Engineering Students Get Early Start In Racing Career

ADAM SHIVER
STAFF WRITER

If you’ve ever dreamed of racing around a track in a one of the world’s top rated sports cars or even working in the pits for one of today’s hottest, then you might want to look into switching your major to Engineering. UCF’s AE, or Society of Automotive Engineers, participate in the world’s top rated sports cars.

Career expo brings companies, opportunities to UCF students

BECKI PANOFF
STAFF WRITER

Looking for a job? Most college graduates or almost grads stress about finding a job after they get their diploma. The Career Expo, held on campus Feb. 1, 2000, was a great opportunity for them to get their resumes out to possible future employers, as well as talk and network.

UCF students and alumni visit employer booths at the UCF career fair. The career fair set an attendance record of over 1,600 attendees.

Note taking causes campus controversy

BETH SHAW
STAFF WRITER

Many students across the nation use notes taken by a note taking service. Some use them as supplements while others use them to miss class. These students have found that by using these notes they can keep up with their studies and make sure that they are covering the correct material. However, there are some professors who feel as though these notes are robbing their students of actually learning the material. They also feel that note taking services lower attendance in classrooms. Another point is that the material written by the note taker is their interpretation of the lecture and may not be suitable for all students.

President Hitt gives "State of University"

SHELLEY WILSON
STAFF WRITER

President Hitt gave "State of the University Address" to the UCF Senate on February 3 in front of over 40 Senators and 50 students in the audience. Hitt started with a speech, talked about the last time he spoke in front of the body. Hitt referenced the attendance record of over 1,630.

HITT, Page 6

Insie

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF

President Hitt (center) addresses students concerns during the last Senate meeting.

Inside... UCF football coach Mike Kruczek discusses the newly signed Golden Knights at last week's news conference. UCF had its best day ever.

Opinion: 10
Entertainment: 12
Classifieds: 18
Sports: 28
Fresh faces, a fresh start

TAYLOR CLARK
STAFF WRITER

In late November, the University of Central Florida Panhellenic Executive Board was replaced. Each year the board, consisting of eight positions changes, allowing different people with fresh outlooks and new ideas to participate.

Obviously the Panhellenic Council desires members with the most drive, determination and insight. Forthis reason, prior to membership, the applicants must go through an intricate interviewing process. The sororities are paired off and as each candidate rotates among them, they are asked several in depth questions. From this process, develops the Executive Board.

President, Sara Minikus, feels confident that the new board will be one to "look at the past and fill the future with something better," not just for Greeks, but for UCF as a whole. Without a doubt, they have their plate full. Their goals begin with internal improvement. The board plans to educate all the delegates, chairs, and the entire Panhellenic community on the National Panhellenic Constitution and bylaws.

"The current constitution is unclear and needs a lot of revision, so that it will mimic the National Constitution," said Minikus. The organization will definitely create a stronger, more efficient organization.

Once the board achieves this goal, it will allow them to focus their energy outward. Of their many goals this year, improving inter-Greek relations as well as those with non-Greeks is extremely important. The board intends to modify the traditional views non-Greeks have of them. Minikus said, "Unfortunately, people here at UCF often have negative misconceptions of the Greek system. We would like to change some of those views by working closely with Laura Jordan, Vice President of personal relations."

In addition to improved relations, expansion is another major goal. Within the year, following formal recruitment, one of two sororities will be added to UCF: Kappa Kappa Gamma or Kappa Alpha Theta. Because it is difficult to colonize two sororities simultaneously, only one new chapter will be established this year. The other will be added in a year or two.

The new Panhellenic Executive Board is one charged with ambition and dedication. With such a positive attitude, some new faces and a fresh outlook, students should expect to see nothing less than equally positive results.

Take a chance — write the Future

Letters to the editor should be typed and must include a name, address and phone number for confirmation. The Future reserves the right to edit for length, style, grammar and libel. Submit to: Central Florida Future Knight Publishing 120 Alexandria Blvd., Suite 17 Oviedo, FL 32765 editor@UCFfuture.com

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"This is a networking event..."

These career fairs don't only create opportunities for graduating students, of which Nebgen estimates more than 95 percent make up past attendees, but they also help UCF alumni, who are encouraged to come back for the career fair.

"Sometimes these companies like people with experience, with a few years out there," said Nebgen.

"We have a very good relationship with UCF...we have a lot of alumni working for us," said Amanda Peck, a recruiter from Orlando Sentinel Communications.

The employers value different things coming into the fair. "We are looking for work experience, preferably in finance and sales and marketing," said Jennifer Summers, a recruiter from Prudential.

"We are looking for people who are computer literate, and have good communication skills," said Annette Diaz, from GEICO Direct.

The most important part of these fairs is getting a chance to talk to the employers and finding out what they are looking for.

"This is a networking event, maybe you won't hear back from them for months or a year," said Nebgen.

Orientation Team receives applications

Jennifer Mazzoli
Staff Writer

Orientation Team applications have now been submitted. Along with a resume of high school and college activities, two letters of recommendation and five short answer questions must be submitted by the applicants.

The applicants then proceed to two interviews, one individual and one group interview.

Working with the orientation team, Ingrid Gonzales says that they are looking for students to fill approximately 32 to 36 positions as O-Team leaders. They look for people who are natural-born leaders capable of working in a team. They will be working with a large diverse group of people, so they must be patient and understanding. They should have good work ethics, an outgoing personality and the ability to use this as a learning experience.

"We know that not everyone is a natural-born leader, but we see this as a learning experience for all students," said Gonzales. Applicants chosen will attend a training session from May 9 to June 7. Orientation dates are from June 7 to July 31 and then from Aug. 12-16.

Applicants will find out whether they have been chosen on March 2.

CB & S Bookstore

Central Florida Future

February 9, 2000

"Somebody's profiting off of our work and as far as I am concerned they might as well be stealing hubcaps"
BET comedians showcase humor, talent at “Funny Fridays”

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
Tony Schulfield (below) mc’s the event held in the VAB auditorium.

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
Kenny Howell (left), examines the audience during his act.

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
Reggie McFadden (left), gives the audience a chance to share in the spotlight of a comedian.

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
Comedian Small Frie (right) receives laughs from audience while she was under a bench.

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
Kenny Howell (left), examines the audience during his act.

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
Reggie McFadden (left), gives the audience a chance to share in the spotlight of a comedian.

PHOTO BY JASON KOKOTOFF
(From left) Howell, McFadden, and Frie share stage for final act to take a bow for their show.

Student Government is hosting their first annual SG Expo on Valentine’s Day from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. in front of the Student Union. There will be fun activities for students to participate in including the “Dunk Tank” to raise money for Relay for Life. SG will also be debuting their new publication “Excalibur.” For more information on this event or the publication, contact the SG office at 823-2191.

Valentine Ads
The winners of the Valentines Ads are those labeled with craziest, sweetest, and most creative on the Valentine pages. The winners may pick up their prizes at Locos with valid UCF ID after Friday at 10 a.m.

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Black History Month Calendar

February 9th:
Woman Studies Program presents: "Black Women and Feminism Forum" 11:30 a.m. 221 AB Student Union
And AASU & BFDC present: Unity Forum #2 "Relationships" 7 p.m. Cape Florida 316 - SU

February 13th:
10:30 a.m. Worship Services at Victorious Living Fellowship
250 N. Ivey Lane
Orlando, FL 32811

February 15th:
AASU & Committee for Affirmative Action
Present: A Political Seminar
"Where do you stand?"
6:30 p.m. Key West AB - SU

February 16th:
AASU & Alpha Kappa Alpha present:
Bone Marrow Drive held 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
South Patios - SU
AASU and John T. Washington present:
Brain Bowl held at 6 p.m.
Key West 218 CD - SU

February 19th:
Community Fun Day/Carnival
12 p.m. - 5 p.m. at UCF Rec. Services

February 20th:
10 a.m. Worship Service at Orlando Institutional Church of God in Christ
401 S. Ivey Lane, Orlando, FL
And AASU, CAB, & SGA present:
NAACP President Mr. Kwesi Mfume
At 7 p.m. at the UCF Arena

February 21st:
AASU and Sigma Gamma Rho Presents:
Movie Knight, "The Wood"
6:30 p.m. in room 218 AB SU

February 23rd:
Black History Musical Drama
"Expectations of Triumph"
7 p.m. VAB Auditorium

February 27th:
Worship Service at 910 West Livingston Church of God at 10:00 a.m.

February 28th:
AASU & Kappa Alpha Psi present:
2nd Annual Talent Show
Place TBA

February 29th:
Closing Ceremonies 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte Harbor 313 - SU

Have a story idea?
E-mail us:
news@ucfuture.com

Central Florida Future • 5
SG president shooting for best Student Government in state

From Page 1

it's easier than you think/ Call today/
The University, I think, has complied with applicable and administrative rules. The University has the authority to take no more than the immediate steps such as disciplinary action when we believe the welfare and best interest of the University's students warrant this action.

Hitt then cleared up the confusion of why the UCF marquee beside Alfreda Trail did not have a Student Government plaque there since SG thought they had put money towards it. Hitt replied it is appropriate where SG funds projects, but to the best of his knowledge SG did not fund the marquee in any way.

