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Kweisi Mfume
speaks about
One Florida

Darcy Elena
Rodriguez
STAFF WRITER

Kweisi Mfume, CEO and president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, spoke to students and the Central Florida public in the UCF Arena on Feb. 20. The event, sponsored by the African-American Student Union and the Campus Activities Board, was one of the many lined up in honor of Black History month at UCF.

Mfume spoke to remind Americans that loyalty, hard work and commitment to a vision pave the way for political and personal change.

"Mfume is someone black men and women can look up to."
—Willie Nelson, UCF student

Mfume also voiced his opposition to Governor Bush's One Florida Plan, which will permit universities to look at factors such as geographical diversity and socioeconomic background, instead of race and ethnicity, when considering applicants for admissions. Other programs, such as the Talented 20, which guarantees the top 20 percent of each graduating class admission to a state university, will be implemented.

Mfume also shared his view on the issue involving South Carolina and their Confederate flag. He reminded attendees of the NAACP's decision to boycott South Carolina.

"He talked about his successes in life," said Michael Rosick, vice-president of the ASSU and chair of Black History month. "He's an outstanding leader."

"Mfume is someone black men and women can look up to," Willie Nelson, UCF student, says. "He is a great man. I like him a lot."

Mfume became the president of the NAACP after giving up his ten-year congressional seat. While a member of the House of Representatives, Mfume helped to propose and pass acts such as the American Opportunity Act of 2008, which will permit universities to look at factors such as geographical diversity and socioeconomic background, instead of race and ethnicity, when considering applicants for admissions.

"President and CEO of the NAACP, Kweisi Mfume, makes his views known to UCF's student body. He voiced his opinions on the Confederate flag being flown at the South Carolina state house, as well as Gov. Jeb Bush's controversial Talented 20 program."

"We see a lot of clients with eating disorders or those really upset about their body shape."
—Cathy Barbano

Inside

ADAM SHIVER
STAFF WRITER

Spring is in the air
Wide receiver Kenny Clark runs a route during Saturday's football scrimmage. The team is halfway through spring practice, which concludes March 11.
—More sports, Page

Parental notification mandated by BOR

ADAM SHIVER
STAFF WRITER

That awful hangover may not be the only thing to worry about after a long night of drinking any longer. The Board of Regents voted Feb. 18 on a plan that will allow Florida's universities to contact Mom and Dad and let them know about cases of underage drinking and drug use.

The Board of Regents decided, the day after its vote on the One Florida and Talented 20 plans, that the state's 10 public universities will take up policies that will notify parents of underage students who are caught drinking or using drugs on campus.

Before the vote on Feb. 18, UCF did not notify parents of such things, but will be changing its guidelines under the BOR's directive. The university is going to be drawing up this new policy effective immediately.

According to state law, notification of such offenses will only be to those students who are charged as dependents on their parent's income tax returns. Student's whose parents do not claim them will not be reported to their parents. This however might turn out to be a difficult task for university officials.

The regents are lobbying to have the Florida State Legislature change this policy to match that of the federal government. With such a change parents of all students involved in underage drinking or drug use would be reported, not just those claimed as dependents.

A typical American college student is more on beer than they do on textbooks showing that underage drinking takes place in a large percentage of student's lives. Underage drinking is not just a problem on campus though. Underage drinking and drug use can be found in many of the surrounding area pubs and apartment complexes near the university.

"A lot of places near the school serve underage kids."

Photo by Jason Korkoff

Students under the legal age will think twice before reaching for alcohol.
March 1, 2000

UCF senior, entrepreneurial success

TAYLOR CLARK
STAFF WRITER

UCF Senior Management Information Systems major Michael Scully never suspected he would be so successful when he began his own e-commerce business, BuyCoffee.com. A couple of years ago he began researching online businesses, which eventually led to the selling of coffee beans via the Internet in 1997 when he purchased the domain name.

Why beans? "It's not something that you have to try on and it's not fragile," said Scully. "It's the ideal product."

With the help of a local roaster in Orlando, First Roaster's of Central Florida, Scully's coffee business has taken off, earning him a personal experience that success does not always come easy for Scully. Until recently he was financing the entire project on his own, which he says, "has been very frustrating at times." As with many entrepreneurs, Scully was tempted to throw in the towel on several occasions, but refused to give up. His perseverance definitely paid off.

A couple months ago, just as funds were running low and he was pondering the notion of quitting, Scully was chosen as one of the 27 pilot online merchants to launch First USA's eCard, a credit card, which offers incentives for cardholders who make online purchases with selected merchants. As the eCard's popularity grows, BuyCoffee.com will be promoted.

Almost simultaneously, Southwest Airlines' in-flight magazine, Southwest Spirit, named BuyCoffee.com the best site for gourmet coffee on the net, ahead of Starbucks who came in third. Between the recognition in the magazine and the rise of traffic, and the likelihood of its long term success.

Like many other businesses, Scully said, the emphasis has been on keeping the business well stocked. However, he doesn't always have praise, but an established name in the business world as well.

Although BuyCoffee.com is now a success, things have not always been easy for Scully. Until recently he was financing the entire project on his own, which he says, "has been very frustrating at times." As with many entrepreneurs, Scully was tempted to throw in the towel on several occasions, but refused to give up. His perseverance definitely paid off.

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Mfume speaks about political, personal change

FROM PAGE 1

the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and the Civil Rights Act of 1991.

Mfume graduated magna cum laude at Morgan State University, where he also taught political science and communications as an adjunct professor. He also received a Masters degree in Liberal Arts from Johns Hopkins University.

Currently, as the head of the NAACP, Mfume promotes his five-point action agenda, which includes Civil Rights, Political Empowerment, Educational Excellence, Economic Development and Youth Outreach. The NAACP was founded in 1909 and is the country's oldest, largest and strongest civil rights organization. The NAACP is dedicated to the political, educational, social and economic equality of minorities in the U.S. The organization is committed to non-violence and relies heavily upon the courts, petitions, ballots and the press. Membership presently exceeds 500,000.

Mfume hopes to attract a younger generation of Americans to the NAACP. He invites men and women of all ages, races and religions.

For his achievements and leadership, Mfume has received hundreds of awards, proclamations, citations and is the recipient of nine honorary doctorate degrees.

Bostick learned from Mfume's speech that "My mission as a black man is never done." The general view for the ASU is that "we need to get on the ball."

Century Project promotes self esteem

FROM PAGE 1

Mayoral debate set for UCF

A CFF STAFF REPORT

UCF will be hosting a political debate between Orlando Mayor Glenda Hood and her running opponent for the Mayor's spot, City Commissioner Bruce Gordy, at UCF on March 7.

For more information about this event, contact the Public Relations Department at (407) 823-2947.

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CENTRAL FLORIDA FUTURE
Thursday Knight Jive entertains audience

DIANA MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

The Campus Activities Board's Cultural Arts committee hosted its monthly Thursday Knight Jive on February 24. Thursday Knight Jive is an opportunity for those who want to share their thoughts, expressions, and feelings with an audience. The poetry readings have opened its doors and expanded opportunities for those who want to share their thoughts, expressions, and feelings to an audience. The poetry readings have opened its doors and expanded opportunities for those who want to share their thoughts, expressions, and feelings to an audience. The poetry readings have opened its doors and expanded opportunities for those who want to share their thoughts, expressions, and feelings to an audience. The poetry readings have opened its doors and expanded opportunities for those who want to share their thoughts, expressions, and feelings to an audience.

In celebration of Black History month, this TKJ's host, Marissa Maingot, talked about a prominent African-American person, such as Maya Angelou and others. Grape Koolaid is made up of four incredibly talented musicians: Ben Blackburn on bass, Matthew Brown on drums, and Philip Martin on saxophone.

Grape Koolaid opened the jive, their sounds attracted byes. The Cultural Arts committee has moved the poetry readings from the UCF Barnes and Noble bookstore to the Student Union's Charlotte Harbor (SU 313) because of a larger attendance rate. Plus, the committee has been providing free pastries and coffee to those who attend the readings, which is an incentive to attract more people.

There were many regulars at this jive, as well as many other strangers who shared their expressions to everyone. The poetry and other readings ranged from love to freedom to admiration to family. Besides poetry, the jive's audience was entertained by a guitar solo, a drum trio, and a song played on the piano by Aiyana Cadwell.

Keturah Bailey, a junior at UCF and the creator of the Thursday Knight Jive expressed her feelings about the poetry readings as the jive's last performer of the night. "I love Thursday Knight Jive!!" The next Thursday Knight Jive that the committee has scheduled is on March 9. This jive is part of the Campus Activities Board's Week of Knights. To sign up to read or for more information about the jive, stop by the CAB Office at the SU 215, or call (407) 823-6471.

RTNDA Brings Broadcast Opportunities to UCF

KRYSTI ZILFEE
STAFF WRITER

UCF's Radio TV News Directors Association (RTNDA) will sponsor their annual internship fair-March 6 in the Student Resource Center from 7 to 9 pm.

Coordinated by faculty advisor Michelle Retze, RTNDA is an organization for students studying journalism and broadcasting. As a campus chapter, RTNDA's focus is to better prepare students for the broadcast news industry.

Biweekly meetings invite DJ's, anchors, producers, and directors to speak to members, and this organization also provides scholarship opportunities available strictly to RTNDA members only. RTNDA's annual internship fair provides an opportunity for students to network with various radio and TV station representatives in central Florida, including CPN 13, WMNO, WFTV, and WDHO.

"It can be hard finding an internship, most students don't even know where to begin," explains RTNDA Events Chairperson Jacki Giardina. "That's why this fair is so beneficial to those seeking out opportunities but don't know where to start."

Broadcast stations will have representatives from 13 central Florida stations prepared to give students a clearer understanding of the industry and what incentives their companies offer.

"If students are interested in an internship in radio/TV, then they can come out and see which station is most appealing to them," said Giardina.

"Personally, this event will motivate me to narrow down what stations I want to work for and which ones don't appeal to me."

Are you interested in winning a brand new computer?

If so, you can register to win a new laptop computer worth $3,500. How you ask? The State University System of Florida is looking for a name for its new statewide library system, which brings library and information resources and services to SUS faculty, staff, and students at the library, to their home, or office. Submit a winning name and the computer could be yours!

Who may enter: Registered students and currently employed faculty and staff of any of the 10 State Universities.

Deadline: Entries must be postmarked no later than midnight, Friday, March 24, 2000.

Entry Forms: For more information and online entry forms, visit the UCF Library home page: library.ucf.edu and then click on "What's New" or look at the top of the WebLuis home page: webluis.fcla.edu and then click on "Name That System Contest."

- Shelley Wilson, Staff Writer

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Campus News Briefs

Give blood, receive t-shirt

The Central Florida Blood Bank is going to be holding a blood drive on March 7 and 8, from 8am until 5pm in front of the Student Union. Students are encouraged to come out and donate, and will be given a free t-shirt for their participation. Supplies are low and the blood bank can use all the help they can get. You can contact Caroline Cunningham with the Central Florida Blood Bank at (407) 999-4458 for more information.

Graduate students work with folk art at House of Blues

Art professor, Kristin Congdon, holds class each Wednesday morning at Disney’s House of Blues restaurant located in Lake Buena Vista’s West Side. Her students are studying the bistro’s large collection of folk art. These nine students are producing a book on the art and artists displayed in the restaurant, with the book’s proceeds being given to the House of Blues foundation. For information you can contact Congdon at (407) 823-2195.

