Sgt. Gorbas, Sgt. Williamson change UCFPD positions

ANDREA KEEGAN | STAFF WRITER

Due to an organizational restructuring, Sergeant Tom Gorbas will be leaving his position as Crime Prevention Coordinator with the UCF Police Department as of this week and making way for the new coordinator, Sergeant Troy Williamson. Since 1975, when Sgt. Gorbas served as the first parking patrol on the UCF campus, he has been an important part of the UCFPD. Gorbas eventually went on to become a police officer, a detective, and finally in 1994, Crime Prevention (CP) Unit Sergeant where he wore many hats and played many roles.

The CP Coordinator supervises three areas, the first of which is the Community Oriented-Policing/Crime Officers, a program established on a university campus first by UCF. The COPCP Officers work to reduce crime rates through a community police partnership of mutual trust and respect. They work to “develop a repertoire, respect, and a friendship with the community and break down that wall of us against them that many

CP COORDINATOR.

As of this week, Sgt. Tom Gorbas will be replaced by Sgt. Troy Williamson as Crime Prevention Coordinator.

Ecstasy causes controversy on college campuses

JENNIFER PATSON | STAFF WRITER

While LSD was the drug of choice for a former generation, ecstasy has rolled onto the scene as the phenomenon of generation X and beyond. Its use and the potential dangers of it have been investigated by several news shows, newspapers, and graced the cover of Time magazine again last month.

The controversy is not its legality, but rather over the undetermined long-term effects it may have on the brain. While a generation of young club goers, cancer suffers, and even one of the founders of Microsoft tout the glorious empathic and anxiety-releasing effects as a wonder drug, scientists and other skeptics alike strongly disagree that its hypnotic effects can do any long term good.

College campuses are prime breeding grounds for new and uniformed ecstasy users.

ECSTASY, Page 2

Students photograph lightning with rockets

DARYE ELENA RODRIGUEZ | STAFF WRITER

Engineering technology students and graduates of UCF led by engineering technology professor Nebil Misconi, are constructing rocket payloads in order to photograph lightning. The group is investigating red-sprites and upward propagating lightning, using the payload to transmit images from above and through clouds. The 11-inch long payloads include a miniature high-resolution Sony video camera batteries, and a transmitter that are intended to provide images of high altitude lightning.

A Super Loki Rocket launched from NASA’s Wallop’s Island Flight Facility will take the payloads approximately 25 miles into the air, where the camera will begin filming. The camera will then transmit real-time color video images to a monitor on earth.

Each payload will take approximately 60 seconds to reach the ejection point and 40 minutes to fall to the ocean. It is during this falling time that the camera, attached to a parachute, will photograph the surrounding lightning. There will be two launches during the July 5-9 window.

The students and Misconi are seeking relationships between the lightning bolts in the stratosphere and those closer to the ground.

Although photographs of lightning have been taken before, these by Misconi’s students will be the first to be taken close to the actual lightning. The group plans to build more payloads, thanks to a grant from the UCF student government,” said Kris Muller, president of ASET. The cost of the payloads is approximately $23,000. Funding for the project comes primarily from a student government grant. The payloads will not be recovered due to the extra expense.

An agreement with NASA’s Wallop’s Island will provide the group with two free launches that would otherwise cost approximately $150,000. NASA has also donated “the upper stages of the rocket,” says Misconi.

“Hopefully in the future we can send more,” says Misconi, who has launched two payloads in the past.

The payload launches are a project of
Ecstasy effects levels of serotonin, causes mood shifts

FROM PAGE 1

"The first time I took ecstasy was my first night in my college dorm," said one UCF student. "My roommate brought it. Looking back I am shocked at how easy it was to get, but I took it."

The fact of the matter is that most people are not aware of the potential harmful effects, and the intense, euphoric effect of a trip. A study done by George Ricaurte, a Johns Hopkins neurotoxicologist, shows that ecstasy may have an effect on memory. He gave memory tests to people who said they had last used ecstasy two weeks prior and he compared their results with a control group who had never used the drug. The ecstasy users did worse.

Many people think that ecstasy is safe because it does not have a hallucinatory effect, but this does not mean it cannot cause distress in someone who takes it. A few users have mentally broken down on ecstasy, unprepared for its powerful psychological effects. A schoolteacher in the Bay Area who had taken ecstasy in the past and loved it says she took it again a year ago and began to recall, in horrible detail, an episode of sexual abuse. She became severely depressed for three months and had to seek psychiatric treatment.

"Something similar to that happened to me as well," said a student at UCF. "I took ecstasy as a weekend user my whole freshman year of school and then one time I freaked out and was said. I stopped and was depressed for almost a year after."

The most imminent danger of this drug, however, is from overheating. When ecstasy causes serotonin to flush from the brain, it can short-circuit the body's ability to control temperature. Dozens of people have died from this in the past two decades.

A poem on the website reads, "We sing, we laugh, we share and most of all, we care." And includes testimonials from people who say ecstasy can help cure schizophrenia and contact dead relatives.

