Honor College to have its own building

Taylor Sikes
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

UCF's Honors College recently received a $1.5 million donation that will allow for the construction of a building to house the college. The $2.9 million building will feature classrooms, a computer lab, offices, lecture hall and a study lounge. With the aid of this donation, construction of the college is scheduled to be completed in 18-20 months.

The new building will be located off of Pegasus Circle between the Visual Arts Building and the bookstore. The circular, 12,950 square-foot college will be named after the donors to the project, Al and Nancy Burnett.

The Burnett's, former owners of Contemporary Cars of Maitland, donated the money from part of the proceeds after selling a Mercedes automobile dealership they owned. Their donation will be matched by the state under a legislatively funded program that encourages private giving for capital construction projects in the State University System.

Over the year, the Burnett's have given UCF $2.5 million. UCF Public Relations said they are the university's most generous donors.

"The Burnett's have once again demonstrated their commitment to higher education in general and to UCF in particular," said UCF President John Hitt.

"I can think of no more fitting way to honor the generosity, friendship and leadership of the Burnett's than to name our Honors College after them."

The UCF Honors College, which has more than doubled in the last three years, has 946 students. Students enter the program by achieving high academic marks in high school or by coming out of an honors college at a community college. UCF honors classes are restricted to 20 students and feature faculty members from each of UCF's five academic colleges.

2 UCF students compete for Man of the Year title

Beth Shaw
STAFF WRITER

Recently two UCF students were selected as semi­finalists for Young & Modern Magazine's Man of the Year Contest.

Mark Corliss and Jason Hook are now running against 18 others to win the title. The article can be found in the April issue of YM Magazine.

The winner of the contest receives $5,000 cash and $3,000 worth of clothing. The person who nominated the winner will also receive $5,000.

Corliss was nominated by his sister and Hook, by a close friend. The nominees sent in pictures of the candidates and an essay explaining why their nominee should be the winner.

After the nominations, the candidates were called for telephone interviews. They were questioned about their dream dates and their personalities. Part of the process also included submitting references from teachers and friends. The entire process took about three months.

Both Corliss and Hook have received praise for their pictures.

"I feel uncomfortable when these young girls call me," Hook said. "Then again, it's somewhat flattering."

"I think it's cool," Corliss said. "Not many people have this opportunity. It's fun."

Corliss is a criminal justice/pre-law major and Hook, a theatre performance major. Both students said they plan to act after college.

"I want to finish school and I want to start acting," Corliss said. A Hollywood agent who saw his picture called him shortly after the magazine came out and talked to him about getting work.

"A lot of people don't get going until they are older, and I think it's better to get an education first," Corliss said.

The final winner will be announced in the October issue. To cast a vote for man of the year, pick up the current YM magazine. Voting ends April 30.

Jamon McBride, of Greek Council. 2 of the Year title dates and an essay explaining why their nominee should be dream dates and their personalities. telephone interviews. They this opportunity. It's April issue of the winner. pictures.

Hook said. Theatre performance major. Both students said they plan to $3,000 and I think it's better to get an education after October Corliss said. A Hollywood agent who saw his picture called him shortly after the donors to the project, Al and Nancy Burnett. The Burnett's, former owners of Contemporary Cars of Maitland, donated the money from part of the proceeds after selling a Mercedes automobile dealership they owned. Their donation will be matched by the state under a legislatively funded program that encourages private giving for capital construction projects in the State University System. Over the year, the Burnett's have given UCF $2.5 million. UCF Public Relations said they are the university's most generous donors. "The Burnett's have once again demonstrated their commitment to higher education in general and to UCF in particular," said UCF President John Hitt. "I can think of no more fitting way to honor the generosity, friendship and leadership of the Burnett's than to name our Honors College after them."

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The Activity and Service Fee Committee's proposed budget has angered many organizations and agencies over the distribution of money. The Greek Council is just one of these organizations. The Council is questioning the budget from a legal standpoint.

Since 1983, the Greek Council has received money from the Activity and Service Fee in its annual budget. Last year, Student Government zero budgeted the Council for the first time. The reason given then was that most of the money allocated to the Council by Senate the previous year had not been used.

This year, the Council was zero budgeted again in the proposed budget and the reason now is that the state will not allow funding for OAF (Organizations, Appropriations, and Finance Committee) is telling us it's a decision made on a state level, but when we talked to people at the state level there was no problem with funding the Council," said Junnon McBride, of Greek Council. "The events we're holding are not discriminatory and I don't understand the conflict here since they've done it in many years past."

The chair of OAF, David Siegel, said the decision is in the law itself and that the committee was just going with what the Board of Regents allows.

"The limitation is within the law because it specifically restricts funding organizations whose membership is not open to all students," Siegel said. "In the most liberal interpretation of the law, those organizations that vote on membership or use personal opinion to discriminate against members are prohibited from receiving funding. If Greek organizations wish to receive funding from A&S Fees,
Female condom, male pill latest in contraception

Todd McFlinker
STAFF WRITER

April 28, 1999

Every student has been preached to about safe sex since middle school. But how many are having sex and not concerning themselves with contraceptives? Who actually is responsible for practicing safe sex, the man or the woman? The answer is both.

The old belief is that if one deals with contraceptives, if it’s latex, it is the guy’s concern. And when it comes to pills, the woman is in charge. Right? Apparently not.

Recent advances in science and technology have changed everything around. Now there is a female condom, out since early 1999.

Two flexible rings made of polyurethane rubber stretches in diameter and 17 centimeters long. Two flexible rings made of polyurethane are at both ends of the condom. If properly used, the closed end of the condom covers the opening of the cervix. The open end hangs outside the vagina, covering the labia, while it keeps the condom in place. The pouch creates a pre-lubricated passageway for the penis. It means zero contact between the penis and the vagina. It can only be used one time, costs about $2.50 each, and cannot be used at the same time as a male condom.

The female condom is just about as safe for protecting against unwanted pregnancies and STDs as the man’s condom. According to services online, it carries a five to 21 percent failure rate.

The male birth control pill seems to be on its way to the public. The contraceptive is presently being researched by various health organizations around the world. The University of Bologna in Italy is performing tests attempting to reduce sperm counts through the use of testosterone undecanoate and some hormone acetate. The sperm counts have been reduced, but not without significant side effects. The results are still pending. Scientists at the Rockefeller Foundation, a private research organization, are also working on a tablet to prevent sperm from maturing in men.

Students have already voiced their support for the pill.

“Sure, I would take the pill,” said Mike Levy, physical therapy major. “Why not? It’s got to be better than a condom.”

The pill is showing a strong effect when used by animals by blocking the key proteins vital to the sperm’s maturation. The man’s pill is made up of chemical compounds that bind sperm. The compound takes over the enzyme that the sperm recognizes, binds and penetrates egg cells with.

Tests in rats showed that the compound inhibits 98 percent of the enzymatic activity needed for sperm maturation and egg fertility in the male rats. These results were produced without any altering of the rodent’s hormonal balance. The compound is presently being tested on bull and human sperm.

SARC open 24 hours

Nicole King
NEWS EDITOR

Student Academic Resource Center (SARC) will be open 24 hours a day from April 19 - May 2.

SARC may be used as a place to study, use on-line computers, and group or individualized tutoring sessions for practice test reviews. SARC is located in PC102, the trailer with the red door near the Biological Sciences Building.

In other news:

UCF’s Downtown Academic Center will host two seminars during April:

1. “Mindy Z. Colton, director of Publications at UCF, will present “Publication Design for the Non-Designer” on April 29. The seminar will provide tips and techniques to improve printed publications.

2. University of Southern California’s IBM Chair Emeritus in Engineering Management, Dr. Gerald Nadler, will be the featured guest at a Noontime Knowledge Series luncheon on April 22. Nadler’s presentation, “Breakthrough Thinking: Changing the Way We Solve Problems”, will focus on planning, changing, designing and improving businesses and organizations.

Each seminar will be from noon to 1 p.m. For more information, call (407) 317-7700.

These items will be on display in the UCF Library during May:

1. “Type Directors’ Club of New York Show” by Dr. Robert Davis, School of Communication

2. “Culture of the Philippines” by Ben Vasco, reference librarian

3. “UCF Celebrates Leadership” by Edward Hampton, interim director of the LEAD Scholars Program

4. “Essence of India” by Christina Singh, president and jignesh sonchahat of the Indian Student Association

5. “Are you ready for Hurricane Season?” by James Uhlir, director of Environmental Health and Safety

6. “Communication Experience” by Dr. Milan Moseke, director of the School of Communication

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OAF committee:
rework funding laws
From Page 1
the real issue is that the law must be modified to specify a greater flexibility in funding of organiza­
tion.

The 1998 Supplement to Florida Statutes 240.235 (2) reads, "The student activity and service fees shall be expended for lawful purposes to benefit the student body in general. They shall include; but shall not be limited to, student publications and grants to duly recognized student organizations, the mem­bership of which is open to all students at the university without regard to race, sex, or religion."
The statute goes on to say that the fund may not benefit activities for which an admission fee is charged to students, except SGA-sponsored contests, and that allocation of the money is to be determined by the universi­ty's SGA.

The question in debate now is whether or not Greek Council discriminates according to race, sex or religion. According to attorneys on both the state and UCF level, the Council does not.

"There is no rule in the Board's policy that Florida that would prohibit or prevent the funding for the Greek Council," said Greg Gleason, head attor­ney for Florida's Board of Regents. "I don't think the rules are that specific and there has been no changes to them in regards to this matter."

UCF's attorney, Mary Beth Liberto, pointed out that even though fraternities and sororities reserve their respective member­ship, Greek Council does not.

"Greek Council does not discriminate by race, religion, or gender, so therefore, it is eligible for funding," she said.

