Central Florida Future, January 10, 2001
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**Little known services offered on-campus**

**Jennifer Paterson**

STAFF WRITER

At the beginning of every semester, most students feel the weight of tuition. Although relatively inexpensive, throwing out anywhere from $500 to $1500 to pay for the cost of classes can still seem like a huge chunk of change. What many students don’t know is that UCF offers a wealth of extra services that are included in the bill, services that if paid for individually, could easily add up to the dollars forked out by a student for a higher education every semester.

“Ever since I have come to UCF, I have taken part in the aerobics classes,” said junior Jenni Jordan. “There are always a lot to choose from and they have beginner, intermediate and advanced levels of classes so anyone who wants to do it can.” Indeed, every semester the UCF Fitness Center offers aerobics classes, as well as other services. Just over a year ago they introduced their yoga classes and kickboxing.

“It’s really a great place,” said Jordan. “If I paid for a gym like Bally’s, it would easily cost me $50 a month, plus I’d have to take time to drive there.”

The Fitness Center falls under the care of Recreational Services which offers a number of programs to students every semester including team volleyball, basketball, swimming, football, softball and more. For more information about their services the number is 407-823-2408.

Another little known service at UCF is the Wellness Center. Matt Cook, a business major at UCF went to the dietitian at the UCF Wellness Center to evaluate his eating and choose a diet that would optimize his energy.

“It’s not like I am fat or anything, but between work and school, my diet tends to lack substance and I get low on energy,” said Cook. He said he kept track of his diet for three days and then the dietitian counseled him on how to better improve what he ate.

“I mean, its crazy, Hollywood stars pay hundreds of dollars for someone to tell them this, and we get it free,” said Cook. “People don’t realize there are services like this on campus.”

Other services provided by the Wellness Center include massages at much lower prices than one would pay off-campus and free mental health counseling. “The counseling is great,” said Mandy Lobo, a graduate of UCF. “During my sophomore year I got slightly depressed and went to the counselor. I didn’t have to pay, appointments were easy to make, and it was close on campus. For more information about services offered by the Wellness Center including career testing and counseling call 407-833-2617.”

Although the price of tuition may seem to burn a huge hole in your pocket every semester, remember the perks of a campus life. In a few years, a health center at minimal cost and appointments that can usually be made within a week will be a part of your dreams.

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**Partnership will further industrial development, space exploration**

**FROM PAGE A-1**

lab at the space center in the coming years.

“UCF has been engaged for the last ten years delivering courses at the Cape through the Florida Space Institute (FSI). Last year, around 400 students took courses. FSI also operates a substantial research program and has rental space at the astronaut memorial foundation as well as at the airforce facilities on the Cape,” said Wanielista.

UCF’s portion of the space partnership will be built around the FSI, which focuses on launch and space travel research and education. “Already, the BDR has given us permission to establish a type I institute,” said Wanielista. A newly approved information program will also be opening, which will provide new opportunities to more than 600 UCF students annually. The bachelor’s degree program would draw from computer science, engineering and information systems management.

“It is important to our school and its students because this partnership will further industrial development, space exploration and make opportunities for students to gain experience while attending UCF as well as career opportunities for the future. We are the fuel for economic development and human performance.”

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**Knights Fans... Get Closer To The Action!**

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**Did you know?**

The date of UCF’s first classes was October, 1968.

The average high school GPA for admission to UCF was 3.6.

The number of full time faculty on campus is 900.

The library has 1,314,958 paper volumes (as of June 30, 2000).

**Quote of the Week**

“A dreamer is one who can only find his way by moonlight, and his punishment is that he sees the dawn before the rest of the world.”

OSCAR WILDE

Useless Fact of the Week

The United States has never lost a war in which mules were used.

Web Page of the Week

WWW.HIGHSCHOOLALUMNI.COM

Find old classmates, or just let everyone know what you’re doing in college.

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**Central Florida Future**

January 10, 2001 • www.ucffuture.com
news

Permaul inspired, influenced students

From PAGE A-1

you remember me? He was a student years ago, and had brought his daughter to meet me. It's things like that, that really make me feel good."

Besides influencing students' lives, the Permauls also inspired them to be proud of who they are individually; in particular, the minority students. Ray Permaul encouraged the Caribbean students many years ago to form an organization. "They used to hold their meetings at these tables next to our stand, and it's grown into something big now," Lynette said. Today that group has transformed into the UCF Caribbean Student Association, who has helped Lynette over the years with the upkeep of her stand.

Lynette says that although she liked UCF when it was smaller and less crowded back in the early 80's, she knows that its growth has been beneficial to students though. "Later as the university grew, people tried to raise my rent and I did not have to just raise my prices, but its not the rich, to the south. To me it's a season and a time... and now is my time to leave UCF. I'm ending on a good note."

Minimum payments do not let students pay off debts

From PAGE A-1

logo card, the alumna association receives one-half of 1 percent of sales. Messina said, this revenue funds over $40,000 in scholarships each year for UCF. The revenue also goes towards sporting events, homecoming, pre-game parties and Pegasus, the association's magazine.

Messina said UCF chose MBNA because it wanted a company that has students' best interest at heart. MBNA holds seminars to teach students how to budget money and handle credit card debt. Twice a year the alumni association advertises the seminar via mass e-mails and through the Central Florida Future.

Commins said many students are ignorant about interest rates and do not understand that the minimum payment will never allow a person to pay off their debt. If you pay the minimum balance you are only paying the interest off each month, he added.

Commins said a seminar at orientation would be a good way to teach kids how to use credit responsibly.

Although there is not yet a seminar offered for incoming freshmen during orientation, both Messina and Joe Ritchie, director of orientation agree it would be beneficial and feasible. "Credit card management and debt is something we need to address at the beginning, not the end," said Ritchie.

"It's not something every student wants to hear, but we need to put it out there."

According to Hue, despite the initial low credit limit, first and second year students rack up large debts. When seniors are about to graduate and have a good job, they become serious about wanting to pay off their credit cards, she noted.

Messina is a proponent of credit cards for students. He said you do not know when an emergency is going to happen and you will need it. He noted the importance of establishing good credit for the purpose of buying cars and getting apartments.

For students in debt, Hue suggests a loan consolidation program. Loan officers look at repayment potential and income to create one payment.

Once a student's debt has gotten too high to successfully manage, Hue offers this advice:

• Cut up all credit cards.
• Look at income versus expenditures.
• Pay as much down on your principle each month as possible.
• Be willing to make sacrifices.
• Know and understand that the more credit cards you obtain, the more in debt you will become.

New Eats

The Baja Burrito Kitchen and Mrs. Field's Pretzel Time are welcome additions to the Student Union and the long list of eateries on campus. Mrs. Field's is already open for business. Baja Burrito Kitchen is scheduled to open early in the Spring Semester.

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Call 407-823-5153 with information.

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news

Around campus

State employees raise record number of dollars

JENNIFER PATERSON  STAFF WRITER

The 2000 Florida State Employees Charitable Campaign grossed $154,240 on the main campus, far surpassing the goal of $142,000. Thirty UCF employees pledged at least $1,000 each. Orlando Magic owners Richard and Helen DeVos matched those donations. The UCF Breved and Daytona Beach campuses also added more than $12,000 to the donations.

Employee of the month

Lourdes Emanuelli, an office assistant for the Department of Management for the College of Business Administration, was UCF’s employee of the month for December. Emanuelli has thoroughly enjoyed the nine years she has worked at UCF. “I like the environment,” she said. “It’s a youthful environment and the co-workers are nice and friendly.” A native of Puerto Rico, Emanuelli grew up spending much of her time gardening a hobby that she continues today—growing peppers and herbs. She also likes to watch movies and sew in her spare time.

On display in the library

Library exhibits through the month of January are: “Jackets Not Required! But Desired: A College of Glorious Bookjackets from UCF Library Books”; “Martin Luther King, Jr.”; “Theatre UCF: See the Stars of Tomorrow”; “UCF Arboretum”; “The Essence of India”; “Florida’s Pre-History.”

Art of India next at UCF gallery

An exploration of the contrasts between Hindu and Muslim architecture at two cities in India will be on display during the next exhibition at the University of Central Florida Art Gallery. The exhibition, which uses watercolors, photographs, maps and other documents is the result of 16 years of research by UCF art professor, Jagdish Chavda.

Art in Architecture under the Patronage of Mughal(s) and Rajput maharawal(s) delves into the history of the fort-cities of Fatehpur-Sikri, a Muslim retreat, and Jaisalmer, which has a long Hindu influenced history. Chavda compares the work of masters under Muslim Mughal patronage and Muslim masons working under Hindu maharawal patronage.

The exhibit opens Jan. 13 with a reception from 6 - 9 p.m. and runs through Feb. 4. The gallery is open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Jan. 14, 21 and 28, 1-5 p.m. and Jan. 14 at 3 p.m. Chavda will present a slide lecture on his work, which will be followed by a program of traditional classical and folk dance by performers from the Institute of India Art and Culture.

All gallery programs are free and open to the public. Call (407) 623-2676 for further information.

Campaigning to fix voting problems

The Institute for Simulation and Training located in Research Park has launched a program to evaluate changes in the electoral system that could range from ballot redesigns to the scrapping of the Electoral College. Institute officials have assembled a multidisciplinary team of experts from throughout UCF to systematically analyze proposed changes for effectiveness and unintended consequences in a program known as the Voter Integrity Program. “The institute will function as a tested, or underwriter’s laboratory, for ideas to improve the mechanisms and procedures of elections,” said Dennis McBride, IST executive director.

Longtime Purchasing Boss dies

Jan. 10, at 11 a.m., there will be a memorial service in the Arena for UCF’s longtime director for Purchasing, Jack Winstead, who died Dec. 23 of kidney cancer. Winstead had been with UCF for 13 years. “He was a great leader, true professional, compassionate and understanding, yet purposeful in accomplishing the task at hand,” says Ray Puskas, interim director for Purchasing. “Jack was a true mentor for many of us. The lives he touched will always be blessed from the positive relationships, experiences, humor and stories that he shared.”

Winstead is survived by his wife, Kathy, and a number of children and grandchildren.

MORE ONLINE:

Tight job market has students calling shots

KATY MARQUARDT
KNIGHT-RIDDER TRIBUNE

University of Texas senior Dianna Lucio is a part-time worker now, but she'll be a hot commodity for employers in a variety of fields when she graduates next year.

