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Recommended Citation
Face lifts and wireless uplinks: UCF steps boldly into the future

Sara Widboom
STAFF WRITER

A wave of change is sweeping across campus. Computers and construction have arrived and are working hand-in-hand to improve the lives of the student body. The most noticeable difference is the recent addition to the Student Union, known as Project 2000. In the midst of the infamous construction, the impressive 11,500 square foot Pegasus Grand Ballroom has risen. It stands two stories high and is able to comfortably serve up to 1000 people. The new addition also boast expansions of STA Travel, Knightwear, and KnightStop, as well as a new arrival at UCF, College Optical. The only new retail store, it will provide services and eyewear at reduced rates. Even more important are the new food choices: Steak Escape; Nectar’s, which sells smoothies, wraps and rice bowls; and Mrs. Field’s/Pretzel gourmet pretzels.

But something else has been added to the Student Union. No, not a new store, another ballroom, or even more foliage. The Grand Ballroom has now has wireless Internet ports. These ports are located on the third floor, the Grand Pegasus Ballroom, and the front and back paths. The connections in the ballroom will mainly be used for

LAPTOPS, Page 2

President John Hitt sits down with a checked out laptop from the library to surf the web in style. The laptop is part of the library’s new laptop checkout program which allows students and faculty to check out a wireless Internet laptop for up to four hours at a time.

Engineering students dominate competition

Jennifer Paterson
STAFF WRITER

Recently, five University of Central Florida undergraduate and graduate engineering students participated at the southeast regional American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronauts (AIAA) competition. UCF walked away with two of three awards given at the competition. A total of fifteen schools competed, which included the University of Florida, Emory Riddle University, and the Georgia Institute of Technology to name a few. The competition was hosted by UCF in Savannah, Georgia.

Graduate students, Jennifer Huddle and Anabel Marcos, won the only graduate level category, "Technical Paper," with their paper concerning thermal control of laser diodes. "A laser diode is

Krista Zilizi
STAFF WRITER

The University of Central Florida’s reputation as one of the “most-wired” institutions of higher learning in the U.S. is maintaining this distinction with the addition of a 13.4 million dollar three-story classroom building. The building opened just in time for beginning of summer classes.

With UCF’s current enrollment at well over 30,000 students, the campus is preparing to meet the needs of a student body that is projected to reach more than 50,000 within this decade. The new 89,119 sq. ft. facility is equipped with eighteen multimedia classrooms, 2 auditoriums, 2 notebook PC classrooms, distance learning rooms, and UCF’s largest computer lab on campus. Each room houses a videodata projector, a large projection screen, computers with CD and DVD player options and network connections including Internet, Ethernet, and LAN compatibility. The classrooms also offer video cassette decks, connections for laptop computers, high-resolution document cameras, and state of the art sound systems. Color touch screens installed in each room operate all of these features at the touch of a button.

"This building is amazing. I’m thrilled about all the technology this building has to offer,” said junior Arri Stewart.

Plans for this state of the art building began five years ago by a team of UCF faculty members. The goal was to bring the latest electronic teaching tools to every corner of UCF. It was estimated that the price of refurbishing already existing buildings with this advanced multimedia type system would far surpass the time and money needed to construct an entirely new building.

Under the guidance of UCF’s Vice President of technology Joel Hartman and Director of Instructional Resources Ruth Marshall, the construction of a structure with the latest multimedia systems was proposed. Construction began in January of 1998, with Academic Facilities Designer Gerry Ewing serving as a middleman between the university and the architectural design team.
Laptops to give UCF students advantage

The laptops were purchased to give UCF students an advantage as the world’s technology changes and improves. Using them should make each library patron more comfortable with the new technology.

This new feature will help out with increasing technology on campus and be beneficial when the new classroom building becomes fully operational later this summer. There is an estimated one-year plan in effect to have one-fourth to one-third of campus equipped with wireless Internet capabilities.

