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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. "In all of my educational and personal experiences, I am with people who share my experiential background. UCF lets me walk 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."

It (the program) takes students behind the scenes.

- Susan Foisy

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, administrator for the Leadership UCF students participate in a ropes course as part of group building while on retreat.

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 tech subcontracts
- A graduate student fellowship in engineering and optical science

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 Wamelink, dean for the College of Engineering. "It’s a tremendous opportunity for the college."

Graduate student makes keeping peace her life

TAYLOR SIKES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Marlene Nilsson said she remembers watching television with her father when she was 8 years old and seeing images of people dying of starvation in Africa. Then she saw a news story about American farmers who had produced too much grain. Nilsson remembers being confused and asking her father, "Why don’t they send the grain to Africa?"

That was the first time Nilsson looked at two different groups of people and thought about how to arrange a resolution between the two parties. Now the 24-year-old Swedish graduate student at UCF, she is trying to make peace-keeping and conflict resolution her way of life. She is working on her master’s degree in political science and topics in one day work for the United Nations or for the Swedish State Department. "I have always wanted to make a difference," Nilsson said.

Nilsson was active in the United Nations club as an undergraduate at UCF. She joined the club as a way to learn more about the UN; and she served as president for the 1996-97 school year. The club sponsored speakers, and its members discussed world politics and attended conferences. "I wanted members to learn something, either to be more diplomatic toward each other, learn more about the world, or to learn more about different sets of cultures," Nilsson said.

This past summer she interned for the United Nations in New York, working in the Peacekeeping Department and researching how the UN might increase the number of women in its peacekeeping division. "It was important to me first of all because I am a woman," she said. "It is supposed to be an organization that is equal for men and women. If this organization is supposed to represent the world, they can’t leave half of the world out of it."

Nilsson said working at the UN was hard and stressful because of the amount of work to be done and because of the time it took to complete the large projects. Nilsson said she had to maintain her schedule and maintain her schedule and prepare the weekly Q&A. Check out our updated online calendar, your source for UCF events.

www.UCFfuture.com

You don’t have mail

UCF student complains about not receiving grades in the mail.

- Page 9

Student elections

Senate fails to pass statutory revisions in time for spring elections

- Page 5

Is the add/drop period long enough? Respond to our weekly Q&A.

www.UCFfuture.com
Learning Center will cost $200,000

FROM PAGE 1

facility 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 choices,” 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.

Vance 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:

“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 decisions.

**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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Pearle Vision

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

FROM PAGE 1

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 transient student form signed so she could take classes at another school during her last 30 hours at UCF. Nilsson said she told her she needed special permission to interrupt her residency and the student began getting angry and arguing with her.

“I jumped to conclusions that she was getting frustrated with me when she was actually mad because she had been sent all around campus,” Nilsson said.

“’It ended up that she needed permission 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.

“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 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 Alec 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

Scotch, shampoo and toothpaste for the center.

“It gives them hands-on community experience,” Foisy said. “This takes students out there and let’s 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 leadership faculty. Their applications are then reviewed by the Leadership Steering Committee, made up of representatives of each of UCF’s colleges.

To be admitted to the program, a student must be either a junior or senior, have an overall cumulative GPA of 3.0, and completed at least one semester at UCF. The Steering Committee also looks at whether or not the applicant has demonstrated leadership skills in their community, and if they are committed to full participation in the program.

UCF runs from fall through spring and is graded on a pass/fail basis. Student’s evaluation will be judged on their work in their journals, reports and in their participation in the class.

“Leadership UCF has enhanced my tolerance of and ability to deal with difficult situations,” Nowak said. “As a professional in the making, I must be more in tune with the diverse expressions the world has to offer.”

For more information about Leadership UCF, applications are available in all Deans’ Offices, the Student Affairs Office, or call the College of Health and Public Affairs at 823-0171.
Putting together the perfect resume

James Combs
staff writer

Don’t forget activities, Awards, etc.