Liberto drew a comparison between the Greek Council and other organizations that could be in the same situation with regards to funding.

"We have many student organizations that are associated with a particular religion or race or even a particular activity, but to my knowledge, anyone can join such organizations without regard to the student's actual sex, race, or religion," Liberto said. "In other words, whether or not a student is a Christian, Muslim, Atheist, or a particular ethnicity, one will not pre­clude membership in such organiza­tions.

"Yes, the interest of such a student organization is focused, but as long as there is no require­ment that the member be a cer­tain faith, gender, or race/ethnici­ty, these organizations are eligi­ble for these fees too."

The request made by the Greek Council is dated January 8, and asks for funding for Greek Life Information which is publicity and brochures given to anyone who asks, the Extravaganza and Halloween Knights which is open to the entire student body and commu­nity.

There is also a question if only the programs can be fund­ed.

"When we looked at the budget, we looked at the club asking for money," said Charlie Lee, member of the A&S Committee. "If the club is not eligible to receive funding, it doesn't mean that programs it's putting on is.

The executive director of the Florida Student Association, Kevin Mayes, said that a solu­tion to the problem is to co-spon­sor the programs and they may receive money that way.

"To get another organization to co-sponsor the programs would give an opportunity for everyone to be involved in that program," he said.

Other Greek systems in Florida, such as Florida State University, Florida Atlantic University, and the University of West Florida, has or does receive funding from their student govern­ments.

According to the director of Greek Affairs, Greg Mason, other universities have adopted similar principles as that of UCF's Greek Council. Mason said the Council could be funded to promote Greek life on campus without funding individual Greek organizations.

Mason added that the pro­grams that made requests for the budget are open to all students and there almost every club or organization that is funded in someway by the A&S Fee selects their members to some degree.

"From the marching band holding auditions to select mem­bers to academic clubs that are based on majors and scholastic achievements, everyone has the right to at least "audition" or apply for these organizations," he said. "All students have the right to attend Rush as sponsored by one of the Greek Council bodies."

According to the director of Governmental Affairs for the General Council Chancellor's Office, Lucy Hamilton, the final decision of whether or not Greek Council will receive funding from SGA is not made by the state, but rather by SG.

"There is a Board of Regents policy that would pro­hibit funding for the Greek Council," she said. "That deci­sion is made at a university level."

The vice president of Student Government, Richard McKeel, said the Council should have been funded last year and should receive money this year.

"It's a shame that they didn't receive it last year, which I think they should have," he said. "This matter is still being researched now and will be presented to the Senate for review and debate before this budget is passed."
High school seniors who are interested in pursuing an art degree at UCF can participate in a summer program that will enable them to produce material for their portfolios.

The program, entitled Summer Pre-College Art Program, was developed through Partners in Art for Visual Education (PAVE). PAVE engages the community through various art experiences, for example visiting schools, hospitals and senior venues.

“We [the Art Department] thought it would be an interesting idea to approach the high school students and offering them a chance to work with the UCF faculty on a short-term basis,” said Kevin Haran, program coordinator.

The program is eight days of courses taught by four professors of the Art Department on topics such as drawing, computer graphics, ceramics, and sculpture/casting. The cost is $300. Drawing and sculpture/casting are offered in the morning; ceramics and computer graphics are offered in the afternoon. Students can enroll in two of the four courses.

Paul Wenzel will teach the fundamentals of descriptive drawing. Students will observe studio subjects and learn the basics of contour line, gesture drawing, charcoal pencil and brush and ink. Chuck Abraham will focus on the special capabilities of Adobe Photoshop for the computer graphics course. Since students will be working at PowerMac stations with Mac OS 8 as the operating system, it is recommended that students have knowledge of the Macintosh operating system and how to navigate the programs.

Aadi Abbas will introduce students to the fundamentals of casting. Students will learn to make one and two-piece molds in creating a self-portrait cast, casting three-dimensional found objects, and making relief casts. Through Rob Reedy students will experience the ancient firing process of Raku during the ceramics course. Raku, developed in the late 15th century in Japan, involves removing ceramic vessels from a kiln at 1650°F. The class will emphasize traditional and nontraditional vessel forms.

The program will run June 14-24 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Students who are interested must complete and send out an application along with one letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor. Haran said he will select students for the program by their letters of recommendation.

Applications and letters of recommendation are to be mailed to the University of Central Florida Division of Continuing Education, 12424 Research Parkway, Suite 265, Orlando, FL 32826 or faxed to: (407) 207-4935. The due date is May 14 to be guaranteed a space. There is a maximum number of 15 students per class. Applications received after this date will be accepted only if space is available. For an application, call (407) 207-4920, or log on to http://reach.ucf.edu/-art/SpecialEvents/PAVESummer/information.html.
VP Richard Maxwell says goodbye to SG term

SHELLEY WILSON
STAFF WRITER

As the controversy over SG's recent presidential election continues, 1998-99 Student Body Vice President Richard Maxwell left office on April 24. Despite the events of this past year, Maxwell said his administration has been successful.

“I think Jason and I have struggled through many obstacles this year, but overall I would say that we were a success,” Maxwell said. “We could have done more because we should always strive to do more, but we have stressed to students how important it is to be involved.”

Maxwell said SG has not always made the right decisions, but that people should look at the entire picture before making a judgment.

“I think that sometimes you have a bad leader that makes bad decisions that reflect on SG as a whole,” Maxwell said.

Maxwell said SG has changed over the years.

“The SGA and Senate have changed a lot over the past four years. You can’t compare one year against another, though. Senate is made up of different personalities, and since the majority of senators change yearly, each senator brings a different perspective,” Maxwell said.

Maxwell said some of the lessons he has learned during the past year are that “great friendships and great achievements involve great risk,” and that “change is only good after it’s implemented.”

SG program assistant and Senate secretary Carey Cunningham said Maxwell’s success has surprised her.

“Richard Maxwell has far exceeded any and all expectations that I had of him,” she said. “Like all his predecessors, he has come across political barriers, but has overcome these obstacles through ensuring that his actions are fair. Richard has also surprised us through his great willingness to participate in all events where he was needed. He has lived up to all of his commitments, and it has been a great experience to work with him.”

Maxwell, 23, started developing leadership skills before he came to UCF.

“When I was a child, I led my little league team to play in the Little League World Series when I was 13 years old. I was president of my class in high school and in my second year I found out how to run for office,” Maxwell said.

Over the past four years, Maxwell has served as an engineering senator for the 28th, 29th, and 30th Student Senate. He was also the first sergeant-at-arms in ’96-’97, vice chair of Elections & Appointments Committee, chair of the 1997 Engineering Expo, director of 1998 Engineering Expo, and a member of the Engineering College Council, Tau Beta Pi, and Pi Kappa Alpha.

Maxwell said being vice president was different from any other position he has held.

“I would have never expected to meet as many great people over the course of a year as I have this year. I never imagined that people would tell me that they looked to me for advice in their life,” Maxwell said.

“It is amazing to think that people trust me and respect me enough to listen to my advice on big issues concerning their family, jobs, and schooling,” Maxwell said.

Maxwell credits some of his success to the people working with him behind the scenes at Student Government.

“My staff has basically kept me going. If it were not for them, I would not be vice president today. I can’t do everything by myself. Carey Cunningham and Brian McIver have made me a better person and leader. I would not trade them for anyone,” Dr. Tom Huddleston, interim vice president for Student Development and Enrollment Services, said he has great admiration for Maxwell, having worked with him over the past year.

“I have appreciated the opportunity to work with Richard,” he said. “In the meetings that I’ve had with him, he’s been interested in the discussion being held, and has provided good insight as a person and as a representative.”

SG Advisor Ossie Palla agreed that Maxwell has shown great leadership skills.

“Richard is a dedicated and motivated student leader who sets high, but realistic goals for himself. He is sensitive to the needs of students and is not afraid to go out of his way to address those needs. He sees individual situations as opportunities for positive learning experiences and takes full advantage of each. He is an asset to SG and it has been a pleasure working with him over the past year,” Huddleston said.

When Maxwell leaves UCF next year, he hopes to be involved in the next county and state elections. His experiences at UCF have helped him prepare for the government world.

“I had a bad outlook of state politics until I became vice president. I now understand the inner workings of some major decisions, and can see the reasons why people make the decisions they do,” Maxwell said.

Looking back, he hopes that people will remember him more as a person that cared about them rather than a politician.

“I hope my cabinet members remember me as student body vice president that cared for them as individuals. I hope Ossie and Carey know that I think them for their support. I hope Jason [Jason Murphy, student body president] remembers me as a friend that will always be there for him, and I hope Dr. Huddleston remembers me as a student government leader who led with his greatest ability. I learned many life-long lessons during my term. I also hope that I will leave office with more friends than which I started because my mother always told me I can measure success by how many friends I have.”

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Spectators members of the A Two students charged with murdering her newborn son.

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The death penalty when the case goes to...nessman at the talk, believing Macekelbergh was involved in the attack, knocked her off her bike and detained her until authorities arrived. While Macekelbergh said the BBB asked her to participate in the "pieing", she denies being involved in the attack.

One no one was apprehended.

GRINNELL, Iowa - Members of the Biotic Baking Brigade have struck again—this time by launching a pie into the face of Dennis Avery, an expert in biotechnology. According to The Scarlet and Black, the recent attack by a masked pie thrower appeared to be in retaliation for Avery's support of corporate involvement in agriculture and factory farming.

A one was injured during the April 17 incident.

State police said the girls knew the men and followed them to their rooms willingly. The alleged encounters happened in November and December. While there was no force involved, investigators said that under state law the girls were too young to give their consent.