According to Ricaurte, "the vast majority of people who have experimented with MDMA appear normal, and there's no obvious indication of something amiss," he says that in 10 or 20 years we may discover differently. This is because its effects on the serotonin receptors in the brain are non-reversible and may result in long-term depression, possibly resulting in a generation medicated for depression.
Bush passes majority of funding for UCF

JENNIFER PATerson  
STAFF WRITER

Gov. Jeb Bush has sustained all but two of the Legislature's funding issues for UCF. Those passed are a 2.5 percent salary increase for state employees that will go into effect Oct. 1 and a number of construction projects, including the Partnership II Building ($15 million) and the UCF Academy for Teaching, Learning and Leadership ($4.2 million), and $15 million for UCF's share for downtown Orlando's Florida Center for the Arts and Education. The two vetoed items were $350,000 for a partnership with the Civic Theater in Orlando and $500,000 for the Lively Arts Center to enhance UCF's partnership with the Seaside Theater in Daytona Beach.

"Although there were several vetoes throughout the State University System, UCF fared well in the final approval of the budget," says Dan Holstenbeck, vice president for University Relations and the university's lobbyist. "It still was a very successful year in terms of meeting our priorities."

Lightning may be bad news for students

UCF's campus is likely to receive over 50 lightning strikes this year and the UCF Department of Health and Safety wants students to be aware of lighting hazards and how to avoid potential dangers. Their tips? Seek shelter immediately in a fully enclosed building or car when you see lightning or hear thunder. Avoid high places and open fields, isolated trees, unprotected gazebos, rain or picnic shelters, baseball dugouts, communications towers, flagpoles, light poles, blanchers (metal or wood), metal fences, convertibles, golf carts, riding mowers and water (ocean, lakes, swimming pools, rivers, etc.) during thunderstorms. When inside a building: Avoid using the telephone, taking a shower, washing your hands, doing dishes, or any contact with conductive surfaces with exposure to the outside such as metal door or window frames, electrical, telephone and cable TV wiring, plumbing, etc. Please contact Environmental Health and Safety at (407) 823-5332 if you need further lightning safety information.

Picture Perfect Storm

By July 9, a high-resolution camera in a payload assembled by UCF engineering technology students will be launched 25 miles in the air by a Super Leki Rocket to take off from Wallops Island in Virginia. The camera should produce the first close-images of high altitude lighting first reported by NASA astronauts a few years ago. "Student's, some of whom have graduated, have been working on the payload for six months. These will be the first images made close to the storms," said engineering professor Nebil Misconi, leader of the project.

See "Students photograph lightning with rockets" on front page for more.

High-Tech Revolution

Eleven political science professors are developing and offering two sections of the American National Government course as a mixed mode class. Working with a $200,000 Pew Grant in Course Redesign, administered through UCF's Center for Distributed learning, the course is a push into cyber-space and toward interactive, student-centered, collaborative classrooms. This course is a testing ground for a mix of Web and face-to-face instruction, which experts hope will offer the best of both worlds. "We will use what we learn to design more appropriate or refine learning exercises for the Internet," says professor Hutch Pollock. "I hope the data shows that this format is at least as good, in terms of student output, as face-to-face teaching."

Observatory Open to Public

The Robinson Observatory is open for free public viewings July 5, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

21st Century Super Heroes

UCF Computer Services has formed a team to help users and departments adopt improved security practices in order to combat the increased attacks on computer systems and networks by hackers. Their mission is to quickly identify and fix vulnerabilities in networks of major servers before they are exploited.

Out of Order by Ray Cooney to Play at UCF Theatre

Starting July 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Theatre Building-Stage One will be the play, "Out of Order," by Ray Cooney. It's about a government minister's ambition to spend the evening with a typist who works for the opposing party that isn't fulfilled quite the way he planned. A body is discovered wedged in a sash window and he gets to spend his night trying to hide the fact. Things only get worse when the typist's husband shows up and the body turns out to be very much alive.

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THE BEST ALONG THE RIVER"
DEBT, Page 5

College students can relieve themselves of debt

JENNIFER PATTON
STAFF WRITER

Debt among college students is not a unique phenomenon. In fact, studies show that over half of the students in college have credit woes before it consumes them. Depending on the severity can often be much more difficult.

"I know people that left college with $15,000 dollars on various credit cards, and half of their monthly income went to paying off these bills," said James Wilson, a UCF student. "And their credit was ruined at this point too because they just let their bills sit while in school because the payments had become overwhelming."

Here is a practical guide for students to use to conquer their credit woes before it consumes them. Depending on the severity of one's debt, there are a variety of steps one can use.

1. Pay above the minimum balance. Paying only the minimum balance assures credit card companies a large return on their investment loan to you. Although technically, paying the minimum balance will eventually rid you of your debt, it is years on your conscious and often thousands of extra unneeded dollars in interest.

2. Consolidate. Seems like a word associated with adults, finances, and things that most college students just don’t think they have to deal with, but in the aggressively solicited market of college campuses, this term has entered has become associated with the college student.

Consolidation is simply balancing all of your bills together, whether it is more than one credit card or other hard to pay, overdue bills (consolidation can be used for one large bill as well). Consolidation companies can often shave 5%-12% off the interest rate. This helps to lower payments and means less interest paid for the credit card holder. Usually a consolidation company charges a monthly fee ranging from $20-$40 a month for their services. Depending on the amount of debt and how much the interest rate is reduced, the amount paid in the long run usually ends up to be less than a high interest rate credit card.

The following website address has a calculator for the potential consolidation to see if their present payment situation or the deal provided by the consolidation company will be cheaper.

http://sdl.smartmoney.com/81/a/debt/calculator/index.cfm?story=mitro

The following is a list of reputable consolidation companies.

There are many consolidation companies out there whose sole

your funds are deposited letting you know exactly how much money you have received.