List 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 and what extracurricular activities they were in.” Hartman said. “I like people who participate and assume leadership role in people who are assertive and go-getters.”

Clark said that he’s impressed when students include special skills, such as fluency in a language, 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

Dan 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 would be “BS” in accounting, accountants payable, accounts receivables, 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, certain verbs work so well on paper that scanners can’t find them. “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, do not use italics, bolds 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. He said that students should heed that advice even if their resumes are not likely to be scanned.

Clark added, “It’s personally 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 through 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 pretzel 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,” he said. “If you keep that in mind, you’ll have a much sharper, more dynamic resume to present to the employer.”

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.

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.

• Be careful to attention to spelling, punctuation, grammar and style.
• Proofread carefully, using a dictionary and a style-book and have several other people proofread it as well.
• Organize information in a logical fashion. Keep descriptions clear and to the point.
• Convey your information to one page.
• Use a simple, easy-to-read font.
• Use good-quality white or near-white bond paper.
• Include a double or single line of 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 popular, nondecorative typefaces.
2. Use a font size of 10 to 14 points.
3. Use color-lightweight is best-standard yellowsuch as to 1 inch paper printed on one side.
4. Avoid italic text, script, and underlined passages.
5. Capitalized words and boldface are OK.
6. Avoid graphics and shading. Don’t compress spacing between letters.
7. Avoid horizontal and vertical lines—they confuse the reader.
8. Avoid staples and folds.

Your education is important

After the objective comes a section on the student’s education.

“It’s always a good idea to have the most important information at the top,” Harvey said. “For college students, it’s their degree, and it will be that way until they have three to five years of experience in a particular field.”

At a minimum, the education section should include your degree, when it was earned or is expected, and what college or university you attended or are attending.

Clark said that many students include their grade point average. He said that he likes to see a GPA listed without a degree because it’s not there.

“I prefer higher GPAs, but I’ve reviewed students who have a 2.2 or 2.3 because they had other strong attributes,” he said.

If students have taken courses that relate to the work they are seeking, they should include a section on the relevant course work, listing those courses. Debbie Osborne, a 1997 University of Florida accounting and a merchant analyst for Sears, said she listed a concentration under the education heading, after her Bachelor of Science degree in finance and her GPA.

“I listed creative and critical thinking, writing, psychology, Spanish and foreign cultures—things that would help me make me more marketable,” she said.

Clark said it’s especially wise to see courses listed if the job applicant has studied a particular program or concept but hasn’t had the chance to use it on the job.

“If their ability to apply what they’ve learned in school is reflected in their work experience, then it’s not as important to list it separately,” he said.

List all previous work experience

Next on the resume for students is the section about work experience, related experience, or work history.

Anne Hartman, a recruiter for American Management Association, said, “One of the biggest mistakes students make is failing to list previous jobs that may have been working in fast-food restaurants or grocery stores because they think it’s irrelevant to the job they are applying to.”

It is very important that students list all of their previous jobs because employers want to know what kind of working skills they may have.”
Elections gear up for student body president

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 go way past 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 third meetings will be held at noon in the Student'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 3110 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 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 Borch, 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 Notenhaus, 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 Allgood, 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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CRAMPED ROOMS LINKED TO PSYCHOTIC BEHAVIOR

Scientists have discovered that living in cramped spaces may cause serious side effects, ranging from slightly paranoid to dangerously psychotic behavior. In a recent experiment, lab rats were forced to live in small room-like containers for several semesters, only coming out to eat in crowded rat cafeterias or share a bathroom with dozens of other rodents.

The majority of rats suffered from an acute case of irritability, while several showed signs of aggressive behavior.

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

--Richard Schinkenmeir, a professor

Jefferson common: a professor

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experts have coined "over-cramping" or OCS. However, Dr. Schinkenmeir also adds that "people have been subjected to worse conditions in the past, like the '70s for instance."

