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Bergman Field dedicated

Record number turn in rain for ceremony and inaugural game

DAVID MARSTERS  STAFF WRITER

UCF’s Jay Bergman Field played host to its first-ever game Saturday, commemorating a project that began nearly a decade ago.

Named for UCF baseball coach Jay Bergman, who has held that position since 1983 and has 704 wins at the school, the on-campus baseball stadium provides a new home field and practice facility for the nationally-ranked Golden Knight baseball team. For each of the past two seasons, UCF has played its home baseball games at Tinker Field, which sits adjacent to the Florida Citrus Bowl in downtown Orlando. Bergman says that the impact of having an on-campus stadium will be immeasurable.

There’s not a price tag you can put on it,” he said. “You have to realize that the last two years, every game our team has played has been a road game. We’ve gotten on a bus for everything for two solid years.

“Our players haven’t griped, they haven’t complained, they haven’t tucked their heads and they’ve played well. I’m proud of them. It’s a lot of adversity. So we’ve been through the adversity and now we have the luxury of having our own field and enjoying it. And that’s what we plan to do.”

The idea of building an on-campus stadium is not a new one, as the project has been in the works since before many of UCF’s current students were even in college.

“They were talking about this project when I came here nine years ago,” said UCF President John Hitt. “It took a long time to get the money together. A lot of people helped and here we are today. Having a first-class facility like this is a great breakthrough for us, and being able to recognize Jay Bergman’s accomplishments over his many years here, it’s just a great day.”

Despite a steady rain, Saturday’s festivities started with a dedication ceremony honoring Bergman, Hitt, along with UCF Athletics Director Steve Sloan and State Representative Lee Constantine, who sponsored the bill in the Florida House of Representatives that named the field after Bergman, were among those who addressed a record UCF home crowd of 2,170 in tribute of the Golden Knight baseball coach. After being presented with a plaque commemorating the event, an emotional Bergman told the crowd that he loved the university, his fans and his players, and that he was “the proudest guy in the world.”

“We’re so happy to get the building completed,” said Sloan. “We can’t control the weather, but I think the stadium is really nice and we’re just pleased with the way the ceremony went and to get it done. We’ve been working on this a long time.”

Following the dedication ceremony, the UCF baseball team took the field against Florida International University, losing 2-3 to the Golden Panthers.

Pre-K class a learning tool

KRISTA ZILIZI  STAFF WRITER

UCF’s early childhood education observation facility appears to look like a typical UCF classroom with tables and chairs, blackboards and overhead projectors. A few children’s storybooks lined along the blackboard ledges is the only evidence that the classroom is a childhood education facility.

When the blinds are opened, two very different classrooms are revealed.

In one classroom, children from the Orange County Pre-K play in a classroom designed to look like an ordinary pre-kindergarten classroom. The classroom is equipped with toys, storybooks, crayons and child-sized tables and chairs. The walls are decorated with finger paint masterpieces and alphabet posters. In the other classroom, children from the United Cerebral Palsy program play in a similar Pre-K classroom.

Nestled between the two nurseries, is UCF’s observation classroom, where UCF students observe the children’s behaviors and interactions through a one-way mirror. The university is teaching early childhood education majors real examples of child growth and development using this observation facility.

Dr. John Manning, an early childhood education professor, uses the facility each semester to teach his classes.
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Classroom helps build skills for education majors

FROM PAGE A-1

"Most universities have a child laboratory school that's available for observation," said Manning. "They use it to train teachers and use it as a laboratory for students." 

"Usually the observation area is just an area, not a classroom. I've never seen a classroom sit between two actual rooms, where a class can be conducted," he said. "The only disadvantage is not being able to hear what's going on in the Pre-K classrooms."

This morning Manning conducts the first observation experiment with this particular class. Students are told to pick a child to observe for ten minutes and record their behaviors and interactions. Throughout the session, Manning will continue assigning observation tasks every two weeks.

"I'll gradually give my students more specific observation assignments," said Manning. "Because the class is called observing and development, we try to build in a lot of observing," he said.

Junior Melissa Lynch said this technique of observation gave her a bird's eye view of child growth and development.

"When you think about teaching, you think about being in the classroom with the kids. By observing them this way, it kind of gives you insight about learning their quirks and tendencies," she said.

Manning urged his students to develop observations without opinions and speculation. He explained, the purpose of observing is to build skills to notice a child's behavior and help them solve a problem.

When junior Rachel Westman observed a little boy signing to his teacher in the preschool classroom, she assumed he was deaf.

"I found out that kids with slower speech use signing to communicate. It turns out that the teacher was signing and talking to him at the same time," Westman said.

The majority of students in Manning's early childhood education classes are female. In fact, only three out of 120 of his students are men.

96.99 percent of the early education profession is female. Society thinks that childhood care is a woman's job," he said. "The proportion goes up steadily from elementary to secondary education for male educators."

"It all plays out in economics. Early childhood education is not acceptable for men to come into because it is lower paying work. Teachers have always been in the occupation because they have a caring empathy. Money happens to be secondary. It's more acceptable for women to have pushed into a position that's more economically valuable," said Manning.

Cancer fundraiser will honor victims, survivors of disease

LIBBY BAIRD
STAFF WRITER

The American Cancer Society will hold the fifth annual Relay for Life Friday, March 23 at 6 p.m. on the UCF track. The relay is an 18 hour walkathon designed to raise money for cancer awareness. While this is the fifth year it has been held in Central Florida, the last four years have been held here at UCF.

According to Karen Breakell of the Constituent Relations Office, 93 teams have already signed up, leaving room for 17 more.

Teams consist of 10 - 15 people, and at least one person from each team is required to be on the track at all times. Teams also work to raise money for the Cancer Society round in each creative ways as hula jells, book sales, car washes and more.

The relay is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. on Friday and continue until 12 p.m. on Saturday, but the walkathon is not the only event planned. Among the activities are a bud hair day contest, a pajama party, skins and a DJ. Last year, food was provided by Loco's, while this year Loco's has worked with Sodexo-Marriott to provide food for the event.

Each year has had a different theme. Past themes include movies and newspaper stories, and this year the Cancer Society has adopted a storybook theme. Teens around the track will be decorated accordingly. Also planned is a ceremony to honor those who have lost their lives to cancer or are currently fighting it. Part of this ceremony is luminaries, or candles, lit to honor those who have or are fighting cancer.

According to Rebecca Zamyck, also of the Constituent Relations Office, students may sign up with Lucretia Gilbert in Millican Hall room 328 as space allows.

Did you know?

BECKI PANOFF
STAFF WRITER

Useless fact of the week

At 40 degrees Centigrade a person loses about 144 calories per hour by breathing.

The average person will spend two weeks over their lifetime waiting for the traffic light to change.

February 9-15 is national krat and frankfurter week.

Quote of the week

"Dreaming permits each and every one of us to be quietly and safely insane every night of our lives." - Charles William Dement

Web site of the week

http://www.cruishlink.com/

Just in time to get a date for Valentine's Day, this web site allows you to put in your secret crush's name and send them an e-mail telling them you have a crush. They have to guess who it is.

This week on campus

February is Black History Month.
Accounting students offer free tax services through VITA

MICHAEL ROBBINS
STAFF WRITER

Starting on Feb. 6 and lasting until April 15, Beta Alpha Psi, the accounting fraternity of the University of Central Florida, as well as other students from the School of Accounting, will provide free assistance to students for income taxes.

This aid is available every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. and again from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m.; they will be located at various locations within the Student Union; the location will be posted in the Student Union, as well as at the information desks of both the Student Union and the Business Administration Building.

"Lots of people are nervous about taxes," said Dr. John Salter, the faculty adviser for Beta Alpha Psi. "Our group is able to help. It provides a useful service to the campus."

Their efforts are a direct result of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) through a program called VITA, which stands for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance. The IRS provides this service throughout the nation to those that are unable to pay for a certified public accountant to assist them with their income tax forms.

Each year, VITA sends representatives to campuses and other varied locations. These representatives provide training to student accountants or those who wish to assist others. The trained student accountants then provide the free service to students.