"Having the money deposited directly into my account makes things more convenient because I know exactly when I will have access to it," commented a UCF student enjoying the new service. Students who have their UCF card linked to their Huntington account will normally receive their funds the same day that the university processes the financial aid disbursement. Students who chose to receive their funds by check will receive the check within 10-12 days of the disbursement.

With their hectic schedules, students need financial convenience and accessibility," said Jim Dunlap, President, Huntington Bank Southern Region. "This new feature allows students to focus on their education rather than worrying about how and when they will receive their financial aid funds," continued Dunlap.

To make this service even more attractive to students, Huntington has designed a no-fee checking account that is specifically tailored to UCF students. With Huntington's UCF Student Access account, excess usage fees, direct line call fees, and checking reserve participation fees are waived for as long as you are an actively enrolled student at UCF. In addition, Huntington is the exclusive provider of Golden Knight checks and checkbook covers. Huntington has an on-campus banking office, located across from the UCF Book Store for your convenience. Students can open an account by visiting the office or by calling 1-888-813-2511. The UCF Card can be obtained by visiting the Campus Card office. With this new service, you have one less line to wait in and one less thing to worry about.

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From UCF, take International Drive (SR 434) north for 7 1/2 miles. Turn left on Red Bug Lake Rd and travel west for just 1/2 mile to Dodd Road. Shadow Creek is on the Northwest corner of the intersection of Red Bug Lake Rd and Dodd Rd.
Debt not uncommon among college students

From Page 4

Cost of School
Adding up?
$8.50 - $9.00 would really come in handy!

For more info & application times:
Call (407) 851-3212
EEO/AA

Group hopes for many more launches

From Page 1

the American Society of Engineering Technology (ASET) founded in 1979 at UCF and the Engineering Technology Department at UCF. Engineering Technology comprises the more practical and applied side of engineering and incorporates more hands-on projects.

Atmospheric scientists will greatly benefit from this project. Lightning may generate electric fields and electromagnetic pulses and stratospheric lightning could potentially cause chemical changes in the atmosphere. The images from the payload's camera could show high energy x-rays and gamma rays caused by runaway electrons and also show red sprites.

So whatever your credit woes are, know there are solutions. Whichever choice you make, know the most important one is to take immediate action.

Things to beware of when obtaining a credit card:

1. Credit card companies are in business to make money by charging interest. Be sure to shop around and compare interest rates and fees. Many credit card companies combine a personal loan with your credit card, which can result in higher interest rates.

2. The variable interest rate. A small piece of information but could and probably will end up costing students a lot of money if they have a balance on their card. Often credit card companies will offer a lower rate for a year, but then raise it to 25% or more, which is often overlooked by students.

3. The rising credit line. Many students feel safe with a credit line of $500-$1000 because even if they max it out, they are relatively not in much debt. However, if students build a reputation with their company, it will raise the credit limit up to $8000 or more, over time, regardless of a student's income or ability to pay it off. “My credit card company raised my credit line to $4000, which made it difficult to turn it in even in a minor monetary emergency I had,” said one UCF student. “Pretty soon it was maxed out.”

4. Borrow from family. Often students are hesitant to borrow from family members due to embarrassment. “I did not tell my family about my debt, because I was embarrassed, until I could no longer afford the payments,” said Theresa Jenkins, a student at UCF. “They had to bail me out and we were really disappointed, not so much because of the amount of money, but because I did not tell them sooner.”

5. Take out a student loan. Any student is eligible for an unsubsidized Stafford Loan (meaning they have no financial need) and the interest rate is variable with a maximum of 8.25%. Students can borrow $2625 their first year and it goes up in increments thereafter. With unsubsidized loans, interest begins to accrue immediately and must either be paid or added to the principal while the student is in school and during the grace period, which is six months.

Dependent/Independent Subsidized
Class Standing
Annual Amount
Aggregate Maximum
Freshmen
$2,625.00
Sophomores
$3,500.00
Juniors/Seniors
$5,500.00
Graduates/Professionals
$8,500.00
$16,500.00

Note the Graduates/Professional Aggregate Maximum includes the Undergraduate Aggregate Maximum.

1. Borrow from family.
2. The variable interest rate.
3. The rising credit line.
4. Take out a student loan.
5. Borrow from family.
The list, baggy jeans of dating

Beth Shaw
Staff Writer

Upon recently watching two of my closest friends with their boyfriends, I began to consider the question “is there really someone for everyone?” I mean, does that we never-argue-and-have-everything-in-common-couple really exist?

So finally I came out of the Gobi Desert of dating and entered a veritable pool of guys. Of course there are some sharks here and there and a few annoying algae types that I just want to scrape off the side of the pool but there is that one that caught my eye. We get along well and he’s fun. He asks me out and actually pays. He isn’t all possessive if I want to hang out with male friends, but he doesn’t fit the list. Oh come on, you all have a list. It’s the “Perfect Person For Me” list.

The list started when a few terrible boyfriends ago, I decided to be no more “misses nice dates.” If I don’t like you hit the road, there is no sense in wasting my time. For example: you don’t like hip-hop, you’re cut. You don’t like to dance, hope sorry back to the dating pool. You can’t change a tire, I’m sorry I don’t call me I’ll tell you. Seriously, why should I settle? I’m only 20, and a committed relationship is not what I need.

But, if it happens it happens and I wonder if my list will be fulfilled or if it’s like a game of memory that’s missing some cards. No matches. I am sure you all get the point but does this list really matter?

