Leadership UCF gets students out of the classroom

TAYLOR SIKES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

"The most valuable experience Leadership UCF has provided to me is the exposure to differing points of view," said E. Kay Nowak, a 42-year-old UCF student and member of LUCF. "It's all of my educational and personal experiences. I am with people who share my experiential background. LUCF is a vehicle through which I have met individuals with a wide variety of backgrounds." Leadership UCF is a two semester course worth three credits. It is designed to get students out of the classroom and into the Central Florida community. Participants in the program have the opportunity to meet with local businesses, government and cultural leaders.

The class is different from other UCF courses because learning revolves around field trips into the community and discussions held from those experiences. Students maintain journals, prepare reports and participate in group discussions and problem solving. "As we talk about the shared experiences of our field trips, the perspectives are incredibly diverse," Nowak said. "The questions that are raised, for example, are motivated by our individual experiences. I hear after every session questions that I would not have thought of even after days of information processing." The class is divided up into different topics, including art, computer science, government and business. Field trips are planned around each topic. Recent field trips taken by LUCF have been to places like Channel 2 News, a homeless shelter and Orlando International Airport.

"It takes students behind the scenes," said Susan Foisy, administration assistant. It (the program) takes students behind the scenes.

- Susan Foisy

College of Engineering receives $480,000 grant

JAMES COMBS
STAFF WRITER

UCF's College of Engineering was one of nine universities to receive a grant from Lockheed Martin Corporation. The grant is given to institutions that demonstrate excellence in their engineering and computer science programs.

The $480,000 grant will go toward several areas of development:

- Undergraduate bridge work study program
- Undergraduate multidisciplinary design team awards
- The development of the synthetic Environment Learning Center and faculty awards to develop new curriculum for the center
- Information systems research
- Graduate student fellowships in engineering and optical science

The Undergraduate Dean said the money will be used to support the engineering programs and help students. "This is an example of private help teaching with a public university to solve problems of the future that haven't been looked at yet," said Martin Wanielista, dean for the College of Engineering. "It's a tremendous opportunity for students."
Learning Center will cost $200,000

From Page 1

faculty and students to get involved with industry in an area that we feel very confident about—simulation.”

Jack Selter, director of External Resources, said the synthetic Environment Learning Center will cost $200,000, and the university will pay $100,000 of that. He expects the center, which will be built at the Research Park Pavilion, to be completed by the end of summer.

When the center is complete, both graduate and undergraduate engineering students will study how to apply simulation to real-life concepts. Members of the engineering school are currently assembling a group of faculty and professionals to help them define the scope and value of the center.

“This will be a way to bring different applications of simulation into one focus area, and then enhance it and migrate it back out to a larger population,” Selter said.

The synthetic environment, a concept originated by the military, involves an expanded and interactive simulation.

“This differs from a simulation in that the environment changes in reaction to the participant’s choice,” Wanielista said. “If you are in a driving simulation, for instance, and you run over a box, in the usual simulation nothing would happen beyond that occurrence. But in a synthetic environment, the action would change the environment. The box could have been knocked into another lane and caused another car to hit it. This kind of simulation is a lot more like real-world situations.”

Selter said the goal of the program is to find out how students and faculty can work in the areas of simulation and virtual reality, and solve the engineering problems of corporations.

“We want to create simulation environments for corporations to develop a product, put the product in motion, and have it ready to go in the shortest time possible,” Selter said. “It’s an innovative way of cutting down the time that manufacturing companies have to deal with in terms of parts and inventions.”

He also hopes his students will make simulations useful for training.

“There are many pilot simulations that were invented to help pilots fly better,” he said. “Because of costs, you just can’t get on an F-16 and fly around all day. But you can get in a simulator and practice on one. The better quality of the simulator, the better prepared a pilot will be when he’s really flying.”

The bridge program includes high school graduates working at Lockheed Martin during the summer while taking engineering classes during the fall. The program is a vehicle for encouraging students to enter the field.

“They can continue working with Lockheed Martin while studying at UCF,” Wanielista said.

Vince Coffman, Lockheed Martin Corp. chair and CEO, said, “We are naturally dependent upon the quality of education in our schools of engineering and computer science to provide a competitive work force for our ongoing business concerns. We believe we can help ensure a steady stream of potential candidates for employment in the high-tech industry through our support for these institutions.”

Lockheed Martin employs more engineering graduates from UCF than any other institution in the country.

The corporation will distribute $3.5 million to the nine universities. UCF will receive its grant over a four-year period.

Grants to be given to recent education grads

Nicole King
News Editor

UCF’s Student Council for Exceptional Children (SCEC) will award four $250 grants to recent education graduates of UCF. The grants are to be used for classroom supplies.

The SCEC sold College of Education T-shirts last semester to raise the money. The grants will be awarded to teachers who have graduated from UCF within the past three years and are teaching in schools in low socio-economic areas.

SCEC co-president Donica Steffen said the council will send out letters to schools within the next two weeks asking for applicants.

“Teachers from the tri-county area, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties, are eligible to apply,” she said.

A lot of beginning teachers don’t get very much money for their classes,” Steffen said. “This is to help them out.”

SCEC co-president Janet Tweed said it will be up to the teachers how they apply.

“They can either write a letter, have their kids write a letter, do some video or audio. We’re going to leave it up to them,” she said.

Tweed said council members will visit the classrooms of the finalists and observe them with their classes when they are making their final decision.

Briefly

The Health and Physics Building (HPB) will be renamed the Mathematics and Physics Building (MAP) starting this spring. The College of Health and Public Affairs will move out of the building as soon as construction on its new building is completed. The Mathematics Department will move into HPB, joining the Physics Department, during the summer.

Student Accounts/Loans and the Collections Office is back in the Administration Building’s Room 107 from Trailer 541. All telephone extensions will remain the same.
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SPECIAL TO THE PAPER

Students strive to see both sides of a conflict at school and home

Division had to respond to. Nilsson said she appreciated the sometimes tense atmosphere and found it encouraging because the people there seemed to care about what they were doing and they still had hope.

Today, Nilsson said she uses her diplomatic skills as a graduate assistant in the Office of Support and Information Services (OASIS), an office that advises undergraduates in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"People come in angry at us," she said. "I try not to take it personally and to see the other person's side. I try to take in account that somebody might have had a bad day or have been over campus. I try to help them while taking that into account.

"I am interested in both sides of a conflict and trying to see both sides. If there is a conflict, then there are two sides to the story. If I start hitting you, that is not a conflict, but if you start hitting me back, then you have a conflict.

"If you can look at each side and understand the issues, then you can work toward a resolution. I think we often fail to see each other's side and where each other is coming from. Instead, we see each other as potential threats." Nilsson remembers a recent student who needed a professional assistant to Joyce Donner. Leadership UCF program coordinator.

"They see it behind the scenes, then talk to someone in a leadership position."

During the fall semester, LUCF begins the program with a weekend retreat to the Federal Aviation Center in Palm Coast, Fla. On the retreat, students interact with different leadership activities, for example, a ropes course. The weekend is designed to bring the class together as a team.

"The retreat is kind of a bonding system," Foisy said.

Each semester the program also does a service project. This year LUCF is working with Threshold, a behavioral center that provides therapy and care for physically challenged people. LUCF collected items like soap, shampoo and toothpaste for the center.

"It gives them hands-on community experience," Foisy said. "This takes students out there and lets them put it together."