The alleged encounters happened in November and December. While there was no force involved, investigators said that under state law the girls were too young to give their consent.

One of the girls also told police she drank alcohol given to her by one of the students and that he knew she was younger than 14.

School officials said whether Lizardi and Boscarino are allowed to return to school next semester depends on the outcome of the investigation.

GALVESTON, IL. - A former Knox College student charged with killing a classmate has told an Illinois judge that he wants to defend himself against a first-degree murder charge.

Clyde Best, who turned 19 while in custody for the March 1998 murder of fellow student Andrea Raciborszynski, wrote to Knox County Circuit Judge James Stewart, asking to dismiss his lawyers and represent himself. Stewart, who has ruled Best mentally fit to stand trial, questioned Best about whether he truly understood what he's doing.

Stewart said Best had every right to defend himself but would be expected to examine witnesses, file motions and present evidence—all procedures where even an experienced attorney could make mistakes detrimental to Best's defense.

Best said he understood.

Stewart said he would make a decision by May 17. He encouraged Best to consult with his family - members of whom have told defense attorneys that they don't want Best to defend himself.

Police charged Best with murder after finding Raciborszynski's beaten and bloody body in a stairwell of her dormitory. Investigators also reported finding bloody clothes and a bloody brick in Best's room and car.

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America's failing criminal justice system

Recently Bill Preston, an administrator with the Victim Offender Mediation Association (VOMA) spoke with Dr. Baird of the Victims of Crime (SYF 4453) class. We all have a much better understanding of exactly what the program does, and I only wish all America could also know.

Restorative Justice is a comprehensive theory that redirects the focus of the entire criminal justice system and imparts an innovative approach to solving today's crime problems. When a crime is committed, there is not just one victim, the entire community is affected, and the offender is also a victim.

The program should be mandatory across the country as far as I am concerned. When a program offers only benefits to both parties, and has an extremely low cost, I do not understand why it is so difficult to pass into law.

I learned from Mr. Preston that healing is the main objective to the program. The mediation gives power to the victim, which was most likely lost since the criminal act took place. The victim can confront the offender and question the offender's motives. The offender in turn can explain his/her actions to the original act. This system needs to be implemented for cause early on, instead of showing them the dark side of the criminal justice system. This may not justify the crime, but gives the victim a chance at justice.

The program is also extremely low cost, we may be able to stop them from becoming adult offenders.

There obviously needs to be a major overhaul of the current justice system, and Restorative Justice is clearly the best route. It infuriates me that with all the precious time our Congress wastes, they cannot pass some laws that would make sense and benefit the citizens of the country they are supposed to represent. If there are no major changes within the next decade, our current citizens' civil liberties (whether victim or offender) will be totally abolished and the future of the most "civilized" nation on the planet Earth will be all for naught.

—Gina Carson, senior, sociology

Senator voices concerns about SG

This letter is being written in reference to the Student Government Association. For the past year, I have served on the Legislative Branch of Student Government as a senator for the College of Health and Public Affairs. Many people ask me why I decided to serve as a senator, or Student Government is notorious for its unethical behavior and shady dealings. My answer to them is simple—I wanted to make a difference.

I wanted to be the voice for those students who were afraid to speak for themselves. That's what I set out to do, but my mission has changed during the year and my views have changed.

I am not writing this letter out of anger, but more so to be used as an informative message for those out there who still believe that being moral and righteous is only good to do things. I have learned from my experience with Student Government; I've learned that doing the right thing is harder than I ever thought. Some senators before have been such a "stickler" and group mentality way of doing things, and never before have I seen so many good people abandon their values.

Being a woman on Senate was even harder. When other men stood up during Senate Forum, they were "speaking," I was "whining." Copied with that, there was hardly any minority representation on Senate and when minority students came to speak on behalf of their organizations, they were talked about as "complaining" or regarded as unnecessary.

Many students may not realize this, but every cabinet member is paid by student money. I can't tell you the number of times I have walked into the SG office and not one out of 20 cabinet members was there, but yet their timesheets reflect differently. In essence, we have been giving away free money. Who do we hold accountable for this?

The corruption that has existed over in that office has been tolerated for quite some time. Anyone who stands up against this behavior is either threatened, humiliated or bullied to leave. Over the past couple of years, students who have served as senators who came in with only good intentions and who had either left or been driven out. Many have been threatened with impeachment, others have just caved to the corruption. But the apology among the cabinet has continued to tolerate this behavior—at least until recently when students discovered that the Patton/Capucha ticket was being disqualified over a $5 violation. Not only that, two of the other tickets were willing to sit as president and vice president knowing that the student did not vote them in. Many others associated with various campaigns were more than eager to persuade themselves through judicial hearings as well. Other students were willing to go as far as not stepping down from their positions on our prestigious Election Commission while having personal/romantic ties with some of the candidates. Are we running a "Days of Our Lives" segment or are we the governmental authority and representative of the students?

As I have stated before, my original vision has changed. Instead of empowering myself to be the voice for students, I started helping the students empower themselves. I was merely their voice—I realized that I had to get them to care and get involved. But where do we go from here?

All I can say is that we need good people over there—people who will do what is in the best interest of the student body. We need people who will stand up for what is right, not for what is popular.

Through all of this, I have managed to finish out my term and finish out proud. I may have been taunt, harassed, and threatened, but I have never lost comfort in is that standing up against this behavior is either threatened; others are willing to go as far as not stepping down from their positions on our prestigious Election Commission while having personal/romantic ties with some of the candidates. Are we running a "Days of Our Lives" segment or are we the governmental authority and representative of the students?

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I've met my hero, and he's a scientist

NICOLE KING
NEWS EDITOR

As editor of the Central Florida Future, I occasionally have the opportunity to meet a celebrity or two when they visit our neck of the woods. So when I heard Dr. Bob Ballard was coming to town, I was pretty excited. Ballard is an underwater explorer, most famous for having discovered the Titanic. I have been a history buff for a long time and have always had a special fascination with the Titanic.

The rule of thumb typically when you meet a celebrity is that you never know what you are going to get. Some are rude, some are vile, some are sweet, some are drunk.

I contacted CABC and asked for an interview with him, and of course, was met with the usual "we have to check with his people." It seems that every celebrity has "people." No one really knows who these people are, just that they have to be checked in with all the time.

They got back to me within the next few days and said he had agreed to an 8 a.m. phone interview.

My first reaction was "Great." My second was "Man, underwater explorers get up early." There are very few men I will get up at 8 o'clock in the morning for, but I figured Bob Ballard was one of them.

I remember, as most people do, when they discovered the Titanic. It was a huge deal. There had been a search for the ship for years and then, there it was, right where no one had looked before. I was 8 years old at the time and rushed out with my hard-earned allowance money to buy the National Geographic magazine that had the first pictures of the ship in more than 70 years. To me, at 8, this was a huge deal.

Over the years, I have kept up with Dr. Ballard. Despite my struggle with basic chemistry and the sciences in general, I always watched whatever show he was on discussing his latest find or search. I mean, how many people do you know who can go out into the middle of an ocean and find a ship? The old needle in a haystack adage is an understatement to say the least. I always wanted to ask him if it was more luck or experience why he was so successful at his profession. And finally, I had my chance.

I actually couldn't sleep the night before the interview. Creepy as it may be. I was even surprised. It didn't help that there was a lot of pressure on me to be rested. Bob Ballard for goodness sakes. And Bob Ballard at 8 in the morning no less. That's a lot of pressure. I went to bed early (that's an accomplishment in itself) but I did the tossing and turning all night.

In the morning, I ate my pancakes, had a big cup of coffee and waited for 8 a.m. Finally, the moment of truth. I called the number to his hotel and asked the desk clerk for Dr. Ballard's room.

"How do you spell that?" he asked.

"Ballard, don't you know Bob Ballard?" I said. "B-A-L-L-A-R-D." He connected me with his room and the phone rang.

And rang, and rang, and rang. Apparently underwater explorers don't answer ringing phones either.

Now this, I thought, is the worst-case scenario. It was one of those situations that you hope never happens and then when it does, you have to calm yourself down before you panic.

I almost panicked because I was just sure the man was sleeping. Now what do I do? I thought. If I call again, I might wake him up. Can you imagine? My worst nightmare realized: waking Bob Ballard up out of bed.

I settled on giving him 20 minutes and then I would call back. I channel surfed and waited some more.

Then the phone rang.

"Is Nicole there?" a voice asked.

I recognized his voice right off. If there has ever been a time when I almost wet myself, that was it. I couldn't believe Bob Ballard calling my house, for me!?! "Dr. Ballard," I said, "how are you? I just called you." I had to throw that last part in; I didn't want him to think I had forgotten him.

As it turns out, Dr. Ballard is a better hunter than I originally thought. Apparently, the clerk had rang the wrong room and nearly gave me a massive coronary while Dr. Ballard was reading the newspaper, patiently waiting for me to call (I just like to say that. He was waiting for me to call).

We had a 40-minute chat about everything I could possibly think of. I could have kept him on the phone longer but I didn't want him to think I was an obsessed fan or anything. Basically, I just didn't want him to find me out.

I was a little worried that he would be talking about things so far over my head, it would be like trying to explain physics to a 6-year-old. I mean the man totally skipped a master's degree program while in college and went right into the doctorate program. He's been in two branches of the armed forces and is president of the Institute for Exploration at the Mystic Marine Life Aquarium. Not to mention the fact that he knows everyone (he calls Ted Turner "my buddy Ted" and director James Cameron actually flew out a copy of his movie Titanic for him and his wife to view privately). But he was far from "celebrity-ish" or too smart for regular humans like myself.

He was nice and took pity on me when I had no clue what he was talking about; which actually didn't happen that often because he is so good at making you understand what he's trying to say.