My best friend and her boyfriend are pretty different. He likes rap, she likes country, she likes romance movies, and he likes action flicks. But aren’t these normal male-female differences?

How can you tell if your differences my deeper than that? I know that I have gotten that weird out-him-more now feeling before and shaken it off only to find that I should have gone with my first instinct. Then again that could have been weirdness due to things other than differences.

Anyway back to the list. I think the reason the list is so important to me is because I want to be able to share things with a person I care about and if she can’t tell me one joint by Method Man then, well, we have a problem. I mean, I don’t think Mr. List will be an exact match, but I would like him more.

I guess when I really think about it, it’s the big things on the list that count, like money and movies (just kidding). The big things would entail, are you a heroin addict and do you wear tight jeans (I can’t deal with tight jeans)? Maybe I will throw out a few things on my list because I kind of like the fact that my world isn’t confined to pros and cons right now.

Differences can be good, as long as they come in baggy jeans.

Closed captioning may raise price of movies

Adam Shiver
Staff Writer

Going to the movies isn’t an inexpensive venture anymore, as you very well might have noticed. The last time I visited the theater to see a movie it cost a whopping $7.50 per person. Well the price of a movie might be changing soon, and certainly not for the better.

Recently the deaf community made their opinion heard on the subject of closed captioning in movie theaters.

The hearing impaired are pushing to have closed captioning added to theaters everywhere. If this change takes place though, the cost of doing so will undoubtedly fall upon the shoulders of moviegoers.

While the increase in price is enough reason to say no to this high-priced venture for me, I also feel that by adding the captioning to the movie screen, it is severely going to detract from the movie-going experience. I personally go to the movies to get the full effect of the huge screen, ear-piercing surround sound and by putting captioning on the screen it is simply going to make me feel as if I’m sitting at home watching TV.

As soon as someone turns on the closed captioning on the television, I am drawn to the text at the bottom of the screen, and begin to wonder why the action taking place on the screen. This can be a real distraction for many like myself.

I have nothing against the hearing impaired, but feel that if the moviegoers are going to be burdened with the cost, we should do something that is going to make everyone happy, and try to save a few dollars doing so.

Currently some theaters carry special glasses that are distributed to the deaf; at no charge, that present the captioning on the lenses, leaving the screen free of unneeded wording. This to me is an excellent idea. It gives the deaf the captioning while providing for an enjoyable experience for other moviegoers at the same time. This makes a win win situation for all. This option will most likely not be as expensive either, saving everyone a dollar or two. With some theaters already offering this feature, and their cost of movie tickets being competitive with other theaters still, the cost would not rise very much.

Movies are already expensive enough, so why add an unwanted extra cost?
It has been so long since I've seen the sun that my reflection barely shows up in the mirror. My tiny, Caucasian buttocks look like two marbles balls. At last the day has arrived when no responsibilities stand between me and a day of stone-cold poolside lounging: no work, no school, no errands, and as usual, no date. I slip on sun-glasses, my sunblock and my sandals. I eyeball the six of ciders in my fridge and give serious thought to sloshing a few in my Jansport. I reject the idea for fear I might fall asleep poolside and some passerby will call a coroner to haul my ghostly-white corpse away.

When I arrive at the amoeba-shaped retention pond known as the community pool, the big golden-red sun looks like a nuclear explosion a mile high from the ground. The pool is actually spotless, and the fresh muffled odor of beer cans and the fetid miasma which looks and feels like uncooked pizza seems to-the-uneducated tattoos which proclaim, "Fire!" at the top of my lungs. As she stretches out on her belly I patiently wait for an accidental peripheral pectoral exposure. The money-shot is right about to play out when I am physically assaulted by one of mother nature's most heinous creations -- the lovebug, a bug whose only purpose in life is to mate, get in your face, then splatter on your windshield. I will confess that I feel no guilt whatsoever about flicking these pests into oblivion with all my middle finger's might.

Minutes later I am awed then repulsed by the sight of two Deep South cultural attires exhibiting behaviors widely accepted in their region of origin, but generally considered tasteless and low-class in that of the civilized. This Southern-Fried couple is French kissing like Siamese twins joined at the tummies. Somewhere this redneck couple has infiltrated the black, iron gates that surround my complex and found their way to the swimming pool, seriously hampering my sense of security in the process. He proudly displays his obligatory Burgess-McBride blend of onyx and milk chocolate.

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As I settle on to a pool chair right next to mine, the bikini-babe poolside rejections. It's gonna be a long, hot summer by the pool

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Is there anyone out there who is safe from the lyrical wrath of Eminem? Listen to his new CD “The Marshall Mathers LP” before you formulate your answer to that. This album far exceeds “The Slim Shady LP” in more ways than one.

After all the hassles he received because of controversial songs on his first CD, one would think that he might tone it down a bit. That’s what someone who doesn’t listen to Eminem would think anyway.

Even after the ten million dollar lawsuit filed against him by his own mother and his new marriage to the girlfriend he has pretended to murder repeatedly on his CDs, Marshall Mathers doesn’t cut these two women any slack. Two songs in particular “Kill You” and “Kim” are directed at them.

“Don’t you want to mess with Shady, cus Shady will f—ing kill you” is just the beginning of a CD that will make his previous release look shy and tame. If you haven’t heard the first single off the CD, “The Real Slim Shady,” it’s because you live under a rock. Eminem is competing for “pop” airtime with all the “till girl and boy groups” that he despises, whether he likes it or not, and he is giving them a run for their money.

