinson caught his first career touchdown in the fourth quarter on a 25-yard pass from Jason Thorpe. It was Thorpe's second touchdown pass of the season and the fourth of his career... Mike Grant scored two touchdowns against New Mexico to finish his career fourth all-time with 21 rushing touchdowns. Daunte Culpepper finished second with 24... Mark Nonsen and Siaha Burley each caught a touchdown pass to finish with 10 and 15 scores, respectively, good for fifth and eighth in UCF history...

During UCF's offensive explosion this year, the Knights set many of the single-season records. A few are as follows: total first downs (278), passing first downs (70), yards per play (6.59), total yards (5,565), third-down percentage (.548), passing yards (3,771), and yards per pass attempt (9.2).

-By TRAVIS BELL

Senior linebacker Mike Palmer celebrated the end of his UCF career by proposing to Jennifer Hughey immediately following the victory.
November 25, 1998

Top, UCF fans say their goodbyes; middle left, Culpepper gets the Gatorade shower; middle, Burley waves his goodbye; middle right, Culpepper and Burley show their excitement; bottom left, Paul Miranda will be missed in UCF’s secondary; bottom middle, Senior Marcus Jenkins walks off the field in less than desirable fashion; bottom right, Quarterbacks Culpepper and Jason Thorpe share an embrace.

TEAM
Central Florida Golden Knights
New Mexico Lobos

First Downs
Central Florida-19
New Mexico-10

Rushing
Central Florida-10
New Mexico-9

Punting
Central Florida-8
New Mexico-6

Third Down Eff.
Central Florida-5-15-33
New Mexico-6-10-13

Fourth Down Eff.
Central Florida-0-0-0
New Mexico-1-1-1

Rushes-Net Yards
Central Florida-43-165
New Mexico-24-131

Average Per Rush
Central Florida-3.9
New Mexico-5.5

Yards Punting
Central Florida-187
New Mexico-137

Yards Lost Punting
Central Florida-22
New Mexico-27

Comp-Att-Int
Central Florida-14-26-1
New Mexico-3-7-0

Net Passing Yards
Central Florida-133
New Mexico-120

Sacks-Yards Lost
Central Florida-6-21
New Mexico-5-17

Average Per Pass Play
Central Florida-5.7
New Mexico-6.1

Total Offensive Plays-Net Yds
Central Florida-69-318
New Mexico-66-245

Average Gain Per Play
Central Florida-4.6
New Mexico-7.0

Return Yards on Kick
Central Florida-6.1
New Mexico-7.0

Return Yards on Punt
Central Florida-6.9
New Mexico-7.2

Kick Ret-Yds
Central Florida-5.1
New Mexico-5.2

Punt Ret-Yds
Central Florida-8.3
New Mexico-15.8

Average
Central Florida-4.2
New Mexico-5.4

Fumbles-Lost
Central Florida-1
New Mexico-0

Penalties-Yards
Central Florida-3-19
New Mexico-4-41

Time of Possession
Central Florida-30:18
New Mexico-29:22


INTERCEPTIONS—NEW MEXICO: None. CENTRAL FLORIDA: Jus.Moore 1-1.


MISSED FIELD GOALS—NEW MEXICO: None. CENTRAL FLORIDA: Mike.Overdier 2-20-19.

Attendance: 19,025
Time of Game: 2:58

www.UCFfuture.com
Kruczek and Culpepper share a special bond

By TONY MEJIA
Sports Editor

Daunte Culpepper was asked the first thing that comes to mind when he thinks about his stay at UCF. Without hesitation, the senior quarterback uttered, “Coach Kruczek.” His answer spoke volumes about the special relationship that has developed between the two.

Kruczek has been the head man at UCF for only one season, but his influence has been felt for 13 years. When Culpepper walked on campus as an 18-year old freshman, Kruczek was there. He’s served as his mentor, counselor, father figure, and friend, as well as his coach.

“I see this guy every day, even on Sundays,” Culpepper said. “I wasn’t used to that coming out of high school, seeing your coach every day. But I did see this guy every day for about four years. He’s the first thing I think of when I think of my career here.”

Kruczek was a factor for Culpepper staying at UCF for his senior year. In turn, Culpepper was also a reason Kruczek chose an inter-

UCF dominates Lobos in finale

By TONY MEJIA
Sports Editor

It was a quaint gathering attended by the smallest crowd of the season. Just 19,025 of UCF’s closest friends coming to see the 1998 version of the Golden Knights off. But, it was quite a party.

The Knights managed to put together the perfect script for ending the careers of one of the most memorable senior classes ever to wear black and gold. The defense enjoyed a wonderful day, making New Mexico’s finale a disappointing one, 38-6. Senior tailback Mike Grant scored twice, while wideouts Stasha Burley and Mark Nonnaut each caught touchdowns. Daunte Culpepper was brilliant, nearly rushing for 100 yards while throwing for 263 yards and two scores. Jason Thorpe got into the game and threw a touchdown pass of his own. Defensive captain Mike Palmer got engaged. It was a day to remember.

“What a day. It was emotional to get that last win with the guys,” Palmer said. “Now we have a shot at a bowl, and I have a fiancee.”

However, it was an inauspicious beginning for UCF, who drove all the way down to the New Mexico 3-yard line on the game’s opening possession, only to see Nonnaut fumble a Culpepper pass which was recovered by the Lobos. To make matters worse, New Mexico ran the ball down the field on the Knight defense, driving 97 yards and gaining up 6-0 on senior quarterback Graham Leigh’s 8-yard touchdown run. It would prove to be the lone highlight for New Mexico.

“We’ve been playing great defense all year and we wanted to continue it one last time. That was our goal,” senior cornerback Paul Miranda said. “Once we got set and everything evened out, we played like we knew we could.”

The UCF defense did not allow New Mexico a point for the rest of the game, playing as well as it did at Auburn. Offensively, UCF was a lot better than it was in the loss to the Tigers. Culpepper avoided the Lobo blitz by running the football, breaking off cur-

Angry Spartans await Knights

By TONY MEJIA
Sports Editor

Last Thursday in Auburn, Ala., UCF suffered a 77-42 loss to Auburn in its first road game of the season. The Tigers, an SEC member, held UCF to a record-low field goal percentage of 26%.

One day later, in Philadelphia, Pa., seventh-ranked Temple University knocked off Michigan State, the fourth-ranked team in the country, 60-59, on a pair of free throws by point guard Pepe Sanchez with less than one second remaining.

The ramifications of both these games will be apparent this Friday night, when UCF meets Michigan State in the semi-finals of the Spartan-Cola Cola Classic in East Lansing, Mich.

Considering UCF Coach Kirk Spreaw’s observation that “as good as Auburn is, Michigan State may be 20 points better,” things could get very ugly for the Knights.

The Spartans are led by junior point guard Mateen Cleaves, a pre-season All-American. Cleaves, considered by many to be one of the top three guards in the nation, will be a huge challenge for UCF point guard Cory Perry, who will come into the game nursing a hand injury that hampered his play against Auburn.

“He (Cleaves) is one of the nation’s best. He can do so many things to beat you,” Spreaw said. “He doesn’t have to score. He just controls a game by being out there.”

By TONY MEJIA
Sports Editor

Junior Cory Perry will try to overcome an injured hand in his matchup with Michigan State All-American point guard Mateen Cleaves.