Lucio, who is double-majoring in communications and science and Disorders and Speech Communication, has interned in sales and business for a career center in an internship funded by the spring with the Texas attorney general's office and is already thinking about graduate school.

"I know that just because I'm graduating doesn't mean I'm going to get a good job, but I feel pretty comfortable about getting out there," she said. "I think there's a need out there for what I do.

The job market for graduates such as Lucio is so tight that employers are projecting a healthy 23.4 percent increase in college hiring next year, according to Job Outlook 2001, an annual survey of nearly 500 employers by the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

"It's a fascinating job world right now. Students are really riding the tide," said Curt Schafer, director of career services at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos.

Although the job market is lucrative for almost all majors, the demand is highest for candidates with degrees in computer science, accounting, business administration and engineering, according to the survey.

The demand is fueled by companies such as Austin-based National Instruments Corp., which plans to hire 20 percent to 25 percent more recent graduates next year. Mark Finger, vice president of human resources, said the company hired more than 200 from the Class of 2000.

"All the big boys are flexing their muscles, the IBMs, the Microsofts ... we're all seeing a significant increase in hiring bonuses and options," he said.

"I've been in the game 20 years and haven't even seen anything like it." Many employers recruiting through UT's College of Engineering are making job offers earlier in the academic year, said Michael Powell, assistant director of the Engineering Career Assistance Center.

Austin-based Applied Materials Inc., which recruits engineering majors, is not looking to increase the number of graduates it recruits next year because of the volatile economy, said Sherri Allen, manager of the company's college programs.

"But recruiting is still tough," she said. "It's more competitive, so we're getting our name out and talking to freshmen and sophomores earlier, sponsoring more events on campus and getting to know the faculty.

More than 500 companies recruit business majors on the UT campus, a number that has risen about 10 percent during the past few years, said Thomas Lutz, director of UT's Ford Career Center.

Most seniors who will graduate with a bachelor's of business administration in May have been offered jobs, and the majority will make their decisions by early March, Lutz said.

"The BBAs are enjoying a really healthy recruiting season, so they don't feel the sense of urgency that they used to," he said.

The competition is so fierce that the career center has noticed an increase in "exploding offers," Lutz said, in which companies give students a short time to make a decision or offer a bonus if they accept the job quickly.

But other companies are giving students up to a year to decide and offering flexible start dates because students with so many options are asking for more time.

"Students are certainly more confident then they were two, three, four years ago," Finger said. "More students are making the choice to graduate first, then look for a job because they're confident they'll get one quickly.

This newfound confidence has replaced the anxiety that usually attends many students' job search, said Anna Falkenberg, interim director of UT's Liberal Arts Career Center.

"They're in the position where they've already decided whether they want to go with the practical or the dream, deciding whether they want to leave the land of Birkenstocks and jeans for Dockers and cubicles," she said. "They're asking, 'Do I get a corporate job, or do I spring for the adventure?'

Other students are facing so well financially with part-time jobs that they're delaying professional careers.

But students can run into trouble with high-paying, part-time jobs, said Wallace Young, director of career services at Huston-Tillotson College.

"We have undergraduates working at places like Applied Materials in Austin that pay $13 or $14 an hour, and we have to constantly remind them about the importance of a degree and the reality of working outside Austin," Young said.

Although internships and other forms of part-time work are meant to supplement education, they can also lead to permanent employment. Employers reported that one-fourth of their Class of 2000 hires held an internship with the company, according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

Ken Sun, a 1999 University of Washington graduate in electrical engineering, landed his job at Applied Materials after interning with the company in Taiwan. Although he received offers from several companies after interviewing with job fairs, Sun chose Applied.

"It's still necessary for engineering majors to intern to get a good job," said Sun. "It really increased my chances.

But not every prospective graduate is picking and choosing between offers. Students in communications fields, for example, must network more to land a job in the industry, said Amanda Setrus, a UT senior in advertising, who has two internships under her belt.

"Companies that always hire, but still have me, said she had an abundance of offers," she said. "I guess it's better than it has been in the past, but for me ... I've been worried.

There's still hope for those who want a job by May but haven't started their job search, said Roger Young, director of career services at Southwestern University in Georgetown.

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Court yearbook ruling a landmark victory

BILLY O'KEEFE
TMS CAMPUS

Should free-speech restrictions applicable to high school students apply to college students as well? The Society for Professional Journalists doesn't think so. And now, neither does the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati.

The court ruled on Friday that officials at Kentucky State University were out of line in high school officials' right to censor student publications that do not fall in accordance with the school's educational philosophy.

The decision to apply a high school law to a college publication outraged students around the country, who saw the decision as a threat to what they felt were basic rights.

"It is ludicrous to assume that a 13-year-old is similar in judgment to a 22-year-old college senior," said an editorial that appeared in the Student, a 2,000 copy copy of the 1993-94 edition of the Thorobred, the school's student-produced yearbook.

Yearbook editors Capri Coffer and Charles Kincaid then sued the university, arguing that the university's actions were unconstitutional.

In 1997, U.S. District Judge Joseph Hood, citing a U.S. Supreme Court ruling on a similar case involving high school students, ruled in favor of the university. Hood pointed to Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, a case that granted the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati. University were out of line in high school officials the right to censorship student publications that do not fall in accordance with the school's educational philosophy.

The decision to apply a high school law to a college publication outraged students around the country, who saw the decision as a threat to what they felt were basic rights.

"It is ludicrous to assume that a 13-year-old is similar in judgment to a 22-year-old college senior," read an editorial that appeared in the Student, Miami of Ohio's student newspaper. "Moreover, virtually all college students are adults who enjoy inherent rights and responsibilities. Hood has implied that college adults are no more capable than are juveniles."

Lawyers for the students, with funding from the SPJ, sought last year to reverse the decision. They argued that, contrary to the district court's opinion, Kentucky State's status as a public university makes it a public forum, and that students as result are not subject to the same standards of censorship as their high school counterparts.

In his ruling, Judge R. Gary Conner ruled, "Given KSU's stated policy and practice with regard to the yearbook, the nature of the yearbook and its compatibility with expressive activity, and the university context in which the yearbook is published, there can be no question that The Thorobred is a journal of expression and communication in the public forum sense," read the decision. The university's confiscation of the journal of expression was arbitrary and unreasonable. As such, it violated Kincaid's and Coffer's First Amendment rights.

SPJ president Ray Marcano called the ruling "a major victory for those who fight for free speech and against censorship attempts." Marcano said, "The Sixth Circuit wisely saw through Kentucky State official's disgraceful efforts to protect the university's public image even at the expense of students' First Amendment rights."

Christine Tatum, chairwoman of the university's Legal Defense Fund, "By hiding those books, the university has done more damage to its reputation than it would have by releasing them." Officials at the university could not be reached for comment.

When asked about the university's reaction to the decision, a KSU spokesperson declined comment.

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THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST CHANCE!
Firms selling bogus degrees increase on internet

JENNIFER RADCLIFFE
KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

With the click of a mouse and a few thousand dollars, anyone who can operate a computer can get a college degree without ever attending a class.

In many cases, the student does not have to study, take tests or write papers.

Internet-based diploma mills are producing a record number of phony documents on a daily basis that are being passed off as college degrees, experts said.

Teachers, doctors and government officials are among those using phony degrees to secure jobs, and little is being done to stop the multimillion-dollar international industry, experts said.

Advertisements for diploma mills show stately buildings and boast of accredited programs that offer flexibility for working adults. But in many cases, there are no buildings, no professors and no legitimate accreditation, officials said.

"It's worse than it's ever been, and it's growing exponentially," said author John Bear, founder of www.degree.net.

The latest edition of "Bear's Guide to Earning Degrees Nontraditionally," which is scheduled for release in January, will include 481 phony schools.

That is an increase from 320 listed in the 1998 edition.

The Internet makes it easy for companies to spread the word about their services. At least one diploma mill sends up to a million e-mail messages a week advertising its business, said Bear, who co-authored the book, with his daughter, Mariah Bear.

The e-mail often falls in the hands of desperate people who know that degree holders have a greater chance of succeeding in the job market, he said.

An equal number of people are honest victims of diploma mills as they look for ways to benefit from the expanding distance-learning network that was established by traditional, legitimate universities, experts said.

There are several legitimate non-traditional universities that are trying to establish themselves on the Internet.

"The public has no criteria for separating the sheep from the goats," said professor Barry Lumsden, who has taught a doctorate-level class about diploma mills at the University of North Texas in Denton for 15 years.

Web sites for phony universities can be deceptive, he said. People tend to think that Web addresses that end in "edu" are legitimate, but there are no prerequisites to register for those addresses, Lumsden said.

In addition, many diploma mills boast accreditation from agencies that also are invented, making it crucial for potential students to do a lot of homework before they sign up or send money, he said.

"Most of the people who run these schools are pretty slick operators," Lumsden said. "They know how to use words in their advertising that laypeople don't understand."

Lumsden said he is concerned that numerous ministers nationwide are among those using diploma mills to "earn" doctorates.

Such misuse puts employers in danger of hiring unqualified workers and may also cheapen the value of legitimate degrees, he said.

"God only knows how many people are in positions of power right now based on fraudulent credentials," he said.

Allen Ezell, a retired special agent who oversaw the FBI DipScam task force to investigate phony universities in the 1980s and 1990s, said there are some telltale signs that a university is bogus.

"When a school sells you a degree and a transcript with no work at all, and you have courses on your transcript that you don't know anything about, and you're able to negotiate your GPA, and they're willing to backdate your diploma, something's wrong," he said.

Potential students must ensure that schools are accredited by recognized agencies, Ezell said.

Few agencies have taken a role in monitoring diploma mills, experts said.

Private watchdogs such as Bear and his Web site keep an eye on fraudulent companies, and government agencies do what they can.

Ray Grasshoff, a spokesman for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, said his office has a full-time employee responsible for monitoring the sites, as well as several other duties.

"It's a consumer-protection issue for us," he said.

Online universities that lack recognized accreditation and a certificate of authority to operate in Texas could face fines of $1,000 to $3,000. If an unauthorized university is offering degrees, the fines could reach $5,000, Grasshoff said.

