Central Florida Future, March 10, 1999

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Recommended Citation
UCF club joins medical marijuana debate

TODD McFLIKER STAFF WRITER

Last month, UCF’s Pi Sigma Alpha, a national political science honor society, hosted speakers to discuss both sides of the debate over the legalization of marijuana for medical purposes in the state.

“As a political science honor society, we want to bring information on current political topics to the students at UCF,” said Pi Sigma Alpha President Rod Skinner. “If the Coalition doesn’t want to talk about this, then the Junior Advocating Medical Marijuana succeeds in getting medical marijuana on the year 2000 ballot, these same UCF students will be asked to vote on this issue. We just want our voters to be properly informed.”

Marijuana has been declared an illegal drug in the United States since 1914. Today, however, there are over 40 million Americans who are occasional users. Some of these violators are suffering from AIDS, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy and even athlete’s foot. Users say that marijuana has tremendous medical value.

Juliet Hawkins, a speaker from the Libertarian Party, said, “Our goal is merely to protect the tens of thousands of medical marijuana users.”

*Millions of Americans occasional users*

Scientists are currently studying whether marijuana’s THC or related chemicals called “cannabinoids” may have medical uses. Some claim that marijuana’s chemicals could be beneficial for treating severe pain.

Experts from around the globe claim that marijuana’s potential for therapeutic purposes lies in five areas: analgesia, glaucoma, neurological disorders, appetite stimulation in patients suffering from diseases or ailments, and for the nausea associated with the chemotherapy given for cancer.

Marijuana as therapy may also be considered for treating nocturnal seizures for people suffering from multiple sclerosis and spinal cord injuries, some forms of dystonia, and for treating people with neuropathic pain.

“One Americans view medical mari­juana as total legalization,” said Nick Ruca, a forensic scientist. “But that’s a different issue. Medical marijuana is one of the safest ways to relieve patients from suffering.”

Marijuana comes from the hemp plant and contains more than 400 chemicals, some of which are harmful to one’s health. It is not exactly clear how the drug’s THC

Program assistant works to give back to students

TAYLOR SIKES ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

When Michele Badie, 23, finished her undergraduate studies at UCF in August 1996, she decided she wanted to stay and give something back, so she became a program assistant for the African-American Studies Program.

Badie said her time at UCF was special because teachers invested time in her and were always available to help her with any problems she had. Some of these teachers include Mary McKinney, Kathy King, and the faculty she encountered in her public administration major.

“They have always been willing to stop and express concern for me,” she said. “I have never felt that someone one didn’t care about me. The faculty and staff at UCF really supported me. Even though I am an Orlando native, I still needed support.”

College is a decision making and life-changing time, Badie said.

“I think the college period is the time to find out who you are,” she said. “You have to find out who you are. You have to find out what you are living your life for.”

Badie said she enjoys working in the 2-year-old African-American Studies Program because she likes seeing students get excited about their studies. She also said she agrees strongly with the ideas of the program’s chair, Dr. Gladstone Yearwood.

“I believe in Dr. Yearwood’s raison d’etre,” Badie said. “He wants to make students more aware of the program. It is nice to be a part of it and make some changes. I can break down barriers that won’t be there in the future.”

Badie said she wants to go graduate school at UCF for her master’s degree in public administration. She said she eventually wants to be a mentor to high school students.

“Working with students would be another way she could give back, Badie said. “A lot of people who I was in high school at that confusing time of life, really supported me,” she said. “I want to give back.”

Badie said her mother, a teacher, has been her encouragement in life and her model.

“She is my inspiration and the joy in my world,” she said. “She loves her job and finds joy in every day.”

“Her taught me that you should love to live, and learn to sense the day.”

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Clubs to SGA: show us our activity money

SHELLY WILSON STAFF WRITER

For months, the UCF clubs and organizations that needed funding have been told that the Senate is out of money. They were also told that when the addendum budget was approved, money would become available for them. The addendum budget has been signed by state officials and passed by the Senate, but some clubs and organizations still have not received any money, and they want to know why.

“We came to an Organizations, Appropriations and Finance (OAF) meeting about 4 weeks ago,” said Teresa Roberti, an officer of the Potters Guild. “We had a proposal for $1,500 to bring in an artist here for 3 full days of workshop, lecture and trade information. We told them we had the $1,500 to bring her here, but if we use that money, the organization would not have enough money for supplies.

“The OAF stated the bill looked fantastic. The problem was that they had no money, but they were going to receive an addendum budget and we would be first in line [for money]. It was stated that all the government had was money for supplies up to $150. We made a request for the office supplies. The authorization for the supplies was given 3 weeks ago, but somehow Student Government knows nothing about it now.”

The Potters Guild is not alone in waiting for funding. More than 10 clubs and organizations are
Student arrested after running from police

David Chancey King, a 20-year-old UCF student, was arrested and charged with obstructing justice and possession of marijuana after running from officer Joseph Ingerham.

Ingerham saw King and a friend stand in front of Seminole Hall with a plastic cup in his hand. According to police reports, King tried to hide the cup by his side so the officer couldn’t see it. As Ingerham approached King, he ran inside the building and up the stairs. Ingerham ordered him to stop and then followed him to the second floor.

There, King was arrested because he ran from police and discarded the cup. Police found a bag of marijuana in his right pocket.

A search of Peyton's car turned up a 1.5 liter bottle of vodka.

Ingerham wanted to check. Police found a bag of marijuana in his right pocket.

Student from police and discarded the cup. March to the second floor.

Ingerham saw King and a friend stand in front of Seminole Hall with a plastic cup in his hand. According to police reports, King tried to hide the cup by his side so the officer couldn’t see it. As Ingerham approached King, he ran inside the building and up the stairs. Ingerham ordered him to stop and then followed him to the second floor.

There, King was arrested because he ran from police and discarded the cup. Police found a bag of marijuana in his right pocket after searching him. The bag tested positive and King was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana under 20 grams.

CAMPUS CRIME

Mintz returned home from a concert around 1 a.m. and four messages, amounting to about 20 minutes, had been left on his answering machine. The messages contained derogatory and ethnic slurs toward him, his ethnicity and his girlfriend.

The victim was unable to give any leads toward who might have made the calls. Police said the voice sounded like a white male, approximately 21-25 years old, with a “New-York-type accent” talking through a cellular phone. Mintz is willing to press charges.

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Interview Location: Career Resource Center

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If you are completing your junior year and are interested, please contact your Placement Office or:

Yvette Griffin, Program Coordinator
870 N. Chickasaw Trail, Orlando, FL 32825
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Yvettegriffin.afc@statefarm.com

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Members of UCF’s President’s Commission on Status of Women and the President’s Commission on the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities are asking for input from students, faculty and staff to be part of its two-year study.

The commissions were established by President John Hitt last year and are comprised of members of the faculty and staff as well as students. The commission on racial and ethnic minorities has 18 members; the commission on women has 16.

Debbie Reinhart, associate dean of the College of Engineering, is leading the women’s status commission. Reinhart said three graduate students will collect data until June on various issues at UCF, from the average SAT scores of undergraduate applicants to the distribution of UCF employees by gender and race. The commissions’ recommendations are due to President Hitt by April 2000.

The commissions will use data collected from surveys and forums with students, faculty and staff. The forums will be like a model campus that is truly inclusive and diverse.”

Dr. Maria Blanes, of the Exceptional and Physical Education Program, is also on the race commission. Blanes said the commission’s ultimate goal is to provide recommendations that, if implemented, will ensure equal participation, appropriate support and recognition of contributions of minority faculty, students and staff.

As a minority faculty, I am concerned about the dramatically low representation of women and minorities among our faculty,” Blanes said. “A campus that is becoming so diverse in the student population needs role models to represent and mentor them. I hope that our work will enhance the richness and value of human diversity at this university.”

Dr. Jose Fernandez, interim associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said he is personally interested in the race commission’s findings on the retention and recruitment of minority students and faculty. As head of the commission, Fernandez said he is also interested in studying the opportunities for advancement for minority staff members.

“I believe that the commission is going to make very positive recommendations that will be good for all,” Fernandez said.

As one of two student members on the women’s commission, Carmen Shrum said she would like to see the commission’s work improve services and forms of safety and sensitivity for women at UCF.

“This committee’s issues and concerns cover a wide range of subjects,” Shrum said. “Sexual harassment is one. We’re looking for an umbrella policy that will cover everyone on campus from faculty to students to staff.”

Shrum said the commission will also be working to discover the perceptions of gender and expectations by enhancing UCF’s awareness of gender issues and the inclusiveness through education, outreach and training.

Harmony Gillett, the other student member on the women’s commission, said her focus of being on the commission is to increase the awareness and improve gender issues in the classroom and throughout the campus.

“Gender issues are often overlooked or not recognized by most people,” she said. “I would like to see a campus-wide awareness of the difference between men and women, especially in the learning environment.”