While researchers concede that rats do not necessarily mirror the same side effects as humans, most scientists believe that when given the choice, most people would opt.
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The Central Florida Future Online Edition
www.UCFfuture.com
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 time drew closer and as 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 '70s and early '80s. The movie follows Diggler from the start of his career as a 17-year-old to his rise of the men's magazine. Not only is it blessed with a powerful look at humanity through the lens of the tragic hero Diggler, but it also provides a stark contrast to Clinton's administration as the speech went on.

As the speech went on, so did the movie. Diggler's life soon falls apart and he begins to experiment with cocaine. He's a brick wall of masculinity, but new kids on the block such as Wahlberg's character, Dirk Diggler, as he receives an award for Best Actor at an adult film awards show. Clinton begins practicing his speech on Saturday. I could imagine also telling Hillary that he was going to be a star. And he has become one. A big, bright, shining star.

"I am a star. I am a star. I am a star. I am a star," sang Diggler and I swear he was calling for bipartisan politics in Washington. "We can always do better. I'm going to keep trying if you guys keep trying. Let's keep rocking and rolling," said Diggler, as he receives an award for Best Actor at an adult film awards show.

President Clinton's presidency has been overshadowed by the results of his excessiveness, especially the Lewinsky affair. Diggler begins to take the downward spiral because of his desires. He lavishes himself with fancy clothes and cars, and starts experimenting with cocaine. And as the speech went on, so did the movie. Diggler's life soon falls apart and he begins to experiment with cocaine.

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 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, but I can almost hear him saying it: "Boogie Nights," now presenting its first viewing a second chance at his movie career.

We do know enough that Clinton's traverses foolishness and has every intention of staying in office. I can almost hear him saying it: "Keep rockin' and rollin' man.

The struggle of being a guy

Ashley Bach
COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

The image of an ideal '90s man ranges from feminine to butch, and men lie somewhere—hopelessly in-between. A friend of mine likes to talk about all the women he's slept with, about all the hearts he's broken and about how he really doesn't care about those things very much at all. He's a poster boy for men behaving badly, and that's the way he likes it—no smiling in photos, no committment, no confessions. He's a brick wall of masculinity.

But like so many men, he's really a big sissy. Fashion is a priority, bottles of cologne fill the bathroom, and it takes him 30 minutes to "sculpt" his hair on a quick day. For a guy who cares about so little, he seems to put a lot of stock in what people, especially women, think of him.

Sadley, he is a model to live by for so many of his species. We men like to play up our independence and love for sports and hanging with the guys, but deep down we're more emotional, conscientious and insecure than we care to admit.

Don't agree? Then witness the rise of the man's magazine. Not so much Playboy or Penthouse, but new kids on the block such as Details, Maxim and GQ. Hidden behind those photos of beautiful, beautiful women are containing tips on everything from "how to make her scream your name in bed" to "picking the perfect suit for that big interview."

The mass media spew images which affect men just as profoundly as women. Gay's collective fears and obsessions also come as much from external sources as they do from within. American males are torn between society that values symbols of masculinity, such as the Rat Pack, and also push them to constantly redefine their role in a feminine world. Fortunately for men, they aren't the only ones who can't figure out exactly what constitutes a "real man." Even the most diehard feminists shudder at the thought of a bunch of spineless, ultra-sensitive she-men walking around.

All of this puts men, especially gay men, in a bit of a quandary. We'd no doubt help ourselves a lot by just being ourselves, and responding to conceptions of the fairer sex as they come up. But I'm not pretending that the job is easy.

For all the women out there at a loss for words about our many deficiencies, I urge a bit of understanding and patience. Creating a lot of our own problems, often comically so. But we also have the hard task of living according to societal norms, with masculinity valued commodity, but often measured only in doses.

