Canadian ambassador visits UCF

Nicole King, News Editor

The Canadian ambassador to the United States visited UCF on Jan. 29. He came to bring recognition to the university's Canadian Studies Program and discuss furthering research and teaching possibilities with faculty members. Ambassador Raymond Chretien said Floridians need to know more about Canada as it is the most important trading partner of the United States. "The further down from the border, the more difficult it is for us to make our case because people do not live with us and travel to Canada a lot like in Maine or Michigan."

Elliot Vittes, director of the Canadian Studies Program, said Chretien's visit brings attention to the program and raises its visibility. "Hopefully, it will fuel interest in teaching or doing research concerning Canada."

Canadian Studies has been a minor degree program at UCF for nearly 20 years. Vittes said several faculty members have participated in grant programs sponsored by the Canadian Embassy in Washington. He said the ambassador's first visit to Orlando will hopefully highlight the important links between Canada and Florida and extend the knowledge of Canada in this region.

Abortion display sparks campus support, anger

Taylor Sikes, Assistant News Editor

"This is where thoughts are supposed to be provoked," Todd Beauchamp, 26, of the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform, said. "We want to educate the student body that abortion tortures a baby to death."

Last week, the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform brought its Genocide Awareness Project to campus Monday through Thursday. The project's purpose is to stimulate discussion and debate about the issue of abortion with students, Cheree Bartlett, media spokesperson for the Center, said.

The project uses a large collection of banners containing graphic pictures of historical, genocidal events and linking them with pictures of aborted fetuses. One banner had a picture of dead Native Americans at the Battle of Wounded Knee below the words "Government Massacre of Native Americans," followed by a picture of an aborted fetus's bloody arms and feet lying on a quarter below the words "Government Massacre of Unborn Americans."

Another featured a picture of victims killed by the Nazis. It was followed by a picture of a hanged African-American man. The final picture showed an aborted fetus's body under the words "Planned Parenthood."

"These pictures are here to stimulate conversation and promote dialogue," Bartlett said. "The pictures are somewhat graphic and some people are offended, some are shocked. Some people understand the message we are trying to convey."

"The Genocide Awareness Project shows the parallel between genocide and how abortion is genocide," UCF student Jesse Gusse, 19, an electrical engineering major, said. "The pictures are for the comparison." Gusse saw the project earlier in the week and decided to volunteer while the group was at UCF.

UCF, Page 6

Career Expo
Employers from more than 200 businesses visit the UCF Arena.

Greek happenings
Find out the latest news about the Greek community.

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Our weekly Q&A.

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Inside
Online

www.UCFfuture.com
The 1999 Student Government Elections

Patton/Cupicha: setting higher standards

Shelley Wilson
Staff Writer

Student government president and vice president hopefuls Darin Patton and Andrew Cupicha want to inform students about activities on campus, look at programs to reduce the Activity and Service Fee, and reconstruct SG positions.

"I think most of the student body is not aware they pay $6.95 per credit hour to fund the Student Union, Student Government, recreation and legal services. Some students pay up to $70 in Activity and Service fees a semester and don't know what it all goes for. Our job in SGA is to inform them about their money and let them become more involved in the process," Patton said.

Their main focus is meeting student needs by enhancing student life and empowering the student voice. According to Patton and Cupicha, one way this can be done is making sure the Student Union, clubs and organizations, and the recreation services are properly funded and enhanced.

"If we're charging too much, let's give the money back to the students. Or if we're not funding appropriately, let's change the way the money is allocated so that all clubs and organizations hold the events they want to," Patton said.

They also want students to become more aware of what is happening on campus. An informational line that Patton initiated during his former presidential term is on their agenda to be reinstated at UCF.

"The UCF info line will include daily and weekly activities that any organization can advertise on. Students can dial 823-INFO and find out what is going on on campus," Patton said. "We are also looking to put in a scrolling marquee near the Student Union so that students who walk by will know what's going on."

The future growth of UCF is an issue that students need to be aware of and take part in, Cupicha said.

"Another parking garage, a student activity center, a newer arena, new tennis courts, new intramural fields, and a golf course are in the future plans to be built here. A lot of students don't know about them. There's a lot of land UCF owns that's not even touched now," Cupicha said.

Student government leadership also needs to be changed according to Cupicha.

"The paid positions of student government can create committees where they can gain leadership experience and use it as a first step to move into SGA so you will become qualified for a position and learn about different positions instead of just filling in hours," Cupicha said.

"You can have a great platform and a lot of great goals, but if you don't have a good relationship with people that are willing to work hard for changes, it's worthless. By working together with students, faculty, and administration we can accomplish anything," Cupicha said.

Patton said their past experience is what sets them apart from other candidate tickets.

"While serving as student body president in 1995, the SGA here was awarded best student government for the third year in a row. That's something we can bring back with our dedication and integrity."

Andrea Cupicha
Candidate for vice president

- Major: Liberal studies
- IFC executive vice president
- Coordinator of Halloween Knights
- Member of 31st Senate
- Southeastern Interfraternity Conference president

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Slatton/Piccolo: real leadership/real results

SHELLEY WILSON
STAFF WRITER

Maintaining and updating an activities bulletin board for students, encouraging inclusive events on campus by clubs and organizations, and creating a visible and sustained presence and informational campaign in Tallahassee for UCF are some of the projects that SG president and vice president hopefuls Mike Slatton and Fred Piccolo want to achieve.

"I want students to be aware of what their power is here in the state and the kind of power they can influence. UCF is 30,000 plus constituents of representatives right here. Our job in student government is to give students information so that they can mobilize for things that they want," Piccolo said.

They said they believe that UCF is becoming more of a traditional school rather than a commuting one and they want to give UCF more recognition.

"A primary goal that I am working on is for UCF to make an attempt at a world record. Not only will this bring spirit and pride to the campus, but also national recognition," Slatton said.

Creating an educational lecture/presentation series for UCF is another addition that Piccolo believes will bring recognition to UCF.

"By bringing in the top influential individuals in each major to UCF and letting them speak about their field and allowing students to present new ideas to that representative, UCF will have been here," Piccolo said. "It will then be easier for students to get a job when they get out. We don't want to limit education to just on campus. By bringing in people outside of the school, we're going to round out the educational experience for the entire student body."

Giving warning slips instead of parking tickets is also on the agenda for Slatton.

"During the first week, students are so busy fixing their schedule, buying their books, and getting everything done, nothing makes you feel worse than having to pay another $35 for a parking ticket. I don't see why a warning couldn't be given during the first week to tell students the date to get a permit," Slatton said.

The biggest plan for Slatton and Piccolo would be giving information to the students about the student government and the school itself.

Piccolo said: "We want to have an open door policy with people. Students have a right to know how allocations are broken down because it's their money. People see student government as something to hide, but if you've done nothing wrong, then you have nothing to hide."

Fred Piccolo
Candidate for vice president
- Major: Double Major of economics and history
- Campus Activities Board's speakers director
- SG's director of governmental affairs
- UCF Honors College
- State Lobbyist for Higher Education

Mike Slatton
Candidate for president
- Major: political science with a minor in history
- Chief of staff to student body president
- Member of Florida Student Association
- Valencia Comm. College president and vice president
- Campaign Worker/Volunteer 1998 Campaign Season

According to Slatton, continuity and experience from the current administration to the next is a great quality this ticket holds.

"We've certainly been put in a learning experience throughout this last year. We've had an opportunity to look at past administrations with student government and see what could've been fixed. As the student body changes, the faculty and administration stays about the same so you have to understand what they've been through to understand what the real issues are. Student government is not about drawing a boundary line between students and the administration."

Piccolo believes their leadership and knowledge of how the government outside of UCF works is one reason why this ticket is different from the others.

"By spending the past three years lobbying in Washington and in the state of Florida, I have gained an insight on how legislation works both on the state and federal level. That gives us an edge on how to expand our horizons above the activity and service fee budget to receive a part of the big pie from the federal government."
Halscott/Lee: above and beyond

STAFF WRITER

Jaime Halscott and Charlie Lee would like to see the registration system at UCF changed, more power given to the colleges on campus, and more involvement with students if they are the next president and vice president of SGA.

"We are very pro-club and pro-student. We want to listen to every individual student and hear what they have to say. When people start to see what we’re trying to do, people will get very excited about it," Halscott said.