What President Hitt would like to see SG do differently this year was another prepared question for him.

"I don't consider it to be my task to tell you what to do other than to say we would like to see you and where we must, we will insist, that you follow the rules of the University and along with our state. I think we share to differing degrees the task of leading our University into this new millennium and that's not an easy task and I can assure it has its own leadership always does."

President Hitt then shared what he believed to be the common view of the UCF SGA by other faculty, students, administrator, the State, and the general public.

"The perception of students that have been in my office is that part of the problem we've had in SG in recent years is that there has been too much money and it has led to the perception of allocating all that money almost anything went. It's hard to understand how 29 clubs in Engineering received over $200,000 while smaller clubs in Arts & Sciences that has two to three times the enrollment of Engineering received less than half that amount."

Hitt stated that if SG desired to earn and maintain respect and off campuses they should communicate better with their constituents and stay with their job.

"Each of you has been elected to a seat in Senate to represent a particular constituent and to use your best judgement in allocating funding for the student body. This is a serious responsibility and I know you do not take the responsibility lightly, but I urge you to stay with the task."

"Some of the problems we've had is having the number of Senators voting down the point where important decisions were made by no more than ten or eleven Senators. That's really not democracy and it doesn't represent the students at this University very well. So stay with it."

Hitt then addressed the accountability of the actions taken by SG and the perception that SG feels they sometimes have by administration.

"Some of you, or at least some in the past, I know take the view that SG answers only to itself and the administration had no rightful role in reviewing its actions. That's not the view taken by the legislature and the Board of Regents. They hold the University Administration and me personally accountable for your actions and so long as they do it's my duty to see that you abide by the rules. I cannot do otherwise."

"I also know there has been discussions that the administration or the President wants to tell you just how to spend your money and tell you just what to do and that's just not true."

Hitt used an example of former SG President, Darin Patton, appeal his impeachment to the administration.

"Some of you know that I think Darin Patton got a raw deal. However, the actions of the Senate were reviewed by the General Counsel and were found to have met the general requirements for due process. I did not feel the administration should or could step into that matter."

Hitt closed his remarks by reminding Senate of the task they ran for to begin with.

"Your challenge and that of SG generally is to work for the greater good of the student body that each of you has been elected to represent. As student leaders it's important to not lose sight of whom you represent. What are their expectations? How will they measure your success?"

In the open question format that immediately followed, Engineering Senator, Larry Davis, defended the funding for Engineering. "The only thing that Engineering clubs have done is taken advantage of funding opportunities and everybody knows that every other club or organization has equal access to these opportunities. So please don't give engineering a bad rep for taking advantage of opportunities that are there for everybody, Davis said.

Arts and Sciences Senator, Chris Keish, asked Hitt if the format of the UCF Radio Station, WUCF, could be changed to a more friendly college student listening format. Hitt answered why WUCF went to their format and gave an idea of how UCF can get a station that is more listened to by students.

"Their listenership was so bad with their elective format they had before they were going to lose their NPR funding and I have to say that they have rebuild a very respectable listenership. What I'd like to see us do is explore with SG getting a new low power license that are available so we keep the investment we have, but then have a low power station so we can have a student oriented station. Harkins who had originally invited Hitt thought the visit went really good and stated her reason for originally inviting him.

"We're trying to move forward and make progress, but we still have questions that remained from the past Senate. It's important these issues were resolved so we avoid conflict and embarrassment in the future," Harkins said.

The Student Body President, Andy Cupicha, also gave a "State of the Student Government Association" address, which he thinks, is very good.

"I don't believe in dwelling in the past. Let our past be a dead past and let our future be a living future. Wishing for a thousand yesterdays won't create a better tomorrow. Perseverance, hard work, dedication, commitment and friendships help create a better tomorrow. We've made great strides over the past nine months and we've all sacrificed a little of ourselves to help the SG tree grow," Cupicha stated. "For the next three months my sights are still set at winning the best SG. People may laugh at that across the state, but in those three months in which this term ends we've gotta have done more in one year for the students than any other SG in the state of Florida. So get ready, buckle your bonnets, we're moving."
Society of Automotive Engineers Get Grimy In Race Pits Changing Tires And Oil

FROM PAGE 1

technology both in the pits and on board the car. During the week leading up to the event, the students practiced a multitude of tasks and drills to make sure they were thoroughly prepared for anything that could happen out on the track. "If anything goes wrong we have to be ready to get it taken care of and fast," said Grace.

The undergrads practiced with the pit-crew from Champion Gunnar Racing in West Palm Beach while the grad-students worked with the car, and tested it on the track. "On average the cars stop every 75 minutes for servicing and changing drivers," says Bob Hoekstra, the head of the Masters program in Precision Engineering for racecar engines.

"Everything has to be done in 30 seconds, unless they need a brake job. That takes an extra 30 seconds." This is the reason for their extensive training, the students were put through with the Champion Gunnar Racing team.

The UCF team physically dismantled the car and put it back together from the bottom up, making sure they knew what went where and the size of each and every bolt and nut on the car. This was nothing too out of the ordinary though for the SAE members. Each year SAE builds a car from scratch. "We take pride in building and fabricating a race car each year," said Grace. This race is not the first time that UCF Engineering students have worked with the Champion Gunnar Racing Team, and they hope that it won't be their last. The students have been timing the cars at Sebring, West Palm Beach and Moroso. If all goes as planned for the team, the students will attend races in Atlanta, Homestead, Sebring, Watkins Glenn, and Sears Point, assisting the Champion Gunnar Racing Team as well as being subbed out to other teams for even more experience.

"We are part of a big thing here," said Grace. "This is a first for the UCF Engineering department, and we're proud that we could be a part of it."

SAE is hoping to obtain some sponsorship from their participation in this past weekend's event. The organization operates primarily off of sponsorships and this was a great way to get their name out there. "Last year we pulled in approximately $84,000, right now we are up over $100,000," said Grace.

Besides gaining sponsors they were treated great by the Champion Gunnar Racing team. Their entire week was paid for, covering such expenses as food, travel, clothing and recreation, on top of being paid for their services as crew-members.

"Everyone out here [Gunnar Racing] has treated us great," said Grace. Not only does the student's participation with Champion Gunnar Racing give the students the opportunity to work in the field they are interested in, it also gives them a chance to get paid for it as well. It puts the spotlight on UCF in the motor sports world.

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Magaly,
You're the first thing on my mind when
I wake up and the last thing when I go
to bed. You're in my dreams and my
future. You make me feel like I can
achieve anything. I'll love you forever.
-Jason

*******Winner Most Creative*******
To: J.W.
I should call more often you're right,
it's not fair you've met your quota of
that I'm aware. Now it's my turn
to venture across the line. So will you
please be My Valentine?
From: C.C.

To my BFF Neke,
Happy Valentine's Day!
Seth

Girlsfrend,
Happy Valentine's Day!
Love, Boyfriend

To my Boo,
I'm glad that you are back
in my life?
Happy Valentine's Day!
Love, Carrie

To: My little Sisters
Kristen P., Nadine O.,
Vanessa H. and Kristen
H., Love You All. Happy
Valentine's Day. Your Big
Brother-Freddy Cano

To my Gary:
My life began the day I met you.
Thank you for making me happy, and
of course, for being you. I love you with
all of my heart and soul, baby. Happy
Valentine's Day.
Love, Becki

To: The Woman of My Life:
To The Woman of My Life, marry the woman of my dreams.
From: Eddie Ruiz

On Valentine Day, Baby!

*******Winner Sweetest*******
To The Woman of My Life:
Life , marry the woman of my dreams.
From: Eddie Ruiz

On Valentine's Day, 2000
Winner Sweetest

To: Magaly,
You're the first thing on my mind when
I wake up and the last thing when I go
to bed. You're in my dreams and my
future. You make me feel like I can
achieve anything. I'll love you forever.
-Jason

February 9, 2000

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EEO/AA

To: Stacey
For 2 years we have been together. At
Christmas I asked you to marry me.
You said yes. Now we can spend the
rest of our Valentine Day's together!
Love Your Prince, Aaron

To: Stacey
Wow kid, four years and still going
strong-And to think they all doubted
us! Remember...who knows where
the road will lead us, only a fool would
say. But if you let me love you-It's for
sure I'm gonna love-All the way!
Love, Missy
P.S. Charlie!

To: Theresa,
I love you so much and thank God for
putting you in my life. You are the
best. Thanks for everything. Happy
Valentine's Day, Sweetie! 143
Mach Love, Jeff

To: Rachel,
Congratulations on your favorite holi-
day. Being with you is pure bliss and
I'm really happy we hooked it up like
Sir Penguin and Thug Bear at a true-
party party. You're my baby Uh-Uh,
Uh-Uh. Love Ya, Tony

To: Prince,
I love you so much and thank God for
making me happy, and of course, for being you. I love you with
all of my heart and soul, baby. Happy
Valentine's Day.
Love, Missy
P.S. Charlie!