"Our fraternity will literally do your taxes for you," said Beta Alpha Psi President Charles Murphy.

Beta Alpha Psi and various other students from the School of Accounting have been performing this service for years. There are a few changes this year, however, such as being located in the Student Union.

In addition to having the satisfaction of assisting students who may not understand the processes of income taxes, the accounting students and members of Beta Alpha Psi receive training and experience in the field of practical accounting. This training will be vital to them when they enter the professional arena.

"It's a win-win situation - Beta Alpha Psi gets the opportunity for experience, while the students receive guidance," said Murphy.

Students who wish to use this service are asked to bring some vital information and forms with them. In order to take advantage of the process, students will need: information regarding their income for the year (both their information and any dependents they may have), all forms needed (including W-2s, 1040s, and 1099s) and any deductions or credits that pertain and a copy of tax returns from last year. The service will provide any other necessary forms used by the IRS.

"All you really have to do is show up," said Murphy.

In addition to offering the chance to have your taxes done, VITA also answers any questions regarding income taxes. They will sit down with students and give them advice/answers to any questions if a student wishes to have their taxes done for them, they may stay and learn from the representative how to do their taxes. If they don't wish to stay,

"Our fraternity will literally do your taxes for you," said Beta Alpha Psi President Charles Murphy.

Both, Page A-5

Around Campus

Theater

VITA, which stands for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, will be posted in the Student Union. The service will be available every Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. and again from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m.; they will return on Fridays from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m.; they will return on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m.

The University of Central Florida will also host the following events:

- The Pops Concert, featuring John Whitney (conductor and piano) and Ayako Yonetani (violin), on Tuesday, Feb. 14 in the Student Union. Tickets are $20, $25, $30.

Health Center expansion suggested

FROM PAGE A-1

They would also like to maintain accreditation, be productive in maintaining facilities, expand their services, offer flu shots, have more partnering opportunities and make students more aware of their services.

Also, the AHAH suggests that Health Services needs more space. They suggested that more space be added within the next three to five years.

"Most schools have facilities that are 35,000 -- 50,000 square feet, where as we have only 15,000 square feet," said Faust. "We have about 200 patients a day and our facility is pretty small." 60,000 patients visited Health Services last year and 44,000 prescriptions were filled.

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unusual things to do for valentine's day

amy payuk staff writer

students wanting to avoid a full date for valentine's day have many opportunities to surprise their sweetheart in orlando. from picnics in the park to fine cuisines, there are activities for every budget.

junior edward harriss said this best valentine's day was very inexpensive. "i took a girl to a pond that had paddleboats. from that night we started a relationship that didn't end for a year and a half."

a couple wanting to get away from crowds and save money may want to visit crane's roost park, located behind the ahernouse mall. a well-lit walkway complete with benches surrounds a glistening lake.

"the greatest thing about crane's roost park is there are a lot of people there, but still room for privacy," said casey mcclorkle. "it would be a good place for a valentine's day, because it's not too private, and you wouldn't feel awkward."

a day at leu gardens is inexpensive and tranquil. orlando's scenic garden is almost 50 acres of gardens, ancient oak trees, historic buildings and a romantic view of lake rowena. for $4 a person, the gardens are open to the public from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

park avenue, located in downtown winter park, is a popular, but pricey venue for shop- pers and diners. however, a picnic in the park can be affordable and romantic. for couples on a tight budget, cook an inexpensive meal at home and pack it to go.

for a moderately expensive picnic, take-out food from your significant other's favorite restaurant. according to lovelingu.com, necessary items for a successful, romantic picnic are: a radio or CD player, pil lows, roses, champagne and candles.

lake eola's swan boats have become a hallmark of downtown orlando, and the festive paddleboats cost $7 per half-hour. couples can rent the paddleboats until 6 p.m., weather permitting.

another budget-friendly valentine's activity could be a romantic horse-drawn buggy ride. for $25, couples can ride down church street station. reservations are not necessary. look for the buggies at church street.

students interested in a busy nightlife can shop, dine or visit larger venues such as universal citywalk or downtown disney west side. both locations feature specialty restaurants, bars and clubs.

downtown disney west side has a movie theater complex, shops and restaurants such as the walt disney world resort and planet hollywood. another popular activity at downtown disney is disneyquest, a virtual reality complex.

universal citywalk also has a movie theater complex, shops and restaurants. visitors can dine at specialty restaurants like jimmy buffett's margaritaville or emerald's in orlando. for jazz enthusiasts, cityjazz opens at 8:30 p.m. and offers live performances with a $15 cover charge.

junior shannon rae green's boyfriend will be surprising valentine's day. "i know we are going to a very nice restaurant, but it will be a surprise." she added, "then, we are going to disney boardwalk."

these large venues have many activities for valentine's dates, however, after parking and dining the evening could be very expensive.

both accounting students, student body will benefit from free tax service

from page a-4

it's not necessary.

representatives from alpha beta psi hope to see an improvement that will make vita sessions more efficient; according to murphy, it is anticipated that the entire system will be run online, making the process more expedient. a new program provided by the irs, known as irs-e-file, will accomplish this.

the new process works by having the vita session connected directly to the irs's computer. students using the service will be able to fill out their forms online; those students may also pay online using their credit cards or a direct link to their online bank. according to the

irs, this new process will provide the benefits of being faster, more accurate, provide fewer errors, and will help to make any returns come to you as swiftly as possible. this service is also free to use.

many members of the student body view this as a real benefit. they feel that it helps to relieve the stress they feel from taxes. "taxes are a real stress for me and confusing. with this service, i can get the help i need," said evan turner, a student at ucf.

any students that have questions about vita may contact beta alpha psi in the business administration building in room 473.
Heather Kershaw of TheOrlando Daily News reports on the LizArt infestation in downtown Orlando:

"LizArt, a project to benefit the local arts and charities of Orlando, has invaded downtown Orlando. LizArt began popping up downtown in October of 2000 through the efforts of Mayor Glenda Hood. An auction will be held, following a showing of all of the lizards, later this year. The larger portion of the monies collected by the auction will go to Orlando's local arts while the other portion will go to charity of choice of the LizArt sponsors.

"They will be auctioned off in December of this year," said Maryann Cummings, an Arts and Marketing Intern at City Hall. "We haven't decided where they will be auctioned off yet."

Companies from across Orlando sponsor the yearend event by purchasing lizards, either decorated or undecorated. An undecorated piece of LizArt goes for $2,500 while one, already decorated by a local artisan sells for $3,500.

There are currently 60 LizArt displays all around the downtown area, with more being put up in the future. This year's second annual "Pi Kapp Princess" pageant for female contestants from each UCF sorority, and over 500 students watched as Kristen Harvey of Alpha Delta Pi won the Princess crown.

Nine women entered, and were judged on many different criteria before the event had even started. In addition to a pageant application and taped interview process, each girl also entered a creative project that followed the pageant's theme of "Storybook Knight."

Contestants competed in beach wear, formal wear and talent competition. Some contestants sang - Heather Kershaw of Alpha Xi Delta gave a rendition of "Blessed," dedicated to the franchise. "It has happened since the beginning, since they hit the streets," Cummings said. "They just replaced one that was knocked over by a drunk guy. He went to bug it, and knocked it over and destroyed it."

The repair costs for the lizards is unknown as of right now, due to the fact that repairs have just begun. The repairs are not expected to drive up the cost of the lizards at auction time.

"Orlando might do frogs in the future" to raise more money for the arts Cummings said. "Moms are going to do Flamingos, and reptilicity and Angel Castilla sang "Reflections." One contestant, Heidi Hummel of Delta Delta Delta, used sign language while "Summer Lovin'" played in the background.

Kristen Harvey took home the crown, having read a poem set to a slide show of the fraternity brothers. One of the pageant's main purposes was philantropy, and this year Pi Kapp Princess raised money for the American Cancer Society's Day of Life; each contestant fund-raised with the help of her sorority, and the collected donations of all participants totaled over $1,500. Last year the philanthropy to raised food for the homeless and school supplies for under-privileged children.