The laptops offered for checkout have an advantage over the library computers used to search the catalogues and databases for books. On the laptops, WebLUSIS can be accessed through the Internet, but they also have word processing capabilities. This is because UCF has an agreement with Microsoft that only students can use their products in the computer labs. By only loaning laptops to people with valid UCF identification cards, the school is upholding the end of the deal. Although printers are not available, work can be copied to a disk and printed in one of the computer labs.

Even as this amazing new technology is being offered inside, the outside of the library is being modernized as well. From the construction on the entryway will be finished, and an updated lobby will greet library visitors. Using funds donated by the Chesley G. Magruder Foundation, the renovation will improve the appearance of the entryway by completely redesigning the ceiling and floor, as well as adding new lighting, exterior landscaping, an improved front desk, and devices to monitor foot traffic. The project is scheduled for completion later this summer.

"The Library is the heart of our university and our new entryway will reflect the dynamic direction in which both the university and the library are moving," said Barry Baker, director of University Libraries. "We are very grateful for this gift from the Magruder Foundation."
New building to bring UCF into the future

FROM PAGE 1

"Sometimes all the construction here can be annoying, but stuff like this makes it all worth the inconvenience," said sophomore Chris Bernhardt.

Efficiently merging technology with architecture, Ewing was responsible for defining the project's technical needs. As a result of his work many special features have been incorporated into this building. A particular kind of lighting was installed to provide optimum viewing of display screens. Ample space was allotted for the cabling necessary for the buildings' multimedia systems. Tech-ways were installed within the building to house every component of the building's multimedia systems. Tech-ways provide easy maintenance of the building's multimedia and computer systems 24 hours a day. This also keeps these high-tech components out of reach of tampering hands.

"In a facility where all other components have no other choice than to be stored in the classroom itself, you could wait days to find a break in a class schedule before gaining access to a system, or have to resort to doing whatever technical tasks need to be done in the wee hours of the night. With this arrangement, everyone's life is easier and less complicated," said Ewing.

Another feature Ewing and his staff call e-Control technology also sets this building apart from others at UCF. E-Control provides total technical support to faculty members in all 25 classrooms of the building. A multimedia help desk allows a single operator to troubleshoot problems from anywhere in the building.

Perhaps the most innovative aspect of this Tech-ways provide easy maintenance of the building's multimedia and computer systems 24 hours a day. This also keeps these high-tech components out of reach of tampering hands.

structure is the fact that this is the very first all-classroom buildings on campus that will be used by all faculty and students. Prior to this, buildings on campus generally served one school or area of study and corresponding classes were held within those buildings. The third floor of the new classroom building will serve as temporary home to UCF's recently implemented School of Hospitality. The building also hopes to benefit faculty and students with the campus' most technologically advanced computer lab that permits 24-hour access, as well as the technology to create software for use in both classroom buildings and other classrooms.

"Our Tally and Gainesville have nice old buildings, but we've got all the cool stuff," said Ewing.

"I think that the new building looks nice. It does not affect me so much as it may other people. I see it as another way for the university to cover the funds that are supplied to them annually. I like the way it looks though and, in the long run, it will become necessary as the campus' population continues to rise," said sophomore Derek LaRiviere.

"This building is exceptional not just in Florida, but also in the county. In the largest and the greatest," said Ewing.

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FROM PAGE 1

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Love bug virus’ sting packs little punch

Earlier this month, the “love bug” stung computers all around the world, including ones at the University of Central Florida.

Jim Ennis, systems administrator for Computer Science at UCF, said that "UCF had a few cases (10-15) of the Love Bug trojan [virus] actually being run, but most of our users did not execute the code or get affected by the trojan being mailed to them. The primary e-mail platforms that the Love Bug virus uses are not in widespread use at UCF, so running the virus would not spread it to other users."

Trojan programs are named after the Trojan Horse that delivered soldiers to the city of Troy. They appear to be useful programs, but they contain hidden code that can destroy certain computer files, as the horse contained soldiers in the Trojan War. The Love Bug virus began at the AMA Computer College located in Manila, Philippines.