Dr. Richard Tucker, also of the women’s commission, said that despite the diversity present at the university, concerns have been raised about barriers against full opportunities at UCF. “If inequities are found,” Tucker said, “it is the purpose of the commission to provide constructive recommendations to address those concerns.”

Reinhart said the commissions are seeking input from all who are associated with UCF. “We’re a very small group of people,” she said, “so we need other ideas and help with these issues.”

“From a faculty standpoint, this is an opportunity to learn more about ourselves.”

The commission on the status of women will hold a focus group from noon-1:30 p.m. on March 22 in the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning in the Health and Physics Building. For more information, contact Debbie Reinhart at reinhart@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu

I would like to see a campus-wide awareness of the difference between men and women, especially in the learning environment.

—Commission member Harmony Gillett
March 10, 1999

www.UCFfuture.com

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Better late than never

VICKI DESORMIER
STAFF WRITER

Sally Herndon said she has always been late. The 43-year-old mother of five said she isn’t an older student, she’s just getting a late start.

“I always meant to finish school,” she said. “I just got distracted and I never quite got here. Now that I’m here, I think I can finish in a reasonable amount of time. I was just a little later than most people in getting here.”

Herndon said she got married right out of high school and began a family shortly after that. She figured she’d put off her college degree until the children were in school. Then she put it off until they were out of elementary school. Then middle school. Now, except for two, they are all out of high school.

“I guess I’m out of excuses,” she said. Herndon, her husband, Jack, and their two youngest children moved to Central Florida about a year ago from Massachusetts. She said she decided to go to college because she decided to go to college. Then she put it off until they were out of elementary school. Then middle school. Now, except for two, they are all out of high school.

“I think almost all of us are a lot more domestic engineers for our families,” Herndon said. “I was just a mom. Now I can write my story.”

Herndon said she has chosen to major in business because there are more opportunities with such a degree.

“I can go to work for a big company or start a business of my own. With a degree in business, I think I can write my own ticket,” she said.

She believes it will take her about five years to finish her degree because she’s “not quite full time,” but she is not in a hurry. After all, she said, she’s always been late for everything.

“Better late than never.”

Doctoral student to present paper at Scotland convention

MARIA CHANDLER
STAFF WRITER

A UCF graduate student will be present her paper at the 16th International Conference on Technology and Education held in Scotland at the University of Edinburgh.

Maria Lorna A. Kunnath, doctoral candidate in instructional technology in the college of education, will present her paper, titled “Computer Users and the Need for Multimedia Interface Design.”

The conference runs March 29 through 31. Kunnath will be joined by other technology-using educators from around the world.

“It took me several independent studies to come up with this idea,” Kunnath said. “I spent three semesters reading literature on multimedia-based learning environments.

In the paper, Kunnath includes the types of computer users throughout the world and how the interface of multimedia learning environments need to be optimally designed so that the way a user’s brain processes information is not overlooked.

Kunnath goes on to state that within an optimally designed multimedia interface the question would be raised: how would such an interface alter a user’s performance?

The interface will have several attributes that the user will be tested on while using it. The attributes include the interface’s learnability, flexibility, usefulness, intuitiveness and likability.

Kunnath defines users as concrete learners (those basing judgment on experience), as opposed to those who are abstract learners (more logical people who use a rational approach when problem solving), and expert to novices, and field independent (individuals relying on internal motivations), and field dependent (those who rely on external environments)

By using a survey instrument, she was able to classify learning styles inventory for concrete and abstract adult learners. She classified adults as novices or experts by the Windows Computer Experience Questionnaire. She said learners are defined by how they react to problem-solving situations, such as in a computer-learning environment.

Kunnath said she is honored to have been recognized for her work. “I feel honored having my paper accepted and I wish to share the honor with the other technology-using educators from around the world.”

“I think older people make better students,” she said. “There are quite a few of us older students here at UCF, and I think almost all of us are a lot more serious about our studies than those kids who are out here on 'mom and dad's credit card.'”

Herndon said she sees a lot of the younger students skipping classes or ignoring assignments; things she would never consider doing because she knows she will never get another chance at college. She admits though that she probably would have been just like her younger classmates at their age.

She said she has never pressured her children to enroll in college, but the three who have finished high school have begun their post-secondary education. Two are enrolled in junior colleges in Massachusetts and the other goes to a four-year school in Vermont.

“They take school seriously enough,” she said. “But I'm the best student out of all of us.”

Herndon said she has chosen to major in business because there are more opportunities with such a degree.

“I can go to work for a big company or start a business of my own. With a degree in business, I think I can write my own ticket,” she said.

She believes it will take her about five years to finish her degree because she’s “not quite full time,” but she is not in a hurry. After all, she said, she’s always been late for everything.
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Q: What do you like about UCF?

A:

"The location is great, the students are friendly and it has one of the best Greek systems in the state."
—Amy White, 21, senior, English literature

"The open atmosphere. Everybody is easy to talk to and willing to listen."
—Matt Crawford, 19, freshman, business management

"My professors and the people here are very friendly."
—Julie Sego, 24, graduate student, accounting

"I like the fact that the university promised to preserve some of the wonderful nature on campus."
—Mike Scamehorn, 22, senior, computer science

"I like the fact that UCF is very culturally diverse. In addition, UCF has a close relationship with the local technical industry."
—Ken Ethnot, 22, senior, mechanical engineering

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Effects are produced in the body, but radioactive tracing has proved that THC binds to the receptors in the brain that recognize it. Although usually smoked in a cigarette, pipe, or water pipe (bong), marijuana can also be eaten.

Once taken, THC is then quickly absorbed into the bloodstream and is rapidly distributed throughout the body. In a matter of weeks, the liver converts THC into waste products that are eliminated through urine and feces. THC manufactured into a pill can be used for treating the nausea and vomiting caused by chemotherapy. Increased appetite and gaining weight are psychological benefits to patients. However, one cancer patient said, “I never believed the way I do about marijuana until I began taking it [for pain relief] for my brainstem tumor. It has been like a magic pill for me. I can be in agony with dizziness and nausea one minute, then 20 minutes later I will be ridding the refrigerator and sniffling instead of crying.”

Epilepsy sufferers may also experience positive effects from smoking marijuana. Due to the distribution of cannabinoids receptor-bearing neurons, epilepsy treatment corresponds with marijuana’s clinical effects.

Both smoked marijuana and oral THC have also been tested in the treatment of Parkinson’s Disease and Huntington’s chorea. Neither produced positive results.

“There is currently an amendment in Florida to legalize medical marijuana with zero risk of criminal prosecution. “Legalizing marijuana for medical purposes sends the wrong message to our children and teens,” said a representative for the Drug Free America Foundation. “It tells them that smoking grass is OK because it’s medicine. Florida’s future leaders deserve better. They deserve one clear message: No legal marijuana. Not now. Not ever.”

An admitted user said, “As an individual with chronic pain due to post-Polio Syndrome, I am well aware of the benefits offered by marijuana for pain. As a father, I deny myself that benefit because I would deny myself that benefit because I would offer it to my children and have an adverse affect on sperm production in men. In women, smoking can disrupt the normal monthly menstrual cycle. The discharge of eggs from the ovaries can also be altered.”

An individual taking medical marijuana may experience mental clouding, thinking impairment, disconnected thoughts, disorientation, blurred speech and muscle impairment. Prolonged use leads to deficiencies of the immune system. The patient may have many of the same respiratory problems that tobacco smokers have. They suffer from daily plugging, along with frequent chest colds.

Marijuana smoke can lead to the dysfunction of both the lungs and the airways. The smoke then continues to destroy a smoker’s lung tissue.

Studies have shown marijuana’s effects can relieve cancer pain. Despite what some people don’t think of it as the negative side of marijuana’s smoke, it contains some of the same cancer-causing compounds as tobacco, sometimes even in higher concentrations. Studies have shown that a person who smokes five joints a week is equal to a ‘pack a day’ cigarette smoker.

Both marijuana smoke and tobacco smoke work together to alter the tissue lining of the respiratory tract. Smoking marijuana may also effect sexual characteristics and reproductive functions, delay the onset of puberty in some children, and have an adverse affect on sperm production in men. In women, smoking can disrup
Ten clubs waiting for $15,000

FROM PAGE 1

waiting for more than $15,000 in funding, which Roberts said has nothing to do with the bills.

"For some reason, Student Government, notoriously over the past 5 years, has never gotten the handle of how to put together a correct budget," she said. "This year they spent money assuming that they would get an addendum budget, but you wouldn't just assume something like that and then spend money in the real world."

Some clubs, such as the Pre-Professional Medical Society, have had to pay their own way instead of receiving help due to the lack of funds.

"In November, we submitted a request for funds for a CPR. Certification class to be offered," Gordon Olde, Jr. said. "The bill was approved, but there was a wait for the addendum budget. This club ended up paying for the class to be offered because we were working on it."

