Boating trips during summer available a short car ride away

LINNIA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Would you like to spend a day near the water with friends? If so, hop in your car and head for a lesser-known waterfront boating destination.

Students wishing to kayak or canoe will find that many of Florida's spring-fed rivers are less than an hour's drive from Orlando.

"I love going to the springs," said Erica Windsor, a junior advertising/public relations major. "With this drought that Florida's been having lately, I figure I'd better go as much as I can now, before the springs dry up."

One such spring-fed river is Wekiva, located in Longwood. Canoes are available for rental for both short and long trips. Journalism professor Dr. Fred Feiler said: "My wife and I went on a long canoe ride at Wekiva. It was extraordinarily beautiful because you could see all the life and tropical vegetation."

UCF grad making his mark

Along with being a published journalist in his own right, Todd McFlicker won honorable mention in a national writing competition

JENNIFER PATTERSON
STAFF WRITER

UCF graduate Todd McFlicker's writing is getting him places.

McFlicker, who graduated from UCF in 1999 with a degree in Creative Writing, recently won an honorable mention by the National Writers Association (NWA) in a nationwide competition for his short story "I'm Gonna Crawl," which intertwines Led Zeppelin lyrics into the story of an angst guitar player.

"I never thought it would win any awards," said McFlicker. "(After I graduated) I found all of these screenplay and fiction competitions and thought it was worth a shot because it was good work. I worked on that story in Creative Writing and then in Fiction so after two semesters worth of workshopping it I suspected that I had quality work."

Since graduating, McFlicker's work and perseverance have stretched well beyond the what he did while in college. He has written for a number of publications including the Miami Herald, the Jewish News, the SunPost, Jester.com, and a local "zine" magazine devoted to music called Rag Magazine.

According to McFlicker, because the editor of Rag saw that

MCFLIKER, Page 3

"We must make the best of whatever we are given."

-Mike Sweeney, Coordinator of Special Projects for Academic Affairs at UCF

New system opposed

With the Board of Regents' last meeting out of the way, organization of the State's new education system is well underway. However, opposition of the new system is gaining support.

Opponents are organizing a campaign, which if successful, would reintroduce a more powerful version of the Board of Regents that would be separate from the new system.

Opposition to this new system comes from the fact that positions on both the planned Florida Board of Education and the individual boards of trustees will be governor appointed.
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During summer, arena not just used for university

CLAIRE GOGGIN
STAFF WRITER

It's that time of year again when high school seniors are moving on to new horizons and about twelve local high schools are used the UCF Arena to do it.

It may sound strange that any non-University event happens in our arena but according to Angela Patrick, an Event Planner at the Arena, the Arena must support a lot of work the UCF Arena to do it. at the Arena, said, "The Arena is not completely funded by the University. In order to host University events, we must have non-University events.

With that being said, it is a good idea to have high school graduations on our campus. Many say Patrick explained, "It is a good partnership for UCF to attract potential students."

Matt Dunn, an Event Manager at the Arena, said, "I think it allows the graduates to take a look at and be oriented with a campus inside their community.

According to Patrick, however, a lot of work goes into these graduations. "Each has their own individual planning meeting and their own set-up."

That is, twelve different setups for twelve different schools.

So, a lot University time goes into setting up for these non-University events. According to a few high school graduates, it proves to be worth the effort.

Crystal Everhart, an Edgewater Graduate, thinks the University puts its best foot forward for graduation. She said, "It shows that they're trying to get involved with high schools."

And Amber Sanford, a classmate of hers, admitted that it does make her consider UCF to further her education.

Mike Dougherty, another Edgewater graduate, said, "It makes UCF look good."

However, Dougherty decided not to attend the University. Dunn still feels his experience graduating at the University will be beneficial to this student, "Even for the students who do not go here, they are exposed to a larger environment."

Courtney Cramer, a student working at the Arena disagrees, "A high school should do their own thing and leave the University separate, she comments.