Scholarships up for grabs

The UCF Alumni Association is offering scholarship opportunities to current full-time students. Students can apply and pickup information regarding the scholarships in the Alumni Association, ADM 340, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm.

Taking a break from all that writing

The University Writing Center will be closing Friday March 10 at 3pm and will re-open Monday March 20 at 8am. The UWC is closing for spring break.

Pizzeria hosts UCF Night

The new Uno’s Pizzeria located on University Blvd will be hosting a UCF Night, with all proceeds going towards the College of Business Administration. The event is open to everyone. The event will take place March 7 from 5pm to 12am.

Anything Goes extended to March 12

Theatre UCF is extending it’s run of the popular play, Anything Goes, in order to allow more students to enjoy its witty humor. Anything Goes will be running March 2 through 12, with an added 2pm matinee on Saturday, March 11. Curtains will promptly raise opening night at 7pm, all other showings will begin at 7pm, with Sunday matinees at 2pm. Tickets are $4.50 – $8.75. Tickets can be obtained through Theatre UCF Ticket office at 823-1500.

Health and wellness expo slated

The Health and Wellness Resource Center will be hosting a health and wellness expo in front of the UCF Bookstore Wednesday March 8 from 10am until 2pm. Contact the Health and Wellness Resource Center for further information.

UCF announces conservation biology certificate

UCF is going to team up with Disney’s Animal Kingdom in offering courses in Conservation Biology. The biology department is currently accepting applications to the program for the summer 2000 term. Classes will be offered out at the Animal Kingdom itself for a hands on learning environment. If you are interested in the program you should contact David Kuhn at (407) 823-2976.

Adam Shiver, Staff Writer
Students have plenty of Spring Break options

Artwork: Photo by Beth Shaw

ELAINE LEBLANC
STAFF WRITER

A relaxing week sunning on the beaches of the Bahamas? Or skiing down a snowy slope? How about experiencing the infamous New Orleans culture during Mardi Gras? These are Spring break, which officially begins on March 14, is a welcome vacation for those finding themselves in the "mid-semester slump," even if they are not planning an exotic trip.

Sophomore Katie Auger said, "I really can't leave town this year because of crew practice, but I am just ecstatic not to have to leave Orlando. A survey of UCF students found 3 in 10 plan to migrate to the beach. Popular choices included Panama City, Daytona Beach and Key West.

Senior David Howard said, "Key West is the perfect place for me. Between water sports all day and Duval Street packed with college kids at night, it's definitely worth the drive."

In addition to the Florida beaches, cruises departing from nearby Cape Canaveral to Mexico, the Bahamas and Jamaica are also frequent destinations.

Freshman Sarah Gagnon said, "I picked Jamaica because I heard there is a place there where you can jump naked off of a cliff."

New Orleans is also an annual favorite due to its proximity, eclectic culture, and, of course, Bourbon Street. Celebrated on the last Tuesday before Lent (March 7 this year), Mardi Gras celebrations fill the streets of New Orleans with elaborate costumes, musicians, masks and beaded necklaces.

"Bourbon Street, at least for me, is the place to get totally wild and earn some cool beads," said senior Viviana Hampers.

"If you need to find me, I will be snowboarding down the Swiss Alps." Sophomore Karine Trudel will also be donning a heavy coat for her trip to Canada. She said, "But traveling is not the only activity that students have planned for spring break. Junior Jesse Breet said, "I am staying here so I can spend some real quality time with my brother without all the distractions of school."

For information, students can contact STA Travel at (407) 541-2000. The agency offers student fares for some flights and vacation packages.

In search of snowy fun, some Knights plan to leave the warm temperatures and venture into colder climates.

Senior Ryan Westberry said, "I will not have to hear any mean jokes about Canadians there."

Others, however, are able to take advantage of this opportunity to leave Orlando. A survey of UCF students found 3 in 10 plan to migrate to the beach. Popular choices included Panama City, Daytona Beach and Key West.

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Florida universities facing new challenges under admissions rules

ELAN T. PADILLA

State universities will have to find more creative ways to maintain diversity when the Florida Cabinet approves an expected Tuesday a move to abandon the use of racial, ethnic and gender preferences in college admissions.

Although the state's 10 universities will get a new admissions tool that guarantees college placement to the top 20 percent of each high school's graduating class, they still have to figure out how to make it increase diversity.

It sounds like a paradox because the plan, called the Talented 20, is supposed to send more minorities to the universities. But in the short term, at least, some minorities who qualify might not be fully prepared for college.

Under the Florida plan, universities could find themselves scrambling to maintain or improve on the level of diversity that now exists. Minority students currently make up 32 percent of all students in the state university system—a figure that mirrors the state's minority population.

This is all part of the education portion of Gov. Jeb Bush's One Florida plan, which the state Board of Regents unanimously adopted last week. Approval by the Cabinet puts the plan into effect.

"It will be a different world, but I don't want to make it sound like it's totally different," said John Hitt, president of the University of Central Florida.

Following Tuesday's Cabinet vote, public universities and high schools have to mobilize quickly to figure out what to do next.

Hitt said, for example, he would be convening a "war council" this week to establish a plan to boost diversity at the school. UCF has a minority enrollment of nearly 23 percent.

Looming in the background is a voluntary civil rights agreement with the federal Department of Education that Florida entered into in 1995. It commits the state to increase diversity on college campuses. University presidents don't want to upset that agreement even though there are no specific penalties if they do not comply.

Many are looking into the model set by Florida State University, one of five state schools that had ended preferences before last week's regents vote. The others are UCF, Florida International University, Florida A&M University and the University of North Florida.

FSU has a minority enrollment of 26 percent, one of the highest in the state for a non-minority institution such as FAMU or FIU.

It got there by old-fashioned legwork, according to Provost Larry Abele.

"It takes time, money and commitment. This isn't rocket science," he said.

Bush developed the Florida plan last November in part to preempt a ballot measure by California businessman Ward Connerly that would make race and ethnic preferences unconstitutional in public employment, state contracting and college admissions.

Connerly's initiative, which is pending before the state Supreme Court, is considered more severe than Bush's proposal.

For years public universities not just in Florida but nationwide relied on preferences to choose some of their minority students.

The system worked by giving black and Hispanic students "extra credit" for their color or ethnicity in the same way that students also earn points for completing rigorous academic courses, scoring high on standardized tests or being the children of alumni.

Removing race and ethnicity as admissions criteria will have the effect of increasing competition among all students.

Minority students themselves have sensed this. In public hearing after public hearing they have agonized over "losing" the opportunity to attend college.

Marit Jose Hays, a sophomore at the University of South Florida, broke down and cried during her testimony at the recent regents meeting, saying that for her 15-year-old sister, who has a "pretty good" grade point average, wouldn't be able to go to college.

University presidents do not rule out the possibility, but they maintain that under the Talented 20 plan, students such as Hays' sister will have a good shot at a higher education.

If Hays' sister maintains her GPA, she likely will fail her school's Talented 20. To enter a state university.

Talented 20 students also will have to do one other thing: complete 19 hours of academic credits in core subjects such as English, math, science and foreign language.

Such coursework isn't necessary to earn a high school diploma, but is required to gain entry to a state university.

Preliminary data show that less than half of minority students take such courses, according to the regents. Making sure that minority students enroll in these courses will fall to the state's school districts as well as the universities.

Under Bush's One Florida plan, universities are expected to partner with high schools, especially low-performing ones.

In such states as Texas and California, where preferences were outlawed either by court order or ballot box, universities have forged relationships with high schools and even middle schools in an effort to identify and encourage talented minority students, news reports indicate.

That is considered crucial contact for minority students—and their parents—who may not be thinking of college, talented or not.

In addition, FSU's Abele said the school already buys "tens of lists" of names of prospective students from the College Board, which administers standardized college admissions tests.

The school telephones and writes the students, planting the seed that they are considered college material.

"You have to have a relationship with the student by the 10th grade. If you wait for the 12th grade, then it's too late," Abele said.

At the University of North Florida, educators plan to focus on four inner-city schools in Jacksonville that earned D grades from the state Education Department last year, said president Anne Hopkins.

Schools such as Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton confirm that more upfront recruiting work is in store for the universities in the years ahead.

"Ten years ago FAU didn't have many minority students. Now we are 14 percent African American and 14 percent Hispanic. That didn't happen by accident. We had to work much harder with high schools," said Anthony Cataneo, president.

Write the Future

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March 1, 2000

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DEREK CATRON
KNIIGHT-RIDDER TRIBUNE

DAYTONA BEACH — Spring break has often found ways to put Daytona Beach in the national spotlight, almost all of them bad — pool deck parties on MTV, drunken balcony falls, the occasional shooting.

About the only good publicity tourism officials could count on was the career fair, when sunburned college students stepped off the beach long enough to fill out applications and sit for brief interviews with corporate recruiters.

Tourism officials learned this week that the career fair will be, well, taking a break, at least for this year.

Mike Jiloty of Jiloty Communications, the Holly Hill advertising firm that built up the career fair, broke the news Wednesday to members of the Halifax Area Advertising Authority at their monthly meeting.

Jiloty said a company had agreed in January to sponsor this year’s event, but organizers thought that was too late to adequately promote it. The company, which asked not to be identified, has shown interest in sponsoring the event next year but won’t be able to commit until completing its annual budget.

“Hopefully, in June or July they will be able to make a commitment for next year,” Jiloty said before the advertising authority meeting.

Through out its five-year history the career fair had been funded by the advertising authority, which oversees the spending of hotel bed-tax money to market tourism in the area. The two-day event cost the board $50,000 last year. Its spring break marketing committee decided that was too much, considering the career fair does little to fill hotel beds.

Supporters said the importance of the event couldn’t be measured in numbers. An intangible benefit was that the career fair allowed Daytona Beach to keep spring break while telling the world it promoted a more responsible event.

The event attracted about 30 employers, including IBM and the U.S. Secret Service, and about 1,000 students a day. The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and other newspapers across the country wrote stories about the event.

All that goodwill for Daytona Beach earned some fans for the career fair.

“I think it’s a good thing,” Daytona Beach Mayor Bud Asher said recently. “These young people have an opportunity to talk to prospective employers while they’re enjoying themselves here on spring break. I’d like to see it continue in Daytona Beach.”

Ironically, the career fair is ending at a time when corporate recruiters are scurrying for job candidates.

“It was a useful event when we introduced it, but it was still kind of a novelty event,” Jiloty said. “Now, all of a sudden, the demand for the best college students is better than ever. We’d like to think the students who are going to give up part of their spring break to do this are among the best out there.”
North Central College's new dorms like home away from home

LAURA ZAHN POHL
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

NAPERVILLE, Ill. -- The entryway to Ross Gourley's new dorm suite at North Central College includes a large closet for coats and backpacks, spacious enough to please any suburban homeowner. The bay window with vertical blinds frames the entertainment unit and fish tank, while two love seats form a comfortable "L" for studying.

Two private bedrooms and one double bedroom flank the open space.

"This weekend, we're going to buy a table and chairs for the kitchen," said Gourley, 21, of Plainfield, Ill. "This is like living in an apartment."

