Residents neighboring UCF in state of disgust

Adams Shiver
Staff Writer

Noisy parties, bright parking lot lighting and reoccurring calls to police are what those who live in the area surrounding UCF abhor. Where are these noisy parties, overwhelming lighting, and police visits taking place?

Just ask residents adjacent to off-campus student-housing complexes such as Knight's Krossing and The Gatherings. The residents met with Orange County Chairman, Mel Martinez and County Commissioners on March 21 to discuss zoning requirements and housing regulations regarding student housing as well as a student-housing task force. The Commission decided unanimously to set, for the time being, a four-hundred-foot separation boundary and a maximum density of 700 units, at-bedrooms.

Both of which are to be reviewed by a task force and re­ voted on some time in October, leaving residents in a heated state until then.

Residents have been lobbying for a vote to prohibit the building of any new student apartments within a 1,000 foot boundary of residential neighborhoods. The residents have also been pushing for a maximum density of 500 units per apartment complex since the Commission’s last meeting regarding the situation held March 21.

The Chairman and his Commissioners deliberated over the issue and discussed setting the separation gap at 250 feet and the maximum unit per capita at 1,000 units per apartment complex. As far as residents are concerned, this was unacceptable.

The Commission listened to the thoughts, pleas, and proposals of over 20 different residents. Unfortunately, of those who chose to speak only one UCF student was on hand to discuss his ideas with the Commission.

“I would support and agree with a 500 foot separation as long as at least 250 feet of that was to be a natural buffer,” UCF student, Chris Fliegel told Chairman Mel Martinez.

Many of the residents felt that the decision to place only 200 feet of separation was not enough. One resident, UCF student, Mark Hall, said,

“Because we have so many events, we have to turn many people away. The new Student Union will bring more people to see the university and what it has to offer,” said Mark Hall.

One of the new specialities in the mall is Nectars; a smoothie store with light foods. The store is a local operation and can be found in Longwood. The other addition to the Union is Sandie Foxe's. This will be placed next to Subway and the other fast food chains. In addition to a new restaurant, there will be more seating outdoors. The land will be leveled behind Subway, where there will be an area to eat near the walkways. Next to the larger Travel Agency and Knight Wear will be College Optical. This will offer customers glasses, contacts, sunglasses and much more. A new ballroom will also be added. The Pegasus Ballroom is 11,500 square feet and is two and half times larger than any other existing room on campus. The room can be divided into nine individual parts to accommodate any situation. The back of the Ballroom has dressing rooms, bathrooms, a kitchen, and a new loading dock. The Ballroom can handle any new technology that needs to be operated and has a new sound system installed.

The designers of the building are Reynolds, Smith and Hills. The cost of the building's additions was $7.7 million. The new Union is expected to bring 20,000 events to the Union every year. It will create job opportunities and a new look for UCF.

Residents show their anger and frustration regarding student housing expansion in the vicinity of the main campus of UCF. Twenty of the 30 residents that attended the public hearing spoke out about their views on the impact of students residing so close to residential property.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Residents of UCF say the new stores, job opportunities, and large students will bring more people to the university and what it has to offer.
Rape victim speaks about violent crimes, gives hope

The Clothesline Project displayed shirts outside of the Student Union that were made by victims of violent crimes.

LISA APPLEGATE
STAFF WRITER

When someone is victimized, whether it is rape, mental or physical abuse, either by someone that was trusted or a random stranger, the healing process can be slow and painful. There are many organizations that have developed different therapies to help such a process become easier and to let victims know that they are not alone. The Clothesline Project and Take Back the Night are two of these activities put on by Victim Services last week.

The Clothesline Project was displayed by Victim Services on campus April 12. Students could read the powerful statements on the shirts and were encouraged to make shirts of their own with materials provided for them. This project has since spread to communities worldwide to get the message out about stopping brutality. The shirts are made by survivors of violent crime and also by people who knew victims that wanted to pay them tribute. The shirts are color-coded to represent different types of crime. For example, a white shirt signifies women who were killed just because they were women and red, pink, and orange stands for victims of sexual assault and rape. These pieces of healing artwork hang side by side at events that are meant to educate people about violent crimes against women.

"Take Back the Night is an international event with marches and rallies occurring around the world since 1976," Victim Services' Nancy Eastman said about the event. It began at the Student Union where rape survivor Kellie Greene gave a powerful talk about her experience and her survival. The night itself seemed to echo the somber mood of the attentive crowd with its dark clouds and rainy drizzle. After her intense recollection of the actual event, she spoke about her healing process which included getting involved in RAINN (Rape And Incest National Network) and becoming an advocate for victim's rights.

"[A woman's] poor judgement is not a crime. Rape is a crime and you need to tell someone if it has happened to you," said Kellie Greene about revealing the assault to start the healing process.

After the speech came to a close, the audience, Ms. Greene and the members of Victim Services started their two-mile march around campus to promote community awareness. Upon returning to the Student Union, victims were given a chance to share their stories with everyone. The candlelight vigil that was supposed to happen following the ceremony had to be canceled because of the rain. Instead, there was an emotional moment of silence to reflect on the message of the night.

Both of these activities proved to be very successful in spreading awareness of a tragic subject. Kellie Greene along with Victim Services work hard to make the community safer for women.

This shirt hung on the line to signify a victim's pain, healing and hope.

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"Store with the Golden Knights"
Housing on campus to be increased by 2002

This site is the future home of 1,400 knights, new dorms will occupy land on the current soccer practice field, behind the softball field on Libra Drive.

JENNIFER PLANTE
STAFF WRITER

By fall semester 2002, 1,600 more students will be housed on the main UCF campus.

Ground breaking on this $64 million student residence village took place on April 11. This is the largest construction project ever launched by UCF. The first 800 beds should be completed by the fall 2001 term.

The village concept is different from the other on-campus residence styles. There will be a combination of dormitory and apartment housing styles within the halls. The halls will range in height from one to four stories and will be arranged in clusters. Recreational and retail facilities will be located within the village as well. The village will be located on the current soccer practice field behind the softball field on Libra Drive.

Currently, UCF's housing department receives many more applications for housing than there are spaces. UCF hopes to change this and would like to see more upperclassmen and graduate students living on-campus eventually.

Chrissy White, a junior majoring in advertising/public relations, said that living on-campus was a positive experience. "Living on-campus offers students a great opportunity to meet people and to get involved," she said. "It also gives students a stronger sense of pride in their school."

When the village is completed, it will raise the percentage of students living in on-campus housing residence halls and Greek houses to about 15%. Since 1993, the number of beds has risen 101% at UCF, compared to a main campus growth of 26%.

Amber, a sophomore majoring in communicative disorders who lives on campus, said with all of the new places to live going up in and around UCF, the university is definitely becoming more residential. "With all the new beds being added, it will give a better opportunity for students to live on-campus," she said. "I don't know if it will completely change the way people view UCF immediately, but it will defiantly be a major step in that direction towards being more residential."

By fall semester 2002, 1,600 more students will be housed on campus. This will give more students a great opportunity to meet people and to get involved. The village will be located on the current soccer practice field behind the softball field on Libra Drive.

Don't leave bikes in racks

As the Spring Semester comes to a close, the University Police Department would like to remind all of the university community that we will begin our annual clearing of bicycle racks during the week of May 2-5. If you are graduating or leaving for the summer, we ask that you take your bikes with you. Any bicycles left on bike racks during this week will be tagged and impounded. Bikes that are impounded are turned over to Student Government each year for auction.

Parking Services offers free bicycle registration stickers to all UCF students, faculty and staff. Register your bike so they have descriptions and serial numbers of your property in the event of theft. Use all available bike racks for parking and do not take bikes into buildings. Improperly parked bikes will be impounded at a retrieval fee of $25. Pamplets concerning laws governing the use of bikes are also available.

Compiled by Shelley Wilson
Open mic reading comes to a close
DIANA MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

As part of the end of their program, the Campus Activities Board's Cultural Arts committee hosted their final Thursday Knight Live of the semester on April 13. Thursday Knight Live is the open mic poetry reading session that CAB has been hosting for the past two years.

TKJ took place in the Student Union's Charlotte Harbor, and was hosted by the poetry reading's popular and favorite band, Grape Koolaid.

Grape Koolaid began the jive with a song entitled "Blue Monk" as people began arriving. After the song, piano player Harrison Light introduced his fellow band members: Ben Blackbum on bass, Doug Narry on drums, and Phillip Martin on saxophone. After the introductions and several comments, Grape Koolaid played one more tune before calling up the jive's first poet.

Mari Bonet was the jive's first poet. She commented on how she was graduating this semester, which brought on a round of applause. The first poem she recited at the mic was called "Blue Jazz," and her second poem was about flying, which she hates to do.

The second poet at the mic captured the audience's attention. April Johnson recited three poems: "If You Dare," "Night," and "No One."

Kristie Dady came up to the mic, and recited two poems. Her first was entitled "School," and was about how teachers were drones that had their students under their control. Her second was called "Journey." This poem was about the journey from life to death, with a candle symbolizing life.

Kiran Mehatee was next during this poetry reading. Her two poems were called "Ithch" and "Bringer of Light."

Grape Koolaid's bass player, recited two poems to the audience. Blackburn acknowledged that his poems were "a little dark," his first was a tribute to Steven King, about how death can bring someone closer together. His second poem was entitled "Lamentation 1-72." Blackburn mentioned that he intended to write 1-72 sometime soon, but #72 was what he had been.

Douglas Walker showed his talent after Blackburn by playing a song on his guitar that he had written earlier that day, and playing a song on the piano.

Grape Koolaid returned to the stage and played a jive favorite called "Camaloupe Island." Martin, Blackburn and Narry had

solos in the song that brought about rounds of applause. Jamie Sustain was the next artist. Her two songs, "I Like to Get High and Pasteurized Cheese Food," and "She Don't Come Around," were both played on the guitar, with her second song played as she sang. Alex Katsaros came up to the mic after Sustain. He recited a poem about a love infatuation before continuing on by playing on the piano a beautiful song that he played for his sister's wedding.

Gracing the mic after several other artists was Thursday Knight Live's favorite poet, Keturah Bailey, or "Queenbeat." Bailey recited one poem that during this last jive that she wrote with her friend, "Paw Taskmaster." Grape Koolaid accompanied this talented artist as she spoke to the audience. Bailey also introduced her friend, "Songbird," who blew away the audience with her beautiful voice as she sang with Grape Koolaid.