"I don't expect to get the money back because it's not a big surprise the budget's not there."

According to Student Body President Jason Murphy, the funds not being allowed to go to clubs was a decision made by officials in Tallahassee.

"The state made a mandate by memo that the funds be used the way it was allocated, so there is no funds for them," he said. A memo sent with the budget only supported the completion of projects listed on the budget.

"Does that mean that some funds can be used for clubs and organizations?" OAF Chair David Siegel said that the position of clubs and organizations has not changed.

"There is no money in any of the Senate accounts," he said. "We can look at flexibility out of the original budget, but the state's position is that the money for the addendum budget is to be spent the way it was allocated. The next guaranteed funding for clubs and organizations is July 1 on the annual budget."

Mary Lynn Cossier, advisor for Phi Beta Lambda, said July 1 is too far off for the clubs and organizations that need the money for scheduled events before then.

"If you do not think about the fact that other clubs and organizations would need the money later and give all of the money away in the beginning, then some clubs will not get funded later," she said.

Cossier said communication and feedback of the budget's position of when, and even if, clubs will receive money is the key element that is missing.

"Our request was received in late January by Student Government and while it was said that the government had no money, the contact person, given to me was the student body president," she said. "I wrote him a letter explaining our situation and left messages for him to call me back. There have been no responses back. I understand busy schedules, but the addendum budget does not directly affect students and there is no explanation of why these requests were made to begin with."

Murphy said that his office was making regular contact with Tallahassee about the budget.

"This occurrence is nothing new between clubs on campus and Student Government according to Teresa Roberts.

"Two years ago, the [Potter's] Guild had over a year long battle with the government to receive money," she said. "The reason then was if we received $10,000, then everyone else was going to ask for $10,000. If they had looked at the percentages of money given to the arts as opposed to business and engineering, then they would have realized that less than 1 percent of money over the last 10 years has gone to funding for any of the arts programs here on campus."

"It's very frustrating when we as a student organization come to the Student Government very prepared and have it all laid out for them and run into a brick wall every time."

Panhellenic and IFC to vote on Homecoming changes

KELLY BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

Panhellenic and the Interfraternity Council (IFC) are currently voting on proposals to change the Homecoming traditions within UCF's Greek community.

In past spring semesters, it has been customary for fraternities to sacrifice the sorority that they would most likely be paired with for the following term's Homecoming events. While this tradition has become a highly anticipated one in Greek Park, it has also evoked some competitiveness among organizations. A committee has formed that would like to eliminate these conflicts by changing the way fraternities and sororities pair off.

The proposed solution is to have each organization rank their choices for Homecoming partners on a scantron sheet and have the teams electronically paired. This system has proven successful at other universities and will be voted on at upcoming Panhellenic and IFC meetings.

IN OTHER NEWS FROM GREEK ROW:

• The Greek Leadership Conference is accepting applications for chair positions to help plan their fall conference. Volunteers are needed to coordinate speakers and events.

• GAMMA (Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol) will be holding a Safe Sex Workshop to educate chapters on the facts and myths behind contraceptives and intercourse. The group is also looking for an Eating Disorders chair to assist them with investigating and teaching others about the dangers of this subject.

• Greek Week teams helped to beautify Orlando on Feb. 28 when they worked together to clean up areas surrounding Orange Blossom Trail. Trophies were credited with spirit and service points for contributing to the clean up, and managed to fill two dumpsters with litter.
How I survived a year in a 'rat hole'  

JAMES COMBS  
STAFF WRITER

I have always been a person who makes very quick decisions in life without exploring other options. It didn’t take me long to choose my first vehicle—I picked the first one that looked cool. I liked it major in journalism because I got an art print printed in my community college newspaper. After seeing my byline, there was no way I would major in political science. Why am I attending UCF? That’s simple. UCF was the first college that accepted me into its journalism school.

Fortunately, I am very pleased with my vehicle, my major, and the university I attend. However, not all of my quick decisions have turned out so rosy.

In the summer of 1997, I received a brochure from Collegiate Village Inn. The content of that brochure instantly caught my eye. There was a picture of a chef serving a delicious-looking meal. The brochure further explained that I could get an unlimited meal plan that included hot dogs, cheeseburgers and ice cream in every meal. This sounded like it could rival any fast-food restaurant. Not only do I love to eat, but also I wouldn’t have to cook.

The brochure also showed a beautiful woman in a bathing suit sitting next to a huge pool. OK, I was sold at that point. Who cares what other residential places have to offer? This was the place for me. Or was it?

Before moving in, I filled out a roommate questionnaire that was supposed to match me with a person who shared some of the same interests. After a week of living there, I realized that my roommate and I had about as much in common as Howard Stern and Richard Simmons. He liked rap music, but I prefer classic rock and country. I stay up late to study while he usually goes to bed no later than 11 p.m. Another confrontation arose because he didn’t smoke. I couldn’t believe they paired me with someone who didn’t smoke because they specifically asked us that on the questionnaire. He absolutely loathed cigarette smoke, so I had no choice but to smoke outside.

The biggest problem, however, was that neither of us had enough space to ourselves. Not that this problem isn’t common to other residents or people who live in dorms, but two 21-year-olds living in a miniature-sized hotel room need some space to breathe every once in a while.

Last spring, I had a Spanish class that began at 7 a.m. and ended at 8:30 a.m. I would immediately return to catch up on sleep before my next class. My roommate’s first class began at 10 a.m., and he was very loud as he got ready for school. It used to drive me nuts being awakened by alarms, hairdryer, and electric shaver. It didn’t seem fair because I had to get up so early. All I wanted was a little nap before my next class.

Of course, how could I possibly complain to him? All he was doing was getting ready for school. I’m sure he didn’t enjoy hearing my alarm go off at 6 a.m. and listening to me as I went through the motions of getting ready for school.

It really didn’t take long for me to realize that a dorm-like atmosphere wasn’t the thing for me. After 21 years of having my own bedroom to fall back on when I needed some peace and quiet or rest and relaxation, sharing a pint-sized room with someone who was totally different than me just didn’t cut it.

To add insult to injury, the food, which looked so tasty in the brochure, often wanted to make me puke. Pardon me if I can’t get too excited about eating ham with pineapple on top of it.

This year I’m much happier. I am living in an apartment and cannot begin to describe how much better the living conditions are here. No longer do I have to make an occasional trip to the library to study in peace, I can do that in my bedroom. No longer do I have to wait for my roommate to get out of the bathroom. I have my own bathroom. No longer do I have to endure my feet hanging over the end of the bed. I have my own bed. No longer do I have to wait for my roommate to get off the Internet before I can use it. I have my own telephone line. No longer do I have to endure eating food that I don’t like. I buy and cook my own food.

Moreover, we have four bedrooms, a kitchen, a living room and three bathrooms. Quite a difference from the rat hole I lived in last year. And let’s not forget that we have a full-sized refrigerator. You could barely fit anything into my old refrigerator.

I would recommend that all college students living away from home to experience what living in an apartment or townhouse is like. Believe me folks, it’s much better than living in a dorm-like atmosphere.

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I have an idea that opened my mouth turning me into an instrument creating from flesh a warning bell...— Jason Moyer, 22, and Jennifer McCrae, 26 chant in unison this opening line, a prelude to the poetic and thought-provoking monologues that make up 7th Chakra. This exercise in socially conscious transcendental terrorism is the first product of The Cerulean Group, a brand spanking new theatre group made up of UCF graduates.

Last weekend 7th Chakra was exposed at Performance Space Orlando, quite possibly the smallest space around. Beautifully written and preached by Moyer and McCrae, the show is a slam (no pun intended).

The delivery is fueled by intense passion and anger that carries the show from one emotional peak to another. Both performers spewed lines out at a hundred miles a minute, cramming society’s biggest annoyances into short sweet statements you could wrap up and put a bow on. What results as a whole is something that you could wrap up and put a bow on. The audience was a small but mesmerized audience leaving the building inspired and enlightened.

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7th Chakra is much more than just pure entertainment. “I was a Pentecostal and Jason was Catholic,” confesses McCrae after a show when asked the source of their Eastern philosophy. After studying many religions, Buddhism really stuck out, as well as other mysterious philosophies. After studying many religions, Buddhism really stuck out, as well as other mysterious philosophies. After studying many religions, Buddhism really stuck out, as well as other mysterious philosophies.

With the source of their Eastern philosophy, the performers experiment with modern theatre techniques, including experimenting with modern theatre techniques, including experimenting with modern theatre techniques, including experimenting with modern theatre techniques, including experimenting with modern theatre techniques. What results is an exploration of the mystical, the mystical, the mystical, the mystical, the mystical.

The Cerulean Group consists of (from left): Julia Granacki, Jennifer McCrae, Jason Moyer, Abigail Paul, Laura Oliver, and Melissa Perry (not pictured).