Leadership UCF is offered through the College of Health and Public Affairs, and although open to students of all majors, has a limited enrollment. Students can apply directly to the program, or through the College of Health and Public Affairs, and be judged on their work and let's them put it together.

"Leadership UCF is different from the Business Department instead of getting angry at me," Nilsson pointed out that sometimes the funniest things turn into light-hearted conflicts. "One kind of silly example is when my parents were arguing over what kind of French fries to buy," she said. "I ended up that she needed permission from the Business Department instead of getting angry at me."

Nilsson said she also uses her conflict resolution skills at home with her boyfriend.

"I will come home and fix dinner and my boyfriend might say, 'I didn't want that,' or make some smart aleck remark that will offend me. Then he doesn't understand why I am mad at him. It could have stopped when he made the remark, about the food. Maybe he had a bad day or maybe he is allergic to mushrooms. You never know.

One student is carried by her peers in a trust exercise while on a retreat in Palm Coast, Fla.

Program selective when choosing students

From PAGE 1

Leadership UCF, applications are available in all Deans’ Offices, the Student Affairs Office, or visit the College of Health and Public Affairs at 823-0171.
Don't forget activities, awards, etc.

Limit on the resume is a listing of activities, awards, and other achievements. They can be listed together or individually.

"The biggest thing I look for is how the students did in school when students include special skills, such as flair in a language, that is at the bottom of the resume."

"Such expertise is especially important to mention because scanning systems will pick it up, and the resume will have a greater chance of being picked for a job involving that skill," he said.

Surviving the scanner

JAMIE RIPLEY, manager and owner of Career Builders in Winter Park, said that since many resumes go through a scanner, it's important to prepare a resume for it.

"The scanner searches resumes for the "key words" it has been programmed to find—words that define the requisites of a particular job. For example, the key word "accountant" might be "IS in accounting, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and Amendments and CPA."

"If your resume doesn't have these key words, the computer passes it by, and you're out of the running," Ripley said.

While there are no absolute content rules in computer resume searches, Ripley said it's important to make the work on paper well on paper will lose its punch on scannable resumes. "Job computers rarely search for a match on verbs like inspired, built, calibrated, represented or verified," Ripley said.

Your resume should include action verbs for sentence flow and human eyes; but a computer just won't search for them.

Carefully select fonts

Use a simple, easy-to-read font such as a serif type, like Times or Palatino, or a sans serif type, like Arial or Helvetica. Don't make the font size smaller than 10 or larger than 14. Also, don't use bold, italics or underlines in the resume.

Don't get too fancy

Ripley said to use white or off-white paper that provides a clean background for the scanner. She said that students should heed that advice even if their resumes are not likely to be scanned.

Clark added, "It's personality a turnoff for me if someone puts their resume on a garish paper. I've received resumes on green and orange neon paper, and I didn't bother to read them. Anything that's really gimmicky turns me off."

Ripley said that icons and other ornamentation should be kept to a minimum, and advised against using open-faced bullets that can be read as the letter "o" by a scanner.

Make sure you don't fold the resume because scanners often read creases as lines. "If you prefer short resumes that are easy to read and have key words," Ripley said.

Ripley said that students need to remember who and what will be reading their carefully crafted words.

"You're always writing for an audience," she said. "If you keep that in mind, you'll have a much sharper, more dynamic resume to present to the employer."

Putting together the perfect resume

JAMES COMBS Staff Writer

Bill Clark, manager of Sears Resume Service, thumbs through 10,000 resumes every year. Each one contains a printed summary of the work and education of job-seeking college students. He sees misspellings or other signs of sloppiness on a resume, it ends up buried in the rejection pile.

"I've had students who misspelled words and I've even had students who misspelled my name," Clark said. "That shows they weren't paying attention to details."

Welcome to the real world of a hiring professional. Clark and others like Harvey and Ripley one who will look at the first piece of paper you sent. If it doesn't show you at your very best for the advertised position, then they have little reason to hold on to it.

In many cases, your resume will also be screened by an electronic scanning system that searches for "key words" that match the job. If you haven't used the right words and fonts, you'll be out of the running before a human even sees your resume.

Getting organized

The resume should begin with a heading that includes your name on the first line, address on the second line, and telephone number on the third line.

Beverly Harvey, a certified professional resume writer and owner of Harvey Resume and Career Services, said, "I find that many college students like to put their name, address and telephone number all on the same line. This looks very awkward and the scanner isn't set up to read a resume that way." Harvey said it would be wise to include an e-mail address on the fourth line.

"Listing your e-mail address is a tremendous plus," she said. "Many firms are beginning to use e-mail to notify students when they've been invited to an interview. It also shows that you're technically savvy."

Don't hesitate using an objective

Next, you may want to include an objective, which states the job title that someone is seeking. Resumes are not required to have an objective, but Clark feels it is critically important.

"I'm not going to spend time wondering what it is someone wants to do," he said. "If a student doesn't list an objective, then I don't even think he's worth interviewing; Sometimes students aren't exactly sure what they're looking for, and that makes it pretty hard to write about it. But if someone is fairly specific, then their objective becomes their thesis and the rest of the resume becomes their proof."

Writing a resume can be a daunting experience.

The following is a list of tips that Beverly Harvey compiled from the advice of employers, career counselors and recent graduates whose resumes helped them land meaningful employment.

Select Fonts

"Careful attention to spacing, punctuation, grammar and style."

"Proofread carefully, using a dictionary and a style-book, and have other people proofread it as well."

"Organize information in a logical fashion. Keep descriptions clear and to the point."

"Confine your information to one page."

"Use a simple, easy-to-read font."

"Read good quality or near-quality bond paper."

"Include as much work experience as possible, even if it doesn't obviously relate to the job you're seeking."

"Tailor your information to the job you're seeking."

Seven ways to help prepare your paper for the scanner

1. Use a popular, nondeclarative typeface.
2. Use a font size of 10 to 14 points.
3. Use light-colored (white is best) standard 8½ by 11 inch paper printed on one side.
4. Avoid italic, script, or underlined passages.
5. Capitalized words and boldface are OK.
6. Avoid graphics and shading. Don't compress spaces between letters.
7. Avoid horizontal and vertical lines—they confine the reader.

"While there are no absolute content rules in computer resume searches, Ripley said it's important to make the work that work so well on paper will lose its punch on scannable resumes. "Job computers rarely search for a match on verbs like inspired, built, calibrated, represented or verified," Ripley said.

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Ripley said that students need to remember who and what will be reading their carefully crafted words.

"You're always writing for an audience," she said. "If you keep that in mind, you'll have a much sharper, more dynamic resume to present to the employer."
The declaration of candidacy for student body president and vice president ends tomorrow. Four tickets with a president and vice president are expected to run.

The issue of what exactly was going to be on the ticket was something discussed at the Senate meeting two weeks ago. The amendments voted on by the students during the Senate elections in the fall regarded two additions to the Student Government staff, another elected vice president and a treasurer. This would make a four-man ticket instead of the traditional two-man ticket of president and vice president. The four-man ticket would have been voted on in these elections, but the required changes to the statutes to make the ticket legal never occurred last semester.

SGA Attorney General Joseph Smith stated his disappointment over the failed revisions in a recent Senate meeting.