The virus, originally sent through e-mail under the subject ILOVEYOU with an accompanying attachment, was designed to destroy files located on the receiver’s computer. After opening the attachment using Microsoft software, a copy of the virus is sent to everyone in the user’s address book, hence mailing itself to many other unsuspecting individuals.

There are ways of protecting your computer from viruses though. “The most important safety precaution is to simply practice safe computing,” said Ennis. “If you receive e-mail from an unknown person, do not open it. Delete any attachments unless you know exactly what it does, who sent it to you, and if you were expecting it. If you receive a suspicious e-mail, contact the Help Desk at helpdesk@mail.ucf.edu or at (407) 823-5117. Never open an attached file that has .vbs in end of a file name. Keep your virus software updated. Most anti-virus companies have websites where you can download updates on the most current viruses. Always make backups of important documents and files.”

A few steps you can take towards protecting your computer are as follows:
- If you receive e-mail from an unknown person, do not open it. Delete any attachments unless you know exactly what it does, who sent it to you, and if you were expecting it.
- If you receive a suspicious e-mail, contact the Help Desk at helpdesk@mail.ucf.edu or at (407) 823-5117.
- Never open an attached file that has .vbs in end of a file name.
- Keep your virus software updated. Most anti-virus companies have websites where you can download updates on the most current viruses.
- Always make backups of important documents and files.
False Justice: when a student’s rights are violated

PATTY CANEDO
STAFF WRITER

Imagine you’re out on a Sunday night, when you decide to call your apartment to see what your roommates are up to. Your roommate answers the phone and informs you that there is an officer who works for your apartment complex in the apartment making accusations of you smoking pot in your room. The officer stated that there was a drug complaint made against you, he witnessed your usage through a pair of binoculars looking into your bedroom window, could smell the pot coming from your window and it now is time to question you.

How could this be you have been out to dinner with your parents all night. You tell your roommate to call your cell phone back but when he/she calls you back you are told that the cop not only threatened to spray pepper spray under your door to get you out of your room, he also stated that you are going to be evicted for not opening the door to speak to the cop. How are you going to open the door when you’re not home? Not only that but he stated he was going to issue a warrant out for your arrest.

When the coast is finally clear you return home; you call the Orange County Sheriff’s Department and find out that a warrant for your arrest has never issued. Well, that is a relief, but you still have to deal with your eviction.

When you speak with the leasing office they have no idea of what you are talking about and say that an officer that fits the description given by your roommates doesn’t even work for them.

The situation is becoming stranger and stranger, when you call the leasing office back you find out an officer of the description works for the complex but has no need to talk to you. Odd, he was going to arrest you less than twelve hours ago.

In a final act to make sense of this nightmare, you talk to the other security officers of the complex. You tell them the situation, instead of trying to obtain justice for you, they begin to make fun of you by saying that you are probably guilty anyway and that all five people who witnessed this incident are lying, no investigation will ever come of this situation.

It is frightening to hear about situations when the law turns on the innocent especially when it happens with such disregard for the rights of citizens. However, this description was not just a shocking scenario this occurred in a resident of one of the largest apartment complexes in the University area on May 7.

The officer was an off duty Orange County Sheriff’s Department deputy who followed an alleged complaint and the entire incident was conveniently not reported on the officers duty sheet for that night. But then the question is raised if he knew the person was smoking pot he didn’t report it so that an arrest could be made when he knew that he was going to find the alleged pot on the premise?

Perhaps because the entire performance of the officer was illegal and a violation of the resident’s rights.

1) An officer (whether he is off duty or on, whether he is the security of the apartment complex or on patrol for Orange County) has no right to enter your home without your consent or a search warrant. If the officer has your consent or search warrant it needs to be legal by either consent or a warrant anything that the officer finds or does is a violation of your fourth amendment rights.