Founded a year ago, The Cerulean Group consists of McCrae, Moyer, and Granacki, along with Abigail Paul, 22, Melissa Perry, 23, and Laura Oliver, 23. All theatre majors at UCF, they went through numerous meetings and brainstorming sessions to put everything together, including researching Orlando’s blossoming theatre scene and creating their name, something Granacki will only say comes from “an affinity for the color blue. We decided blue was a happy color.” 7th Chakra marks their first production and series as a fundraiser for their coming season. After working at the Fringe Festival, they’ll begin putting together their next show "Kulata," a celebration of fashion, theatre, and music. "Kulata," a greek word that means "for the pretty one," is an original text incorporating the Greek elements of tragedy. "Kulata," a greek word that means "for the pretty one," is an original text incorporating the Greek elements of tragedy. "Kulata," a greek word that means "for the pretty one," is an original text incorporating the Greek elements of tragedy. Props to a new voice in the creative community, The Cerulean Group has only begun to attain the masses to their unique and progressive vision.

---

Dear Dr. Daphne,

Spring Break is approaching and I haven’t made any plans yet. Any suggestions?

— In Need of Direction

Dear Lost,

It’s kinda late to be making plans oh procrastinating one. There is good news. You can stay local and see Central Florida attractions or drive to the world’s best beaches: Clearwater, Ft. Myers, Key West, Panama City, etc. If you head your lazy butt out, I suggest you call hotels for reservations since it is season in most of Florida. If you’re looking for something a little more exotic, you’ll have to wait for summer to do it right. Take time to either look through the paper for deals, or call your travel agent. If you don’t have one, the school does. It’s in the Student Union, been there yet? Party on dude and remember be safe during the break.

Dear Dr. Daphne,

I live with my older brother because my parents thought it would be a good idea. He’s getting on my nerves. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable. He’s just comfortable.

Dear Sis,

Siblings are funny things; usually you are okay, but sometimes a pain in the ass. I sympathize over your frustration. You need to COMMUNICATE with your bro on this. Guys naturally look at your friends. They do that, fact of life little girl. That, you’ll just have to deal with. About the guys, just how many boys are you bringing home you slut? You must discuss with your brother that his interrogations make you uncomfortable. He’s just being protective because he cares about you. You are fortunate to have that. Think about all the other students who have no one to look out for them. And if doesn’t work, go to the boy toy of the week’s place.

Got a problem? Nothing is too big or small for Dr. Daphne!! Just e-mail her at DrDaphne@hotmail.com

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T he trailers for Cruel Intentions, the latest spin-off in Choderlos de Laclos' Les Liaisons Dangereuses, advertise a truly nasty, malignant ride of manipulation and double crosses. Therein lies the disappointment of trailers. If done well enough, at the service of a mediocre film, the let down is all the more substantial.

This isn't to say that Intentions is a film that showcases its few moments of mean glory in its trailers. It would be no better or worse if it was. Indeed, in the first half of the film, the bitter and cynical exchanges between step-siblings Sebastian Valmont (Ryan Phillippe, in a surprisingly spirited performance) and Kathryn Merteuil (Sarah Michelle Gellar, who heads back to the soap operatic territory with a truly nasty, malignant ride of manipulation and double crosses. It's when the characters, Michelle Gellar, who heads back to the soap operatic territory with a truly nasty, malignant ride of manipulation and double crosses. It's when the characters, particularly Sebastian, become more warmed up that the film feels more of a sham.

The film opens with the betting man's challenge that is quick-

ly becoming a staple in teen films—see She's All That for a similar circumstance. The mission: for Sebastian to bed the virgin (and proud of it) headmaster's daughter (Reese Witherspoon). Should he lose, Kathryn wins Sebastian's vintage Jaguar. And should he emerge victorious, Sebastian gets the one girl she 'can't have': Kathryn. (And they're step-siblings. Mm-hm. We're getting into a weird area here...)

A thoroughly extraneous subplot involves Kathryn attempting to reclaim her ex from a new attendee, the dense-as-a-London-fog Cecile (Selma Blair). A couple of questions arise. Why, the ex would instead decide to take it upon himself to go out with this character, who exhibits zero likable traits, is beyond me. Blair turns in one of the new year's most annoying performances, although this has more to do with her irksome character than with her strategy in tackling it. A second questionable choice involves Cecile's hopeful relationship with her black violin teacher (Sean Patrick Thomas). Each of the scenes that the teacher is involved in is clumsy in spurring the racial aspects of the relationship, and the actors look embarrassed in uttering the stilted dialogue given to them by writer Roger (National Lampoon's Senior Trip) Kumble. It's doubly shameful because Thomas is an actor who can be quite effective when given the right material (Courage Under Fire).

The rest of the supporting cast is buried in stereotypes character. Swosie Kurtz, who was in a previous adaptation of Laclos' work, 1988's Dangerous Liaisons, is tasked by her role as a holier-than-thou psychiatrist. Christine Baranski, twice an Emmy winner for her work on "Cybill," is likewise decimated by her part, as Cecile's overly snobby mother. Witherspoon, despite playing her part with a certain sincerity, is done in by the inconsistencies of her ill-drawn character.

Heck, the reason that Intentions gets as high a rating as it does is the wickedness of the scenes including Phillippe and Gellar, which make you say, "If the rest of the scenes were like this, this would be a pretty good film."

Kathryn (Sarah Michelle Gellar) and Sebastian (Ryan Phillippe) take a break from a long hard day of being rich, spoiled brats in the hormonal teen drama Cruel Intentions.
A little starch with your love

MARK JAMES

Geographically speaking, Jackson, Mississippi is a long way from Central Florida. Culturally speaking they could be in the same neighborhood, and the advice served up in The Sweet Potato Queen’s Book of Love (Three Rivers Press) is global in nature.

The Sweet Potato Queens consist of a group of “somewhat augmented female forms enveloped in green sequins, towering red hairdos, provocative dances, and the launting refrain of ‘Tiny Bubbles,’ as only Don Ho could ... deliver it.” They hail from Jackson, Mississippi. Culturally speaking, they hail from St. Patrick’s Queens who all go by the name Tammy, and a long waiting list of Sweet Potato “wannabes.”

The author, Jill Conner Browne, is the founder and a self-proclaimed fallen southern belle. Having spent her life in and around Jackson, her insights are those that could only be gained from first hand experience. With chapter titles such as “The True Magic Words Guaranteed to Get Any Man to Do Your Bidding,” “Men Who May Need Killing, Quite Frankly,” and “What to Eat When Tragedy Strikes, or Just For Entertainment,” it is at times a “how-to” manual, a “conduct” book, and a cookbook with tongue planted firmly in cheek.

Browne writes in a southern style of southern customs and culture where women “could be muse(s) or teacher(s), but only if you had to work to become your husband turned out to be a worthless piece of shit, but even if he did, he was still your husband for life; the King of you, and you were damned lucky to have him.” She covers the espouse of southern idiosyncrasies of a woman’s place to food to sex and back again, and does so in purely back fence gossip jeu d’e­ sopr.

The Sweet Potato Queen’s Book of Love is not serious literature, but it is a keeper, a book to keep by the bed for some light reading before turning in, or keep in the living room for a rainy weekend; or keep in the kitchen if you’ve overcome a desire for something sweet. It won’t make the top one hundred book list, but it is infinitely more enjoyable to read than most that would.

March 10, 1999

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Central Florida Future • 12

Your CFF entertainment section is online at

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Listen Up!

Old School vs. New School
Various Artists
(Jive Electro) www.jiveelectro.com

Jive, the house label of A Tribe Called Quest, Jay-Z Jeff and the Fresh Prince (or for those with cultural amnesia: Will Smith), Boogie Down Productions, R. Kelly, Kool Moe Dee, has always been on the coat tails of unequivocal creative as well as commercial breakthrough success. They've always found themselves spinning on the second deck, the minor fading, forever fleering in and out of public view. Now with the A.T.C.Q., calling it quits, Jive has decided its time to historicize their mostest accomplishments. It seems this moment in Hip Hop is ripe for a resurgence of as "Old School" creative high points. The flavor of the moment, which looks more and more like the hypothesized Throes movement, is House. The most prevalent DJs and producers of the international scene are enlisted here to re-spin Jive's quiet feats. The results are, surprisingly, mixed—with the most memorable coming from the tracks least familiar to their originals. Aphrodite rides a punchy high hat over A.T.C.Q.'s "In Time (...Once Again)." The Bassbin Twins literally scan the career of KRS-One's philosophical platform B.D.P in "Caine of B.D.C." Grooverider takes on the late Jive artist included here who was never Hip Hop—even in the most creative sense of the world, the Stone Roses—to transform the dream poppers "Fools Gold" into a dance floor excursion the sad ended boys probably never dreamed of. And Rabbi In The Moon take the same original and transform the Manchester Acid House sound into the transiently, but familiar, Tampa-Manchester Acid house. Memory residue may vary but the "New School" remixes by Norman Cook, Pimp Juice and Doc Martin of A.T.C.Q (who is, perhaps, over-represented with 5 of 14 tracks) far diminish the luster of one of the most witty and stylistic groups "The Old School" creative high points. The flavor of the moment, which looks more and more like the hypothesized Throes movement, is House. The most prevalent DJs and producers of the international scene are enlisted here to re-spin Jive's quiet feats. The results are, surprisingly, mixed—with the most memorable coming from the tracks least familiar to their originals. Aphrodite rides a punchy high hat over A.T.C.Q.'s "In Time (...Once Again)." The Bassbin Twins literally scan the career of KRS-One's philosophical platform B.D.P in "Caine of B.D.C." Grooverider takes on the late Jive artist included here who was never Hip Hop—even in the most creative sense of the world, the Stone Roses—to transform the dream poppers "Fools Gold" into a dance floor excursion the sad ended boys probably never dreamed of. And Rabbi In The Moon take the same original and transform the Manchester Acid House sound into the transiently, but familiar, Tampa-Manchester Acid house. Memory residue may vary but the "New School" remixes by Norman Cook, Pimp Juice and Doc Martin of A.T.C.Q (who is, perhaps, over-represented with 5 of 14 tracks) far diminish the luster of one of the most witty and stylistic groups "The Old School" has yet to produce.