"I'm sorely disappointed that in the course of two-and-a-half months, the statutory revisions necessary were not taken care of to ensure them by the spring election, which is quickly approaching," Smith said.

"After careful consideration, I've chosen not to issue a letter of non-compliance at this time. But I do offer my sincere disappointment that these amendments have not been taken care of. I strongly advise and encourage giving immediate attention to this issue.

According to Senate President Pro-Tempore Jaime Halscott, the timing of the amendments would have been bad for the elections.

"The amendment revisions going through would not happen for the declaration of candidacy. It would not be done in time for these elections," Halscott said.

Halscott said he believes the four-man ticket will not happen for these elections and that the tickets will remain at just two candidates.

Chief Election Commissioner Cheryl Fox said she believes the elections will be different from the Senate elections held in the fall.

"These elections will definitely be more organized, and handling the elections will be easier since there is no transition of chief commissioners like the last elections," Fox said.

The commissioners are another difference between elections according to Fox. "There will be 15 commissioners that will be trained, and have gone through a scheduled retreat for them, so that they can handle the elections and be well informed," she said.

The chief commissioner is required to hold three information meetings for candidates and students in order to answer questions about the elections. The first meeting was Jan. 14, the second meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, and the third meeting is scheduled for Feb. 11. The second and the third meetings will be held at noon in the St. Joseph's Point Room (208H) in the Student Union.

Where students vote for the presidential elections also came under debate at the Senate meeting.

In the current election statutes, voting takes place in front of the Health & Physics Building, the Education Building, and the College of Business and Engineering Buildings. Bill 31-10 was to add the Communications Building as a polling place for students and delete the Health & Physics Building.

"I would like to give more power to the students and give those students on that side of campus a closer place to vote," Sen. Bob Williams said.

Sen. David Siegel spoke out against the bill. "I do not like changing the statutes so close to the elections."

The bill stalled in the Senate with a split vote of 15-15.

The elections for the main campus are scheduled to take place on Feb. 16 and 17 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For the branch campuses, the elections will be held Feb. 15 through the 17.

There will also be a candidate forum on Feb. 4, at 2 p.m., in front of the Student Union for students to ask the candidates any questions. Candidates will begin active campaigning the following Monday after the forum at 9 a.m.

If there is a run-off election between any tickets, it will occur on Feb. 23 and 24 on the main campus and Feb. 22 through the 24 on the branch campuses.
Q: Is add/drop long enough?

A: We know it felt short to a lot of students this semester and we tried to accommodate students through the petition process and next-day drop. It is something that we are looking into.

—Paige Borden, assistant registrar

"I don't think it's long enough to tell whether the class is right for you."

—Mike Barch, 21, add major

"I'd say we need about 2 weeks. They should consider that people are losing money. We should be able to choose our classes and see if they are what we want."

—Jennifer Nethaus, 18, elementary education major

"It doesn't bother me. I'm usually ready ahead of time. I don't believe in changing classes just because the professor says it's hard."

—Michael Weber, 24, radio/TV major

"I don't think it's enough time to know what your classes are like. It should be at least a week to allow students to choose. You can't tell the first day because you don't really do anything."

—Heather Alagood, 20, biology major

"They should make it like a week longer to let people settle in and see if the course is appropriate for what they are learning."

—Jim Norconk, 27, political science major

"You really don't have time to think about if you like the class or not. You better know or you're stuck in the class."

—Dracheka Campbell, 20, legal studies major

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A typical OCS

named Moose chewed another one's ear off for simply looking at him the wrong way.

Richard Schinkenmeier, a professor

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Boogie nights in the White House

TAYLOR SIKES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Last Tuesday night I tuned in with many other Americans to watch my president deliver his historical State of the Union address. As the 9 p.m. show drew closer and my impatience grew, instead of my anticipation, I decided to flip through the channels and see what else was on.

I stumbled upon HBO, which was showing the controversial, award-winning movie "Boogie Nights," starring Mark Wahlberg as Dirk Diggler, a rising porn star of the late 1970s and early 1980s. The movie follows Diggler from the start of his career as a 17-year-old to his decline from the abuse of drugs and alcohol. "Boogie Nights" takes a startlingly powerful look at humanity through the life of the tragic hero Diggler.

Flip back with me to the packed U.S. Capitol where President Clinton is entering the room, waving and shaking people's hands. And as I saw the most popular president in polling history, who now, Ironically, has been impeached and is on trial for perjury, stand before the joint session and begin his speech, all I could think of were the similarities I found between President Clinton and Dirk Diggler.

In "Boogie Nights," Wahlberg's character begins young and confident. He often stands in front of his mirror in his underwear and flexes his muscles while practicing martial arts moves. In one scene he tells his girlfriend, "Everyone is blessed with one special thing. I want you to know I'm planning to be a star. A big, bright, shining star."

Now I don't know if Clinton ever flexes in his underwear in front of a White House mirror, but I do know he began practicing his speech on Saturday. I can also imagine telling Hillary that he was going to be a star. And he has become one. A big, bright, shining star.

We do know though that Clinton is a 1970s porn star and the Lewinsky affair, his desires. He lavishes himself with fancy clothes and cars, and starts experimenting with cocaine. And as the speech went on, so did Diggler. Diggler's life soon falls out of control and he ends up alone and with nothing. He loses everything by abusing his power, and is thrown out on the street by his friend and movie director, played by Burt Reynolds. President Clinton has also abused his power. Whether he lied or not is only a technicality, but he has misled America and is being punished for that.

President Clinton is not a 1970s porn star, but I do think he is a tragic hero, not unlike Hamlet, or Macbeth, or Dirk Diggler. He is another example of a lost leader who will probably never be remembered for anything that he has done, but only for the scandals that have plagued his political career. As Macbeth, Diggler and Clinton are both victims of their obsessions. Sex and drugs for Diggler, sex and power for Clinton.

Now, President Clinton, nor porn star Diggler go down easy— that was proven by both on Tuesday night. "Boogie Nights" takes on a bigger challenge in giving a second chance at his movie career. I guess we will have to wait and see what happens with our president.

Diggler's final words in the movie are spoken to a mirror he is looking into while flexing, "I am a star. I am a star. I am a star. I am a star. I am a big, bright, shining star."

Only God knows if Clinton might have said the same words while looking into a mirror and flexing before taking the oath of office in '93, or maybe giving the most important speech of his career.

We do know though that Clinton misled America and has every intention of staying in office. I can almost hear him saying: Let's keep rockin' and rollin' man.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UCF student responds to mascot criticism

As a sophomore presently attending UCF, I am appalled to learn that some alumni are requesting a new mascot. The question of choosing a new mascot arises in a letter to the editor by a UCF graduate. The letter asked questions such as where the mascot, the Knight, came from and why doesn’t it fit in with Central Florida history. While I don’t know the answers to these questions I do have a strong opposition to changing the mascot.

First, regardless of a school’s mascot, isn’t one supposed to be proud of their school? Even though the Knight doesn’t identify with Florida or even the USA’s history, it is a mascot which demands respect. Being a knight involved courage, loyalty, and pride.

Second, of course medieval knights were not without flaws, but don’t other college mascots have similar back­grounds? For example the Trojans of Troy State. The Trojans weren’t exactly the most upstanding of warriors. The history of such mascots should be of no importance. The mascot is chosen for its good qualities. Even if it doesn’t stay within Floridian traditions or qualities, the knight has always been a symbol of chivalry and honor.