The Cultural Arts committee is still debating whether or not to host a TKJ poetry reading over the summer terms. This committee would like to know if UCF wants Thursday Knight Live to continue on over the summer. To give input, call the CAB/OA at 607-823-6471 or stop by the office at SU 215.

Circle K achievements
Maggie Gunther
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

UCF Circle K made a big splash at their state convention, electing a Governor and two other state officers, and earning seven awards.

Circle K International is the world's largest volunteer service club, the college equivalent to Kiwanis or Key Club. UCF's chapter has been very busy this year.

At the convention Florida Circle K members elected their new state officers. UCF now makes up more of the state board of officers than any Florida college. The newly elected Governor is Jeremy Riehl, a graduate student who works at Lockheed Martin. Riehl has been in Circle K for seven years and was the club's president this year.

The other two state officers are District Editor Maggie Gunther, a 19-year-old journalism major, and Lieutenant Governor Nicole Quintero, a R.A.

The club strongly represented UCF by receiving seven awards. Notably, the club won two first place awards for the club scrapbook and the club newsletter, and two second place awards for the outstanding treasure and simple service project (for the UCF Teddy Bear Drive).

Every year the club holds the UCF Teddy Bear drive. Last December Circle K collected over 2,000 stuffed animals for local charities.

Senior Jeannette Victoria received the highest honor in Circle K: a George F. Hixson award. To get a "Hixson" one must have $1,000 donated in his or her name to eliminate Iodine Deficiency Disorders.

The convention took place at the Oceanside Doubletree hotel at Cocoa Beach on March 17-19. Governor Jeremy Riehl said, "We work hard all year round, and we're not slowing down for the end of the year!"

The club meets Wednesday nights in Student Union Room 313. All students are welcome to attend.

www.ucfffuture.com
Residents propose plan to lengthen distance between complexes

From Page 1

400 feet of separation between student housing and residential or family housing was simply not enough.

The Commission felt that such large restrictions as 1,000 feet or even 500 feet though would be much too confining, and would not allow for any further expansion of off-campus student-housing.

"We have a problem here with no perfect solutions," said County Chairman, Mel Martinez.

"We need at least a 1,000 separation, minimum," said Susan Eberbe, a resident of River Walk, a development near Knight's Crossing. "While this is better than the 250 foot separation gap, it is still not enough."

A task force was put together originally in order to get suggestions, ideas, and observations regarding the student-housing situation. The original task force was composed of nine white males and one white female. This composition greatly outraged many of the residents. They felt that the community was not properly represented.

"We want to make sure the composition of this student-housing task force better reflects our community," said Martinez, when asked what was going to be done about the organization of the student-housing task force.

"They would have to make the task force to where more than 50 percent of the task force is not [apartment] developers to make this thing work," stated Eberbe. "I would like to see at least three students on the task force. We, in my neighborhood, have been the most impacted, and we have been ignored when it comes to this task force."

Some see the causes of the disturbances as coming from barring such a high density of students in one place. Knights Crossing alone houses approximately 2,530 students more than are currently housed on campus.

"They [UCF], I feel, have recognized that having a high density of students housed together just gets out of hand," said Flegal. "So to keep better control of the situation they keep the numbers small. That density is what a citizen for noise, violence, etc., many of the people at the conference felt that the best solution would simply be more on-campus housing.

"On-campus housing is a very viable solution to all this. The students will be much better treated living on campus," said Eberbe.

"UCF needs to share the weight of housing its students," said Flegal.

The university is projecting an enrollment of approximately 40,000 students by the year 2010. By that time they are also projecting to have on-campus housing for 4,200 students. Not even 10 percent of the projected student body.

"UCF being a good neighbor, must provide more of its students the opportunity to live on campus," stated Martinez.

The university did however break ground April 11 on the beginnings of a project aimed at adding 1,600 units, or beds, to the already existing dorms on campus.

The project would be completed by the year 2002, being broken down into two parts. Eight hundred units to be assembled by the fall of 2001 and the remaining 800 units to be completed by the fall semester of 2002. This project will help to increase housing on-campus to 15%, more than that of Florida State University.

The project would be geared toward graduating seniors, but all students are allowed to attend. The Success Circuit is important because many seniors have no idea what to expect. This session is a great opportunity for seniors, or any student for that matter, to pick up any knowledge that may help them as they enter the real world. It benefits UCF because we want our students to be the best," said Irvin.

Irvin's goal for the session was to help prepare a soon-to-be college graduate enter the workplace.

"My main goal was to make seniors feel a little more settled about leaving college and entering the workforce. Any information that we could give them would make the transfer smoother," Irvin said.

The session was original ly comprised of three individual sections, but one group was unable to participate in the Success Circuit. The Consultants for Effective Leadership ended up covering both the Business Etiquette and Job Interviewing sections. The session was done by CEL members, Shari Boland and Eddie Rivera.

Boland and Rivera began the session by having everyone move around the room interacting with one another and introducing themselves. Both CEL members then informed everyone that it only takes 15 seconds to make a first impression, but that it takes forever to get rid of a bad one. To make sure that you make a good first impression an interval, make sure your appearance is polished, and that you come across as being mature and experienced.

A tip from CEL's Shara Boland, "Dress for the job you want, not for the job you have."

When at an interview or any other business affairs, remember to keep your right hand free for handshakes, to be focused and to use action words when describing your skills. Do not hesitate to reintroduce yourself if you forget a name, and avoid talking about salary, politics or your personal life during a conversation. Also remember that the most admired behaviors are appreciation, approachability and consisten cy.

To prepare yourself for a job interview, CEL told the Success Circuit audience that researching the company and thinking about what questions should be asked would help you be prepared. Be able to express your past experiences, qualifications and accomplishments with enthusiasm and confidence.

CEL also covered Resumes, which are the key ingredients in your search for a job. A resume is your personal advertisement, and it only takes eight seconds to catch an employer's attention with a resume. CEL recommends that the resume should be on a best quality 8.5 x 11 paper with no typographical or grammatical errors. Keep the sentences short and to the point, but be sure that the information is accurate and reasonably complete. A cover letter is also highly recommended to be included.

Part 2 of the Success Circuit was done by a panel of three UCF alumni that the SAA Chair Mark Irvin chose. The three alumni graduated from UCF with degrees in Finance. The alumni included: 1987 graduate David Welch, 1998 graduate Christine Cuiter, and 1988 graduate Jim Robinson.

"I believe the Success Circuit was a success. Afterwards I talked with a few students and they were really glad they had attended. They picked up a advice they wouldn't have had if they not attended. Also, I was glad that they had something to leave with; CEL passed out information packets. This was beneficial because they could go back and actually read what they missed something. Students asked a lot of questions and seemed to be really interested in what the alumni had to say," said Irvin.
Spring Grads Take 2 Days

ELAINE LEBLANC  STAFF WRITER

For the first time in UCF history, commencement ceremonies are scheduled to span over two days due to an overwhelming number of graduates. As of April 2, more than 3,300 students were listed to graduate this term, an increase of approximately 500 from last spring. According to UCF records, spring semesters always boast the largest number of graduates. Although this ceremony will include a record number of seniors, UCF officials do not have any plans to host future commencements elsewhere.

"It's always a topic of discussion, but as of right now, we're planning to always graduate at the UCF Arena," said Kelly Shilton of the Registrar's Office.

Many Knights are eager to say goodbye to their college years and experience life in the "real world.

"It has been an amazing four years, and I have made lifelong friends," said Viviana Hamper. "But I am really excited to begin the next phase of my life in Manhattan." On the other hand, for some, graduating this term does not necessarily mean the end of school.

"After a well-deserved trip to Europe, I will be back at UCF to get my graduate degree," said Kristie Smeltzer.

Graduation will take place May 5 and 6 at the UCF Arena. Tickets are available for pick-up at the UCF bookstore April 24-29 with a photo ID. Doctoral candidates and party platform guests can receive tickets at the Office of Consistent Relations. Unclaimed tickets will be distributed May 1 on a first-come, first-served basis at the bookstore.

The graduation exercises are scheduled as follows:

- 9:30 a.m. College of Arts and Sciences I, Biology, Mathematics, Foreign Language
- 1:30 p.m. College of Arts and Sciences II, Computer Science, Psychology, Nicholson School of Communication, College of Engineering & Computer Science, School of Optics
- 3 p.m. College of Education
- 5:30 p.m. College of Education Science, Psychology, Mathematics, Foreign Language
- 8 a.m. College of Health and Public Affairs
- 11:30 a.m. College of Business Administration
- 3 p.m. College of Education

The e-grad site features online purchasing of cap and gown, announcements and a job search.


The Central Florida Future announced today that it is launching an online "graduation destination" web site exclusively for the Class of 2000. The aim of the site is to help seniors in making a smooth transition into the real world, both prior to graduation and post-college.

The Class of 2000-Grads or eGrads?

By offering a graduation site specifically for students at UCF, the Central Florida Future has joined a select network of only 54 college newspapers offering such a service to their graduating students.

The Central Florida Future's online "graduation destination" recognizes that the class of 2000 are going to be not just grads, but "eGrads"—their use of the Internet, familiarity with technology and desire to use the web in their daily lives will make them the most sophisticated wired segment of the general population. Already social commentators are referring to today's graduates as the "yens"—the Internet generation.

The Central Florida Future eGrad site for the class of 2000 allows students to send electronic graduation announcements free of charge to their friends and family. It even helps seniors have a say in the kind of graduation gifts they will receive by providing the option to link a graduation gift registry to these announcements.

The Central Florida Future has taken its mission of providing relevant, engaging content and services for students further than ever before, now offering seniors a chance to access information online once they are out in the real world. Articles on the students with an easy way to keep organized as their school life draws to an end. The site can be accessed directly at www.ucffuture.com.

Compiled by Shelley Wilson

Choir performs debit piece

SHELLEY WILSON  STAFF WRITER

UCF music lovers received a special treat by listening to a debit piece that is scheduled to be performed at the International Cathedral Music Festival in London this summer.

The University Chorus performed the piece, Ode to the Present Day, on April 11. Dr. David Brunner, the UCF Director of Choral Activities, is also the composer of the piece and is in the process of finishing the second movement of that piece, Ode to the Future Days.

Brunner admits that hearing his piece that he wrote for the first time in front of a live audience was a funny experience.

"We practiced it for so long piece by piece, so it's exciting to hear it all the way through," Brunner said. "I'm listening to it, however differently than the audience is. I'm listening to it, but at the same time I'm separa-te from it in a way.

Brunner is also eager to perform the piece in London, which he said would create a unique opportunity for the UCF singers.