Through a lottery system, Gourley and three friends snared a choice end unit in the new townhouse residence hall, which officially opened Feb. 12. Many of the 90 residents were living temporarily at a former convent owned by Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church.

Located at Loomis Street and Chicago Avenue, the new facility was designed to look like a row of town homes to complement Naperville's historic neighborhood.

The 20 units contain amenities unknown to most dorm dwellers. Many are arranged on two floors, with a spiral staircase joining two upper bedrooms with a living area and bedroom downstairs. Residents can use the small kitchens in their units to supplement dining hall meals. Bathrooms are private, replacing communal shower rooms and rows of toilet stalls.

"There are apartments in the area, but they're expensive," said Melissa Moore, 20, a town home resident from Manitowoc, Wis. "This allows upperclassmen to stay on campus through the holidays or over the summer, because this is their home."

The new town homes will probably be available for year-round living in 2001, Hamen said.

Moore and Gourley intend to return to their new digs next year by taking advantage of a college policy called "squatting." "If you can get your roommate to agree to it, you can 'squat it,'" said Moore of her desire to retain her unit. "You get first dibs at your old room."

Northeastern U. student faces possible 10-year sentence for hacking

SPECIAL TO THE FUTURE

BOSTON (TMS) -- A Northeastern University computer science student has been accused of a "coast-to-coast hacking spree of military and government networks that prosecutors say also gave him access to NASA's computer system."

Kenneth Ittih, 28, was charged Wednesday with three hacking charges that bring a maximum 10-year sentence and $250,000 fine.

"All in all, the defendant used his home computer to leave a trail of cybercrime from coast to coast," U.S. Attorney Donald Stern said in a statement. "The defendant gained illegal access..." other causing substantial business loss, defacing a Web page with hacker graphics, copying personal information or, in the case of a NASA computer, effectively seizing control."

Prosecutors said there was no disruption to the nation's defense, no interference with satellite control and no improper use of information.

This is not Ittih's first brush with law enforcement. He was charged with hacking the Interior Department's site last year. And in August, he was charged in Seattle with a computerized attack on Zebra Marketing Online Services, an Internet service provider in Bainbridge Island, Wash. Prosecutors in that case said the company sustained "a significant loss of business."

Northeastern University officials said they have been cooperating with law enforcement since last fall, when they discovered Ittih had copied classified information about students, faculty and alumni.

"c'mon, let's go study... right now... it'll be fun."

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Where !!

@ Knight Lights Grill & Eatery
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When !!

Thursday, (March 9, 2000)

Time !!

7:30pm. to 10:00pm. (Please Arrive Early)

The tradition continues following The 1999 PRE DRAFT CELEBRATION, recognizing the 99’ senior class of Golden Knights for their contributions to the community and dedication to the University of Central Florida.

This celebration will include Food, Entertainment, Special V.I.P Guests and a host of former UCF Golden Knights.

Tickets can be purchased in advance @:

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**NOTE:**
- TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED THE DAY OF THE EVENT.
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Josh Murdock
STAFF WRITER

"Beep, Bop, Blink, Zap." Sound familiar? It should if you are in the 90's. American's population in the 90's can be known as technological worshippers, as the Aztecs were to their sun God. Think back to the 80's, I know it will be hard for most of you since you were born in the 90's, but go with me.

Look at Johnny "Rich Boy," he has his own TV and VCR in his room. Wow, you may think, because in the 90's everyone and their stepmother twice divorced to the same dad has a VCR and TV in every room of their house.

Look out-DVD is invading homes across the country, and it's not a type of underwear. It's the latest technology for those home movie fanatics. Wait, what happened to laser discs? For those who don't know it's dead. Why may you ask, because it's bigger then breadbox, more like bigger then mon­

tor rack. DVD will be a lasting phenomenon because it's way better then any VHS tape, has tons of cool features, and is the size any regular CD.

Yes, we all remember the days when there was one place to watch a video, if your lucky not BET.A, in your home. Remember the days of having a computer in the house was a very rare site but now more and more homes have two or three computers with double gigabit, super sized and a large coke on the side computers. I remember tailgating, and flipping birds has tons of cool features, and is the size any regular CD.

We can all understand being in a hurry to get to class or to get home, but enduring the lives of others is without a doubt, out of the question. Not only could you hurt someone else, you could hurt yourself. This is all pretty obvious information, but do I remind you guys who will.

I am so glad to finally get this off of my chest, but what is the deal with steering parking spaces? Hi, um hello? Can you see that I am sitting here with my blinker on? Wait I think I just heard all of you yell "Hey, I hate that too!" I just cannot understand why a person would do that. Maybe it's just me, but is getting a parking spot really so important that you act a jerk? Gee, I really hope you don't have distinguishable marks on your car ... say sorority letters, fraternity letters, Dave Matthews Band stickers, Wu-Tang stickers, proud parents stickers, etc. You get my point. Speaking of distinguishable marks, I would like to now say that there are some weird people out there. There are people who are mean and vicious and will not think twice to key your car if they remember that you (with the "Goddess" bumper sticker) cut them off when they were in a really foul mood the other day. I am not saying that I would do this but heed my warning, it can happen.

I feel a lot better now. I think we can all work together to make our campus and apartment parking lots a safer and healthier place. Hopefully my words of wisdom have opened some eyes. If they have done nothing for you, then you'd better get rid of your bumper sticker.

Driving on campus causes big headache

Beth Shaw
STAFF WRITER

Driving around the campus the other day I noticed a feeling of déjà vu. It was really strange. At cars pulled out in front of me and darted around dejà vu. Apparently, no one knows driving around this area is probably ten times as bad as on campus and apart­

ment complex, let's just say it isn't known for it's peaceful calm environment. The driving around this area is prob­

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pus. Apparently, no one knows about the speed traps or about the fact that Americans drive on the right side of the road. Yep, that's correct, we drive on the right side.

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WMMO 98.9 FM wrapped up its Free Concert Series last Friday with a short 1-hour set played by the Paula Cole Band.

The series that kicked off on Feb. 5, with legendary West Coast lowriders War, attracted local residents to the Church St. Marketplace with the promise of good performances for an unbeatable price — free.

The Berklee College of Music graduate stepped on stage along with schoolmates and collaborators of 11 years, Jay Bellerose on the drums and guitarist Kevin Barry and played hits from her 1994 effort Harbinger, Grammy-nominated This Fire and the latest self-produced Amen.

Hits like “Where Have All the Cowboys Gone?” and “I don’t Want to Wait,” out of the Dawson’s Creek soundtrack, were sure shots to keep the large audience singing along for the rest of the evening.

Cole, who was invited to support singer/composer Peter Gabriel’s world tour in 1992-93, is no stranger to success. This Fire topped both MTV and VH1 charts and was nominated to nothing less than 7 different Grammy categories, including one for producer of the year.

Cole was the first female producer to be nominated to that category.

In Amen, Cole goes beyond the boundaries of her own music trying different approaches to songwriting and producing. Cole, a closet hip-hop fan, enlisted old school Gang Starr’s DJ Premier and Tionne “T-Boz” Watkins of TLC for the needed extra kick.

“I love Gang Starr and was so excited to have someone ‘old school’ and authentic contributing to the album,” said Cole during recent interview. Premier scratches on both the album’s stunning title track and on “Rhythm of Life,” a song which features Paula alternating between rapping and singing.

“I’ve never done that on a record before, but I love hip hop and just decided to go for it. I did do sort of a bare bones talking part on ‘Where Have All the Cowboys Gone?’ but I think it sounds better when you all a little ‘flava.’ I don’t care if I get criticized for it, that’s what moves me.”

Cole took turns alternating between the piano and dancing on the stage while singing hits from her three albums.

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Start your FREE SuperFriends website today!
LISA APPLEGATE
STAFF WRITER

Anyone who doesn’t already have a profound love for classical music has never seen dedicated, professional musicians performing in a live setting.

Those fortunate enough to have heard about and then attended a concert by the Arman Ensemble can appreciate this seldom-mentioned art form.

The Arman Ensemble features Deniz Arman Gelenbe, Constantin Bogdanas, and Dorel Fodoreanu who play the piano, violin, and cello, respectively. They formed their trio in Paris and have been astounding their audiences for the past fifteen years, most recently at our very own music rehearsal hall this past Wednesday night.

Their chemistry was nothing short of miraculous, as if they were born together in one womb.

From love to pain, hope to fear, and new beginnings to foreshadowed demise, these artists painted an emotional portrait in their audiences’ mind using classical music perfected with grace and refinement.

“The cello seemed to represent tension, the violin fury, and the piano provided us with a passionate resolution,” said student Missy Nordstrom about the first half of the concert, “I’ve never heard these pieces performed so well before.”

The University of Central Florida’s Chamber Arts Series, founded by UCF faculty member Ms. Gelenbe, was gracious enough to allow students with school identification into the show free of charge.

This collaboration invites artists from all over Europe to perform here. This past fall it was the Talich Quartet (from Prague), and this spring will feature the Haydn Quartet (of the Netherlands). In spite of all this, there were only 20 students at the event.

Those who wish to take advantage of this opportunity to see a talented musical performance and be exposed to cultural ambience are encouraged to do so at the Series’ next recital on Sunday, April 2 at 3 p.m.
George Henderson, author of Our Souls to Keep, had me, as a white liberal, pegged before I read the first page. Unfortunately, he didn’t know how to communicate with me, which was the stated intention of his book.

“Even white liberals, while they do not trivialize the issue of slavery...... wish blacks would just celebrate their culture and stop being obsessed with their past,” Henderson wrote in the first chapter.

He is right, to a certain extent. I do feel that as Americans, both black and white, we should concentrate on changing our society by eliminating his definition of race as “a wall between blacks and whites.”

The past should serve as a warning, not as an unpayable debt.

It is at that point that any similarity between my views on race relations and the views he attributed to “white Americans” ends.

This discrepancy results from his tendency to overgeneralize the views of “white Americans” and “African Americans.”

While I think he did an excellent job summing up the barriers that exist in a society comprised of a variety of races, I don’t think his proposed solution to ending those barriers is probable.

He suggests that white Americans become more knowledgeable, and thereby more concerned, with the culture of black Americans.

I wish this attitude was possible, but I don’t think anybody can condition themselves to care more for a person who is not in their immediate family or race than they naturally do.

Caring about the world their children will grow up in is a different matter.

For this reason, I feel that his excellent writing style should have been directed at a more specific solution than changing the thought process of “white Americans.”

What about rewriting the history books?

Fully educating underclass blacks and whites?

Changing the culture of America to accommodate everyone, regardless of skin color?

Instead of using recent data, or stories from real life, he composes several fictive conversations between whites and blacks that ultimately stereotype both races.

These mini-stories, though they ultimately undermine his attempt to demolish a racial communication barrier, do show a wonderful skill in storytelling.

I would love to read Henderson’s autobiography; the few, brief pages where he outlines his childhood were my favorites.

Or, if that project is too limiting, I’d like to see a collection of personal anecdotes from blacks and whites that illustrate the racial barrier.

Convince people of the severity of the problem, then propose solutions that involve both races.