2) If an officer enters your residence without you being there the entrance and search are considered illegal.

3) Police officers carry identification with them, not only their badges but business cards so when you are in a situation that you are dealing with an officer make sure you know who you are dealing with. That’s proof that he/she detained you, yes you, if there is any of it, and you have the right to demand to see the officer.

4) If an officer does come to your door you have the right to ask what the situation is regarding and any other question you may have about the alleged incident.

5) An officer fills a log or duty sheet of events happen on his/her shift. This log or duty sheet is a matter of public record. This means that you have the right to see if or have a copy of it. If you are detained you can go to a superior to ask for the log or duty sheet. If you are still denied than you can go to court to obtain this information.

6) If an officer comes into your home lawfully and finds a friend drinking under the legal age or using an illegal substance they have the right to arrest. In the case that a person participated in the illegal drug abuse, you friend and yourself can be arrested because it is still your home and you could be held

OPINION

Who is actually a true friend?

BETH SHAW
STAFF WRITER

It was Ciervo who once said, “If friends were just a bad thing, the world wouldn’t be anything.” However, think about this: Is the ‘golden rule’ so lost in archaic proverbial全员吗 that it has lost meaning altogether? I would like to think not.

My message just is this: “You can’t be a friend sporadically.”

Can you believe she was wearing those shoes with that dress? Sounds pretty stupid doesn’t it?

Rights, Page 7
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By CHRISTOPHER ZAPATER

The Mouse Trap

This settles it once and for all: Orlando is a conservative, myopic, podunk city, and Florida bears the dubious honor of being "the most progressive Bible belt in the South." Sunday, May 7, marked the last day of the Fringe Festival, one of Central Florida's scarce legitimate displays of cultural/artistic entertainment. One of the Fringe's scheduled shows, "The Naked Guy," was a theatrical performance about art and censorship, which featured one nude male character on stage for a few seconds.

"The Naked Guy" was set to perform in a venue located on Church Street Station. However, when Church Street discovered that there really was a nude man in "Naked Guy," they informed the troupe that the show would not be held at family-oriented Church Street Station "under any circumstances."

"I think the mind that the venue was indoors, tickets had to be purchased to the performance, and warnings about the content of the play were correctly posted on all advertisements for the show. And never mind the Church Street Hooter's, or that Terror On Church Street with graphic displays of gore used to be located a stone's throw from the "Naked Guy" venue. At the last minute, another Fringe production agreed to switch venues with "The Naked Guy," and the play moved to an alternate location. But that was not enough for the prude, small-minded, gray-haired suits who run The City Beautiful. The police, apparently having no serious crime anywhere in the city to attend to, were sent to the new location to warn the performers that any display of nudity would result in arrest(s).

Apparently, the human body in its most natural form is morally reprehensible and something to be ashamed of, and if a show doesn't run at the Bob Carr or the Civic it is not genuine performance art/theatre. Am I the only educated, adult male in Orlando to wonder what it is about the house of the world's greatest (cheesiest) family-friendly tourist destination, where in the city to attend a performance about art and censorship, which featured one naked man on stage.

What is wrong with residents of Orlando? We re-elected a mayor who burned $500,000 of taxpayers' money to wage a legal battle against the renovation of Fairvilla Megastores, (a perfectly legal, reputable enterprise which had been established for four years) a battle which was lost when the city paid Fairvilla $500,000 to drop a proposed lawsuit.

Without the University of Central Florida, East Orange County would still be nothing more than orange groves, but residents in the surrounding area are opposed to the university's expansion. I wonder if they will be opposed to the increase in property values over the next few years. We live in a city whose transit system is grossly ill-equipped to handle its traffic volume (much less the exponential growth expected to arrive in the coming years), but has roadway systems that would make the Romans envious leading to every lucky, tourist-trap attraction one could ever hope to avoid.