Cathy A. Adams of the Orlando Daily News reports on the LizArt infestation in downtown Orlando:

"LizArt infests downtown Orlando"

"It's not a scene out of a bad Japanese monster movie, but rather, LizArt, a project to benefit the local arts and charities of Orlando. LizArt began popping up downtown in October of 2000 through the efforts of Mayor Glenda Hood. An auction will be held, following a showing of all of the lizards, later this year. The larger portion of the monies collected by the auction will go to Orlando's local arts while the other portion will go to charity of choice of the LizArt sponsors.

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Dear Health Nut,

I'm a little embarrassed about asking this, but I am dying for an answer. For the past week, I have been experiencing a burning pain when I urinate. I also have to go to the bathroom a million times a day. My friends have been kidding with me about having a tiny bladder, but I think it's something more than that. I've heard that a urinary tract infection causes these symptoms, but how do I know if that's what I have? And if so, how do I treat it?

Sincerely,
TB

Dear TB,

I feel your pain. Urinary tract infections (UTIs) can be one of the most painful infections in the world. They are quite common among women, but rarely occur in men. If treated quickly, these bladder infections are not serious. However, if you wait to seek treatment, it can lead to a kidney infection, which is even more painful.

Symptoms include:
- A burning sensation during urination
- Difficulty urinating
- A frequent urge to urinate
- Urine with a strong odor
- Bladder spasms

Fortunately, there are some things you can do to ease the pain and help your body fight the infection. Scientists at Rutgers Blueberry and Cranberry Research and Extension Center in Chatworth, N.J., say cranberries contain elements to aid infection fighting. They discovered that cranberries prevent bacteria from attaching to the urinary tract.

Try drinking several glasses of cranberry juice each day, but make sure you get the kind without sugar. Sugar slows the white blood cells' ability to kill bacteria, so it's important to stay away from all refined sugar at this time.

You can also get cranberry extract in capsule for at many drug stores and health food stores. The recommended dosage is 400 mg twice a day.

Doctors also recommend 5,000 mg of vitamin C per day for an acute UTI. It makes urine acidic, making it difficult for bacteria to grow.

Most importantly, make sure you are drinking lots of fluids. It is imperative that you continue to flush out your bladder often.

This should help, but if you are not feeling like your old self after a few days of this regimen, make an appointment to see your doctor to get a prescription for some antibiotics.

The Health Nut

Have a physical, or mental health question? Send them to the Health Nut. The Health Nut can be reached at healthnut@ufcfuture.com

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**Police Beat**

**JAMES NUNEZ  STAFF WRITER**

**No Viper security system?**

Christopher Paine planned to ride his Specialized Rock Hopper mountain bike on Jan. 31. However, when he arrived at the bike rack near Oviedo Hall, he discovered that someone else had the same idea.

The bike is blue in color with a yellow Rock Shock front suspension. The bike's tires were orange with chrome rims. It has red handgrips, a red bottle holder and a speedometer. The bike was valued at roughly $900. Paine is willing to press charges. If you know anything about the crime, please call the police crime line at 423-TIPS.

**A regular Sherlock**

On Jan. 31, Officer Mike Johnson headed to the west parking garage in an attempt to aid a "parking patrol." Noticing that a vehicle's steering wheel column was broken, the patrolman feared some suspicious activity. Officer Johnson then ran the car's tags through the FCIC and discovered that the 1994 Honda four door had been stolen right out of Oviedo. The Oviedo Police Department confirmed the theft and the vehicle was impounded. No evidence was taken from the car.

On a more serious note

Police, responding to a 911 call, arrived in front of the west parking garage to find three Parking Services trucks that had been severely vandalized. Officers observed a cinderblock atop the hood of each truck. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the vandalism had used the concrete blocks to smash in the windshields of the Chevy S-10's. The tires of one vehicle had been slashed.

A building service's employee reported that she had been walking from the garage when she heard two loud crashes. She saw the cars, but no suspects. If anyone has any information about this crime, please call 423-TIPS.
Bush tries to fill big shoes of Clinton

Katie Girardino
State Writer

Certified, not elected. No, folks, the per- son who was elected President of the United States, both electorally and popularly, is iron- nically not sitting at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Instead we’ve got an unhappy two

GRAY MATTERS
Equal work for equal pay

Chris Zapatier
State Writer

The midday Miami sun beat down on
my back like mammoth gamma-rayAYS and I was beginning to experience symp- toms indicative of a heat stroke. My task at the moment was unloading large, heavy wooden blocks from a truck.

Naturalf the ladies of the group were assigned less physically challenging tasks which they dutifully executed. Now here’s where things get a little odd: at the moment was unloading large, heavy wooden blocks from a truck.

the fact that the major- ity of them would only be working until their shift was over, at which point they would retire to the full-time job of moth- erhood. There was a time not too long ago when being a good mother to a child was the most important thing in the world.

Concerning the great patriarchal conspiracy of oppression against women in the workplace: An employer spends a great deal of time, monetary, and human resources preparing and equipping an employee for his/her assigned job. Women historically received lower wages and less prestigious positions than men because employers knew that the major- ity of them would only be working until their shift was over, at which point they would retire to the full-time job of moth- erhood. There was a time not too long ago when being a good mother to a child was the most important thing in the world.

I do not deny that a glass ceiling exists in many “Boys club” corporations which have been made-dominated for decades. Certainly some old-fashioned men in the white-collar world resent today’s career-minded woman for her dis- regard and defiance of old-school gender roles and see her ability to do her job equally well as an insult to their mas- culinity. And of course I believe that a woman who possesses the same level of education and holds equally impressive credentials as Man/! deserves equal con- sideration for a position and equal com- pensation for filling that position, but she should be held to the exact same stan- dards as Man!.

the Board of Regents was born in the 1960s with two major goals: keeping poli- tics out of the universities, and ensuring the system is run from a statewide perspective.

Concern about political interference was well-placed. In the late 1950s, State Senator Charley Johns’ infamous “Johns Committee” unleashed ruthless private investigators on state university campuses to ferret out alleged communists and homosexuality.

The independent Board of Regents created a buffer zone between the politi- cians in Tallahassee and the scholars at univer- sities around the state. The Board of Regents could also ensure that, for example, the state doesn’t have five law schools, but not a single school of pharmacy.

Let’s keep politics out of our state universities

Since the turn of the late century, Florida’s government has had a deal with its students: You graduate high school, we make available low-cost, high-quality state universities for you to continue your edu- cation.

The state is heading perilously close to dropping its end of the bargain by dissolved the Board of Regents and replacing it with boards of trustees to govern each uni- versity separately.

A constitutional reform is need- ed. But the citizens of Florida deserve a chance to vote on the future of their uni- versities. After all, the universities are their future, and the future of their children.

Zoe Sungur

Credit card debt receives comment

I read the "UCF students deep in credit card debt" and made the following comments:

The UCF Alumni Association was correct to respond to the excessive give- ways. But did it by establishing a monop- oly through their single-credit card provider, MBNA. The monopoly is used to then establish some minimum standards that MBNA has agreed to comply with.

The libertarian solution would include competition rather than establish-
Ranting and Raving: Car wash causes aneurysm

CHRIS HALE
STAFF WRITER

About a week ago I was lucky enough to purchase an 88 Honda Civic CRX. But this wasn’t just any CRX, it’s a CRX with a LoVTEC motor in it. Now to all you import junkies out there I’ll take my applause after my little dissertation here. So this car’s really fast, it looks slow. I love this car like a child.

When I go to get gas for my "child" I put only premium Mobile 1 gasoline in it. Primarily because it needs it, but also because I love the car. Well one Saturday night I was sitting in Mobile 1 getting gas with my credit card and the nice little pay at the pump machine asked me if I was interested in getting a car wash. Like I said, I love my car so how could I pass up a chance to do something good for my baby? So I press the “yes” button and then go on filling my little Honda up with gas.

The car wash place is out behind the filling station at Mobile. I drove my beloved out to the place where I’m supposed to type in my code so I can get my car washed. My receipt didn’t have a code on it so I was forced to go in and pay for a car wash again because I hadn’t been charged for it the first time. So I’m cool, this is ok, I’ll just go in and pay for it again, no problem. I should have known that washing your car isn’t supposed to be this hard.