If we can work as a nation, not a race, to end segregation, discrimination, and racial tension, then we won’t be keeping our souls, we’ll be sharing them.
Chuck Shepherd's
NEWS OF THE WEEK

LEAD STORIES

Cynthia Lane told reporters in February that she would file a $100,000 lawsuit against the Ontario Human Rights Commission because Windsor Regional Hospital had labeled her Down syndrome child on charts as "FLK," which several health care personnel told reporters was a commonly used term meaning "funny looking kid." Said the hospital's chief of pediatrics, "A lot of parents dislike the term even more than Down syndrome.

State-of-the-art veterinary care was described in a January New York magazine story on Manhattan's Animal Medical Center, including kidney dialysis ($35,000 a year), cataract removals, hip replacements, anterior-cruciate liga-
ment repairs, root canals and brain surgery. CPR on small animals (such as, witnessed by the reporter: a pet rat) consists of placing the animal's head inside a doctor's mouth. The New York Times reported in January that veterinary care flourishes in Canada because the private sector runs it, unlike human health care: one man, long wait-listed for an MRI at Ontario hospitals, quickly booked time at an animal hospital.

Lost Words

"Who wants old ugly Kevin Green, anyway?" (uttered by a 17-year-old Atlanta woman who was then shot to death by Kevin's other girlfriend, who was convicted in December, "Make me (stop humming Christmas carols)" (uttered in December by a 78-year-old Menlo Park, Calif., man who was then strangled by his roommate), "I killed your dog" (uttered tauntingly by a 37-year-old Wisconsin man to his breeder-owning husband, who then shot her to death, according to his December confession; she had already admitted having an affair with an old boyfriend).

Compelling Explinations

Former pastor Eric Daniel Harris, 37, pled guilty in November to the 1996 arson that burned down the Kentucky Missionary Baptist Church in Saline County, Ark. According to a federal prosecutor, Harris said he did it because "there was a division among church members, and they needed a project to unify them."

In October, a Pennsylvania Commission on Health Court accepted driver John Carlin's argument that it was impossible for him to comply with the police's Breathalyzer demand because he had urinated so bad that he could not blow firmly into the device. Said Judge Rochelle Friedman, "The difficulty of such a task is obvious;" Officers had denied Carlin a restroom break until he consented to make the standard two blows; the first registered .018 (over the legal limit), and he refused to take the second.

According to reports of an NCAA investigation published in the Knoxville News-Sentinel in February, an official in the University of Tennessee English department tutor had merely misinterpreted the December confession; she had already admitted having an affair with an old boyfriend.

Not My Fault

Jack Ramsay, who is a member of the Canadian Parliament and who was convicted in November of the 1969 attempted rape of a 14-year-old girl while a member of the Mounted Police, said the crime "would never have hap-

ed" if she had not let him see her panties. Ramsay admitted recently that while questioning the girl as a crime victim in 1969, he needed to know whether she understood the concept of sexual intercourse and thus asked her to demonstrate it. Ramsay said it was during this examination of her breasts that he caught the fatal glimpse of her panties. (Ramsay has been ousted from the Reform Party but has not resigned his seat.)

Hard to Get into Prison These Days

Matthew Harley, 27, sentenced to prison on weapons charges in 1995, surrendered at a courthouse in Portmouth, Va., but was sent home, where he continued with his life until September 1999, when authorities finally came for him. And Doris Preston, 74, sentenced to five years' mini-

num for arson in 1991, went home in Columbus, Ohio, on bail but was not picked up until September 1999. And in August, parole-violating rapist Gerald Bennett, 30, tried politely to surren-
der at the police station in Glenolden, Pa., but was turned away because of a records glitch and remained free for six more days, during which time, according to police, he killed one woman and raped another before being caught.

Least Competent Criminals

Miguel Avalos-Rivera, 28, was arrested in Fairfax, Va., in November after being found screaming in a car in a house, his hand had gotten stuck in the dashboard as he tried to steal the stereo, and he had broken three of his fingers. And Jimmy Cooksey, 36, also was discovered screaming in pain in October: sheriff's deputies in Dallas said he had tried to steal a flat-screen television set, powerline wires with a homemade pole, but took 35,000 volts, burning him so badly that he lost both legs and is still hospitalized (though no crim-
nal charge was filed).

Also, in the Last Month...

A couple parked in a Loudon County, Va., nighttime lovers' lane was so startled by an approaching sheriff's cruiser that the man abruptly drove off, accidentally right into the Potomac River before being rescued. A 7-year-old girl was stabbed 25 times (not life-threateningly) by a play-
ematuring Chuckie in "Child's Play 2," which he had seen three days earlier (Brasilia, Brazil). A rape sentenced to two life terms plus 110 years asked the judge a lethal injection, saying, "I can't do that much time" (Prince George's County, Md.). A drug-dealing couple were arrested for try-
ing to collect a $40 debt by dangling a guy out a window with the same breed of dog (Poochon, Evansville, Ind.). A math teacher was arrested for forcing a 13-year-old boy to take his restroom break in a classroom trashcan (Montgomery, Ala.).

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 18137, Tampa, Fla. 33687 or Welt.com-peterson.com or go to www.whatsweird.com)
March 1, 2000

www.UCFfuture.com

Dear Nancy,

My neighbors are constantly playing their music too loud. I have to turn up the volume on my TV almost all the way to hear it, and sleep is out of the question until after midnight. I've pounded on the wall a few times and it didn't work. I've thought about talking to them face to face but I don't want a confrontation. What do you think?

- Noisy Neighbors

Dear Noisy,

If you're counting beats instead of sheep and singing along to the words through the wall, it's time to put the neighbors in check. And as usual Nancy has a number of ways to accomplish this. You choose the one that works best for you:

1. If and whenever they're not playing music call and ask them to turn it up because you're going through withdrawal.
2. When they are playing their music call and request a song.
3. Bust through the wall like Hulk and turn it down yourself.
4. Break into their apartment and steal their stereo (when they're not home).

Of course you could do it the conventional way (which will probably be the most effective and keep you out of jail). You could knock on their door and ask them politely to turn it down. I also suggest that when you do this play it cool. You don't want to sound like a person they can push around. You have to let them know you mean business so don't squeak or snort or talk in a puny voice. And DO NOT tell them you're trying to study — that's just too dorky. And will most likely result in them playing their music increasingly louder.

Dear Nancy,

Lately all I do is sleep. I have a thousand things that I could be doing and things I'd like to do, but I don't have the energy. I find it a challenge to get out of bed in the morning and a lot of the time I'm late to work because of that. A friend asked me if I was depressed the other day and I said I didn't know. How do you tell?

- Too Tired

Dear Too Tired,

Get a grip, you're not depressed or you'd know it. So stop listening to The Cure and examining yourself in the mirror looking for clues because you're fine. You might not like your job and in that case you are not alone. But you have to work so, suck it up and get there on time before you're fired and your life really sucks. As far as your energy level there are plenty of creative ways to rejuvenate yourself. You can try standing on your head, eating clams (they're supposed to be happy), watch Oprah — you'll get a free self help shower. Exercise is especially important because it gets the chemicals in your brain working (runner's high is not a myth).

There's also foods like peanut butter and bananas that are supposed to give you energy. Unless you have a life threatening disease you have no excuse to stop whining and get out of bed.

The Outdoor Festival will take place on “The Green”, March 21, 2000 from 10am - 3pm. It is open to the UCF community. Mark your calendars! We'll see you there!
March 1, 2000

Treat yourself some Bacco

PATTY CANEDO
ASSIST. ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

For the past seven years Bacco Ristorante Italiano has featured delicious Italian cuisine served by a warm, friendly staff. Roberto Bozzalino and Liliana Badamo, owners and chefs of the restaurant, have been recognized for this not only in Orlando but throughout the country.

Bacco's serves savory southern and northern Italian dishes, which are made fresh in the restaurant every day. It is for this reason that in 1996 and 1997 Florida Trend named Bacco's one of the top 200 restaurants in the country and Zagat Survey named it one of the top ten for '96, '97, '98 and '99.

For this month, dishes varied from veal cutlets, filet mignon, pork tenderloins, duck legs, a medley of seafood prepared over linguine and various pasta entrees, as well as a Crepe appetizer and another type of appetizer.

The Crepe appetizer for the month was a fresh mushroom shallot served in the creamiest goat cheese sauce with zesty Italian herbs surrounded by a soft delicate dough.

But make sure that you don't fill up on the outstanding appetizers, you'll want to save room for the amazing entrees.

For February the pasta entrees menu included a variety of different pasta dishes. The Penne 4 Formaggi was made with fresh penne pasta and had a mozzarella, gorgonzola, fontina, and parmesan cheese sauce, which tasted even better than it sounds!

This great dish contains delicate, meat and pasta accented with a fabulous, ripe tomato sauce.

Another outstanding entree is the Pollo 7 Colli. The tender, chicken breast is topped with prosciutto, roasted pepper, mozzarella cheese and topped off with a creamy brandy sauce.

As well as making outrageous dinners, Bacco's makes its own desserts from scratch.

So you get a great meal at a great price.

Bacco Ristorante Italiano is a wondrous restaurant that serves amazing food.

If you are looking for a great date place, I strongly recommend Bacco's not only for its warm, romantic atmosphere and excellent, authentic Italian cuisine but for its friendly service.

Bacco's is open for dinner every night and is located on University Blvd and Dean Rd., in the Publix Plaza.
Anthrax
Return of the Killer A's

There is no doubt that Anthrax lives and dies for its fans. While most bands would release "greatest hits" packages to entice new fans, Anthrax put its collection together for the people who have stuck with the band through thick and thin. And now, fans of Anthrax can hear the best tunes out of its 17-year career with its latest release, "Return of the Killer A's.

Killer A's is packed with the best songs from one of the most innovative yet underappreciated bands to ever storm the planet. From the opening classic "Bring The Noise," featuring Chuck D and Flavor Flav of Public Enemy to their newer hits like "Inside Out," Anthrax refuse to disappoint its fans. Though original plans for a dual-lead singer tour fell apart, current frontman John Bush and ex-frontman Joey Belladonna set their egos aside for their fans. Though original plans for a dual-lead singer tour fell apart, current frontman John Bush and ex-frontman Joey Belladonna set their egos aside for their fans and combined their vocal efforts for a cover of the Temptations' "Ball Of Confusion," something most metal bands would be afraid to even try.

Also included are special remixes of "Potter's Field" and "Hy Pro Glo," both from their 1993 release Sound of White Noise. Upon listening to the power and consistency of Killer A's, one can only wonder why Anthrax received such small fractions of the mainstream success that it truly deserved.

Anthrax bridged the gap between rap and metal, ate "Lovin' Lunch" with Metallica, and made heavy metal fun. Killer A's reminds the world that Anthrax was an innovator; frequently imitated, but never quite duplicated.

Violent Femmes
Viva Wisconsin

Think of rebellion and you might think of the Violent Femmes. In an age of music excess — foot-high hairdos, overproduced albums, bombastic live sets the band was bare bones. When spouting cliched love ballads was considered pretty, they were writing meaningful satires and critiques. While Poison and Winger mounted their groupies, the Femmes mounted a revolution.

18 years and 12 albums later, the Femmes are still relevant. Pop music has changed: fake breasts have replaced fake hair, boy ballads have replaced power ballads and screaming female fans have been replaced by, well, more screaming female fans. And although the faces of good music's enemies have changed, the fight against them is the same.