Regardless of student opinions, it seems that the University has made itself a good, sound business partnership. By using the Arena for other events, it supports itself and attracts new students.

The effects of dating and living together in college

Pre-Marital Bliss?
College students make the difficult choice of cohabitation

CASY MCCORKLE
STAFF WRITER

With newfound independence and freedom, many college students are now choosing to live with their boyfriend/girlfriend. A simple decision? Think again; few students are without opinion regarding this sensitive issue.

Some students maintain that sharing the same living area with a significant other before marriage gives the couple a chance to see if a "test run" before marriage. The time will allow the prospective "bride or groom to be" the opportunity to witness particular habits or behavioral quirks that may surface later in the relationship.

"You get to see all sides of a person when you live with them," -Melissa Leason, UCF student

Others disagree wholeheartedly.

"You get to see all sides of a person when you live with them."

- Melissa Leason, UCF student

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McFliker published in Miami Herald, Rag magazine

FROM PAGE 1

be used a Led Zeppelin quote in an article he wrote for The Central Florida Future, he immediately gave him his first assignment writing about Carlos Santana.

"After that I passed up full-time job opportunities to concentrate on Rag because that's where I knew that I wanted to be in the future (writing about music)," said McFliker. "It was my Carlos Santana article that got me backstage and next to Perry Farrell, the radiant mastermind, the rock n roll god. After that I never had a regret about coming to Orlando because if it was not for Orlando I would not have found journalism."

Since his first assignment at the magazine, McFliker has written over 20 articles focusing on music and entertainment. He has done articles ranging from U2 to Pearl Jam to local South Florida favorites. Most recently he covered the Jane's Addiction reunion concert at the Coachella festival in Santa Barbara, California.

Recently, his efforts paid off when he was quoted in the "Best of Miami" section that is published by the Miami New Times. In it, his review of the fall 2000 ZenFest in the Rag magazine was quoted in the section for Rag magazine.

McFliker advised students to use the opportunity in college to be published.

"Get stuff in print now and take advantage of what you can get done in college. You can have a great fiction paper but nothing speaks as loud (to an editor) as having something in print."
Boating trips inexpensive, enjoyable

FROM PAGE 1

SouthShore Scenic Water Tours in the Kissimmee State Park offers boat rides, canoe and kayak rentals. Also in Kissimmee, Harbor Oaks Marina offers canoe trips on Shingle Creek, and The East Lake Fish Camp offers boat and cabin rentals as well as RV sites.

Students who prefer ocean-front kayaking may want to try Beachside Blast at the Canaveral National Seashore with guided kayak trips featuring “dolphin search” on Saturdays.

The Merritt Island National Wildlife refuge offers “kayak with the dolphins” tours daily on Mosquito Lagoon.

The Florida Outback Adventure offers trips to various destinations that incorporate hiking, kayaking, off-road bicycling and bass fishing.

Students can take guided Airboat Rides on the St. Johns River leaving from Titusville, Christmas and Oviedo. Black Hammock in Oviedo offers airboat rides, fishing, pontoon rentals and cruises.

“[I] wouldn’t recommend the pontoon boat,” said sophomore radio/TV major Matt Zorn. “It was just a big boat with a small engine, which made it kind of stupid and slow.”

East Lake Fish Camp and Southport Park offer airboat rides at night.

For thrill-seekers willing to spend more money, many nearby locations rent more powerful boats. One such place is Sammy Duval’s Water Sports Center at Disney’s Contemporary Resort, which offers parasailing and water-ski trips.

Bueno Vista Waterports in Lake Buena Vista offers jet-ski rentals and water-ski charters on a 450-acre private lake.

That lake is so nice,” said Zorn. “One of my friends knows some people who work there, and he goes out there to water-ski all the time. He says the boats are really high quality and totally worth it.”

Skyline Waterports at the Monroe Harbor Marina in downtown Sanford offers powerboat, houseboat, Jet Ski and fishing boat rentals on Lake Monroe and the St. Johns River. Parasailing is also available.