I also had a lot of respect for his devotion to his family, which is easy to pick up on. I know that he originally was not going to come to UCF because he didn't want to be away from them. His kids he referred to as "Emily Rose with the Button Nose" and "Benjamin Macaroni."

During his presentation that Friday night, he wore a UCF windbreaker over his shirt and tie. He told members of SG that he'd wear it on a future National Geographic special. What a guy I thought. He sat around and talked to us at a reception after his presentation. I found out later that he had walked over to the campus early that morning to take a private tour of the place.

I guess you could say that I wasn't disappointed at all. I was impressed. He was intelligent, personable and funny. A funny scientist, imagine that.

Being in college and it being finals week, I, like everyone else, is sick of my chosen profession and ready to quit college and move to Aruba. It did me a lot of good to talk to someone who absolutely loves what he does and wants to share it with everyone around him. I also got to meet one of my heroes. He might be an odd choice for an up-and-coming journalist to admire, but I'll take him. Even if it is at 8 in the morning.

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Couldn't believe my eyes, ears

TAYLOR SIRES
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Imagine yourself reading in the library when the door is flung open. Two teen-agers, 17 and 18, wearing black trench coats, walk in and begin shooting people at point-blank range with automatic weapons.

The first thing you hear is wild laughing; the second: "If there are any jocks in here, and that we did not pick on those teens, but this massacre is not limited to Littleton. If anything, it is a wake-up call that it can happen anywhere."

Some of the thousands of questions that I have to ask when I see something like this are: What pushed these boys to do this? What did the world do to drive them to carnage? What could I have done to help them? I guess we will never really know what drove them. We do know that they were picked on, particularly by athletes. Have you ever picked on anyone? It seemed pretty harmless at the time, didn't it? I've done it. I admit it. I was wrong. And I am sorry.

Our species seems to live on putting others down. It makes us feel good about ourselves, in a sick kind of way. I'd call it the most powerful of the defense mechanisms our psyche creates. Hurting others is easier for us than caring for them.

There is no excuse for the deaths, so please don't think I am saying that. What I am saying is to forget about blaming Marilyn Manson, or Adolf Hitler; the blame falls on us. The American society needs to look inward on this one, into its very soul. We spurned these kids. We raised them, we lost them, and now we will bury them along with the victims of their rage.

I am asking you to drop the defenses, and care. Care for the families, for the murdered students and even for the boys who did this. Let your heart break over this tragedy. But don't let this end in sorrow; that does the victims no good. Instead, decide to make a difference in the people around you; decide to care for them. If you see someone walking along, smile and ask them how they are doing. Make it a point to care for people.

No, make it your mission in life.

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Q: Should financial aid be given to convicted drug offenders?

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—Wynter Dollack, 23, senior, psychology

“I think so, because if someone is trying to get an education, why stop them from receiving it because of drugs?”

—Michelle Jackson, 24, senior, exceptional education

“Yes, they should have the same opportunity as everyone else; but they shouldn’t get a special privilege over others.”

—Helyn Luisi, 21, junior, theater

“I think financial aid should be available to anyone who qualifies.”

—Ross Turner, 21, junior, psychology

“Yes, everyone should be allowed to start over if they’re willing to change their lives.”

—Neal Fischer, 29, grad student, history

“Yes, as long as the individual concerned has received counseling and has been rehabilitated.”

—Matthew Smith, 23, junior, psychology
After Columbine: no quick fixes for what ails us

MYRIAM MARQUEZ
KNIGHT-RIDDER

The Colorado students' bodies were still lying in the school library a day after the rampage at Columbine High School, dead, gone forever from this earth.

Nothing any of us can say to try to explain the unexplainable can make those young people come back to life, can give solace to their families. Nothing will make this horrific chapter in American history disappear from our national psyche.

But, oh, we want it so to go away. It exposes too many scars, too many tender points in our cultural anxieties.

From the outlandish to the practical, we want to cast blame - on the easy availability of guns, on the filth, anger and hatred that can be found throughout the Internet, on a pop culture that idolizes violence in video games, television shows, movies and music lyrics.

We ask: Where were the parents of the two teen killers, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold?

Did those parents never notice the children's bomb-building, for heaven's sake? Or they blame women for working outside the home.

Do what Singapore does, others have told me. Cane kids who act up, as if such torture tactics work. Last I heard, the American teenager who was caned in Singapore a few years ago had a run-in with the law not too long ago right here in Orlando.

We wonder: What kind of supervision was going on in at Columbine when those two kids and others, who were part of a clique they called the "Trench Coat Mafia," were allowed to wear black trench coats all day, every day.

We hear people on talk radio go so far as to blame President Clinton's war in Kosovo for "setting a bad example for our children."

Or they blame people who are law-abiding and will use any time a teacher or principal tries to discipline a child.

Did those parents not notice their children's bomb-building, for heaven's sake?

We wonder: What kind of supervision was going on at Columbine when...
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A small town breeds teen killers

MITCHELL L. MOSS
KNOXVILLE

It’s no accident that a suburban high school in Colorado was the scene of a massacre two days ago.

After years of hearing about the dangers of big-city high schools, Americans are finally waking up to the fact that small-town and suburban schools with their manicured lawns and elaborate sports programs can be incubators for mass murderers.

Just look at the long list of small towns besides Littleton, Colo., that have seen school shootings in a little more than two years: Springfield, Ore.; Fayetteville, Tenn.; Pontoma, Calif.; Edwards, Pa.; Jonesboro, Ark.; West Padacah, Ky.; Pearl, Miss.; and Bethel, Alaska.

In a small-town and suburban America, the high school, along with the shopping mall, is the center of social life for adolescents. There are rarely other venues for kids to hang out, to perform for their peers, to establish their reputations. For kids who cannot make it as athletes or scholars, suburbia has few routes to status and identity.

Urban communities are far more tolerant of marginal kids who cannot make it on the playing fields or in traditional classrooms. Weak students can succeed outside the school in the local neighborhood, on the playground and even in the underground world of music and nightclubs.

Further, New York City teenagers aren’t confined to the neighborhood high school. They can choose their public high schools, big and small, near or far from home. New Vision School, one of the city’s educational successes, offers small high school alternatives for kids with unconventional interests and aspirations.

As Columbus University Professor Jeffrey Fagan has observed, big cities offer adolescents a multitude of outlets to work through their painful and dangerous teen years.

And for the kids who cannot resist the lure of guns and trouble, big cities are far more active in trying to prevent crime than small-town sheriff’s departments.

For example, Brooklyn District Attorney Charles Hynes has been a pioneer in crime prevention and in getting guns off the street. Soon after taking office, Hynes established a team in the program in which he used money confiscated from drug dealers to purchase guns from Brooklyn kids. More recently, Hynes established five centers in Brooklyn to help troubled kids.

COLUMBINE HIGH

meet with social workers and work through their problems so that they can find their way back into school.

As a small-town versus big-city difference, it’s hard to imagine how a New York City teenager could stockpile weapons without being detected by friends or family. Real estate is too valuable to be used for gun storage, and most apartment buildings are too crowded for a bomb-making laboratory.

Single-family suburban homes, with their spacious garages and empty attics, offer a rare combination of privacy and space that doesn’t exist in urban neighborhoods.

Plus, unlike big cities, in the political environment of small-town America, gun possession is not a punishable offense. No wonder the National Rifle Association is having its annual meeting in Denver next week.

Clearly, small-town and suburban high schools demonstrate that it is possible for a school to succeed educational- ly but fail to fail to recognize the mental health problems and criminal pathology that can breed in a sterile and socially stratified environment. Big-city schools have lots of problems, but we should be glad that they don’t dominate the everyday lives of urban teenagers.

Certainly, there was something profoundly wrong with the Colorado killers but when Middle America public schools repeatedly are sites of mass murders, it’s time to look more carefully at what has gone wrong with suburban culture.
Virtually all of Jason Brown’s stories have a young male trying to come to terms with a neglected childhood and dissatisfaction with his current life. There is often a depressed or suicidal mother and a father who is a Vietnam veteran. Despair is an overwhelming theme.

Brown paints a gloomy picture of the urban American landscape. The characters struggle with a lack of identity, at times even seeming to wonder about the importance or necessity of having an identity. Brown’s characters evoke a notion of a generation for which the American ideal is not appealing; for which there is a lack of family heritage and a sense of loss because of that. There is no faith in parents or society as a whole, but in his stories there is good reason to suspect all that is sacred.

In “The Dog Lover,” the main character wonders about his relationship with his father, a dog trainer blinded in Vietnam. “I think there may be things I know about despair that even he does not understand.” For the generation of the parents in the book, there was the promise of the Eisenhower years, the debacle of Vietnam, and the shattered dreams that was the sum of the two. For their children, there are no promises or dreams.

Brown’s writing is sharp and to the point. He does not waste time with grandiose descriptions or unnecessary dialogue. The darkness can be overwhelming at times, but the power of the stories makes it difficult to put down the book. These stories are a must if you are a lover of short stories. If you are not a fan of short stories, try this book. There may be hope for you yet.
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Opting for smaller profile could help Anderson

Francisca Chapman

Knight-Rider

Playboy photo director Gary Cole has a statistic he likes to cite: "On any given night in America," he says, "there are 10,000 topless girls dancing."

"My guess is that means there are 50,000 plastic breasts bobbing around."

With figures like that — and we do mean figures — what’s the point of Pamela Anderson Lee?

It’s a question we suspect the syndicated TV star has been asking herself lately. Maybe it’s what led Lee, the former "Baywatch" babe who built a career on her curiously out-of-proportion shape, to surgically remove the breast implants that created her infamous figure.