To: Craig,
I love you and I cherish
together. I look forward to
many more moments with
you. Happy Valentine's Day
and Anniversary!!
Love, Always,
Kim

To: To my Beloved D-J
I thank you for your hon-
esty, strength, courage,
and understanding. I
thank you for always being
my best friend and giving
me our son. I love you!!
-Leigh

To: My Dearest Younger sis-
ter. Michelle Cano.
Congratulations on all of your accomplishments.
Happy Valentine's Day!!
Your Brother, Freddy Cano

To: Stacey
For 2 years we have been together. At
Christmas I asked you to marry me.
You said yes. Now we can spend the
rest of our Valentine Day's together!
Love Your Prince, Aaron

To: Stacy
Wow kid, four years and still going
strong-And to think they all doubted
us! Remember...who knows where
the road will lead us, only a fool would
say. But if you let me love you-It's for
sure I'm gonna love-All the way!
Love, Missy
P.S. Charlie!

To: Craig,
I love you and I cherish
together. I look forward to
many more moments with
you. Happy Valentine's Day
and Anniversary!!
Love, Always,
Kim

To: To my Beloved D-J
I thank you for your hon-
esty, strength, courage,
and understanding. I
thank you for always being
my best friend and giving
me our son. I love you!!
-Leigh

To: My Dearest Younger sis-
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Congratulations on all of your accomplishments.
Happy Valentine's Day!!
Your Brother, Freddy Cano

To: Stacey
For 2 years we have been together. At
Christmas I asked you to marry me.
You said yes. Now we can spend the
rest of our Valentine Day's together!
Love Your Prince, Aaron
February 9, 2000

To: Vanessa
Happy Valentine’s Day!

Cheryl,
I love you very much!
Jaime

To: Jodil
Carino, I love you!
Siempre pienso en ti.
From: Marie

To my valentine Dawn, Happy Valentine’s Day!
Can’t wait to see what the future has in store for us!
From: Seth

Dear Junior,
I’ll never be able to tell you how much I love you, but I will spend the rest of my life trying. Happy Valentine’s Day!
Love, Pairy

Brent,
I think you are the best! Happy 5 months! You mean the world to me. I’m so happy you’re in life.
Love, Chicken

Shelita,
Thanks for being my one and only. Itreasure every experience we’ve had together. I love you! - K
From: Joe

To Ama:
We may not have boyfriends, but at least we’re not dating Navy guys or Universal employees! Stay in touch!
Love, Amanda

To Amanda:
You brought a new kind of love to me. I think I found a keeper! XOXO, Bettyboop

Richie,
I just wanted to tell you that I love you today. Just like I did yesterday and will tomorrow.
Love, Amber

To: Coconut
I know we have had problems in the past, however I know we can work through them if you let us. I love you.
From: Big Dog

To: coconut
I know we have a problem, but I want you to know that I love you.
From: Virginia

To: Happy Valentine’s Day!!
To Sarah
All I want is for you to give me a chance. Contact me at 209-6720
From: Virginia (the state)

To: Big Dog
Thanks for always trying to hear me out. Sorry for the way things has turned out, but thanks for always being there!
From: Coconut

Fuer Mein Engel, E Mac D, E Shop T Shepp, and Igh Liebe Dich.
Love, Your Guardian

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University Blvd. east to Alafaya Trail. Right on Alafaya Trail. Boardwalk is 8 mile on the left.

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Jingles,
May this Valentine’s be as exciting as our last and as will be those to come.
I love you!
From: Your girl toy.

“Bling, Bling—I am so happy that we are together and that cash money is an army. Our love is 1589%—Happy Valentine’s Day! Love, Joe M.”

To: Carrie
May our friendship grow strong and our time be long... Always remember I’ll be here for you...
From: Joe

To: All The Girls
I’ve loved before! You have my heart forever more!
Love, Danny

To: Ryan
Happy Valentine’s Day! I love you!
Love Always, Kerri

To: Miss Ashley
Thank you for being so wonderful to me.
I love you, Pat!
Love Always, Hope

To: Rexy
I'm gonna love you!
Happy Valentine’s Day!
To Trashy:
Words cannot express my gratitude for all you’ve done for me! Thanks for everything! You’re one-in-a-million!
Love Ya! Shelley

To: Ski
I smelt like dog poop, And though I was drunk,
You still thought I was cute.
Alex

To: Miss Ashley
I’m gonna love you!
Happy Valentine’s Day!
From: Rexy

To: Jodi
Siempre pienso en ti.
I love you,
Pat!

To: Hope
Happy Valentine’s Day!!
Bianca
Happy Valentine’s Day!!
Leonardo

To: Jonathan
May our friendship grow strong and our time be
always one.
Cheryl

To: Ryan
Happy Valentine’s Day!
I love you!
Love Always, Hope

To: Carrie
May our friendship grow
strong and our time be
long... Always remember
I’ll be here for you...
From: Joe

To: Jingles
How can I express how much I love you?
You mean the world to me.
I just love you today.
From: Alex

To: Sir
I love you! Happy Valentine’s Day!
Love, Danny

To: Pat
Happy Valentine’s Day!
From: Ryan

To: Smiley
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• All bedrooms prewired to allow for phone, internet access and cable TV
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• Sand and pool volleyball
• Lynx Laser bus service
• Oversized bedroom with private bath in each fully furnished four bedroom apartment
• Full size double bed in each bedroom
• Study desk in every bedroom
• All bedrooms prewired to allow for phone, internet access and cable TV
• Cable TV with 38 channels, including HBO and Sunshine Sports Network
• Keyed deadbolt lock on each bedroom door
• Full size washer/dryer, microwave, garbage disposal, dishwasher, refrigerator with icemaker, range, mini blinds & ceiling fans
• Smoke detectors, fire alarms, fire extinguishers, and sprinkler systems throughout
• Separate front and back ingress/egress doors and stair tower to each apartment
• Private balconies
• Peep hole at entry door
Adams Shiver  
STAFF WRITER

Valentine’s Day is approaching fast, and love is on the minds of everyone. But what is love really? Webster's New World Dictionary tells us that love is an affection, fondness or liking for something else, in joy and sorrow, for better or for worse. But what does Webster know anyway? He’s long gone, and besides, he didn’t have much time for love anyway—He was much too busy collecting words for his silly little book to experience love.

That’s what love is: an experience. A huge experience composed of a zillion different things happening all at once most of the time.

Love is that special tingly feeling in the pit of your stomach you get when you are around that certain someone. The feeling that makes you so nervous you blunder about looking for the right words to tell her you love her without embarrassing yourself.

Love is thinking of someone all the time, whether they see you or not. Love is sharing life experiences, and having fun while doing it. It is knowing what someone is going to say before they say it, and knowing exactly is on their mind at any given time.

Love is knowing someone’s likes and dislikes. It’s feeling like that special someone in your life completes you. That without them you would feel lost, possibly empty.

Love is kissing. (Ah, my favorite part of love.) Love is ALL of this and so much more. It is hard to narrow it down to any one group of things, and it is impossible to confine it to any one thing. Everyone’s take on love is different, but we all feel something, whatever that may be, that signifies to us that we are attracted to someone—more than words can describe. There is that certain something that we all get, whether it be that tingle or the feeling that they complete you, that makes us know we are ‘in love.’

I certainly can’t tell you what your idea of love is, but this is a small glimpse into what mine is. If good old Webster can’t do any better than his vague description of love, I know for certain that I can’t tell everyone what love should be to them. You have to find out for yourself, and you can’t do that unless you try.

LaBlanc  
STAFF WRITER

Sailed around by the plethora of chocolate-covered hearts and pink teddy bears available in celebration of Valentine’s Day. I found myself wondering what is love? My first thoughts were of love in the classical sense—that amazing, overwhelming giddiness you feel with just the thought of your significant other. I thought of the complete and utter simple happiness you can feel. But then as I thought harder, I realized that love is an overwhelmingly powerful entity. It never ceases to amaze me. It has the ability to make the darkest days seem bearable, and the coldest nights seem warm. It functions as a shield from all of life’s daggers. It offers strength, courage, and joy when you think you have none. It can look fear in the face and laugh.

Love is something to be respected, to be embraced and to be cherished.

So, my question becomes, why are people taking it for granted? Why are people refusing to fill each day with the most beautiful thing in this world? It honestly astounds me. So often we spend more time doing than we do just being. I know there are many of you that are spending more time fighting with your loved ones than you are enjoying them. We spend more time indulging in the drama, forgetting why we truly love one another to begin with, and enjoy. Why? I ask of you now, open your eyes and cast the drama aside. Fill your moments together with the one real thing in this world: love. Understand that it is always right. Treasure every moment with one another. Remember why you are together. Open your heart and let love’s magic and allow it to be your compass each and every day.

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Disney’s ‘Semi-Charmed Life’

ADAM SHIVER
STAFF WRITER

Well, it seems that Disney is doing it again, causing controversy that is.

I recently visited my friendly neighborhood movie theater. As the previews progressed I noticed a preview animated feature from Disney. 

The song, a hit from the band's first studio album entitled 'Third Eye Blind,' is heavily based around sex and drugs. In the first verse alone Steven Jenkins, the lead singer, refers to both oral sex and the taking of drugs through the nose. The song later alludes to Crystal Meth, a quite serious drug, and taking it.

While I personally love this band, along with many of my college friends, and this song incorporates, I feel this to be way too inappropriate for a children's movie. I am not quite sure what Disney was thinking when they made the decision to include this song in this movie, but I feel they are only hanging themselves by doing so.