"We're getting really excited. There are very historic places that we will be performing at that can't be duplicated here in Orlando," Brunner said.

Ode to the Present and Future Days is based on two odes of a South American poet, Pablo Neruda, and will be sung in English and Spanish at the Festival.

Chorus members stated the performance at the Spring Choral Concert went very well, but singing Dr. Brunner's piece held special meaning.

"I think all of the choirs performed very well. It was especially touching to get to premiere Dr. Brunner's piece. He has a true talent and it's been such a wonderful experience to be under his direction for four years," senior Jessica Smith said.

The concert held at UCF not only featured the premiere piece, but also showcased folk, English and contemporary music. The Women's Vocal Jazz Ensemble and the Madrigal Singers also performed.

Tenor singer, Joe Hilton believes the program went very well and he attributes the success to Dr. Brunner.

"Dr. Brunner travels all around the world to instruct us and we get to take a class. He's one of the best choral directors," Hilton said.

Hilton went on to say that Brunner's piece of seizing the day resembled the lessons you experience in real life.

"Sometimes we don't know that the future is right now. Me singing on stage in 20 years from now really started right now. This is your apple to take from the tree," Hilton said.

Choir performs debit piece

SHELLEY WILSON  STAFF WRITER

April 19, 2000
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(407) 823-2665
Reflection pond receives $500,000

**ADAM SHIVER**

Staff Writer

April 19, 2000

The pond will be receiving a $500,000 modernization. The facelift will be paid for by both UCF and the Student Government, and is slated for completion in early May. The majority of the funds will come from SG funding. The reflecting pond’s new fountain will have one jet with two other eight feet apart. It is hoped that the new system will reduce the number of cleanings from once daily to once a week.

Student art exhibit goes on exposition

Beginning April 20, and running through July 31, the university art gallery will be exhibiting works done by graduating students. The works of art are those of students graduating with their Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

**UCF to host Shakespeare Festival**

UCF will be hosting the Shakespeare Festival at the Walt Disney Amphitheater downtown at Lake Eola.

Love’s Labour’s Lost will be showing as until May 7. Tickets will range from $8 on up through $35. Showings on Thursdays will begin promptly at 7 p.m., while shows Friday-Sunday will happen at 8 p.m.

**Writing Center searches for workers**

The campus writing center is currently looking for people to fill positions for the fall semester. The writing center, which assists students with composition and editing of papers, is looking for people to fill editing positions. For more information, contact Beth Rapp-Young at (407) 823-2197 or pick up an application at the front desk in the writing center.

**Dial-up servers change provider**

The UCF dial-up Internet access service will be changing all of its servers over to a single provider beginning May 5. Currently portions of the system are under Sprint, while others are provided by AT&T. The three dial-up numbers currently available will all merge into one modem pool. Effective May 5 the (407) 513-4200 phone line will no longer be accessible. On May 5 the (407) 275-4200 line will also disappear. The single line available for student use will be (407) 235-4201, and will have a modem pool of 336 lines. The final result will be Sprint providing sole service for student dialup services.

Motorsports precision engineering program becomes inheritor

Henry “Smokey” Yunick, recently donated his ‘Smoketron’ to the university’s motorsports precision engineering program. The device is a three-ton machine that allows a Winston Cup style engine to be run without any ignition. The machine allows for the study of oil flow, friction, valve-train dynamics, and airflow through the engine without it the engine firing. Yunick also donated a 100-horsepower airflow bench, which will allow students to study the airflow through and around an engine.
Program to provide free newspapers to students

SHELLEY WILSON
STAFF WRITER

The Orlando Sentinel will be distributed free to UCF students through the end of this week with the intent of boosting readership, though it could come at a cost of nearly $40,000 from the Student Government budget.

SG will consider giving the Sentinel a portion of its Activity and Service Fee that students pay for in their tuition to purchase the papers Monday through Friday. The cost per copy to SG, according to the Sentinel, will be 20.5 cents an issue (it sells for 50 cents on weekdays) with a minimum order of 1,000 copies a day and an optimum order of 2,400.

With the SG budget half the size it was last year, many SG officials still say the program is a great tool for students.

"The program benefits everyone involved," said Amanda Harkins, chair of Senate Service and Public Relations Committee. "The minimum cost would be around $40,000 for five days a week during both the fall and spring semesters. That would be a little over half of 1 percent of the entire SG budget for next year of $6.5 million."

"In my opinion, it's worth it." So far, most students seem to agree.

"It normally wouldn't buy it because as a student I've got other things I've got to read," junior Dale Skipper said. "It's a great program if it's nothing extra. The only benefit I see now from SG is the computer lab and the paper. If SG keeps the service fee the same, it's a good service."

Senior Marc Robus also was in favor of getting a free newspaper.

"I didn't pick them up during the week usually, but since they've been free I've picked them up every day," Robus said. Harkins said her committee thought giving away free newspapers was a good idea after hearing about a similar program at Penn State University. A Penn State newspaper leadership project conducted from 1997-98 showed that after a year of delivering 9,000 copies of the local paper the Collegian, USA Today, and The New York Times for free, two-thirds of the students said they read the newspaper more.

"If the program becomes dependent on SG funds, it will be a major commitment. If the program is put into place, students need to tell SG if they want it," junior Dale Skipper told the Sentinel.

However, if this plan will become definite depends on UCF students, Harkins said. The project will begin on a trial run to what could become a daily operation starting in the fall. UCF SGA would be the first SG in the nation to purchase newspapers for its students.

"The students need to tell SG if this is something they want us to spend their money on," Harkins said. "Call, write, e-mail your senators (www.ucfsga.com), or stop by the SG office (Student Union Room 214) to let the people who control the money know if you like getting the Sentinel for free."

If the program is put into place, the Sentinel will pay around $10,000 for the delivery boxes that would be programmed using the student Smart Card.

The card will be used as a form of identification and for counting.

The Sentinel is hopeful that by giving away its newspapers, it will not only gain more readers now but in the future when these students graduate.

"The theory behind it is if you make the paper free for college students and have it pre-paid, then they will pick it up and read it," said Karen Farst, the Sentinel's Home Delivery Marketing Coordinator.

The Sentinel also is hoping to form partnerships with UCF's journalism department.

"Our goal is not only to get the paper out there, but also to work with the professors and using the paper as a learning tool in the classroom," said Chip Dannerker, the Sentinel's Consumer Marketing Manager.

So far, the first week of free distribution showed positive strides, Dannerker said.

"We've got nothing but real good feedback from the UCF community," he said.

"If there's enough interest in the papers these couple of weeks for free we'll be back in the fall. It looks like there's plenty of interest already."

Students who want to voice their opinion about purchasing the Sentinel, can sign a petition at the SG office. This topic will be addressed at the April 20 Senate meeting.

Running for Charity

UCF students participate in a 5K run held on Greek Park Drive which took place on April 14. The run started at the Sigma Phi Epilson house.

Write the Future

Letters to the editor should be typed and must include a name, address and phone number for confirmation. The Future reserves the right to edit for length, style, and grammar. Submit to:

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InFOCUS

(UPDATES FOR UCF FRESHMEN!)

Thinking about taking classes during the summer?

Summer A begins May 9th
Summer D begins June 20th
Summer C begins May 9th
Summer D begins May 9th

Fall 2000 Term begins...
Wednesday, August 23rd

CONGRATULATIONS to all of our freshmen on completing your first year successfully!

In the near future, you will be receiving information connecting you to an advising office for your sophomore year and beyond!

"WELCOME EXPO 2000" TUESDAY, AUGUST 22 ON THE GREEN.

SEE YOU THERE!
Students debate on vs off-campus housing

ELAINE LEBLANC
STAFF WRITER

Roll out of bed and walk to class? Or enjoy the privacy of your own apartment? Choosing where to live is a major decision Knights make each semester.

For some, living in the on-campus residence halls is the ideal choice due to the close proximity to UCF buildings. “I love only having to leave 10 minutes before class and being able to avoid trying to park in the mornings,” said Volusia Hall Resident Advisor Tim Eggert.

Others, however, are attracted to the opportunity to easily meet new people. “I would recommend living the dorm life to all freshmen because there is no way I would have met so many interesting people living in an apartment for just a year,” said freshman Natalie Walter.

In double occupancy rooms, the residence halls offer separate phone lines for each student and Internet connections. According to Housing Director Christopher McCray, Jr., new improvements in 1998 resulted in additional sidewalks, ramps, sitting areas, benches and tables to promote a “community atmosphere.” The projected prices for the fall semester range from $1,600 for a double occupancy room to $1,775 for a bedroom in the Lake Claire Apartments.

“I really enjoy paying one fee at the beginning of each semester, rather than dealing with multiple bills each month,” said Julie Palmer, who has lived on campus for three years.

On the other hand, for many students the privacy and freedom of renting an apartment or house often outweigh the drive to school. “Once I turned 21, I really wanted to let loose and get loud without worrying about the RA’s or waking my roommates,” said two-year Seminole Hall resident Chad Schneider. “Renting a house without any neighbors nearby was the perfect solution.” Junior Beth Schlosnagle agreed. “Even though I had a blast living in the dorms, one year was enough. Now I enjoy the amazing privacy of a one-bedroom apartment.”

Renting off-campus housing also provides the perks of not sharing bathrooms, although usually at a higher price. Forecasted monthly rent for apartments near UCF in August of 2000 ranges from $320 (utilities included) in four-bedroom-two bath apartments to a base rent of $675 for a one-bedroom. In addition to these benefits, some complexes and landlords allow pets.

“I have rented a house since my freshman year,” said sophomore Chris Anderson. “I just couldn't come to college without my best friend-my wonderful dog, Astor!”

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Elections finish earlier than expected, Sprenkle ticket victorious

This election was different from the last election in a couple of ways. "There were only 16 invalid votes placed," said David Dobin, Chief Executive of the Elections Commission. This number is far less than the 142 placed last election. The 142 invalid votes were what lead to much of the controversy before, but the 16 received this time around were simply not counted in order to keep from causing any controversy. Not only this, but there were no recounts or appeals of the ballot count done on April 13.

"This election was much fairer than previous elections," said former presidential candidate John Deeb. With the Cupicha ticket out of the race, both the Sprenkle and Deeb party were affected. This also meant that this election would have been the deciding factor in who was to win the "whole ball of wax."

The Deeb ticket felt that the loss of the Cupicha ticket's presence in the election made it a little harder for them to be competitive with the Sprenkle party. "If the Cupicha ticket would have remained in the election, the Greek vote would have been split a little more and would most likely have resulted in us in a runoff with one of the other two parties next week," said Deeb.