And it is not just Orlando; other counties have done their part to ensure that Central Florida never becomes more than a crash-up derby for tourists in rented minivans. Residents of Seminole County who oppose legislated morality sat in while the Casselberry Decency Act was passed. As a result, adult entertainment fixtures Club Juana and Rachel's, the two finest gentlemen's clubs outside of Tampa, were converted into Victoria's Secret with music.

Orlando will never be a "player" as long as we bill ourselves as the world's greatest (cheesiest) family-friendly tourist destination, and that is exactly what our political leadership wants for this city. So VOTE, support the arts (not the theme parks) and indulge in vice, because without these things, Orlando will never become anything more than the house of the mouse.

Rights students should know

FROM PAGE 1

responsible for it.
7) Always remember that if a situation arises UCF provides free legal advice by skilled attorneys in this or in any situation that may come up.

Generally, police officers serve and protect people but every so often a situation comes up when a citizen is not treated in the lawful way that they should be treated. The officer will not even be given a slap on the wrist for the harassment and fear that he unjustly caused this resident. Though at this point there is nothing the resident can do about the situation, this does not mean that others should not be aware of it and without the proper knowledge it could very well happen to you.
I've been assessing my life over the last couple of years—album, but there are others that are about questioning life. Like what I am doing. There are a lot of love songs on the paced description of a person's life. The same. The words just don't seem to click with the music. Comforting Lie" and "Marry Me" all sound basically the same. The words just don't seem to click with the music. The relationship between Stefani and Kanal has proved profitable for the band's success. Their relationship was the inspiration for the hit "Don't Speak" off the band's 1994 "Tragic Kingdom" album. The group's drummer, Adrian, said: "Some people are gonna love it and some are gonna hate it, but one thing that I'm really proud of is that it definitely stands. We've got that rock spirit in us, and this is not going away. We've got a lot of road ahead of us." The song "Six Feet Under" is all about the cycle of life for instance. There is a lot of admission on it. I don't really know who will be able to relate. My dad?" "The Return of Saturn" also contains the song "Ex-Girlfriend," which has received a lot of airplay on MTV. As well as the track "New" from the hit movie "Go." Some of the less popular songs such as "Suspension Without Suspense," "Comforting Lie" and "Marry Me" all sound basically the same. The words just don't seem to click with the music. Although Stefani has a unique voice, which is almost hypnotic, it doesn't seem to help these songs at all. The song seems to reflect and ends with: "I'll be buried six feet under ground. "I'll be buried six feet under ground. I'll be dead and gone, no longer around." The catchy beat makes the song sound very uplifting and hard-by about death. Stefani said: "This record is for me—I'm being selfish. I've been assessing my life over the last couple of years—like what I am doing. There are a lot of love songs on the albums, but there are others that are about questioning life.
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The Gladiator is an Academy contender

What elements characterize an epic film? Various opinions state that it should contain a stellar cast with amazing sets, a huge budget, an amazing story, and have a lasting impact on its audience...to name a few. Not only does this adventure display these key traits, it is the first Oscar-worthy film of 2000—“Gladiator.”

The beautiful and gifted Russell Crowe plays the title role of ‘Maximus’ in “Gladiator.” Crowe will undoubtedly be robbed by the Academy if he is not nominated for his passionate acting role and performance as the hero of this film. Let me introduce you to the first epic film of 2000—“Gladiator.”

The great empire is forced into battle, and Maximus longs only to return home and be with his wife and son. However, the emperor Marcus Aurelius, played by the talented Richard Harris, requests his services for one last important duty. Maximus is a General of the Roman army and Maximus longs only to return home and be with his wife and son. However, the emperor Marcus Aurelius, played by the talented Richard Harris, requests his services for one last important duty.

Standing in the way of this vital task is the emperor’s son, Commodus. Joaquin Phoenix portrays this menacing, yet vulnerable character quite convincingly. He makes a great villain that you will love to hate, but at the same time feel sympathy for because his certain insanity. The only downfall to this otherwise perfect cinematic victory is the sketchy script and its blurry characters’ motives. The fact that this usually key item does not kill this film is commendable.