Disney has done other things to stir up the media and parents alike in the past. Such things as the penis pictured on the cover art of 'The Little Mermaid,' and the rumored wording of 'sex' in the clouds in their movie 'The Lion King.'

Does Disney do this on purpose to raise a fuss? It seems to me that they would have learned through previous events, but it also seems they still haven't learned to be careful enough with their children's movies.

American Culture, Why Are We the Laughing Stock of the World?

KRISTI ZILIZI
STAFF WRITER

The whole world quietly snickers behind America's back at a population of uncultured, uneducated and ignorant individuals.

The world laughs even louder at the perceived ‘lack of cultural awareness' of Americans. The general sentiment of the rest of the world, and even of some Americans as well, is that the American society in general is completely ignorant of any and all culture, excluding their own. Undoubtedly, America has its flaws, as do the American people. However, it seems unjustified and rather hypocritical of the rest of the world to criticize a country that has been striving for global unification and developed into the powerhouse of the world.

In today's society, education is lacking in some of America's schools. But those statistics include many low-income regions that severely distort the general education quality found throughout most of our country. It is very possible to receive a quality education in America, direct proof of this is the overwhelming number of foreign students that attend America's high schools and universities each year. And while education standards may be different from those in foreign countries, the fact is that the U.S. schools differ from city to city, school to school. Education in America is often skill and career oriented, influenced by the need and demand for certain skills and careers in particular regions.

The fact that English has become the language of the world also begs the question, why would the world adopt the language of a nation of ignorant, uneducated individuals? Most countries throughout the world, even many that speak English because so many careers require knowledge of the English language.

Our nation continues to suffer accusation of "lacking cultural awareness," the United States still continues to allow immigrants into our abundantly populated country. A perfect example of this is the battle to make six year old Ellan Gonzales an American citizen, his mother drowned while fleeing to the United States from Cuba, the U.S. government, schools and churches continue to develop diversity programs, and assistance programs to non-English speaking individuals. America's universities are modernistic and open to opportunities to study abroad and major corporations send employees to network with foreign businesses. Preferential treatment is granted to minorities and individuals of ethnic background through policies such as affirmative education and minority-based scholarships.

Moreover, how can a nation composed of so many different nationalities, lack cultural awareness? Wherever you go in America, the world endorses your presence. You will find families who maintain customs and traditions that their ancestors brought with them when they first settled in our country. Even in major cities throughout the nation, the presence of Italian cuisine, Irish pubs, Chinese and Latin quarters proves America is in fact culturally aware. While these cultural symbols may be somewhat Americanized, their foolishness to expect the same authenticity you would find in its native country.

American culture is so global today, it is rare to find a McDonald's-less country or a population unfamiliar with Lazy Susan, Answers, America: American celebrities, and American brand names are insanely popular in dozens of foreign countries and successfully sell at sometimes double the price of its cost in the United States. Again, what drives the cultural aggression of Americans is the ignorance, uneducated nation of people?

S.C. Flag Issue: Give the People What They Want

GRANT SINCLAIR
HAPPY SUMMER

On the Martin Luther King Holiday, the NAACP staged a protest of the State of South Carolina's choice to fly the Confederate Battle Flag over the capital dome in Columbia. Since January 1, 2000, the NAACP has organized "economic sanctions" against South Carolina, refusing to purchase items made in South Carolina and refusing to spend tourism dollars in that state. Since the first of the year, over 80 groups have cancelled conferences in South Carolina.

Since the early 1960s, the flag has flown from the Capitol dome. Officially it was raised to honor the centennial of the Confederacy, which coincidently fell in the middle of the Civil Rights Movement. It has weathered many attempts to remove it, and it is the desire of the majority of residents of South Carolina to keep it flying.

According to Kweisi Mfume, the CEO of The NAACP, "it represents one of the most reprehensible aspects of American History, not only for the people of African ancestry, but for people from every background who know and understand the destructive horrors created by slavery."

In my military history bell, it is a leftover flag from my time in the Army. But I refuse to revel in the history of the Civil War, I have passed history classes. That being said, I agree completely with Mfume on slavery being a destructive horror that this country endured for so long. Slavery was an evil practice that is the antithesis of all things for which this country stands.

The Civil War was a horrible time in our history and should be understood and remembered, but never revered. It was a time that this great nation cut its own wrists and attempted to bleed itself dry. That is not something to be proud of, lest we forget what is was all about.

The Confederate Battle Flag is a symbol of the soldiers who lost their lives fighting for something they believed in. It has since been used by Southern states to promote segregation and by racist groups to promote their agenda.

The people of South Carolina claim the flag is there to honor the past of their state. The South Carolina has the right to fly whatever flag in wish they please and the right to honor the past in their own way. That is their right and choice to do so.

It may not be a morally just thing to do, but that is what the people want, and the people of South Carolina enjoy the rights afforded all groups of people, including the South Carolina to tell what they want to do, just like it would not be right to tell the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to change their name because it offends people.

While I personally do not feel the Confederate Battle Flag is a racist symbol, in fact, it represents the darkest time in American History. But, it is their land and their right to fly whatever flag they want. Just as the NAACP's right to spend their money elsewhere. That's part of the bargain of living in a free country, like the United States. Sometimes people do things that offend other people in this country. It is the freedom to live in a free country that makes this a great country.

I am a military history buff. On Sanctions that were passed against Cuba, the NAACP's claim the flag is there to honor the past of their state. The South Carolina has the right to fly whatever flag in wish they please and the right to honor the past in their own way. That is their right and choice to do so.

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I am a military history buff. On
Quizno's is new stop for subs

I know what you're thinking, 'another sandwich place'. However, trust me when I say Quizno's is not just another sub shop.

When you first walk in Quizno's on Alafaya Trail (adjacent to Dunkin Donuts) there's a relaxing, but yet festive atmosphere that surrounds you. You feel you can bring your fraternity group there or have a small party.

When you first order any of their over fifteen different types of subs, you see it being made right in front of you. What's so special about that you ask? Well, after they make it (with great service by the way) they put the sub through a hot oven so it comes out warm and fresh. Not cold like other subs that has probably been served to you.

Or maybe you're not in the mood for a sub for lunch. Don't fret my man. Quizno's also offers classic big salads such as Sesame Chicken, Italian Antipasto, and Honey Mustard Chicken. Don't worry about where's the beef on these things either. The chicken strips looks like miniature steaks on these salads. I'm getting hungry already, aren't you?

Are you in the mood for a small side order? You can also grab a small bag of chips of your choice or a small salad right in front of you in line to compliment your sub while it's being made. After you have your sub, you can also have one of their five desserts including Apple Cobbler, Chocolate or Carrot Bundt Cake, or the classic cookies.

Leigh Kruczek, wife of UCF head football coach Mike Kruczek, and me had lunch together at Quizno's last Friday and definitely gave it a four stars. She had the Traditional Signature Sub and I had the Mesquite Chicken with Bacon. Superb, I must say. We ate every bite and loved every one.

Leigh said that of all the subs she's tasted, Quizno's is on the top of her list in terms of quality.

"It's the best sub I've ever had. The freshness of the ingredients and seeing it go through that hot oven definitely separates Quizno's from places that deliver cold sandwiches," Kruczek stated.

Another thing that impressed Kruczek was the substance of the sub that makes the sub stay together.

"It doesn't fall apart. I could eat the sub while driving and control it."

Three gentlemen sitting behind Leigh and me also loved they stopped at Quizno's for their first time.

"It's delicious. The sub was very fresh and it was hot. All with a warmer atmosphere than other sub shops," Roy Trimboli stated.

"It was worth coming in," Trimboli's friend, Rich, stated.

Great food and service is exactly what the Owner of this Quizno's, Chad Maali, likes to hear. Since this location opened on January 4th, it has become the number one store in the state of Florida and Puerto Rico. Maali said part of that is due to the location of where it is.

"We get a lot of regular customers. One customer came in three times in one day. The UCF fraternities and sororities are also big customers. The whole Tri-Delta chapter came in once. There's been a huge response from the UCF community which is great," Maali said.

Quizno's is definitely spreading like wildfire, especially in Orlando. Seven stores in Orlando are already opened with five more under construction. There's also over 770 stores nationwide and you can visit their website with a location tracker for these stores (with a menu included) at www.quiznos.com.

So go check them out. Look for the coupon for a sub, chips, and a drink for only $3 right here in the Central Florida Future. Not only good food and great service, but also a great deal.
The U.S. Army has a number of programs that can help cut the cost of your college education. As a full-time soldier you can accumulate money to help pay for college. Or, if you plan to work while you are in college, consider the Army Reserve. Army Reserve service allows you to make money and acquire educational benefits while you usually serve just one weekend a month plus two weeks a year of annual training. Either way, you'll get out of college a little sooner and a little richer. For more information about specific programs, call 1-800-USArmy.