COMPILLED BY BECKI PANOFF

Wasp named for UCF grad student

A type of wasp found on the campus of UCF will be named for UCF graduate student Philip Russell. Russell found the wasp in November of 1998, and the findings will be announced in Entomological News.

Russell, who works in the biology building in UCF’s “Bug Closet,” doesn’t actually specialize in wasps, just happened to find this particular species on campus.

UCF alumnus Stuart Fullerton and Matt MacGown, a retired entomology specialist at Mississippi State, will be writing the description of the new wasp.

Top magazines at UCF

According to the January 2001 issue of College Store Executive, some titles such as Cosmopolitan, Maxim, Stuff, T3, and Total Movie are so popular at college book stores that students have to rush to buy them before the newstands run out.

Magazines are seen as more appealing than web sites because of the intimate reading experience they offer. Across the country, the most popular magazine titles sold at college and university bookstores were ranked by College Store Executive as follows:

1. Cosmopolitan
2. Maxim
3. Glamour
4. People
5. Mademoiselle
6. Stuff for Men
7. QJ
8. Newsweek
9. (Tie) Self, The Source
10. Rolling Stone

According to college magazine service Magazineine.com (www.magazineine.com), the University of Central Florida top sellers reflect the student body’s interest in current events, men’s entertainment, sports, music and fashion:

Top 10 Magazines at University of Central Florida:
1. Maxim
2. Glamour
3. Playboy
4. Newsweek
5. ESPN
6. Entertainment Weekly
7. Rolling Stone
8. Mademoiselle
9. The Source
10. InStyle

Magazine, rated most popular among UCF students.

Beautification project at UCF attracts prospective students

ADAM SHIVER STAFF WRITER

One of the University of Central Florida’s main attractions is its beautiful campus says many of its visitors. The university recently added to its appeal by installing a new, more modern looking sign at its entrance.

Beautification projects add to UCF’s modern looking campus and continues to increase its appeal to many of the school’s visitors and soon-to-be students.

"Many visiting parents and students are attracted to UCF by its beautiful campus," said Dean McFall of University Relations.

With the new entrance sign UCF is sprucing up its image with projects such as tree and flower plantings, green malls and sculptures.

The dirt parking lot located near the Student Union is an area that is supposed to eventually be a green mall. The mall will consist of a variety of different plants, walkways and sculptures. This will only come after the addition of a fourth parking garage. Construction on the garage is planned to begin in the fall of this year.

Sculptures such as “The Angel of Hope,” located across from the front entrance to the Student Union, is one of the already completed beautification projects.
Individual boards of trustees to take over on July 1

From Page 1

Many think the new system will leave the universities vulnerable to the whims of the governor and state politicians.

Mike Sweeney, Coordinator of Special Projects for Academic Affairs at UCF, feels the new system will be less politically controlled than the former Board of Regents.

Sweeney believes with the right people this new system could better the universities.

The two feel that one of two things will have to happen for education to improve in the university system in Florida. The first option is reinstating a board of regents and doing away with the new Florida Board of Education and the boards of trustee at each university. Graham and the major¬

1. The new Florida Board of Education will meet to discuss defining social responsibility. Present will be a number of guest speakers focusing on character and law-related education, service learning, and conflict resolution.

The CSRCE is responsible for promoting research and providing teacher training such as workshops, lectures, and scheduled courses. For more information, visit the CSRCE at the UCF Academy website, opening its new doors in 2003.

The UCF Karate club utilizes the Student Union for their meet¬
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Couples may enjoy making out in public, but no one else wants to see them.

AMY PAVUK STAFF WRITER

Making out at the dinner table is not a good idea. Molesting at a restaurant is an even worse idea. Every restaurant has them: the guests who display an overly abundant amount of PDA. Public displays of affection can be very romantic in perhaps a park or secluded area, but very repulsive in public places such as restaurants.