Boogie nights in the White House

The struggle of being a guy

Ashley Bach
COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

The image of an ideal '90s man ranges from feminine to butch, and men lie somewhere—hopelessly in-between. A friend of mine likes to talk about all the women he's slept with, about all the hearts he's broken and about how he really doesn't care about those things very much at all. He's a poster boy for men behaving badly, and that's the way he likes it—no smiling in photos, no committment, no confessions. He's a brick wall of masculinity.

But like so many men, he's really a big sissy. Fashion is a priority, bottles of cologne fill the bathroom, and it takes him 30 minutes to "sculpt" his hair on a quick day. For a guy who cares about so little, he seems to put a lot of stock in what people, especially women, think of him.

Sadley, he is a model to live by for so many of his species. We men like to play up our independence and love for sports and hanging with the guys, but deep down we're more emotional, conscientious and insecure than we care to admit.

Don't agree? Then witness the rise of the man's magazine. Not so much Playboy or Penthouse, but new kids on the block such as Details, Maxim and GQ. Hidden behind those photos of beautiful, beautiful women are containing tips on everything from "how to make her scream your name in bed" to "picking the perfect suit for that big interview."

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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 arose 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 a little barbaric and aggressive, an experience that at times leaves us not ahead, but further behind.

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?

The fact is different colleges have different mascots and that's what it is all about. Obviously someone somewhere is not happy about being a part of the Fighting Irish at Notre Dame, nor is everyone happy with being a Duke Blue Devil, but it is a matter of standing behind your school and taking pride in every aspect of it. A student has to look at the good qualities of their mascot and not read too much into it.

Now on the subject of the colors black and gold, what is the big deal? When I think of Florida, as a state, I don't automatically think orange and blue or garnet and gold. The idea that colors would represent a state is preposterous. Each school has its own personality, this is represented by its colors. Obviously black is too hot to wear on those scorching Florida days, but you don't have to wear it, hence, the alternate color gold. UCF offers numerous shirts which are not black. This is really a simple solution to complaining about school colors. Choose a different shirt, huh?

Changing the mascot will affect the school as a whole. As UCF is a young school, it needs to stand by its growing traditions and qualities. I am proud to be a Knight and I don't let the fact that medieval knights were a little barbaric get in the way. The fact is, we as alumni, students and staff represent knights of the 21st century and are not to be confused with the historical background of the mascot. More simply put, why change a good thing?

—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://polaris.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 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 open that envelope was 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 was 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 CD's 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 though 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 I really 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 had been stronger than last week, the final 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

Submit your letter to the editor to editor@UCFfuture.com

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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 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 between Mom and Dad or blow on partying (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 all 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. europtrip (www.eurortrip.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 newsletters.

If you’re willing to fork out $24.95, you can subscribe to Transitions Abroad (www.transitions-abroad.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: Airttech (www.airtech.com) has some pretty good deals (definitely cheaper than STA Travel), but if dirt cheap is more your style, than 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 30 to 80% on your ticket. How does $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.augelfire.com/walcaretaker) is an easy way to take off for flexible amounts of time, especially if you

- need a breather before taking on the real world. The Gazette offers a monthly newsletter with unique openings from simply housesitting ber that when you’re sitting at a country breather
- have got you covered. For a small membership fee, two organizations can help you out. BUNAC (www.BUNAC.org) offers students the chance to work in Britain from three to six months. After issuing you a special work visa, you can roam the the countryside, find a flat to crash in, find whatever kind of work suits you, and then come back when your time is up. CIEE, the Council on International Educational Exchange (www.ciee.org), also provides the same opportunity but allows a wider choice of

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PAYBACK

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PARKS

Author Appearance

Thursday, January 28th at 2 pm

Gordon PARKS

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

Gordon Parks has made a significant and surprising impact on the world with his brilliant writing and photography. His career spans nearly thirty years, and he is the author of fifteen books of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and photography. His novel The Learning Tree, based on recollections 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, filmsomes 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 Amount is a companion book to his most recent touring phone exhibit. 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 Amount on Thursday, January 28th at 7pm in the Cape Florida Room at the Student Union. Following the lecture, Mr. Parks will sign his books until 3pm. 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