A film of its genre and era has not been attempted on the big screen since “Spartacus” forty years ago; it was well worth the wait.

The beautiful and gifted Russell Crowe plays the title role of ‘Maximus’ in “Gladiator.” Crowe will undoubtedly be robbed by the Academy if he is not nominated for his passionate acting role and performance as the hero of this film.

This epic story will leave you in a state of wonderment that only movies of this high caliber can. The mental and physical battles seen in this adventure will have you cheering from the seats of the arena you witness them from. Director Ridley Scott, who also directed the blockbuster “Alien”, weaves a tale of treachery, triumph, and tragedy that will both inspire and impress all who see it.

Feed your curiosity by visiting the official website at www.gladiator-thefilm.com, and don’t miss out on this historic masterpiece.
-- In April, Japan's ultra-serious Sebastino Rabbids easily beat a more relaxed European team in the finals of the Konjicar international snowball championship in Finland, and afterward, several Japanese players urged Winter Olympics officials to recognize their sport. (Teams start with seven players and 270 snowballs on a field just larger than a tennis court, with some protective barriers; a direct hit eliminates a player, and the first team to seize the other's goal flag wins.)

** Punch-Drunk From Litigation: The Brown & Williamson Tobacco company recently added another quirky Q850-800 number to messages this time featuring a mole deer screeching caller with "Ooh, the tobacco plant is a lovely plant! / Its leaves so broad and green / But you shouldn't think about the tobacco plant / If you'll still be a teen. A 1999 message featured a sexy male voice intoning, "Brown & Williamson Tobacco is to love. We're a giant corporation, and you make us feel like a little kitten."

"Thank you, lover."

** Active Seniors
At a January hearing in LaCrosse, Wis., child molester Elf Erson, 95, was ordered to remain confined beyond his sentence because experts said he was still incorrigible. Mr. Deo Dubbs, 86, was sentenced to probation only in April in Sarasota, Fla., for buying crack cocaine, which he said he sold to one guy. In May, 80, in April, first-time arrestee Ruth A. Goelz, 81, was charged in Hollywood, Fla., with running a $200,000 Ponzi scheme. Retiree John Swanson, 71, was arrested in January for two armed bank robberies, allegedly committed because he was having trouble affording his rent in Palo Alto, Calif.

** Cultural Diversity
— Camel Manicure: A January New York Times report from Selcuk, Turkey, described the massively popular sport of camel-fighting (in which one-ton camels are charged in pools toward each other). Former Istanbul fighter Ethem Erkoc revealed that he has constructed 10 swimming pools for Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, who permits his favorite camels to fight:

— Hank Otto, 43, lives most of the year as an unemployed construction worker in an Amsterdam, Netherlands, housing project, but he is also the chief of about 40 villages (100,000 people) in a region of Ghana that is 85 miles from the capital of Accra. According to a January Associated Press dispatch, Otto was visiting with his Ghana-born wife in 1995 when suddenly natives concluded he was the reincarnated king. At that time, Otto's reaction was that the villagers were "crazy," but now says that being king "is my destiny."

— The Hanoi (Vietnam) Institute of Social Sciences reported in February that many men, fearful toward the end of the lunar new year, had apparently turned to sex with pregnant prostitutes as a way of releasing evil spirits.

** Well, Sure
— Male Stereotypes Come to Life: In January, Quebec researcher M.D. Told the Montreal Gazette that the rat is the "ultimate example" of the male mammal always on the lookout to copulate with new females and that when given alcohol, male rats notoriously re-attract sex with females who had just rejected them. And schoolboys driver Alexandre Balve, 31, was arrested in Brooklyn, N.Y., in January for taking three kids on a ride that lasted eight hours because he couldn't find their school and apparently would not stop to ask directions.