Unauthorized universities also could be reported to the state attorney general, he said. Figures about how many institutions have been fined were unavailable, Grasshoff said.

It is difficult to find perpetrators, he said.

Larger phony institutions often have parts of their business in several different countries, Bear said. They take telephone calls in one country, deposit money in banks in another country and print advertisements in another.

"We've got a gigantic, but not at all visible, fraud going on," Bear said. "The harm is extraordinary."

He estimates that the revenue of the diploma mill industry exceeds $200 million a year. Steps must be taken to regulate it, he said.

"If somebody holds up the 7-Eleven for 50 bucks, they're going to be in jail before their Shurpees melt, but these guys are stealing millions every month," Bear said.
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Astrology and Fortune-Telling... Fact or Fiction?

What does the future hold? Millions seek the answer through forms of astrology and fortune-telling. Astrologers study how events on earth correspond to movements of astronomical bodies such as the sun, planets, moon and stars. They then make predictions by interpreting the positions of the bodies. Individuals are given a sign based on the location of the body at the time of birth. That is sign that we are all familiar with, the sign of the Zodiac.

Roommates: Gaining followers.

In predicting the future through palmistry, cartomancy, necromancy and clairvoyance, which have little to do with astronomical bodies but do claim to offer predictions.

Daily horoscopes can be found in newspapers, on-line and in magazines everywhere. Palm and tarot card readers have shops on any given corner. Necromancers, those who are said to communicate with the dead, can be a bit harder to find. Those with clairvoyance claim to see things beyond the range of the senses. They’re out there too: ESP, aura readers, etc.

Now that we all have a bit of knowledge on the psychic and zodiacal arts, the real question is, “Are any of these so-called sciences valid?”

On whims and for fun, I’ve sat down to read my horoscope. If the planets aren’t aligned just so, I’d better watch my back. I’ve read that I’m going through financial difficulties, that I have a knack for dealing with problems, that I’m hiding secrets from loved ones and my personal favorite, that Mr. Right is right around the corner or on a bad day, right around the globe.

If you give me a little thought, all of the above can relate to any given person. We all have financial, emotional and personal, ups and downs. To this day, I have found these horoscopes to hold little credence. Am I supposed to believe that every Sagittarius out there is just like me? I beg to differ.

As for the fortune-telling end of predictions, I have experimented on a tarot card reading and have found little there too. As for those with clairvoyance, I’ve seen Unsolved Mysteries and have known about people who see auras and do not doubt that some folks have an uncanny sense for such odd happenings. After all, our bodies do run off of electrical impulses and science can back me up on that one. Out-of-the-blue productions and visions seem slightly more credible than the planets controlling my destiny. But wait there’s more.

Anybody out there ever tried a psychic hotline? I might if the fine print didn’t say “for entertainment purposes only.” If it was the buzzing truth, why would they discredit themselves?

Has anybody ever heard of the power of suggestion? Coincidence and the power of suggestion are the key behind astrology and fortune-telling. One is backed by science and I must give reason to my doobies. Astrology has been around for over 3,000 years and if science has yet to explain it, I’m not taking it.

In dealing with horoscopes and fortunes, if you have to pay for it, forget it. Enjoy the ideas but don’t dwell on them. Take it lightly and see what happens. Some of it may be valid after all, but don’t fall victim to scams and the power of suggestion. Besides if you could find out what your future holds, would you really want to know?

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Insipid thoughts: Head deep in a toilet-bowl

Have you ever smored so loud that you wake yourself? How sad is that?

What has happened to MTV? It seems like they play a total of only 10 or 15 different videos. The only time there is a video on is on Carson’s Total Request Live show. The other 23 and a half hours of the day are devoted to things like Daria, Real World, Makeover Model Mission, Tom Green and other useless programming. Show some videos on Music Television.

New Year’s resolutions are a great idea... it is too bad that no one ever follows through with them. There should be a contract that you have to sign New Year’s Day. Perhaps that would help us commit ourselves to that goal we’ve said we’re going to stick with for an entire year.

Is it just me, or is Fondue one of the greatest ways to experience desert? It’s always great for a romantic occasion.

Why is it that News Channel 13 shows the weather every 10 minutes? Who needs the weather then? The only time I want to know that much about the weather is if there is a hurricane coming. They show the weather so much that they have enough time to show the news.

Quote of the week:

"Absence is to love what wind is to fire; it extinguishes the small, it kindles the great."

—Comte Deharry-Rahutin

Roommates: Can’t live with them, can’t afford to live without them?

When it comes to bad roommates, I have had them all. I have lived with acquaintances to grand theft, drug dealers, cross dressers, strippers and just overall psychotics.

Yes, college has definitely been an interesting experience for me when it comes to the inhabitants of the place I call home. I moved up here almost three and a half years ago and into a great little place according to him. That cookie cutter village of collegiate chaos across the street from our fine university. I moved up here with a friend from home and in some blind subconscious thought pattern we arrived at the idea that living in three beds would be better because we could betroth the solo that moved into the third of our three. Unfortunately, it turned out that the solo was a duo and the other half of her liked to call our couch home. He lived on our opposite wall in an apartment with another girl who according to him. Ok, but missing home from school everyday to catch the Jerry Springer show was horrid. It turns out that this duo ran with a group of thieves. That’s right, "normal, page A11"
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Normal’ roommates hard to find

From Page A-10

plain as day, downright, thieves. Yep, for anyone who has been here a while and remembers the big theft ring that occurred at the Fashion Square Mall with the night security guards. I remember the thousands of dollars in stolen merchandise in my apartment. I did have thieves, but I also had people to share the grocery bill with and to split the phone bill with because when I lived there we had to pay for phone. So in the end I had one third of the bills and the priceless experience of living with the dishonest.

After that I moved to Winter Park with three normal people. Four of us to split the grocery bill, the phone bill, the electric bill and the cable bill. That is until my roommate got pregnant and I had to move again. Not before I found out that the spare room where my impregnated roommate used to live was being used to sell various illegal substances. Nice huh? Well, needless to say, I moved away from there and the smitten friends who I no longer talk to. But I spent a lot less money because of splitting the bills with those crazy druggies.

My next adventure in housing was at another fine college establishment, Northgate Lakes. My short stint there afforded me the enjoyment of having my male roommate dress up in my clothing and steal my purses all the time. He especially liked my wrap-around short and plaid skirt. Three months later I was moving onto my next experience. My only advice from this place is to find people you can relate to and that way you will be safe. The separation that went on in the kitchen was comparable to the segregation we read about in history. I had my shelf and they had theirs and nothing touched.

Next I moved in with an older friend, not old just older. I figured maybe the motherly type wouldn’t have any psychotic tendencies. Wrong! She liked to pretend she had a life by stealing mine. Older mother figure needed a hobby I guess so she took up playing “Single White Female” the home version. We worked together and when I got a second job she did the chores. When I bought clothes, make-up or jewelry, so did she. It may not be that weird, maybe we just had a lot in common. If you had gone through it you would understand, it was eerie. The Oscar winner of psychotic stunts happened not too long before I moved. She had been complaining about me making too much noise at night when I came home. Easy solution would have been for her to just close her door before she went to bed. But no, she wanted her door open so she could hear intruders. So one morning she decided to “give me a taste of my own medicine” as she put it, by making all kinds of noise. Rendering a bit, I only made such noises as opening the door to the refrigerator, flushing the toilet, etc. Normal bedtime stuff. She on the other hand decided to talk so one on the phone as loudly as she could in front of my door, turn on the tea kettle and let it whistle, let the dog out and leave me there. I was in bed, slamming all of the doors in the apartment at least three times each and the climax of the immature act, calling 20 times from her cell phone on her way to work and then hinging up. The same thing that went on in this apartment was the amount of money I spent because she and I split the bills. And an older mother figure likes to buy things for her younger roommate, so I made out like a bandit.

From there I bounced around for a bit, once stopping to live in an old run down house next to the lovely downtown Paramore area. For those of you who are not familiar with the area, it is right near TD Waterhouse where the stadium is high of the homeless. There lived some friends from high school and a stripper. Yes, though she had the body of a thirteen year old boy, she danced nightly at a local establishment called Rachel’s. You know the one that was busted for the prostitution ring. She often showed us what her costume was, or lack of, and I was thoroughly disgusted. Old run down houses and strippers do have a perk, they save you money. The electric bill was never high and the stripper always had singles to buy groceries with so it all worked out in the end.

The last place I lived was nothing too exciting. And now I plant myself alone here in the UFC residence halls. It is nice to come home to my own place at night, granted I live on a floor with 40 other girls, but I have a door to shut behind me and that is all that matters, right? No, trips to the grocery store are a lot harder because I have to budget myself now. I have no one to write a note to saying “you owe me…” so I have to be careful. In the end the overall cost of inhabiting a residence is much less when you share it with anyone, even a thief, a stripper, a drug dealer or a psycho. This time I think I might do personality profiles and background checks though.

Voicing your opinion

This and every week, you will be given the opportunity to voice, to us and the rest of the university, your opinions. You can do this by logging on to www.UCFfuture.com and participating in our Online Poli, Letters to the Editor, reader forums and our Talk Back feature located within each story.

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For a new year of success, try ancient science

MARIA FERRARI
DALE'S NORTHEASTERN
(U-WIRE) EVANSTON, Ill.

The fifth day or so of a new year is always significant—at least in my experience—as the time my New Year’s resolutions crawl off in search of a place to die.

Fortunately, I’ve discovered an art that takes the “self” out of “self-improvement.” I offer it to you as the ultimate New Year’s resolution: This year, promise yourself to make use of the word “feng shui” at least once a month.

All the songs that come to mind are bleeped in music, and then we could lump them in with all the hateful usages and flush ‘em all down the same toilet.

We could ban Eminem and Ween from the college a cappella groups. You might choose to ignore them, but they’re there, influencing your life in subtle ways. Because feng shui is universal, getting a book on feng shui is a good chance to go around correcting things you really hate about other people’s rooms. When bad things happen to those who don’t let you repaint their walls, you can nod in a way that suggests you tried to protect them from just this sort of misfortune.

Another good thing about feng shui is that it’s rooted in common sense. For example, it tells some truly awful truths with more lucidity than any would-be president does these days, and pretend that police brutality and intimiation tool in the history of youth culture.