If in fact the Cupicha ticket had remained in the race, another election would have had to been held the week of April 17.
Letters to the Editor

Grade system changes make Knight take notice

A major change might soon take place at UCF. This change has the potential to affect our future education. Indeed, it will almost certainly affect what we work for every day – our grades! I am referring to the impending implementation of a Plus-Minus Grading Scale at UCF. I propose that we, the students and faculty of UCF, oppose the Plus-Minus Scale for the sake of simplicity and for the sake of maintaining our competitive academic edge. Talking with students, I have found that many are unsure of the change facing our grade posting scale. So, to begin with, here are the hard facts. The Plus-Minus GPA Scale Which UCF Is Proposing to Adopt

D+=2.25
D=2.00

This information comes from Dr. Terri S. Fine, Chair of the Plus-Minus Implementation Committee.

At present, half of the 10 universities in the Florida state system follow the familiar, traditional GPA scale (A+=4.0, B+=3.0, etc.). The remaining half have adopted some form of a Plus-Minus Scale.

According to Dr. Fine, no two of these universities follow the same Plus-Minus Scale. For example, here is the scale that the University of Florida follows:

A+=4.0
A=3.0
B+=3.5
B=3.0
C+=2.5
C=2.0
D=1.5
D=1.0
Below D =0

I took this information directly from University of Florida’s webpage (http://www.bme.ucf.edu/application/gpa.html). As you can see, UF’s scale actually inflates students’ GPAs by awarding 3.5 for a B+, 2.5 for a C+, and so on. Are you getting an idea of the immense problem we are facing here? With the new Plus-Minus system there is no set standard! We should be very concerned about our school’s policy to adopt a Plus-Minus Scale.

There are several reasons why I disagree with this grading scale. First, the new Plus-Minus Scale lacks the simplicity of our current scale. The current scale is easy to remember and its simplicity makes it easy for students to calculate their GPAs. The Plus-Minus Scale, on the other hand, will leave us wallowing in a sticky swamp of pluses and minuses and decimal gradations. Second, the Plus-Minus Scale will actually lower students’ GPAs. For example, if a hardworking student has consistently achieved A’s at UCF, she would have a 4.0 GPA. Under the Plus-Minus Scale, however, if she made an A+, she would no longer have a 4.0 GPA. I mentioned this problem to Dr. Fine, and her response was “Well, that’s life.”

This May, some students will graduate from UCF with C- averages. Under the Plus-Minus Scale, these students would not be allowed to graduate because their C- averages would drop their GPA lower than the 2.0 required by Florida standards. The Plus-Minus Scale will hurt students across the spectrum.

Third, as I mentioned earlier, the lack of a set standard is a major problem with the Plus-Minus Scale. Individual universities decide what system of pluses and minuses they want to implement. Without a level playing field, GPA becomes meaningless! Imagine applying for scholarships or admittance to graduate school and having to compete with students from schools such as UF where their Plus-Minus Scale inflates students’ GPAs. The proposed Plus-Minus Scale will hurt UCF’s competitive edge.

The GPA scale UCF follows now has been working fine. Why change? Dr. Fine gave two reasons for the change.

First, she said that transfer students coming to UCF from Plus-Minus institutions sometimes fall below UCF standards. Yet the question remains in my mind, why disadvantage UCF students for the sake of some underachieving transfer students?

Dr. Fine also believes that the Plus-Minus Scale will better reflect student performance. I say, if that is the case, why do we use GPA in the first place? Plus-Minus averages would exactly reflect student performance.

The proposed Plus-Minus Scale will come up for final evaluations on August 1, 2000. We must act now. I urge you to make petitions, write to UCF administrators, express your opposition to this change.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Knight
well, well, well, looks like history majors might get a job after all.

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careerbuilder.com when is your future?

Registration: Are we doomed to be in college forever?

TAYLOR CLARK
STAFF WRITER

Hey Kids! Guess what time it is? That's right, it's registration time! And with summer school on the horizon, I opened up the old trusty schedule book to take a look. I could not believe my eyes. Under my major (Communications) the pickings were slim: two required courses and a couple other courses that don't apply to me. One of the courses I have already taken; the other, a general education requirement. Fundamentals of Oral Communication had about 50 sections. And that was it.

So, I checked the History section for courses in my minor. The selection was just as sparse (although I must say it was better). But, again, the classes available consisted mainly of general education requirements. This may not be a problem for some students, but for a transfer student, my general education requirements are a few credits shy of completion.

Where does this leave me and others in the same boat faced with the nasty nine summer credit rule? It leaves us trying desperately to find classes that we have not yet taken and that will count toward our major. Finding such courses has been difficult to say the least.

The University of Central Florida is going to require students to take not only summer school, but nine credit hours of it, the selection from which to choose needs to be broadened. Perhaps I could understand it were not required, but unfortunately it is.

We all know that the registration problems are not confined solely to summer semester. Fall registration has just as many obstacles. After my fruitless attempt at summer registration, I flipped over to the fall schedule. It was almost as bad. As I typed in my key code for one of the classes not only required, but an essential building block for my major, I prayed it would not be filled, but I was denied.

The class had only one section with only 17 openings. Come on! How am I supposed to make progress in my major and take upper level courses if UCF is only offering one section of a class required for the upper level once? If a major is dependent on certain courses, there needs to be several sections, guaranteeing students the classes needed to progress in their major.

Course selection is an issue that is in need of dire reexamination. I don't know about everyone else, but I'm ready to get my degree and move on, but at this rate it feels like I'm going to be stuck in college forever. Although it may be easier said than done, this is just one student's cry for help: we need more classes not only in summer school, but all year round.

Take a chance — write the Future

Letters to the editor should be typed and must include a name, address and phone number for confirmation. The Future reserves the right to edit for length, style, grammar and libel. Submit to:

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Fiona Apple played an energetic set last Friday night at a sold-out House of Blues.

The Eels opened for her around 8:30 p.m. and played for a very memorable hour and a half. Anyone who has ever heard of this artist has heard the horror stories that accompany the mention of her name. For instance, that she's this mean-spirited person who hates performing and doesn't think her fans should worship her. This was not the Fiona I saw on Friday night.

After her second song she addressed the crowd apologizing to whoever gave her a note at the Downtown Disney Virgin Megastore because she accidentally dropped it. Following this kind gesture, she rocked the House with a great performance of "Limp," during which she started dancing erratically. Her movements wowed the crowd, as did her melodic voice, and it was wonderful to see her enjoying her music as much as we were.

Fiona's show was a pleasant mix of old and new songs that she alternated seemingly according to the tempo of the songs. "Love Rider" was performed, along with a few of the other slower songs, from behind a piano, but was still one of the more moving numbers. Her final song was "Fast As You Can," which I had hoped she wouldn't leave out.

The audience was so crestfallen that her performance was over after that song that they clapped and cheered until she came out for an encore.

Her encore consisted of two songs, both beautifully done, that were not from her two CDs. Fiona played Cole Porter's "Just One of Those Things" followed by Bill Withers' "Kissing My Love." She regretfully left the stage for good after that, and the audience eventually filed out of the House of Blues like a herd of cattle.

Despite the heat of the place and the standing for six hours, it was a concert that anyone who likes good music and talented musicians would have enjoyed.
Fortune, affairs, suspicious behavior! Not the plot to some midday soap opera, but instead the story behind Lillian Hellman's play "Toys In The Attic."

The scene is New Orleans 1949. Annie and Carrie Berniers' home is thrown into a frenzy when the mother-in-law, Albertine Prine, of their younger, estranged brother delivers a message to their home. The sisters are notified that Julian Berniers, their brother, and his wife, Lily, have returned to New Orleans after much time away from home.

Julian upsets and baffles his sisters and wife with his newfound fortune. The question of how he obtains the money is left very mysterious for the first portion of the play. Julian also hides the truth about the mysterious, older woman that has been calling him every night. Poor Lily believes that she is losing her love to money and another woman, while Carrie struggles to understand the changes in her brother's new persona.

Lily's self pity and night walking led her to seek council from her cold, rich mother.

Henry Simpson, Mrs. Prine's "chauffeur," is a quite "Negro" that puts the whole plot together with few words and a strong presence.

Although many details remain mysterious during the beginning, a gifted cast presents the show. The audience is brought into the struggle between the family and their acceptance of the new fortune by the acting abilities of the performers. They present realistic emotional moments of laughter and internal struggle through very convincing New Orleans accents and dialectic. Lillian Hellman's play, "Toys In The Attic," was performed at the UCF Theatre until April 16.

It was an entertaining show presented by a very talented cast of actors that brought you into their characters conflicts with one another and their struggle with their new, mysterious wealth.

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"Toys in the Attic" takes place in New Orleans in 1949, when Annie and Carrie Berniers' home is thrown into a frenzy when the mother-in-law, Albertine Prine, of their younger, estranged brother delivers a message to their home.

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Dear Nancy,

My friend is dating a guy that I'm friends with. It never was a problem until he started telling me things about her. He tells me about everything from their sex life to how he feels about other girls. Then last week he told me he cheated on her. I don't know what to do because he made me promise not to tell her. But I feel that I have to. What do you think?

- Stuck in the middle

Dear Stuck,

You made your cupcakes now you must eat them. With no frosting and no milk. You were the key witness at the crime scene—well almost. But you heard the defendant’s confession, that means he's guilty. And to your other friend so are you, if she finds out he cheated and you knew about it but didn’t tell her.

Next time plug your ears and keep your mouth shut. But since it's too late for that I guess you need to ask yourself which friend you're more loyal to. Or just tell your male pal you can't keep the promise.

Dear Funny,

It sounds like your friends are real comedians. Maybe you should try to book gigs at the local comedy club for them. Become their agent, make some money off their jokes. Or you could put a reward out for escape circus clowns.

It really does sound like these freaks might need some psychological help. The next thing you know they’ll be obsessed with bunny rabbits or something.

You know—the ones with the floppy ears. But before you call the funny farm to take them away in straight jackets; they need a taste of their own silly putty. Of course they have caller ID with all of the tricks they play, so forget the phone but let it be known—what goes around comes around.

---

April 19, 2000
www.UCFfuture.com

Dear Nancy,

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LEAD STORIES

"I may be homeless," said former nurse Chester Goode, "but I'm the most stylish homeless person you'll ever meet." Goode, 46, was interviewed by a clearly impressed Miami Herald reporter in April, amidst the framed impressionist paintings, potted palms, fluted vases, decorative baskets, crystal decanter and a faux-antique phone (unconnected) in his classy, black-fabric-walled, turpentine painted space in the woods off 18th Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

Goode says he is driven by the need for quiet: "Bison-boxes, teen-age children, I just can't handle them."