One of the things they have heard about through students and personal experience is the registration system, which this ticket wants to update.

"The problem with the current system is it’s built for only 20,000 users. It is not accommodating for all of the students here at UCF. It should be made easier for students to use. Registration should not take more than picking out your classes and going online or turning in your schedule to the registrar’s office," Lee said. "Moving authority to the individual colleges is also a part of this ticket’s agenda for the year.

"The colleges can reach their students a lot better than the student government as a whole can. By shifting programs of clubs and organizations, they can enrich the colleges themselves," Lee said. "The colleges will then be able to dictate their own programming and give the student government ideas and feedback and drive us, just like the state driving the national government."

"We would also like to initiate a program coordinator for the colleges. This will be a paid position that will program events for each college and will give the student who’s programming real world experience," Halscott said.

"As senate president pro-tempore, I have said meetings with the Board of Regents. I would like to have more communication for students about what is going on so that student government will be made more accountable to the students on how their money is spent," Halscott said.

Lee said he would also like to see a committee formed for students and comprised of students.

"A liaison between the average student to the students involved will allow students to ask questions and comment on what they think about the college they attend and if they’re getting their money 100 percent back," Lee said.

Halscott said he thinks tuition prices should be looked at.

"Currently they’re trying to push a 10 percent increase in tuition through which will exactly set the undergraduates at paying for 25 percent of their education. So they’re trying to walk that fine line as far as how much the students pay for their tuition which is not a good idea," Halscott said.

Lee said they would also like to see more clubs and organizations funded, especially if they have not been in the past.

"The Activity and Service Fee budget will be up to 9 million this year, twice as much as it was last year, and I would like to see twice as many activities and clubs funded," Lee said.

"We don’t believe that a million dollars of the same programs should be funded and others get tossed at the wayside. There should be diversity in the way funding happens and the way things are done on this campus," Halscott said.

Lee said letting the students know this is their campus and student government is here to serve them is their theme.

"We want the students to tell us what activities they want here on campus," Lee said. "After you get the students proud of their university and happy with the events, they will spend more time here and the university will grow more because of it. Doing what the students want and making it a better college in their eyes drives this ticket. It’s not our administration, it is their’s.”

Election dates:
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(Add Section V. Entitlements)
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United Nations club grows despite small program

NICOLE KING
NEWS EDITOR

Members of UCF’s United Nations Association spend their free time imitating delegates of other countries. They have represented countries from all over: Colombia, Venezuela, former states of the Soviet Union. They are now preparing for a conference in New York later this semester. They’re going to be North Korea.

“We have been getting very controversial countries,” said UANA’s faculty advisor Dr. Hosman Sadri of the Department of Political Science. “We’re such a young club, you’d think they would give us something easy.”

Members of the three-year-old club attend conferences throughout the United States in model U.N. conferences. Clubs from universities around the country send members to represent whatever country they are assigned. Sadri remembers the first time the club attended a conference. “We requested a few countries, hoping we’d get an easy one to represent like France. We ended up with Cuba which is a very controversial country.”

Sadri said the delegation was attacking us if someone is shy, he or she can write or research. If someone is good at one-on-one interaction, he or she can be a negotiator. We all depend on one another and play our part.

Sadri said the club’s goal is to teach students about international relations “not by just reading about it, but by doing it. The club’s about bringing theory and practice together.”

UNA member Noemi Lopez said she has learned many things from the club. “I’ve learned compromise, cultural sensitivity and I acquired a passion for international issues.”

Lopez said she joined because she wanted to learn about the mechanics of the United Nations. “There’s a lot of misconceptions about the international organization, and Model U.N. helped me learn the truth behind its existence.”

Sadri said he is hoping to institutionalize the program. Funding for the various conferences attended during the year comes from several places, including fundraising and students receive no academic recognition for their participation.

“When you look at our program in comparison to other universities like UF and FSU,” Sadri said, “we’re young and on a shoe-string budget and it’s not a class like it is at other places. Yet we can still compete against them at competition and place. I’ve been very proud of the students.”

Sadri said the U.N. club has approximately 25 members and is open to all majors. “We are a team and we work together. If someone is shy, he or she can write or research. If someone is good at one-on-one interaction, he or she can be a negotiator. We all depend on one another and play our part.”

“This is a good opportunity for students to see how the real world works, to practice formulating ideas and communicating them clearly. We’re always looking for new members to divide the workload.”

Memorial Day on May 31, not 24

NICOLE KING
NEWS EDITOR

The Memorial Day holiday listed in the Undergraduate Catalog is wrong. On page 10, the catalog lists the holiday as May 24 when it is actually May 31.

Scholarships:

The UCF Alumni Association is offering 14 different scholarships for students. The deadline for applications is March 26. To pick up an application, stop by the Alumni Relations Office in the Administration Building, Room 340 or call UCF-ALUM.

UCF Army ROTC is offering two and three year full tuition scholarships for qualified applicants. The scholarships are available to all UCF students; applicants must be willing to become an officer. The deadline for applications is Feb. 19. For more information, contact Capt. Bob Hribar at 821-5383 or rhober@ucf.edu.

Seminars:

UCF’s Downtown Academic Center will present three seminars in February. The seminars will be held from noon to 1 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, contact Wendy Bolyard at 317-7700.

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Getting points for school spirit during Greek Week

KELLY BRYANT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fraternities and sororities are gearing up for the annual Greek Week festivities, taking place this year from Feb. 27 through March 5.

Kick off will take place at the Solar Bears game on Feb. 27, with some of the proceeds going to the Salvation Army, this year's Greek philanthropy. Other events include the tug-of-war competition, Greek Sing, where you can watch your favorite organization strut their stuff on stage, a Progressive Dinner on Greek row for non-Greeks and faculty as well as active members, and a Beautify Orlando service project.

Each event will have the Greek teams competing for points to be Greek Week champion.

New to the competition this year are spirit points, which will allow each organization to evaluate one another based on their participation, energy level, and sportsmanship.

IN OTHER NEWS FROM GREEK ROW:

Jamie Molinaro of Chi Omega has been invited to participate in the Chi Omega Leadership Institute in Memphis, Tenn. at the end of February. The Institute chooses six active members and six alumni from across the country to participate in this annual leadership training. Molinaro, 20, was chosen for her experience in such campus organizations as O-Team and Consultants for Effective Leadership, as well as being a founding member of UCF’s Chi Omega chapter. After her training, she will be sent to the sorority’s regional Fireside Convention in July to facilitate programs for chapter officers and advisers.

Pi Kappa Phi will be holding their philanthropy, Bowl Shlager, on Sunday, Feb. 7 at the Oviedo Bowling Lanes from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participating sororities will compete for a trophy. Proceeds will benefit Push America. Pi Kappa Phi’s national outreach project, Push America was founded over 20 years ago and promotes a better understanding of people with developmental disabilities.

The Greek Council is currently collecting school supplies through March 1 to bring to the Southeastern Panhellenic Conference for their service project. This year the conference will be held from March 25 - 28 in Atlanta. Each sorority will send a delegate to represent their chapter and attend programs facilitated by Panhellenic.

UFC supports group’s freedom of speech

From Page 1

Other students were mixed on whether or not the pictures were appropriate for campus. One student agreed with the message, but said she did not care for the way it was delivered. “I don’t like abortion,” Jennifer Darby, a freshman biology major, said. “I don’t exactly think these pictures should be here though.”

“It is graphic,” Ryan Tarn said, a junior in political science. “It is their right. They can do what they want out here. We can’t restrict their views.”

Susan Weller, a freshman education major, said she is familiar with the topic of abortion from a research project she did. “All this stuff is real, she said. “It’s the truth. Unfortunately, people don’t get to see the whole picture. I think this is good. It is an opportunity for people to see the truth about the matter.”

Dean McFall, director of Public Relations for UFC, said that UCF did not endorse or sponsor the Genocide Awareness Project, but they do respect the right for groups to exercise their First Amendment rights.

"UCF is a limited public forum for the expression of First Amendment rights," McFall said. "That means the university must make reasonable arrangements for off-campus groups to exercise their freedom of speech. Even images of such a repugnant nature.

"The group notified us that they were coming," he said. "We will be sent in to the sorority’s regional Fireside Convention in July to facilitate programs for chapter officers and advisers.

"We take no joy in the pictures but feel it is a profound duty of ours to the Constitution to allow them to be here."