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Lead Stories

- British TV Program Guide: The BBC gave one more try in December to save the 1980's hit program "One Foot in the Grave" and His Dog. The viewship has fallen off; the program consists entirely of shepherds (each with his dog) competing to efficiently herd sheep into pens (although producers jacked it up by equipping some sheep with microphones to capture their "baa's"). And a Fall 1999 British-made documentary, "Hidden Love: Animal Passions," reported on practitioners in Misnouet's "zooephile" community (i.e., humans romantically involved with animals), including an interview with an unclassified zoolphile pushing over his "wife" Pixel, a horse; said one activist, "We are not against all zoos. Zoos are (merely) an alternative lifestyle."

- According to London's Daily Telegraph, U.K.-funded research revealed in January indicates that within 10 years, countries could require car manufacturers to install $300 electronic governors that would use satellite technology to control the maximum speed that cars could travel, varying it depending on amount of traffic, highway design and driving conditions.

Latest Nearly-Ultimate Wisdom

Convicted murderer William "Cody" Neal, at his sentencing hearing in Golden, Colo., in September: "I accept responsibility for the murder. If I lose my life, I can live with that." And an unnamed woman, when police in Appleton, Wis., came in December to remove her husband on account of his "swirlie," because of a complaint that she had given her 11-year-old daughter a "twirlie" (holding her head in a flushing toilet): "I haven't had a vacation in 15 years. Go ahead and take them.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

- At a meeting of African leaders in Tripoli in September, Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy unveiled a prototype of the car of the future that he said he had personally engineered in his spare time: the low-slung, five-passenger "Rocket of the Jamahiriya," featuring bottle-shaped front and rear ends to deflect collisions and make it the world's safest car. Libya would produce 50,000 cars a year priced in the "upper-middle-class" range.

- A private company, leasing land rights from the Israeli government, plans to build a $6.6 million entertainment complex in Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee to include an 80-yard-long platform just below the water's surface to allow visitors to re-create Christ's walk on water (at $5 a head). However, according to a December Austin American-Statesman report, Roman Catholic priests and Holy Land scholar Jerome Murphy-O'Connor predicted the walkway would be used only by "drunk tourists, not serious pilgrims."

- A September Deutsch Presse-Agentur report profiled Richard Thoenes, 33, from the German village of Kalkar, who earns a nice living as a hairdresser for cows being readied for cattle shows. "The trick," said Thoenes, "is to highlight the cow's strong points (straight back, slim legs, plump udders) and hide the weak ones," but Thoenes's professional standards prevent him from supplying artificial parts such as more attractive udders.

- In a December profile, the Village Voice touted the hand-carved potato dildos of California artist Pommetta de Terre, who said she prefers the potato over carrots or cucumbers, than clay or Play-Doh, or than candles or commercial dildos. De Terre adds lemon juice to prevent color change and olive oil to keep them from drying out. "We haven't had a potato break during use, 44, showed him progression slowly after the April 1998 incident in which a neighbor mistakenly jammed an 8-inch, serrated knife all the way into the top of his skull. Doctors pulled it out without major damage, and Hill now takes pain and seizure medication and still has trouble with emotions and short-term memory. Asked what he would have done if his house hill was when stabbed, believes the attack was intended for her husband.

- A Palm Bay, Fla., engineer renewed his call in September for testing his theory that bombarding developing hurricanes with nuclear weapons would disrupt their circular wind flow and cause them to dissipate, saving lives and curbing property damage. Henry Payne first made the claim in 1997, but a federal weather official said too many bombs would be needed, resulting in serious nuclear fallout even if the bombards took off as far from land.

- Recent Addictions: Dairy Hales peddled guiltily in Haymarket, South Yorkshire, England, in September to stealing books to feed her habit of eating paper. And researchers told a conference in Los Angeles in October that more men than women suffer from "body dysmorphic disorder" - people who imagine themselves horribly ugly and deed to be by it rad plastic surgery and peculiar disorders. And Canada's National Post reported in October on polyplia ("self-induced water intoxication"), which causes headaches and mental confusion by increasing it depending on amount of traffic, highway design and driving conditions.

People Who Are Not Like You and Me

Subenants Stuart and Susan Levy were at last fined $8,000 in December by a New York appeals court, but not before they had refused to move from their rented Manhattan apartment for 11 years after being given their 30-day notice to vacate by the tenant, who said in March 1985 that she needed to move back in. Because of the Levys' delay tactics, it took seven years for the principal tenant even to get a formal ruling that the Levys had to move. After that, the Levys stalled for four more years by claiming that the principal tenant should pay all of their legal fees for the 11-year battle.

Recurring Themes

Just before hurricane season in 1998, religious broadcaster Pat Robertson told his "700 Club" TV audience that the city of Orlando, Fla., should not have sponsored that year's "Gay Days" festival, that promoting homosexuality would cause God to visit hurricanes and tornados upon the city. (In fact, 1985's first hurricane hit Robertson's headquarters in Virginia Beach, Va.) In November 1999, the supreme Islamic leader in Afghanistan said that if Americans did not cease hostility against the Taliban, "the United States would suffer earthquakes and storms, and in fact took credit for September's Hurricane Floyd.

Least Competent Criminals

In unrelated incidents, Jesus Gutierrez, 17, was arrested in Springfield, Ore., in October, and Lawrence Eddy was arrested in Charlotte, N.C., in July, both charged with grand larceny. The most unsuccessful were the perpetrators too late that they couldn't drive cars with stick shifts. And the man who robbed the First American Bank in Columbia, Tenn., in December managed enough luck to escape, his getaway plans had been set back when he ran out to the stolen car he had left idling; only to discover that he had locked the key inside.

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Visit us online at: www.quinzonsoflorida.com
Dear Nancy,

One of the people I work with is a total slacker. All he does is sleep or talk on the phone. It’s annoying and it makes me feel like I don’t want to come to work. Why should I bust my butt to get the same credit as this loser? I’ve thought about rattling him out but I don’t think it will do any good since I’ve mentioned something to my boss before and nothing changed. What do you suggest?

—Sick of slackers

Dear Sick,

There’s a lot of fun things to do to this guy while he’s sleeping which all require you to play stupid. Run into the room screaming fire and laugh when he bolts out of his chair.

“Sorry, I thought I smelled smoke”. Set an alarm clock off next to his head. “I don’t know how that got there.” Dump a bucket of water on him. “The roof really needs to be fixed.” Or better yet stick his hand in a cup of warm water then snap pictures of him trying to cover himself until he can get home to change his pants. All you have to do is pretend you’re at a junior high sleep over.

As good as tattling on his lazy butt may sound it could backfire and make you look bad. Run into the fire hose and leave this guy alone.

—Honest friend

Dear Honest,

One of my friends thinks he’s a rock star or something and it’s really getting on my nerves. Every time I ride in his car he repeats the same song over and over and sings to it at the top of his lungs.

I don’t want to hurt his feelings but he really can’t sing and all he talks about is his singing lessons and how he’s going to record a CD. Should I give him a reality check or just wait for him to get it on his own?

—Honest friend

Dear Honest,

Put away your fire hose and leave this guy alone. You’re a dream killer and it’s probably because you don’t have any dreams of your own.

Go find some. If your friend really can’t sing, he’ll find out soon enough. Unless you’re a record producer it’s not your job to tell him.

It’s sounds like he’s having fun. If you’re tired of the same song ask him if you can switch it or drive you’re own car.

Is your little world is going to crumble because you have to hear the same song more than once? You should never underestimate people.

He could be the next Ricki Martin and guess who he won’t thank when he accepts his first Grammy?

—Dear Anonymous

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Student Government Senate Allocations

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A Laugh-Out-Loud, High-Energy Treat! A Must-See Movie!

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Hysterically Funny!

Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2000
9pm, Cape Florida Ballroom
Student Union

Funded by Student Government Association

Central Florida Future • 14
UCF Students flash back to the Big Era

LISA APPLEGATE
STAFF WRITER

While most of the student body here at UCF were still playing on elementary school playgrounds, people with loud clothes and even louder music were dancing the night away at their high school proms.

This past weekend’s event, sponsored by Cypress Christian Life, gave everyone a chance to experience this era. The unusually frigid weather didn’t stop people from wearing brightly colored, oddly coordinated outfits to the '80s Prom that started at eight o’clock on Saturday night.

These outfits that would not die were purchased mainly from thrift stores specifically for this occasion. A few of the guests got these clothes from their closets, and the ensembles ranged from peach taffeta gowns to aerobic outfits reminiscent of this period in time.

The theme for this dance was Enchantment Under the Sea with decorations of underwater creatures around every corner.

In the back left corner, couples could get their picture taken normally or as a pirate and mermaid pair behind a wooden cut-out. Another interesting added touch was the “breakdance” floor which was sadly neglected for a large part of the evening. As with most proms, there were tables to sit at where you could enjoy refreshments while watching your fellow students show you why their dancing careers never took off.

Cypress Christian Life, the group responsible for this fun-filled affair, is an on-campus club affiliated with the United Campus Ministries. With admission being only $2, fundraising couldn’t have been the main objective—and it wasn’t.

“Every year we sponsor an outreach event to raise awareness about our organization. We hope that people will take an interest in Cypress and in Jesus Christ,” said President Diana Bjorkman.

They accomplished this by giving out little pink cards to fill out if you wanted more information about their cause, church, or founder. These cards were also used to give out door prizes randomly throughout the night.