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March 10, 1999

Message In A Bottle
Soundtrack: Various Artists
(Atlantic)

First off, if Lilith Fair was coved this CD would incorporate the line-up of artists. The sappy love songs and tear jerking ballads that make up the soundtrack cause just the emotional whirlwind descriptively characteristic of the artists associated with the event. The high priestess of Lilith is even present with her raspy single, "I Love You". The movie has been called "a great date movie" and a lot of it must lend itself to the collection of songs included in the soundtrack. Romantics everywhere need to add this album to their collection. Edwin McCain's contribution is surprisingly not his single "I'll Be", one of the biggest wedding songs of the past year, but a new song off the same album called "I Could Not Ask For More", which, though a great song, has vocals that sound strangely like Hootie and Blowfish lead-singer Darius Rucker at parts. But nonetheless it is not, and Rucker did make the cut and the groups single "Only Lonely" is also included. Faith Hill's single "Let Me Let Go", off her new album "Faith" was an excellent choice of song to add color to the plot and the struggle of Costner's character, but for those of you who are waiting for it to hit Blockbuster, Faith Hill is an amazing female country artist and is rightfully getting the attention she deserves from her latest album by having her song included on the soundtrack. Grammy winner Sheryl Crow is also featured, however, not with her most notable hit. Her song "Caroline" has a lounge singer air about it, well performed but not well received. Another displaced song would be Marc Cohn's blues guitar ballad "Fallen Angels." Other songs on the album are: Sinead Lohan's "No Mermaid", Clannad's "What Will I Do", "Don't" by Yv'e,Adam, and "Somewhere in the Middle" performed by Nine Sky Wonder.

---Andrea Keegan
Lead Stories

**A French study, appearing as a February Archives of Internal Medicine article, reported that one of every nine persons admitted to intensive care units is there because of illnesses caused else-where (mostly by infections or insignificant drugs or excessive doses). Also in February, Claudia Archer, 52, settled her malpractice lawsuit against Walter Reed Army Medical Center for $4.5 million. Archer entered the hospital to have a benign tumor removed from her neck, but over the next four months, allegedly because of errors and infections, both her legs had to be amputated below the knee and tubes inserted in her body to help her eat and breathe. In January, North Dakota legislators decided against a proposal to crack down on impatient motorists who refuse to share marijuana with drivers while driving and then toss their urine- (and even feces-) filled plastic containers to the side of the road. The containers create hazards when cleanup crews accidently smash them with vehicles and motorbikes. Said Rep. John Mahoney, "(We want to promote tourism, and such a new law) might be offensive."**

**Installation of the first escalators ever in November is the shopping mall in Managua in December, has terrorized many shoppers who have encountered them, according to a February Miami Herald report. Among the incidents: A frightened middle-aged woman who feared her departure at a second-floor landing, leaped from the escalator onto the floor, lost her balance, and staggered through the food court, knocking over tables and landing against a wall.**

**Koreans Who Really Want Money**

In December, Chung Kyu-chil, 52, reportedly confessed to a scheme to collect on his disability insurance policy for the experience of pregnancy so much that she had failed to remember to buy food for his two 7-year-old children. Refused to share their marijuana stash with him, because having sex with two men was tiring her out. Her daughter was fathered by yet another man, whose parents filed the custody petition against April, who also argued that her freedom of abridgment was being abridged. Her daughter was fathered by yet another man, whose parents filed the custody petition against April, who also argued that her freedom of abridgment was being abridged. And Nathan Ricketts, 26, was arrested and charged with choking his mother almost into unconsciousness. In February, Claudia Archer, 52, settled her malpractice lawsuit against Walter Reed Army Medical Center for $4.5 million. Archer entered the hospital to have a benign tumor removed from her neck, but over the next four months, allegedly because of errors and infections, both her legs had to be amputated below the knee and tubes inserted in her body to help her eat and breathe. In January, North Dakota legislators decided against a proposal to crack down on impatient motorists who refuse to share marijuana with drivers while driving and then toss their urine- (and even feces-) filled plastic containers to the side of the road. The containers create hazards when cleanup crews accidently smash them with vehicles and motorbikes. Said Rep. John Mahoney, "(We want to promote tourism, and such a new law) might be offensive."**

**Family Values**

**Ruan Goodhart, 16, was arrested and charged with roughing up his mother in January in Sarasota, Fla., because she and her boyfriend refused to share their marijuana stash with him. And Nathan Ricketts, 26, was arrested and charged with choking his mother almost into unconsciousness. In December, Chung Kyu-chil, 52, reportedly confessed to a scheme to collect on his disability insurance policy for the experience of pregnancy so much that she had failed to remember to buy food for his two 7-year-old children. Refused to share their marijuana stash with him, because having sex with two men was tiring her out. Her daughter was fathered by yet another man, whose parents filed the custody petition against April, who also argued that her freedom of abridgment was being abridged.**

**Least Competent Criminals**

Steve and Michelle Chambers pled guilty in August in Charlotte, N.C., to stealing $17 million from the Loomis, Fargo & Co. armored car firm in 1997, a story which hit the headlines again in February 1999 when the Chambers' post-theft purchases were auctioned off to help Loomis recover its money. While on the lam from the heat, the couple called attention to themselves by driving a BMW in N.J. (January). Gas station attendant Matt Thomas jumped onto the hood of a car to try to prevent the customer from leaving without paying, but she drove away (distance surfed: a few minutes, at speeds up to 80 mph). (February) November: Charles Goodhart, 16, was arrested and charged with roughing up his mother in January in Sarasota, Fla., because she and her boyfriend refused to share their marijuana stash with him. And Nathan Ricketts, 26, was arrested and charged with choking his mother almost into unconsciousness. In December, Chung Kyu-chil, 52, reportedly confessed to a scheme to collect on his disability insurance policy for the experience of pregnancy so much that she had failed to remember to buy food for his two 7-year-old children. Refused to share their marijuana stash with him, because having sex with two men was tiring her out. Her daughter was fathered by yet another man, whose parents filed the custody petition against April, who also argued that her freedom of abridgment was being abridged.**

Not Real News

Continuing an occasional reader-advisory series of recent stories that were reported elsewhere as real news but which were probably just made up: A late-1996 story in the Internet pipeline, attributed to the "Associated Press," described a current craze in Japan of breweries' replacing carbon dioxide in beer with hydrogen, which leads to such side effects as being able to sing soprano parts in karaoke bars and (with a cigarette) being able to blow flames from the mouth. As the story goes, stockbroker Toshira Osuna lost a bar-room fireball-blowing contest and retaliated by fireballing one of the judges, singling her hair. Apparently, the episode got Osuna fired, and he is reportedly being sued by the Asaka Beer Co. and the Tike-Take bar. Weird, but not true.**

(Author's Note: We’re not going to claim that this story is real news. Not even a little bit. But we’re going to let it stand, just in case.)