I walked out to my little CRX and started the motor, punched in the code for the car wash and drove forward into the gaping mout of the car wash. The first thing that my car’s hit with is a blast of water coming from the bottom of the car wash. This isn’t good because my car has an open intake tract. If water gets in there the engine dies and I have a very expensive repair bill to think about. So when I finally pull my beloved up to the place where the computer tells me to stop I killed the engine and turned the lights off.

The first thing that’s painful obvious to me, after my car’s been sprayed down with water and soap, is that there are two huge rotating blue scrubbers that are about to ravage the side, front and back of my car at about 33,000 rpm. This would be fine for any other car but my car isn’t exactly new anymore.

As the brushes pass the front of the car I hear a horrible, "SCHRECH!", as the brushes mangle the newly installed driving lights that I have put on the front of my car. As the brushes move back to my driver and passenger side window I hear another screech as the brushes also mangle my gas door and rip the little side markers off of the car.

By this time I’m nearly comatose in my driver seat and I’m wondering what the repair bills for all of this are going to be. Thinking that the worst is over I return to my normal driving position only to hear two huge vacuum type blowers start up behind me. Then as if the car wash is just trying to make this heilish little experience just that much worse, my car is hit by hundred mile per hour winds coming from every direction. No person in their right mind would drive through a hurricane in a CRX. After the car has been “blowen” over three times fully, I instructed to drive forward so the next customer can drive into the car wash. I drive forward and jump out of the car as it clears the blast area. The first thing that I fix is the driving lights. They are both pointed to the extreme left. Then I walked around to find most of the car pleasantly clean, except for the, now missing, side markers, and the best gas door.

So am I saying to not get a car wash at Mobile? No, what I’m saying is that you shouldn’t eat fish sticks and pickles when drinking orange juice. It leads to diarrhea.
From the Sports Desk

UCF stands out at Tiger Classic, women’s tennis dominates Rice

The UCF women’s track and field team delivered a standout performance by racking up five top-five finishes at the Tiger Classic Indoor Meet, which was hosted by Clemson this weekend.

The Golden Knights sophomore class took home four of those finishes. Kristen Newsome took fourth place in the pole vault with a personal-best height of 10'10” and Shannon Ryan followed in fifth place with a height of 10'4”. Kelly Roloff took home top-five honors in two events, placing fourth in the high jump with a 23-7.5” mark and fourth in the triple jump at 36' 6.75”.

Senior Brianna Harrington earned the remaining top-five finish with her fourth-place time of 10.39 in the 100-meter run. The UCF women’s track team will compete next on Feb. 9-10 in Indianapolis at the Cannon Indoor Invitational, hosted by Butler University.

Women's tennis dominates No. 62 Rice

The UCF women’s tennis team, ranked No. 50 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association poll, defeated No. 62 Rice 6-1 Saturday afternoon at the Jake Hess Tennis Stadium in Houston, Texas.

UCF swept doubles action to claim the first point of the match. In singles, the Golden Knights raced to a 3-0 lead behind victories from junior Marieke Gunawan and freshman Anna Westin. Gunawan dismissed Judith Hagedorn, 6-2, 6-2, at the No. 2 position and Westin defeated Natalie Briaud, 6-1, 6-2, in the No. 3 slot. Senior Ann-Jeanette Svantesson outlasted Erin Waters for a hard-fought 2-6, 7-5, 7-6 victory at No. 1 to give UCF its sixth point of the day.

With the win, the Golden Knights improved to 2-0 on the year and 1-0 in the all-time series with the Owls. UCF returns to action Feb. 4 for a matchup with No. 75 Butler University.

ATO rallies to claim Wiffleball championship over Sigma Chi

ATO scored 12 runs in the bottom of the fourth inning and shutout Sigma Chi in their last at-bat to secure a 38-29 victory in the Wiffleball finals. Sigma Chi jumped out early with 18 runs in the first inning, but could only put together 11 more runs the rest of the game. Tommy Gilligan and Jason Graham led the way for ATO with eight runs each. ATO averaged a 16-15 box to Sigma Chi in the first round of the tournament, cruising after that defeat to the finals. Raymond Stafnfeld led Sigma Chi with eight runs.

Team CREOL cruises to tennis doubles championship

Vladislav Dubikorsky and J. Hales laid claim to the Tennis Doubles championship with a 6-2 win over Steve Showers and Emilio Rivetti. The tournament was postponed from its initial date of Jan. 20 due to bad weather, and was concluded this past weekend. CREOL showed no signs of weakness, going undefeated in the round-robin portion of the tournament, including an 8-6 win over Showers and Rivetti in the first round. Lisa Dole and Javier Gonzalez combined to win the Coed division.

Contribute Writer

Jeff Dolnack
UCF bounces back in second game of series against FIU

FROM PAGE A-20

the first inning.

FIU broke the game open in the top of the eighth inning, getting a leadoff home run from Brendan Hines and scoring two more runs on a throwing error by UCF reliever Paul Lubrano.

Bergman said that all the hype leading up to Saturday’s game, which included a stadium dedication ceremony just prior to the first pitch, was a distraction for his team. “It’s been hard all week long with the anticipation of everything,” he said. “We just didn’t have much. It was a grand day, don’t get me wrong, but I think it’s hard to play sometimes in that situation.”

UCF bounced back on Sunday, however, with three Golden Knight pitchers combining for a 9-0 shutout of FIU (3-1). Converted reliever Jason Arnold allowed Stertzbach scoring five runs in the first inning. Kurella, a third-team All-American this year, finished the game 1-4.

On Sunday, Kurella added two more hits, including an RBI single, and scored a run. He now has a 15-game hitting streak that dates back to last year.

Lubrano Debuts

Freshman left-handed pitcher and local product Paul Lubrano played in his first college game on Saturday, pitching the final 1 1/3 innings of UCF’s 6-2 loss to FIU. Lubrano was a high school star just down the road from UCF at Oviedo High School. He got off to a tough start in the eighth inning, walking the first batter he faced and making a two-run throwing error, but he settled down in the ninth and pitched a scoreless final inning.

Golden Panther hits first home run at Bergman Field

UCF was unable to hit the first-ever home run in Jay Bergman Field, as FIU designated hitter Brendan Hines led off the eighth inning of Saturday’s game with a blast over the left field fence. It was the second homer of the year for Hines.

Arnold and Kurella Nominated for Award

UCF’s Jason Arnold and Jeremy Kurella have been included on the 2001 Rotary Smith Award committee’s watch list, which is the award that honors the nation’s top collegiate baseball player.

More than 160 Division I players are under consideration to become the winner of the 14th annual award, which will be handed out in Houston on June 28. The preliminary voting list was compiled following submissions from the sports information personnel at all of the Division I baseball schools in the country. Additional nominations will be added to the list until the first round of voting begins in May.

Arnold, a pitcher, and Kurella, a shortstop, are among six Trans America Athletic Conference players included on the list. The others are Peterson Benjamin (RHP, Florida Atlantic), Frank Corr (OF, Stetson), Lenny DiNardo (LHP, Stetson) and Chad Olivia (C, Jacksonville).

Voting to determine the list of 12 semi­finalists will begin near the end of April and the list will be announced at the conclusion of the regular season. Three finalists will be announced before the start of NCAA Super Regional play, the week of June 1-3.

Activity and Service Fee Deadlines

Pick-Up Budget Request Packets after
Friday February 2, 2001 5:00pm

Budget Request Packets for Agencies due by
Friday February 16, 2001 5:00pm

Budget Request Packets for Clubs & Organizations due by
Friday February 23, 2001 5:00pm*

* Deadline appeals meeting will be held Friday February 23, 2001 at 1pm in the Senate Workroom.

NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE TO THESE DEADLINES!!!
Men's golf relies on young talent for upcoming season

NEAL FISHER

One year ago, when Brian Craig accepted his first head coaching position at UCF, the Golden Knight men's golf program needed an overhaul. Now, in his second season at UCF, he has assembled a team that looks to have a very good future.

However, the team is young and inexperienced. The UCF men's golf team is the youngest team in the country. The roster has 12 freshmen, one sophomore and three juniors. Only five golfers participated in every tournament. During the fall semester at least four freshmen started in every tournament the Knights participated in and on several occasions all five of the golfers were freshman.