We can blame Marilyn Manson for nothing that makes us feel squeamish orflush ‘em out well, you should rearrange your furniture. It is a great system. As a person who wants to increase my prosperity without having to leave my apartment, I found feng shui easy to incorporate into my Western lifestyle.

One of the best things about feng shui is that you don’t have to believe in it per se. It’s not a religion or philosophy, it’s just the way you’ve set up your dorm room.

Refusing to “believe in” feng shui is like refusing to believe in college a cappella groups. You might choose to ignore them, but they’re there, influencing your life in subtle ways. Because feng shui is universal, getting a book on feng shui is a good chance to go around correcting things you really hate about other people’s rooms. When bad things happen to those who don’t let you repaint their walls, you can nod in a way that suggests you tried to protect them from just this sort of misfortune.

According to the Feng Shui Society, “success in life is dependent upon five influences: (1) fate, (2) lucky or unlucky eras, (3) feng shui, (4) virtue and (5) personal factors.”

Mathematically, this tells us that if you might have dated five people fall quarter but in reality you were able to date zero people, at least one of those relationships failed to happen because you debunked your bed so that your feet point towards the door. This is too great a percentage of your total success to ignore, especially since altering your fate is impossible and altering your virtue or personality is really hard. So why not take an ancient art form for a test drive?

Censorship in music? My, what a wonderful idea!

JIM WALSH
KNIGHT-RIDDER TRIBUNE

Me, I’m all for censorship in music because it would make everything a heckuva lot simpler.

If everyone would just get on the same page, we could ban Eminem and every other rapper or rocker who has ever used the word “nigger” and pretend that homophobia doesn’t exist and that gay-bashing and hate-crimes don’t happen.

And why stop there? We could ban all the songs that use the word “nigger” and “faggot” with affection and not explore their meanings or contexts because that takes too much time and thought, and then we could lump them in with all the hateful usages and flush ‘em all down the same toilet.

We could ban gangsta-rap, which tells some truly awful truths with more lucidity than any would-be president does these days, and pretend that one in four young black men really isn’t in prison.

We can blame Marilyn Manson for Columbine and everything else wrong with kids today, pull his records from the malls and rest easy, knowing that the NRA and Christian Coalition are watching over us.

We can boycott teen-age lust songs and put a cork in teen-age suicide songs, and then teen-agers won’t ever have sex or get sad.

We can dismiss Ani DiFranco as a self-righteous party-pooper because she has suggested we “blow up MTV,” even though hers is an entirely rational reaction to the most influential, mind-destroying tool in the history of youth culture.

We should make sure that the words “cocaine,” “weed” and “pot” are bleeped out on the radio because if we do that, then no one ever will get it in their heads to do drugs.

We should protest Bruce Springsteen’s “American Skin (41 Shots)” and Ice-T’s “Cop Killer” and pretend that police brutality and intimiation toward African-Americans is a figment of black America’s imagination.

We can get Tipper Gore, a woman who has made a name for herself as the First Lady of Censorship, to shut up already about her struggle with clinical depression, which is what so much music is about, and pretend that everything’s always hunky-dory.

As I said, I’m all for censorship. We can jitter in all this stuff, everything that makes us feel squeamish or uneasy or anxious. We can shove it all underground, airbrush it over with a smily-face finish, and then when we look in the mirror, all objects will appear to be more perfect than they actually are.

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Season begins at Jay Bergman Field Feb. 3

FROM PAGE A-24

Collegiate Baseball preseason All-America team, Kurella was named as a third-team shortstop. Last season, Kurella was a second-team All-American at Northwestern University, hitting .345 with four home runs, 36 RBIs and 41 stolen bases. The three-time All-Big Ten selection transferred to UCF for his senior season.

“First off, it’s an honor,” said Kurella. “I wasn’t really expecting it. I try to play as hard as I can to show people that I can play. It’s very nice to be recognized on a team with so many talented players. Coach Bergman can only start nine players on the field at once, but I feel that a lot of the players that won’t be able to start here could start at most Division I schools in the country.”

Despite the talent of which Kurella speaks, he was the only Golden Knight to receive pre-season All-America honors. Three other Trans America Athletic Conference players made the list, including Stetson’s Lenny D’Nardo, and Frank Conn, and Florida Atlantic’s Peter, Benjamin. DiNardo and Benjamin are pitchers, while Conn is an outfielder.

UCF begins the season with the inaugural game at Jay Bergman Field, a Feb. 3 contest with intrastate rival and 31st-ranked Florida International.

Give Speraw time to develop young talent

FROM PAGE A-17

Have there been coaching mistakes? Sure. In the loss to Wartburg, UCF looked completely disorganized and it seemed that the necessary adjustments to fix what was wrong were never made. Joey Graham should almost certainly be playing more, and Speraw should stand up and take the heat for the team’s struggles, instead of deflecting some of the fault to his players. Most coaches, however, make mistakes like these. The good ones are able to pull a team together after bad starts and make successful seasons out of early struggles. A judgment on Speraw should not be made now, but at the end of this season, when all the talent on this year’s Golden Knight squad has reached its potential. UCF men’s basketball has a bright future with the players that Speraw has brought in. If he can’t guide these players to the level that UCF athletics is trying to achieve, only then should people talk about his firing.

Until then, do something constructive and bring a friend to the game. Even if you don’t support the coach, let the players know you are behind them.

UCF trails only Campbell

FROM PAGE A-18

Well behind the three-point line and hit the shot, tying the game at 69-69. Striegler said that was just good basketball from her freshman standpoint.

“Tiffy pretty much did that herself,” said Striegler. “My plan was for (McGriff) to penetrate and try and kick. They didn’t come up and get her and she took the shot. That was a very smart play on her part. If somebody’s not going to come take you, you’re going to have to take the shot especially at the end of the game like that.”

McGriff also made her first career start last week in UCF’s 76-69 win over Florida Atlantic.

News and notes

At 3-0 in conference, UCF trails only Campbell (4-0) in the conference standings. Georgia State is right behind at 3-1...Freshman guard Nicole Denson ranks 11th in the conference with 10.5 points per game, third in three-pointers made and eighth with a .365 shooting percentage from three-point land. Adrienne Billings ranks eighth in the conference with seven rebounds per game, while LaToya Graham ranks fifth with 6.5 assists per contest. Billings also ranks fifth in the conference with a .529 shooting percentage...UCF ranks third in the conference in rebounding and first in scoring defense against conference opponents...The 50-50 TAC start is the best for UCF since 1998, when the Golden Knights started the conference season with four consecutive victories.
Timing is bad for talk of firing coach

COMMENTARY BY DAVID MARSTERS STAFF WRITER

The grumbling about the slow start of the UCF men's basketball team has reached a low roar, questioning everything from the coaching to the uniform color. Many alumni and fans have taken up a campaign to get Head Coach Kirk Speraw fired, filling up answering machines, email boxes and message boards with their complaints.

But is firing the coach really the best solution to the team's current problems? Probably not.

Certainly some of the points made by the afore-

mentioned dissenters have merit. UCF is trying to sell itself into a major athletic conference, and how can it do so with a men's basketball program that is currently ranked in the 200s out of 318 schools? This team has so much talent, why can't it reach its potential? The UCF athletics program should be gaining credibility as quickly as possible, and if Speraw can't bring his team along, then he should be left behind.

All valid arguments, especially the last one.

The timing, however, is not right for pulling the plug on UCF's coach. A good comparison to draw here is to the fate of soon to be ex-Boston Celtics Head Coach Rick Pitino. Pitino has spent four years in Boston making all the wrong moves, bringing in all the wrong personnel and never producing a winning or playoff season. For him to step down midseason, as he is expected to do at the time of this writing, is inappropriate. The figurative "ship" in Boston has been sinking for a long time now.

But the "ship" is not sinking at UCF. Speraw has brought in the right people. Convincing players like Kevin Lee, Joey Graham and Al Miller to come to UCF could not have been easy. Do you think it's a simple task to convince a big time recruit to come to a school that plays in what looks like a high school gym in front of a crowd that is smaller than the ones they saw in high school? Not quite. And while Pitino has never had so much as a sniff of the postseason, Speraw has guided the Golden Knights to appearances in the TAAC Championship Game in each of the past two seasons, just one step away from the NCAA Tournament. In both finals, UCF has lost to a Samford team that, quite frankly, could have been very competitive in most of the major conferences. Last season, an injury-ravaged UCF team made its run to the conference finals with barely enough players to field a team. That was a good coaching job.

Firing a coach midseason occurs when a team is not competitive in most of the major conferences. Last year's team has never shown up every night. But inconsistency is to be expected from this squad.

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Women's Basketball Notebook

Billings named TAAC Player of the Week

DAVID MARSTERS
STAFF WRITER

UCF freshman forward Adrienne Billings was named TAAC Player of the Week for the final week of the year 2000. Billings earned the honor following a career-high 30-point performance in the Golden Knights' 87-84 victory against Appalachian State in the UCF Holiday Classic on Dec. 23. She also had nine rebounds, one block and two steals. The following night, in a 71-69 loss to Middle Tennessee State, she had seven points and seven rebounds.

Billings is second in UCF scoring with 9.9 points-per-game and leads the team with seven rebounds per game.

McGriff made her first career start last week in UCF's win over Florida Atlantic.

Larry, Ballance leave team
Freshman guard Ashlee Ballance and senior guard/forward LaDonna Larry have both left the UCF team. Ballance saw limited action early in the season, but was hampered by a recurring abdominal injury that made it difficult for her to play. 

"Ashlee has decided she is not going to play anymore because of her preexisting medical condition," said UCF Head Coach Gail Striegler. Larry graduated after the fall semester and decided not to continue with her basketball eligibility.

Larry graduated after the fall semester and decided not to continue with her basketball eligibility.

McGriff made her first career start last week in UCF's win over Florida Atlantic.

LaDonna has quit the team," said Striegler. "She graduated at Christmas and decided that it wasn't worth the time she was putting in, so she will no longer be with the team."

Ballance had been expected to carry much of the load at the point guard position this season, while Larry was one of the team's best defensive players.

McGriff progressing rapidly
Freshman point guard Molly McGriff, after seeing limited playing time early in the season, has become an integral part of the UCF rotation. In the Golden Knights' 71-69 loss to Middle Tennessee State on Dec. 22, McGriff played a career-high 29 minutes and dished out a career-high four assists.