He bashes a lot of people, besides his loved ones, on this record. Most notably slammed are Christina Aguilera, Britney Spears, New Kids on the Block, Insane Clown Posse and N’Sync. “New Kids on the Block sucked a lot...” well, you can guess where that one goes.

Three notable songs are “Who Knew,” “Marshall Mathers,” and “Criminal” in which Eminem raps about the prices of fame, his influence on people, and how he’s just a “regular guy.” He also points out that, even though people think he has skewed values, the president of our country got busy in the oval office with an intern.

By far, the standout track on this album is “Stan.” Eminem skillfully raps about an obsessive fan that wants to emulate him so badly that it scares the artist himself. The chorus is taken from a track on UK artist Dido’s CD called “Thank You.” She will undoubtedly receive a lot of attention for her haunting voice on this song.

Other performers that contribute lyrical talent to this release are Dr. Dre (who also produced both of Eminem’s CDs), RBX, Sticky Fingaz, D-12 (or the “Dirty Dozen”), Snoop Dogg, Xzibit, and Nate Dogg. If you were offended by his first major release then stay away from this one because you could be mentally scarred for life. Some messages may be a little different, he does focus on his success a lot, but the underlying theme remains the same and his middle finger is still waving in the air.

Anyone with a sense of humor who can appreciate some of Em’s messages enough to ignore the more hateful ones (that he claims not to mean anyway) will really enjoy this CD. Its great beats and smart rhymes are worth every value you may think you’re sacrificing upon purchasing it.

**Wet N Wild Summer Nights**

Is the summer heat driving you crazy? Need somewhere to cool off? You can chill out at one of Orlando’s coolest spots, Wet N Wild.

From the top of the “Blackhole” tunneled waterslide to the lazy river that surrounds the park, you can shake off the dreary days of the blistering heat. But for those of you who have to spend the day in class or in the daily grind, Wet N Wild is holding its exciting event now in its 13th year.

Summer Nights is a special offer from Wet N Wild, which extends the hours of the park till 11pm, as well as adding some specialty attractions. Every night the park will be filled with DJ’s, music, games and ultimate adventures. In the midst of all the waterslides, you can climb up a 24ft Rock Climbing Wall or bounce on the Bungee Trampoline. For all those who can’t get away from your daily obligations till later in the evening, Wet N Wild offers a discounted ticket price after 5pm.

The Summer Nights aren’t the only exciting thing going on at the waterpark. June 23 marked the 1st annual Fiesta San Juan celebration. In celebration of keeping in Latin tradition, patrons were going to take a splash in the many pools of the park to bring good luck for the following year. However, when the festivities just began to warm up, the rain began to pour down. But in any event, the Summer Nights promotion will continue through August 4, rain or shine.

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Central Florida Future • 8

July 5, 2000

www.UCFfuture.com
History comes to life on the big screen

LISA APPELEGATE
STAFF WRITER

Mel Gibson is at it again, reprising his role as a freedom fighting hero. This time he's on a new battlefield, one a little closer to home, and it brings more meaning to the holiday we are about to celebrate.

"The Patriot" brings its viewers back to the year 1776 in colonial America where, as everyone knows, a budding country was being oppressed by big, bad Britain. Many lives were lost as the American Revolution raged on and the colonists fought to be free from the king's reign.

This sounds very familiar, right? No, the ending of this movie won't surprise anyone who took U.S. History, but the usual Hollywood twists and turns make this movie an emotional adventure that most people today will be able to relate to.

Gibson plays Benjamin Martin, an ex-warrior turned pacifist who wants nothing more than freedom from Britain, but his seven children to join the war effort. His oldest son Gabriel, played by Heath Ledger ("10 Things I Hate About You"), resists without his father's permission to fight for this cause that he so vehemently believes in.

When the Martin family plantation becomes a battleground for the soldiers to fight on, a British redcoat colonel (Jason Isaacs) upsets the balance of their quiet, farming life. Benjamin Martin seeks revenge and starts a rebel militia to fight more for his own cause than his country's.

As the story and war progress, with more plot twists and action, Martin realizes that the country's freedom is worth fighting for, even if his revenge has to take the backseat for a little while.

This movie was written by Robert Rodat, who also penned "Saving Private Ryan," so the battle scenes are extremely bloody, but still very moving. But unlike "Ryan," which was kept rather simple plot-wise, "The Patriot" adds romance that doesn't really have a place in this movie and could have easily been left out to shorten this three-hour epic adventure.

Although none of the main characters (aside from the British General Cornwallis) were written about in the history books, some were based on real people. Gibson's Benjamin Martin is a mixture of many historic patriots, and Isaac's character Colonel Tavington was based solely upon Colonel Banastre Tarleton, who was nicknamed "Bloody Ban the Butcher" because of his immoral, gruesome fighting tactics.

It was interesting to see this movie that Mel Gibson chose over "Giadiator" (he was first in line for Maximum). No one will ever know for sure if he made the right choice by playing a character that's reminiscent of his famous "Braveheart."

"The Patriot" is emotional and inspiring. Martin brings patriotism out of the troops, as well as the audience, with his star-spangled flag-bear scenes. At the same time, this movie is extremely long-winded and could have been made at least an hour shorter.

Perhaps it would've fared better with a July 4th release date. That is what is being celebrated, isn't it? So, instead of setting central Florida aflame with ear-popping fireworks, why not start a new tradition: remembering why we have the day off. Go and see a movie that shows the reason this war was so important and why we should thank our lucky stars every day that America was victorious.