There's no question the talent is there. It's not an individual sport, but we need everyone to come together as a team. We need to learn how to support each other and practice as a team. These are lessons that Craig brought with him from the University of Florida, where he played his collegiate golf. He then accepted a position as an assistant coach at his alma mater, looking for the experience players to exhibit leadership. "We need more guys to step up and be leaders," said Craig.

Craig is looking for some guys to show those leadership skills, to understand that this is their team. They need to take a little bit more ownership, a little more accountability and if we do that, we have a bright future, not only for this year, but for the future.

The team struggled during its fall schedule, finishing no better than seventh in five tournaments. However, Craig believes these tournaments will benefit the team during the spring season, as they provided the first collegiate playing experience for many of the young players. Craig's goal this semester is all-around improvement, hoping to be good enough by the season's end to upset Trans America Athletic Conference favorite Georgia State to win the TAAC title and earn an NCAA Tournament bid. "With the young team we have, improvement tends to come a little bit faster, because the learning curve is steeper," said Craig. "Come April I believe we'll have a strong chance to upset Georgia State and win the conference." Georgia State is the defending conference champion and earned a spot in the NCAA Tournament last year. The Panthers return all their players from last year's championship team. Jacksonville and Troy State are also considered capable of making a run at Georgia State.

UCF will get answers to many of its questions immediately, as a very competitive spring schedule begins Feb. 9-11 with the Gator Invitational in Gainesville, Fla. The Golden Knights will play against Southeastern Conference teams and Georgia Southern at this tournament, which Craig hopes will be a confidence builder for his young team.

I think we have a bright future for this year and the years to come, simply because of the talented youth on the team," he said. "We need to do well at one tournament to give us the confidence we need to do well in the future. This could be that one tournament."

In addition to being a coming of age tournament for the youthful team, a good finish at the Gator Invitational would help UCF overcome its fall record. Even though the spring schedule is twice as long as the fall schedule, both count the same. This will be important when the NCAA chooses its at-large bids for the regional tournaments. The NCAA has three regional tournaments consisting of 30 teams. The top ten schools from each regional tournament receive bids to play in the NCAA Tournament. The selection process is similar to the NCAA basketball or baseball tournaments. There are only so many automatic bids given out to conference champions to play in the regional tournaments and then the remaining spots are filled by at-large bids. One of the criteria used for at-large bids is how a team plays at the end of the season, and another is head-to-head match-ups with other potential at-large teams. The Gator Invitational provides an excellent opportunity to play well against tough competition.

Other tournaments that UCF will play in the spring include the Ron Smith/USF Invitational on Feb. 23-25, the LSU Spring Invitational on Mar. 5-6, the Seminole Collegiate on Mar. 13-14, the Alabama Spring Invitational on Mar. 23-25, the TAAC Championships on Apr. 23-25 and the Atlanta Intercollegiate on May 10-11.

2001 football schedule includes many tough opponents

FROM PAGE A-20

The move takes away one of UCF's home games next season, as the Golden Knights will now have five home games and six away games. According to Sloan, however, this is not a problem because of the size of UCF's fan base. "We have a crowd that really supports about five home games," he said. "As the program grows, they'll support about five, six or seven, but we're probably at the five level. I really didn't like having six home games to start with, so that was part of the good part of the whole thing. I wouldn't have done it if it put us below five (home games)."

Following the switch of opponents, UCF officially released its 2001 football schedule last week. In what could be one of the schools' toughest schedules ever, the Golden Knights will play road games at Clemson, Syracuse, Virginia Tech, Arkansas, Tulane and Utah State, and home games against Louisiana-Lafayette, Louisiana-Monroe, Akron, UAB and Liberty. The game against Liberty, a F-I-AA opponent, was originally scheduled to be against Louisiana Tech, but the Bulldogs have postponed that game.

"It's a very demanding schedule and our guys are looking forward to it as well as the coaching staff," said UCF Head Coach Mike Kruczek. "It's got to be as tough a schedule as anybody has in this country, but it's a schedule we need to bring more respect to this program."

The Golden Knights will open the season on Sept. 1 at Clemson, followed by a Sept. 8 game at Syracuse. UCF will play its home opener on Sept. 15 against Louisiana-Lafayette.
How do I get tested for an STI?

What kind of birth control is right for me?

What do I do if the condom breaks?

What happens at a GYN visit?

How do I perform a breast exam?

Got Questions? We've Got Answers.
Opening Day at Jay Bergman Field

Photos by Jason Kokottuff

UCF center fielder Mike Myers slides in to score UCF’s first-ever run at Bergman Field.

Myers swings for the fences.

UCF starting pitcher Justin Pope gets congratulated by teammates after leaving the game in the 6th.

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3. Part-time income

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UCF baseball coach Jay Bergman throws out the ceremonial first pitch.

Designated hitter Rich Wallace has one of UCF's most powerful bats.

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First baseman Greg Good.

UFP pitcher 5.2 innings in the game, allowing two earned runs and striking out nine hitters.

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vs. LAS VEGAS OUTLAWS™
SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 4:00 PM
vs. NY/NJ HITMEN™
UCF knocked off six consecutive TAAC games.

The UCF women’s basketball team has now lost six straight games following losses to Georgia State and Campbell this week.

The Golden Knights lost to Campbell 63-54 on Saturday, an improvement over their 70-55 loss to the Camels on Jan. 27. UCF went into the locker room trailing by only three points and tied the game at 42 with 7:52 left in the game, but Campbell regained the lead for good with 6:27 left on the clock.

Lanetra Cooks scored a career-high 21 points in the losing effort, hitting four three-pointers. Marvelous Washington was the only other Golden Knight to reach double figures with 12 points in the game.

On Thursday, UCF traveled to Georgia State where they were dealt a defeat similar to the one the Lady Panthers handed them on Jan. 25. In Jan. 25, the Golden Knights lost 73-53 and last Thursday GSU beat the Golden Knights 74-61.

UCF was leading going into halftime, but the Lady Panthers outscored UCF 16-3 in the lead. The Knights final lead of the game came just over seven minutes into the second period, but GSU responded with an 11-1 run. The Pirates were combined with 25 percent shooting from the Golden Knights in the second half, cemented the victory for the Lady Panthers.

The development of freshman forward Adrienne Billings has been a bright spot for the UCF women this season.

Cooks and Adrienne Billings were the only Golden Knights to reach double figures. Cooks had 16 points and three steals, while Billings added 13 points and seven rebounds.

UCF is currently fourth in the Trans-Atlantic Athletic Conference in block shots with 3.73 and in steals with 7.64. The Golden Knights rank fifth in assists per game with 13.68, fifth in turnover margin at -0.18 and fifth in assist to turnover ratio with 0.87.

UCF shot 52.2 percent in the second half, but only 28.6 percent in the first. Paul Reed led all players with 14 points and Jason Thornton had 11 for the Pirates.

UCF extends losing streak to four games.

The UCF men’s basketball team lost its fourth straight game Saturday when it fell to Florida Atlantic, 62-55. The loss was the first suffered by UCF at the hands of FAU in nine games.

The Golden Knights were down 13-26 at halftime, but tied the game at 48 with 6:30 left in the second half. A three-pointer by FAU’s Earnest Crumbley gave the lead back to the Owls and they never relinquished it.

UCF shot 52.2 percent in the second half, but only 28.6 percent in the first. Paul Reed led all players with 14 points and Jason Thornton had 11 for the Golden Knights.

On Wednesday, UCF fell off the University of Hampton in overtime, despite a season-high 19 points from Thornton.

The Golden Knights led 34-29 at halftime and held a 12-point lead with 10:39 left in the game. The Pirates countered with a 14-2 run to tie the score at 62 with 5:49 left. There were five lead changes and two ties to end the second period. Hampton’s Terence Williams hit two free throws with 17 seconds left to tie it at 68. Al Miller missed a three-pointer for UCF with four seconds left and the game went into overtime.