"I'm very happy with the progress (from McGriff)," said Striegler. "She's getting better and better. Her and Yvette (Ash) are doing a good job of (flip-flopping) at point guard. Yvette comes in and gives us a little more defense, and Molly comes in and gives a little bit more offensively. Both of them are doing a better job of handling the ball."

Along with her passing skills, McGriff hit a key shot with under a minute to play in the game against MTSU. UCF trailed 69-66 when she pulled up from behind the three-point line and sank a three-pointer to put the Knights up 72-69 and force overtime. The Knights won 74-69.

LaDonna has quit the team," said Striegler. "She graduated at Christmas and decided that it wasn't worth the time she was putting in, so she will no longer be with the team."

Along with winning their games at home, Striegler wants them to steal a few away games. So far they have done as she's said, by winning their only home conference game and by beating Samford and Jacksonville State on the road. The rest of UCF's schedule is comprised of TAAC teams, so each game is critical to the outcome of the season. The game against Troy State is on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the UCF Arena.

UCF remains unbeaten in conference this year

FROM PAGE A-20

This win was made even more impressive because UCF did it without senior forward LaToya Graham, a preseason All-Conference team selection, who was out because of her preexisting medical condition.

"The other day in practice she went from the high post and was going into the basket and one of our kids took a charge on her and she went to catch herself and popped her shoulder out of place a little bit," said Striegler. "She should be playable next week."

Billings, Paige and Kristy Colligan filled in for the injured Graham at the post and Striegler was pleased with their performances.

This week the Golden Knights host Troy State on Thursday and Mercer on Saturday, both of which are Trans America Athletic Conference opponents. UCF is now 3-0 in the TAAC and will look to continue that winning streak.

"I think almost everybody in the conference this year is very evenly matched," said Striegler. "I would say Georgia State, Campbell, and probably Stetson, since Stetson knocked off Georgia State today, probably have a little bit of an advantage on the rest of us. The key that I told our kids was we have got to win all of our home games."

Along with winning their games at home, Striegler wants them to steal a few away games. So far they have done as she's said, by winning their only home conference game and by beating Samford and Jacksonville State on the road.

The rest of UCF's schedule is comprised of TAAC teams, so each game is critical to the outcome of the season. The game against Troy State is on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the UCF Arena.
David Marsters - Staff Writer

With National Signing Day just around the corner in February, the "second season" of college football recruiting is heating up. Here is a summary of the early commitments that UCF has received so far.

James Cody - Cody is a 6-foot-2, 215-pound safety out of Butler County Community College in El Dorado, Kansas. He will have two years of eligibility as a Golden Knight.

Jeff Harper - Harper is a 6-foot-10, 315-pound offensive lineman out of Palm Bay High School in Palm Bay, Florida. He is projected to play offensive tackle at UCF because of his pass protection abilities.

Mark Morris - Morris is a 6-foot-4, 225-pound tight end out of Lake Region High School in Eagle Lake, Florida. Caught 11 passes for 219 yards and five touchdowns as a senior, and was also contacted by Georgia, Georgia Tech and Florida. Said his decision came down to UCF and Florida. Runs a 4.7 40-yard dash and possesses a 31-inch vertical leap.

Omar LaRoucer - LaRoucer is a 6-foot, 175-pound corner back out of Largo High School in Largo, Florida. Runs a 4.6 40-yard dash. Plays a number of positions for his high school team, including wide receiver, punt returner and kickoff returner.

Cody - Cody is a 6-foot, 225-pound outside linebacker out of Astronaut High School in Cape Canaveral, Florida. Runs a 4.6 40-yard dash and bench presses 275 pounds. Also pursued by Miami and FSU. Can return punts and kicks.

Terrance Bell - Bell is a 6-foot-1, 190-pound cornerback out of Dodge City Community College in Dodge City, Kansas. Was a JUCO All-American and led nation in interceptions at Middle Georgia in 1999. Also had offers from Mississippi State, Nebraska, Iowa, Oklahoma State and Kent. Runs a 4.4 40-yard dash. Will have two years of eligibility remaining.

Keith Williams - Williams is a 5-foot-10, 190-pound running back out of Billings High School in Tampa, Florida. Rushed for 1,500 yards and 22 touchdowns last season, named All-Conference and All-Sun Coast honors. Runs a 4.42 40-yard dash and bench presses 275 pounds. Also pursued by Miami and FSU.

Doug Gabriel - Gabriel is a 6-foot-3, 210-pound wide receiver and kick returner from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in Perkinston, Mississippi. Chose UCF over Florida State because FSU wanted him to play defensive back instead of receiver. Had 1,206 all-purpose yards and scored 17 touchdowns last season. Played in high school at Orlando's Dr. Phillips. Originally signed with Miami after high school, but failed to meet admission requirements. Runs a 4.23 40-yard dash. Will be able to join team for spring practices.

Lamont Stringfield - Stringfield is a 5-foot-11, 225-pound linebacker out of Jackson High School in Miami, Florida. Could also play strong safety at UCF. Runs a 4.5 40-yard dash and possesses a 33-inch vertical leap. Also received interest from Syracuse, Iowa State and Louisville. Stringfield's high school coach says he bench presses almost 400 pounds.

Craig Waters - Waters is a 6-foot-5, 210-pound linebacker out of Astronaut High School in Titusville, Florida. Likely redshirt and play defensive end at UCF. Also received interest from Clemson and Marshall.

Log on to www.UCFuture.com and click 'Letter Submissions' to send your thoughts and opinions to the Sports Editor or send email to sports@ucffuture.com.
Women’s basketball defeats Florida Atlantic, 76-69

Kristy Shonka
STAFF WRITER

The UCF women’s basketball team had five players score in double figures in a 76-69 win over Florida Atlantic on Saturday. Adrienne Billings, Khaliah Guillory, and Marvelous Washington each had 12 points, while Erin Paige and Nicole Dunson added 10 points apiece in a game in which the Golden Knights got points from eight of the 10 players who stepped onto the court.

FAU scored first on a lay-up, but Billings quickly tied things up with a lay-up of her own on UCF’s first possession.

UCF’s Lanetra Cooks began the first half scoring first on a three-pointer and for the next 13 minutes UCF’s lead ranged from 14 to seven points, but with 6:32 left in the game a Florida Atlantic three-pointer cut the lead to five. FAU managed to take the lead momentarily, but a Diana Hill three-pointer with 2:58 to play put the Golden Knights ahead 68-67, a lead that they would not relinquish.

UCF Head Coach Gail Striegler was proud of the way her team came together at the end to ensure the victory.

“The difference in this year’s team and last year’s team, if we would have given up the lead that we gave up this time, last year we would have folded and let the team have it,” she said. “Those kids showed heart, they fought back in it, and hit the shots they had to hit. They’re going to learn from that experience. They’re going to learn to slow down when they’re ahead, and take care of the basketball instead of going down and letting the other team dictate the pace.”

UCF REMAINS, Page A-18

Early season ankle injury slowed Guillory

From Page A-24

While Guillory may not agree that she’s back at full speed yet, her improved play shows she’s close. When she gets back to what she calls 100 percent, the Golden Knights are going to have another powerful presence in the paint to add to Graham and Billings, making better a team that is already 3-0 in AAC play. Guillory said that the success of this year’s team over last year’s team has come from team chemistry.

“We know what each of us can do or can’t do,” she said. “For instance I shoot the shot from the high post and Toya likes to drive. It’s just knowing your players and putting it all together on the court, coming together as one, as a team.”

Teamwork is a key component to any team’s success and it seems as though this team has it. And the Golden Knights will need to play well together if they plan on living up to Guillory’s forecast for the season, a prediction that Striegler enjoyed hearing.

“We’re going for the gold,” said Guillory. “We’re going for the (conference) championship.”

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From PAGE A-24

Men’s basketball has won three of four

From the Sports Desk

Cromwell drafted by the WUSA

The Washington Freedom, one of the eight new teams in the new WUSA women’s professional soccer league, drafted UCF women’s soccer coach Amanda Cromwell.

Cromwell, 30, was drafted in the sixth round, the 42nd pick overall. She was a two-time All-American at the University of Virginia before moving on to play for the U.S. National Team from 1991-1998. During that time, Cromwell helped the U.S. win the Gold Medal at the 1996 Olympics.

As a midfielder in college, Cromwell led the Cavaliers to the Final Four in 1991 and was a Soccer America MVP twice – in 1990 and 1991. She also was a finalist for the coveted Hermann Trophy in 1991. Upon entering college, Cromwell earned Soccerc America’s Freshman-of-the-Year award and went on to make the All-ACC team for four consecutive years.

Cromwell joins current U.S. National Team players Mia Hamm, Sarah Huffman, Michelle French on the Freedom. The WUSA will begin play in April.

Women’s Tennis ranked pre-season no. 50

The UCF women’s tennis team was voted 50th in the pre-season edition of the WInsignsBank.com Collegiate Tennis Rankings for the 2000-2001 season as announced by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA).

In the individual rankings, senior Sonja Prokopenko claimed the 74th spot. Prokopenko recently won the Yellow Jacket Invitational (Flight B) in Atlanta, Ga., posting a 5-1 record in the tournament, which was hosted by Georgia Tech.

Campbell wins first career playoff start

Former UCF quarterback Daunte Culpepper moved one step closer to the bowl game he never played in as a Golden Knight, but this time it’s the Super Bowl. Last Saturday, Culpepper completed 17 of 31 passes for 302 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Minnesota Vikings to a 34-16 victory over the New Orleans Saints, advancing the Vikings to this week’s NFC Championship Game.

“Being a quarterback on this offense, all I have to do is be calm and know what we’re trying to do, and get the ball in the right guys’ hands,” said Culpepper, who played in the game despite suffering from a sprained ankle.

Culpepper threw two of his touchdown passes to Randy Moss and the other to future Hall-of-Famer Cris Carter. His 120.7 quarterback rating was the highest ever by a Vikings quarterback in a playoff game.

“This was unbelievable for him to do what he was able to do on a sprained ankle,” said Carter.

In his first season as a starter, Culpepper has silenced his many critics, throwing for over 3,900 yards and 33 touchdowns, tied with Peyton Manning for the league lead.