How can people make out while they are eating? If you think swapping gun's weather with your partner is grotesque enough, try swapping chicken, pasta and a slight taste of garlic. Now that's good eating. You can spot them from the minute they sit down. We call them "same side seaters." If you are sitting at a booth, there are two benches for a reason—so you can sit across from each other and converse. If people were meant to sit on the same side of the booth there would only be one bench. So, they sit on the same side smack next to each other. Despite the over-crowdedness they impose on themselves, they are content being half an inch apart because it is much easier to make out and molest that way.

Of course they seem to forget there are other people around them. Despite the fact adults don't like seeing other people make out, parents don't want to subdue their children to that sort of behavior. Sure, take the kids out to eat for Incoming order.

GRAY MATTERS

Living in the past is not living at all

CHRIS ZAPATER STAFF WRITER

Twenty-five is a bit too early to be having a mid-life crisis. Lately I've been reflecting fondly on my teen-age years where the bulk of my fondest memories originated.

Since graduating high school, my best friend has become little more than a casual acquaintance. When we do correspond the exchanges are obligatory and laborious. I am down to two good friends and one of them departs for boot camp next week. Josh, who remains behind, has decided that his fly-by-night relationship is more important to him than friends who have steered the test of time.

Although painful, these changes taking place in my life are teaching me valuable lessons about how dynamic life can be and how inconsequential relationships are. Sometimes people enter your world as stepping stones or stumbling blocks, and once they have played their part in the movie of your life-despite the tiny wrinkles they left out of the script. I interpret the dissolution of every relationship I have ever valued as confirmation that my future lies elsewhere, and I must simply keep moving until I find the hospitable climate and fertile soil ideal for my roots.

Memories are like any other commodity, they are valuable for their scarcity. If your memories could be relived they would become common and therefore worthless.

Still, sometimes I wish I could go back, back to the night when me and my high school buddies slept on the beach just because we felt like it, or back to the week I spent in Colorado surrounded by breathtaking scenery and two willing women. I'm not suggesting that I would choose to relive by Eddie Money, "I want to go back and do it all over but I can't go back. I can't know." I will never be able to relive those memories so I will do the only thing I can, I'll make new ones.

STAFF WRITER

CASEY MCCORKLE

The kitchen knife was accidentally left on the floor of Brown's car after she had moved the previous weekend. A passing-by deputy just so happened to glance into Brown's car and reported the "two people making out".

Where to begin, where to begin... The level of incompetence overwhelming me to the point of outrage. This innocent student, obviously no serial killer, has been treated like that of a dangerous convict. She was refused the right to take part in commencement, a right guaranteed those three students who made it to that certain level of academic excellence, which she did, all the while having no serious disciplinary record. So why all of this now? It's bad timing if you ask me, and so why should she be penalized for bad timing? She decided to move just one weekend too early. So, oh well, we are all just supposed to look the other way, sigh, and say a small prayer under our breaths for this student who loses a chance to walk at graduation. Maybe, but I still have a few things to say about this.

Kudos to Florida Gulf Coast University President William Merwin for reacting quickly enough to this incident a ridiculous waste of publicity and our time. President Merwin announced that the university would afford tuition remission but denied the state-sponsored scholarship because of the arrest. At least someone has enough common sense to see this whole situation for what it is—a principal on a power trip, trying desperately to cover the fact that he's big-time screwed up, arresting an honor student just days before graduation ceremonies.

As for you Ms. Brown, on behalf of all students across the country, I would like to say: Apologies for the ignorant and asinine decision handed down by your former high school principal regarding a "kitchen knife" found in the floor of your car, a car that obviously can't be sold, or written for that matter, that will case the resentment and frustration felt by this absurd and totally inept judgment, that we know have heard your cries and have witnessed this total lack of competency, proposed by someone mistakenly placed in the position of authority. We all know that as students and their superiors will naturally act in the best interests of the students and not their own.