Police called to a Giant supermarket in Yardley, Pa., in January arrested Samuel Feldman, 37, and charged him with one count of criminal mischief but suspected he is the person responsible for a three-year spree of squeezing, smashing and picking packages of bread and cookies in various area supermarkets, ruining more than $8,000 worth of goods. After the squzzer had struck more than 100 times in the area, Giant installed a hidden camera and, according to police, when Feldman was seen squeezing bread on the third separate occasion, he was arrested.

People With Too Much Money

In December, Graham Gund started a third version of his new multimillion-dollar house in Cambridge, Mass., tearing out the front steps to build a foundation for the second floor after deciding that he really wanted the house to look like the first version, which he had bulldozed down eight months earlier after it was nearly completed. And in January, a Newfoundland company announced it was taking reservations, at $35,000 (U.S.) a seat, for a 12-hour sightseeing tour in three-person submarines, 2 1/2 miles down to the sunken Titanic.

Latest Rights

Among the February reform recommendations submitted to the Home Office by the British gay rights organization OutRage (in its effort to end different treatment of heterosexuals and homosexuals) was a proposal urging that the government legalize sex in public restrooms cubicles.

In March, the New Haven Register reported on Tufts University student Carl Sciortino. It’s recent campaign to persuade the school to allow gays and lesbians to have roommates of the opposite sex. According to Sciortino, forcing same-sex roommates on gays could lead them to develop romantic feelings toward their roommates, which would interfere with their scholarship. Some local gay and lesbian leaders do not support Sciortino, fearing that his argument undermines the cause of gays’ serving openly in the military.

A town council in Oslo, Norway, OK’d Muslim loudspeaker prayers on Fridays provided activists had a separate chance to shout "God does not exist." Protesting women formed "Menstrual Avengers" to challenge a tax that covers feminine hygiene products but not condoms, sunscreen or insecticides (Sydney, Australia). A police officer who hurt himself punching a wall while arguing with his boss was ruled eligible for worker compensation (Hayward, Calif.). A baby was born with a bullet wound on her bottom hours after her mother was shot in the abdomen in Johannesburg (Johannesburg, South Africa). A British woman with 6 pounds of heroin strapped to her chest was arrested at an airport after her body piercing (in an unidentified "intimate location") tripped a metal detector (Istanbul, Turkey).

Chuck Shepherd's NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Chuck, who had objected to Sikorsky's pro-Gulf War stance by stomping on a workplace U.S. flag and blowing his nose on it, and Liz Anderson filed a federal discrimination complaint against employer USF Logistics in Indianapolis in November after the company ordered her to stop telling co-workers to "have a blessed day."

Smooth Reactions

Fireworks With a Flair: In December, the wife of a Cambodian undersecretary of state was accused of dumping five liters of acid on top of the 18-year-old girlfriend of her husband. And in October, a 43-year-old woman in Lake Ronkonkoma, N.Y., was charged with assault for allegedly taking a samura sword and slashing off two fingertips of a woman she found in bed with her husband.

Lustful Rages:

Elevator-Etiquette Rage: Engineering student knocked a macheten unconscious after she objected to his pushing elevator buttons with his feet (Sirachaa, Thailand, January). Cigarette-Ashe Rage: 100 people were arrested for stoning a religious protest started when one man’s ash accidentally landed on another man (Raver, India, November). Anglophobe Rage: One British man was fined about $700 (U.S.) for punching another because he addressed a postal clerk in English rather than French (Hall, Quebec, March).

—In December, a 36-year-old, 280-pound man in Pontiac, Mich., originally questioned by police because his stereo was too loud but then arrested on an outstanding DUI warrant, smashed his head off an edge, which he used to eat a hole in his stomach so he could pull his organs out to throw at rescue workers. "Reaching in and then tugging on stuff, I mean tugging," is how Sheriff’s Sgt. Matt Norman described the man’s attempts.

Update

British artist Tracey Emin, 37, first made News of the Weird in 1996 with a show in Minneapolis featuring a tent with the embroi­dered names of “Everybody I’ve Ever Slept With,” which included not only lovers but relatives and pajama-party bedmates she had as a child. In December 1999, she nearly won the prestigious British Turner Prize with “My Bed,” which was an actual unused bed, stained with urine and littered with panties, condoms, pillows, and empty vodka bottles, supposedly set during a suicidal period. (One irate observer at London’s Tate Gallery, apparently believing that a vandal had struck, tried to make the bed and tidy up.)

Also, in the Last Month

A town council in Oslo, Norway, OK’d Muslim loudspeaker prayers on Fridays pro­vided activists had a separate chance to shout "God does not exist." Protesting women formed "Menstrual Avengers" to challenge a tax that cov­ers feminine hygiene products but not condoms, sunscreen or insecticides (Sydney, Australia). A police officer who hurt himself punching a wall while arguing with his boss was ruled eligible for worker compensation (Hayward, Calif.). A baby was born with a bullet wound on her bottom hours after her mother was shot in the abdomen in Johannesburg (Johannesburg, South Africa). A British woman with 6 pounds of heroin strapped to her chest was arrested at an airport after her body piercing (in an unidentified "intimate location") tripped a metal detector (Istanbul, Turkey).

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 18737, Tampa, Fla. 33679 or Weird@tampabay.rr.com. Go to www.NewsoftheWeird.com/)
Gardengroove mixes blues, hip-hop

PATTY CANEDO
STAFF WRITER

Pop, rock, reggae, blues, hip-hop, soul, and funk! This is the sound of the three-piece ensemble, Gardengroove. Gardengroove is the two-year-old project of Jereme Hall, frontman of the band. Hall is the energetic force behind the group's songwriting, vocals, and drums.

Hall recruited seasoned Maryland guitarist, Sam Amato. Amato's extended experience with the guitar, jazz music and other cover bands made him a very valuable asset to the establishment of the band's funky blues sound.

The final ingredient to the funk-style band is the strong bass lines injected by Guido. After playing with several bands in his home state of Connecticut and touring through New England, Guido has settled into his position with Gardengroove.

The fast-paced beats of the band's music entice their audience to "shake their wagon" but it is the energy of the live performances that appeals to their audience. Gardengroove has recorded demo tracks solely for Real Radio 104.1's disc jockeys, "Monsters of the Midday" and Melissa Foxx, which have been made into regular rotation.

Along with 104.1, the band has received exposure through the local club scene, playing prestigious venues such as the Hard Rock Live and the House of Blues.

At times the lyrics of Gardengroove's songs are lost under the presence of strong instrumental playing; however, the music has a fun, dance-able quality to it with a funky 70's kind of feel and demonstrates the band's talent for playing music.

There is no doubt that if you attend one of their concerts that you won't find yourself dancing up a storm and having a blast.

For more concert and CD information you can go to their website www.gardengroove.com or listen to their music at www.wjrr.com.
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- Forbes Magazine
‘28 Days’ is Bullock at her best

TANYA HIRSCH
THE DAILY COUGAR (U. HOUSTON)

“We carry our own bags here. This ain’t the Sheraton.” These words of welcome prove to be the world’s worst hangover for magazine writer Gwen Cummings (Sandra Bullock).

Twenty-eight days in a court-ordered rehab facility is not exactly what Cummings had on her party-girl agenda, but getting wasted at her sister’s wedding, crashing a limo into a house and receiving a DUI lands Cummings a sobering wake-up call.

She is an alcohol and drug abuser, but she refuses to admit it — a classic example of denial. At the rehab center, this city slicker is thrust into a totally different lifestyle, far from the hip and exciting life she leads in New York City. No cell phones, lots of chanting and “interesting” fellow patients make Cummings determined not to conform.

Two things force Cummings to re-evaluate her life and her cynicism of rehab: the threat of serving jail time, and counselor Cornell (Steve Buscemi) with his unique approach to therapy. Her struggle back to her life is a long and hard one, but is made a little easier with the support of the facility and her newfound friendships.

Cummings faces up to the pain of her past and realizes, through group therapy, that there are other patients with far graver problems than her own.

Columbia Pictures presents the dark comedy 28 Days, written by Susannah Grant (Erin Brockovich) and directed by Betty Thomas (Dr. Dolittle, Private Parts).

Although 28 Days deals with such serious topics as alcohol and drug addiction, the movie is not heavy and morbid. There are serious moments, but there are also really light and humorous scenes.

What is truly ingenious is the casting. The actors who play Cummings’ fellow rehab patients give the movie charm and flavor. They are brilliant in their own ways.

Their various personalities and quirks make this film colorful. Sandra Bullock shines in this role.

The prognosis looks good. This could be a box-office comeback for Bullock since her recent box-office flops Gun Show and Speed 2. Playing Cummings she shows us what she is really capable of being — a talented, compelling actress.

“I could see the script’s potential immediately,” Bullock said. “It’s a great story and very relevant to the times. Communication today is stifled. People don’t talk to each other anymore.”

Audiences will be pleasantly surprised by Bullock’s ability to combine drama with comedy in her acting. She is that sweet, girl-next-door type of actress who is accessible. In her role as Cummings she has many faults, but you can’t help but feel endearing toward her. The audience relates to her.

The cinematography in 28 Days is dynamic and refreshing. It is filmed in a loose style with numerous flashbacks to Cummings’ life as a child. Some group therapy scenes are shot using a hand-held camera, which adds an interesting dynamic to the film.

28 Days is an enlightening experience that will make you laugh and cry. Chances are you won’t be disappointed.
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Women's golf win TAAC title

FROM PAGE, Page 32

TAAC Championship Oakview Golf Course Macon, Ga. Par: 72, Yardage: 5922

Final Team Results
1 UCF 309-312-293--914; 2 Campbell 297-310-313--915; 3 Georgia State 316-319-944; 4 Jacksonville State 330-319-944; 5 Jacksonville 367-382-353--1102; 6 Samford 371-381-367--1121

Final Top 5 Individuals
1 Sharon O'Neill, Campbell, 71 - 76-77-983; 2 Laura Tortorelli, Campbell, 73-73-80-226; 2 Yvonne Cox, Campbell, 73-78-75-226; 4 Olivia Hartley, UCF, 78-76-74-226; 5 Tanja Arnold, UCF, 78-76-77-227

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Baseball Notebook

UCF SWEEPS JSU FOR SECOND IN THE TAAC

UCF's goal for any road series is to win two of three, but instead the Golden Knights decided to go ahead and sweep Jacksonville State at JSU Field. UCF swept the doubleheader on Saturday, 9-3 and 7-6, and then held off the Gamecocks with an 8-7 win on Sunday.