**Chuck Shepherd's News of the Week**

**Chuck Shepherd's News of the Week**

**Lead Stories**

**Chirong-ryol, 42, was arrested and charged with trying to cheat an insurance company out of about $7,500. He confessed to a scheme to collect on his disability insurance policy by having his fingers by hanging for about 20 minutes. He called the emergency medical operator on his cell phone earlier in the day and managed to make another call from the cell by pressing "redial" with his nose against the phone, which had fallen down to the mountain with him but had landed right beside him.**

**Shirley Lawnow, 59, of Marysville, Texas, survived her Jeep's overturning in Whitley County, Ky., in September, even though the vehicle came to rest on top of her with the 3-inch-diameter drive shaft sticking through her abdomen and both legs.**

**Recent Episodes of Car Surfboarding: Hampton, Va. (November); William Vaughn, 29, jumped onto a car's roof during a dispute to prevent his friend from leaving, but the friend drove off anyway (distance surfed: a few minutes, at speeds up to 60 mph). Chicago (November): Charles Goodhart, 16, was arrested and charged with roughing up his mother in January in Sarasota, Fla., because she and her boyfriend refused to share their marijuana stash with him. And Nathan Ricketts, 26, was arrested and charged with choking his mother almost into unconsciousness. In December, Chung Kyu-chil, 52, reportedly confessed to a scheme to collect on his disability insurance policy for the experience of pregnancy so much that she had failed to remember to buy food for his two 7-year-old children. Refused to share their marijuana stash with him, because having sex with two men was tiring her out. Her daughter was fathered by yet another man, whose parents filed the custody petition against April, who also argued that her freedom of abridgment was being abridged.**

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I'm thinking, 'I may have not done the movie. This is sensational. The script just wasn't right.' I'm thinking, 'I may have not done the movie. This is horrible after all this time.'

'Barry Levinson (another producer) was there. Barry and I, Paula, Harold and Jane Rosenthal (De Niro's production partner) sat down and mapped out a whole new story, mostly for my character. Originally, I had a wife and kids, and we made me single and going to get married (to Lisa Kudrow). It all fell into line and it made the whole story work. In 10 days we rewrote 55 pages and then started shooting.'

And now the big question: How did Crystal and De Niro get along?

'He's very open and honest,' Crystal replies. 'You can kid Bob. I spoke to people who'd worked with him. I spoke to Dustin (Hoffman), to Penny Marshall. I've never seen anybody on the phone more than Robert De Niro. It's unbelievable how many people he knows. I'd try to make him laugh. He does a lot of movies, so when he'd say, 'I'll be back in a one minute,' I'd say, 'Oh, you going to do another movie?' He'd say, 'Yeah, I'm going to sneak one in and then I'll be back.' That got to be a running gag. We giggled a lot. We laughed through a lot of good takes.'

Opening March 5, 'This' should slay them at the box office, unlike Crystal's more recent efforts, from 'Mr. Saturday Night' to 'City Slickers 2,' 'Forget Paris' to 'Hamlet,' and 'Father's Day' to 'My Giant,' all of which slept with the fishes.

Despite the misses — and a couple of the films, notably the Crystal-directed 'Mr. Saturday Night,' were well-meaning, entertaining confessions — Crystal swears that he never panicked.

'I don't get desperate,' he says, 'I thought, 'Hey, the last couple weren't great.' You get concerned, but you don't go, 'Oh, what am I going to do'? Hopefully, you know you've got something good coming up. And you hope people treat you right.'

Right now, Crystal's laying low. He passed on hosting this year's Oscar ceremonies, is spending his time with his family and toying with a couple of film concepts. More pressing, though, is a one-man show he hopes to stage next year. It would mark a return to Crystal's stand-up roots.

'It would be for Broadway,' he says. 'It's a slow process, but it's getting clearer. I just feel like I want to be in front of people again.'
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Bria the difference in UCF’s successful return to NCAA’s

FROM PAGE 24

second most TAAC wins in school history (33).

During her tenure at UCF, Bria has established a “no limits, no regrets” mentality to the Knights, giving them a mental edge over other TAAC teams. Even after UCF got out to a 5-1 TAAC start this year (en route to the school and conference best 13-212629-3147 ,.

While Davis and her teammates try to make a new memory on Friday, Bria has no doubt about her players’ minds.

“This brings discipline, hard work, ethics, a never quit attitude and to never be content with where you are,” Davis said.

“I felt I could be the conference player of the year if I wanted to, and if I go out and work hard, I knew I could do it.”

 McClendon, a backup forward, has matured into a solid reserve for the Knights. While she isn’t too happy about returning to Ruston, La., for her possibly final college game, McClendon has learned from Bria’s teaching.

“Coach Bria brought a lot of discipline to the program and that’s pretty much what we needed,” McClendon said.

“That’s what we needed after we lost our coach, we needed some focus, so that’s been key.”

While UCF is not expected to defeat LaTech on Friday, the Knights’ accomplishments this season outweigh the game’s result. On Sunday, Davis said her fondest memory of the team’s pregame meal.

A rat ran across the floor while the team was eating at a Ruston, La., steakhouse, prompting the team to immediately leave. While Davis and her teammates try to make a new memory on Friday, Bria has no doubt made a lasting impression in her players’ minds.

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Tennis teams start busy stretch with victories

DAVID MARSTERS  STAFF WRITER

The UCF Men’s Tennis team won a pair of games last week, bouncing back after a loss to nationally ranked Purdue. The Knights defeated both Hampton University and Winthrop University by the score of 4-3, running their season record to 10-3.

Against Hampton, UCF got off to a quick start by taking all three doubles matches. Seniors David Winberg and Pedro Pacheco then picked up quick singles victories, putting the Knights within one point of victory. Hampton earned easy victories at the #2 and #3 singles spots, but UCF put the match away when freshman Johan Westin beat Shawn Crealow of Hampton 6-4, 6-3. Houston Muzio, playing in only his third singles match of the year for the Knights, lost in three sets to Hampton’s Allan Laytouise.

Winthrop came to town last Sunday, but its trip was over almost as soon as it started. UCF won the doubles point by taking two of the three doubles matches, and then won the first three singles matches to claim the victory. Pedro Camacho ended a personal two match losing streak by defeating Wilson Khoo of Winthrop 6-3, 6-1. Pedro Pacheco dominated his opponent, winning 6-1, 6-1, while Johan Westin picked up his 16th victory of the year by beating Mauricio Delgado 6-4, 6-4. Pacheco is now on a six match winning streak.

“Today was all business, and we got the job done,” said Pacheco.

The Knights faced Miami (Ohio) University on Monday and host Murray State on Sunday. Next week they take on Northern Iowa at home and go to Georgia State in a very important conference matchup.

The next two weeks are the toughest part of the season,” said coach Michael Dublin. “We have some individual growth that needs to take place, but we have momentum and I am confident that we will do well.”

The UCF Women’s Tennis Team picked up a win in their only match of the week, defeating Hampton. The victory was the fourth in a row for the Knights, improving their season record to 5-1.

Veronica Widyadharma led the Knights with a 6-2, 6-1 win over Christina Ferreira at the #1 singles spot. Anna-Jeanette Svantesson remained undefeated in singles for the year with a 6-1, 6-2 win in the #2 spot, while Gaelle Gouttefarde and Hadas Ronen also won their matches. Widyadharma and Gouttefarde teamed up to win at #1 doubles, clinching the victory for the Knights.

Daniela Okal and Rachna Ashar of UCF were both forced to default in their singles matches due to injury.

The Knights began a grueling stretch of 11 matches in three weeks against St. Louis on Tuesday, March 9, and play four more matches this week against Marquette, Miami (Ohio), Louisville, and American.

“Everyone’s going to be tired, and if we go undefeated this week it means we are very strong,” said Gouttefarde.

Coach Dublin had a positive outlook on the upcoming matches.

“They’re going to step right up and good things will come our way,” he said. “This is what we have been working for these last two months.”
Baseball team enters five-game non-conference stretch

TRAVIS BELL  
STAFF WRITER

After struggling to a 1-2 start in Trans American Athletic Conference play, the Knights have three non-conference games this weekend, with five non-conference games to figure out what went wrong against Troy State this weekend.

"It's a good time to regroup a little bit and let the players look at where we are," Coach Jay Bergman said. "But (we can) still keep our pitching rotation like it is. You just have to keep playing." UCF played a game against Lehigh on Tuesday, and Siena College comes to town for a three-game series on Friday and Saturday. UCF plays Siena in a single game on Friday at 7 p.m., and the two teams play a doubleheader on Saturday at 3 p.m.

Siena is led by Tony Rossi, who is in his 30th year as coach of the Saints. He is 415-447-4 during that stretch, including a tough 17-32 finish last year. His team came to UCF in 1997 for back-to-back doubleheaders, and the Knights won all four games by a combined score of 32-4, including a 19-0 opening victory. UCF is 13-1 all-time against Siena, but expect nothing to be easy when the Saints arrive this weekend.

"They'll be very competitive," Bergman said. "They have a lot of players back from last year. They're certainly not gonna come in here not prepared because of playing time."

The Saints return seven starters from last year, and were picked to finish third in the North Division of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference by Baseball America. Siena has started the season 2-5, but hung tough against 14th-ranked Mississippi State over the weekend, losing 5-1 and 7-3.

Senior first baseman Mike Ostrander (.327-4-23) and junior outfielder Todd Donovan (.307-5-2) lead the Saints over .307-.5-2. Donovan is 7-7, including a 3-3 finish last year after coming from Mississippi State, leads Santford. He returns seven starters and nine pitchers, but was still picked to finish 10th in the TAAC by Baseball America.