In overtime, the Pirates outscored the Golden Knights 10-6. Kevin Lee and Reed were the only UCF players to score in the extra period. The Pirates went on to win 78-74, with Williams leading all players with 37 points. Thornton was one of four Golden Knights to reach double figures. Lee scored 16. Joey Graham had 12 and Reed added 11. UCF shot 45.9 percent from the floor for the game, but only shot 33.3 percent in overtime.

UCF Head Coach Kirk Speraw was pleased with the improved offensive output.

“We did a lot of good things,” said Speraw. “We shot the ball much better tonight and that makes a huge difference when we’re able to knock down some shots. I thought we played much better defense.

UCF held Hampton to 38.4 percent shooting from the floor, but the Pirates had 23 offensive rebounds compared to only 10 for the Golden Knights. According to Speraw, second-chance points were the difference in the game.

“We didn’t rebound the ball to win the game,” said Speraw. “We got stops down there and they would rebound it, and if they didn’t rebound it they’d take it out of our hands and lay it in. That was a big part of the game. We didn’t run on the offensive boards and we can’t do that.”

Thornton makes impact off the bench.

It appears that junior forward Jacen Thornton has come out of the offensive slump he had been facing from recently. He scored 19 points against Hampton on Wednesday and 11 against Florida Atlantic on Saturday.

Thornton was averaging only 3-3 points a night in eight games prior to the Hampton game. In the past two games, he is averaging 15. Against Hampton he hit a season-high five three-pointers, and knocked down two more against FAU.

Last season, Thornton was second in the nation in three-point shooting percentage with 45.9 percent. This year he is shooting only 33.3 percent from behind the arc.

Prior to the game against Hampton, Speraw noticed an improvement in Thornton’s shooting.

“Just the shooting drills he’s been shooting well, but in prac­ tice he hadn’t been, but he did,” said Speraw. “I told everybody that Jason was going to shoot well tonight and he did and that’s a big help. When he can step out there and knock down some jumpers it stretches the defense a little bit and that’s a big help.”

UCF is third in the TAAC in field goal percentage at 52.3 percent...Lovett is second in field goal percentage at 53.3 percent...Lovett is fourth in steals with 1.37 and ninth in rebounding with 6.4...Al Miller is second in the conference in assists per game with 4.82...Freshman Joey Graham is seventh in the conference in free throw percentage with 81.1 percent.

The defense did a good job on Johnson Tuornto, who finished with 19 points and six rebounds.

UCF is improving its defense.

UCF’s defense is second in the TAAC in three-point percentage with 32.3 percent and in offensive rebounds with 15.32 a game. Adrienne Billings is second in the conference in offensive rebounds with 3.57, eighth in rebounding with 7.1, seventh in blocks with 0.74 a game and 15th in defensive rebounds with 3.68. LaToya Graham is 11th in the conference in rebounding with 6.1 a game...She is 12th in blocks with 0.72 and in defensive rebounding with 3.94...Graham is also 13th in offensive boards with 2.17...Nicole Dunson is fifth in the TAAC in three-point field goal percentage with 33 percent and sixth in three-pointers made with 1.53 a game. Marvelous Washington is 15th in the conference in free throw shooting percentage with 69.1 percent.

UCF is fourth in field goal percentage at 52.3 percent...Lovett is second in field goal percentage at 53.3 percent...Lovett is fourth in steals with 1.37 and ninth in rebounding with 6.4...Al Miller is second in the conference in assists per game with 4.82...Freshman Joey Graham is seventh in the conference in free throw percentage with 81.1 percent.
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Rain on Bergman's parade

Joe Manzo  STAFF WRITER

UCF's opening-day starting pitcher Justin Pope offered up the first pitch ever thrown in a game at Jay Bergman Field.

The 17th-ranked UCF baseball team lost the inaugural game at Jay Bergman Field on Saturday 6-2 to Florida International University, but on this day, even Bergman was not too distraught about the loss.

"We lost the first game last year," said Bergman. "We've got a lot of games left. Nobody likes to lose, but at the same time, I'm not going to lose any sleep over it. This is a good baseball team and it's going to be a good baseball game." On what turned out to be a cold and rainy afternoon, it's going to be a good baseball game in which the Golden Knights return home in search of answers.

By Staff Writer

Men's basketball returns home in search of answers

Kristy Shonka  STAFF WRITER

The UCF men's basketball team comes home this week to avenge two early-season Trans America Athletic Conference losses. The Golden Knights will also be trying to end a four-game losing streak, with their last win coming over Florida Atlantic on Jan. 23.

On Thursday, UCF will take on Troy State at home. The Knights lost nine of their last 12 games and are looking to end a four-game losing skid before going on the road to play Samford and Jacksonville State next week.

Head Coach Kirk Sperrazza is looking for something positive that will provide a spark his struggling team.

"We've got to continue to battle every single day in practice," said Sperrazza. "We've got two more games at home against teams that are kind of in the middle of the league. Hopefully we can get some of this bad karma behind us and make something positive happen and move forward."
The sound you can't hear right now is that of me screaming, rubbing my eyes with swabs of turpentine and a steel Brillo pad in punishment from watching Valentine. Oh, THE HORROR! THE HORROR! My God in good heaven how is the hell did we come to receive another movie like this? Let's repeat the old maxim again, just in case we get lucky and somebody with the power to greenlight a film just happens to stumble across these words. Don't ever think that it would be a good idea to assume that people who care about themselves would want to see more of this nonsense! STOP IT—DON'T STOP IT right now—you studio pirates! Speaking for everyone who enjoys going to the movies in this country, I have no problem stating on our collective behalf that we will form organized militias and overthrow studios like Warner Brother's for rehashing countless other cliches we have seen before in order to tell his story. The energy needed to compose an actual cinematic bologna sandwich—boring, flat and tasteless, without not a solitary moment of even the slightest remedial thought. This drivel, Valentine, is a neon lit tapestry composed of the most moronic elements found in cinema in a long while. Saying that this movie is for the dumb would be discrediting the dumb and all that they stand for. But at least there has to be a central idea to the film, isn't there? No, forget it. It provokes some sort of cheap stimulus to your instinct of fear? One those famous crickets. Will it provoke further discussion after it's over? Chirp, chirp. The plot? Has OK, how about a group of rich white people who start getting sharp objects inserted into their bodies one by one only to have the more prominent members of the cast come up with farcical revelations that someone wants them all dead. Oh, Not! My best friend. Sally, was found with her entrails wrapped around her dis. and my boyfriend just fell face first onto an axe! What does all of this mean, detectives? Stop me if you've heard this before. It is getting to the point where we see first hand that Hollywood is having a pickle of a time coming up with a decent psychopathic killer. Not too long ago it seemed so easy, but now the entire genre is as bankrupt as Amazon.com. It took four writers to adapt Torn Savage's crafty little novel into a screenplay so lacking in the most basic artistic refinement and casual intelligence that it hurts to watch. Love may hurt, but so does bad dialogue (such as "Was it, baby"). This time the fellow, who we'll call Jeremy Melton for now, hides under a cherub-facemask looks like Michael Myers'malevolent redheaded stepson choosing to stalk/disembowel five lifelong friends in the suburbs of San Francisco... and on Valentine's Day. No less. He is of the small persuasion of nostalgic and sentimental serial killers. Funny thing, for taking place in "San Francisco" the audience actually never sees San Francisco in the movie, I guess the producers decided not to hire a second unit crew in order to photograph some establishing shots of the city. No matter how hard they lie and try to work their way around it, Vancouver still looks like Vancouver.

In talking with the cast (Katherine Heigl, David Boreanaz, Denise Richards and Marley Shelton), it was made clear to me above all else that they wanted their characters, and this film, to stand apart from what would be considered the "norm" in this exhausted genre. And you know what—they all lied to me, too. Ooh the shame of it all. Most of the actors came across as having enough professional range to muck up a high school adaptation of "Our Town, and that is being considerate, Ms. Richards' performance has the flexibility of a telephone pole. In this instance I can, however, judge them on how well they stand on a mark and look pretty, because that's all they do. If by chance they're busy screaming and crying down a hallway before getting rammed anally by an oversized reading lamp, they do it as if it was choreographed a dozen times before. Nothing feels authentic in this picture; all flush, no fun. Nothing is obtained by the performances as a whole; we perceive that these are people just wanting to do something in order to get a paycheck. These are actors doing what bad actors need to do in these types of situations—look good until something bad happens to you. This can't be considered a vehicle for Boreanaz either, simply due to his lacking screen time in comparisons next to the women. Valentine is the first movie to become an example in the argument promoting the use of CGI actors because these characters aren't even two dimensional, and they're actually played by real people.