The atmosphere was upbeat, the clothes were hilarious, and the music was great at this resurrection of an ‘80s prom. More importantly than that, they got their message out to a hundred and fifty people who would never have known they existed otherwise.

UCF students turn back the clock at the ‘80s Prom in the Student Resource Center Auditorium.

Racism is not part of human nature; people are taught racism.

Jane Elliott

For over 25 years, Jane Elliott, a former teacher from Iowa, has committed herself to leading a fight against prejudice. The “Blue Eyed/Brown Eyed” exercise pioneered diversity training.

Feb. 15th, 2000
UCF Arena 8pm
Free to Everyone

Sponsored by SGA

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Tina Turner has always been a better performance artist than studio one. Her rendition of CCR’s “Proud Mary” is of course a rock ‘n roll classic — something she still performs with fire be it on tour or opening for the Superbowl. She has had some great hit singles on her own too, but the thing that has been missing from her career is one great definitive album of original material.

Twenty Four Seven is not this album. Granted, it has one or two potential hits hidden amongst its abundance of duds, but it won’t do wonders for Tina’s career in the same way Believe did for Cher’s. But we’re talking two truly different kinds of divas here anyway, so that comparison is rather unfair.

Or is it? It seems that Tina’s “people” have been talking music producers with Cher’s “people” as of late. That’s right — the same team behind the smash dance hit “Believe” are behind Tina’s latest, “When The Heartache Is Over.” The two songs don’t really sound alike, but it’s really the thought that counts. And that school the single in a way. Still, expect some clubplay if the remixes turn out any good.

The ten other tracks off Twenty Four Seven are pretty hard to distinguish from each other for the most part — they all sound mostly like Natalie Imbruglia knock-offs, complete with building acoustic guitars and driving drums.

And there are quite a few lyrics that divas like Tina should never have put in front of them to sing. “I’ve never been a winner but I still play the game,” she declares in “All The Woman.” Excuse me? That’s just as bad as Bette Midler singing. “How I want to deserve you.”

Reality check, you millionaire goddesses! You should know better than this kind of dribble.

Tina Turner
Twenty Four Seven

Verbena
Into The Pink

Making its major label debut with Into The Pink, alternative rock band Verbena’s new album bleeds with raw emotion, fusing together the past and the present.

It wasn’t much of a surprise to hear that Foo Fighters frontman Dave Grohl (formally Nirvana’s drummer) produced this album — there is an undeniable Nirvana grunge quality to it.

The album, released on Capitol Records, features bandmates Scott Bondy (vocals and guitar), Anne Marie Griffin (bass and vocals) and Les Nuby (drums).

On the tracks “John Beverly” and “Big Skies, Black Rainbows,” Bondy’s heartfelt vocals strike an uncanny resemblance to Kurt Cobain’s.

However, any qualms about Verbena’s similarities to Nirvana are quickly dismissed, as the rest of the album features a versatile style that is all its own.

The opening track, “Lovely Isn’t Love,” which features a thematically dark piano ballad, is just one example of Verbena’s versatility.

From the punk rock influences of the Sex Pistols to new wave, to grunge, to glam rock, Verbena is following the progression of sound to the place where it should go — then taking it a step further to a new level.

If you want to check this band out, “Baby Got Shot,” in which Griffin tears it up on the bass guitar while singing with Bondy, is one of the best samples of what Verbena has to offer.

The bandmates’ history together goes back long before Verbena.

Verbena’s origins can be traced back to the early ‘90s, when Nuby and Bondy, along with former Verbena bassist Daniel Johnston, were still in high school.

That was when the guys came together as the band Shallow. It was just a matter of time before Griffin joined the band, sharing both vocal and guitar duties.

It wasn’t long before Nuby left and was temporarily replaced by original Remy Zero drummer Louis Schefano.

It was at this time that the band changed its name to Verbena and released its EP Pilot Park.

Fortunately Nuby did not miss out on the real action, returning to the band and resuming the position of drummer.

The band released Souls For Sale in 1997.

In 1998 Johnston left, and Griffin picked up the bass.

The band, once more a trio, got Grohl’s attention — and the rest is history in the making.

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Defensive class may pay immediate dividends

February 9, 2000

Mike Kruczek. In the overtime, the Golden Knights took Deaubrey Devine, Chris Gunn, and Edwin Ferguson, and filled by incoming recruits. Gone are defensive lineman comerback Jeff Fye.

So it came as no surprise that UCF worked hard to sign quality defensive players during the recruiting period.

UCEF lost a number of defensive players to graduation last year, leaving gaps in some positions that could be filled by incoming recruits. Gone are defensive linemen Justin Moore and Raheem Pontifleet, linebackers DeSharey Devine, Chris Gunn, and Edwin Ferguson, and cornerback Jeff Fye.

The Golden Knights signed eight defensive players on National Signing Day, and have two others that enrolled here in January. If there is a star in the class, it has to be 6'0" 230 pound linebacker John Andrews, who was heavily recruited by Auburn before deciding to come to UCF.

In his career at Douglass High School in Atlanta, GA, Andrews tallied 375 tackles, 13 sacks and two interceptions. He was named to a number of all-state and all-region lists, and will contend for the starting middle linebacker job right away. "He fits a need," said Kruczek. "We don't have a middle linebacker. We graduated three seniors from that position, so he is immediately competitive for the job."

Also coming in at linebacker is 6'2" 205 pound linebacker that enrolled here in January, was recruited out of high school by Florida, FSU, and Miami before he suffered a knee injury in his senior year. He is now fully recovered and will participate in spring practice.

UCF had a lot of needs along the defensive line, and signed four players to fill them. Among them are Ben Brinson, who is 6'5" 255, Derrick Crawford, listed at 6'5" 270, Freddy Saint Preux, who is 6'5" 265, and the 6'2" 280 Chris Weeks.

"And all of these guys have growth potential," says Kruczek. Weeks, another player who enrolled at UCF in January, can bench press 400 pounds and is expected to make an immediate contribution. Crawford and Saint Preux are both JuCo transfers who can also push for playing time.

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2000 class dubbed best in school history

FROM PAGE 28

Knights came away with Chris Weeks (6-2, 280), Freddy Saint Preux (6-5, 265), Derrick Crawford (6-5, 270), and Ben Brinson (6-5, 255).

After filling those top priorities, UCF went after top-rated athletes who have the potential to be the next superstar. Quarterbacks Tracy Thorpe and Jon Rivera, running backs Gerard Jackson, Andre Curry, and Alex Haynes, wide receiver Tavaris Capers, and linebacker John Andrews headline the group that has Kruczek calling this the best recruiting year UCF has ever had.

"We had to step up to the plate and compete against the major football programs in the country," Kruczek said. "Remarkably, we took kids away from those programs." Rivera (6-3, 185) and Jackson (5-8, 210) had both committed to UCF over a year ago, and they stayed true to their word despite offers from many big name programs. Thorpe (6-4, 240) is the most compelling to coaches because he has similar quality to Calippey coming out of high school but he will take more time to develop.

Haynes (5-11, 205) is a local product from Evans High School, and he rushed for over 1,400 yards and 15 TDs this year. Curry will enroll at Milford (CT) Prep Academy and is expected to enroll in January 2001. Both players along with Jackson give UCF its best group of running backs ever.

"He (Curry) could be possibly the best athlete we got," Kruczek said. Capers lead a group of receivers that doesn't have height, but UCF sacrificed size for speed. Capers is joined by Derek Ponder (6-1, 185), who enrolled in January, James Gerald (5-9, 175), who will likely enroll next January, and Marcus Glover (5-11, 170).

But in the passing scheme for UCF, the tight end has never been a prime target. However, that all changed with the arrival of Michael Gaines, who had signed with Alabama, in January, Gaines (6-3, 265) has size and speed to be a good receiving tight end, and he is an excellent blocker.

"He's a tight end deluxe," Kruczek said. "He's 265 pounds but has the quickness of a 200-pounder."

Headlining the defensive unit is linebacker John Andrews. Andrews (6-0, 230) will challenge right away for the starting middle linebacker spot. Joining him at linebacker are Antoine Pae (6-0, 205), who enrolled in January, and Savarris Brown (6-0, 215).

Rounding out the signees were four defensive backs, which was another problem on the defensive unit last year. Safety Jerren Bray may compete to play early, while Daman Fagan (6-1, 175), Alphonso Hopkins (5-11, 170), and Keith Whitaley (5-11, 190) round out the defensive backfield.

With the best recruiting class following a 4-7 record, UCF ended any concerns that a sub-.500 record would hurt the Golden Knights chances to sign big-name recruits. Now Kruczek looks toward finally getting that first win against a nationally recognized and respected program.

"The 4-7 season did nothing to hurt our image with the athletes in the country," Kruczek said. "The schedule has made us very visible with the great football players in the Southeast. Yes, we have not beaten a great football team perceptively that will happen."
After four years of Daunte Culpepper, UCF running backs anticipated that they would be used a little more with his departure. Instead, Vic Penn set a school record for single season passing attempts.

A three-headed running back attack didn't fare as well as the Golden Knight coaching staff would have hoped, so they will commit to one guy this season. Thanks to a sterling recruiting class, they'll also have more candidates.