Third, I cannot even conceive of being called a “cracker,” no matter of its historical background, for obvious reasons.

Finally, while manatees are indeed curious and wonderful creatures, what do most people have more respect for: a large sea-cow or a brave, noble knight?

—Beth Shaw, Class of 2001

Grades received over computer upsets student

The fall semester is long over and by now we have all received our grades. Except in my case I haven’t received them, I had to access them. I accessed them on-line from the Polaris system. All I had to do was type in https://polarsys.ucf.edu and I was on my way. You have to supply a student ID number and a pin number. The help page indicated that you could use your nine digit social security number or your sixteen digit student ID number. I used my nine digit social security number because it does not have sixteen digits. I had a little trouble with the pin number but after trying four or five different combinations I got through; and there it was, proof and validation of my scholastic endeavors of the recently passed semester.

But while staring at the computer screen I couldn’t help but think that something was missing. After some time it finally hit me: There had been no suspense. There was not the suspense like waiting for weeks for that dull, gray envelope to arrive in the mail. No rushing inside to tear open the envelope and carefully unfold the final word on the semester. It was just there in black and white on the computer screen. It had not even been a week since the final exam.

Sixteen weeks of the habit forming ritual of going to class had not faded, and yet the final judgment had been rendered. The interminably long three or four week waiting period to receive grades had become like a rite of passage: a time to reflect on the recent past and pass judgment on oneself, professors, and peers. Having to endure that wait built character and taught one that envelopes were a privilege, no, a right of which I have been deprived. I have also been deprived of an official record of my progress. A record that most of the time was filed in my desk, sometimes displayed prominently on my refrigerator door, and occasionally thrown in the trash, or, more em­phatically, burned. There is only cyber-proof now, and it’s just not the same.

Technology can be a wonderful thing and we are blessed with many gifts as a result. We have CDs that don’t have to be turned over to play the other side, big screen TVs with surround sound, and cars that talk, and are smarter than some people who operate them.

None of these things are as significant as the continuing advancement of the computer and the World Wide Web. The computer has opened a world that is limited only by the imagination. As I was staring at my grades on the screen, it occurred to me that really I hadn’t received my grades, I had only imagined it. There had been no pleasure in accessing them via computer, no anxious waiting period, and my character was no stronger than last week, the last week of the semester. There was only an emptiness, a hole that had previously been filled by the ritual of waiting for grades to arrive. And so as technology moves on, society has struggled to maintain pace with an almost blind obe­dience, an experience that at times leaves us not ahead, but further behind, imagine that.

—Mark D. James
Beer budget escapades

CORBETT TRUBEY
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Traveling (aka going on vacation, taking off, or getting the hell out of wherever you're at, just to name a few) has a countless number of benefits, especially for students. Whether it be your general class burn-out, unexplained restless urges, or a general curiosity to go somewhere different, a temporary change of environment is usually the most satisfying cure. But for anyone operating on just dollars a day, most of which you have to scrimp and save (Mom and Dad or blow on parties or both), getting away isn't always a possibility. Unless you screw around on the Internet for a while.

For those of you that actually remembered to save your pennies in a jar, backpacking through Europe is a great way to do some major travelling at a decent price without being too withdrawn from the modern world. Eurotrip (www.eurotrip.com) is the best source on everything you need to know about going there, from what to pack down to which bars to check out. This site contains a tremendous amount of info written by people who have already been there, plus you can join a mailing list and receive their newsletter.

If you're willing to fork out $24.95, you can subscribe to Transitions Abroad (www.transitionsabroad.com), which gives all kinds of juicy info on traveling, language schools, volunteer agencies, study and specialty travel programs. When it comes time to book your flight, always keep an eye out for bargains. Airtech (www.airtech.com) has some pretty good deals (definitely cheaper than STA Travel), but if dirt cheap is more your style, try the Air Courier Association has got you covered. For a small membership fee, you become an international package carrier, delivering documents to a wide choice of destinations while saving 50 to 80% on your ticket. How does to $250 round trip to London sound? It's simpler than you think, too. You can see samples of their prices and inquire about getting an application at www.aircourier.org. Keep in mind, though, that only a certain number of people can join countries to work in, including France, Ireland, and even Australia. Both organizations provide plenty of orientation, but require that you enter the
country you're working in with some money on hand (usually $1,000 or more).

Looking for something different? Graduating? The Caretaker Gazette (www.agelesslifer.com/caretaker) is an easy way to take off for flexible amounts of time, especially if you

Where would you like to go today? With a little searching, you can go just about anywhere in the world for super cheap.

- Want to make your
- time away a little more meaningful, you can always join the Peace Corps (www.peacecorps.gov). Not only can the experience be life-changing for yourself and the people you're helping, but there's many benefits as well. While on assignment you receive a monthly stipend, vacation time, and deferment of most college loans, as well as a "readjustment allowance" and job placement assistance when you return. Be prepared, though, because assignments are two years long and most require a four-year degree.

If this isn't enough for you and your lust to travel has you mulling over more long-term options, you can always just type in "international jobs" on your favorite net server and see what happens.

And remember this: It is possible that "there's no place like home," but who's gonna remember that when you're sitting at a hash bar in Amsterdam? Bon Voyage!
Thursday, January 28th at 2 pm

Gordon PARKS

Presenting a slide show and lecture featuring his memoir, 
Half Past Am: A Retrospective

Gordon Parks has made a significant and unerring impact on the world with his masterful writing and photography. His career spans nearly fifty years, and he is the author of fifteen books of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and photography. His novel The Learning Tree, based on real events of his childhood, was made into an award-winning film which he wrote the screenplay and music for, directed, and produced. Parks is responsible for numerous other notable pictures, including the direction of Shaft, and he has composed a ballet, film scores, and other music. He has received thirty-seven honorary degrees and more than one hundred awards, including the National Medal of the Arts.

Half Past Am is a companion book to his most recent touring photo exhibition. This book is a unique memoir that includes Parks' own accounts of his remarkable life and a complete retrospective of his photographs, from his moving documentary images for the Farm Security Administration, to his twenty years of powerful journalistic work for Life, to his representations of the Civil Rights Movement.

The University of Central Florida is pleased to host Gordon Parks for a slide show and lecture featuring his book Half Past Am on Thursday, January 26th at 2pm in the Cape Florida Room at the Student Union. Following the lecture, Mr. Parks will sign his books until 3:00pm. The UCF Bookstore will be selling a selection of his books at the event. This event is free and open to the public.

University of Central Florida Bookstore

This event is sponsored by Campus Activities Board and funded by an activity fee allocated by the Student Government Association.

B.W. EARL
STAFF WRITER

At times a juvenile drama, a high school comedy along the lines of a National Lampoon flick, and a searing indictment of the religion of football fanaticism, Variety Blues is a surprisingly successful picture, and the most intriguing work to date by MTV Productions, which has been plagued by the sophomore (Joe's Apartment) and the disappointing (Boris and Buns) of recent years. Directed by Brian Robbins with a realistic sincerity that you wouldn't expect from the author of Good Burger, Variety Blues takes place in West Canaan, Texas, a town that, like many others that dot America's Heartland, is obsessed by the sport of pigskin and power. You know, that type of town. You drive in, and the sign that greets you says, "Welcome to (enter town name here). Home of Cougars Football—state champs, '92, '93, '95." The film begins with your normal pep rally, with West Canaan coach Bud Kilmer (Jon Voight, playing the sort of intense villain that's quickly becoming his trademark) promising victory from his squad. And every game is a must-win, for his team at least— if you get tongue lashed after a victory, you can be certain that there will be hell to pay should you, God forbid, lose.