The Genocide Awareness Project will now be at the University of South Florida.

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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.

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

Richard Schinkenmeir, a professor...
Canadian-American trade relations stressed in visit

FROM PAGE 1

Chretien said the sheer number of Canadians visiting Florida every year is impressive, anywhere from a million and a half to 2.5 million. “You need to know a bit more about us,” he said. “The trading relationship between two countries is the most important of any in the world.” Canada’s province of Ontario is the second most important trading partner of the United States. “Just one province of Canada is more important than your trade with Japan. Most people don’t know this,” Chretien said. Chretien also talked about the shared environmental issues between the two countries like acid rain and global warming. “It is very important that we get our act together on those issues as we share the North American continent. There is a strong desire to marry our positions on those global issues,” he said.

One of the biggest problems facing Canada, according to Chretien, is its water supply—what to do with it. He said Canada will have legislation in Parliament soon to make sure the country does not export water in bulk in ships or tankers. “We’ll sell you all the bottles of water you want,” he said, “but we will not sell you ships of water.”

Chretien said a few years ago, Saudi Arabia wanted to buy an iceberg from Canada and pull it off its coast to supply the country with fresh water. Chretien said it is offers like that that need to be regulated. “We want to make sure we don’t sell it until we’re absolutely certain about our own supplies,” he said.

It is working to resolve those types of issues that Chretien said is the best part of his job. “Like the fact that I am involved with issues that I know are of interest to a great number of Canadians on a daily basis. Compared to most of the jobs in the foreign service where you are far away and few Canadians could care less about what you’re doing, I deal with bread and butter issues, the quality of life and the standard of living. This gives me a profound satisfaction.”

Students receive exposure at spring Career Expo Fair

More than 1,500 UCF students attended the spring 1999 Career Expo on Jan. 26 in the UCF arena. This is a 21 percent increase from last year.

The director of the UCF Career Resource Center, Jim W. Gracy, said the job fairs have expanded in the last ten years. They started with 33 employers meeting in the Holiday Inn across from UCF. They now have more than 200 employers represented in the UCF Arena.

“It’s a great opportunity for the students, because they don’t have to leave campus,” Jill Baker Ziegenfuss, the assistant director of the UCF Career Resource Center, said. “It gives them a chance to interact with employers in their fields.”

UCF senior Tynika Williams, majoring in hospitality, said she was able to give her resume to several companies without traveling all over Central Florida. Williams said she liked that there were a lot of companies from the hospitality industry at the expo. Edwanna Timmons, a UCF senior majoring in advertising and public relations, said that even though there were only two or three employers in her field present, the others were still interested in assisting her. She said they helped her to realize the opportunities her major would give her and not to limit herself when looking for employment.

Although the job fair targets graduating seniors, all students and alumni are welcome. Jason Bagley, who graduated from UCF in 1997, said the job fair gives him a chance to associate with local business representatives. Bagley said he liked that there were a variety of businesses there.

Suzie Darby, technical specialist for Internship Technology, said the job fair assists Intern by getting their company name to the students. Darby also said it helps them to find new candidates for employment with a good background.

Students who attended the job fair were greeted at the door with a list of employers who were present and where they were located in the arena. Accounting, business, engineering, technical and non-technical were the categories of the companies represented. The Career Resource Center also had a table set up to assist students.

Two job fairs are held every year during the spring and fall semesters. This year, UCF will be hosting a statewide job fair for all Florida universities on May 12, in the UCF Arena from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Former NU star to plead guilty in gambling case

MATT O’CONNOR & TODD LIGHTY

CHICAGO - Dennis Lundy, the star running back on Northwestern’s 1994 football team, will plead guilty next week to lying in a grand jury appearance when he denied betting against his own team at least two Big Ten games that year, his lawyer confirmed Wednesday.

Lundy will plead guilty to a single count of perjury on Feb. 5 in U.S. District Court, attorney John F. Murphy said.

As part of his guilty plea, it was learned Wednesday, Lundy will admit he intentionally fumbled on the goal line in a game against Iowa in what sources called “a spur-of-the-moment” decision.

Lundy had bet several hundred dollars that NU would lose to the Hawkeyes by more than the oddsmakers’ point spread, according to the sources.

Lundy, 26, who had a brief NFL career with the Bears and the Houston Oilers, could not be reached at his home in Tampa.

The latest revelations involving NU’s tarnished sports program came as Christopher Gamble, another former NU football player and Lundy teammate, pleaded guilty Wednesday in federal court to perjury for lying about betting on college games.

Gamble, 26, of Marietta, Ga., admitted betting about $500 that NU would lose to Iowa State when he was challenged him about coughing up the ball on the sideline after the fumble and challenged him about losing his bet, according to his plea agreement.

While Gamble’s performance didn’t stand out in the Ohio State game, Collins said the evidence presented by the government has not alleged that Gamble had tried to fix the game.

Sources said Gamble, of Dallas, and a fourth former NU player, Gregory Gill of Pittsburgh, also have been charged in the gambling scheme. Both have pleaded guilty to an amateurish plot to make $500 bets on NU games.

But videotapes show he was innocent and have separate court dates next month.

Brian Ballarini, a former NU football player-turned-campus bookie, pleaded guilty to lying in a gambling-related charge, admitting that he regularly took bets from about 15 people - many of them NU student-athletes - from fall 1993 through late 1994.

In a separate scheme, two gamblers and two former NU basketball players pleaded guilty to an amateurish plot to shave points during the 1994-95 season.

According to sources, Lundy will admit to shaving points, in effect, when he fumbled inches from the goal line late in the third quarter of the Iowa game on Nov. 12, 1994.

Iowa, a six-point favorite, was ahead 35-13 when Lundy, concerned a touchdown might jeopardize his bet against his own team, decided on the spur of the moment to fumble intentionally, sources said.

Iowa won 49-13 and Lundy won the bet. According to sources, Lundy had a bigger bet than usual riding on the Iowa game - several hundred dollars - because he was trying to make up for some recent gambling losses, including a losing bet against NU in the Ohio State game that year.

Lundy claimed in a grand jury appearance in 1995 that he had tampered with his wrist earlier in the Iowa game and the ball squirted out of his hands when “I got hit on the arm real good.”

But videotapes show he was untouched when he fumbled.

The strongest evidence against Lundy regarding the fumble turned out to be later admissions he made to authorities, according to sources.

Cornerback Rodney Roy, who knew of Lundy’s gambling, confronted Lundy on the sideline after the fumble and challenged him about coughing up the ball on purpose. An assistant coach overheard the accusation.

Ray “came right out and said, ‘If people weren’t betting on the games,’” recalled formerlinebacker Keith Lozowsky.

The university began an investigation, turned over its findings to the U.S. attorney’s office and suspended Lundy from the final game of his collegiate career for his betting activities.

Lundy had denied to university officials that he bet on NU games.

In the Ohio State game, Lundy, Gamble and Senters all allegedly placed bets with Ballarini, wagering that Ohio State, one of the top-ranked teams in the country, would beat NU by more than the point spread, according to the charges.

Just before halftime, Gamble was worried not because his teammates were losing, but because they were winning and jeopardizing his bet, according to his plea agreement.

Before going into a huddle, Gamble told Senters they likely would lose their $500 bets because the team was playing so unexpectedly well, his plea agreement revealed.

The alleged bets turned out to be losers. The NU defense put up a stiff fight and Ohio State won by just two points, 17-15, even though Ohio State had been favored by more than two touchdowns.

Lundy also is alleged to have bet on NU’s 1994 game against Notre Dame, as well as a number of other undisclosed games in 1993 and 1994.

Ballarini has agreed to cooperate with the government and is expected to be a key government witness if Senters or Gill goes to trial.

Ballarini has alleged that he had lengthy betting relationships with the four former football players.

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Campus crime from around the nation

PETER LEVINE
COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

TUCSON, Ariz. (CPX) - And you think your roommate gives you problems.

Campus police at the University of Arizona were surprised to receive a call from a young woman who suspected her roommate of stashing marijuana in their dorm room and selling it.

According to the Daily Wildcat, police searched the room Jan. 18 and found a small bag of what appeared to be marijuana in a purse belonging to the suspect.

When the suspect returned home, police asked if there was marijuana elsewhere in the room. According to reports, she admitted having some and turned it over to investigators. Police reported that the suspect said she paid $150 for the green, leafy substance she handed them and explained that she sells it to her friends on a "casual basis."