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EMINƎM WILL APPEAR IN COURT ON SEPTEMBER 13 FOR HIS DEPOSITION IN A $10 MILLION LAWSUIT AGAINST HIM. HIS MOTHER, DEBORAH MATHERS-BRIGGS, FILED THE SUIT LAST SEPTEMBER. EM IS BEING SUED FOR DEFAMATION OF CHARACTER FOR COMMENTS HE MADE ABOUT MATHERS-BRIGGS DURING INTERVIEWS FOR “ROLLING STONE,” “THE SOURCE” AND “RAP PAGES.”

ON JULY 7, EM WILL APPEAR IN A MICHIGAN DISTRICT COURT ON WEAPONS CHARGES FROM AN ARGUMENT HE HAD WITH DOUGLAS DAIL (INSANE CLOWN PosSE) IN FRONT OF AN UNNAMED RADIO STATION. ON JULY 11, EMINƎM WILL APPEAR IN ANOTHER MICHIGAN COURT AT A PRELIMINARY HEARING FOR WEAPONS AND ASSAULT CHARGES. ALLEGEDLY, EM SAW HIS WIFE, KIMBERLY SCOTT MATHERS, KISSING ANOTHER MAN, JOHN GUERRA. GUERRA FILED A CIVIL SUIT AGAINST EM FOR ASSAULT AND THE INTENTIONAL AFFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS.

LEGENDARY RAP GROUP THE FURIOUS FIVE ARE SEEKING A MILLION FOR A SAMPLE OF THEIR 1979 SONG “SUPER-RAPPIN’” IN HIS “WILLIENCE.” THE GROUP SAYS THAT SMITH ILLEGALLY USED A SAMPLE OF THEIR SONG “THE BURGUNDIANS” IN HIS LATEST ALBUM WILLIENCE.

DON’T DISTRACT EM BY SPEAKING OF HIS WEAKNESS AS A COMPOSER. HE IS NOW IN THE TOP 10 OF THE BILLBOARD 200 WITH HIS ALBUM. HE HAS SPOKEN OF HIS INSIDE KNOWLEDGE ON MUSIC PRODUCTION AND IS NOW A Silva-Ravid Music Producer. HIS LATEST ALBUM HAS BEEN IN STORES FOR FIVE WEEKS AND HAS SOLD A LITTLE OVER FOUR MILLION. EMINƎM’S LATEST ALBUM HAS BEEN IN STORES FOR THREE WEEKS AND WILL SELL A MILLION. HIS SONG “WELCOME TO THE RANCH” HAS BEEN AT NUMBER 10 ON THE BILLBOARD 200 THIS WEEK. HIS SONG “THE WIZARD” FROM HIS LATEST ALBUM WILLIENCE IS A HITS SONG AND WILL SELL A MILLION.

BARRYMORE’S CHILDREN, HOWEVER, AFTER GREEN’S MOVIE “ROAD TRIP” WAS RELEASED, HE DECIDED HE DIDN’T WANT A SERIOUS GIRLFRIEND OR A WIFE. BARRYMORE IS DIVERTING HER ATTENTION BY CONCENTRATING ON CHARLIE’S ANGELS. BACKSTREET BOY KEVIN RICHARDSON MET WILLITS AT DISNEY-MGM STUDIOS IN 1993. RICHARDSON MARRIED WILLITS, HIMSELF AN ALUMNI OF THE MOVIE “DUMB AND Dumber.”
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**Chuck Shepherd’s NEWS OF THE WEIRD**

- **Malays, especially, Should Not Read This Item:** In June, an 11-year-old boy in Grimsby, England, standing on a chair holding a snooper cue stick as if riding a pogo stick, with the tip at the juncture of his legs, slipped and fell to the floor, incurring perhaps the most serious injury possible in the circumstances (although he is recuperating satisfactorily). Scarf repair was necessary, as was abdominal surgery, to fix the rupture caused by the protruding tip of the stick.

**Compelling Explanations**

- **Disabled Springfield, Mass., police officer Charles Peck, 55, asked the city council last year for higher benefits based on his 1982 squad car crash that ended his career. Peck was hurt so severely that he was declared dead at the scene (only to be reanimated at the hospital), and his latest petition demands benefits equal to his full salary, which is an amount available only to surviving spouses of deceased officers. Thus, Peck appears to be claiming that since he was declared dead in 1982, he actually is his own survivor. At press time, the Springfield city council had not decided.**

- **Dennis Ferrer, 56, was arrested in Chalmette, La., in March and charged with stealing from the donation box at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church. Ferrer had on him three thin rods with a sticky substance on one end, and S381, but said he was not stealing the money, but rather freeing it because the church was run by communists.**

- **Pedophile Pediatriticians:** Dr. David Mark Siter, 42, pleaded guilty in Charlotte, N.C., in March to having sex with an underage teen-ager. (Though a pediatritian, said his lawyer, Siter in reality ‘had no idea the age of this child.’) And in Alexandria, Va., in February, Dr. Jonathan L. Weinsteim, 32, was sentenced to a year in prison for possession of child pornography. (According to his lawyer, Weinsteim got no personal pleasure from the pornography, but was merely a pack rat who accumulated things; said the lawyer, Weinsteim still has ‘Froot Loops that date from 1995,’ ‘chocolate pudding from 1983,’ ‘guitar strings,’ and ‘his teen-aged T-shirts.’)