2pm

January 27, 1999

Central Florida Future • 11

www.UCFfuture.com
Aspiring actress lands in Dawson's Creek

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 recovering bad girl who's still in and out of trouble," she says. "Dawson (Van Der Beek) is the happy-go-lucky, somewhat sad, but still happy guy. Joey (Holmes) is the pessimist and Pacey (Jackson) is the sidekick-goodball who came from a funky-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 teenspeak and words and teenspeak. "I really love to do that. It's become a routine," she says. "I'm not as stable as I seem. And my mother is a nutcase and my brother Jack is oblivious to it all."

"A lot of times I feel very comfortable with the dialogue and sometimes I feel like I have marbles in my mouth," says 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 Promise; The True Story of Laura Ingalls Wilder."

"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."
January 27, 1999

Dear Dr. Daphne,

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

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Dear Opportunity,

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. You will only get better in time (if your lazy ass keeps working on it) and the great job or a better one will be there for you in two years. 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 stay in school, drink lots of beer, and mooch off your parents.

- Cheatin' Willy

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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?

- Future Careerman

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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

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**Lead Stories**

- **Since 1996, accused murderer Eric Brown has been rendered incompetent, by paranoid schizophrenic to a first-degree murder charge in the Worcester State Hospital in Massachusetts said recently that he had made enough progress while on medication that a trial can be scheduled. However, in December, Brown's lawyer asked that he be taken off medication so he can return to his prior psychotic state in order to demonstrate that he is insane and 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 Capital Hill newspaper Roll Call, U.S. Rep. Dar Burton of Indiana brings his own utensils to a Capitol barber shop (scissors, comb, electric razor) to have his hair cut. Though no one would say for sure, reporters specializing 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 Barry Finek revealed he is gay.**

**December Newhouse News Service dispensed 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 deviance." (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 tattoo 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 Graydon Bell won $200,000 from a jury against the Indiana Department of Correction for being raped by his cellmate at a Plainfield, Ind., youth facility. In December 1998, Bell and the girl's family reached a settlement in her challenge from moderates and retained control of the school:**

**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 sting the calf:**

**Government in Action**

- **All antidote to 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 time in a century (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 near Lebanon, Ind., Gerald Wayne Rivett, informed jurors at his sentencing hearing (after being convicted of murder in Torrance, Calif., in December) that he regretted not killing all of them, too: David Wayne Arrington, executed at McKeesport, Okla., in December for the murder of his wife; John Wayne Dowell. Captured after a brief jailbreak at Nashville, Tenn., in December; accused murderer Michael Wayne Perry. Named the prime suspect in the disappearance of a 14-year-old girl in Roseburg, Ore., in December; Dale Wayne Hill. Dead of a self-inflicted gunshot after critically wounding his ex-girlfriend in Brooklyn, N.Y., in July. Robert Wayne Ries.**

**Solution on Page 10!**

**ACROSS**

1. Epic hero
2. Nostalgic
3. Fallen
4. Fall term
5. Mystry story?
6. Tattered or tattered
7. Playground game
8. Suddenly near
9. Type of chart
10. Kansas Arabia
11. Surfer with hope
12. Bender
13. As such
14. Fall near
15. Aaron and
16. College alums
17. "M.C." star
18. Pantlum manufacture
19. Beechers
20. Overthrew
21. Woodlands member
22. Toy-truck sound effect
23. Crafted-paper product
24. 1996 loser
25. Verses open
26. Head-to-head competitions
27. Greens and
28. High mountain
29. Gymnastics coalition
30. Tall, slender structure
31. Chie® of fans
32. Tall, slender structure
33. Tall, slender structure
34. Tall, slender structure
35. July

**DOWN**

1. Bank employees
2. Broadway musical
3. 1999 Tribune Star
4. Gown
5. Bank employees
6. Invitation letters
7. 60's hit
8. "Tennessee "
9. Australia hit
10. "Australian"
11. "American" song
12. "Amiable"
13. "Amerindian"
14. "American" song
15. "Ant孬an"
16. "Amerindian"
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Designed for love (Hollywood style)

MARCEL SPINDAE
STAFF WRITER

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 Macquire, 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 unterrified 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 on 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 tenacity.