The roommate who summoned police said she did so after finding what she thought was marijuana in the suspect's purse. She said she also had filed visits from people who had come to the room looking to buy the drug.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, Ill. (CPX) - Police arrested two fraternity members who were trying to get to an old score with a rival fraternity at the University of Illinois.

According to the Daily Illini, an officer saw two men running from the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity house on Jan. 4 with a total of seven trophies under their arms.

Police stopped the men, who said they had taken the trophies to get back at Phi Kappa Tau members believed to have stolen the charter from their fraternity, Pi Kappa Phi.

According to police reports, investigators found no signs of forced entry — indicating that the fraternity house's door could have been unlocked — and no other damage.

The two students were arrested in connection with the incident and charged with residential burglary.

LAWRENCE, Kan. (CPX) - Police in Lawrence, Kan., found more than they expected while investigating a reported break-in at the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity house at the University of Kansas.

According to the Daily Kansan, police were summoned on Jan. 15 when fraternity members noticed that the back door to their house had been pried open and that items worth thousands of dollars, including TVs and electronic equipment, were missing.

While investigating the scene, police found several Kansas driver's licenses that appeared to be bogus and equipment — including tampering supplies, glossy computer paper and Polaroid photographs — that could be used to make fake IDs.

Craig Hartman, the chapter's president, told the Daily Kansan neither he nor the fraternity's leadership board were aware of the covert operation. The chapter already has removed one member suspected of manufacturing the fake IDs from the fraternity, he said.

"This was not a house activity," Hartman said. "It appears to be confined to a few people."

Police are continuing to investigate. So far, no charges have been filed.

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (CPX) - Pepper proves once again that it adds spice to life.

According to the Michigan Daily, two male students at the University of Michigan started brawling in a campus dining hall on Jan. 20 after one student poured pepper into the other's hair.

Students hoping to eat their dinner in peace stared wide-eyed as the fighters punched each other in the face.

According to the Daily, one student was taken to the university's hospital with what appeared to have been a broken nose.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. (CPX) - A student at Drexel University was the victim of filthfall last week when he gave an unspecified amount of money to two men who apparently hoodwinked him near the University of Pennsylvania on Jan. 13.

According to police reports, the student said he was approached by a man claiming to be a visitor from South Africa and in need of help.

The student said he stopped to talk to the foreigner when they were approached by another man who offered to take the foreigner to a support organization that could offer assistance.

The foreigner asked the student to look after his money while the man took him to a bus station where he could retrieve his passport from a locker. The foreigner told the student that he wanted to make sure he would get his money back, so he asked the student and the man to put some of their own money in with his pile of bills.

The man and the student agreed, and the foreigner wrapped the money in a red bandanna and gave it to the student to hold.

The men drove away. When the student opened the bandanna, he found only a pile of paper. It is unclear what happened to the money.
Finding out my best friend is gay

TODD McFLIKER
STAFF WRITER

The day was Tuesday, the 8 of April, 1997. I will not forget this day for the rest of my life because this day changed things. This was the day that my freshman roommate sat me down to tell me that he was gay.

My roommate, Marcus, and I used to be very close growing up together in South Florida. Marcus was my next door neighbor. He was my best friend. Marcus taught me everything, from how to ride a bike, to how to drive a car, to how I should shave my face without drawing blood. Marcus has two years on me, so as a kid, I would look up to him with praise. I wanted to be friends with his friends, to get the same grades, and I just wanted to be like the greatest guy that I knew, my best friend Marcus.

Then we both grew up. Marcus went off to college at UCF. So when I graduated from high school two years later, I got to snag him as my roommate.

As we road together, the relationship began to diminish. We went to college at UCF. We started to do our own things. Marcus was extremely busy trying to get himself accepted into film school, and I was perfectly content now being a freshman bigshot, always playing around, and messing with the big college women.

Now back to Tuesday. Marcus came home somewhere around dinner time, interrupting my friends and I playing football on Sega. It was a nice surprise to see my roommate. The two of us certainly do not get the chance to talk very often, as Marcus is always busy doing something for film school.

Marcus made a casual conversation with me for about twenty minutes. He asked me about my grades, my job, and about my girlfriend. Right away, I knew that something was rotten in Denmark, because for the last five or six months, Marcus never had any interest in these things. Eventually, Marcus asked me to come out into the hallway so that we could talk.

As we walked into the hallway, Marcus explained that he is gay. I was confused, mostly about how this could happen if we were both brought up in a similar manner, in the same neighborhood.

As I sat in silence, the voice on the other end of the hallway was asking me if I was OK. "Yes," I replied. After much thought, I said to him, "Marcus, you are like my brother and I love you. I guess that this information you just gave me, doesn't change anything. I will always be here for you, and I know that you will always do anything, no questions asked, for me."

Marcus noticed the insecurity in my voice and reassured me that everything would be fine. He explained to me that nothing was different as far as our relationship was concerned. We made small talk for another 15 minutes about schoolwork. The conversation felt fake, as we were both thinking of something else. We declared our devotion for each other as friends and both moved our separate ways.

Here I am, a little more than a year later, and I was right. Nothing has changed in my life. The rest of the semester Marcus and I saw very little of each other, and talked even less. I still get up, go to school and do the exact same things in my life with my best friend, my old college roommate, even though now I know that Marcus is gay.
Taking the standard out of standardized testing

Cliff Hicks
COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

Right now, somewhere in America, a high school student is hunched over some books, studying in vain for the ACT or SAT or even both.

No matter how many hours that student puts into the books or courses in preparing for the standardized tests that are going to have major impact on their college outlook, it's all really for naught.

Boil it all down, and standardized tests aren't worth the paper they're printed on.

So, I am surrounded by lots of other kids with sterling GPAs, all of whom are in the National Honors Society and any other self-righteous collection of academia that they can find, while I'm off working on the newspaper and doing the occasional theater thing.

Now, realize that all of these students who slept and ate with their schoolbooks took the same tests I did.

And when the results were handed down, many of the NHS squadron ranked in the 90-95 percentile of college bound seniors. In English, it means they were in the top five to 10 percent of scores.

Some of the "brightest and brightest." If you will, and they were happy to be part of that top five percent.

This, of course, surprised the hell out of me.

That's because I placed in the 99 percent - the top 1 percent of college-bound students.

According to the tests, I was smarter than most of the NHS students.

Remember now that I didn't put any real time into studying for the tests. I mean, I brushed up on my algebra and glanced over a few obscure words that teachers insisted I should know.

I had figured, going into the test, that it wasn't going to be that hard. I'd looked over a few of the sample tests that the brainiacs were using, and it seemed like common knowledge to me.

So what does a standardized test reveal about a student? Anything, really?

From what I found, the tests were a basic combination of general knowledge with high emphasis on grammar and vocabulary, coupled with a degree of ingenuity and basic math knowledge.

See, this is what really burned the eggheads of my school. With a basic grasp on algebra and trigonometry, I was solving problems they were using calculators to do.

One of them asked me after the test how I did a specific problem without using calculators, so I showed him, briefly, how I did it.

"That'd take forever!" he wailed at me. "You did it in so little time." I responded.

What was a simple logic jump for me was an insurmountable complex for the honors student.

He couldn't see how simple it was to use something that he had learned in ways they hadn't taught him to.

The problem was that so many of these so-called "best and brightest" had no idea of how to really apply any of what they had learned in the real world.

I can't tell you how much it bugged me to know that the majority of the people in NHS couldn't change the tire on their car, nor could they figure out how to use algebra to figure out the interest on their credit cards.

These are basic facts of life, folks, simple things that everyone should be able to do, much less our "best and brightest."

My point is that there's a very basic difference between academics and knowledge.

Just because a person does well in school offers no insight to how smart they really are, in my opinion.

Don't, by any means, take this as a "I'm so great" column, because I'm telling you up front that I'm not. Sure, I like to think of myself as sharper than the "least 'correct"' students.

My point is that there's a very basic difference between academics and knowledge.

It's especially true in the foreign language classes where tests are often formed around standardized tests, not always accurate reflections of what students feel like they've learned.

It's still wrong.

There's no way that a single test, designed for "everyone" can be fair to "everyone," no matter how much research is put into it.

It can be hard for some students to pick the "least correct" answer or the "most correct" answer.