— Female Stereotypes Come to Life: In March, police chasing an escaped circus tiger in a suburb of Warsaw, Poland, accidentally shot and killed the vet-
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Knights focus in on second chance

FROM PAGE 16

The Hatters actually became UCF's ally in taking the conference tournament title, keeping an upset like Campbell from gaining the automatic bid. Now, like Batai, all of the Golden Knights are rearing to take full advantage of their second life.

"We're rejuvenated now. We were definitely disappointed with how we played in the AAC Tournament because we were a better team than what we showed," said starter Casey Kennedy, whose lone loss this season came in that final loss to Georgia State.

"We're just glad that the committee gave us another chance to go out and prove ourselves and not say that our whole regular season meant nothing."

The Knights had quite a regular season, claiming their first regular-season conference title in five seasons, winning over 40 games for the first time in three seasons, and being consistently in and out of the national polls. The team gained victories against the likes of NCAA participants Wake Forest, Clemson, LSU, Alabama, Bethune-Cookman, Florida Atlantic, and Stetson.

"I believe going into the AAC Tournament that if we had won the AAC Tournament we would have garnered some consideration for a number one seed. I didn't think that losing the AAC Tournament would knock us out," Assistant head coach Greg Frady said. "Again, I think the NCAA rewarded us for all the right reasons. We had a strong RPI through the course of the year. We won 41 games, won our conference by a couple of games, and I'm glad to get that number two seed."

Perhaps most telling of all, the Knights won the games they had to win down the stretch, taking eight in a row to end the regular season and wrap up the AAC crown.

"I think those last two weeks of the regular season we were pumped up because we knew we had to win those games and I think we kind of had a set back in the conference tournament," Batai said. "Now we're in a must-win situation to keep our season alive so I think we'll come back with that attitude in this regional because if not this season is over."

UCF understands what is at stake and what can happen when it isn't totally focused. Preparation and a lack of concentration won't be a problem at this stage, as the Knights hope to redeem their high seeding and show that the conference tournament struggles were only an aberration.

"I have the utmost respect for the kids who play on this team and put on the line for us every single game," said Frady. "We've had some soft spots in our season, but when you're 41-17 there's not that many soft spots. These are human beings, these are kids, and they're going to play well the majority of the time because of who they are, and they're going to have a down spot from time to time, but toughness has prevailed. I can't say enough good things about the way they played and their mental toughness."

"I wouldn't classify it a two-game losing streak as a slump. I don't see how what we did in the AAC is going to have any effect on us in this regional tournament. For us and those kids that's water under the bridge and we're moving on. Our goal is now to get to Omaha."

Assistant head coach Greg Frady smiled after this year's selection show, remembering the pain of being snubbed the past two seasons.
UCF surprised by No. 2 seed

FROM PAGE, 16

tor and we need to be ready for that. They're a good baseball team that steals a lot of bases, they've got a good national reputation in baseball and I think that's one of the reasons they got in," Frady said. "I know they're not going to be easy, but we're going to stay positive and play our game and focus on our team rather than focus on someone else."

What the Golden Knights are focused on looms a lot larger than just a solid showing at the Tallahassee regional. The bid was just the beginning.

"I don't feel like we've accomplished our goal and that's it. I feel like we've accomplished the first part of what we set out to do," said Frady. "Florida State, Evansville, and Bethune-Cookman will be a good challenge for us and it will be a good regional, but we also think that we're capable physically of winning that regional if we play well and that's what we're going to prepare to do."

The lore of playing against the state's top-ranked team is an added form of motivation for UCF. The Knights lost each of their two games in their last regional appearance at Florida State in 1997, and have hungered to redeem themselves. Taking on a Seminole team that was ranked No. 1 in various polls during the season is a quest the team doesn't mind undertaking.

"Playing them is big for all of us. Every one knows Florida State is pumped up throughout the state, and we would have had to beat them to get to Omaha regardless, so better to get them now," senior starter Casey Kennedy said.

"We've all wanted this. I think it's going to be great to play at Florida State, because they are one of the best teams in the country and you have to beat the best to be the best."