The result Sunday was not indicative of how much UCF dominated the contest behind David Rankin. Rankin allowed only two runs on four hits through seven innings with seven strikeouts and no walks.

UCF scored two in the second, one in the third and fifth, three in the eighth and an ever-important one in the ninth. UCF needed that last run despite an 8-2 advantage heading into the ninth because the bullpen allowed five runs, including a grand slam, before Jason Arnold had to record the final out to record his seventh save.

Dustin Brisson, Matt Bowser, and Raul Cruz led the charge with two hits apiece.

UCF (31-12, 12-3 TAAC) took different routes to its two victories on Saturday. In the opener, UCF scored early and often to cruise to the victory. Then in the nightcap, JSU (19-22•13) took an early lead before squandering it away.

The Golden Knights jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first inning, which was all that Justin Pope needed to earn the victory. Pope dominated as he struck out eight over six innings, allowing only one run on eight hits.

Dustin Brisson led the charge with a three-run home run in the fifth to give the Golden Knights the lead for good at 5-4. UCF added two more in the seventh.

UCF knocked around JSU ace Bill White early. White allowed seven runs on nine walks and four hits in only four innings before being ejected for arguing with the umpire. Despite only totaling six hits, UCF used 12 walks on route to six runs.

The second game started well for the Golden Knights as Mike Myers hit the first pitch out of the park for a 1-0 lead in the first. But JSU struck back with four runs in the bottom of the first for a commanding 4-1 lead against starter Casey Kennedy.

However, Kennedy battled as he scattered 10 hits and six runs - only two earned - through 6 2/3 innings. He held off JSU enough to allow UCF to score six unanswered runs for the come-from-behind victory.

UCF scored a single run in the second before Matt Meath delivered the big hit with a three-run home run in the fifth to give the Golden Knights the lead for good at 5-4. UCF added two more in the seventh.

NOTEBOOK, Page 25

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www.abortion-clinics.com
UCF hopes to be celebrating following this weekend’s series with Florida Atlantic, who ran through the conference last year on route to a Top 15 national ranking.

FROM PAGE 24

the sixth, and Jason Arnold earned his sixth save of the season to secure the 7-6 win.

Meath finished 2-for-2 with two walks and four RBIs. Myers was 3-for-3 with two runs scored and a RBI, while Briston also went 3-for-3 with one run scored.

TOUGH ON THE ROAD

While UCF’s road record is not overly impressive at 12-7, what is impressive is the fact that the Golden Knights are 8-1 on the road in conference play. The Golden Knights improved its record with its three-game sweep of Jacksonville State over the weekend. UCF’s only loss was a 9-2 defeat at Georgia State on March 25. The last road series loss was in May 1999 when UCF lost two of three at Mercer.

FIRST TIME’S A CHARM

While trying to win 40 games during the regular season, UCF needed quite a few sweeps in conference series. The sweep of JSU couldn’t have come at a better time. UCF held a 6-3 all-time lead over the Gamecocks heading into the series, but the Golden Knights were coming off its first conference series loss of the season at home against Southern. Sweeping JSU not only gives UCF sole possession of second in the TAAC behind Florida Atlantic.

HOT START

UCF is off to a 12-3 start in the TAAC, but it is not the best start for the Golden Knights since joining the TAAC in 1993. During its record-breaking year in 1995, UCF lost two of three at FAU to begin TAAC play. Then it reeled off 18 consecutive conference wins during its 29-game winning streak to begin the season 19-2 in conference play.

Baseball Notebook

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Total accumulations after 20 years based on initial investment of $50,000 and hypothetical annual returns of 11%.

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Nationally-ranked Owls present tough challenge

FROM PAGE, Page 32

Ivan Tuljic has given Coach Jay Bergman solid contributions in the outfield with his glove and strong arm, and at the plate with a powerful bat.

because they are on their home field. The Owls have gone 23-7 at home and have been tested early, winning four of six games against six top 25 teams.

But UCF is not at a severe disadvantage because it has been road tested early. The Golden Knights are 12-7 on the road, but they have hit .330 average from last year. Four of their top six hitters graduated, but FAU has still managed to bat .301 and they have hit 53 home runs in their first 40 games.

Four players have hit seven or more home runs, led by Anthony Fonselus' team-leading 12 home runs and 53 RBIs but he has hit only .295. John Edward-Raffo leads the team with a .360 average and has eight home runs and 32 RBIs. Zach Repier (345-7-35-16 SB), Ryan Whiteley (345-7-23-16 SB), and Regan Samaniego (343-5-18) have added some pop in the lineup.

Despite the lineup not producing quite as much as last year, they have still provided a potent lineup that has led FAU to another strong season. However, many UCF players feel that it needs to regain that top spot in the TAAC, and it has the opportunity to do so this weekend in Boca Raton.

"They had a good year last year, and it was one of the best in a long time," Rankin said. "But they, all of a sudden, are thinking they are king of the hill. Hopefully we can take it to FAU pretty good."

UCF BASEBALL

Golden Knights vs Troy State

SATURDAY, APRIL 29
4:00PM
(Double Header)

SUNDAY, APRIL 30
2:00PM

Attention: The UCF vs. Mercer series has been changed:
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Game 2 & 3: Friday, May 5 1:00pm
(Double Header)

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Rankin helps throw UCF into the mix for TAAC title

TRAVIS BELL
STAFF WRITER

Senior pitcher David Rankin started the final game of the Stetson series on April 9 and left with a commanding 4-2 lead, only to see the bullpen lose that lead, the game, and, in turn, the series. After suffering that loss and seeing UCF drop out of first place in the Trans America Athletic Conference standings, Rankin assessed the situation and realized that something needed to be said and done.

As a senior leader for the Golden Knights, he felt it was his duty to sit down with the rest of the pitching staff and express what it's going to take to regain that top spot and return to the NCAA Tournament. His words must have come across loud and clear because Dan Stillman and Brian Freeland combined for a three-hit shutout against South Florida on April 11.

I felt that there were some things that we needed to address because I didn't think any of our pitchers were pitching with confidence,” Rankin said. “We've got great pitchers on this team, and if they can just go out and pitch with confidence then I think it will have a huge turnaround from the way they've been pitching. There's no doubt about the ability. I just think they needed a little jumpstart.”

And the words were taken to heart because Rankin has earned the right to be heard. After UCF lost 10 players in the 1998 draft, Rankin joined the staff last year after transferring from Tallahassee Community College.

Then-senior Troy Satterfield and Justin Pope joined him in the rotation, but Rankin was thrown into the role as the No. 1-starter after filling the same role at TCC for two years.

While UCF struggled through an up-and-down season, the one consistent variable in the equation was Rankin.

He went 8-5 with a 3.94 ERA while starting 17 games. He also led the team with 102 2/3 innings pitched and 95 strikeouts while earning third-team all-TAAC honors.

But entering the 2000 campaign, Rankin knew that he would not be the only consistent starter. Pope, who started last year as a freshman, and senior Casey Kennedy, who transferred from Virginia, joined him to round out an impressive rotation. Rankin started the first game of the season against North Carolina, but has not started the first game of a series again this year.

Pitching Coach Craig Cozart says that may have affected Rankin early in the season, but now he has found his niche.

“I think for a while when David wasn't necessarily starting in that first spot, he kind of searched a little while for his identity again this year,” Cozart said. “I think now through that struggle and through the development of the season, he's realized what a vital role he plays.”

Like the role he played following the loss to Stetson. Cozart says that Rankin brings some important intangibles to the team.

“Not only just going out and pitching well for us, but within the team keeping people sharp and keeping people responsible for what they're doing on the field," Cozart said. “That's something that you can't really teach as a coach.”

But Rankin has not lacked in production on the field with his...
Senior pitcher David Rankin stepped up as the ace of the Golden Knights' staff last year and has performed well this season, earning a solid rotation with fellow starters Justin Pope and Casey Kennedy.

Senior pitcher solidifies starting staff

FROM PAGE, Page 27

less-defined spot in the rotation. He is again leading the team with a 3.59 ERA, but his 5-4 record is not indicative of how well he has thrown. He is allowing less than one hit per inning and has recorded 50 strikeouts in 57 2/3 innings despite not having overpowering pitches.

While Pope and Kennedy have headlined the staff, Rankin has continued to dominate by holding the opposition to only a .252 average down 34 points from 1999.

"A lot of games I have pitched well in, I think the biggest thing with me is that I just want to give our team a chance to win," Rankin said. "I feel like I've learned a lot from last year. I've been more consistent than I was last year."

Last year the Golden Knights managed 38 wins while overachieving. With the abundance of talent on this year's team, 40 wins is a very realistic goal, especially since UCF already had 31 wins heading into Tuesday's matchup with USF.

Forty wins has usually equaled a NCAA Regional bid, and with 13 games remaining before the TAAC Tournament, UCF looks to be in a position to make its first trip back to the tournament since 1997. Rankin has been a leader in bringing the team together following an 11-8 start.

"It took us a while, but we've all become pretty close - on and off the field," said Rankin about the team. "When you have a lot of guys coming in from a lot of different places, it's going to take a while because you're not going to mesh all of the sudden. If we can just find some way to put the total package together, then the sky is the limit."

As for Rankin's limit, it is questionable whether he will be drafted following his final collegiate season. Cozart feels Rankin has enough upside to be given a chance at the professional ranks.

"His one variable is that he is left-handed. Clubs always have a need for left-handers and they always want to give left-handers a chance, especially a left-hander who has won on the Division I level," said Cozart, who was drafted twice and played with and coached numerous pitchers that have been drafted. "Whether he gets drafted or signs as a free agent, I don't think that really matters. All he wants is that chance to see what professional baseball is all about."

But first and foremost Rankin just wants to a chance to see what the NCAA Tournament is all about.
Knights get victories on all fronts

TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR

Two championships, another player drafted into the NFL...all in hard work's week. Athletic director Steve Sloan could put this past week's events on his resume and send them to every conference in the country. The Golden Knights have established a winning reputation in spite of relative obscurity and have done as much in the TAAC as possible.

It's time to move on to something bigger. This past weekend, the women's tennis team, in spite of the absence of their top players, claimed their fourth consecutive conference championship. UCF's Athletic director Steve Sloan could put this in the books. Steve Sloan, who led the team as a fourth receiver, provided his improvement mirrors that of a season ago. In 1999, Lee's numbers almost doubled off select models from the Ford College Graduate Program. No pain. All gain. Visit www.ford.com/collegegrad or call 1.800.321.1536 for all the details.