Creatives have swarmed these tests with enough politically correct jargon that the typical student needs an interpreter with him at all times.

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February 3, 1999

Taking the 'standard' out of standardized testing

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Cheers to the underdog

CORBETT TRUBEY
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Welcome to Rushmore Prep. What appears to be a maze of weathered grey stone buildings full of spoiled brats and decaying teachers is illuminated by the presence of 15-year-old Max Fischer. Rushmore’s most devoted student. Throw in a millionaire alumnus and an attractive first grade teacher, and witness a permanent and highly entertaining alteration in Max’s pubescent existence.

Mr. Blume (Bill Murray), a wealthy former student visits the school, Max forges a bond with this aging, horribly depressed tycoon. While this unique friendship develops, Max falls for the new first grade teacher, and witness a permanent and highly entertaining alteration in Max’s pubescent existence in Rushmore.

Although Max (Jason Schwartzman) has founded just about every extracurricular club at Rushmore, he has the lowest GPA out of all his classmates and is close to losing his scholarship to go there. This does not change is unwavering love for his school, nor does it affect his quest for a good college education. When Mr. Blume (Bill Murray), a wealthy former student visits the school, Max forges a bond with this aging, horribly depressed tycoon. While this unique friendship develops, Max falls for the new first grade teacher, and witness a permanent and highly entertaining alteration in Max’s pubescent existence in Rushmore.

While everybody in the film has their good and bad qualities (Max disses a few people here and there), there is an undeniable air of hope that Max strongly exudes about his teacher, who has never been in a film, and hopefully not his last. For anyone who’s a great actor falling out of your prime? Head for the indies. If anything, you root for him just because of who he is.

Wes Anderson, the man behind Bottle Rocket, has emerged with a come­what­ever, you root for him just because of who he is. Anderson, the man behind Bottle Rocket, has emerged with a come­what­ever, you root for him just because of who he is. And emerging from what might’ve been a disappointing end to a distinguished career is Bill Murray. What do you do if you’re a great actor falling out of your prime? Head for the indies. Murray’s Mr.Blume is so pathetic he could shed a tear for him (But this is Bill Murray. What do you do if you’re a great actor falling out of your prime? Head for the indies. Murray’s Mr.Blume is so pathetic he could shed a tear for him (But this is Bill Murray. What do you do if you’re a great actor falling out of your prime? Head for the indies. Murray’s Mr.Blume is so pathetic he could shed a tear for him (But this is Bill Murray. What do you do if you’re a great actor falling out of your prime? Head for the indies.

All this and you leave the theater with a smile! If it catches the eyes of mainstream audiences (the buzz right now says it’s very possible), then this could be the first sleeper hit of the year. Of course, I don’t think Max would have it in any other way.
Dear Dr. Daphne,

I have a problem. I have just started dating a girl who is kind of out of my league. I am cooking dinner for her next week. She likes wine and I know nothing about it. What kind should I get? Thanks.

Whine Stud

Dear Whino,

You have a problem. By now you should know the difference between Merlot and Zinfandel or Chardonnay and Chablis. Knowing this is important young buck.

Not just for getting her in bed, but as you are slowly learning, wine is very important socially. It takes time to develop a good sense with wine, but it's easily faked, which is what you will have to do for Ms. Thing next week. I hope she s a winner.

I wish you had included what you were cooking because that is fairly essential in determining what to get, though you should choose what you like best. Here is a quick reference guide to wines:

- Reds:
  - Merlot: classic, earthy taste good with pasta, goat cheese, sausages.
  - Cabernet Sauvignon: rich dark red good with just about everything including both pork, turkey, grilled meat.

- Whites:
  - Sauvignon: young, fruity grape great with fondue.
  - Chardonnay: fruit based dry white good with fish, Chinese.
  - Pinot Grigio—my favorite—dry with fish
  - Sweet Whites—usually with dessert or alone
  - Spatlese—ripe late picked, good with goose or after dinner.
  - Auslese—sweet late harvest grape perfect for dessert.

My list is by far less than yours. I chose the classics and found two that are educational for those of you lacking in this social knowledge. Check out: http://www.bath.ac.uk/~eh5he/home.html or http://fossil.nm.ac.us/~stc83/lies.htm.

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Prinze breaks out from dad’s shadow

IAN SPELLING
COLLEGE PRESS EXCHANGE

It’s already begun.

Freddie Prinze, Jr., riding the wave of the hit “I Know What You Did Last Summer” and its sequel, is fast becoming teen idol material. His latest film, “She’s All That,” which casts him as a high school jock-brain-Romeo, will surely increase the 22-year-old’s profile.

Just don’t tell him that.

“I have no image,” Prinze insists.

“That’s being created by other people, not me. It’s not what I’m about and I don’t buy into it for a second. I’m an actor. That’s what I do. I get up when it’s time to go to work, go to work and do my thing. I don’t do press unless I’ve got a movie coming out. Look for me in a magazine when I don’t have a movie coming out. You won’t see anything. Not often, but a few times, people have tried to make it like I’m a teen idol. I have an audience that respects me and I respect that audience. I know they’re the reason I have a career and, hopefully, they know I respect them and want to make cool movies. That’s what I’m about, and nothing else.

Prinze stars in “She’s All That” as Zack, a high school god in his senior year who’s just been dumped by his bitch-goddess girlfriend (Jodi Lyn O’Keefe), who’s now dating an obnoxious “Real World” star (Matthew Lillard). Then there’s Laney (Rachael Leigh Cook), a senior who’s into art, who wears glasses and ugly clothes, who’s smart as a whip but a total outsider. Accepting a pal’s bet, Zack endeavors to transform Laney into prom queen material — and surprise, surprise — the two find themselves attracted to each other. Think “Pretty In Pink Meets My Fair Lady.”

“One of the reasons I made the movie was that Zack was the exact opposite of me,” says Prinze, referring to his days in an Albuquerque, New Mexico high school. “It was a chance for me to experience what it was like to be liked and popular in school. I didn’t really have any friends. I did my own thing and people thought I was weird because I’d play out these fantasies in my mind. People would stare at me and go ‘What the hell is he doing?’

Another reason Prinze committed to “She’s All That” was the opportunity to work with Cook. The two met making the black comedy “The House of Yes,” but shared no scenes, as she played young Parker Posey only in flashback sequences.

“I wanted to do another movie with Rachael for two years,” he says. “I think she’s going to be the biggest star on the planet. She’s amazing. Before I read ‘She’s All That’ they said she’s attached and I said, ‘I’ll do the movie.’ Not to take anything away from the movie. I laughed out loud reading the script. But that’s how much I respect Rachael’s work and how much I believe in her. Working together was absolutely the way I thought it would be. I knew we’d have chemistry together.”

If the name Prinze rings a bell, it should, for Prinze is the son of the comedian Freddie Prinze. The star of TV’s “Chico and the Man,” the elder Prinze committed suicide at 22, when his son was a baby. Today, the son doubts that his father’s name provided much of a leg up in Hollywood.

“It may have gotten me my first job but, to be honest, if you’re playing percentages, the number of movies I’ve auditioned for and the number I’ve gotten would’ve gotten me sent back to the minors had I been on a professional baseball team. I can’t play that game. Nobody in my generation cares who my dad was. They just don’t. Their parents do, but they’re not going to see ‘I Know What You Did Last Summer.’ My generation has no idea who Chico was. So, it helped me get meetings and helped me get to know people who respected my father, but that’s it,” Prinze says.

Prinze turns up this spring in “Wing Commander,” a sci-fi flick based on the CD-ROM game of the same name. He assumes the hero role played by Mark Hamill in the game. After that, Prinze and Cook might reunite for another film that’s not a “She’s All That” sequel. One project definitely not on his agenda? College.

“I was a bad student in high school and barely graduated,” Prinze says. “I’m against the whole idea of paying 30 grand a year to go to college. I’ve been in places like Greece, where you can go to college if you want to and it’s free. My girlfriend and I have had long talks about this. She’s paying 12 grand a semester to go to college and has to take classes she doesn’t want to know about. It’s retarded. So, I’m very against the American college system. How’s that for a role model? It’s not my thing. It doesn’t work for me.”

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Rachel Leigh Cook plays a high school nerd who is transformed into the prom beauty by hunk-of-the-moment Freddie Prinze Jr. in She's All That.