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 expectant conclusions, but the viewer never feels tied down to a character by yanking an 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 integrity 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, rat 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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January 27, 1999

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. With the season considered a work in progress, the Knights shook off the effects of their first defeat and overwhelmed Samford, 76-59. Kate Fetzek and Chat Swilley can bet Coach Lynn Bria was not pleased. The Knights came off the bench to score 16 points and UCF shot 57 percent in the second half in the Saturday afternoon win at Samford Hall.

In the win, Chariya Davis added 12 points and 11 rebounds for UCF (9-7, 5-1), while T.J. Williams added 11 points and four assists. Davis, who is second in the TAAC in scoring and assists (19.1 points and 11 rebounds for 5-2 in TAAC), while McClendon. The Knights return home for a pair of key conference games against Mercer and Troy State. UCF is tied with TAAC-leader Jacksonville State in the loss column, but the Gamecocks have played two more games and therefore are 7-1. Troy State, UCF’s Saturday night opponent, its behind the Knights at 5-2 in TAAC play.

UCF enters a stretch in which it will play five of its next seven games at home. 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 of anyone 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. Christen 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 LaKeitha Parish, is coming off a costly one-point loss against Georgia State. Parish is averaging 15 points and 7.5 rebounds per contest, and will be a tough challenge for Khaliah Guillory, Camille Howard, LaToya Graham, and McClendon. UCF goes on the road next week to face Mercer and Troy State again, meaning the Knights will be very familiar with those two opponents by the time next week is over.

Davis provides quiet leadership

FROM PAGE 24

Chariya Davis is one of UCF’s links to the Jerry Richardson era.

Chariya Davis is one of three Golden Knights remaining from the Richardson era. She started 24 games for UCF in ’95-’96, leading the team in assists and being pivotal in UCF’s run to the NCAA tournament. Her final game under Richardson was at the Dance, and that’s where she wants to end her career this year. She was there for the tears, the pain, and the retribution, something she’ll take with her all her life.

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 Nestitt, Kelley Ely, Camille Howard, Nancy Richter, LaToya Graham, Khaliah Guillory, Leslie Drinkard, 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 to 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, over-looked, or reveled in. Knowing this team’s history would you expect anything else?

More than anything, it’s still basketball. Now that you’ve been properly introduced, make time for it. I know I will.

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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 slated third in the preseason predictions.

Florida Atlantic University and Stetson University round out the top five preseason poll while Mercer University is tabbed sixth according to league coaches.

Jacksonville State University and Georgia State 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 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 16-22 Wednesday-Saturday, 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 citizens 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: $3.00 for adults, $2.00 for children ages 6-17, and free admission for children 5 years of age & 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 11th 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 adults and $3.00 for children 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 linbacker Antione Poe.

Joining Poe (6-0, 215) is Boyd Anderson CB Asante Samuel (5-11, 187), Walton DE/DT Doug Waller (6-4, 281) 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
UCF depth a key in upset bid

From Page 24

best defender and leader. He’s averaging 13.5 points per game.

If Samford does have a weakness it’s rebounding, as the Bulldogs are last in the TAAC in that department. Another area to watch is how effective Samford is down the stretch if UCF plays them close. Rawlings, Salyers, Daniel, Lopez, and forward Boyd are the top players for Samford.

The Knights will play their fourth straight away from home against Jacksonville State (3-12, 0-7), who is on the opposite end of the spectrum from the Bulldogs, having lost every conference game thus far. JSU is led by guard Marlon Gartley, who averages 15.1 points per game.

“Every team scares me,” Speraw said. “We can’t take any team for granted. These guys are very good, and we need to be prepared.”