Kristofer Kay
Staff Writer

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Denise Richards Hates Me

Unmasking the cast of Valentine

KRISTOFER KAY
STAFF WRITER

Time now to take a stab at what is already a ridicu­

lously inept and ill-conceived analogy. If you have ever

seen those fecal-like, gill breathing, suction mouthed
urchins who cling to the underbelly of the more menac­
ing sea-dwelling life (i.e., big, scary sharks) to help sus­
tain their well being, you can get the gist of the relation­
ship between entertainment journalists and celebrities.
Put simply, we have to feed off of each other in order to
survive. The sharks swim freely doing as they please
while the helper clings tightly enjoying the ride,

\[ \text{waiting} \]

patiently for their turn to help their carriers. Talking to celebrities isn't a science. In fact, it isn't

something you necessarily have to be good at; as long as

you have a mouth with which to ask informative, if not

trivial, questions and a pair of ears to process the

responses, you have gotten the fundamentals already
down. The concept is a little strange though. As much

as the interviewer wants to come across as just another

bloke having a conversation with his or her buddy, both

participants during the entire talk ascertain a facade.

Why? Because it is all business. True, it is about show

business, a topic that in our force-fed infotainment soci­

ety is treated as diligent news; allowing that the public

will receive the fix they have come to expect thanks to

the studio marketing departments, web-based magazines

and guys like me. But from the interviews I have been

fortunate to be a part of, I have found out that they are

not a way to humanize movie stars but rather to accom­

plish a necessity in order to sell a product. Interviews

are personalized commercials for whatever needs to be

sold, or pitched, or accepted by the masses. For performers it is part of

the job, the work to be done after the

final take is completed. For the rest of us it's not so much handy-dandy

knowledge than it is just buying into

the hype before we see the comple­
ted picture. There is no such thing as

simply going to the movies out on a

whim. So without sounding too dis­

concerted with the whole process I,
of course, jumped at the chance to

interview the main participants of

the new film, Valentine. I may be

jaded, but I'm not stupid.

Another cardinal rule of the

interview—behind listening, I guess­

is the use of the tape recorder.

Whoops. Failed that one deliberat­
ely since shorthand does work and

there were eleven other reporters on

the line with me, as well as the

actors, during the time of the Q and A. Basically, we

were like a novice Mexican firing squad to these people

whom Warner Brothers had allotted twenty minutes of

their time for our questions. No time to shoot the sh*t,

just sell, sell, sell. Going against the grain as much as I
can, I figured why do what has
come to be expected with one of

these things, I ask a rhetorical

question, someone answers

appositely, we print it and you

read it. No. That is what the

E! Channel and Movieline

magazines are for. I would

rather tell about my experi­

ence talking with these people.

Whether this will help or hin­
der my future career as a film

journalist is still in question.

But then again, being two­

faced is something to be

expected in this business.

Katherine Heigl was the first

"star" to sit down and speak
with the likes of twelve college kids, mostly male, sounding a tad too ruffled and gloriously undersexed. Brave girl. She must have gone through these a number of times or possesses an incredible amount of composure to come across this professional and charming. While she was being asked about her new film, she was honest enough to reveal that she was in it mostly for the money, and she didn't read the book before hand. She trusted her director (Jaime Blanks) to control her scenes and doesn't mind saying that there is no "method" to how she was taught her craft. Throw in a great story about how Steven Segal lives up to being just an overweight, Buddha-ranting, earth-hugging karate hippie and I almost forgot that there was a movie about to be released called Valentine. As for her Maxim cover, she appreciated that I have it on my desktop.

Because of this quote by David Boreanaz I will now be a devoted watcher to Angel, "Hollywood is a misfit town; it is like a beautiful blond with dirty underwear." Probably the biggest surprise in talking with Boreanaz is his vibe of stealthy assurance while not coming across as the least bit vain. By some odd Tinseltown osmosis, he has obtained this "Montgomery Clift by way of George Clooney" thing going for him, and if used in the right vehicle it could help him be the movie star he deserves to be. Supposedly women weep wherever he goes. I didn't inquire about his papal-like tendencies, but even in the way he carries himself over the phone there's the sense that it's at least plausible. He's got two other movies on the way, he won't discount being the new Batman and he would like to one day make his own wine.

Now I don't want to say that Denise Richards is dumb, that would be rude. But she is about as dense as a two hundred-gallon salt-water fish tank. Maybe she didn't understand the format, or the questions we were asking, or simple English for that matter, but the woman was "difficult" to say the least. To give you an idea of just what went wrong, we all collectively "stretched the truth" to her when she asked if we had already viewed the film for which she was wasting her day promoting. Just a little food for thought if anyone else is in this type of predicament—Never lie to over-publicized, overachieving, under-talented starlets! I guess this means I won't be asked to interview her once that epic she completes with Eddie Griffin is due to be released. I didn't even get to ask what she would like God to say to her once she arrives at the Pearly Gates. James Lipton would never stand for this.
LEAD STORIES

Former pro football player Rae Carruth's elaborate defense to the charge of ordering his pregnant girlfriend's abortion was not successful, in that he was convicted in January only of conspiracy. He was killed by a B-4 •

I Don't Think British gardening expert Alan Titchmarsh said in the addictive activity of gardening; said Titchmarsh, November that the findings should apply, as well, to people following the path of an aircraft over­

Once

A 33-year-old mother was charged with...
Jan. 31st was a very interesting night at the House of Blues. Three local bands hit the stage in what has been known as Orlando Rocks!, a once-a-week show spotlighting local talent. The first noticeable difference from the concerts that showcase more widely known bands is the diverse crowd. There were older people there, a disappointing sign for people our age because old is someplace we don't want to be. However, there were also hoards of little kids running around the standing room floor, some even looking under the curtains. This was the first indicator that this night would be different from a "normal" concert night at the club.

That inclination was totally right. First to perform that night was a band named Cleanser. Surprisingly, despite all aforementioned signs that this concert was going in the direction for the worst, they were good. Most go to Orlando Rocks! expecting amateur talent, but these guys were talented and totally original. In fact, most of the older crowd in the audience was wearing Cleanser shirts, suggesting that this band is not a total newcomer to the biz. Cleanser includes the traditional line-up: a vocalist, a guitarist, a bassist and a drummer. However, it also includes a violinist, which is pretty rare amongst the local scene. Their musical influences. Now you wouldn't think a violin would fit in with the music that no one thought "violin"; they thought "melody." Some of the songs played that night included "Summer of Long Island," "American Night," and "Insatiable," which included a strong melodic part written especially for the violin. The lyrics were the kind that made people go "Aw... you know, the sappy kind of stuff people should say but don't!"

After Cleanser's performance, the audience was starting to get into the night. They eagerly waited for the curtain to rise and the second band to play. When it finally did, most probably wanted it to go back down. Behind it stood Bong/Water Taffy, a ragtag band of celebrity look-a-likes. We had the white Lajon Witherspoon of Sevendust in a minicrowd, swinging his three-foot dreadlocks around and acting like LL Cool J with his yelling the phrase "Make some noise!" repeatedly. We had Kid Rock on the lead guitar. We had a 7-foot version of Greg Brady playing bass and what looked like his father on drums. Finally, we had the funniest member: a blonde woman standing behind all the other members dancing at a microphone. She wasn't singing anything half the time; just dancing. Once everyone got past the bizarre image, there wasn't even good music. The only good song was a tune called "Monsters Incorporated," a song that is used as a theme for the Monsters of the Midway. The band has been hailed as a "funnier version of the Chili Peppers" by die-hard jockeys such as Buffer Dave and was even complimented by Howard Stern, but the crowd wasn't seeing it as they dodged the taffy thrown out by the lead singer.