We also get introduced to the wayward crew of players—the Florida State-bound star quarterback (Paul Walker), the underrated backup (James van der Beek), the linchpin who isn't the sharpest knife in the drawer (Ron Lester), the talented running back who's the victim of racial prejudice (Glen Swinton), and the out-of-control wide receiver (Scott Caan). Sounds like your usual mix of stock characters, doesn't it? Fortunately, screenwriter W. Peter Iliff and the actors are able to add dimensions to what easily could have been cardboard cutouts. Lester, in particular, adds depth to his character, who despises his role as a football player. And yet, he can't help but care about it.

Van der Beek is adequate in the central role as the backup who is given the opportunity to lead West Canaan to its 23rd district title (a point that Coach Kilmer never lets his players forget). But Iliff leaves the best character twists for the supporting players. He avoids taking the easy route by making the star quarterback a likable Joe, rather than making him an arrogant jerk who begs for a career-ending injury, thus making Van der Beek's rise to fame without consequences that the audience could care about.

Above all, Variety Blues is a crowd pleaser, and a serviceable one at that. It stays true to its subject rather than play down to them, unlike the other recent football themed film The Waterboy. When the players finally stand up to the tyrannical coach in The Big Game, there were shouts of approval from the audience. When the game winning catch is made, you find the fact that West Canaan wins at the end surprising. I can only say that you haven't seen enough movies; there was applause in the crowd, something that is harder and harder to come by these days.

You can say that this sports-flavored story has been done before. I wouldn't disagree with you on that. Variety Blues is certainly not the most original film to come down the pike. And while it may not approach the cream of the crop in the genre (Rocks, Slap Shot, etc.), it packs enough punch to make for a worthwhile two hours.
Aspiring actress lands in Dawson's Creek

CELEBRITY PROFILE

Meredith Monroe was psyched.
The 22-year-old actress had just gotten word that she's won the coveted role of Andie McPhee opposite Michelle Williams, James Van Der Beek, Joshua Jackson and Katie Holmes on the red-hot WB series "Dawson's Creek." Then, reality set in.

"I was thrilled, in disbelief and I couldn't believe it," she says. "Then, as the day came that I was to get on a plane to go out to Wilmington, North Carolina, I started panicking. I was like, "Oh, I hope (the star quartet) like me." They'd worked together for a year already. They knew each other and I was going to be the new kid on the block. But everybody was so welcoming and friendly. I was also lucky because I wasn't the only newcomer. Monica Keena was still pretty new and Kerr Smith, who plays my brother Jack, was as new as I was. So, Monica, Jack and I were in the same boat, but the other four couldn't have been nicer. That first night everyone had dinner together and all my fears vanished."

Andie's arrival surely rocked "Dawson's" boat, as she started to date Pacey (Jackson) and alienate Capeside's local terror, Abby (Keena). Monroe describes Andie as a young woman who's not quite as perky-cute as she appears to be.

"Jen (Williams) is the happy-go-lucky, Somehow sad, but still happy guy. Joey (Holmes) is the pessimist and Pacey (Jackson) is the sidekick-goofball who came from a funny-funny dysfunctional family. I come in and I've got this cheery disposition. I'm the girl who tries to turn everything into a good situation, tries to make everything light and fun. Then, all of a sudden, I come in with my own set of problems. I've got a brother who died. I'm not as stable as I seem. And my mother is a nutcase and my brother Jack is oblivious to it all."

Monroe reports that she's signed for the season and expects to be back next year as well. "Dawson's" dialogue, a bizarre blend of SAT words and teenspeak, "I'm like, 'You want MY autograph?' But that doesn't happen often." - Meredith Monroe

Monroe, laughing. "There are days when I say, "I have marbles in my mouth today!" because NOTHING comes out right. When I read a script I usually know what the words are, what they mean. I might not use them in a conversation. I might not string the words in that order or use as many of them in a sentence, but I know the vocabulary and if I don't, I'm learning something new. There are times I get a word, go "OK, what is THAT?" and get my dictionary out. But it's good. It's a learning experience."

Actually, it's all still a learning experience for Monroe, who was born in Houston and raised in Orlando, Dallas and just outside Chicago. An agent who lived next door to her family suggested Monroe try acting and she did just that, moving to New York City after graduating from high school. A role on the short-lived series "Dangerous Minds" came her way, which brought her to Los Angeles, where she subsequently landed roles on "The Magnificent Seven," "Promised Land," and in the upcoming CBS TV movie "Beyond the Prayer: The True Story of Laura Ingalls Wilder."

"Dawson's Creek," however, has given Monroe her first real taste of stardom. People recognize her on the street and often ask for her autograph. It's as exciting, she notes, as it is unsettling.

"It's nice that people are interested, that they like my work, but it's very strange at the same time," she says. "I'm like, 'You want MY autograph?' But that doesn't happen often. We're in Wilmington and kind of in our own little world here. So it's still a bit of a dream, like it's not real yet."
I was offered a great job, but I still have two years left of school. I really want this job and I really want my degree. Help!

Future Careerman

Dear Dr. Daphne,

I had sex with my girlfriend’s sister when we broke up. We’re back together now. In the mean time, my girlfriend’s sister is pregnant and it may be mine. What should I do?

- Cheatin’ Willy

Dear can’t Keep It In My Pants,

It’s pretty cool to have a rockin’ offer on the table. And I’m proud of you for realizing your degree is of major importance. But you need to stay in school for now and get your piece of paper first. That little piece of paper sometimes seems pointless when you hear the stories of success with college, but you’ll be better off in the future if you work on it and the great job or a better one will be there for you in two years.

Future Careerman

Dear Opportunity,

Now is the time to take responsibility for your actions. Keep your little friend in your pants and if you can’t, use a CONDOM!

Dear Dr. Daphne,

I had sex with my girlfriend’s sister when we broke up. We’re back together now. In the mean time, my girlfriend’s sister is pregnant and it may be mine. What should I do?

- Cheatin’ Willy

Dear can’t Keep It In My Pants,

Quite a mess you have don’t you think? Wait, don’t think, you may get hurt. You have some huge decisions to make, big guy. The first thing you need to do is discuss the situation with your girlfriend. She’ll probably leave you, but she’ll be better off. Then you need to make plans with her sister. If you’re lucky, she’ll leave you too. You don’t need that shit in your life anyways. If she decides to keep the baby and it is in fact yours, you best take full responsibility, for sake of the bastard child. If she decides not to keep it, you owe her at least half. You messed up big time, bro.

- Future Careerman

Dear Opportunity,

I’m not the best at math, but I know that the American Cancer Society offers FREE educational resources, including videos and materials for patients and caregivers. For more information, you can visit their website at AmericanCancerSociety.com.
Lead Stories

• Since 1996, accused murderer Eric Brown has been rendered incompetent, by paranoid schizophrenia, to stand trial, but officials at Bridgewater State Hospital in Massachusetts said recently that he had made enough progress while on medication so he can return to his prior psychotic state in order to prove his innocence. He is thus a better candidate to be found not guilty. His psychiatrist is opposed, citing medical ethics prohibiting him from making Brown’s illness worse.