Viva Wisconsin, the Violent Femmes' newest live release, epitomizes the spirit of this fight. Recorded live at six different venues in the cheese state, the album is 20 tracks of live, unadulterated Femmes: the way they were intended to be. For fans and Femmes virgins alike, the album is a must listen. Wisconsin is a candelabrum of sweet Femmes songs. "Prove My Love," "Add It Up," and crowd favorite "Blister In The Sun" each bring the house down. The previously unreleased songs "Life Is An Adventure" and "Sweet Worlds of Angels" are also played in top form. The band's unique folk/punk approach to songwriting and performance are evident throughout.

The album appeals because it isn't fake. With superficial songs and styles saturating our culture, it is refreshing to hear the Femmes do it the way they have for nearly 20 years. Viva Wisconsin is, like the Femmes, intimate and uncut: two guitars, two drums and three voices.

Gordan Gano's raw vocals accompany his equally crude, but amazing, guitar playing. Talented bassist Brian Ritchie follows Guy Picciotto's unique synergy. The previously unreleased songs "Snow Day," "Sweet Worlds of Angels" and "LFO," are also played in top form. The band's unique folk/punk approach to songwriting and performance are evident throughout.

Viva Wisconsin is nothing new. When first glancing at the soundtrack from the Nickelodeon Movie "Snow Day," it seems to contain the best in today's pop music, but after listening to the album, even the 9-to-14 age group may be a little disappointed at first.

With artists such as Jordan Knight, LFO, 98 Degrees, Smash Mouth and Boyzone, the album is sure to attract their fans like magnets.

Furthermore, this album may provide a solution to the battle between parents and their children about what music to listen to in the car.

Parents will not mind listening to the CD because of the PG nature of the lyrics.
CAB PRESENTS

Week of Knights

Take some time out to have a Knight out!

Schedule of Events

Mon. March 6: A Knight at the Movies
   "The Sixth Sense"
   Reflecting Pond 8pm
Tues. March 7: A Knight of Comedy
   Damon Wayans
   Arena 9pm
Wed. March 8: A Knight of Music
   "Big Sky" & "Sho Nuff"
   Arena 7pm
Thur. March 9: A Knight of Fun
   Luau & Thursday Knight Jive Poetry
   Pool 7pm Charlotte Harbor SU 7:30pm

Dance Marathon Registration Mon. - Fri. from 10 a.m - 2 p.m.
Outside student Union and before each event.
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The UCF Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Student Union is looking for judges and roommates.

All 20 Points Hotels are located in Orlando, Florida. They are due Friday, March 3rd, at noon. For more information, call 823-6471.
Florida's Tolerance for Crime IS OVER!

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For more information on how you can get the word out on your campus about these new laws, please call 850/488-7810.

This notification is provided as courtesy; it is not intended to constitute an official interpretation of the law.
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FROM THE SPORTS DESK (cont.)

From Page 32

Sunday at the USF Tennis Complex. With the loss the UCF men drop to 2-5 on the season. UCF got wins from the #1, #4 and #6 singles slots, but dropped a close match at the #3 where Fernando Martinez fell 6-4, 4-6, 7-5 to USF's Steve Capriati. South Florida won two of the three doubles matches, including an 8-6 victory at the #1 doubles where Tintori/Capriati downed UCF's Grayden Moore and David Moore 8-6.

The UCF men return to action on March 5 when they host Sienna College at the UCF Tennis center at 2:00 p.m.

McPherson Leads UCF To Second Best Finish

University of Central Florida golfer Jeff McPherson fired a three-round 217 (70-73-74) to place eighth at the Ron Smith/USF Invitational, helping the Golden Knights crack the top 10 individual and top five team standings for the first time this season. McPherson hit 37 out of 54 holes at par to finish just six strokes behind Florida Southern's Jeff Klauk, the tournament champion. Freshman Ben Osbrach (Gainesville/Buchholz HS) finished at a six-over-par 219 to grab 15th place honors. His second round stroke count of 68 was the single-round lowest score of any competitor at the tournament.

"This was the best performance of the season, and by far the most consistent," said UCF head coach Brian Craig. "Jeff McPherson and Ben Osbrach stepped up their games, which we needed in order to be competitive as a team."

The two top 20 individual performances helped the UCF men finish at a season-high fourth place, tied with 50th-ranked Middle Tennessee State. Simon Sainz (Madrid, Spain/Arturo Soria HS) and Jeff Whitman contributed 224 and 228 to the team total of 886.
Student participation is key to UCF's athletic success

David Marsters
Staff Writer

It's official, game are the days when your friendly Central Florida Future writers were the only ones calling for more people to show up at UCF football games - now the outcry has spread to the national media.

ESPN's Chris Fowler, who hosts the network's College Football GameDay show, was the guest speaker for last week's 1999 UCF Football Awards Ceremony, and even he got into the fan-lobbying act. During his speech, Fowler asked how many students were raised their hands. He then addressed those students in attendance.

"You guys need to go back and spread the word," he said. Fowler. "As good as this program is improving, there's still a lot of room for getting the students to drive the 12 or 15 miles to the Citrus Bowl, and that's a big step but one that has taken place at every program that comes from nowhere to somewhere. I hope you guys can go back and religiously convert others, because that would help the perception of this program around the country." Consider your fanhood challenged.

Granted, fans need to know they are going to talk with Coach Kruczek about the recruiting class, A 4-7 1999 season isn't the best thing to build a fan base, body paint, and, uh, root beer at the Citrus Bowl. Fowler.

"I really think that by the end of this decade, you're going to talk about UCF in the same breath as the Kansas State success stories and the Virginia Tech success stories. College Football GameDay at the Citrus Bowl is not that far fetched. Some Friday night in the not too distant future we'll be hanging out in Church Street Station waiting for a big Saturday game and a visiting team will come in with their fans and there will be 70,000 people to see the Golden Knights. I look forward to that day," Fowler.

Being in a conference means bowl game affiliation, national recognition, and above all else, money. To get into a top conference, however, a school needs to prove that it will be competitive and bring in a lot of fans. In addition, they have to have money. Last year, the Golden Knights were courted by some conference whose acronym doesn't even bear repeating, which included such powerhouse as Middle Tennessee and Louisiana.

Fowler. "It's official; gone are the days when the outcry has spread to the national media. The immediate benefits might have been good for UCF, but joining a rinky-dink conference would not have been a good decision for a team that expects to become a national power. In his speech, Fowler weighed in on the issue, saying that UCF should wait for the right situation. "As one outsider's point of view, I would just say that this is not a program that should sell itself short," he said. "It should continue to aim high, and I think things will work out. There are conferences out there that should feel lucky to have this program. You don't have to go around begging. There are conferences that should see the value here and I think will see the value here over time."

The building process does take time, and it also takes the effort not only of the players and coaches, but also the boosters, the school administration, the community, and the fans. Fowler compared UCF's development to two schools that, 10 years ago were nobodies, but now have to be mentioned in any debate about the nation's top teams.

"I really think that by the end of this decade, you're going to talk about UCF in the same breath as the Kansas State success stories and the Virginia Tech success stories," he said. "The pieces are here, the coaches are here, and the players are in this state, and you guys have laid the groundwork. I look forward to watching this thing develop."

So can UCF become a national power and create its own identity despite being in the shadow of college football's Bermuda Triangle - Florida, Florida State, and Miami? Stay tuned, says Fowler.

"College Football GameDay at the Citrus Bowl is not that far fetched," he said. "Some Friday night in the not too distant future we'll be hanging out in Church Street Station waiting for a big Saturday game and a visiting team will come in with their fans and there will be 70,000 people to see the Golden Knights. I look forward to that day."

So do we.
QB Penn named Offensive Player of the year at annual awards show

bright,” Fowler told the crowd. “There’s no reason this program can’t go as far as you want it to. It has progressed with a courageous vision. Those of us that follow this sport admire that, and appreciate that kind of vision and the guts to play anybody anywhere.

“Obviously you didn’t get that breakthrough win you were looking for, but you will always be able to look back and remember taking on those giants week after week. And you’re going to get that breakthrough win; it’s going to happen.”

Much to the audience’s delight, Fowler observed that UCF was most definitely robbed against Georgia last season, and looked forward to bringing his show to the Citrus Bowl sometime in the near future.

“College Football GameDay at the Citrus Bowl is not that farfetched,” he said, comparing UCF’s development to the Cinderella stories of Kansas State and Virginia Tech. “I look forward to watching this thing develop.”

Then it was time for the awards, which included the recognition of the seniors, introduction of the lettermen, Academic-Athletic awards, Strength and Conditioning Awards, Individual Team Awards, and the “Big Stick” award.

Quarterback Victor Penn took home the Offensive MVP Award, defensive lineman Justen Moore earned the Defensive MVP, and Ricot Joseph was selected as MVP of Special Teams. The Most Spirited award went to defensive lineman Josh McKibben, and graduating senior Marv Richardson won the Stuart Stipe Award, given to a walk-on that makes the most significant contribution to the team. The coveted “Big Stick” award, which is given weekly and at the end of the year for the biggest hit during a game, went to strong safety Elliot Shorter for his destruction of a Georgia Tech wide receiver.

Head coach Mike Kruczek also spoke, commending his players and focusing on next season.

“Tonight was about recognition,” he said. “We talk about striving for excellence, and I think that these young men who have done that.”

Kruczek had a special message for his graduating seniors, recognizing each of them individually and thanking them for their time at UCF.

“If you don’t use the kind of competitive level that you have to maintain and get to in the next six months. It takes a special commitment of time, effort, and emotion to get where we want to be. There’s a championship waiting for UCF, it’s just out there waiting.”

The evening closed with a short message from UCF President John Hitt. It was a refreshing interlude from practice for the Golden Knight players, and a much-needed dose of football for UCF fans forced to wait until September for more regular season action.
**UCF singles out coach to build softball program**

The University of Central Florida made a giant step toward reestablishing a women's softball program at the school Thursday as former Texas Tech coach Renee Gillispie has been singled out by the search committee as the recommended candidate for the coaching position. Her hiring will become official after the search is reviewed by University officials and a contract is issued.

Gillispie, who announced her resignation at Texas Tech this week, has spent the past nine years building the programs of three different schools. UCF is hoping to revive its own program, which started in 1975, but was disbanded after the 1980 season. Gillispie will have the remainder of 2000 and 2001 to organize the program, which will begin play in the spring of 2002, at a soon-to-be-built on-campus softball complex.

"Gillispie stood out because she has started programs at other schools and brought them to national prominence," said UCF associate athletics director Mary Kaufman. "Everyone we talked to noted that she has brought success to each softball program she has touched. "We are looking forward to the contributions that she can make at UCF and I am personally looking forward to working with her because she is very personable and I believe she will interact well with the central Florida community and will develop a dynamic program." Gillispie, 40, spent four years building the Texas Tech program, leading the Red Raiders to a 17th place national ranking in 1998 and a 24th place ranking the following year. Her teams posted a three season record of 115-79-1, garnering runner-up honors to the 1999 NCAA Regional Championship third place in the 1999 Big 12 Conference Tournament and fourth place in the 1998 conference championship.

Prior to her successful career at Texas Tech, Gillispie rebuilt softball programs at Bradley University and Joliet Junior College. She took over the BU team in 1993, transforming a 1992 record of 12 wins and 25 losses to 33 wins and eight losses in 1994. The 1994 team also finished second place in the Missouri Valley Conference and ranked fifth in the nation for winning percentage.