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Lee will get a chance to prove himself in Green Bay

FROM PAGE, Page 32

ESPN's website on all of this year's draftable players, had the following to say about Lee: "He lacks great individuality, burst and speed. More of a buildup-speed type of player. May have trouble beating the bump and getting quick separation. Does not have an extra gear or great run-after-the-catch ability. Has improved his concentration and work habits, but they still are not as good as they need to be for a player with his tools to make it to the next level."

Luckily for Lee, the Packers should have an eye open on all of their wide receiver prospects for this year. Antonio Freeman, who led Green Bay in receptions (74), yards (1074) and touchdowns (6), and fellow wideout Bill Schroeder (74 receptions, 1054 yards, 5 TDs) are the lone established starters for the Packers. Green Bay's depth chart lists Donald Driver and Corey Bradford as the second-teamers for the team, but neither player has more than three years experience in the NFL.

Also, both have worked primarily on special teams or in relief roles for the Packers' lead men in Freeman and Schroeder. For as badly as Pro Football Weekly spoke of Lee, it also feels the former UCF standout can catch on to a team as a fourth receiver, provided his improvement mirrors that of a season ago. In 1998, Lee emerged as an option for former UCF quarterback Daunte Culpepper, as Lee caught 46 passes for 656 yards and three TDs. In 1999, Lee's numbers almost doubled to 87 catches, 1,133 yards and five touchdowns, including a 50-yard TD run against the then-No. 4 ranked Florida Gators in the Golden Knights second game of the season.

Throw in a recent scandal involving established Packers' tight end Mark Chumura and Lee could have a shot with the Packers in some role. Afterwards, Lee caught 34 catches for 410 yards and three TDs. In 1999, Lee's numbers almost doubled to 87 catches, 1,133 yards and five touchdowns, including a 50-yard TD run against the then-No. 4 ranked Florida Gators in the Golden Knights second game of the season.

Although the Packers chose Miami (FL) tight end Bubba Franks with their lone first-round pick, Lee should have plenty of opportunities to try and fit into Green Bay's search for a new corps of receivers.

If nothing else, Lee has gotten his chance. Now is he must try to prove he belongs.
Women's tennis claims fourth TAAC crown

DAVID WINBERG STAFF WRITER

For the fourth straight year the No. 1 UCF women's tennis team cruised to another Trans America Athletic Conference title after a convincing 5-1 victory over No. 3 Georgia State in the championship game at the Mandy Stoll Tennis Center in DeLand.

After defeating No. 8 Florida Atlantic 5-1 in the opening round and No. 5 Troy State 5-0 in the semifinals, the Golden Knights, ranked No. 50 in the latest WspspanBank.com rankings, got off to a quick start when senior Gaelle Gouttefarde routed Mable Abraham 6-1, 6-2 at the No. 3 position handing UCF a 1-0 lead.

"I can't say enough things about Gaelle," said first-year head coach Patricia Allison. "It's all business when she steps on the court."

The Golden Knights would never look back. Hadza Rutem, a junior from Nkurah, Israel, rolled past Panther freshman Karin Etienne 6-3, 6-2 at No. 6 and Sonja Prokopce, a junior from Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, defeated Jovana Krasipka 6-3, 6-0 at No. 4 for her 18th win in 19 matches to extend the lead to 3-0.

"Hadza has had some tough times this season, but she really did an outstanding job putting her matches away in the conference," Allison said.

"Sonja got behind early in the match but showed tremendous desire, intensity and fighting spirit to come back and win the match for us," Georgia State put the deficit to 3-1 when Ana Kolar beat Daniela Okal, a junior from Rheinfelden, Germany, 6-4, 6-2 at No. 5 before Anne-Jeanette Svantesson topped Maja Parfent 6-3, 6-1 at No. 1. With the win Svantesson, who stepped in and played at the No. 1 position after Veronica Widyadharminai's dismissal from the team due to breaking several team rules, extended her season record to 7-1 against TAAC opponents.

Daniela was just not in the groove in her match, but she played outstanding when we beat FAU and Troy State," Allison said. "A 1-0 record is the goal as the No. 1 player brilliantly. She accepted her responsibility with dignity."

With a 4-1 lead sophomore transfer Maricke Gunawan was in a tough battle against Panther Nina Jansen at No. 2. With Jansen serving for the match at 5-4 in the third set, the native of Kendaya, Indonesia, broke back and held serve for a 6-5, 6-7, 7-5 win. Gunawan charged the net and put a huge high forehand volley away clinching the match 2-6, 6-0, 7-5 and UCF's fourth straight title to her teammates delight.

"It was a gutty effort by Maricke. She really attacked Jansen and took it to her. I'm proud of her, I'm so proud of the whole team," Allison said with pride.

The win marked the 34th win in a row in TAAC play and the Golden Knights have outscored their opponents 72-5 this year.

"It has been a fantastic season with the rankings and all that, but our main goal has been to win the TAAC Championships. Now, we look forward to the NCAA Regionals. We are ready to battle with the best teams in the country," Allison said.

The NCAA Regional Tournament will take place on May 13-14 and the site and opponents will be announced in the first week of May. Last year the Golden Knights finished fifth in the NCAA Regionals.

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Stetson ends men's tennis season

DAVID WINBERG STAFF WRITER

Mention the UCF men's tennis team by name and the Stetson counterparts get pumped up. Put the Golden Knights at the Mandy Stoll Tennis Center in DeLand and the Hatters will do everything in their power to get a win against their rivals from Orlando. That's what happened this year.

On February 15, UCF traveled to DeLand as the favorites only to be knocked down by Stetson 5-2 in a regular season Trans America Athletic Conference game. On April 16, the Golden Knights entered the TAAC Championships in DeLand and as the No. 3 seed playing the No. 6 seed Stetson. What happened? Stetson defeated UCF 4-1 and improved to 4-15 in the all-time series with the Golden Knights.

"This was a more disappointing loss than the one in February because it was the TAAC Tournament and we were up 6-2 in the deciding doubles when Fernando Martinez got hurt," said first-year head coach Bobby Cashman.

After the UCF tandem of William Guerin and Federico Camacho defeated Alexander Nicin and Filip Norman at No. 1 for their 16th win on the season and Grayden Moore and David Moore lost to Pierre Demechelli and Marcus Andreason at No. 2, the senior and freshman combination of Fernando Martinez and Augusto Sambrida led Stetson's Thomas Brekke and Karl-Henrik Bredov 6-2 when Martinez fell to the ground.

"I was in real pain and it could be a torn ACL," said Martinez who will find out the seriousness of the injury later this week. 'Being up 6-2 and losing that match changes the momentum going into singles," Cashman said.

The Hatters took advantage of the situation and jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead behind straight set wins at No. 5 and No. 6. Bredov followed past Johan Westin 6-1, 6-0 and Brekke downed Ryan Winter 1-6, 6-1. Junior Camacho gave UCF hope defeating Nicin 6-2, 6-2 at No. 2 pushing his record to 10-11 on the season, but Demichelli clinched the victory for Stetson by downing Guerin 6-2, 6-1 at No. 1.

"We had an up-and-down year, finishing around 500 that I predicted, but we got more consistency in the middle and ended strong," Cashman said. "We had two good wins against Brown and Rollins, but the loss to Stetson hurts."

The Golden Knights finished their season with a 11-12 overall record and 4-3 in TAAC play.

UCF receivers find success after college excellence

While Burley joined the St. Louis Rams a couple of weeks ago, meaning there should be three UCF receivers running routes in the pros. Aside from Burley, who will also have to make the defending Super Bowl Champions, and Lee, Shawn Jefferson was acquired by the Atlanta Falcons last week. As a result, many people see the UCF receiving corps as something receivers coach Sean Beckton can be proud of, and a feather in the cap which the Golden Knights can break out when sitting in the living rooms of prospective recruits with pro aspirations.

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407-382-1617
UCF, FAU square off for TAAC top spot

UCF overcomes 19 stroke deficit to win TAAC title

Lee drafted in 7th round by Green Bay

Lee hopes to be on the receiving end of Brett Favre's passes next season after the Green Bay Packers selected him in the seventh round of the NFL draft.
To find an apartment for the fall semester, it is advisable to start your search by the end of July. Listings for September usually become scarce by early August. To get a real head start, the time to start your search is now. At this time when so many students are leaving, many sublets are available. A large number of these are not just summer sublets, but continue into the year.

No matter where you look, the search for housing near campus can be intense, with thousands of students seeking a limited number of rentals. The faster you act, the better chance you will have. Don’t wait for people to call you, or hope they will call you back. Be aggressive, without being rude.

Don’t let all your hopes rest on one apartment. Get as many appointments as possible, even if you think you’ve found the ideal apartment. Nothing is definite until you’ve signed the lease. Do your research on each apartment you are seriously considering.

When you’re ready to look at apartments, you probably already have a few definite requirements in mind: price range, general floor plan, pet policy, desired amenities and location. However, there’s more to the apartment experience than just plunking down a check, moving in your possessions and heading for the pool. Please take a minute to read through some basic information to help you find an apartment home that best fits your needs and lifestyle.

Here are some basic items to consider, plus a calculator to help you determine what you can afford to pay each month. Be realistic. Ask questions to find out your financial responsibilities, so that you can plan ahead. The goal is to have no surprises when it comes to spending your hard-earned cash! The bottom line is this: it doesn’t matter what the community has to offer if you can’t pay for it.

1. What is the rent per month? When is it due? Is there a fee for late payment, and is there a grace period before that fee is assessed?

2. What type of deposit is required? What are your chances of getting it back when you move out?

3. If you plan to have a roommate, find out what the community’s policy is. Each person occupying the apartment may have to sign a separate lease. If yours is the only name on the lease, be aware that you are responsible for everything!

Finding an apartment, page A3
The following questions are provided as a guide to aid you regardless of the exact type of accommodation you are looking for. Being thorough and thoughtful before you sign a lease will save you possible problems in the future.

You might want to make a list of the essential, desirable, and not too important aspects of your ideal apartment to help you think about your search in an organized way. Your answers to these questions may help to clarify your priorities for your living situation.