Still, UCF has the depth to weather the storm. The Knights have won five of their last seven games and are looking to build on their momentum.

Speraw said he expects his team to continue to improve as they play more games.

“I think we’re getting better every day,” he said.

UCF has the talent to compete with anyone in the TAAC, and with their depth, they should be able to pull off the upset against Samford.
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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 ran it (the point) in practice a couple of times,” Lovett said. “I ran 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 loss attribute. The junior forward has blossomed into a solid starter and scoring threat for the Knights after averaging only 5.7 points per game during each of his first two seasons. Now he is putting up nearly 10 points per game, and leads the team in rebounding, pulling down 6.2 per game.

Still, Lovett wishes that he could handle the ball more and run the point or play more on the wing, but will do anything to help the team win. Whether he is playing point guard or power forward, he just wants to be on the court contributing.

“I came to UCF to play the three, and they converted me to a four man,” 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 19-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 that game after helping hold Sebastian Singletary to just 5 points, on 2-of-7 shooting from the field.

“I just use my quickness in the post, and try not to let the postman catch it,” 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 Owens to just 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. These 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 awfully 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 in on 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 perimeter forward, Lovett will do whatever it takes for the team to win. The opposition can’t sleep on Lovett anymore, not that he would let anyone notice him, and impossible not to hear him.
Knights prepare for showdown with Samford

TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR

January 27, 1999

In what is probably the biggest game of the regular season to date, UCF limbs in to Samford 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, outsoring them by an average of nearly 18 points. They will not be sympathetic to UCF’s woes.

Brad Traina 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. Davin Cranberry 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 flu against the Gents. With a couple of days to heal, UCF (10-8, 6-2) could be with all their players for the pivotal encounter against Samford (14-4, 8-0), but how effective those players will be can’t be assessed. What can be assessed, is that if UCF isn’t playing to its full capacity, it is in trouble.

Samford leads the TAAC in scoring, with two points allowed, field goal percentage, 3-point shooting, 3-pointers made, and assists. Junior forward Reed Rawlings has emerged as a candidate for Player-of-the-Year honors, leading the Bulldogs in scoring (18.1-5th in TAAC), rebounding (5.1-13th), steals (1.89-8th), and 3-point field goal percentage (44.9%-6th). Rawlings is also third in the conference in field goal percentage (55.6%), but teammate Marc Salyers leads the TAAC in that category (56.5).

“Rawlings and Salyers are skilled big men,” UCF Coach Kirk Speraw said. “They play well facing the basket, and with their backs to it. They rebound well, play good defense, pass exceptionally for big people, but most of all they’re tremendous shooters.

“In fact, their whole team can shoot the three-pointer. That’s what makes them so effective. They run a motion offense and one of their five guys can score if you leave them open.”

In addition to Salyers, the 6-foot-4 center who is second on the team in scoring (14.8) and assists (3.44), Samford’s backcourt of Mario Lopez and Will Daniel shoots and defends well. Lopez is fifth in the TAAC in assists and is tough on opposing point guards, while Daniel, last year’s leading scorer, has made 47 3-pointers, and is Samford’s

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 playing (it’s still basketball), it’s just that I focus on men’s basketball. It’s just that I focus on men’s basketball. It’s just that I focus on men’s basketball. It’s just that I focus on men’s basketball.

UCF coach Lynn Bria has been instrumental in creating the success of the women’s basketball program.

Knight Writer

Richardson tragically died in an automobile accident before starting his fifth season as UCF’s head coach. Bria, 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, Bria 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.

The next year, with the interim title removed, Bria 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. Bria was fixated on taking UCF to the next level this year. Want to bet against her?

UCF coach Lynn Bria has been instrumental in creating the success of the women’s basketball program.

Women’s hoops

The Golden Knights return home for two games with a 5-1 TAAC record.

Recruiting update

Look to see what waves UCF is making in the recruiting pool.

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