A member of the National Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association, Gillispie took conference coach of the year honors as head coach of the 1992 Joliet Junior College conference championship softball team. Gillispie inherited the team in 1991, just after they had posted a 2-29 win-loss record in 1990. She transformed the team into a NJCAA Regional runner-up with a much improved 32-12 record in 1992.

She graduated from West Texas State University in 1984 with a degree in Recreation Administration. Gillispie set seven school records while pitching at WTSU, including records for career strike-outs and career wins.

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Arnold establishes UCF saves record

Junior Jason Arnold came to UCF from Melbourne High School with a reputation as a hard-throwing starting pitcher. When he chose to attend UCF, it already had three established starters but was in need of a closer.

Arnold fit the bill.

Knowing that relieving would be his best opportunity to make an impact as a freshman, he took the role as the closer and the rest, as they say, was history.

"The main adjustment you have to make (from starter to reliever) is a mental adjustment," Arnold said. "It took a while, but I was groomed pretty much the whole fall (as a freshman) for that. It didn't come as hard to me as it does come to a lot of people. They always say that anything that you're able to do it. And what a place to do it. Orlando.

Arnold has proved that he can pitch out of the bullpen as the most prolific closer in UCF history. He recorded his 22nd career save, surpassing Brian Huie's mark of 21 set from 1990-92.

Arnold's 22nd save came in only his 24th career save opportunity, proving his dominance when he comes in to close out a game. Starter David Rankin says it's a comfortable feeling knowing that Arnold is there to finish the job.

Jason (RHP), Jason Arnold

"It's definitely a big plus because he's one of the few closers in the country that every time he goes in there you know the game is pretty much over," Rankin said. "It takes a lot of strain off the pitching staff because if you can get the ball to the seventh or eighth inning, then you know he's going to close it out for you."

This year, Arnold has only thrown 10.1 innings in the first 15 games, a far cry from last year he was used in a variety of roles that became very difficult to handle. On two different occasions, he closed the first game of a double-header and started the next game. Other times he would come in relief in the fifth or sixth inning and throw the remaining frames of the game.

Success has not come for Arnold's 22nd save in only his 24th career save opportunity, proving his dominance when he comes in to close out a game. Starter David Rankin says it's a comfortable feeling knowing that Arnold is there to finish the job.

Arnold's arrival.

Arnold said. "It was awesome (in 1998) because I only had to throw one or two innings at the most."

He has proven that he is as dominant as any other closer in college baseball, especially when he's overused. He has career numbers that would intimidate some of the nation's best hitters.

In 59 games, he has a 3.06 ERA in 103.1 innings. The most telling numbers of his 128 strikeouts and the fact that he's held opponents to a paltry .202 .307 average, including .088 this year.

"We knew he was going to be a good pitcher, and he came along at a time when he was able to play a role and be successful at that role," Coach Jay Bergman said. "Any team has got to have that type of mentality for a closer. And any team that has a closer like him has a chance to be successful."

Success has not come for Arnold in terms of wins since Arnold's arrival. It had won three consecutive Trans America Athletic Conference championships from 1995-97, one of the main reasons why Arnold came to Orlando.
Arnold seeks out first trip to NCAA's

FROM PAGE 28

But while all the personal accolades have come for him, his hopes of winning multiple conference championships have not come as quickly and easily.

"We haven't even won a TAAC championship since I've been here," said Arnold, a two-time first-team All-TAAC selection. "We're talking about all this tradition, but we haven't done anything since I've been here. It gets kind of frustrating when you win some games and you have good individual statistics but we're not going anywhere. It's time right now to get it done."

He jokingly wonders what he has to do to help the Golden Knights win a TAAC title while he is here.

"It makes you just wonder, what am I doing wrong?", Arnold said. "I think that all the guys have their mind set on this year, and that goal (to win the TAAC) is extremely reachable. And our goals are a lot higher than that."

Arnold will be draft-eligible this year, and UCF knows what it's like to be hit hard with underclassmen leaving for the big leagues, having lost seven juniors to the pros following the 1998 season. Scouts are waiting for Arnold to make the jump to the next level, but he says that winning a conference title is something that he wants to try and accomplish before leaving.

"I want to see how this year goes as a team especially," Arnold said. "It's going to effect my decision a lot on how the team comes together and how we fare. I'm really pretty frustrated. I'm really pretty much in the middle right now on what I think I'm going to do."

Rankin says he is one of the two best pitchers he has seen, along with Michael Zeigler of Florida State. And he feels Arnold has everything he needs to succeed at the next level.

"He's got three pitches that are unbelievable," Rankin said. "It's nice to throw 95 miles per hour, but at the same time he can rely on some other pitches too, which makes even him more effective. He's got the complete package."

Despite having the complete package, Arnold is still hesitant to say if he would definitely turn pro after this season. He saw last year that then-junior Dustin Brinson turned down the New York Mets to return to UCF for his senior year after putting up record-breaking numbers.

Arnold now has had his own record-breaking season, but it will take a lot of persuasion to get him to leave UCF.

"It's going to have to be a good enough offer from a team where it's going to outweigh the experiences and stuff that you have in a senior year and the value of graduating," Arnold said. "It's going to take quite a bit to get me out of here, but it could happen."

So while UCF will have to play the waiting game to see if Arnold decides to turn pro, it will at least have him for the remainder of this season to make a run at regaining that TAAC dominance that brought him here in the first place.

LSU in town for three game series

FROM PAGE 36

"This is a typical LSU team because they're going to have power-pitching and they're going to swing the bat," Coach Jay Bergman said. The Tigers are the highest profile team to visit Orlando since the University of Florida made a trip to UCF in 1994. The Golden Knights are 1-7 all-time against LSU with its only win coming in the middle of a three-game series in 1985. LSU has since won six straight over the Golden Knights.

Pope has been looking forward to his opportunity to throw against the Tigers again, since he was the starting pitcher in the 18-4 loss one year ago.

"I can't wait. I've been thinking about this game for a year now," Pope said. "I just can't wait to step on the hill and throw against them."

The Knights have a good understanding of what LSU is capable of after playing Alabama for three games. Playing in front of 6,000-plus fans per game last weekend at Alabama definitely gave the Crimson Tide the home-field advantage.

Bergman hopes bringing a team the caliber of LSU to Orlando will draw the fans out to Tinker Field so that UCF has the same home intensity.

"We hope that the city of Orlando and the students can come out and support it," Bergman said. "If they don't, then it's like playing a road game."
UCF TAKES ONE AGAINST A TOP 5 PROGRAM

March 1, 2000

www.UCFfuture.com

BASEBALL NOTEBOOK

UCF (9-6) traveled to Tuscaloosa, Alabama in search of some respect against the No. 5-ranked Crimson Tide. It earned it Friday night, giving the Knights a 5-0 win, but Alabama (9-4) came out the next two games wanting to prove why they were ranked fifth in the country. They did so in a big way, losing 18-4 and 10-5.

That's nothing out of the series that we wanted to get because we wanted to play on the road against a Top 10 with in a very hostile with a good baseball environment, and that's exactly what we did," Coach Jay Bergman said. "We won one ball game, we got blown out, and we played hard in the third ball game. These are the carry over things you look for.

Sunday's finale was over early, much like Saturday's game, as the Crimson Tide scored early and often en route to a 10-5 victory over UCF. Justin Pope was the second consecutive UCF starter to struggle as he allowed four runs in the third and three in the fourth.

The Golden Knights made the score respectable and never let up despite being down 8-1 through four innings. UCF scored two in the fifth and two more in the seventh to give itself some confidence heading into a three-game home stand against LSU.

"I thought we hit the ball real good, but we didn't hit the ball in the air and they got the ball up in the air and the wind carried a couple of them," Coach Jay Bergman said. "We put ourselves in a position to win, and Pope did not pitch that bad of a ball game."

The loss Saturday resembled the drubbing that UCF took last year in Baton Rouge against LSU. It was over early because of an offensive outburst by Alabama, and it was the identical score (18-4) the Golden Knights lost to LSU.

David Rankin struggled early, lasting only 1.2 innings, and left the game in the second inning with the bases loaded. Jesse Marlo relieved Rankin and was greeted by a Rock Mills' grand ting eight Crimson Tide players ... The Golden Knights lost to the Crimson Tide, the Golden Knights staff threw 25 innings, yielding 33 runs on 42 hits. But Alabama crushed five home runs, including three off Justin Pope Sunday.

"I thought we hit the ball real good, but we didn't hit the ball in the air and they got the ball up in the air and the wind carried a couple of them," Coach Jay Bergman said. "We put ourselves in a position to win, and Pope did not pitch that bad of a ball game."

Sunday's finale was over early, much like Saturday's game, as the Crimson Tide scored early and often en route to a 10-5 victory over UCF. Justin Pope was the second consecutive UCF starter to struggle as he allowed four runs in the third and three in the fourth.

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Heading into the Alabama series, UCF pitchers had thrown 105 innings and allowed only 50 hits and 58 runs, including a measer three home runs. Against the Crimson Tide, the Golden Knights staff threw 25 innings, yielding 33 runs on 42 hits. But Alabama crushed five home runs, including three off Justin Pope Sunday.

ETC.

On the eve of last year's 18-4 loss at LSU, Alabama beat UCF by the exact score Saturday ... Outfielder Jason Graham was suspended for Sunday's finale against Alabama due to a team rules violation. Graham ended his 11-game hit streak Saturday with a 0-for-3 performance before being replaced by Mark Barr... Dustin Brisson extended his team-high hit streak to 11 games Sunday with a two-run double in the seventh inning ... UCF is now only 5-for-28 with the bases loaded this season ... UCF pitchers lost control in the final two games against Alabama, hitting eight Crimson Tide players ... The Golden Knights helped Alabama set a record for the largest crowd to ever see a three-game series at Sewell-Thomas Stadium. The three-game total of 18,772 fans broke the previous record of 15,331 set against LSU May 9-11, 1997.

TROUBLE WITH LEFTIES

Coach Jay Bergman has expressed all year that UCF has to prove that it can hit against left-hand-
Women's basketball team closes regular season

By DAVID MARSTERS, STAFF WRITER

For the UCF women's basketball team, a very long regular season is about to come to an end. The defending TAAC Champions have endured what Coach Gail Striegler calls "a merry-go-round of injuries," losing seven of the 12 players on their roster to injury at some point during the season. Mixing and matching lineups on the court, the Golden Knights have struggled to find any measure of consistency and currently sit in next to last place in the conference standings. Their 7-19 record is the worst for the team since the 1992-1993 season.

But if the Golden Knights can put together four wins in four days, all can be forgotten with a Cinderella run through the upcoming TAAC Tournament.

Last week, the team broke a four-game losing streak with a 69-60 win over Troy State, but then returned in their struggles in a 49-33 loss to Mercer. This week, the team plays its last regular season game, a home matchup with conference foe Florida Atlantic (14-12, 12-5 TAAC) on Mac 4. FAU is riding a four-game winning streak, and picked up an 89-88 win over TSU and a 59-56 win over Mercer last week. The Owls are the conference's top offensive team at 73.2 points a game, but also are league's worst defensive team, giving up 77 points a game.

Senior center Sheridan Andrews leads the way for FAU with 18.7 points and 6.5 rebounds a game. The Owls offensive strength lies in their passing, as they have three players that rank among the TAAC leaders in assists. Their main outside threat is junior guard LaToRia Mathews, who is seventh in the conference in three-point shooting.