Siena is 7-7, including tough losses at Auburn (7-4) and Alabama (5-1). They had their first conference series last weekend and lost two of three against Stetson. The Bulldogs won the opener 7-4 on Friday, but lost the Saturday double-header 5-4 and 6-4.

They are second in the TAAC in hitting (.346) and scoring (9.57 runs per game), but have had trouble with the mound with a 6.32 ERA, ninth in the conference. UCF is fourth in average (.308) and fifth in scoring (8.00), while ranking sixth with a 5.54 ERA.

Junior Brian Hitchens lead Santford with a .439 average and has eight doubles and 20 runs scored. Two freshman, Grant Caldwell and Cory Sunner, are second and third in hitting with .410 and .396, respectively. Major Allied is the power threat with six home runs and 18 RBIs, while Jason Barnett leads the TAAC with 16 stolen bases and 26 runs scored. Robert Aaron leads the team with a 4.12 ERA and has 20 strikeouts in 19.2 innings. Charlie Crabbe is 2-0 with 18 strikeouts in 19.2 innings.

"They got a new coach last year, and he had to play with the players that were there last year, and they struggled," Bergman said. "But they've already had some good wins."

UCF needs to take advantage of the opportunities when they arise and should learn from its mistakes at Troy State. If not, it could be a long road trip home from Birmingham after being the pre-season favorite to win the conference.
UCF drops two of three at Troy State

The Knights, pre-season favorite in the Trans Atlantic Athletic Conference, lost two of three games at Riddle-Pace Field in Troy, Alabama against the Troy State Trojans over the weekend. UCF (10-8 overall, 1-2 TAAC) won the first game of the series, but struggled as it lost the final two, 4-3 and 11-10, respectively.

In a park that measures only 305 feet down the lines and 390 to center, both teams took advantage of the hitter friendly conditions. The two teams combined for 15 home runs in three one-run games, including nine in the final game.

Matt Bowser and Dustin Brisson led the Knights in the series. Bowser pitched the rubber match with TSU (11-9, 2-1), but the Trojans pulled out an 11-10 victory after trailing 10-2. Bowser was 3-for-4 with two doubles and four RBIs, while Brisson was 3-for-5 with two home runs and three RBIs.

"It was a great day for them (Bowser and Brisson)," Bergman said. "But 10 runs is not enough to win in this ballpark, particularly in the third game of a series." Justin Pope, who is 5-1, led the Trojans to only two runs and two hits through six innings, but he gave up back-to-back home runs to lead off the seventh. Ray Paul came in and gave up a grand slam to Jorge Soto to cut the Knights lead to 10-8.

Troy Satterfield gave up a game-tying two run home run to Ricky Rowe in the ninth. Then with the bases loaded, Brent Spoons give up the winning run on a sacrifice fly with one out in the inning.

"I'm not gonna fault anybody's effort, but we still have to get it done," Bergman said. "We just need to find the right combination, because we didn't have (Jason) Arnold to get in there and get that game for us. I'm kind of perplexed about the whole thing."

In Saturday's double-header, the Knights won the opener 6-7 before falling in the night-cap 4-3. Jason Arnold had a nice opportunity in the double-header as he closed the opener for his third save of the season, and then started the next game but got the loss. He allowed one hit and one unearned run with one strikeout in the first game.

In his first career start after 35 relief appearances, he struck out eight Trojans in 5.1 innings yielding only four hits, but five walks contributed to four TSU runs.

"He pitched great," Bergman said. "With 120 pitches, what else could you ask for out of a guy?" UCF fought from behind in both games as they trailed 4-0 in the opener after one inning, and 3-1 in the night-cap after four innings.

Unfortunately, the Knights only capitalized on its opportunities in the opener.

"We had a great win in the first ball game," Bergman said. "We came back and played real well. I was real proud of everybody.

The same effort could not be applauded in the next two games, however, as errors and a lack of clutch hitting led to UCF's demise.

The Knights had the bases loaded in the first inning with no outs, but after a Brisson sacrifice fly, Frost and Bill Oakley struck out. Trailing 1-0, TSU used two errors on the same play in the first inning to tie the game. UCF again had the bases loaded in the third but couldn't manage a run. The Knights took advantage as Jorge Soto gave TSU a 3-1 lead with his TAAC-leading 12th home run. But the Knights managed to come back in the fifth as Bowser and Brisson sent back-to-back home runs to right field to tie the game at three.

Troy State took the lead for good in the sixth when Soto walked, stole second, and scored on Derrell Kirkland's sacrifice fly.

"We don't have the mental maturity to step up and bury somebody," Bergman said. "You don't get a chance to win double-headers on the road too often. We literally gave the game away."

UCF plays at Troy State this weekend against Troy State. The 1-2 start at Troy State is not so unusual, as this was the fourth time in seven years the Knights have lost its opening series. In opening three-game series to start conference play, UCF is only 9-12 in seven seasons.

Rare one-run games come in bunches

UCF played in its first three one-run games of the season this weekend against Troy State. The 1-2 start to the season without a one-run game is the longest in school history. The previous longest was 12 in the first year of the program in 1973. The Knights are 128-100 in one-run contests.

Who's hot...who's not

First baseman Dustin Brisson has a 14-game hitting streak that began on Feb. 6 against Nicholls State. Brisson is 23-for-49 (.469) during the streak with 14 runs scored and 14 RBIs. He also has four home runs and six doubles during that stretch. The longest streak in school history is 19 held by Mike Josephina. Left fielder Matt Bowser is 10-for-20 with five home runs, 13 RBIs, and 12 runs scored over the past seven games. Outfielder Ivan Torijillo has hit safely in eight of the last nine games and is 14- for-31 with eight runs and seven RBIs. He also hit his first career home run last Wednesday against Western Michigan. Bill Oakley was 0-for-5 against Troy State and left the bases loaded twice with two outs during the 4-3 loss on Saturday. Infielder Tim Boeth is one for his last 12, and shortstop Mike Fox is 2-for-14 over the past five games. Center fielder Mark Batia is 2-for-13 during his last five appearances.

---TRAVIS BELL---
Brisson’s maturity at plate pays dividends

TRAVIS BELL
STAFF WRITER

UCF first baseman Dustin Brisson’s career began in grand fashion. On February 1, 1997 at Rollins College, Brisson hit a grand slam in his first collegiate game during a 10-3 win, and added his second career home run the next day at home in another victory over Rollins.

“It was amazing,” Brisson said. “That first game against Rollins, I just wanted to come out and get a couple hits. The guy gave me a pitch in the zone, and I still remember it like it was yesterday. It was unbelievable. That was one of the best experiences for me.”

Brisson cruised through the first month of his freshman season, but then pitchers figured out how to throw to him. This change affected him mentally, which, in turn, put him in a huge slump that lasted nearly two months.

“They really didn’t know how to pitch me the first month or so, and I hit really well,” Brisson said. “But then they started throwing me a lot of change-ups and started throwing me away. My average dropped off a lot because I wouldn’t commit to the opposite field.”

Brisson learned from his mistakes and began to take what the pitchers gave him, and that philosophy has not only helped his offensive numbers, but has also made him a better player.

“Dustin has really matured, and that is the biggest thing,” Coach Jay Bergman said. “That’s a freshman’s dream to come in and do things like that. But in some ways, that can also be a nightmare because freshmen don’t realize that you can’t do that every time out. Although he had a good freshman year, I thought that delayed some of his maturity. Part of the maturity of a baseball player is accepting failure.”

Brisson has learned to accept failure, and has reapplied the benefits from that mindset. He is currently on a 14-game hitting streak in which he is 23-for-49 since the February 6 game against Nicholls State. He has four home runs and six doubles along with 14 runs scored and 14 RBIs during that stretch.

In addition, with 10 players drafted from last year’s team, the leadership role is evolving as his numbers remained the same.

“I had a rather disappointing sophomore year, although his numbers remained the same,” Bergman said. “His average was over .300, but I still felt that his power numbers were down. I think a lot of that was emotional maturity. He’s at a point now where he should be putting up big numbers, and I think he has.”

There is one goal that Brisson wanted to meet for this season. He wants to return to the NCAA Tournament after last year’s heart-breaking season-ending loss in the TAAC Tournament against Troy State.

“Even though we were two (losses) and out of the tournament my freshman year, that was one of the best experiences,” Brisson said. “I would really like to get another chance before I leave here. Last year, we were probably one win away from going there, and it was a tough break. This team has grown so much in the first month, and I think we have a real legitimate shot of going to a regional this year.”

Brisson has worked long and hard in the weight room and in practice to better his game. He is on pace this year to break all of his personal single-season records, and he attributes that to his mentality for this year.

“I think that I’ve matured a lot since my freshman year,” Brisson said. “That’s the biggest stride that I’ve taken. I’ve always had the ability, but the mental approach was not there the first couple years. This year, the mental approach is there.”