Rage acquire former UCF lineman

The Orlando Rage of the XFL acquired former UCF offensive lineman Marcus Jenkins last week with one of their 14 “territorial draft picks.” Jenkins, who came to UCF as an offensive tackle, started every game at right guard since early in his sophomore season as a Golden Knight. The Rage will open their season on Feb. 3 against the Chicago Enforcers.
UCF basketball swings into spring

PHOTO BY JASON KOKMANN
Sophomore guard Marvelous Washington attempts a foul shot.

PHOTO BY JASON KOKMANN
Left: UCF assistant coach Craig Brown works in the post against sophomore forward Swan.

Below: UCF's most vocal fans.

PHOTO BY JASON KOKMANN
Above: Kristy Colligan in practice.

Left: UCF women's basketball gathers for a pregame huddle.

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UCF wins first TAAC game in three tries

DAVID MARSTERS

Freshman guard Kevin Lee continued to have a hot hand for UCF, scoring 17 points to lead the Golden Knights to a 72-58 win over TAAC opponent Jacksonville State on Saturday.

After seeing limited playing time early in the season, Lee averaged 12.4 points during the past five games, including an 18-point performance in UCF’s previous game, a 79-64 loss at Troy State.

“(Lee’s) confidence is starting to rise,” said UCF Coach Kirk Speraw. “He’s shooting the ball well, and he’s starting to understand a little bit better what we want offensively. We need him out there, and we need him to play well. I think he’s going to continue to get better.”

UCF (5-4, 1-2 TAAC) had four players score in double figures, including junior forward Jason Thornton with 14 points and forwards Paul Reed and Mario Lovett with 13 points apiece. Reed also had a game-high 10 rebounds.

Thornton broke out of a recent shooting slump, making four of five three-point attempts, including two long distance shots in the game’s final two minutes to cushion UCF’s lead.

UCF had been shooting only 32 percent from three-point range this year after leading the nation in three-point percentage last season.

“That’s very important for Jason to knock down some open looks,” said Speraw. “It stretches the defense, and they have to worry about him all the time. It was good for him to follow up the Troy State game (in a 120-79 loss) with a two-point lead.”

UCF’s scoring 17 points.

Junior forward Paul Reed leads UCF in both points and rebounds this season. Reed has registered four double-doubles.

UCF baseball receives Top-20 preseason ranking

DAVID MARSTERS

It certainly seems to be shaping up as a banner year for the UCF baseball team.

To go along with the completion of the long-awaited Jay Bergman Field, the Golden Knights received more good news with the announcement of the Baseball America and Collegiate Baseball preseason polls. UCF starts the season ranked 17th by Baseball America and 19th by Collegiate Baseball, the highest preseason rankings ever for a Golden Knight team.

“It’s a great Christmas present,” said UCF Head Coach Jay Bergman. “But, it’s like anything else, it doesn’t really mean anything except respect for the program.”

Five of UCF’s opponents are ranked in the Collegiate Baseball poll, including No. 7 Rice (Feb. 18), No. 20 Stetson (May 5-6), No. 24 Alabama (Feb 23-25), No. 28 Wake Forest (Feb. 16) and No. 31 Florida International (May 10-11). UCF starts the season ranked 17th by Baseball America and 19th by Collegiate Baseball, the highest preseason rankings ever for a Golden Knight team.

“It’s a great time to be in baseball’s limelight,” said Bergman. “We’re going for the gold. We’re going for the championship.”

We’re going for the gold. We’re going for the championship.

Kristy Shonka
UCF junior forward Khaliah Guillory is healthy again and predicting big things

UCF junior forward Khaliah Guillory’s performance in the Golden Knights’ first regular season game began on Nov. 17, however, when Guillory stepped on a Wofford College player’s ankle and sprained her own ankle and sprained her own ankle.

Junior forward Khaliah Guillory hopes to lead UCF to a conference championship now that she has returned from an ankle injury.

Great expectations

UCF’s Khaliah Guillory is healthy again and predicting big things

Kristy Shonka

UCF junior forward Khaliah Guillory is healthy again and predicting big things.

UCF junior forward Khaliah Guillory’s performance in the Golden Knights’ first regular season game began on Nov. 17, however, when Guillory stepped on a Wofford College player’s ankle and sprained her own ankle. She was out for the remaining 39 minutes and 57 seconds of that game, did not play in the team’s second outing against North Texas, and has spent the last

Early, Page A-20

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Before I even ventured off to go see Steven Soderbergh's 'Traffic,' I questioned myself on what I generally knew about the world of illegal drug distribution. And aside from the occasional talk show interviewing me that there has been a major interception along the Florida Straits and the repeated viewings of Brian DePalma's remake of Scarface, my knowledge of the subject added up to about nil. Rightfully so, I concluded, since I don't spend my free time in an underground lab harvesting rows of magical crops and sifting enough white powder to make small bricks. But excluding Barry McCaffrey and the other countless political pundits who spout rhetoric to an impatient public, who really does? Everyone with an opinion can safely conclude that the so-called war on drugs has always been an abysmal failure, that argument has never been hard to win over; but for a battle waged against a societal ill, why aren't the specifics lodged in our collective memory banks? For being such an epidemic, we sure look upon it as if it's nothing, not concluding that this film is the doorway to a battle waged against a societal structure or way, confidence is shattered, promises are not kept, innocence is lost and lives are taken.

In the center is Ohio State Supreme Court Justice Robert Wakefield (Michael Douglas), a conservative by nature he is appointed the new drug czar as the film opens. In a sad ironic turn, Wakefield's own teenage daughter abuses drugs and quickly becomes a full-blown junkie. She is not what comes to mind when describing the profile of the typical freebase user: young, afraid, from a staunch upper class mid-western family, private school student. Soderbergh and company are not afraid to explore that side nor do they ignore the polarity to where some of the drugs may come from. Outside Mexico City, Javier Rodriguez (Benecio Del Toro) is trying to do his job despite the heavy concentration of drug flow between his country and ours. Fully aware of the growing futility of his duties, Rodriguez also has to deal with the ever-present corruption of Mexican law enforcement. Across the border, Helena Alaya (Catherine Zeta-Jones) hasn't the faintest idea that her husband (Steven Bauer) is one of the leading drug kingpins in the Southwest, that is until her house is raided by the astute gentlemen of DEA and 'father knows best' is being tried for drug trafficking and money laundering. While awaiting the outcome of the trial, Helena is watched by two federal agents (Don Cheadle and Soderbergh regular Luis Guzman) to see if she plays a role in her husband's business. With this display of such marvelous talent, it just goes to show how Soderbergh, as a director, knows exactly how to use human emotion in telling a story. From a script with 100 speaking roles, it can only be.fathomed as something impalpable and still hold us as a cohesive story. He knows how to make people respond, period. His abilities as a filmmaker seem to be boundless.

By taking a panoramic approach of this trade we see the personal conflicts, the societal differences and the economics of it all. In some ways it has moments of a political picture, but at no time do the filmmakers make a stand on what is right and what is wrong. There are scenes that make the most impact due to fact that they are smaller in scale compared to others throughout the film; a confrontation in a bathroom, a conversation between two people across bulletproof glass, and a jump into an AA meeting may say that the first thing we should all do is just listen. Saving ourselves sounds a lot easier than saving the world. While not wanting to supply us with an answer, Traffic still communicates a comprehensible message without ever preaching; the film is cogent, but like the rest of us it isn't sure of what should be done.

Welcome Back!

In this section:
- Grammy: Keepin' up with the times
- The Year In Weird: News of the Weird
- A double-dose of brand new Sexpert
- Lots of gossip from celebrity snoops
- Crossword, Hottie and Felix are back
If there were any doubts about what music dominates America’s listening habits, they were trampled Wednesday with the announcement of the 43rd annual Grammy Awards nominations.

For more than a decade, hip-hop and R&B artists have been providing the soundtrack for inner-city parties, suburban shopping malls and top-40 radio stations. But the Grammys -- the province of one of the industry’s most respected institutions, the 16,000-member National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences -- have been slow to recognize that shift in popular taste.

Two years ago, rap-singer Lauryn Hill broke through with five Grammys, and the first victory ever for a hip-hop recording in the prestigious album of the year category. But with her socially conscious lyrics and melodic songs, Hill fit the classy, upscale image that the academy tries to cultivate.

This year, however, the usually conservative academy pushed its own envelope for acceptability by nominating gangsta-rap producer Dr. Dre for five awards and his nasty-as-a-pitbull protege Eminem for four. Never has the academy nominated a more divisive recording for album of the year than Eminem’s The Marshall Mathers LP, containing songs of dread, violence and paranoia riddled with explicit lyrics, misogynist sentiments and homophobic epithets. It also contains stunningly poignant songs such as "Stan," about an obsessive fan, that carried it to an audience far bigger than the typical hard-core rap listenership.

Besides Dre and Eminem, the other key nominees were Beyonce Knowles, of R&B group Destiny’s Child, with five nominations, including song and record of the year for "Say My Name," and gritty-voiced chanteuse Macy Gray, who lost the best new artist Grammy last year to Christina Aguilera, with three (including song and record of the year for "I Try").

Other three-time nominees included soul crooners D’Angelo, Joe, Jill Scott, Sisqo and Brian McKnight. The awards will be distributed Feb. 21 and televised on CBS.

Rap wasn’t even recognized by the recording academy until 1988, even though the music had been a best-selling force for at least a decade. At that time, Dr. Dre was an underground producer in South Central Los Angeles and the architect of what would become known as gangsta rap with the group N.W.A.

The commercial success of N.W.A. and other Dre projects, such as his solo album The Chronic and rapper Snoop Dogg’s debut, established Dre as the most influential producer of the last decade. He has had his most spectacular success with his latest discovery, the Detroit rapper Eminem, who has been both celebrated for his tart-tongued delivery and reviled for his
In contrast, the Grammys bestowed a nomination on Chicago native Common for best rap solo performance for "The Light," honoring a strain of hip-hop that strives for a level of social consciousness diametrically opposed to the Dre-Eminem school of thug-rap. Common's latest album, *Like Water for Chocolate*, has sold nearly a million copies, a major success after three albums that were widely acclaimed but made little commercial impact.

"I offer something new," Common said during a news conference Wednesday at the Chicago branch of the recording academy. "I got frustrated for a while when I wasn't getting recognition. I wasn't trying to counteract what Dre or Eminem do, but I wanted to stay on my own path. And now with (socially conscious R&B performers) Erykah Badu, the Roots, D'Angelo and me having success, we're all bringing the truth to light."