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**People Who Are Not Like You and Me**

According to a University of Cologne archaeologist, addressing a meeting in Cairo, Egypt, in April, nearly all prehistoric sites along the Nile valley have been spoiled by land and building projects, and now tourists are destroying Egypt’s Western Desert sites. One of the most raucous tactics, he said, is tourists’ pouring water over 9,000-year-old paintings so they can see the features more clearly.

**Least Competent Criminals**

Dennis Sullivan, 23, was arrested in January for the robbery of what he thought was an armored car, according to Manassas, Va., police. In reality, it was a laundry truck delivering towels and maps to a Bowl America. Said a police officer, “Sullivan, holding a sawed-off shotgun, ran up to the (driver) and said, ‘Give it up.’ The (driver) said, ‘What?’ Sullivan grabbed a bag and ran but soon realized he had a bag of mopheads. By the time the police spotted him running for his getaway car, he was no longer dangerous because his shotgun, which was snuggled against his arm underneath his long-sleeved shirt, had become tangled in the shirt and could not be aimed.”

(Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, P.O. Box 18737, Tampa, Fl 33619 or Weird@compuserve.com, or go to www.NewsoftheWeird.com/)
Whass Up Hollywood cont.

FROM PAGE 10

on the set of the movie "Innerspace." They have stayed together through Quaid's past substance abuse as well as Ryan's estrangement from her mother and stepfather. (Ryan became estranged from her mother and stepfather. (Ryan became estranged from her mother and stepfather.)

Arnold Schwarzenegger and James Cameron are teaming up to make the third installment of "Terminator." Paul Hogan will begin shooting "Crocodile Dundee 3" in August. Oscar-nominated writer/director M. Night Shyamalan ("The Sixth Sense") has been meeting with George Lucas, Steven Spielberg and Harrison Ford about making a script for a fourth Indiana Jones. Spielberg would direct it from her stepfather after he sold an article to a tabloid about her and the Last Crusade, wrote the script for the movie. Harrison Ford about making a script for a fourth Indiana Jones. Spielberg would direct it in 2002. The last movie, "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade," was made in 1989. Lucas, Spielberg and Ford had planned on making another movie as far back as 1993.

If you have any questions, comments and/or need advice, please e-mail be_entertained@hotmail.com

attn: The writer(s) name

Crossword

ACROSS
1. Potato
2. Kidney beans
5. Dammy of "The Secret Life of Bees"
10. "Shrek"
11. Telecast sound
15. Merchant
16. Brennan
17. I'm inside
18. Jack Lemmon novels, with "The
20. Pimp, hustler
22. Property claim
23. Fast drink
25. Right on maps
26. A-ha's opener
27. In the moment
28. Run riff on
29. In the movies
34. Talk of the town?
35. Spoke
37. One
39. Medical production
40. Her's wife
41. Unexceptional
43. One Ford
44. Cowgirl, at times
45. Eliminate
47. Address Search
48. Move lyrically
49. Widespread
50. What
52. Run without
54. Pride in oneself
54. Spartan queen
58. Farm pen
63. Sponsory
67. Water or Meg
68. Epler
69. Showery
70. Bult
71. Arthur
72. Demonstrated

DOWN
1. Type of dance
2. Hours and mine
3. Comment
4. Opera star
5. Eventually
6. Org of Duval and Osceola
7. Mont Blanc, e.g.
10. "You" star Pet
11. Calligrapher's stroke
12. "Vangro" star
11. Fruit drink
12. Haremming
13. Break fast?
16. Information sponsors
21. Nantucket
23. Dunderhead
24. Hamper collector
25. White flower
27. Photos
28. Italian ice cream
30. Get back in
31. Coming up
32. Potlock
35. Spike roughly
41. Be compatible
42. Curve
43. Easter hunt
44. Two performers
51. Mrs. Archie
53. Vast landmass
55. Starchy day
56. "Yellow" day
57. Potpourri's Olive
58. Noisy person
59. Check out in a way
60. Bazel letters
61. Befuddled
62. Understand
64. Spanish river
66. "Hollywood ..."
68. Hyperactive

Solutions

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Groovy tunes: What began as an 80’s summer movement has grown to an underground sub-culture. “Groove” is an independent film that explores the complexities of the rave scene, from the musical style to the spiritual journey through life or escape from it. The film follows ravers through a night in San Francisco’s underground scene.

While the movie slowly makes its way through select parts of the country, you can find the soundtrack in any indie music store. It contains some of the purist underground tracks fresh off talented DJs’ turntables. The music featured in the “Groove” soundtrack is filled with great dance music that’ll give you a look into this increasingly popular society.

Hometown Blues: Since they came together in 1994, Blue Meridian has been playing venues all over Central Florida. Their original sound has a pop sensibility that sold over 2,500 CDs and earned them the title of “Best Rock Band in Orlando” in the fall of ‘99. But since the New Year the group has been toiling with its’ ranks. After several auditions, the cream of the crop arose in late May. New to the local scene, Greg David and Adam Sentz have joined veterans of the band Donovan Lyman and Kevin Kirkwood. The new band has a more edgy persona and promises more energetic performances. The stage for this new energy will be at the Sapphire Supper Club on July 8, were they promise not only new material but a very wild weekend.

Along with the recent thrill of touring their hometown, Blue Meridian’s memorabilia has been added to the new “locals” wall at the Hard Rock Café. Along side acquisitions from Matchbox 20, Seven Mary Three, Sister Hazel, and other musical greats, Donovan’s 1971 Fender Telecaster and Kevin’s snare drum will be mounted to commemorate the group’s success. As well as displaying Orlando’s confidence and pride in the band.