• According to a December report in the Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call, U.S. Rep. Dar Burton of Indiana has his own satellites to a Capitol barber shop (scissors, comb, electric razor) to paint his hair cut. Though no one would say for sure, reporters specialised that Burton does this for the same reason (fear of AIDS) that he has stopped ordering soup in restaurants and stopped going to the House gym around the time that colleague and gym regular Buddy Fink revealed he is gay.

• A December Newhouse News Service dispatch reported on the new fascination with tattooing among some younger evangelical Christians, who decorate themselves contrary to the teachings of the book of Leviticus, which in the last millennium was cited as the basis of calling tattooing a "form of devilry." (On the other hand, supporters point out, the books of Exodus and Revelation describe holy symbols on the bodies of believers.) A religious female graduate student in California, interviewed for the article, said that among her tattoos was an angel, on her butt.

Unclear on the Concept

• In 1997, four years after being convicted of raping a 15-year-old girl, inmate Graylon Bell won $5,000, which in the last millennium was cited as the basis of calling tattooing a "form of devilry." (On the other hand, supporters point out, the books of Exodus and Revelation describe holy symbols on the bodies of believers.) A religious female graduate student in California, interviewed for the article, said that among her tattoos was an angel, on her butt.

Well-Put

“Tampa, Fla., nursing home resident John Yerger, 93, after realizing he had been duped into paying a $5,000 fee to collect his alleged $1 million winnings in a Canadian lottery and then cooperating with authorities in an attempt (unsuccessful) to stinge the culprit. “It may have cost me $5,000, but this is the most exciting I’ve had in a long time.”

• Greenwich, N.C., city council member Keith Holdway, explaining in January why the city was forced to hire a public relations firm to deal with its current water-shortage crisis: “I’ll bet you I’ve been asked 100 times... why we just didn’t make our lakes bigger.”

Government in Action

• An inadvertent glitch in the recent earthquake-proof construction at Barnstable (Mass.) High School: The building is so solidly soundproof that students could not hear ordinary fire alarms, and for the first month following the storm (until the problem was fixed), the school board was forced to hire fire-fighters on overtime to stand guard in the building to alert everyone in case of fire, at a total cost of about $1,000 a day.

Recurring Themes

• The Classic Middle Name (continued): Challenging in September the competence of his lawyer in his conviction for murdering a preacher named Dale Wayne Hill, 27, of New York City, in California, that December (after being convicted of murder in Torrance, Calif., in December) that he regretted not killing all of them, too. David Wayne Arizmendi, executed in McKeaters, Okla., in December for the murder of his wife; John Wayne Duvall, executed in a federal jail in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in December for the murder of his wife; John Wayne Duvall, captured in a federal jail in Baltimore, Maryland, in December; John Wayne Duvall. Dead of a self-inflicted gunshot to the head, eyewitness reported he had a bad day.

• The Continuing named Harvey Osceola, to stand trial, but officials at Bridgewater State Hospital in Massachusetts said recently that he had made enough progress while on medication so he can return to his prior psychotic state in order to prove his innocence. He is thus a better candidate to be found not guilty. His psychiatrist is opposed, citing medical ethics prohibiting him from making Brown’s illness worse.
A fellow writer for the Future recently let me in on a little secret, *Playing By Heart* was supposed to have a very witty and intriguing title, *Talking About Love is Like Dancing About Architecture*. But as most 'could have been' anecdotes go, it didn't come into being because, well, Hollywood marketing departments aren't concerned with challenging the literary imagination, they would rather forgo the risk by using simplistic but memorable titles aimed at boosting sale figures, not consciousness. How unfortunate because *Playing By Heart* shines brightest when screenwriter Willard Carroll is left to his own clever and somewhat sublime devices.

Carroll's screenplay attracted an ensemble of eminent names and reputable talents, some of whom put on their best performances to date. Included among the quality supernovas are Gena Rowlands (back in the form John Cassavettes, *Faces* et al., once captured her in several decades ago), Jay Mohr (whose wise cracking smirk, circa *Jerry Maguire*, is profoundly absent in the poignant depiction of a homosexual with AIDS) and stel­lar newcomer Angelina Jolie (who's last work in *Gia* was as haunting and disturbing a depiction of a supermodel ever brought to celluloid).

The vague narrative structure allows for some creative cinematic moments which come off like a pebble adorned with a camera, intimately disturbing a naked puddle. A large and daunting cast appears to have under­terred writer/director Willard Carroll who has allowed the chaotic and inde­terminate flight of personalities to shine brightest within their own microcosmic bub­bles. In spite of the films densely interwoven narrative or the nature of love in its various forms, its structure is virtually silent, the puddle invisible, and the psycho­logical depth which is so frequently absent in character driven films splashes out with an inventive sensacy.

All of this leads to a rather insistent question, does the film suffer from a lack of grounding? The answer is surprising. On one hand, *Playing By Heart* is funny where many directors would have been tragic, and Carroll never appears cynical. That's not to say he does not include clever and cynical ways of approaching the romantic con­flicts which propel the film to its rather emotive conclusions, but the viewer never feels tied down to a character by yanking on worn out heart strings. And then there is the other side of things, Carroll deftly unites all romantic episodes into a single film without the storyline suffering any loss of intrigue simply by the use of one charming phrase: "anger­ball."

Of course if this seems at all too complex and dynamic for a mainstream Hollywood film about love, you can rest assured that Miramax has enlisted the talents of James Bond alumnus, composer John Barry, to mold a memorable and hypnotic jazz score (for those who prefer the hummable glossola of plaintive melody to enveloping rhythm, tat tat tat). And like the pebble in the puddle, the drops of water never lose their way or dissolve, they all eventually wind up back in the same pool and life (and death) is left undisturbed.

Ultimately, *Playing By Heart* rewards and frustrates as much as any verbal dance about architecture could and this seems reason enough to proffer a recommen­dation.
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Knights rebound nicely after first TAAC loss

TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR

UCF had lost its first conference game at Jacksonville State. Despite the best TAAC start in school history, you can bet Coach Lynn Bria was not pleased. Why? Because Bria wasn’t pleased with a perfect 4-0 mark prior to the loss.

“We still have a whole conference season in front of us and there are a lot of things we can be doing better,” Bria said. “I never want to be satisfied. At least not until after the season.”

With that attitude, UCF could be playing well into March. The stretch starts against the Bears (6-11, 2-5) on Thursday night. Despite its poor record, Mercer has given up the least amount of points in the TAAC this year. The Bears also take full advantage of the three-point line, shooting the best percentage while leading in three-point field goal defense.

Chrisen Edwards leads Mercer with a 15.3 points-per-game average, while Jenny Sessor is third in the TAAC in three-pointers made.

Troy State (6-11, 5-2), led by junior forward LaKeisha Parrish, is coming off a costly one-point loss against Georgia State. Parrish is averaging 15 points and 7.5 rebounds per contest, and will be a tough challenge for Khaliah Guillory, Camille Howard, and T.J. Williams all play a part in UCF’s possible return to the NCAA Tournament. Once there, the Knights would play to win, or look towards next year if they lose, trying to learn from the experience and put another piece of the puzzle together.

That’s looking too far ahead, however, as this team does things one task at a time.