Area standouts Alex Haynes and Gerard Jackson join Edward Mack, Terrance Williams, Omarí Howard, and Corey Baker as UCF's tailbacks in a competition that will be anybody's to win.

Haynes, from Orlando's Evans HS, rushed for over 1,400 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior, earning all-state honors. Haynes, who was also recruited by Missouri, Louisville, Marshall, South Carolina, Kansas State, Purdue, and Miami, was considered one of the top five running backs in Florida, and was named to Super Prep's top 35 running backs in the nation.

"He has speed and acceleration plus a stiff arm which allows him to break tackles," recruiting guru Bill Buchalter said. "He reminds me of a shorter Sammie Smith."

Haynes is also a terrific track athlete, gaining a regional hurdle championship, and being rated one of the top 40 hurdlers in the nation. His athleticism and speed are huge assets.

"He's a tremendous back and brings a level of speed to the table that will be sorely needed," running backs coach Alan Gooch said. "Now we have Haynes and Corey Baker as speed backs to build around in the future."

The strength part of the equation could be supplied by Jackson, who committed early out of Melbourne's Palm Bay HS despite late pushes by Nebraska and Tennessee as well as Florida State and Auburn.

Jackson shared time with Kevin Fein in the Palm Bay backfield last season, leading the Pirates to a 10-0 regular season record, and managed to become the all-time leading rusher in Brevard County history, gaining 5,193 yards in his career.

At 5-foot-8, 210 pounds, Jackson has the power to run over people and at the same time has the speed to run through holes.

With the talent the Golden Knights have accumulated at running back, they may have a problem keeping everybody happy. However, that only serves as proof that the Golden Knights have landed as a major player in the college football world.

"We've got a stable of backs and its great that we keep rolling them in and attracting talent," Gooch said. "You can never have too much talent. We now have these tailbacks and are set for the future.

When spring starts, Mack, Williams, and Howard, the incumbents, will have a stiff challenge in keeping out the young guys. Williams and Howard will also be vying to avoid a redshirt season, which is something the coaching staff thinks is a probability due to the number of backs on the roster and the fact that Baker will have to play this season.

"When you look at it, that's what we'll need to do," Gooch said. "It wouldn't be in our best interest to have them rotate in and out. Terrance played injured last season and Omarí was coming off injury trouble, so we'll have to evaluate the situation in the spring.

"One thing is certain. It's better to have too much talent than not enough. We know we can't solely move it through the air like we have been, so our running game will be utilized more this year."
Comparisons to Daunte Culpepper will follow Tracy Thorpe, who chose UCF over programs like Miami and Kansas State, and will look to mold his raw potential under the tutelage of the Golden Knight coaching staff.

Quarterback combination excites coaching staff

TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR

With redshirt freshman Brian Miller impatiently waiting in the wings for his chance at the starting job and senior Vic Penn already a proven commodity, the early commitment of Perth Amboy (NJ) star Jon Rivera, one of the top players in the tri-state area, pretty much filled UCF’s quota for talented quarterbacks. However, when Melbourne quarterback Tracy Thorpe wanted in, the quota suddenly increased by one. After all, as Coach Mike Kruczek put it, you don’t turn your back on a talent like that. And so, the Golden Knights will enter next season with four very talented signal callers taking the snaps. Kruczek has already said that Thorpe quota for talented quarterbacks.

QUARTERBACKS, Page 23

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UCF beats out top schools for pair of talented QB's

FROM PAGE 22

and Rivera will each get a chance to make the travelling roster as the third quarterback, much like Miller did last season. The other will redshirt.

Thorpe is the wild card. Comparisons to former UCF star Danville Culpepper have circled around him since his junior season, his first year as Melbourne's starting quarterback. Despite having just two seasons of experience as a quarterback, the raw Thorpe has exhibited tremendous potential.

"I think he's the best quarterback I've ever seen in nearly 30 years of coaching," Mel-Hi Coach Mike Vogt said. "He had to deal with a new offense, but he did just fine with it. It was difficult for him to undergo a change in the offense as a senior but he handled it well.

"He's got a cannon for an arm. An absolute cannon. He's very loud!"

Thorpe also was being recruited by Iowa, Kansas State, Miami and Minnesota.

In his two seasons at quarterback, Thorpe passed for 1,960 yards and 21 touchdowns. Last year, he threw for 1,447 yards and 17 TDs and ran for 414 yards and five TDs.

His size (6-foot-4, 240 pounds) is another glaring reminder of Thorpe's similarity to Culpepper. Now that he'll directly be following in Culpepper's footsteps, the raw Thorpe has exhibited tremendous potential.

"When you think about what he can bring with his speed and arm, Tracy could be very tough to keep out of the lineup," Kruczek said.

"He is a remarkable athlete in that if he passes out at quarterback, he gives us an option like very few teams in the nation will have. And if for some reason he washes out as a quarterback, which I don't think will happen, he's the type of athlete who can help us in other areas like defensive end or linebacker."

Rivera is more of a pocket passer with a solid arm and good skills. He committed to the Golden Knights in mid-July after a quarterback camp after which he walked away very impressed. Auburn and Indiana offered him scholarships. Syracuse and Notre Dame expressed interest. He was named to the 99 All-Heisman Team, recognizing the top 20 players in the New York/New Jersey/Connecticut area.

Rivera passed for over 5,000 yards and 48 touchdowns during his career and was named to the Reebok Prep All-Star team, as well as first-team all-state, all-county, all-division, and all-area.

Boasting impressive prep credentials, Rivera will join Thorpe and Miller in a race to be UCF's future at quarterback. In addition, incoming freshman Burt Clark, from Palm Bay, will join walk-on Ryan Schneider as a dark horse in the race. The future appears very bright.

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"I like it in a way because I can go in there with some expectations. I know I have to work hard. But, I want to be known as Tracy Thorpe."

Thorpe will have an opportunity to carve his own niche out at UCF, as Kruczek finds himself tremendously excited by the prospect of a Culpepper clone.

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Baseball team returns to Tinker Field, their home away from home

From Page 23

TRAVIS BELL  
STAFF WRITER

Home field advantage has always been an important aspect in collegiate athletics, and for UCF baseball that has been no different. Last year was an exception when the Golden Knights had to play in their home games at Tinker Field in downtown Orlando, and it was the first time since 1994 that UCF lost 10 home games.

With the delay in the construction of Jay Bergman Field on campus, UCF has to continue playing its home games at Tinker Field until the on-campus facility is complete. UCF begins its home schedule this weekend against Western Carolina, but Coach Jay Bergman doesn’t feel that the off-campus stadium detracts from the home-field advantage.

“We practiced at Tinker on Saturday and everything went great,” Bergman said. “Tinker is so close that I don’t think it takes away our advantage.”

Heading into the series against WCU, the Golden Knights already have an advantage over the Catamounts – it has won a game this year. UCF opened its season last weekend against Tennessee and came away with a two-game losing streak by a combined score of 18-1.

UCF is still glowing from its 2-1 performance in the ACC/Disney Baseball Blast after victories over Wake Forest and Clemson. Bergman hopes those two wins helped prepare his team for the rest of the season.

But now the Golden Knights have a two-week stretch in which they don’t play the same level of competition that it faced in the Disney tournament. UCF must avoid a letdown as it heads home for seven of its next eight games.

“This series against WCU is extremely important,” Bergman said. “This is a challenge to see how we handle these games against lesser competition. It will be indicative of the season, so we have to jump on them early and bury them.”

UCF has faced the Catamounts only one time before in a three-game series in 1996 in Orlando. The Golden Knights won all three games, with one going to extra innings. WCU is projected to finish fifth in the Southern Conference this year according to Baseball America.

Outfielder Charles Thomas, who hit .406 with three home runs and 41 RBIs last year, leads Coach Todd Raleigh and WCU into Orlando. The Catamounts are a team based around speed and pitching, but hitting and fielding in the two losses against Tennessee hurt them.

WCU managed 12 hits with only one extra base hit in the two-game series, and they committed five errors that led to eight unearned runs. UCF must take advantage of any mistakes the Catamounts make. "They have a couple good players,” Bergman said. “We haven’t played them in a few years, so I lost track of them.”

While the Golden Knights play the waiting game for the on-campus stadium, they have to call Tinker Field home again after posting a 21-10 mark there last year. UCF had posted a 98-25 home record during the four-year stretch before leaving campus. Bergman is hopeful that the new stadium will be finished in time for the home series against Louisiana State in early March or soon thereafter. “It (the new stadium) is gonna happen,” Bergman said. “We might as well wait.”

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KNIGHTS FILL HOLES IN OFFENSIVE LINE

here and compete in January and they were very tough to find,” Kruczek said. “Two come in here with some physical maturity to help us.”

Going into last season, UCF lost standout offensive linemen Ryan Gillis, Marcus Jenkins and Cornel Green. The losses to UCF’s line made life difficult for the Knights during the year, as they struggled to get the necessary blocking to keep UCF running and passing games afloat.

In UCF’s disappointing 28-10 loss to Auburn, the Knights offensive line was weakened by the fourth quarter from the constant pounding it took from the top-notch Tiger defense. UCF returns a veteran line for next season, including senior center Chris Lorenti, a likely NFL Draft prospect, and sophomore Brian Huff, a key contributor last season’s 4-7 team.