The Golden Knights have the edge in rebounding, averaging 41.1 per game to FAU's 38.3. UCF will rely heavily on forwards LaToya Graham and Khaliah Guillory, who have carried the team since the loss of center Camille Howard to a knee injury during winter break. During that time period, Graham has averaged 16 points and 7.1 rebounds per game, while her fellow forward has averaged 13.6 points and 6.8 rebounds. After missing almost two months following arthroscopic surgery, Howard has finally begun to dress with the team, but has yet to see any game action. Her return will undoubtedly help the Golden Knights, but may not bring any drastic changes to the team's strategy.

"(Her return) changes some stuff around, but we really can't add to many things," said Striegler. "Everyone will be back, but people aren't used to playing with each other so you can't make a lot of changes. It probably won't change a lot of different things, we just need to execute the things that we have better and do a better job of stopping other teams on defense."

UCF currently sits in ninth place in the conference standings, and depending on the outcome of this week's games could play either Troy State or Jacksonville University in the first round of the TAAC Tournament. The Golden Knights swept Troy State in the regular season, including last week's win and a 78-70 victory on Jan. 8. Jacksonville, however, took two close games from UCF winning 61-54 on Feb. 17 and 57-56 on Jan. 15. The Golden Knights' first game without Howard following her surgery. In both games, Jacksonville took big early leads, forcing UCF to make second half comebacks that weren't quite successful.

Regardless of their opponent, the Golden Knights will have to play to their full potential if they want to earn the TAAC's bid to the NCAA Tournament. Striegler has maintained all season that when healthy, her team is among the best in the conference. The Golden Knights face an uphill battle, having winning four games in four days will require them to reach a level of consistency that they haven't had all season.

"We're just going to have to come to play every night, do whatever it takes to win each ballgame," said Striegler. "You can't look too far ahead, you've got to prepare for each one individually and try to win it."
In an effort to maintain its national ranking among team scoring leaders and establish a strong defensive foundation for the future, the University of Central Florida men's soccer team announced the signing of four local student-athletes to national letters of intent Monday.

Striker Bruno Santos (Orlando/Dr. Phillips HS) is foremost among them. Orange County's leading scorer with 26 goals is 5-foot-11 and 175 pounds. He will join another forward with a keen scoring touch, Hugo Martins (Orlando/Dr. Phillips HS), a 5-foot-8, 150-pounder who has been Santos' teammate since the age of seven, ranks just behind him with 23 goals.

Forward-midfielder Fernando Villalobos (Lake Mary/Lake Mary HS) also had a superb season with 21 goals. At 5-foot-10 and 170 pounds, he'll bring another dimension of speed and versatility to the squad. While much of the UCF attack built from the air game in recent years, the Golden Knights look forward to senior leadership from the air game this year.

Together they should help refuel the scoring tandem that the Golden Knights lose this year with the graduation of stars Heikki Ritvainen (Espoo, Finland/Makelanuurteen Lukio) and Ari Nurm (Helsinki, Finland/Hamarshyn Lukio), who combined for about 40 percent of UCF's goals in 1999 and paced the Golden Knights to sixth place in the NCAA Division I rankings at 2.84 goals per game.

"These players have proven they can score at the club and high school levels over the last four years," says Winn. "They will be looking up to score immediately at the college level to compensate for the 43 goals lost to graduation."

All-State candidate Nick Ascenzo (Oviedo/Oviedo HS) gives UCF an excellent option at backup goalkeeper, a position at which the Golden Knights were caught short this past season. The 6-3, 200-pound netminder averaged 17 shutouts per year the last four years. The leader for a Class 4A Region 1 finalist squad, Ascenzo backed up a starting run that ended with Friday's overtime loss to Orange Park.

"Nick is very vocal back there. He dominates in the box and reminds me of [Miami Fusion keeper] Jeff Cassar," says Winn.

The Golden Knights look forward to senior leadership from (wo-time All-TAAC keeper Antti Laitinen (Vantaa, Finland/Makelanuurteen Lukio). Junior striker Reni Hariz (Vestby, Norway/Vesbyegredninga Skole) will be able to move back to his natural position from midfield and improve on his 13 points of 1999 as a go-to man.

Women's tennis defeats FAU
The University of Central Florida women's tennis team defeated Florida Atlantic 6-1 in Tennis action Sunday at the UCF Tennis Center. The win improves the Golden Knights to 6-2 overall and 3-0 in TAAC play.

UCF swept all three doubles matches and won five of the six singles matches to defeat the Owls. In the singles #1 UCF's Veronica Widyahastama fell to FAU's Kristi Jordan 6-2, 6-2 for her first loss of the year after seven straight wins to open the season. The win comes after the Golden Knights defeated Rollins 9-0 at the UCF Tennis Complexes on Friday afternoon.

UCF returns to action on March 23 when they travel to Dallas, Texas to take on SMU and then TCU. Both matches are slated to start at 2:00 p.m.

Men's tennis falls at USF
The University of Central Florida men's tennis team fell 4-3 to South Florida in Tennis action Sunday.

Sports Desk, Page 24

**Women's Basketball Notebook**

Bring out the Brooms

The UCF women's basketball team picked up their first sweep of a TAAC opponent this season when they defeated Troy State last week. Trailng by as many as 10 points early in the game, the Golden Knights used a 20-3 run to take a 33-25 halftime advantage. UCF (7-19, 4-13 TAAC) extended its lead as far as 28 points in the second half before holding off a late rally by the Trojans to seal the victory. Forward LaToya Graham led the Golden Knights with 22 points, while Kahlil Guillory added 11. The Golden Knights shot 44 percent from the field, beating their season average of 40 percent.

In the two teams first meeting, UCF center Camille Howard dominated in the post, scoring 17 points and grabbing 10 rebounds to lead the Golden Knights to a 78-70 victory. Freshman Erin Page led UCF in scoring with 19 points and added six rebounds, while Graham scored 14 points and had five rebounds.

The 78 points scored in the game by the Golden Knights is their second highest total of the season. The 111 points scored in the game (68-43, 5-1 TAAC) is currently seventh in the TAAC regular season standings, and is one of UCF's possible first round opponents in the conference tournament. The Golden Knights are currently 5-2 in the standings with one game left on their schedule.

**Mercer Has UCF's Number**

In contrast with their success against Troy State, the Golden Knights have struggled this season against Mercer, losing once again to the Bears last weekend. Mercer, who is the TAAC's top defensive team, held UCF to 24 percent shooting on route to a 49-33 victory.

Senior Carmen Robinson led Mercer with 15 points, 11 rebounds, and seven blocked shots, while sophomore Mia Washington added 13 points and five rebounds.

The Golden Knights reached double figures in points, with LaToya Graham scoring a team-high seven. Senior guard LaDonna Larry led UCF with 10 rebounds. The 33 points scored by UCF was their lowest output of the season.

Their second lowest total of the year also came against Mercer, when the Bears once again put the defensive clamps on UCF in a 50-36 win on Jan. 6. The Golden Knights shot an identical 24 percent in that game, including making only two of 13 three-point attempts. Junior guard Nancy Richter led the team that day with nine points, as UCF scored just 18 points in each half.

Mercer (13-12, 8-8 TAAC) has climbed the fifth seed in the upcoming TAAC Tournament, and is not a team that UCF would face until the semifinals if both squads were to make it that far.

**Super 6's**

Since center Camille Howard, the teams leading scorer and rebounder, went down with a knee injury nearly two months ago, LaToya Graham and Kahlil Guillory have carried the team on their shoulders. Only once in that span of 13 games did a player other than Guillory or Graham lead UCF in scoring. During that time period, Graham averaged 16 points and 7.1 rebounds, while Guillory averaged 13.6 points and 6.8 rebounds. No other Golden Knight is averaging double figures in scoring.

Howard is now dressing with the team, but hasn't seen any game action yet. She is expected to be able to play in TAAC Tournament, which takes place March 9-13 in Pella, Alabama. It will take some time, however, for Howard to regain her early season form, so UCF's success in their bid to repeat as TAAC Champions will likely continue to depend on the play of Guillory and Graham.

**David Marsters**

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TAAC tourney awaits Knights

Junior Inyo Cue has stepped into the starting lineup and will have to play big to give the Knights a good chance in the TAAC Tournament. Because of injuries, the 6-foot-4 Cue is the team's power forward.

FROM PAGE 36

remainder of the season on the night of the Golden Knights' Feb. 17 win against JSU, and the team made up for its lack of height by rebounding as a team, with everyone picking up the slack. UCF did just that, out-rebounding the league's second best rebounding team, 43-39, behind a career-high 14 from 5-foot-11 point guard Cory Perry.

UCF needs a carbon copy of their final fifteen minutes against the Gamecocks to be successful in their quarterfinal rubber game. The Knights out-scored JSU 39-26 in the second half of that victory, erasing a 46-35 lead with 15:39 remaining. UCF scored the game's final seven points, holding the Gamecocks scoreless for the final three minutes of the contest. Gurley couldn't match his performance in the first outing against the Knights, scoring just four on two-of-nine shooting and committing five turnovers. He missed each of his six 3-point attempts.

UCF must overcome lack of height, depth anything to get there. The team's small lineup should create mismatches on the offensive end, and Coach Kirk Speraw has proven to do his best work in tournament play, stressing execution to win three in three days.

Weaknesses: Lack of depth. Lack of height. That sums it up pretty nicely. With the loss of Roy Jordan this season, UCF is left without much in the post, as Paul Reed and Davin Granberry have to do all the dirty work. The injury problems have also robbed the team of its depth, which could doom the Knights if players' legs start to get weary.

Tournament key: UCF must play smart and play with the level of intensity that helped them gain short-handed wins against Samford and Jacksonville State during the final homestand of the season. The team must rebound collectively and scrap for every loose ball, rebounds included. Stewart must dominate offensively, and Jason Thornton will have to regain the form from beyond the arc that at one point had him as the nation's second most prolific 3-point shooter.
TAAC has five teams capable of winning NCAA bid

TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR

This week’s TAAC Tournament has a chance to be one of the best in recent memory, as the top five seeds, including the University of Central Florida, all have a realistic chance at winning three games in a row to earn the tournament championship and the league’s automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

The conference race has seen two teams who finished near the bottom of the standings a year ago surge to the top this year, with Troy State actually gaining a share of the conference crown, and Jacksonville State, UCF’s quarterfinal opponents, remaining in contention until the final week of the regular season. Georgia State also gained a share of the conference title, winning their last five games, including a 78-71 beating of the Golden Knights to end the regular season. Samford enters with wins in six of its last seven games and finished third in the TAAC despite losing five more conference games than it did last season. Throw in a UCF team that has beaten each of the top five seeds except Troy State and has the athleticism to compete, and it’s anybody’s tournament.

Here’s an overview of the strength and weaknesses of the five favorites involved and what they have to do to win the tournament.

**No. 1 TROY STATE**

**Strengths:** Point guard Detric Golden can take over a game like no other player in the conference and is a virtual lock for Player of the Year Honors. His ability to control the action will be critical to the Trojans’ success. Another strength is the team’s 3-point shooting ability, with their percentage ranking among the national leaders. Matt Holman, Tote Christopher, and sixth man Robert Rushing can all ignite rallies with their perimeter shooting.