Welcome to the world of UCF women’s basketball, where you don’t dwell on the good or the bad. Rather, you learn from it and move on. A blowout loss in Florida means as much as a tough win against Seton Hall. The first TAAC loss to JSU teaches lessons to be utilized in a double-digit win at Samford.

Everything serves a purpose; nothing is taken for granted, overlooked, or reveled in. More than anything, it’s still basketball. That’s looking too far ahead, however, as this team does things one task at a time.

Davis provides quiet leadership

FROM PAGE 24

Davis is a quiet leader. You will rarely see her rattled. Quietly, yet confidently, she handles the ball in key situations. When you are the TAAC Pre-Season Player-of-the-Year, rewriting school records, you don’t have to say much.

Chat McClendon and Kate Fetzek were also there for the difficulties starting over causes. Moving on has been their greatest obstacle. The rest of the Knights may not have been there when tragedy struck, but they were there for the period of adjustment, even today. Every day is an adjustment under Bria. Every day there is a lesson to be learned.

Bria has recruited tremendous talent from all over the country. LaDonna Lary, Paula Nesbitt, Kelly Ely, Camille Howard, Nancy Richter, LaToya Graham, Khaliah Guillory, Leslie Dupont, and T.J. Williams all play a part in UCF’s possible return to the NCAA Tournament. Once there, the Knights would play to win, or look towards next year if they lose, trying to learn from the experience and put another piece of the puzzle together.

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Everything serves a purpose; nothing is taken for granted, overlooked, or reveled in. More than anything, it’s still basketball.

Now that you’ve been properly introduced, make time for it. I know I will.
Trio of games will show UCF where it stands early

The Knights toughest test will come when they face the Rice Owls on Sunday in the tournament finale following the Duke-South Alabama game. The Owls enter the game ranked sixth in the pre-season Baseball America poll. UCF has played Rice in two of the past three seasons, losing 6-5 in 1996 and winning 4-3 last year.

Troy Satterfield, the only regular starter returning for the Knights, will open against Rice. He posted a 5-3 record last year, while starting nine games. He had a 3.65 ERA while only walking 13 batters in 66.2 innings.

"We will get a chance to look at our entire pitching staff during the tournament because everyone will be on a pitch count," Bergman said. "We will be pretty good in the bullpen, but our problem could be in the middle relief. We're gonna move a lot of people around early in the season."

Despite the mass of players lost to the professional ranks, UCF still has a few players that put up impressive numbers last season. Left fielder Matt Bowser and closer Jason Arnold both earned Freshman All-America honors. In addition, first baseman Dustin Brisson and second baseman Tim Boeth return to solidify the right side of the infield. However, with the limited number of positions filled by returning players, Bergman is looking for a few answers and some consistency in the Olive Garden Classic.

"It's the first games of the season, so you never know what to expect," Bergman said. "We're just looking for three good games. We need to find out how our young players will react to pressure."

UCF's Dustin Brisson will be a key returnee from last year's 41-win squad which failed to make the NCAA Tournament.
FROM the SPORTS desk

UCF picked to win fourth title in five years

The 1999 Trans America Athletic Conference Baseball Preseason Poll has the University of Central Florida picked to win their fourth TAAC Championship in the last five years according to voting completed by each of the TAAC Head Coaches.

UCF, TAAC Champions in 1997, 1996 and 1995, is the preseason favorite to win both the TAAC Regular-Season and Championship titles in 1999. The Golden Knights (41-21 overall in 1998), receiving three first place votes to Troy State's four, finished atop the Trojans in the preseason poll due to six-second-place votes to Troy State's one-second-place vote.

Troy State University (37-21 overall), finishing second in last year's TAAC Championship, is picked to finish second in the regular-season standings while TAAC first-year member Jacksonville University (31-27 overall) is slotted third in the preseason predictions.

North Florida and Stetson University are predicted to finish seventh and eighth, respectively, with Campbell University and Samford University finished tied for ninth in the preseason poll.

Centenary College completes the preseason predictions at the eleventh spot.

The 1999 TAAC Baseball Season, beginning on March 5-6 and concluding on May 14-15, features non-divisional, single-round-robin play (30 TAAC contests per school) with the top six teams based on Conference winning percentage advancing to the TAAC Championship. The 1999 TAAC Championship, set for May 10-12, is a six-team, double-elimination event being held for the second straight year at the Osceola County Stadium in Kissimmee, Florida.

1999 UCF baseball tickets available

Tickets are now on sale for the 1999 UCF Baseball season which will be played at Tinker Field in downtown Orlando.

To purchase season tickets, good for all 25 home games, contact the UCF Athletic Ticket Office at (407) 823-1000.

Ticket prices are as follows: $20.00 for senior citizen passes, $30.00 for Knights Booster season passes, $40.00 for individual season passes and $50.00 for on-campus family passes (admission good for up to five family members). Individual game tickets, available by cash purchase only, will go on sale one hour prior to game time. Ticket prices are as follows: $4.00 for adults, $2.00 for children ages 6-17, and free admission for children 5 years of age and under and all UCF students with valid UCF I.D.

All seating is general admission at Tinker Field. For those hoping to catch the Golden Knights compete against Duke, South Alabama and Rice in the 10th Annual Olive Garden Baseball Classic at Osceola County Stadium Jan.29-31, tickets can be purchased through Ticket Master at (407) 839-3900. Ticket prices are as follows: $5.00 for children $6-17 & under and senior citizen. Three-day passes are also available.

Knights pick up four more verbal.

This past weekend, UCF picked up four more verbal commitments, including Lakeeland Kathleen linebacker Antione Poe.

Joining Poe (6-0, 195) is Boyd Anderson CB Asante Samuel (5-11, 187), Walton DE/OT Doug Walker (6-4, 275) and South Plantation DT Jason Hollins (6-4, 245).

Poe was a highly-recruited prospect until he suffered a devastating knee injury in his team's first game this year.

Schools including Florida, Florida State and Miami backed off while UCF continued to recruit him. Poe canceled a visit to Indiana to come to UCF this weekend. He had 4.6 speed before his injury.

UCF has 24 verbal commitments and will sign 24 players on national signing day. The Knights likely will sign over that amount in the event some won't academically qualify or some will enroll at UCF in January.

UCF also will sign some players who won't qualify and place them in junior college with the hopes of getting them back in two years.

—TONY MEJIA

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Monday through Friday
10:00 pm: Sunshine Network Live! A lively 1 hour round table sports talk including phone calls from you the fan!

Wednesday January 27, 1999
6:30 pm: Golden Knight Basketball with Coach Kirk Speraw
7:00 pm: Indianapolis Ice @ Orlando Solar Bears (LIVE)

Monday February 1, 1999
9:00 am: Countdown to Signing Day

Tuesday February 2, 1999
9:00 pm: Golf: Dodge Celebrity Invitational

Wednesday February 3, 1999
6:30 pm: Golden Knight Basketball with Coach Kirk Speraw
11:00 pm: Countdown to Signing Day Special
UF falls at Centenary

Centenary’s Ronnie Collum and Ed Donovan scored 24 points each, and the Knights fell in the TAAC race. Don Joyner’s 15 for 19 from the floor, 6 for 7 from the free-throw line, 5 rebounds, and 7 assists were all key factors in the game. The Knights made 57.1% of their shots, while the Gators made 51.4%.

The loss drops the Knights to 6-12 overall and 3-5 in the TAAC. The Knights will have to regroup and prepare for the second half of the season.