Itsby bitzy teenie weanies

B.W. EARL
STAFF WRITER

The title may be true. But the same can’t be said for the movie. She’s All That, the latest entry in the teen angst sweepstakes, is a throwback to the John Hughes genre of filmmaking...without the wit or irony.

Some films (heck, most films) have been accused of rehearsing old formulas. But they don’t get much older than the plot line for She’s All That, which can be traced back to Pygmalion, of ancient Greek theatre fame. Then there’s the adaptation by George Bernard Shaw, the 1938 film adaptation with Gone With the Wind’s Leslie Howard, the adaptation of the adaptation in My Fair Lady...you can go on and on.

The 90s-ting of the plot goes a little something like this: In your standard Movie High School, the class pre/star soccer player/future Ivy Leaguer, Zach (Freddie Prinze, Jr.), has been dumped by the prom queen in training (Jodi Lyn O’Keefe, overplaying the trumpiness horrifically). While his friends give their condolences, Zach states that he can turn any girl at the H.S. into the prom queen. One of his peers, Dean (Paul Walker), takes him up on the bet, challenging Zach to accomplish said task with social outcast Laney (Rachel Leigh Cook).

Quite honestly, if you need help to get to the final destination, let these three sentence fragments help you: Boy gets girl. Boy loses girl. Boy regains girl’s trust. There. Now you have 100 or so minutes to do something worthwhile, like finishing your laundry.

The performances, for the most part, cannot be faulted for the film’s shortcomings. Prinze is able to show more character than he did in the Last Summer series. Cook does an admirable job with the artist stereotype: Oscar-winner Anna Paquin brings a certain intelligence to the table as Prinze’s underclass sister, and Kevin Pollak brings an unexpected touch of class in his brief scenes as Laney’s pool cleaning dad.

But the collective acting jobs cannot equalize a script (by R. Lee Fleming) that lacks the comic (and somewhat tragic) touches that would’ve made the high school setting seem real.

Without the proper footing, the entire production seems somewhat aloof and ill-executed.

The direction by Robert Iscove, who is best known for an Emmy-nominated turn in helming Brandy Norwood’s Cinderella, is neither here nor there; it doesn’t make enough of an impression to add anything to the story, which desperately needs an addition. Any addition.

The film also can’t decide on how to dispatch of the antagonists. Dean, who spills the beans on the bet to Laney so she will break up with Zach, tries to make his move on her at the prom. In an off-screen plot point, Laney blasts the dope with a air-piston-like device.

Now, if Dean was a real music lover, or if he was a Time Life operator, the punishment would have served a definite ironic purpose. Alas, the action only exists to set up a lame throwaway gag at the end of the film. And the ex-girlfriend prom queen isn’t even dealt with at all. Who knows? There might’ve been a more complete and more satisfying movie lying on the cutting room floor deep in the bowels of Miramax Studios somewhere.

I couldn’t help but notice the large amount of talent from the 90s horror genre. Aside from Prinze (both Last Summers) and O’Keefe (Halloween H2O), there’s Scream’s Matthew Lillard (in an amusing role as a former “Real World” cast member), The Faculty’s Usher Raymond (in another nothing role, as the school DJ) and Clea DuVall (who makes the most out of her scenes as a snotty art student), and Walker, who was in the truly terrifying Meet the Deedles.

Maybe if Ghostface, Michael Myers, the Gorten’s Fisherman (from Last Summer), and back, even the parks killer from Urban Legend, were around to spice up the flick, we’d have a more interesting movie. A movie that doesn’t make much sense, granted, but still an interesting movie.
Lead Stories

•seo Firmane, 28, multimillionaire founder of the high-profile Internet consulting firm USWeb, resigned in January out of fear that the company’s reputation was being hurt by his public views that employees are responsible for many high-tech inventions, such as semiconductors and lasers. According to his autobiography (posted on the Internet), Firmane was visited by an extraterrestrial in 1994, which had built a large following. A batch of 65 letters and demonstrations in December when it was viewed by the Associated Press, “My father was a great man, and that promoting sex for tourists (for example, having sex with the wife so the husband could watch) was particularly great when he wanted more sex than he wanted sex. (A suspect is in custody.)

Cultural Diversity

•According to statistics published in November in the Paris newspaper Le Figaro, 55 percent of people in France don’t bathe or shower daily, 50 percent of men don’t use deodorant daily, and 40 percent of men don’t change underwear daily (and 15 percent admit wearing the same pair three days straight). According to an expert on French culture, hygiene is considered merely “the hidden face of beauty” in France, and because it is visible to others, it isn’t a priority.

•In rural Australia south of Brisbane, near the coastl rip of Bynum Bay, reside wild white bushmen known locally as “Terals,” who closely resemble the savages from the movie “Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome,” who seek of state body odor and “flesh herbs,” and some of whom carry pet rats in their severely musty hair. While the Terals’ occasional forays into towns and tourist resorts, other locals are thankful for them for environmental reasons, according to a report in the Times of London in October. Said one local, “Americans come out here and go, ’Gack, everyone’s so dirty’ (so let’s not even think of developing this place).” The Terals have saved a lot of forest.

•Latest Punishments in Afghanistan: On Jan. 15, six Taliban government soldiers had their right hands and legs first amputated for robbery, and a 60-year-old man had a foot wall knocked over on top of him by a tank, in a death sentence for sexually molesting a boy. (The man was knocked unconscious but came to, and since he survived, under Taliban law, he was set free.) In November, a man was allowed by a judge to lawfully slit the throat of the man who killed his son, even though Taliban officials had recommended mercy.

•A December Associated Press dispatch reported on Seoul’s Korean Air Service Academy, which teaches “international men to help make South Korean companies more competitive in the quest for foreign customers. A particular problem, according to the Academy’s general manager, is that “Koreans have difficulty selling. Our ancestors had the philosophy that the serious person is better than the smiling one.” As smiling increases in large companies, he said, citizens have begun to demand it from their government servants, such as tax collectors.

Recurring Thematics

•Well, Sure

Lest last year, the state historian of Florida kicked off a campaign to name the top 100 all-time great Floridians, with the deadline for nominations at Dec. 31, 1998. She recently announced a four-month extension, however, because nominations had been a bit slow to come in with only about 1000-1500 letters received. In January, the Saguaros High School (Scottsdale, Ariz.) newspaper editor, Sam Chabon, wrote an editorial critical of the culture of violence of football heroes, who he said often turn out to be drunk and spouse-abusers. An unnamed member of the school’s football team took offense and beat Chabon up, for which he was suspended.

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd at Weirdfuture.com.)
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ROOMMATES


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Arnold returns after All-American season

FROM PAGE 28

nated hitter and outfield. Freshman Jeremy Frest, a 37th-round pick of the Houston Astros, lettered four times at Oviedo High School and should battle for playing time early. Billy and Tony Marzetta will see time off the bench as DH and the in outfield after coming from Central Arizona CC.

Arnold was a big surprise for the Knights last season as he stepped into the closer role and set the school record with 12 saves in 13 opportunities. He had a 2.04 ERA with 38 strikeouts in 35.1 innings of work, but will be joined by Dustin Spooner in the bullpen at closer.

Arnold could see work in the rotation if needed. However, middle relief could be the biggest problem for the Knights. Bay Paul is the only southpaw out of the pen, while David Kelly, Pete Gavillan, Zach Sutton, Scott Keller, Chris Youngberg, and Pat Frawley will provide a bullpen by committee for Bergman.

The starting rotation took the biggest hit in the draft, but the Knights just reloaded and should get quality starts nearly every time out. Lefty Troy Satterfield is the only starter returning from last year after going 5-3 with a 3.65 ERA. However, Tallahassee CC transfer David Rankin, another left-hander, used a great breaking ball to his advantage as he went 15-7 at TCC with 181 strikeouts in two seasons. He could emerge as the number one starter for the Knights.

Frawley will provide a bullpen by committee for Bergman. Despite catcher Erik Johnson's departure in the draft, UCF should be deeper at the backstop. Spooner, a transfer from TCC, threw out 26 of 28 attempted base stealers in summer league. Sophomore Erik Shaffer saw limited action in 12 games last year, and is second on the depth chart. Gavillan will see minimal time behind the plate.