Common joined a batch of Chicago artists receiving their first recognition from the recording academy in long, distinguished careers. "I'm completely shocked," said Mars Williams, a mainstay of the city's underground music community and the founder of acid-jazz dance group Liquid Soul, nominated for best contemporary jazz album with *Here's the Deal*. "I never thought they'd find a category for us," he said.

Also in jazz, the oft-nominated Chicago singer Kurt Elling was cited again, for *Live in Chicago* in the best jazz vocal album category.

Maurice Joshua, a 20-year veteran of house music, was nominated for remixer of the year, including his work on Destiny's Child singles "Independent Women," "Jumpin' Jumpin'", and "Say My Name."

"I'm reaching an audience I never had before because my remixes are being over to pop radio," he said.

Nominated for the second time was Wilco, whose collaboration with Billy Bragg on *Mermaid Avenue* Vol. If, was named for best contemporary folk album. "It's like being in People magazine," said singer Jeff Tweedy. "It validates my career for my parents."

Blues matriarch Koko Taylor took her seventh nomination, for best contemporary blues album for *Royal Blue*, in stride. "I'm just as excited today as I was the first time," she said. She was joined by Billy Branch, nominated for the "Superharps" album in best traditional blues, in representing the city's venerable blues scene. Three-time winner R. Kelly was nominated for best R&B vocal performance for "I Wish."

Two-time winners of the Smashing Pumpkins, who closed their 13-year career with two of their strongest albums, including one available only on the Internet, received one nomination, for best recording package.

Chicagoan Eddie Blazonczyk picked up his 13th nomination, and the one-time Grammy winner was accompanied in the best polka album category by Chicago-native, but Massachusetts resident, Lenny Gomulka who, along with his band Chicago Push was nominated for their cheekily named 2000 album *Mi Lenny Um."

Faring poorly on the classical front were the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and its principal guest conductor, Pierre Boulez, a seemingly invincible Grammy duo for much of the 1990s. The CSO turned up in only one category, that of best compilation soundtrack album, for its disc of music for the Walt Disney film *Fantasia 2000*, with James Levine conducting.

The CSO's splendid archival set, *The Chicago Symphony Orchestra in the 20th Century*, was inexplicably snubbed in the best historical album category. Boulez was shut out in every category in which his recordings were eligible. On the other hand, CSO music director Daniel Barenboim's Teldec set of the nine Beethoven symphonies with the Berlin Staatskapelle headed the list of nominees for best orchestral performance.
LEAD STORIES

-- The debut CD from the Thai Elephant Orchestra (Lampang, Thailand) was scheduled for December release, featuring six pachyderm prodigies playing crude versions of traditional instruments (drum, gong, bass, xylophone) and recorded intact, without overdubbing, to create music that (in the words of the band’s leader, the writer-star striker) "strikes a chord with Western listeners as haunting, others as monstrous." The CD’s American producers, pointing to much academic research on elephants’ natural musical abilities, said they plan a second album (‘‘easy-listening,’ engineers said, to make it more accessible to a wider audience).

-- In November, federal drug officials busted what one agent called “the world’s largest LSD lab,” run from an abandoned missile site near Wanziego, Kan. Indicted were two Vietnamese ex-military high-level military commanders and the alleged principals: William L. Pickard Jr., 55, deputy director of a University of California Drug Policy Analysis program (and an expert on the illegal drug trade in Russia and a vegetarian, nonsmoking, marathon runner with a master’s degree in public policy from Harvard) and Clyde Apperson, a San Ramon computer consultant. Pickard obtained personal bail recommendations from the San Francisco district attorney and from a British lord.

Names in the News

-- The leader of the organized crime family that allegedly controls prostitution in part of southern California (nine of whose members were arrested in October in Los Angeles) Mr. Hung T. Dong, Two University of Nebraska dentistry professors profiled in an October Lincoln Journal Star report: Drs. Jeffrey Payne and Randy Toothaker. Arrested in September for threatening an insufficiently proficient judge in Kenner, La. Allah M. God Allah. The soldiers, that he saw 32 patients subsequent to the index finger. Speaking requires holding the wearer engages the phone by touching the thumb to the mouth, and listening which is done by the user’s sticking his finger in his ear.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

-- Federal investigators in November charged Lake Forest, Ill., physician Krishnaswami Sriram with Medicare fraud, based on records indicating that at least twice Sriram worked 70-hour days and once saw 187 patients in a single day, 131 of them in house calls. Records also showed, according to prosecutors, that he saw 22 patients subsequent to their dates of death and 49 patients one day in January 1999 while the city was virtually closed by a blizzard.

-- Engineer Masashi Fujimoto, 36, of the Japanese firm NTT DoCoMo, announced in October that he had developed a prototype of a wireless telephone worn as a wristband and functioning via a device that converts audio signals into vibrations. Incoming calls cause the wrist to vibrate, and the wearer engages the phone by touching the thumb to the index finger. Speaking requires holding the wristband close to the mouth, and listening involves transferring the audio signal to the earphone, which is done by the user’s sticking his finger in his ear.

-- A $3,500.00 lawsuit against his former attorney Martin Emmrich, whom Harmon says was supposed to bring a judge with $10,000 of Harmon’s money to give a favorable sentence. Harmon, however, wound up with a sentence almost double what he expected and now complains that he didn’t get his money’s worth from the whore.

It’s Not Over ’Til It’s Over

-- In December, a man in Kazakhstan turned up alive at his own funeral after surviving a makeshift burial by friends in a shallow grave after he appeared to be electrocuted on power lines. And in October, Ron Holmes, 48, missing and declared dead in 1986, was shot by his ex-wife in Youngstown, Ohio, when he dropped in on her after a 20-year absence to claim half of her furniture.

Recurring Themes

-- News of the Weird has kept track over the years of the perils faced by insufficiently dowried wives in India and Bangladesh, noting burgeoning murder rates in 1994 and 2000, and noting in 1999 the preference for sulfamic acid attacks as the way Bangladesh husbands (and their mothers) deal with such wives. A December 2000 New York Times dispatch from Bangalore, India, reported that the new weapon of choice in mother-in-law attacks on wives is kerosene and that hospital burn wards are filled with “thousands” of grotesquely disfigured wives whose primary aim was to bring too poultry a net worth to the marriage or to underperform household chores.

Least Competent Criminals

-- In October, Dor Blehy reported a burglary of her home in Chadwell Heath, Essex, England, in which thieves had helped themselves to what they thought was her stash of cocaine (“Charlie” in local slang), leaving behind the distinctive residue of cocaine “lines” on a table after lifting several electronic appliances and jewelry worth about $3,500. However, as Blehy told police and reporters, gleeful, fully, the container of powder on her mantle (“Newfoundland Charlie”) was not a coke stash but was in an urn containing the ashes of her line dog, whose name the label bore.

Also, in the Last Month...

-- A 26-year-old soldier, going AWOL to have sex with a 15-year-old girl he had met on the Internet, lived in the girl’s bedroom for nearly a month before her parents found out (Mount Vernon, Ohio). Among the for-credit curricula now in Oberlin College’s Experimental College is a course on the title and Inns of Drew Barrymore. A baby was born “dead” in the snowy drizzle of an auto collision, healthy except for a skinned knee, rescued by a paramedic who found it attached by its umbilical cord after the pregnant mother’s abdomen was finally sliced in half by the jagged windshield (Louisville, Ky., Spain), which finished third overall in September’s Paralympic Games in Sydney, returned some medals after an investigation revealed that 14 of its 200 participating athletes were not at all disabled. [Louisville Courier-Journal, 12-16-00] (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 12-3-00)

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"Experimental" is used to describe modern rock music so often that the word itself has almost become obsolete. What is experimental these days? Something futuristic, something electronic, something edgy, something that changes the way we look at a genre of music. Is it Thom Yorke crowing over a blaring orchestra on Radiohead's Kid A? Is it Beck breaking it down Motown-style on "Midnite Vultures"? How about Eminem's bold new style of rap?

Independent rock band Hopewell has been branded with the "experimental" name, but instead of breaking new barriers of sound, they stick to the more mellow side of the genre, favoring spacey layers of noise, pretty guitar work and choruses that grow until they explode, a la the Flaming Lips.

Hopewell loves a dramatic build of sound. "Safe as Milk" starts off slowly until it builds into raw layers of guitar and wailing vocals. It's powerful, but still incredibly lovely. The opening track, "The Angel is My Watermark," sends sweeping tides of guitars crashing into each other over an anthem-like chorus of vocals. Electronic beeps and blips and static fuzz dot tracks throughout the album giving it less of an organic sound.

Halfway through The Curved Glass, Hopewell changes its mind and trades their loud guitars for a softer, more acoustic sound. "Christmas Now" features additional vocals from the band's only female member, Dalia Garib. Garib's strong, bluesy voice is a welcome change of pace that seems to come out of nowhere. It's a lovely and sad song that proves the band can vary their sound well.

"Lazy Day" rounds out the rest of the album with its slowed-down atmospheric pace. The band mixes lackadaisical guitars and drums with delicate synthesizers. It blends seamlessly into the next song, "Watermark," so much that it seems like an endless track. But it's a song that rolls pleasantly along-you're not quite sure when it's going to end, but you're happy to go along for the ride.

The Curved Glass does not push the experimental envelope, but it's a quality album from an up-and-coming band who hopefully have a lot more music in them.
3 Jocks In The Chips In Bahamas

Michael Jordan, Tiger Woods and Alex Rodriguez hooked up to play on the green grass - and green felt - over the holidays. The sports superstars indulged in their love of golf and blackjack at the Atlantis Resort on Paradise Island in the Bahamas.

New Year's Eve found the high-rolling trio smoking Cuban cigars at the casino table, with Jordan betting $5,000 a card, according to spies. They can all afford the stakes - especially A-Rod, on his first vacation since signing his $252 million contract with the Texas Rangers.

Woods may be setting out to become the Dennis Rodman of golf. The self-proclaimed "Cablinasian" - Caucasian, black, American Indian and Asian - has bleached his hair blond. Conspicuously missing was his girlfriend Joanna Jagoda, fueling rumors that they've parted, though some say the law student is buried in her books. Whatever her whereabouts, Woods was in great spirits - scuba-diving, hitting the New Year's party on movie producer Ted Field's yacht and giving an impromptu golf clinic to about 50 fans one day.