Casey Kennedy won 11 games and lost just one start this season, in the second game of the TAAC Tournament. He'll try to start a new winning streak at the NCAA Tournament.
Ann-Jeanette Svantesson was able to successfully move up to the No. 1 position late in the season, leading the team to a ITAC title and preparing herself for a senior season in that slot.

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"We want to look to win the first round of the NCAA tournament and be the ones playing the 50th ranked team," Allison said, hopeful for a reversal of UCF's fortunes this year.

"We have established tremendous credibility in the tennis coaching community," Defending this year's achievements will not satisfactory next year. The UCF Women's Tennis Team expects to reach the next level of competition and advance.

Team returns tournament-tested tennis players

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The team will be returning five players, which Allison feels is a huge advantage. The players return with vast experience gained by playing in the NCAA tournament, which should prove to be invaluable. Allison's primary goals next year are to shoot for a Top 50 ranking and get into the tournament's Sweet 16.

"We want to look to win the first round of the NCAA tournament and be the ones playing the 50th ranked team," Allison said, hopeful for a reversal of UCF's fortunes this year.

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Regular season performance enough to merit NCAA bid

By TONY MEJIA
SPORTS EDITOR

UCF was the first team eliminated in last weekend's TAAC Tournament, putting their NCAA Tournament hopes in jeopardy despite a regular season that featured over 40 wins and a conference championship. However, when the NCAA regional pairings were announced on ESPN's live broadcast, the Golden Knights were the first of three TAAC teams unveiled, earning a No. 2 seed in a regional hosted by Florida State at Dick Howser Stadium in Tallahassee.

“Toni Velasco is the best player in the country,” head coach Greg Frady said. "We're very happy that we're in. The kids played very hard this season, came out and executed all year long." Assistant head coach Greg Frady said. "Our season goal was to win 40 games, win the regular season conference championship, and I think because we were able to accomplish that, the NCAA rewarded us with a second seed. We didn't have a good weekend at the TAAC but that is behind us now and our season is still ahead of us." The Knights will play another at-large entry, Evansville University, in the regional's first contest on May 26 at 3 p.m. The top seeded Seminoles will play the No. 4 seed Bethune-Cookman, champions of the MEAC, at 7 p.m.

The Aces were the runners-up in the MVC title game, falling 6-4 to Wichita State, and boast the conference's top pitcher in Ryan Miller, likely UCF's opponent in the opener.

“He's going to be a formidable competitor.”

Women's Tennis team takes positives out of 2000

By NATASHA BERK
STAFF WRITER

Despite losing in the first round of the NCAA Women's Tennis Regional, the UCF Women's Tennis Team has a positive outlook for the future. The Knights fell to No. 15 South Alabama, 5-0, yet the score was not indicative of UCF's performance in the match.

“We went three sets at one, two and five. Number three was a close match and our number four and six players played extremely well,” stated first-year Coach Patricia Allison. “The team played with integrity. They gave an outstanding effort!”

UCF finished the season with a 19-6 record and myriad of accomplishments. Allison was named the TAAC Coach of the Year and the TAAC championship was the team's fourth in as many years. Senior Gaelle Gouttefarde, junior Ann-Jeanette Svantesson, and sophomore Marieke Gunawan each received All-TAAC honors.

“We had a very successful season,” said Allison. “It is apparent in that we were ranked 39th, the best in UCF history, we won the TAAC, and we had three players named to the TAAC All-Conference Team. We went from being ranked 76th to being ranked 50th, after having fallen out of the rankings completely.”

Although UCF is losing two key players, Allison anticipates another prosperous season next year, with the majority of the team returning.

“We have two players leaving in Veronica (Widyadharma), who was dismissed earlier in the season, and Gaelle Gouttefarde, who has played her years down, I was upset, because I really didn't think we'd get the bid," said outfielder Mark Batia, who missed the final part of the season with a severe hand injury. "But then I started thinking about it and once Stetson won the conference I thought we..."