The infield is solid with All-TAAC first baseman Dustin Brisson and second baseman Tim Booth, ranging 308 with seven home runs and 36 RBIs, while Booth batted .363 with 24 RBIs and 25 stolen bases. North Carolina State transfer Keith Walsh will see extended time at second base and shortstop. Mike Fox, Andy Johnson, and Matt Meath will also play in the middle infield. Gavillan and Bill Oakley should platoon at third base.

The Knights faced an early test in the Olds Garden Classic with games against Duke, East Region finalist South Alabama, and No. 4-ranked Rice. Unfortunately, the reorganization of the Trans America Athletic Conference allows the Knights fewer non-conference games to prepare this young team.

Rather than playing 16 conference games against three divisional opponents with last year's format, UCF will play 30 TAAC games against 10 conference opponents. Nevertheless, the Knights will still play South Florida four times, and have non-conference games against 8th-ranked Louisiana State and 10th-ranked Florida.

After losing the TAAC Tournament for the first time since 1994, UCF is predicted to win the TAAC regular season and conference tournament. They will be trying to earn their sixth NCAA Tournament birth since 1992, especially with the extended 64-team format up from last year's 48.
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CAMPBELL CAMELS (8-12, 5-5): Jamie Simmons averaged a team-high 11.5 points last week as the Camels split contests with Stetson and Jacksonville. The Camels evened last year’s TAAC win total by going on a 17-3 run to end the game against the Dolphins, winning 66-61.

JACKSONVILLE STATE (6-14, 1-9): It finally happened! After suffering through defeats in its first nine TAAC contests, Jacksonville State won its first game, 84-73, against Florida Atlantic. The Gamecocks had given UCF a slight scare, cutting a 19-point deficit to five in the second half last Saturday night, but the Golden Knights surged ahead to prevail, 82-64.

CENTURY GENTS (10-9, 6-3): George Christopher scored 19 points in the 76-67 win, while former walk-on Joey Reses added 16 points.

JACKSONVILLE DOLPHINS (7-12, 2-7): The Dolphins fell back out of the TAAC’s top eight and on 7-of-9 shooting.

TROY STATE TROJANS (6-13, 3-6): Forward Eugene Christopher scored 19 points in the 76-67 win, while former walk-on Joey Reses added 16 points.

TROY STATE TROJANS (6-13, 3-6): The Bears played Despite Ronnie McCollum’s 0-point effort, their on-court struggle last week on Monday night against Centenary struggled from 3-point territory, as they are currently seventh in the conference, ...

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Sat. Feb. 6th
Mon. Feb. 15th
Sat. Feb. 20th
Knights look to overcome injuries

FROM PAGE 28

Seeing only eight minutes of action against Samford on Thursday, but unexpectedly recovered in time to help UCF beat Jacksonville State on Saturday, hopefully that will be it for UCF's injury woes this year, as Speraw has struggled with those problems all season.

"It's gotten to the point where every day in practice, it's like, what's going to happen next," Speraw said. "There has not been one day all season where the entire team has taken the floor in practice or in a game, completely healthy.

The lone bright spot that could be associated with the injuries is that it has forced the healthy players to pick up the slack. Bucky Hodge, after struggling through most of his year-and-a-half stint in a UCF uniform, has recorded consecutive double-doubles and has become a force inside after avoiding foul trouble. Beronti Simmons scored a career-high 27 points against Centenary and grabbed a career-high nine rebounds against Samford on the road trip. Jason Thornton, taking over Traina's small forward position, kept UCF's perimeter game alive by knocking down four 3-pointers and scoring 18 points in the Knights' latest win.

"With Brad being out I have to get in and make some shots for us," Thornton said. "I get a lot of open looks so I just have to come up and knock them down. Our team needs that.

The team needs to get a good turnout, both player-wise and attendance-wise, for games against Mercer and Troy State this week. Both teams are fighting to remain among the TAAC's top eight teams and qualify for the year-ending conference tournament. Currently, the Bears are seventh and the Trojans rank eighth.

Mercer is led by Auburn transfer Earnest Brown and Mark Adamson, the TAAC's leading rebounder. Mark Sluisker brings his team in on Thursday night for a 7:30 game. Troy State, fresh off its upset of Centenary, visits on Saturday night at 7:30. The Trojans feature three of the conference's top ten scorers in Eugene Christopher, Robert Rushing, and Joey Raines. UCF opens at Stetson on Feb. 9, in a game that is critically important in the TAAC's tourney time.

Senior Bucky Hodge recorded a pair of double-doubles last week, the first of his collegiate career.
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The 1998 UCF baseball team led the nation in one major category last year that many people may be unaware of. While Southern Cal was winning the College World Series in early June, UCF was tying the Trojans for the national lead in number of players selected in the Major League Baseball Draft: 10.

This helps bring exposure and name recognition to the UCF program. However, since seven of the 10 players drafted were juniors, it leaves the 1999 squad inexperienced and unsettled, but that may not be such a bad thing for Coach Jay Bergman, entering his 17th season at the helm with a record of 622-373-3.

Fortunately for Bergman, among the players returning are former Freshman All-Americans Matt Bowser and Jason Arnold. Both players came in with different expectations from coaches, but this year proves much different, as they will be counted on early and often.

Bowser, who passed on the Toronto Blue Jays in 1997, put up the numbers expected of him last year. He hit .308 with 11 homrums and 35 RBIs while starting 51 games at first base and left field. This year he will be the full-time left fielder and anchor a new outfield, with junior college transfers Mark Baria and Ivan Trujillo getting the early season starts in center and right, respectively.

Sophomore Darryl Stephens played in 24 last year, and will see time at designated hitter and outfield. Freshman Jeremy Pope, a 17th-round pick of the Houston Astros, lettered four times at Oviedo High School and should battle for playing time early. Billy and Tony Murzelli will see time off the bench as DH and in the outfield after coming from Central Arizona CC.

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The starting rotation took the biggest hit in the draft, but the Knights just reloaded and should get quality starts nearly every time out. Lefty Troy Satterfield is the only starter returning from last year after going 5-3 with a 3.65 ERA. However, Tallahassee CC transfer David Rankin, another left-hander, used a great breaking ball to his advantage as he went 15-7 at TCC with 181 strikeouts in two seasons. He could emerge as the number one starter for the Knights. Freshman Justin Pope and sophomore Brian Freeland will see early starts and remain in the rotation with success.

Despite catcher Erik Johnson’s departure in the draft, UCF should be deeper at the backstop. Spooner, a transfer from TCC, threw out 26 of 28 attempted base stealers in summer league. Sophomore Erik Shafer saw limited action in 12 games last year, and is second on the depth chart. Gavillan will fill in as minimal time behind the plate.

The infield is solid with All-TAAC first baseman Dustin Brissin, second baseman Tim Booth returning. Brissin hit .308 with seven homeruns and 36 RBIs, while Booth batted .303 with 24 RBIs and 29 stolen bases. North Carolina State transfer Keith Walsh will see extended time at second base and shortstop. Mike Fox, Andy Johnson, and Matt Meath will also play in the middle infield. Gavillan and Bill Oakley should platoon at third base.

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Rather than playing 18 conference games against three divisional opponents with last year’s format, UCF will play 30 TAAC games against 10 conference opponents. Nevertheless, the Knights will still play South Florida four times, and have exposure to non-conference games against 5th-ranked Louisiana State and 10th-ranked Florida.

After losing the TAAC Tournament for the first time since 1994, UCF is predicted to win the TAAC regular season and conference tournament. They will be trying to earn their sixth NCAA Tournament birth since 1992, especially with the extended 64-team format up from last year’s 48.
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UCF debuts at home against Nicholls State

TRAVIS BELL  
STAFF WRITER

UCF, fresh off a solid 2-1 start in the Olive Garden Classic, enter a fairly weak part of its schedule as it begins an eight-game homestand. Nicholls State is the first team to play at the Knights’ new home stadium, Tinker Field.

The Knights will face the Colonels in a three-game series beginning on Friday at 6 p.m. The second game of the series is Saturday at 2 p.m., followed by the series finale the next day at 1 p.m.

The Colonels finished last season 28-34, including a 13-11 record in the Southland Conference. However, NSU earned a NCAA Tournament bid, despite the losing record, by winning the conference tournament. The Colonels stay was a short one, as they lost their first two games in the South II Regional, including an 18-4 thrashing at the hands of LSU and a tough 6-3 loss against Harvard.

NSU suffered a 1-8 start last season and had losing streaks of six and seven games midway through the season, but finished the year with a .259 team average and 40 home runs.