1. How close is the apartment to school and your job?
2. How will you commute - public transportation, walk, bike, car?
3. How long will it take you to commute to campus?
4. How much per month will transportation cost?
5. If you have a car, is there parking?
6. Do you feel comfortable in the neighborhood?
7. Is there actually enough space for you and the others who will live there with you?
8. How well maintained is the building?
9. Is there a laundry room in the building? Is there a Laundromat nearby?
10. Does the front door of the building lock? Are the hallways well-lit?
11. How many flights of stairs will you have to climb? Is there an elevator?
12. Is the apartment well-ventilated? Is it sunny?
13. Does the apartment have adequate closet space? Does it have any storage space?
14. Are a stove and refrigerator included? Is there enough kitchen cabinet space?
15. Do the bathroom and kitchen fixtures work? Is there adequate hot water supply? What are the bathing facilities? (Is there a shower? A bathtub?)
16. Who is the landlord? Is the building owner-occupied? If so, do you feel comfortable dealing with this person? If not, is there a telephone number where the landlord or a superintendent can be reached?
17. Is the apartment near a supermarket? A drugstore?
18. What is included in the rent? Remember to ask about heat, hot water, gas and electricity.

If you are looking into an established apartment or house with current tenants, be observant. Be sure you know exactly who is living there. Meet all the tenants and learn about their living habits before you give them a check or sign anything committing yourself to moving in.

Feel free to investigate the condition of kitchen appliances: bathroom sink, tub, shower; toilet water pressure in kitchen and bath; electrical outlets; water stains; cracks; crumbled plaster (may indicate leakage).

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GO KNIGHTS!

www.apartmentsflorida.com
continued from page A1

4. Some communities offer incentives for early payment, referrals or long-term (i.e., more than one year) leases. If the community doesn't currently have such a plan in place, your inquiry may set the wheels in motion. It doesn't hurt to ask.

5. Life changes are inevitable, and frequently unexpected. Therefore, it's important to find out what happens if you must terminate your lease early. Most communities require a 30-day notice, and you may forfeit part or all of your deposit.

6. Consider renter's insurance. It's a relatively small investment, and it's a wonderful thing to have should the unthinkable happen.

As people grow increasingly more mobile and sophisticated, the list of available amenities grows ever longer. Apartment communities are offering everything from state-of-the-art fitness facilities to on-site car washes, fireplaces, washers and dryers in the apartment, and business centers with fax and copier for residents' use.

During your apartment search, you will probably notice that a number of features are listed as being available "in select units." Though the community amenities are available to everyone, the apartment-specific features may be available only in a certain number of units.

Why is this? Because research has shown that many apartment shoppers would rather pay less and get a good, basic, no-frills apartment, while others would prefer to pay a premium for such conveniences and services. Other amenities, such as fireplaces or screened porches, are available only in certain apartment homes due to structural considerations. Most communities try to provide a good mix that can accommodate everyone's needs.

So where does this leave you? Before you start apartment shopping, have in mind a price range that you can comfortably afford and a firm list of can't-live-without-it amenities. See where these two items overlap, then see what other amenities are offered for those communities that meet your basic criteria.

You may find that you don't want to go whole hog and spring for all of the available amenities, but that the community may have apartment homes available that fit your criteria with some nice extras included.
Leases are contracts between a landlord and a tenant, defining the terms by which a particular apartment or property is rented and is presented by the landlord to the tenant.

The lease protects both the landlord and the tenant by stating the rental price, the number of tenants, and the time period that the tenant will reside in the apartment at that given rent.

THE LEASE IS A BINDING LEGAL DOCUMENT THAT SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE IT IS SIGNED.

After the lease has been signed, it is too late to make changes. Sign only if you agree to each section and are certain you want the apartment.

BE AWARE

Here are some things to be aware of to prevent future problems:

• Be sure you understand the lease or rental agreement before you sign it.
• Do not sign a lease that is for a period longer than you actually plan to stay. You can't count on being able to sublet for the remainder of the lease.
• Keep a copy of the lease and be sure it's been signed by the agent or landlord.
• Make your rent payments and deposits by check and specify on the bottom of your check exactly what it is for.
• If you must pay by cash, be sure to get a signed receipt.
• Save all receipts, records and correspondence with your landlord until you have moved out and received your security deposit back.

One of the most common problems is failure to recover your deposit, most commonly because the dispute revolves around conflicting memories (yours and your landlord's) as to the condition of the rental property before you moved in.

The best protection is a checklist of the condition of the apartment before you move in (you might even want to take photographs and date them). This should be done for each room and list any pre-existing conditions. Get this inventory signed by the landlord before you move in.

Keep the inventory and/or photographs with your records and receipts, and a copy of the lease, in a safe place.

BEFORE SIGNING THE LEASE

• Know your rights as a tenant and the landlord’s responsibilities.
• Know if the cost of utilities (gas, electricity, etc.) is included in your monthly rent.
• Make sure that all the provisions of the lease are legal. Clauses which prohibit children are illegal.
• Remember you are legally responsible for the rent quoted in the lease.
• Discuss and negotiate any problem areas in the lease before you sign it.
• Initial any changes that you or your landlord make in the lease.
• Check with one of the housing, tenants, or legal organizations if you have any questions concerning your lease.

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SUBLETTING

If you are planning on subletting in the summer, check your lease. If you sublet, you could be sued for breaking the lease. Be sure to check with your landlord if you are in doubt.

If the lease does not permit subletting and you sublet, you could also be evicted, as could the subtenant.

Enter into a sublet arrangement cautiously. Remember that you are responsible for the actions of the subtenant when you are away. Insist on signing a lease, page A11.
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features:
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ROOMMATE MATCHING
The freedom to be on your own but not alone. We'll help you find the perfect match.
Many students cannot afford studio or one bedroom apartments. Therefore, you may be in the situation of looking for a room in an already established house or apartment, or looking for others who would like to join with you as roommates to find an apartment.

Living with a roommate can be one of the most difficult and rewarding experiences while you're at school. The following suggestions are offered in the hope that your experience will be a positive one.

Even if you will be living with friends, it would still be helpful to utilize the suggestions mentioned here. Many relationships between friends have suffered due to different lifestyles and poor communication.

In a situation where you are responding to an opening in an established apartment, you may often be asked to be interviewed by the roommates living there. Think of this as a time for you to interview them as well.

Take your time to find the right situation. It's better to be careful and thorough than to rush into a decision and regret it later.

Be honest and open about your needs, concerns and expectations.

The following areas are some of the most common sources of conflict and most important to consider in choosing a roommate. Gather as much information as you can on each area. Find out the prospective roommate's feelings and personal style as well as communicating your own:

1. Cleanliness and housework expectations for the shared space, and personal style regarding cleanliness
2. Smoking habits
3. Dietary concerns - there may be issues regarding vegetarianism, shared food, joint meals, etc.
4. Lifestyle choices - this can cover many areas including alcohol / drug use, noise level, music, or sexual orientation
5. Hobbies and interests
6. Pets
7. Attitudes towards visitors and guests
8. Study habits
9. Issues around security
10. Attitudes towards privacy
11. Work schedules, how much others will be in the apartment, hours entering or leaving
12. Financial stability - it's helpful to be reasonably sure your roommate will be able to pay the rent and bills each month

Telephone bills for long distance calls are a common source of conflict. Some roommates keep a "long distance log" next to the telephone in which the date, the number, and the caller's initials are written. If at all possible, it is suggested that each roommate establish her / his own phone service (eventhough there may be an additional cost).

There may be furniture or appliances a roommate would want to bring into a household and keep in a common area. Find out about this ahead of time to determine if there is space in the apartment, and what the attitude towards sharing would be.

Trust your gut instincts. If it doesn’t feel right to you, there’s no reason to believe things would work out. Your own intuition can be the most reliable guide.
READ BETWEEN THE BARS

Questions?
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rape is a crime. always.
Feature Chart

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River Park
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River Reach
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Summer Club
$625 & up

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Fax: 407-382-1120

Directions: Take the 408 (East/West Expressway) and merge left to 417; exit east on University Blvd. Travel 1/4 mile past Rouse Rd. and Arden Villas will be on your right.
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*Polos East is located 3/4 of a mile past Alafaya Trail off of E. Colonial Drive on Woodbury Road near 408.
*Pine Harbour is located off of E. Colonial Drive to Rouse Road and then a right on Bloomfield Drive.
Apartment living in a large metropolitan city such as Orlando can create special security issues. By becoming more security conscious and following a few preventative steps, you will improve your chances of remaining safe.

- Do not open your door to anyone unless you know who it is. In the case of sales people, service people, or police officers, ask to see identification.
- Keep emergency phone numbers posted near the phones.
- Report any suspicious or obscene phone calls to the police.
- Ground level windows are especially vulnerable. They should be closed and locked when you are not at home and when you are sleeping.
- Get to know who your neighbors are. Choose a neighbor to trust in case of an emergency.
- Plan the fastest escape routes out of your apartment in case you have to exit quickly.
- Always lock your car, and never leave valuables in plain view.
- Always lock your bicycle, even if it’s only for a minute.
- When walking to and from your car, stay in well-lighted areas.
- Keep your apartment door locked both when you are out and when you are home.
- Avoid traveling alone if possible. Be aware, confident, and know where you are going.
- Trust your instincts. If something doesn’t feel right, your own intuition can be your most reliable guide.
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* Some restrictions apply.

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SIGNING A LEASE
continued from page A4

a written sublease. Be sure the time frame is clear so that other roommates will not be able to allow the person subletting your room to take it over permanently.

TENANT-AT-WILL

Leases are usually for one year. Apartments without leases or with 30-day move out clauses are called “Tenancy-At-Will”.
This agreement provides for a tenant to rent the premises for an unspecified amount of time. Tenant-at-will situations should be avoided if you wish to occupy the apartment for a long period of time.
If you do rent as a tenant-at-will it is strongly recommended that you get this agreement in writing noting your monthly rental payment and any other information such as you would have on a traditional lease.
To terminate a tenancy-at-will, the landlord or tenant must give at least 30 days advance notice.

WHAT TO ASK

Look for the answers to the following questions in the lease:

- When is the rent due?
- Is there a penalty for a late payment?
- Is there a grace period?
- What deposits and fees are required (cleaning, damage, security fee)?
- What are the terms for refunding deposits?
- Do your roommates have to be approved by the landlord?
- Can the rent be increased if the number of tenants increases?
- What happens when a roommate leaves?
- Is subletting permitted?
- Is there an extra fee for subletting?
- Who has the right of entry to conduct inspections and how often?
- Will the landlord provide paint?
- Are there rules regarding tack and nail holes?
- Are there any rules concerning conduct or noise?
- Are pets allowed?
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