The final band of the night was Ciara, a band that looked, acted and sounded exactly like No Doubt. They had talent, they had style, they had... well, everything that No Doubt has. Hailing from Daytona Beach, Ciara was formed in 1999 and has put out two albums: Facade in 1998 and Worry About Yourself in 1999. Moira, the female lead-vocalist of the band, can belt out some pretty amazing stuff. From the lyrical and sweet melodies to the aggressive angry-girl voice, she had it down pat for the performance. Besides her, the band includes Thomas Player on rhythm guitar, Kenny Cox on the lead guitar, Sean McWillie on bass and Bobby Zuck on drums.

After the crowd was done recovering from Bong/Water Taffy's performance, they seemed to be into the music and enjoy the show. Ciara wrapped up the night nicely, closing another edition of Orlando Rocks!

*For more information about Cleanser and Ciara, visit the following sites: www.cleanser.org and www.ciara.cc
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A Different Kind of Company. A Different Kind of Car.
I was nearly knocked off my barstool when Humbert launched into their set Saturday night at Back Booth. Yeah, I was only sitting two feet away from the stage, but there's no denying the Miami-based power pop band has a huge sound. Power pop bands are often compared to Weezer, but in Humbert's case, the comparison is actually true. They lean towards classic song-writing full of catchy hooks, wailing guitar solos and infectious melodies. Lead singer Derek Cintron teases the audience with his delicate vocals and softly strummed guitar before the band really comes in, slamming the audience in the gut with their powerful, dense choruses.

Did I mention the band uses three electric guitars? It's amazing to watch Cintron along with guitarists Ferny Coipel and Rimsky Pons tear into each song, their hands a blur across the strings. Tony Landa does an amazing job backing them up on bass, and Izo Besarios is a tremendous drummer.

Humbert sounds as polished live as on their self-titled album, and yet they really seem to be having a good time together, trading solos and harmonizing beautiful vocals. "Sarah," one of my favorite songs off of the album, sounded just lovely, as well as "Everything's OK," a deceptively mellow song that slowly builds into a soaring anthem of a chorus. "My Baby" is pop bliss-full of soaring Weezer-esque harmonies. Lyrically, Humbert isn't very sophisticated, but who cares? The feeling behind their melodies is more important than their actual words.

Humbert wasn't the main act for the evening, local band Precious took the stage soon after. If you haven't at least heard of Precious, you probably haven't been following the local music scene too closely. Love them or hate them, the three-piece band has gained quite a local following. The band has performed at the Orlando Music Awards, and their single "Bi-Curious George" has gotten airplay on college and local radio stations. Despite their popularity, the band still favors being mischievous over becoming mainstream.

Precious has a unique sound full of distortion and jangly, broken vocals, reminiscent of early indie rock band Built to Spill. Other people have described their sound as early Smashing Pumpkins. Lead singer Steve Garron's vocals range from high and pretty, similar to local band Hankshaw to a bit of a country drawl (Primus, anyone?). It's hard to put your finger on their sound, but it's definitely an odd hybrid. Although the band is quite talented, Garron has a lot to do with the band's reputation. His strange stage presence is a huge part of what Precious is. Garron has an attitude. At one point in the show, he ripped on Humbert, telling the crowd that "they too can write their own Humbert songs." It's all in good fun, I guess; some bands thank the opening act for showing up, others trash them. Garron routinely cracks on other bands, sometimes it's serious, and other times it's obviously just for fun. But something about his attitude really takes away from their performance.

And then there's the actual stage presence: Garron shot his arms and legs out randomly during the set, like a bizarre man-boy-robot and drawled his already-loose vocals through several songs. There are two other musicians in this band besides Garron. Bassist Joe Panton and drummer Matt Bloodwell are both really talented musicians, they back up Garron's vocals and guitar work with rocking, heavy layers of sound.

"The Mighty Rock Hudson," is an excellent song-an impressive combination of Garron's pretty vocals paired with crunching guitar work and powerful drums. "Work," one of the band's newer songs, was the highlight of the evening. Panton's bass sound-ed great against Garron's guitar work and vocals. Precious' self-titled album is proof that they are one of the most interesting bands you'll hear in Orlando. And if you can get past Garron's arrogant front, you might enjoy them live as well.

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Crossword

ACROSS
1. Work stretch
6. Act part
11. E-mail symbol
14. Ball
15. John H. or Peggy
16. Nature gripe
17. Nitrogen, once
18. In the midst of
19. Disaet Anais
20. Cherryblossoms
21. Dying perfectly
24. Catch of the day
26. Dwarflike creatures
27. Jamie ... Curtis
30. Award recipients
32. OK Dental participant
34. Magnitude
35. City on the Ruhr
39. Seed covers
41. Profit figure
42. Like nostalgic fashions
43. Fabric fold
44. Do better work
46. Symbol
47. Bridge supports
50. Lobster eggs
51. Fries lightly
54. Side by side
56. Side spray
62. Hold up
63. Dosent
65. Velocity detector
66. Oklahoma town
67. Harden
68. Ms. Verdugo
69. Coop denizen
70. Exudes a strong odor

6. Salt and pepper, e.g.
7. Varoum motion producer
8. Collar choice
9. Period of immaturity
10. Stage manager
12. Express a viewpoint
13. Sharp tasters
21. Son of Aphrodite
23. Salads
24. Last of twelve
27. Of faith
28. Veilcut's superior
29. Cleveland's lake
31. Debts
33. Nebraska river
36. Mix
37. Gopro, _sum
38. Zirk
39. Decorative strip
40. They...thataway!
41. Member of a monastic Jewish sect
42. Puts away for a rainy day
43. Abraham's wife
44. Important times
45. They...thataway!

Solutions

1. Exchange
2. Indirect
3. Strathspey or Minuet
4. Gain
5. Creations
6. Stepper's creation
7. Dispatches, biblical style
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HOTTOY OF THE WEEK

FREDDIE PRINZE, JR.
Dear Sexpert,

My relationship is in shambles because I got caught cheating by my girlfriend as I was sleeping with her roommate. Is there anything I could do to repair this?

-In the doghouse, 20

Well, other than groveling like you have never groveled before— I think you’re pretty screwed. The thing you should have done though to keep out of the doghouse is not cheating on her in the first place. You should have used the northern head on this one before you jumped into bed with her ROOMMATE! How could you have thought you wouldn’t have been caught? They live in the same house! But, now that it’s happened, the only thing to do is to talk to her about it and hope she’ll forgive you. If not then you’re out of luck. You’re in the wrong on this one so she gets to decide — not you. If she does give you another chance, consider yourself lucky and be a good boyfriend to her. Prove the “once a cheater always a cheater” mantra wrong if you really want to be in this relationship with her. I wish you the best of luck and hope you two can work it out.

Dear Sexpert,

I’m a homosexual male, but my best friend is straight. I really like him and I want to tell him how I feel. Do you think this is wise of me to do?

- More than just friends, 18

Well, this can be a very tricky topic to deal with. Ask yourself two questions when thinking about what to do. First, is your friend a very open-minded person? If not, then telling him how you feel could not only create a verbal argument, but it also could cause harm to you if he takes it the wrong way (i.e. the whole Jenny Jones murder incident). Secondly, do you think telling him how you feel will be worth the risk of losing a friend? If he is straight then converting him is probably unlikely to happen when you tell him how you feel, but it is likely that you’ll damage your friendship. If you feel that you absolutely can’t go on being just friends with him because of your intense feelings, then tell him about your crush and just be prepared for the worst. There is still the chance that he could like you that way too, and just be afraid to come out, but I think you should give this matter some serious thought before confronting your friend with your romantic feelings about him.
So... Got any plans for Valentine's Day?

I say that if neither of us has a date on Valentine's, then we can hang out and bitch about our love lives together.

As long as I don't hafta buy you roses and candy, you can count me in!

Now there's the romance that I've been missing!!

Relax, Casanova, I'm not asking you out or anything. It's just that I haven't been having much luck in the romance department... and it would be nice to know that if things don't pan out on Valentine's Day, I have someone that I can at least hang out with.

So what are you getting at here?

I'm a hopeless romantic, I know.

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