Second baseman Jacques Jobert (.321 AVG-6 HR-43 RBI) and first baseman Scott Duplantis (.308-9-49) lead the Colonels into the 1999 campaign. The left side of the infield also returns for NSU with Brandon Vasconcellos (.295-6-40) at shortstop and Kevin Perret (.285-6-40) at third.

The only other offensive production returning for the Colonels are outfielder Robert Davis (.257-3-13) and part-time catcher Corey Berner (.233-3-25).

The Colonels have some experienced pitchers returning to man the staff this year. RHP Quinn Guidry started seven games and threw 41.1 innings with a 3.27 ERA and a 2-2 record. RHP Cheyenne Janks has the most wins of any starter coming back after a 6-6 record with a 4.68 ERA. He completed three of eight starts with 71 strikeouts in 75 innings. Ben Thompson received bad luck going 0-4 in 12 starts despite a 3.5 ERA.

UCF has only faced Nicholls State once in a two-game series in 1992. The Knights won both games, 5-4 in the opener and 6-2 in the finale.
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**Rankin’s presence strengthens UCF starting rotation**

**TRAVIS BELL**

**STAFF WRITER**

David Rankin joined the UCF pitching staff this season and had the honor of starting the season-opener against Duke in the Olive Garden Classic. That role, usually reserved for the staff ace was handled nicely by Rankin, who responded by going seven innings, allowing six hits and two runs with nine strikeouts and no walks.

"Coming in, we knew that Duke would be a tough hitting team. They have about seven guys returning that hit over .300," Rankin said. "I just tried to keep the ball down in the zone and throw a couple change-ups to keep them off balance."

Rankin came to UCF from Tallahassee Community College after going 9-4 last year with a state-leading 1.68 ERA. With numbers like those, his performance against Duke provided little surprise to Rankin because he expects nothing but the best from himself.

"I set high expectations for myself," Rankin said. "I wanted to prove that junior college is not much different from Division I. I just wanted to show the way that I've been throwing the last couple of years, and get our team off to the right start and get us rolling." Rankin’s decision to go to TCC was fairly simple for him, and he thinks that it helped prepare him for the level of competition in Division I.

"It (TCC) gave me big game experience, and I pitched in a lot of big games there," Rankin said. "If you’re a freshman coming out of high school, you don’t really know what it’s like to play in a college baseball game. There is a big difference."

Rankin gained maturity and confidence while in junior college, so he is now ready for Division I competition. If he can continue throwing the way that he has since going to TCC, UCF will have much less to worry about after losing their two main weekend starters from last season: Todd Bellhorn and Matt Lubozynski. Rankin’s two-year numbers speak for themselves. He was 15-7 with an ERA just over two and the school-record of 181 strikeouts.

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Rankin joins Troy Satterfield in the starting rotation, and they will try to match the nation’s 10th best ERA of 3.94 set by last year’s staff. But Rankin doesn’t feel much pressure to match the numbers put up last season.

"I didn’t play with that staff, but I’ve heard that they were a great staff," Rankin said. "So I take it as an honor that I get to come in here and try to replace them. I’ll just try to go out and fill their shoes the best that I can, and just take it from there.”

He gained the confidence of Coach Jay Bergman after his performance against Duke, and he should be the anchoring force for this year’s staff.

"David is a gambler," Bergman said. "He’s one of these guys whose gonna give you everything that he’s got. You gotta like the fact that he’s gonna be pitching a lot of first games for us.”

Rankin earned All-Tournament honors in the Classic, which probably won’t be the last honor bestowed upon him. If he can continue the trend that he has started, he should be a lock for All-TAAC awards.

"I was very pleased to come out and get a good win right from the start," Rankin said. "Unfortunately we didn’t win the tournament, but it’s definitely a great honor to earn all-tournament. We just need to carry the first two games into the rest of the season, and I think we’ll be all right.”

Rankin saw something at UCF that he liked that made his decision to attend easy, despite offers from South Florida and TAAC-rival Florida Atlantic.

"Great program, great tradition, tremendous coaching, a lot of young players, and I saw a positive future here," Rankin said.

The positive future that he saw definitely got much brighter for UCF with his addition to the rotation, and the Knights will reap the benefits of his decision every time that he takes the mound this year.
Men return home to heal for critical stretch

Tony Mejia
SPORTS EDITOR

Kirk Speraw’s basketball team has to feel pretty fortunate to be where they’re at. Following a week where UCF was down to only six healthy scholarship players, it managed a split of its four-game road swing, and have returned home for two in a row and four of the last six games. Best of all, the Knights still cling to the third spot in the TAAC standings.

After apparently surviving the low-point of the season, Speraw is looking forward to rebuilding at home. He knows the biggest key lies in getting his Golden Knights healthy. “We’re in good shape if we can get all the pieces out on the floor,” Speraw said. “We need to get healthy and get some good practice time to regain our edge.”

Leading scorer Brad Traina has missed the last three games due to a stress fracture of his foot. Darius Granberry had missed three straight with a shoulder separation before returning to the lineup last Saturday. Roy Leath didn’t fly with the Knights to Alabama for their two contests last week after having oral surgery. Point guard Cory Perry, already weakened by a virus, twisted his ankle after two victories.

Baseball team reloads after 98 draftees depart

Travis Bell
STAFF WRITER

The 1998 UCF baseball team led the nation in one major category last year that many people may be unaware of: While Southern Cal was winning the College World Series in early June, UCF was tying the Trojans for the national lead in number of players selected in the Major League Baseball Draft: 10.

That helps bring exposure and name recognition to the UCF program. However, since seven of the 10 players drafted were juniors, it leaves the 1999 squad inexperienced and untested, but that may not be such a bad thing for Coach Jay Bergman, entering his 17th season at the helm with a record of 622-373-3.

Fortunately for Bergman, among the players returning are former Freshman All-Americans Matt Bowser and Jason Arnold. Both players came in with different expectations from coaches, but this year proves much different, as they will be counted on early and often.

UCF finishes with best Olive Garden Classic record in three years

Bowser, who passed on the Toronto Blue Jays in 1997, put up the numbers that were expected of him last season. He batted .320 with 11 homeruns and 35 RBIs while starting 51 games at first base and left field. This year he will be the full-time left fielder and anchor a new outfield, with junior college transfers Mark Batia and Ivan Trujillo getting the early season starts in center and right, respectively.

Sophomore Daryl Stephens played in 24 games last year, and will see time at designated.

Knights hit the road to strengthen grip atop TAAC

Tony Mejia
SPORTS EDITOR

The UCF women’s basketball team may not exactly be used to life at the top, but they certainly expected it. Now, that they rank as the TAAC’s top team, the question will be how they deal with the role of favorite night in and night out.

By virtue of last week’s perfect 2-0 record, and the unexpected loss by Jacksonville State to Samford, UCF is on top of the TAAC. With the domination of nationally-ranked Florida International in past years, the Golden Knights have not been accustomed to being ahead in the conference race this late in the season, but FIU now contends in the Sun Belt, leaving TAAC supremacy up for grabs. UCF has taken advantage.

“We expected to win this season, so it’s not so much a surprise,” sophomore Camille Howard said. “We’re confident, but we can’t afford to have too much of a big ego, because we have to pick it up when we go on the road. We have to play twice as hard.”

UCF becomes the road for a pair of games against last week’s competition, Mercer and Troy State. The Bears were embarrassed by the Golden Knights, 70-49, at the UCF Arena. UCF out-rebounded Mercer 33-15, and were ahead by as many as 27 points in the game. They will attempt to duplicate that type of effort on Tuesday night at 7 p.m.

The Knights had a tougher time with Troy State last week, but managed to grab the TAAC lead and put two games of distance between themselves and the Trojans by winning, 65-54. However, after holding Troy State loading scorer LaKeitha Parrish to eight points in their win last Saturday, UCF knows it must expect a tougher battle this time around, especially since it’s away from home.

“We were fortunate to beat them last week, but the Trojans have a lot of talent and a lot of experience,” Speraw said. “We have to be on our toes tomorrow.”

UCF senior guard Kate Fetzer has provided quality minutes for the Golden Knight backcourt.

Inside the TAAC

Conference basketball action heats up in February.

INSIDE

Baseball preview

An in-depth look at the 1999 Golden Knights baseball team.

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