Lee — whose surgically enhanced breasts reportedly peaked at a size 34 DD — isn’t yet saying why she recently took the radical step of returning to normal.

Last week, she issued an appropriately small-scale statement: "It’s something I’ve been wanting to do for a long time, and I’m very happy with my decision."

A spokeswoman added only that Lee didn’t ditch her implants because of health concerns, as many women have.

So we could only speculate why Lee chose to remove those Michelin Girl implants — implants which, undoubtedly, helped millions of Playboys fly off the shelf, moved thousands of sex videos and pin-ups and made the leapy lifeguard show the movie star image.

"Baywatch" an international phenomenon. Or we could say (as a few of the sources we contacted for this story huffily intimated) that whatever her motivation, it’s none of our business.

But that would be naive.

Pamela Anderson Lee didn’t get to be a household name by working her way up from summer stock to become a respected actress, renowned for her easy way with a Shakespearean couplet. She didn’t fight in the trenches of daytime drama or comedy clubs or any of those other places future stars traditionally pay their dues.

She got her big break attending a football game in her native Canada. The stadium’s ogling camera focused on Lee’s chest under a snug T-shirt, the crowd went wild when they saw it on the big screen and the starlet-to-be was promptly offered a contract to appear in a series of beer commercials.

That work led to Lee’s Playboy pictorials, her hit-pants d’inst as “Home Improvement’s” Tool Time Girl and on to "Baywatch" and her latest TV venture, the syndicated action series “V-I-P.”

Along the way, she starred in a best-selling pornographic "honeymoon" video with husband Tommy Lee. She may have the chops for more serious work, but we’d never know, so long as her breasts remained her most notable feature.

"They said Jayne Mansfield had a genius IQ, but because of her breasts, she was always cast as the busy blonde," amused casting agent Mike Lemon. "She never had an opportunity to do anything else. I can’t imagine that’s very satisfying in the long run."

Lemon, who runs a Philadelphia agency bearing his name, thought Lee’s career move made sense.

"It’s like she got the attention, and now she’d like to be taken a little more seriously," he said. "Especially if she wants to have a lifelong career — you can’t be a bathing beauty forever.

"There’s no question the 31-year-old Lee, a curvy lovely even before she went plastic, can look like a star for years to come. Her new, less-ridiculous silhouette could give her access to a wider range of acting roles," Lemon said.

She could do “TV movies of substance,” he said, citing Farrah Fawcett’s transition from "Charlie’s Angels" jiggler to actress in 1984’s "The Burning Bed."

Playboy’s Cole, who worked with Lee before her first implants, likened the star to a young Brigitte Bardot — absolutely a bathing beauty, but someone also considered to be a real actress.

"She has a kithenish, sensual look about the eyes, a kind of charisma on camera that reminded me of the Bardot we snuck into cinemas to see in 'And God Created Woman,'" Cole rhapso­dized.

That kind of star quality "has really got nothing to do with breasts," he said, citing the preponderance of aspir­ing stars who’ve had implants.

Cole said some 15,000 women have auditioned to be Playboy’s "Playmate of the Year," and after he looked at all their photos, Lee’s big chest didn’t seem so special anymore.

"As jaded as I am, I was shocked at the number of women who’ve had breast aug­mentation," he said. "A lot of women have had this surgery, and after a lot of it has not been well done."

Even Jackie "The Joke Man" Marling, gag writer for "The Howard Stern Show," feels the new Lee — an occa­sional guest and frequent sub­ject of mention on Stern’s radio and TV shows — will remain a hot commodity.

Pamela Anderson would be a desirable guest on "The Howard Stern Show." Even if she had been dead for two months," he said.

For now, the living Lee remains motivated to get a bigger push-up, because — isn’t this ironic? — everyone wants to see her new, smaller breasts.

Some think it’s the most of the short-term opportun­ity.

"But you she does pose more again in the next six months," said Seth Warshawsky, whose Internet Entertainment Group has sold 300,000 copies of the Lee’s dirty honeymoon video.

IEG’s site is merely one part of an Internet hunger for Lee that the Wall Street Journal estimates has helped generate $77 million in annual sales for businesses using her name or image.

Warshawsky isn’t worried that a downsized Lee will hurt business.

"We’ll probably sell more tapes," he shrugged.

Playboy, too, stands ready to work with the new Anderson.

"She sells magazines," said Cole, who has put the blonde in Playboy seven times. "Maybe this gives us the excuse to do this the eighth time."

"Well, OK. But even before her big breasts reduced, having her in Playboy for this year took positive steps, if baby steps, to shed her porn­star image."

After filing for divorce against an abusive Tommy Lee, withdrew from a smutty-sound­ movie project and refused to reject the rock­groupie/biker-chick image she’d cultivated.

Mindful of her two young sons, she changed one tattoo from "Tommy" to "Mommy" and said, like an old-fashioned gal, she would keep Lee’s surname to make things less confusing for their kids.

Once partial to rubber dresses, she began making pub­lic appearances in sleeker, relatively less-revealing designer garb. Even so, in January, a crowd of teenage boys shouted rude names and tried to grope her during a "VIP" promotion­ al appearance, and that may have given her additional insight into the benefits of a lower profile.

"I’ve obviously evolved, but you know what? I like being a Barbie," a conflicted Anderson told Cosmopolitan a few months ago. "My closet has the Barbie clothes and the other half has Armani, Dolce & Gabbana and Versace. I’m not trying to change my image, I’m just growing."

"I used to say, ‘If you’re going to do it over, over it.’ She told me the mag. ‘But I’m changing my theory on life.”
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<td><strong>Daewoo</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Honda Civic LX</strong></td>
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<td>Compared-Equipped Price**</td>
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*Contact your local Daewoo dealer for complete details.

**Finance offers apply only to new, regularly priced retail Daewoo vehicles.**

***Retail Price* includes destination charge as of 9/98.

†Manufacturer's suggested retail price for comparable-equipped cars. Prices reflect differences in equipment. Manufacturer's sticker price is non-transferable.

‡Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price includes destination charge as of 9/98.

§Manufacturer's suggested retail price for comparable-equipped cars. Prices reflect differences in equipment. Manufacturer’s Suggested Retail Price includes destination charge as of 9/98.

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Senior special Low interest, long term financing
College graduates Low interest, long term financing
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Co-Sign
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Yes
Yes
Yes

Junior
Low interest, long term financing
2 year deferred (interest only) payment followed by equal installments up to 4 years'

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Sophomore
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Yes

Freshman
Low interest, long term financing

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Low Cost of Ownership.

Most cars will cost you a lot of money every year on maintenance. Not Daewoo. With our amazing regular scheduled maintenance program, you won’t pay anything extra for the first 3 years. That’s right. Zilch. Even brake pads and wiper blades are included. And to make it even easier, we have hundreds of friendly service centers throughout the country for your convenience. Daewoo takes care of so many things; about all you have to do is just add gas.

Guaranteed Trade-in Value.

You’re also getting a great investment if you buy a Daewoo before 6/30/99. Because when you’re ready to trade-in your used Daewoo for a new Daewoo, we’ll match the trade-in value to the best selling car in its class.** It’s a guaranteed way to get the most value out of your car. And it’s only available from Daewoo. And only for college students.

To learn more about Daewoo, stop by a Daewoo Store or talk to a Daewoo Campus Advisor. And find out how easy it is to finish your four years on four wheels.

Crib Sheet

- Regular scheduled maintenance covered for the first 3 years/36,000 miles
- Guaranteed trade-in value
- 3-day test drive
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- Insurance Answer Center
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4165 North US Hwy 17-92
(407) 323-7808

Daewoo of St. Petersburg
1601 34th Street North
(727) 323-5900
Widespread jams at the House of Blues

MARK JAMES

STAFF WRITER

Widespread Panic recently played two sold-out shows at the House of Blues in Orlando. As one of the premier "jam bands," they needed no introduction and no warm-up band; they merely strolled on stage shortly after 9:00 and did what they do best ... play. The show was split into two sets; the first lasted about an hour and ended with their lone semi-hit, Hope in a Hopeless World.

The thirty-minute break was followed by a second set of about 1-1/2 hours and ended with a three-song encore. Although a bit short by Widespread Panic standards, the audience seemed satisfied. Many had been in attendance for both shows and some were even headed for Boone, North Carolina to catch the show the next night.

The band drew freely from its vast repertoire. They have developed an art of progressing through their material; sometimes breaking between songs, sometimes segueing, and sometimes seeming to just happen upon the next number. The sound system was well honed and the band was tight. Vocalist/guitarist John "JB" Bell occupied center stage. Bell's voice is instantly recognizable but at times was difficult to understand; a result of his style and not the sound system. Guitarist Mike Houser remained seated during the entire show. His playing was crisp, and he moved easily from playing to jamming and back again. Drummer Todd Nance and bass player Dave Schools maintained a steady rhythm that drove the songs. Keyboardist John Hermann and percussionist Sonny Ortiz round out the band.

Unlike many groups who arm themselves with banks of instruments and depend on orchestration for their performances, Widespread Panic just played; there were no fancy lights other than house lights and, with the exception of Houser, they all played the same instruments throughout the show. Nance and Ortiz played two guitars, both Fender Telecasters, and switched only two or three times during the show. Widespread Panic's CDs can be purchased in virtually any record store and listened to in the comfort of your living room. Their merchandise is available on their web site where you can also download their lyrics and sheet music. But to truly experience this band you have to see them live. Although the recorded versions are well worth listening to, the energy that this group brings to the stage is missing in that medium.
April 28, 1999

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leading to a Master of
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ENTERTAINMENT

Live Up!