Men’s Hoops Notebook

UF depth a key in upset bid

UF coach Tony Speraw said that the depth of the team was the key to the upset victory over Centenary. The Knights had 12 players in double digits, with six players scoring in double figures. The Knights outscored the Gators in the second half, 58-41, and held the Gators to 38% shooting.

Good game from Granberry

Centenary’s Granberry scored 27 points on 11-15 shooting, including 4-7 from three-point range. He also had 7 rebounds and 5 assists. Granberry was the Knights’ best player in the game, and his performance was key to the upset victory.

UF defense dominates

The Knights held the Gators to 38% shooting, and limited them to 19 points in the second half. The Knights’ defense was key to the victory, as they held the Gators to their lowest scoring output of the season.

Quote of the Week

“I can’t afford to look past anybody,” Speraw said. “If we don’t prepare, we don’t win.”

—TONY MEJIA
### Men's Hoops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Conference W-L Pct</th>
<th>Overall W-L Pct</th>
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### GENITAL HERPES

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Lovett not only a card, but jack of all trades

TRAVIS BELL
SPORTS EDITOR

Very few collegiate basketball players have the skills to play every position, but then again, very few people are like UCF forward Mario Lovett. Lovett is one of the limited number of players that has the confidence and skills to play every position. At least that’s what he says, which with Lovett doesn’t mean much, since he says a lot.

“You can’t believe a word Mario says,” jokes Coach Kirk Speraw. “He’s always running his mouth. It never stops, not in the locker room or in games. That’s just his personality.”

While Lovett talks a big game, the 6-foot-6, 225-pounder has what it takes to back up his running commentary. He’s proved to be effective at any position, and has especially taken a liking to point guard, a position all power forwards aspire to play, but few can pull off like Lovett can.

“I run it (the point) in practice a couple of times,” Lovett said. “I run it a little bit in the McNeese State game. It’s no thing, I can handle it out there. I think it’s fun.”

With Cory Perry and D’Quarius Stewart logging the majority of minutes running the team, the junior power will have to settle for being UCF’s weapon in breaking an opposing team’s press. Not that his role isn’t important. The junior forward has blossomed into a solid starter and scoring threat for the Knights after seasons. Now he is putting up averaging only 5.7 points per game.

“Lovett said. “I didn’t really want to play the four when I first came in as a freshman, but I had no choice. I just wanted to be on the court, and now I’m just playing my game.”

Lovett has proved that he has earned the right to play nearly 30 minutes per game, doing whatever UCF needs him to do. He is shooting .538 from the field and .700 from the free throw line. He is second in blocks, third in assists, and fourth in steals. But most importantly, since he is such a good ball handler, he is able to create fast-break opportunities that many other big men can’t.

“We kind of run a pseudo point with him, and he’s pretty free to rebound the ball and bring it in transition,” Coach Kirk Speraw said. “You see him leading the break quite a bit. When you see someone his size handling the ball like he does it’s pretty impressive.”

Lovett had his best game of the season during a 15-point victory over Stetson on January 16. He connected on 7-of-8 field goals and all four of his free throws for a career-high 19 points, and he pulled down a team-high eight rebounds. However, Lovett was praised more for his defensive effort in the game after helping hold Sebastian Singletary to just 5 points, 2-of-7 shooting from the field.

“I just use my quickness in the post, and try not to let the postman catch me,” Lovett said. “I feel that if I get behind any post player, they’re gonna score on me, so I use my quickness to my advantage.”

His lockdown of Singletary came two days after Lovett held the Jacksonville’s leading scorer, Calvin Slaughter, to just five points in another UCF blowout victory.

Nevertheless, Lovett’s defense has been overlooked all season because he has rarely had a bad defensive effort. In his first major defensive test of the season, he held Auburn’s Chris Jones to only two points on 1-of-4 shooting. Then just a few games later, he held Miami’s Tim James to just eight points, despite the fact that he is averaging nearly a double-double for the season. Those are two of the country’s top power forwards combining for just 10 points.

“Mario has been playing very good defense all year long,” Speraw said. “He has stepped out there, and he has been very consistent with his defensive effort. Mario is doing an awefully good job at the four spot.”

Not only has Lovett’s low-post play improved his own numbers, it has helped free up Brad Traina and D’Quarius Stewart to find the perimeter. Traina and Stewart have combined for over 30 points per game during the Knights 6-2 start in the Trans America Athletic Conference, and they have been able to rely on Lovett and the other low-post players to pick up the scoring inside.

“When they key on in DQ and Brad, I get open shots,” Lovett said. “Most of the big men will help out against them, so we can get an easy lay-up.”

No matter whether it’s a lay-up or a three-pointer, Lovett will find a way to score. Or if it means running the point or posting up a premier forward, Lovett will do it, as long as it works, for the team to win. The opposition can’t sleep on Lovett anymore, not that he would let them if it was impossible not to notice him, and impossible not to hear him.
Knights open season at Olive Garden Classic

Tony Mejia
SPORTS EDITOR

In what is probably the biggest game of the regular season to date, UCF lumps in to Sanford on Thursday night, literally.

The Golden Knights have been decimated by injuries and illness all season long, but have overcome the setbacks to post the TAAC’s second-best record. However, Samford is picking up right where the departed College of Charleston left off, as the Bulldogs are undefeated and have dominated conference opponents, outscoring them by an average of nearly 18 points. They will not be sympathetic to UCF’s woes.

Brady Trina missed the contest against Centenary, an 87-80 UCF loss, because of problems with his foot, which has already been diagnosed as a stress fracture. Davis Granberry has missed the last two games because of a separated shoulder, and starters Cory Perry, Mario Lovett, and D’Quarius Stewart all were feeling the effects of the weather.

UCF meets the unbeaten Bulldogs for the only time this season.

Women’s team embodies coaches perseverance

Tony Mejia
SPORTS EDITOR

I’ll start this piece off with a bit of honesty – I don’t watch a lot of women’s basketball. It has nothing to do with the game (it’s still basketball) or the fact that it’s women’s basketball (it’s lovely), but you rarely see it. What impresses me the most about the UCF women’s basketball team is that they’re almost always looking to the next challenge, trying to find a way to improve. It’s why her teams have been so good under Richardson. She’s always been the head coach, and she’s got a lovely smile, but you rarely see it. Not even after wins. See, Brila is always looking to the next challenge, trying to find a way to improve. It’s why her teems have improved every season she’s been here. It’s why, with four assistant coaches, right now, her team is the TAAC’s second-best record (55.6%), but teammate Marc Salyers leads the TAAC in that category (56.5).

Richardson tragically died in an automobile accident before starting her fifth season as UCF’s head coach. Brila, as the story goes, was driving in from Texas to commence her term as an assistant coach under Richardson when she got wind of the horrible news. Not knowing what to do, Brila did what those who know her better now know was the only thing she could do, she persevered, kept driving and ventured into a situation she knew nothing about. She stayed on as an interim coach under difficult circumstances, picking up the pieces with a broken-hearted team. UCF fared better under those circumstances than anyone would have expected, finishing 13-15. And, in the next year, with the interim title removed, Brila led the Knights to a 17-11 finish, second in the TAAC. However, an upset loss to Georgia State prevented UCF from making the conference final. Rebuild, reload, regroup, call it what you want. Brila was fixed on taking UCF to the next level this year. Want to bet against her?