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UCF's defense now its biggest strength

FROM PAGE 24

is an introduction to offense, defense and special teams.

Robinson was 17 of 33 for 161 yards and one TD in last Saturday's scrimmage. The position figures to be up for grabs for a long time, as no one seems to be separating himself from the pack.

"There's no starter," Krenz said. "I'm rotating them. I don't know who it's going to be. One day it's one guy, the next day it's the next guy. They all get the same amount of reps with the same people. It's the only way I can make a judgment until someone steps up and takes charge. That hasn't happened. We'll have to wait and see."

The offensive struggles have been intensified by the play of the defense, who at times has looked dominant. Fans who make the trip to the Citrus Bowl this Saturday will be in for a pleasant surprise when they see the play of Gene Chizik's defense. Throughout the spring, it has given the offense all it can handle.

"Chiz is throwing the daggers in kitchen sinks, at them with twists and stunts and blitzes," Krenz said. "It's good for (the offense). They're going to make the offense look bad but that's the way it goes. They'll better themselves because of it."

"I'm not going to tell Gene not to do something. If he has a plan to put something in, he has to stay with it. We just have to make sure we pick it up and do the things we need to do. You're going to have to make adjustments in games when people give you something you're not expecting, so it's good for (the offense) to see that stuff."

Fans can get an early glimpse at the Golden Knights on Saturday, starting at 1 p.m. A defensive-minded Golden Knight Squad! This should be a sight to see.

Injuries: Starting linebackers Daubreay Devine and Tito Rodriguez are likely out for the remainder of spring. Rodriguez damaged knee cartilage and was scheduled to have arthroscopic surgery on Tuesday. Devine suffered a knee sprain at Wednesday's practice and is undergoing therapy. Neither player is expected to be doubtful for the start of fall practice. CB Davin Bush left Saturday's scrimmage early and had his midsection wrapped tightly. DE Mike Hulsman (hamstring) participated as did guard Ahmed El-Hawary recovered from a sprained ankle but he twisted the other one. He did not dress out for Friday's practice.

Krenz said he isn't concerned with any of the injuries.

"That's nothing very serious right now," Krenz said. "They're things that will heal. That's the reason we're having spring early. If you have it late, you may not have time enough to heal fast enough prior to the season."

Knights named 16th seed

FROM PAGE 24

16-3 conference record by season's end, including a regular season and TAAC Tournament title. UCF's early growing pains were tough to watch, but the Knights reached their goals on route to their best-ever TAAC record.

"We wanted a 20-game winning season, we wanted to be first in the conference and win the conference tournament, and that's what we did," McClendon said. "That was the beginning (against MSA) and you have to grow as a team and we're happy and we did good."

Davis is the only player to start against Tech in 1996, will be counted on to help the Knights have a better showing than they did three years ago. Davis scored two points while adding two assists and eight rebounds in the 1996 game, but has matured as a player since then.

She won the TAAC Player of the Year award this season and was named TAAC Tournament MVP on Sunday. Davis is averaging 18.7 points, 5.3 assists, 6.0 rebounds and 2.5 steals a game, all of which lead the team.

But, it is Davis' memory of the 1996 game that should fuel the Knights for this weekend. "That was against [MSA] and you have to grow as a team and we're happy and we did good," Davis said.

Davis is the only player to start against Tech in 1996, will be counted on to help the Knights have a better showing than they did three years ago. Davis scored two points while adding two assists and eight rebounds in the 1996 game, but has matured as a player since then.

She won the TAAC Player of the Year award this season and was named TAAC Tournament MVP on Sunday. Davis is averaging 18.7 points, 5.3 assists, 6.0 rebounds and 2.5 steals a game, all of which lead the team.

But, it is Davis' memory of the 1996 game that should fuel the point guard more than her statistics.

"I don't have memories of that game, said Davis. "We got crushed that game, it wasn't good. I wasn't very fond of it. We're going back again. I guess it's a second chance to get a shot at them. We're just going to try and take advantage of it."

An upset of the Lady Techsters by UCF would advance it to the second round to play the winner of the Virginia/Penn State game. While UCF's opening round game will not be televised, the second round game will be televised on ESPN2 at 6:07 on March 14.

"If UCF can pull off the unthinkable, it may give Brisa another reason to stay tuned."

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By: Michelle L. Willhite  •  Sports Editor

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SPORTS

UCF gets rematch against Louisiana Tech

Jeff Case
Staff Writer

Coach Lynn Bria turned up the volume on her TV so loudly on Sunday night, you could barely hear yourself think. But, then again, Bria had good reason to blast the news she was about to hear.

Bria, the coach of UCF’s women’s basketball team, had just finished guiding the Knights to a 20-9 season and their first TAAC Championship in three seasons. UCF, which defeated Jacksonville State 80-59 last Saturday to win the conference title, would be learning its fate for the NCAA Tournament, which begins on Friday.

In a gathering of her players and local media, the ESPN televised tournament selection special announced Bria’s fate first. The Knights will play Louisiana Tech on Friday in Ruston, La., on the Lady Techsters homecourt, the Thomas Assembly Center.

“It’s nice to be a part of the tournament,” Bria said. “They have a great atmosphere there. It’s going to be an atmosphere we have never played in before, but we’re excited to go. I know they’re a good team, they don’t lose too many at home and they were in the Final Four last year.”

Louisiana Tech (26-2) hasn’t done much losing this year at all. The Lady Techsters are the third ranked team and has one of the best women’s college basketball programs in the nation. They have won national titles in 1981, 1982 and 1988 and boast the all-time best winning percentage in NCAA basketball (.879, 614-119 overall) for both men and women.

Meanwhile, UCF has made only one trip to the Big Dance, a 98-41 loss to LaTech in 1996. Only three UCF seniors—Charity Davis, Bria McClendon and Kate Fetzek—have ever played during March Madness before. Regardless of their inexperience, the Knights have come a long way to reach the NCAA Tournament this season.

First came an exhibition loss to a group of former college players known as the Mississippi All-Stars. Then, came a 1-3 start, including a near-upset of Southeastern Conference opponent South Carolina. The Knights evened out to a 1-3 record before backup center Kristy White and freshman point guard Rhonda Osteen quit the team in a six day span.

UCF raced to a 5-1 start once it entered TAAC play and ended up with a

KNIGHTS, Page 23

Spring game comes around with quarterback situation up in air

Tony Mejia
Sports Editor

Saturday’s Black and Gold game, the annual end to the spring football season, will have added intrigue this year, as seniors Chris Ryan and Kelvin Robinson, and redshirt freshman Brad Banks compete for a starting job they’ll have to defend against incoming transfer Vic Penn, who arrives this summer.

Ryan, who entered the spring as the third-string quarterback, has been elevated to number one. Kruczek said Kelvin Robinson is No. 2 and Brad Banks, who did not practice last Saturday for the second consecutive day because of a sore arm, is No. 3.

Ryan completed 23 of 44 passes for 328 yards and two TDs. He was intercepted twice. Ryan’s two TDs were 70-yarders, one on a deep route to Kenny Clark and the other a short screen to Charles Lee, who turned it upfield and outran everybody. Ryan lacks the mobility of the other quarterbacks, but has shown he can take a hit.

“He gets knocked down quite a bit,” Kruczek said. “He’s a tough kid. He does not move the way you would like obviously. He doesn’t have the athleticism you want back there to make things happen when it breaks down.”

Still, the development of the quarterbacks is coming along, giving Kruczek hope that the situation will be resolved by fall.

UCF receiver Kenny Clark will be a main target of UCF’s starting quarterback this year — whatever it may be.

“Everyone is excited,” says senior wide receiver Kelvin Robinson. “He’s a tough kid. We all want to be out there.”

“We’re limited, but we’ll be fine when we open up the season,” Kruczek said. “We’re not getting ready for anybody right now. Spring Practice is just what is needed.”

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Tripped up in Troy

UCF’s baseball team dropped two of three against Troy State.

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Tennis teams triumph

Men’s and women’s tennis teams sweep last week’s action.

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From the diamond

Look for updates on UCF baseball games and news.

www.UCFfuture.com

March madness

Get updates from the NCAA women’s basketball tournament.

www.UCFfuture.com

Pairings unveil a return trip to Ruston

Jeff Case
Staff Writer

Charity Davis talked about a rat, Chat McClendon wanted to go somewhere else and Kate Fetzek simply sat down and watched TV. This wasn’t a meeting of the Rainman fan club, but instead a sampling of the discussion by UCF’s senior women basketball players last Sunday.

UCF, which earned an automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament by defeating Jacksonville State 80-59 to earn the TAAC title, had plenty of reason to talk. The Knights, who are seeded 16th in the NCAA Tournament by defeating Jacksonville State 80-59 last Saturday to win the conference title, would be learning its fate for the NCAA Tournament, which begins on Friday.

This wasn’t a meeting of the minds, the TAAC MVP honors of both the regular season and the conference tournament.

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