If the new linemen progress into useable pieces of the Knights’ offense as planned, UCF should have a group in place to take the O-line to a new level this year. In addition to adding his productive bat to a potent infield lineup, Catcher Pete Gavillan will see the majority of action behind the plate, being forced to handle UCF’s rotation in addition to adding his productive bat to a potent lineup.
Perry adjusts to new roles in senior season

It has been a roller coaster ride of a season for the UCF men's basketball team. Injuries, hot streaks, and cold streaks have all contributed to a mediocre record for a team that is much more talented than it has shown.

"I've had to adapt to new situations this season," said Perry. "You never know when injuries will hit. You have to be ready to step up when your point guard can't go."}

David Marsters, Staff Writer

Perry entered this season as the undisputed floor leader of a team that boasted four seniors. He had developed into one of the best point guards in the TAAC, and was ready to build upon last year's runner-up finish in the conference tournament. He was second in school history with 373 assists, and had an outside shot of breaking the record of 531 held by Simms Phillips (1990-1994). But his and the team's chances of reaching their goal took a big hit when Perry injured his ankle early in the season and had limited action, relegating his starting duties to freshman Al Miller.

When Perry was finally healthy, Miller had emerged as a player too good to be kept on the bench. So Perry and Miller have shared time at the point guard position, with Perry playing at the unfamiliar shooting guard spot for much of his time on the court. Despite these changes, however, Perry has found a way to contribute — leading the team in assists and steals.

"I'm just going to try to do whatever I can to make this team do well," he said. "I want to win, it's my last year out, so I'm going to do whatever it takes."
Men's tennis wins home debut, but loses pair in Tallahassee

DAVID WINDBERG  STAFF WRITER

The University of Central Florida men's tennis team opened up its 2000 Spring season at the UCF Tennis Complex with a 6-1 win over Idaho State on Jan. 30. The Golden Knights posted an early lead by taking two out of three doubles matches for the doubles point, led by William Guerin and Fernando Martinez at No. 2. The pair scored an 8-2 decision over the squad of Idaho State's George Devizde and Malcolm Swan.

In singles, UCF appreciated strong performances from its three upper-class men as senior Fernando Martinez clinched the victory with a 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 win at the No. 6 position while juniors Federico Sanabria (at No. 5) also posted a win when Erkki Tom topped Idaho and I liked the way people came through in tough three sets.

The Golden Knights returned to action on Feb. 4 against Florida A&M at the Snake Pit Tennis Center in Tallahassee. Despite having three match points to clinch the doubles point, UCF tandem Camacho and Moore lost in a 9-8 decision against Rafter duo Robert Beameh and Josef Clark at No. 1. The doubles point became crucial when the Knights recorded three singles wins to post their first ever dual match win against the Golden Knights. In singles Camacho and Guerin rolled past Jerry Joseph and Isaac Yarrell respectively.

The two co-captains improved to 2-0 in singles play on the season. UCF's third win came at No. 6 when Samabria topped John Richards in three sets. "It was a disappointing loss," Cashman said. "We didn't play up to our potential and didn't compete in two spots. It's a tough loss."

The Golden Knights fell to 1-2 on the season when host Florida State handed UCF another 4-3 decision at the Scott Speicher Stadium. The Golden Knights started out strong winning the doubles point against the 69th ranked Seminoles behind victories from Camacho and Guarin at No. 1 and Westin and David Moore at No. 2. In singles play Florida State, who topped 31st ranked New Mexico in its season opener, wasted no time as Xavier Luscan beat Camacho at No. 1, Chad Mooney topped Martinez at No. 3 and Noah Schnell dispatched Samabria at No. 5 in straight set victories. Guerin continued his strong play defeating sixteen Mike Ingham, 6-3, 5-7 and 6-4 at No. 2, and Westin picked up his second win on the season by tapping Jeff Scarrilla, 6-4 and 6-3. Guerin improved to a combined 6-0 in dual match play.

"Today, we played well. FSU has a good team and they proved that against New Mexico, but we have to continue to work hard," Cashman said. "Guerin had a fantastic weekend with four wins and Camacho is also playing solid tennis. They are really stepping it up so far."

Loss of Paige hampers UCF's attack

FROM PAGE 28

This week, with the availability of Paige still uncertain, the Golden Knights will have nine healthy players to put on the court in games that are going to very physically taxing.

"We've got to come out times stronger and harder than they are," said Khaliah Guillory, who is a point shooter, but as far as their post players, it will be a big key to success on the court this season, providing rebounding margin. UCF is ranked in the top 10 in the nation. Against Georgia State, UCF will face a team with similar strengths. The Panthers boast three of the top six rebounders in the conference, and are second only to the Golden Knights in rebounding margin. UCF is ranked in the top 10 nationally in that category. Junior forward Leslie McElrath leads GSU offensively, scoring 19.1 points per game. Campbell brings a very balanced offensive attack, led by forward April Crews' 17.2 points and 9.7 rebounds per game. Guard Sarah Moore averages 12.7 points for the Camels, and Junior Washington averages 6.6 assists, second in the conference.

"We don't make any adjustments as far as guarding post players," said Striegler. "I'll match up my post players with any post players in the conference. We'll make adjustments for different shooters if we think someone is a good three-point shooter, but as far as their post players, it doesn't scare me."

"We've just got to go up there and play with confidence. No matter what happens, you have to go in and play your game. If something bad happens you can't get out of what you want to do. The key is that we've got to play hard, give it everything we've got, and execute the game plan." If UCF is going to win both of those games, they will have to be a better first half team. Last week, the Golden Knights were outsized 72-44 in the first half of their games, forcing them to make a comeback in the second half. They responded in both instances, outscoring Samford and FSU 80-64 in the second half, but that kind of rally is more difficult to pull off on the road. Despite occupying the last place spot in the TAAC right now, UCF is only one game out of sixth place, which is important because the top six teams receive a first round bye in TAAC tournament. If the Golden Knights are to earn that bye, however, they will have to start with two wins this week.

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UCF hauls in gem of a recruiting class

TRAVIS BELL
STAFF WRITER

Coach Mike Kruczek and the rest of the football coaching staff entered the 2000 recruiting season with many needs to fill. Voids left behind from graduation or lack of depth from last season. He not only filled those needs, but he was rewarded with a lot of wins in the process as well.

In all, the Golden Knights signed 27 players, with five of the signees already enrolled at UCF this semester. Seventeen of the signees earned all-state honors.

UCF fans have been waiting for the "next Daunte Culpepper" - a big time recruit who can continue bringing the spotlight to Orlando and to UCF. They may have gotten their wish by way of five or six recruits who have the potential to be as explosive as Culpepper.

"We had some needs we had to satisfy and I felt like by far and away this has been the best recruiting year we've ever had across the board," Kruczek said. "We signed some very, very visible football players in this nation, something we haven't done ever in our history here."

UCF set out to better itself at every position, but the top priority was the offensive line. The Golden Knights needed size to compete against the top Division I programs, and it received size in a "big way" with junior college transfers Patrick Joseffe (6-5, 340), Steve Edwards (6-5, 345), and Alex Hernandez (6-5, 300).

They will make an immediate impact, but UCF also sealed up on the line for the future signing high school linemen Travis Muse (6-6, 320), Norman Lewis (6-3, 270), and Tyewan Brown (6-4, 300).

"You can see offensively, we've added some size to the interior people which is where we need it which gives us the chance to do the things we need to do to be a little more successful on this side of the football," Kruczek said.

Another major priority was the defensive line, and Kruczek was happy about who UCF signed but was disappointed about losing two top recruits in the final hours before signing day, said to The Golden

RECRUITS, Page 20

Men's basketball heads down homestretch with critical road contests

TONY MELIA
SPORTS EDITOR

In one Saturday of TAAC action, UCF went from second place in the conference into a tie for fourth, only one game and a half behind second place Jacksonville State and two and a half games behind first place Troy State.

With the difference between second and seventh place being separated by just one game and a half, the Golden Knights must take advantage of every opportunity to gain conference wins.

The Golden Knights will take on Mercer on Feb. 10, playing the ninth-ranked team in the conference at the Macon Centreplex. Though the Golden Knights romanced the Bears, 93-77, in Orlando, they must be wary of an upset bid, as Mercer enters the game playing its best basketball of the season, coming off an impressive 88-74 win at Stetson.

The Hatters entered that game as arguably the hottest team in the conference, having registered blowout victories against UCF and conference-leading Troy State.

However, the Bears surged ahead 40-19 after one half, and held off Stetson to gain their fourth conference win.

Swingman Chris Hill, the Bears top scorer, hit six-of-seven 3-point attempts against the Hatters as Mercer connected on 11-of-15 from beyond the arc in the win.

Perimeter defense becomes the key for UCF in their rematch against the Bears in Macon. In the first meeting, the Knights were able to get off to a good lead before Mercer got their perimeter attack in gear to cut into a 28-point advantage.

Mercer lacks a consistent scoring threat other than freshman center Scott Emerson, who averages over 14 points per game and is a solid performer in the post.

However, the team is dangerous when Mercer gets their perimeter attack in gear to cut into a 28-point advantage.

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