The fairway prince, who celebrated his 26th birthday on Saturday, also joined Rodriguez, sportscaster Ahmad Rashad and Jordan for a few rounds at the Tom Weiskopf-designed course at the Ocean Club, where Jordan will have his Celebrity Invitational tourney Jan. 11 to 14.

Also ringing in 2001 at the resort were boxer Oscar De La Hoya, L.A. Dodger Gary Sheffield and New York Yankee Paul O'Neill, actresses Angie Everhart and Lela Rochon, CBS-TV President Les Moonves, private eye Bo Dietl, "View"-mistress Star Jones, and World Club impresario Joey Morrissey.

Elsewhere in the celebrity holiday atlas...

In Mustique, Mick Jagger chilled with daughter Jade and his grandchildren - but without ex-wife Jerry Hall or any apparent girlfriend. Jagger and designer Tommy Hilfiger had New Year's Eve dinner with Hilfiger's partner, Lawrence Stroll, who bought the Great House estate once owned by Mustique founder Lord Glenconner and Christina Onassis' ex-husband Sergei Kassov. (Word is Stroll paid over $20 million for the spread.)

Afterward, everybody headed to Basil Charles' Beach Bar...

In Jamaica, Cindy Crawford and hubby Rande Gerber and their family took over Goldeneye, the former estate of 007 novelist Ian Fleming. Magic Johnson and wife Cookie were at Couples in Negril. Patsy Kensit, spurned wife of Oasis member Liam Gallagher, checked into one of Chris Blackwell's resorts just after Meg Matthews, spurned wife of Oasis member Noel Gallagher, had checked out...

In St. Barts, Puffy Combs and Jennifer Lopez cruised on their yacht. J Records mogul Clive Davis threw a lunch at his St. L-Series leases start at $249.00 a month, 39 months, zero down + tax, license, fees due at signing. L-Series financing as low as 1.9% APR, for 36 months with approved credit.

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A DIFFERENT KIND OF COMPANY. A DIFFERENT KIND OF CAR.
Barr's villa attended by Russell Simmons, Electra head Rhone and restaurateur Phil Suarez...

In Aspen, Jack Nicholson and Lara Flynn Boyle cuddled at the Jerome Hotel's J-bar. Bill Smith and Jada Pinkett staged a tented party outside the St. Regis. HITTING Harley Baldwin's Caribou Club were Samuel L. Jackson, Meryl Streep, Meg Ryan, Mel Gibson and Diana Ross...

In Miami, heavy-lidded Oliver Stone held court at the 320 Club with a quartet of busty companions. Mark Wahlberg, Simply Red's Mick Hucknall and David Caruso also did the town.

Jerry & Paul Do a Walk-On

In New York, Jerry Seinfeld and Paul Reiser kept their New Year's Day tradition of walking across the Brooklyn Bridge - no matter the cold. The funnymen usually have lunch at the River Cafe. This year, they switched to the Second Avenue Deli.

Seinfeld and his wife, Jessica, dropped into Carolines Comedy Club on Saturday. Even emcees Colin Quinn and WKTU deejay Goumba Johnny seemed blindsided by the two 30-minute sets Jerry did. The new dad tried out material about parenthood.

Curious About George?

Advice for George Clooney's new woman, model Lisa Snowden: Don't get too close to the flame. "Just enjoy the love affair while it lasts - and guard your heart," advises one of Clooney's ex-girlfriends, Kimberly Russell. "Eventually, a woman finds that George simply ain't the marrying type."

Russell, who dated Clooney in the mid-'90s, says she hoped he'd eventually come around. "I was just devastated. I thought after more than three happy years together, his attitude might have changed."

Nevertheless, she says, "God, I defy any normal, red-blooded woman to resist those chocolate-brown eyes. You melt into them," she says. But, she warns, "don't mention the words 'marriage,' 'commitment' or 'babies.'"

That aside, there will be some great times under the covers. "He is a strong and passionate lover," Russell raves. "He's possibly the last person on Earth who needs Viagra." She tells London's Daily Mirror: "Whoever taught him the art of lovemaking, taught him well."

Some New Watering Holes

Reps for Kim Basinger and Alec Baldwin were mum yesterday about reports that the two are having trouble. Whatever the future holds, they'll always be united in a pair of water features.

The Performing Animal Welfare Society is using the couple's $250,000 donation (won on the celebrity version of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire") to create two lakes near Sacramento, Calif., for elephants. "We're calling the elephant lake Baldwin," said the animal lover, whose donation was matched by the movie studio. "And the other lake Lake Basinger," said the group's co-founder, Pat Derby.

Surveillance

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani had dinner on New Year's Eve with Sen. John McCain and Fred Thompson and Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik at Rush's Chris Steak House in Manhattan. Giuliani later met up with gal pal Judi Nathan at Times Square, where they watched the ball drop and danced till 2:30 a.m. at Planet Hollywood.

Monica Lewinsky and a female friend stopped by a New York City Taco Bell on New Year's Day, then headed to see Miss Congeniality at the Loews Village, where Monica ordered a medium bucket of popcorn...

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Dear Sexpert:

A few weeks ago my boyfriend and I had protected sex, but somehow I got pregnant. How could this have happened?

Protected but pregnant, 18

Let me first start off by saying I hope your partner is going to take some responsibility and stand by you through this even though it was an accident. Protected sex does not always guarantee that pregnancy will be avoided. The majority of people use condoms when having protected sex, but condoms have only an 80 percent efficiency rate because of defects. These defects can occur to the latex due to heat, misuse and even a microscopic sized hole on the condom that is bigger than the natural pore of the latex. That is why it is wise to use back-up methods.

In other words use multiple contraceptive devices. For example, using a cervical cap, a condom and spermicidal jelly reduces the rate of failure to about one percent. Or using the pill or a Norplant implant with a condom and spermicidal jelly would reduce it to only a fraction of a percent. Talk to your gynecologist. He or she can educate you on the best methods for you and your partner. Then take that information and talk to your boyfriend about it. Guys need to be told about the different options that are out there because stereotypically most guys just go to Eckerds or a gas station and pick up a box of condoms and think that their job is done. Then when the condom fails to work, they shrug their shoulders and say "oops it was supposed to work," or worse, they deny responsibility for their part in the act and leave. I wish you the best and hope both sides' parents can be understanding in this situation.

Dear Sexpert:

I just started going out with this great girl and I really like her a lot. I want to start a sexual relationship, but I would like her to go and have a health screen for sexually transmitted diseases. She has told me she's had unprotected sex with several different guys. I don't know how to bring the subject up. Is there anything I could say so that she doesn't get offended?

Walking softly but carrying a big question, 19

Well, Walking softly, your concern is a rational one. In women most sexually transmitted are asymptomatic, which means there are no visible symptoms. Diseases like Chlamydia and Gonorrhea can go unnoticed for a long time. HIV can also be undetected by the Anti-body blood test for as many as three months.

The way to go about asking her if she would participate is to say something along the lines of "I would like it if we both went down to the clinic and got tested. I care about you, and I want to make sure nothing will happen to you during this relationship." Saying it like this will make it sound like your reasons are isolated to this relationship only and you're just looking out for her well being. This avoids dragging the fact that she had unprotected sex with several guys back up and thrusting it in her face. Instead of her thinking you're a very caring person, she would hate you for implying that she's a dirty skank.

If she answers you with a resounding "no," (even after the kind way you offered to take the test with her), respect her answer, and don't nag her - it will only make things worse. Take her decision seriously. If you still feel uneasy, as well you should, then you might want to consider moving on to someone new.

Send your questions about sex, love and relationships to the Sexpert at: SexpertAdvice@aol.com
### UCF Entertainment Guide

#### Club Synopsis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club Name</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Style</th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Cover</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Back Booth</td>
<td>21+</td>
<td>pub/concert</td>
<td>bands</td>
<td>$3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calico Jack’s</td>
<td>20+</td>
<td>dining/poker</td>
<td>DJ</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knight Lights</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>top 40 dance</td>
<td>DJ</td>
<td>$4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquid Cellar</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>concert/rock</td>
<td>both</td>
<td>$8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trick Shot</td>
<td>21+</td>
<td>pool hall/pub</td>
<td>jukebox</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citywalk</td>
<td>21+</td>
<td>concert/dance</td>
<td>both</td>
<td>$3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cityscape</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>concert/dining</td>
<td>both</td>
<td>$3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Groove</td>
<td>18-</td>
<td>progressive</td>
<td>DJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin Quarter</td>
<td>21+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaritaville</td>
<td>18+</td>
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<td>Movietown Café</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>R&amp;B dance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat O’Brien’s</td>
<td>22+</td>
<td>Bard/entertainment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bar Orlando</td>
<td>18+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Room</td>
<td>21+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cairo</td>
<td>18+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chiller’s/Chilladog</td>
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<td>progressive</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Club At Firestone</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>70s dance/rock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have A Little Day Café</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>piano bar</td>
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<td>Howl At The Moon</td>
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<td>Icarus</td>
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<td>cigar/bourbon/whisky</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kit Kat Club</td>
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<td>Knock Knock</td>
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<td>Loaded Mug</td>
<td>18+</td>
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<td>One Eyed Jack’s</td>
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<td>pub</td>
<td>bands</td>
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<td>Python Supper Club</td>
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<td>Scruffy Murphy’s</td>
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<td>pub</td>
<td>bands</td>
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<td>Skippy’s</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>pub</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Nights</td>
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<td>Sports Bar</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>pool hall/pub</td>
<td>jukebox</td>
<td>NO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tube</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>upscale dance</td>
<td>DJ</td>
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<td>Timperley</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>hard rock</td>
<td>bands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volcano</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>top 40 dance</td>
<td>DJ</td>
<td>$5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wall Street Cantina</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>concert/dance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Witt’s Pub</td>
<td>18+</td>
<td>pub/concert</td>
<td>bands</td>
<td>$3.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Additional Information

**Calling All CAbbies!**

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He feels that my decision to be a writer means that I'll never be the rich, successful, productive member of society that he is.

Felix
by Steve McCain
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And you're constantly having to prove him wrong, huh?

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