Reliving the Musical thrill: Sick of always missing out on big acts that come to O-town? Well you can experience the live performances of the big names in the comfort of your own home. Currently the longest running weekly concert series on television, Hard Rock Live presented by American Express captures the performances of the talent that pass Central Florida. Since its premiere on VH1 on March 30, 1997 it has included the eclectic mix of artists such as The Goo Goo Dolls, Boys II Men, The Pretenders, and lots more.

But for those of you who don’t have cable there is “The Best of Hard Rock Live” CD. Released on June 20 it is a compilation of live music from three seasons of the hit show. It includes live performances from contemporary musical greats.
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(well, what are you waiting for... log on and decide for yourself!)
It’s now or never for Clark

Senior wide receiver Kenny Clark looks to finish his UCF career on a consistent note

For Kenny Clark, the time is now. As a fifth-year senior and starting wide receiver for UCF, Clark must elevate his level of play if he looks to be a prominent leader on the team and be regarded as one of the country’s top receivers.

“My personal goal is to be the best receiver in the country this year, and that’s the only way I see it,” Clark said.

Clark is one of the nation’s strongest and fastest receivers, yet he states: “That still isn’t the best receiver in the country.”

Playing in every game last season, Clark caught 24 passes for 655 yards and led the team with six touchdowns. Yet, some inconsistent play plagued his overall performance and in his final year at UCF, he is taking a different approach to the game.

“This year I’m taking everything a little more serious,” Clark says. “I’m not joking around in the weightroom. Last year I worked really hard but still wasn’t giving 110 percent, whereas this year I’m giving 110 percent outside as well as inside.”

Currently, he says he is benching 355-360 pounds and squatting 400. His last time in the 40-yard dash was 4.47 seconds. He says his fastest time is 4.41 but he feels he can get down to the 4.3 range before long.

During this offseason Clark spent four weeks training in Boca Raton with his cousin, former UCF quarterback Daunte Culpepper, as well as other NFL and college players.

“They taught me a lot,” Clark said. “They gave me a lot of motivational speeches and it helped. It showed up on the field and how to be a leader.”

Significant leadership is an element Clark must bring to the team this year along with an effective performance on the field. As a junior he assumed the role of offensive captain. This year, despite no longer holding the title, Clark’s leadership skills must be more visible. His notable understanding of all aspects of the game is integral.

“He understands how to mentally and physically prepare for big ballgames,” says UCF coach Mike Kruczek, “which will be a big asset in helping the younger guys that have to play for the first time against great opponents this season. He’s going to have a big responsibility that way.”

These leadership qualities will be assessed when the Golden Knights begin their season against Georgia Tech on Sept. 2. Despite feeling the team did not play up to its potential last year in a 41-10 loss to Georgia Tech, Clark instills a positive outlook going into this season’s game and feels that everyone seems to be focused.

“If we can keep that up (focus),” Clark says, “the sky’s the limit for us.”

For Clark, the sky is the limit as well. He is confident he should be drafted and feels there are numerous players on the team who should be drafted as well. Yet, in order to be considered for the early draft rounds, Clark must establish consistency along with production. Quite simply, Clark must catch the ball every time it’s thrown his way.

“You can’t drop passes,” Kruczek said. “You have to be 100 percent all the time catching the football. I think if he’ll do that this year and because of what we do offensively, he’ll be a very visible receiver. The NFL scouts will see him run every type of route necessary to move up to the next level and he’ll have an opportunity to play in the NFL.”

Sunshine Network to replay 4 games

Sunshine Network will replay four of its most memorable UCF games during the month of July.

The games will air Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. on four consecutive weeks beginning July 2. The games were selected by fans balloting on the website ucfuture.com.

Forever to be known as “Daunte’s Debut,” Sunshine Network will show the opening game of Daunte Culpepper’s career in a UCF uniform July 2. UCF upset fifth-ranked (I-AA) Eastern Kentucky 40-32, Aug. 31, 1995. Barely three months removed from the halls of Ocala’s Vanguard High School, Culpepper began his storied stay in Orlando with an NCAA record 12 consecutive completions to start the game. He finished 20 for 25 for 254 yards and three touchdowns and earned national Offensive Player of the Week honors by the Sports Network.

The following week, Sunshine will air the Idaho game from 1997. Fresh off its near upset of eventual national champion Nebraska, as well as an overtime loss at Ole Miss and a two-point loss to South Carolina, UCF played in front of the largest home crowd in school history Sept. 20, 1997. More than 41,000 showed up to see the team being touted by the national media as the “best 0-3 team in the country,” rough up the Vandals 41-10.

Billled as a showdown between two of the nation’s best quarterbacks, Culpepper and Louisiana Tech’s Tim Rattay squared off in an early season matchup, which will be replayed July 16. Culpepper stole the show in the 64-30 win Sept. 5, 1999, in Ruston, La., passing for 370 yards and four touchdowns and rushing for 69 yards and two more touchdowns. UCF sealed the victory with a 40-point outburst in the third quarter.

The final game in the series, July 23, will give fans a chance to experience the excitement of UCF’s bid to upset ninth-ranked Georgia on the road Sept. 25, 1999. The game hinged on a controversial offensive pass interference call, which took the Golden Knights out of range of a potential game-winning field goal in the final seconds.