Prodigy
The Dirtchamber Sessions Volume I
(XL Recordings) www.prodigy.co.uk

I n Prodigy's latest release, The Dirtchamber Sessions Volume One, DJ Liam Howlett takes listeners back in time to the days he was turning it clubs with the 80's band, Cut to Kill. Dirtchamber is old-school, simply showcasing influences that make Prodigy who it is today. This fact alone leaves a bit more to be desired from such a renowned DJ. No, it doesn't fall short—just doesn't impress. There are no "tracks" on the disc. Rather, Prodigy calls each combination "sections"—which basically sounds like extended mixes that a green DJ experimenting with Prodigy borrows from artists like Herbie Hancock, and Public Enemy to create a busy, but still contained, sound.

Dirtchamber Sessions, which sold 10,000 copies in its first week, is a definite buy for die-hard Prodigy fans. The disc is a like a history of the group, which some follow- ers are sure to enjoy. Sometimes, too, history can get boring. Listeners looking for cutting edge reverberation should move on to the next artist in the rack, like Primus.

Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers

Echo (Worner Bros.)

Echo would seem an appropriate title for Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers' new CD. After a cursory listen, it appears as if Petty is retracing the same musical terri­tor y he has become comfortable with over the past decade or so; but a cursory listen does not do justice to this CD. Petty steps out of his decade old shadow and rocks like he hasn't since the early 80's. On songs such as "Lonesome Sundown," "Swingin' ," and "One More Day, One More Night," Petty allows gui­taran Mike Campbell and keyboardist Benmont Tench to step up and display the talents that made them sought after studio musicians. Howie Epstein has always provided the steady bass necessary for Petty's style. Steve Ferrone fills in well on drums, but one can't help but think that Tom misses the spark that original drummer Stan Lynch brought to the band, and which hasn't been present since he left. Petty has always displayed a knack for turning a catchy lyric and he doesn't disappoint here. "Little girl don't misunderstand me / cause there's a tumor growin' round / some­body's gonna let you down / and I don't know what it's all about / if it's true / I'm counting on you," he pleads on counting on you. It looks as though we can count on Tom and the boys to keep churning out good, solid rock.

—Mark James

Soundtrack - Forces of Nature (Dreamworks)

T he soundtrack starts with U2 doing an acoustic version of the disc's hit "Everlasting Love," WHEN WILL THEY LEARN? It seems that U2 is in competition with Metallica to see who can loose their audience quicker by making the biggest ass of themselves in public. Half of the CD consists of radio friendly dance music that might appeal to that techno show on MTV. There's also a World Tour by Touch and Go, which is the kind of sound that dance clubs love playing to death.

The rest of the CD includes a remake of "Magic Bus" by Led Zeppelin, which some followers are sure to enjoy. There's also a decent contribu­tion by Tricky and a sleep inducing one by Gomez. One of the better attempts at rap? I've heard in a while by Faithless. There is also an O.K techno remix of a blues song by R.L. Burnside and it ends on a tropical note with Cubanismo. At least the soundtrack didn't include a song by Barenaked Ladies or Hootie...

—Ramiro Vasquez

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—Ramiro Vasquez

Buckcherry

Buckcherry (Dreamworks)

I've got to give credit to a band whose first single is about stuffing coke instead of recycling an 80's song like those Orgy wimps. Buckcherry are doing their worst to make rock music dangerous again. Maybe the singer tries a little too hard to act like Axl Rose, but their self titled debut is a solid rock 'n roll statement. The riffs are raw; the beats are solid, and the attitude exces­sive. "Dead Again" is punchier than the average GNR song. Hell, it's punkier than so-called punk bands like Blink-182. "Crushed" and "Dirty Mind" are every bit as raw and nasty as the "Litt Up" single. There's even a nice power ballad dedicated to all their dead friends called "Check Your Head."

"Lawless and Loud" is their unofficial tribute to Kiss (Queen of the Nighttime World?). The hype about being the next GNR might be excessive but eventually it will fade away. The CD might be as good as the first LA Guns CD but it's no Appetite. Still, Buckcherry is the best new rock band WJR has played in the last two years.

—Ramiro Vasquez
Lead Stories

- New Scientist magazine reported in April on how weaker males in two animal species end up fathering almost as many offspring as their study competitors. Researchers at the University of Newcastle, England, found that strong males gain more sex but that toward the end of mating season, they may literally run out of sperm, leaving females to scrawny males. In the same study, researchers from Liverpool University reported that strong male flour beetles' spiny pinces can scrape previously deposited sperm from females, to allow their own sperm to prevail, but that some of the scraped sperm remains on the penis during the male's next conquest (within a matter of minutes). Thus, the subsequent female is sometimes impregnated not by the current mate but by the rodder sperm of a male she has never encountered.

- After marathon partisan sessions in March, the Alabama senate reached agreement to permit Lt. Gov. Steve Windom to retain his traditional presiding powers. However, during the fierce debates, Windom was forced to remain continually at the presiding officer's podium, and things got so tense on March 28 that he had to retreat into a pit because opponents would have won votes if he had taken a restroom break. Afterward, the director of the state archives asked for the pitcher, but Windom said it had been discarded.

- Berkeley, Calif. Councilman Kris Worthington announced in April that he would propose that the City Council pass a reparations package to heal the sociopolitical wounds forced to remain continually at the presiding officer's podium, and things got so tense on March 28 that he did not return them until the city issued their six-monthly phone calls to the workers.

- According to a February New York Times News profile of Colin Ferguson, (race-motivated, commuter-train killer) and Joel Riffkin (serial prostitute killer), These two men, who were killed by police, were once again in the news. In February 1999, Mark Kent, 34, Chippewa club, killed a woman with her hands out asking for a loan at the group's annual meeting.

- News of the Weird reported that a $130/pound Kopi Luwak coffee, produced from choice beans that have been run through the digestive tract of a Luwak marsupial before being processed for sale, is being sold in a cafe in Florida.

- Lead Stories has reported several times on the history of Western civilization being buried in sewage. In February, a 52-year-old woman, dead for four years, which had to be dug up and buried in a cemetery.

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- According to a February New York Times News profile of University of South Florida, pollution meteorologist Joan B. Rose, her career is devoted to flushing freshwater "plague" down toilets and then sending monitoring crews into local waterways to track down the sewage.
April 28, 1999

STONEYBROOK GOLF CLUB
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Jumpin’ Fish Fry
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Dear Dr. Daphne,
What’s a good way to de-stress after finals?

-Burnt Out

Dear Stressball,
Unless you’re Greek, I would strongly advise NOT going on any type of partying binge. Your body is already tired, and going nuts with your friends and an open bar will not refresh you in any way, shape or form.

Try putting yourself in a quiet, relaxing place or simply meditate. It’s a great way to empty out your head and really let it all out. A little drinking and socializing doesn’t hurt, of course, but remember to know your limits. Police love to set up road blocks during graduation weekend.

Dear Dr. Daphne,
My girlfriend likes to bark like a dog when I take her out in public. What can I do to keep her quiet?

-Canine Crazy

Dear Dog Lover,
If I had a nickel for every time I got one of these questions...

If you want to be nice, just give her lots of peanut butter when she gets loud. That’ll keep her busy.

If the barking is chronic, just get a good muzzle. You might get strange looks from people, but in the long run, it will only benefit your girlfriend. Barking is so ’92!

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

Earn easy extra money! Author needs word processing for this chapter of new mystery novel! Flexible hours. Call Robert. Call 617-226-3716.

Computer Labs, a new Computer Retail store opening in the Sanford/Lake Mary area next month, needs one or two full time/weekend Help Wanted Personnel. Please review below:

- Good written and spoken English
- Ability to work with customers
- Good communication skills
- Ability to work in fast-paced environment

If interested call: 407-293-6766 ext. 209

SWIMMING ED Individuals needed to work at 9 week res. camp for physically disabled adults in the Sanford/Lake Mary area next summer. Approximately 600 need to be service suncare accounts in the Sanford/Lake Mary area. Seeking Receptionist for Goldenrod Dental Clinic. Must have great phone skills, accounting and computer skills required. Send resume to 5240 S. Orlando Dr., Ste. 220, Orlando, FL 32819 or call 386-958-3303.

FOR RENT

- Free Washer/dryer.
- 7460 SWIMMING ED Individuals needed to work at 9 week res. camp for physically disabled adults in the Sanford/Lake Mary area next summer. Approximately 600 need to be service suncare accounts in the Sanford/Lake Mary area. Seeking Receptionist for Goldenrod Dental Clinic. Must have great phone skills, accounting and computer skills required. Send resume to 5240 S. Orlando Dr., Ste. 220, Orlando, FL 32819 or call 386-958-3303.

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OSA would like to thank the following Directors:

**Consultants for effective leadership:**
- Lisa Akhavan
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- Courtney Buchanan
- Jennifer Camp
- Ti'eshia Daniels
- Kasia Faryna
- Nivea Lima
- Rob MacCuspie
- Celeste Miller
- Dawn Myers
- Maria Sosa
- Heather Stevens
- Rob Tessmer
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- Laura Wharton
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- Melissa Zelniker

**Campus activities board:**
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- Bill Ferrante/Jason Lee
- Jessa Jones
- Justin Matles
- Lauren Okker
- Jerome Pederson
- Fred Piccolo
- Austin Reeves
- Elyse Skislak
- Jessica Smith
- Jonah Travick
- Joy Walker
- Michelle Woolley

We would also like to say Congratulations to all of the new Directors!
And to the Seniors, we will miss you very much!
Crew rows to win in SIR championship

SPECIAL TO THE SHORE

The UCF Women's crew finished two points ahead of Miami to win its first Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship last Sunday afternoon.

UCF finished with 25 points, followed by the Hurricanes (23) and Purdue (19).