**Weaknesses:** Golden can’t afford to get into foul trouble because guard Necolus Gurley is a formidable one capable of putting a lot of points on the board, but the most improved strength lies upfront, where under sized Mike McDaniel and Nebraska transfer Braii Harris have become two of the league’s top rebounders and most effective post tandems.

**Tournament key:** Get Colleen to solid starts early, and hope one of the three riflemen can supply a scoring boost from the outside. Post players Donnie Pemberton and Jacare Jenkins must produce, as their depth is limited.

**No. 2 GEORGIA STATE**

**Strengths:** GSU boasts the most athletic talent in the conference. Anton Reese, Kevin Morris, and Sherriard Long each started on teams that participated in the SEC, ACC, and Big East tournaments. Each can take over a game when things get stagnant, and it is very important in a tournament setting. Lefty Driesell has his team playing critical during tournament competition.

**Weaknesses:** Turnovers. The Panthers can’t afford to be careless with the ball or they’ll find themselves out of the mix with a quickness. Morris earned the final Player-of-the-Week award, and has come around after a poor start in the season, but is still capable of losing his head and creating easy baskets for the opposition.

**Tournament key:** The Gamecocks must knock down the outside shot and continue the strong rebounding edge they enjoyed for most of the regular season. With three freshmen seeing significant minutes, and a sophomore point guard running the show, they must keep their wits about them. To his credit, Willie, is defensible and should be the least of Turgeon’s concerns.

**No. 3 SAMFORD**

**Strengths:** Samford comes in with the confidence of having been there before. Last season, the Bulldogs rolled through the regular season with a 15-1 mark, but weren’t the clear-cut favorite to win the crown, as Georgia State and UCF still got the most consideration. However, Tillette’s team carved up the competition and cruised into the NCAA’s. They’ll use that same system and veteran savvy in their quest for a return trip.

**Weaknesses:** The Bulldogs’ invincibility is gone, and they will have to fight for everything they get. The team has for some reason lost their room for error, and must execute at maximum efficiency in order to get by the three games in three days.

**Tournament key:** Marc Salyers has been steadily all season and must continue to play like the TAAC’s top big men, while seniors Reed Rawlings, Will Daniel, and Mario Lopez must have solid performances to lead their collegiate careers at least one more post season game. A performance off the bench like they got a year ago from shooter Chris Weaver wouldn’t hurt either.

**No. 4 JACKSONVILLE STATE**

**Strengths:** JSU may be the deepest of any of the teams in Jacksonville this week. The guard combination of Rashard Willie and Marlon Gurlthy is a formidable one capable of putting a lot of points on the board, but the most improved strength lies upfront, where undersized Mike McDaniel and Nebraska transfer Braii Harris have become two of the league's top rebounders and most effective post tandems.

**Weaknesses:** Gurlthy and Willie are capable of disappearing acts, which could spell big trouble for Mark Turgeon's team. The team is also completely untied in Division I tournament competition, having not qualified for last year's tournament and having been ineligible from postseason play since coming over from Division II in 95-96.

**No. 5 UCF**

**Strengths:** UCF can rely on its guard play, which is always pivotal during tournament play. Seniors Cory Perry and D'Quarius Stewart have one last chance at an NCAA berth and will do whatever it takes to make it happen. 

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Trans America Athletic Standings/Statistics

Conference

Avg Avg

W L PP PA W L PP PA

Troy State 13 5 74 70 17 10 74 70
Georgia State 13 5 72 65 16 11 71 68
Samford 12 6 69 59 18 10 72 61
Jacksonville State 11 6 70 67 16 10 69 67
Campbell 10 8 62 65 12 15 62 69
Central Florida 10 8 75 71 12 17 71 72
Stetson 8 10 69 72 13 14 68 71
Mercer 7 10 66 64 10 19 67 71
Jacksonville 5 13 69 71 8 18 71 73
Florida Atlantic 0 18 59 78 1 27 61 81

Points per game

1 Detric Golden Trey State 17.3
2 Marc Salyers Samford 16.9
3 Calvin Slaughter Jacksonville 16.6
4 D’Quarius Stewart Central Florida 16.1
5 Anton Reese Georgia State 16.0
6 Adam Felters Campbell 15.8
7 Sebastian Singletary Stetson 15.4
8 Scott Emerson Mercer 14.5
9 Ryan Hercek Florida Atl 14.0
10 Reed Rawlings Samford 13.6

Rebounds per game

1 Brant Harriman Jacksonville St 9.6
2 Sebastian Singletary Stetson 9.3
3 Santos Hampton Stetson 8.7
4 Scott Emerson Mercer 8.3
5 Mike McDaniell Jacksonville St 7.7
6 Marc Salyers Samford 7.4
7 Calvin Slaughter Jacksonville 6.7
8 Jacova Jenkins Troy State 6.6
9 Paul Reed Central Florida 6.4
10 Jamie Simmons Campbell 6.0

Assists per game

1 Detric Golden Troy State 6.1
2 Rashad Willie Jacksonville St 5.2
3 Kevin Morris Georgia State 4.9
4 Cory Perry Central Florida 4.4
5 Ravii Givens Stetson 4.4
6 Shawn Platts Jacksonville 4.2
7 Mario Lopez Samford 4.2
8 Al Miller Central Florida 4.2
9 Emmett Murphy Florida Atl 4.0
10 Kevin Sheppard Jacksonville 3.7

Blocks per game

1 Jamie Simmons Campbell 1.7
2 Jarrod Hall Georgia State 1.5
3 Torquan Gresham Georgia State 1.2
4 Scott Emerson Mercer 1.2
5 Jacova Jenkins Troy State 1.2
6 Roy Leath Central Florida 1.2
7 Will Daniel Samford 1.1
8 Marvin Augustin Jacksonville 1.0
9 Brant Harriman Jacksonville St 1.0
10 Paul Reed Central Florida 0.9

Steals per game

1 Kevin Morris Georgia State 2.1
2 Cory Perry Central Florida 1.9
3 Tony Lee Florida Atl 1.9
4t Reed Rawlings Samford 1.8
4t Ravii Givens Stetson 1.8
6 Sebastian Singletary Jacksonville 1.6
7 Rodney Kirtz Mercer 1.4
8 Anton Reese Georgia State 1.3
9 Marc Salyers Samford 1.3
10 Tote Christopher Troy State 1.3

3-point percentage

1 Jason Thornton Central Florida 488 83/170
2 Matt Holden Troy State 452 70/155
3 Chris Weaver Samford 448 30/67
4 Anton Reese Georgia State 432 73/169
5 Detric Golden Troy State 424 63/125
6 Mario Lopez Samford 422 46/109

http://www.UCFfuture.com
Golden Knights seeded fifth in TAAC Tournament

Tony Mejia
SPORTS EDITOR

Forced to sly with an understated line-up for the latter part of the regular season, UCF managed to get through it and earn the fifth seed in the conference tournament, gaining a favorable draw in that it avoids San Bernardino and Georgia State, the TAAC’s two hottest teams and pre-season favorites, until the finals.

"Certainly, Georgia State and San Bernardino come into the tournament as the two hottest teams, playing the best basketball," Coach Kirk Speraw said. "It appears we’ll avoid them for as long as possible but Troy State and Jacksonville State in the our bracket are tough teams as well."

UCF split with opening opponent Jacksonville State during the regular season and fell in both meetings against Troy State. However, the Knights’ early-season struggles are now obsolete, as they now face the same predicament that faces each of the TAAC’s top six seeds: win three games in three days or see your season end.

Simple as that.

The 2000 Bank of America Trans America Athletic Conference tournament gets underway on Mar. 1 in Jacksonville with the opening round of play-in games, pitting No. 8 Mercer against the No. 9 tournament host Jacksonville Dolphins. No. 7 Sierston takes on No. 10 Florida Atlantic in the second game of the evening, as the Hatters look to advance to the quarterfinals by keeping FAU winless in conference competition. The Owls finished the regular season at 0-18 in TAAC play.

Thursday’s quarterfinals will feature No. 3 Samford, the defending champion, facing No. 6 Campbell at 1 p.m., with No. 2 Georgia State playing the Sierston/Florida Atlantic winner following the conclusion of the first game of the day. The evening session of action at the Jacksonville Memorial Coliseum will start with No. 1 Troy State facing the Mercer/Jacksonville winner at 7 p.m., and conclude with the No. 4 Jacksonville State/No. 5 UCF matchup.

UCF played Jacksonville State well this season, blowing a double-digit lead at the Pete Mathews Coliseum in an eventual 90-83 overtime loss on Jan. 20. UCF’s 2000 season ended with an 0-22 record. The Owls will be looking to make a resurgence following a disappointing season, finishing 17-15 in the SEC.

UCF will open against Jacksonville State, who finished 16-16 overall and 7-9 in SEC play. The Owls will need to get past the Gamecocks to advance to the SEC tournament.

Knights take swing at second straight SEC foe

Travis Bell
STAFF WRITER

After battling through a three-game series against Alabama, the schedule doesn’t let up this weekend as another SEC power faces the Golden Knights. The LSU Tigers make their way to Tinker Field for a three-game series beginning Friday, giving UCF another opportunity to test itself against a high caliber opponent.

This is the second straight season UCF will have played LSU after losing a two-game set in Baton Rouge last year. Following an 18-4 drubbing in the first game of the series, UCF managed a respectable 5-2 loss in the finale.

Fortunately for UCF, 18 current players faced the Tigers last year and know what to expect from the perennial national title contender. LSU fell one round short of the College World Series last year after losing both games in the Super Regional in Tuscaloosa.

Sophomore starter Justin Pope faced the Tigers last year and hopes this weekend’s experience against Alabama will help the team get comfortable opposite SEC-caliber competition.

"We got to go on the road in front of a big crowd, and we played Alabama, who is a great competition," Pope said. "Hopefully (playing Alabama) will help prepare the now guys for it."

LSU was ranked No. 8 in the preseason Baseball America poll and had risen to No. 3 last week. However, the Tigers have gone into a tailspin since rising in the polls after a 6-0 start.

They won two of three games against then-No. 17 Arizona State, but lost the final game of the three-game series to the Sun Devils featuring a five-game losing streak that includes getting swept in a three-game series against Houston at home, which was the first home-sweep of LSU since 1988. Despite the Tigers’ recent struggles, UCF knows it’s in for a battle.

Awards show sheds light on football program's progress

David Marsters
STAFF WRITER

Amidst glistening spring practices and a collective one-track mind on next season, the UCF football team turned their attention away from the future, looking back at last season for the 1999 UCF Football Awards Ceremony. Held at the UCF Arena on Feb. 26, the show was highlighted by a guest appearance from ESPN’s Chris Fowler. The Team of the Year.

The ceremony was co-hosted by Jerry O’Neill and Marc Loyd, both radio personalities for Orlando’s 540 The Team. The show was broadcast live from ESPN’s College Football GameDay, spoke about his experiences with college football and the future of the UCF program.

"There’s no doubt the future is bright, the future is UCF," Fowler said. "This is the place to be, the place to watch."

Senior Devon Granberry will have to continue his recent surge of solid play, giving the Knights a sound presence in the middle off the bench, for UCF to make a legitimate run at the TAAC title in this week’s conference tournament.