The Freshman/Novice Lightweight 8+ set the pace for the Golden Knights, winning the gold medal in its event. Coxswain Cat Peck paced her crew of Mandy Workman, Mandy Marks, Natalie Goluba, Jannae Muskeley, Lindsay Hoffman, and Christina DePrimo won a silver medal with their 5:00.1 finish. Emory won that event in 5:57.5.

The Freshman/Novice 4+ (8:31.41 and 8s (7:17.0) finished fourth in their races while the Varsity 8+ placed sixth (7:01.1). The women's crew is off until May 7 when it competes at the Daul Vail Regatta in Philadelphia.

Men's golf places 7th at TAAC Tournament

The UCF men's golf team overcame a disappointing start to finish in seventh place at the TAAC Tournament, April 19-21 at Keith Hills Country Club in Buies Creek, N.C.

UCF made a run on the final day, improving from 10th place. UCF finished the third round with a 6-over-par 294 for a three-day total of 911.

On the first day, UCF shot a 306 for a last-place tie with Troy State University. Alan King led the way with a 73, while Adam Hayen posted a 74.

On the second day, UCF looked to climb back into contention but shot a 311 to move ahead of only Mercer, which stood at 624. Senior Kristian Svalheim paced the Knights with a second-day 74.

The final day was different as UCF shot a 294 to finish at 911. Svalheim led the Knights with a final-round 70 to finish 15th overall at 225. Hayen shot a 70 to finish 22nd at 226, while King ended the tournament at 223 in 35th place.

Stuart Fogartie finished at 235 while sophomore Mauricio Galindo shot a 294 to finish at 911.

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Michael Jordan still belongs — even as an owner

RICK MORRISSEY
KNIGHT-RIDDER

CHICAGO - It’s an almost cloudless day, and Michael Jordan is in perpetual mid-dunk outside the United Center. This is a good place to be if you don’t want to be alone.

A son and his parents arrive and crate their necks to see the Jordan statue. A van full of Chinese tourists pulls up, followed by a school bus. A few lost souls wander by and move on, going nowhere slowly. They seem to know intuitively to feel smaller for the grown man getting autographs from Blackhawks players.

Jordan is about 4 feet higher than the indistinct, nearly featureless faces he is dunking over on the sculpture. They look like Luc Longley and Jud Buechler to me, but hey, this is art and you might tilt your head and see Chris Webber and Juwan Howard.

There is muted conversation among the worshipers, but mostly there is the sound of shoes shuffling as people respect Jordan and see Chris Webber and Juwan Howard.

I’m waiting for someone to light a votive candle.

This is the Michael Jordan Memorial, and he is dead, and if you don’t believe that, then you don’t know the Bulls scored 49 points in a game recently. And you did on a Mark Bryant jumper.

If Jordan were still alive, we wouldn’t have to hear Randi Brown’s weekly play-by-play of telephone conversations with His Airness. “Michael called and said — and I want to make sure I get this right — Keep working,” Brown will say. “No, check that. He said, ‘Tell the guys, keep working.’” I’m starting to think Brown is the medium for Michael’s Psychic Help Line. If Jordan were still alive, Bulls coach Tim Floyd would not be getting out of jail free. In one of the biggest upsets of the year, Floyd has gone from being seen as the bad guy in 啥 is with force of evil Jerry Krause to a sympathetic character, a coach just trying to make doo-doo with the low-grade stuff he has been given. Floyd schrugs, and the world schrugs with him. Jordan must be spinning in his grave.

If Jordan were still alive, he wouldn’t have time to videotape a tribute to Wayne Gretzky. He wouldn’t have time to take in a Blackhawks game. He wouldn’t have so much time to work on that long, loopy golf swing of his.

If Jordan were still alive, Chicago still would have a basketball icon on its hands, not a senior adviser to the world. Education, poverty, probably global warming — Jordan will weigh in on whatever issue he’s asked about. I’m guessing that with all his free time, Jordan is advising Beltsway insider Phil Jackson, who will have his own definitive public-policy views just as soon as Michael tells him what they are.

Jordan is better than this, smarter than this, more needed than this. He’s not good at this life of leisure, of being the guy the NBA do, although the NBA needs him and free agents, Jordan has the Hornets in Charlotte Hornets. This is Jordan’s future, this is where he belongs. This is his resurrection, and he knows it. They need each other, Jordan and the NBA do, although the NBA needs him more. Besides Krause, is there anyone who doubts Jordan’s ability to judge talent? Who doubts his ability to will a team to a title? Within five years and with some luck and free agents, Jordan has the Hornets in the Finals. He’s Jerry West for the new millennium.

As for the NBA — the floundering, foundering NBA — what’s the value of having the best basketball player of all time running a successful NBA franchise? And what’s the value if it’s a black businessman named Michael Jordan? As high as Jordan’s vertical leap.

Look, he very easily could continue to be Michael, playing off his name, his face and his legacy. But there’s no challenge in that. He has hundreds of millions of dollars that say he’s marketable, and there’s more where that came from.

That shaved head might have brand equity, but wouldn’t it be nice to see him use what’s inside it? As long as he runs his own line of clothing or shoes or colognes or whatever else he’s selling, not everyone will believe he’s thoroughly involved in it.

I, for one, believe the only cologne Jordan is truly qualified to hawk is Essence of Locker Room by Ralph Lauren.

I hope the NBA doesn’t blow this the way the Bulls blew it with Jordan. Give Jordan whatever he wants. Give him a ridiculous low, low price to buy the team. Let him make the personnel decisions for the Hornets.

And Michael? You’re needed. And you need it.

The Bulls have yet to update the information on the Jordan statue since his comeback. It says he retired in 1994. Maybe they think he’ll retire again if they leave it alone. Yo, fellas, finish the engraving:


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April 28, 1999

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Central Florida Future • 25
Despite performance, UCF finishes second at TAAC

Shedden shatters record twice in six days

Shedden, who had broken the Trans America Athletic Conference record and the school record with a time of 36:44.53 six days earlier, came across the finish line in 36:08.86 at the Drake Relays. Shedden has competed set earlier this season at the 10,000 meter run the previous record of 38:23.86 was set in 1997.

Junior Amber Twyner won her third TAAC javelin title and earned all conference by placing third in the hammer throw, shot put and discus. Katara Turner, who was a favorite, was the only competitor who failed to clear the opening height. The usually strong distance squad failed to place anyone higher than fifth in the 800m, 1500m, and 5,000m races.

Yvette Ash placed fourth in the 100 meter dash (12.86) while Turner placed fifth (12.94). Natasha Garner and Natascha Samuels placed third and fifth respectively in the 200 meter dash with times of 25.52 and 26.07. Samuels and Valerie Beaubrun placed fourth and fifth in the 400 meter dash with finishing in 58.15 and Beaubrun coming across the finish line in 59.35.

During the 5,000m TAAC championships, Natasha Samuels placed fourth in the javelin with a time of 38:23.86. Shedden won the 10,000m run and shattered the TAAC record with her time of 36:44.53. The old record of 38:23.86 was set in 1997.

At the TAAC Championships, Shedden won the 10,000m run and shattered the TAAC record with her time of 36:44.53. The old record of 38:23.86 was set in 1997.

Unfortunately, UCF’s women’s track and field team wasn’t as fortunate, placing second at the 1999 TAAC Championships, held on the campus of Troy State University. Despite being heavy favorites after winning the 1997 and 1998 TAAC women’s track and field championships, UCF was unable to recapture the title.

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Anne Pannagio had been ill with bronchitis for 10 days prior to the meet but she tried to run anyway. Pannagio struggled to reach the finish line in two events she led the TAAC list in the 1500m and 5,000m.

Freshman Christy Turner, who was a favorite in the pole vault, was the only competitor who failed to clear the opening height. The usually strong distance squad failed to place anyone higher than fifth in the 800m, 1500m, and 5,000m races.

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Knights get sweep at home

UCF entered last weekend winning 20 of its last 23 games while Jacksonville was at a low point, losing seven of its last nine. Unfortunately for UCF both teams’ fortunes were reversed at Tinker Field. JU swept the series, winning the doubleheader 4-2 and 10-7 on Saturday before winning 8-7 in 10 innings Sunday.

"We just didn’t shut them down when we had to," Coach Jay Bergman said.

UCF left 25 runners stranded on base in the series. The finale was indicative of UCF’s problems, as the Knights left the bases loaded in the ninth, left two more stranded in the ninth, and hit into three inning-ending double plays.

UCF took a 2-0 lead in the first game as David Rankin looked to be cruising toward his sixth consecutive victory, but an error by Matt Meath in the fifth led to three unearned runs, which proved to be the difference. Rankin allowed six hits over 6.1 innings with five strikeouts.

In the second game, one big inning for JU again proved costly for the Knights. The Dolphins scored seven runs in the third inning to take a 10-3 lead. Justin Pope struggled on the mound and lasted only 2.1 innings, allowing seven runs on six hits.

UCF battled back but fell short in the 10th inning in an 8-7 loss. Troy Samsa field kept the Knights in the game, allowing seven hits and four runs over 6.1 innings before Jason Arnold threw the final 3.2 innings in the losing effort.

Trailing 4-0, UCF scored two runs in the seventh. Behind 5-2 in the eighth, the Knights tied it as Matt Meath had a two-run double and Brent Spooner followed with a sacrifice fly. The Knights had a chance to win in the ninth with runners on first and second, but a strikeout and double play ended the rally.

"We came back twice and had a chance to win, but we couldn’t hold them," Bergman said. "Both teams swung the bats well and played aggressively, so there’s not much you can say." After giving up three runs in the 10th, UCF made a final charge in its half of the 10th. Meath hit a two-run home run to pull within one. But Mark Bata struck out with Tim Booth on second to end the game.

UCF will be in good shape if Jay Bergman is winning in runners this weekend.

Strikeouts prove costly

One of the main reasons UCF left runners on base and was unable to score timely runs was because of excessive strikeouts.

As the Knights left 25 runners on base in the three games, the lineup totaled 24 strikeouts, more than any other TAAC series to date.

Leadoff hitter Tim Boeth struck out five times and Brent Spooner and Mark Bata followed with three each.

Arnold struggles to find form

UCF’s ace, the TAAC’s most valuable player, Arnold has struggled since earning his sixth save in six opportunities on March 30. At that point, he had a 1.90 ERA with more than a 3-to-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio in 28.1 innings.

Since then, in seven appearances, Arnold has blown two of three save opportunities and amassed a 2-3 record. He has allowed 22 hits and 12 runs in 13.2 innings for a 7.24 ERA. He has 21 strikeouts compared to 13 walks.

Who’s hot, who’s not

Ivan Trujillo has hit safely in seven of the last eight games with a .438 average with six runs and three RBIs. . . Matt Bowser is hitting .440 over the last seven games with 13 RBIs and six runs scored. . . Tim Booth is hitting .460 (17-for-37) over the past 10 games with 16 runs, 18 RBIs, and seven stolen bases. . . Dustin Brisson is 16 for his last 39 with 20 RBIs and 11 runs over the past 10 games. . . Matt Meath hit his first career home run Sunday against Jacksonville.

— TRAVIS BELL
Golden Knights have work to do in final stretch

TRAVIS BELL
STAFF WRITER

UCF is heading down the final stretch of the season with a 31-15 record and 14-7 mark in the Trans America Athletic Conference.

Good numbers, but with its recent three-game skid, UCF is in jeopardy of not receiving a bid to the NCAA Regional in May.

The 40-win plateau has generally been regarded as the magic number to be considered for an at-large bid. And with Florida Atlantic dominating the TAAC behind Mercer, the Bears are still in fourth place in the TAAC Tournament to reach nine coming against conference opponents.

UCF and Florida Atlantic dominating the TAAC to the season as Jacksonville and Mercer are 9-11 in the TAAC, but are 18-27 overall.

UCF would need to win two games in the TAAC Tournament, May 19-22, to receive a bid to the NCAA Regional in May. And with its recent three-game skid, UCF needs to do the same to help its chances for a NCAA bid.

Florida (May 11 in Gainesville), Mercer (May 1-2 in Macon, Ga.), Florida State (May 7-8 in Macon, Ga.), Georgia Tech. (May 14-15 in Orlando) and Georgia (May 1-2 in Atlanta) will be battling for UCF middle relievers must step up for UCF to do well in it's upcoming stretch run.

• Florida (May 11 in Gainesville)
  Florida has struggled after being a national preseason top 10. But the Knights will not overlook the Gators as this could be an important victory. The Gators are only 27-18 and have struggled to a 9-12 mark in the SEC. Mark Ellis (137-10-35) is one of Florida's top hitters and Greg Catalanotte leads the team with 13 home runs.
  The Gators have a 4.60 ERA and are led by Keith Brice (6-3, 4.58) and Matt McClendon (4-3, 4.76). UCF was able to steal a win last year in Gainesville, and needs to do the same to help its chances for the postseason.

• Georgia State (May 14-15 in Orlando)
  Mercer ranks eighth or less in all major team categories in the TAAC with the exception of home runs (fifth with 41).
  Mercer is 29-18 and in fourth place in the TAAC behind Mercer, the Bears could be a roadblock for UCF in its chances for a NCAA bid.
  UCF must make a statement against FAU's powerful squad with at least one win.

As for the remaining seven games, UCF could potentially sweep them, but also could be swept. Pitching will be the key.

UCF's fortunes may come down to the TAAC Tournament, May 19-22. If the Knights must rely on winning the tournament, then chances could be slim considering FAU's dominance thus far.

The best scenario would be to go at least 8-2 to end the season, play solid baseball in the TAAC Tournament, and make the selection committee's decision for them.
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**The chase is on.**

First baseman Dustin Brisson has enjoyed a breakout year and is nearing the single-season records for home runs and RBIs. Brisson has 15 home runs and 64 RBIs while hitting .402.

"I think it's an honor (to be chasing records)," Brisson said. "UCF's baseball tradition is outstanding. Since the program started there have been so many good players, so to have my name up there with them is an honor."

Brisson tied the school record with his 15th home run last Tuesday against South Florida. Gregg Pacitti set the record two seasons ago.

Brisson also is chasing the RBI record of 72 set by Jose Soto in 1987. He has 10 regular-season games to get the nine RBIs needed. Meanwhile, he is trying to become only the third player in school history to hit .400, joining Tim Barker (.438 in 1985) and Soto (.400 in 1987).

"I'm seeing the ball really well," Brisson said. "But I credit most of it to the weight room and hitting after practice every day."

Practice has definitely made perfect for Brisson in his junior year. He has shown potential power, homering in the first two games of his career, but he only hit .303 with 15 home runs and 54 RBIs combined through his first two seasons.

Brisson, along with left-fielder Matt Bowser, have provided a formidable one-two punch in the middle of the lineup. They help push each other, as Bowser also is chasing the records with 13 home runs and 35 RBIs.

Matt Bowser and Dustin Brisson have combined to hit 28 home runs this season, tying a single-season record for home runs and RBIs. They help push each other, as Bowser was a Freshman All-American last season, hitting .320 with 11 home runs and 35 RBIs. He has been even better this year. Through two seasons, he's hit 24 home runs, already fourth in UCF's all-time list behind Brisson (30), Soto (40) and Bobby Kiser (43). His home run total is the second highest ever by a duo in a single season. Zawaski and Soto each hit 14 in 1987.

Brisson continues to have a tremendous work ethic at practice, which has helped him reach his full potential. He is nearing a career-high with 22 walks, and his on-base percentage (.525) and slugging percentage (.788) far surpass his previous highs of .381 and .515, respectively, both set last year.

"My mental approach is much better at the plate," Brisson said. "I don't swing at bad pitches, and I just wait for a good pitch to drive. I've tried to get into favorable counts and take my walks until the pitch comes."

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**FAU potent at plate**

**FROM PAGE 32**

Offensively, five players have at least 10 home runs, led by John-Edward Raffo's 16. Raffo also has 47 RBIs. Dickie Hart leads FAU with a .321 average with 53 runs scored and 37 RBIs.

Ryan Whitley is hitting .392 and leads with 18 stolen bases. Mick Celi is hitting .303 with 10 home runs and 45 RBIs. Zack Roper has 10 home runs and 39 RBIs with a .345 average.

Chris Winsett has a .350 average with 11 home runs. Anthony Doulis has 10 home runs and 42 RBIs with a .340 average. Paul Trybans leads the team with .52 RBIs and is hitting .333. Tommy Murphy is hitting .322 as the final starter.

So how does UCF beat Florida Atlantic?

"We have to go play hard and let it roll," Bergman said. "I don't think there's any magic to it or secret to it. It's just a matter of going out and getting it done."

UCF has slipped to third in the TAAC, behind FAU and Jacksonsville, so this series is pivotal for seeding in the tournament. But more important, it could have major bearing on UCF's hopes for an NCAA Regional bid.
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Chance for redemption arrives

Tony Mejia
SPORTS EDITOR

It doesn't sound wise to be looking forward to a visit from Florida Atlantic's baseball team these days. But, if I were Jay Bergman, I'd be waiting at the airport to greet them. They offer an opportunity for UCFl to resurface as a national contender.

How did it come to this? Why the need to welcome this suicide mission? It goes something like this:

Quietly, the UCF baseball team had reached 30 wins faster than any other since 1995, when the team set a school record with 29 consecutive victories. The Owls' success has come as a big surprise. Their highest finish since joining the TAAC in 1994 was fourth in 1995. They were picked to finish last season.

UCF leads the TAAC in every major team category, hitting .349 with 78 home runs and an average of 9.58 runs a game. FAU has a 3.21 ERA and a .960 fielding percentage that has kept runs to a minimum.

Knights face must-win situations in order to reverse damage done last weekend

The Knights face must-win situations now in order to reverse the damage done to their national profile by last weekend's poor play. Which brings us to FAU: The Owls have put themselves in the national spotlight by virtue of a nearly unblemished record of 44-2. Yes, in baseball.

Incredible as it may sound, FAU's lone losses have come to top-ranked Miami and against Jacksonville, who fell to FAU and have put themselves in the national polls: No. 11 Florida Atlantic (44-2, 70-1), among the best teams in the country, comes for a visit. Not exactly a comforting thought for a team coming off three consecutive losses to Jacksonville.

The Owls made UCF their test series earlier this season, tying a national record with 34 consecutive wins, a feat that was accomplished by Texas in the 1980s.

FAU's only losses were against Miami (5-1 on Feb. 17) and Jacksonville (2-1 on April 17). The Owls' success has come as a big surprise. Their highest finish since joining the TAAC in 1994 was fourth in 1995. They were picked fourth in the TAAC preseason poll after a 29-30 finish last season.

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Tony Mejia
SPORTS EDITOR

UCF takes its shot at Florida Atlantic

Travis Bell
STAFF WRITER

After UCF registered its final out in a three-game collapse against Jacksonville, Coach Jay Bergman probably did not take solace in what awaits his team this weekend. No. 11 Florida Atlantic (44-2, 70-1), among the best teams in the country, comes for a visit.

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Dustin Bowser are nearing the home run record.

From the diamond

Look for updates on UCF baseball games and news.

Tennis and golf
Get your updates from the links and the tennis courts as UCF takes to action.