Finally, some words of advice for our dear friend Principal Bode. Good job Mr. Bode, surely we don't have enough chaos and malice in the world, why not start alienating perfectly honest, hard-working students so that we may encourage further insurrection and disruption. If the only time you have perfected the behavior of a responsible and dedicated student with a demeaning and absolutely inappropriate sentence, forcing her to sit on the bench at graduation, joining the ranks of fellow wife beating and drug dealing classmates. It is people like you that mold and shape the characters of our youth and future generations to come, and that keeps me awake at night.

STAFF WRITER

OVIDIO CILI

THE central florida future

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No, it's not a Mexican fiesta going on, it's just the ring of a cellular phone set on the "Mexican Hat" tone. It's cell phone crazy out there these days. No, I'm not saying cell phones are a bad thing at all. I'm saying that the world has gone cellular phone crazy without thinking about training people on how to properly use them.

I have seen all sorts of crazy things happen with the cell phone users of today. I think cellular phone etiquette should be taught to everyone before they actually buy one. At least give them a manual before letting them go out in the real world.

First, as college students, we should have learned by now to put your cellular phone on silent or turn it off altogether. Many of the phones today have vibrate mode, in which no one will know but the lucky person having it on them. Don't get too carried away and call yourself all the time now. Please, the same goes for movie theaters and other public events in which your interruption is totally unnecessary.

Second, the public does not want to hear cell phone conversations. Also, people actually walk into the restrooms and use the phone while going to the bathroom. Wonder if the person on the other end knows what's going on. Next time you see a bathroom phone conversation maybe you should shout something about that toilet not being able to flush. Bet that guy won't get a second date after the bottle he's talking to finds out he is using the phone in the restroom.

Also, people talk way too much about their private lives in public on a cellular phone. I wonder if people actually think that no one around them can actually hear about the one night stand they had last night.

The next topic is controversial right now in the political arena: banned cellular phone use while driving. I'm for the use of earpieces or speakerphones while driving. I have a speakerphone for my cellular phone and it works great while driving down the highway. Safety is the key and I think these would help keep a lot of poor drivers with cellular phones from becoming twice as dangerous. But, I bet they will still eat their Burger King as they fly down the highway. I actually see this becoming law in the near future. At least most of the cellular companies are now giving away free earpieces with the purchase of phones. Who knows, it might stop the brain cancer that everyone claims to be coming from cell phones.

Making your vote count

Last week we asked you online: "Of the nine Florida teams to make the NCAA field of 64, who has the best chance to win the College World Series?" You resoundingly told us how you support the Golden Knights.

For more about UCF's Golden Knight baseball team and the NCAA championships turn to The Future's sports section starting on the back page.
The concernment that should be dutifully noted above all others in The Center of the World is that the two main characters in the film are not just lonely but are simply alone. It is a man and woman coming from the most obvious of opposite spectrums; levels that determine a status within a particular society within an instant once that position is revealed again or spoken about for the first time. A WASP millionaire, an added stripper; two vague generalities that seem to have lost much of their fancy-facade luster in our latter days, never-ending quest for supreme, superficial gluttony. But let's face facts, beneath the stigmas and the stereotypes they are both emotionally one and the same. A torn, non-committed couple who can represent an entire generation of completely unsure, unchallenged nephites in terms of thinking what will eventually come of themselves? It can be seen stemming from the complacent, "we have money so let's do everything" or "we have squat so let learn how to survive" sects, which is oddly how we feel the need to clarify things now; all or nothing.

Director Wayne Wang's kinetically static interpretation of post-modern morals colliding with common sense stemming from the director of photography, Mauro Fiore. Along with a heaping of natural light, this scene; you can even see a few tourists turning as they pass by, seems to have more relaxed to watch compared to the action when Florence is putting on make-up in front of the mirror; subtly such as a beautiful woman doing common things that we men don't really think about is very erogenous. The film's sexual moments are used more like a technique to get a point across rather than just to capture a naked woman's undulated rhythm as she is in mid-coitus.

The film is also shot digitally thanks to the director of photography, Mauro Fiore, and the eminently believable, vapid territory due to the abundance of metaphors on screen (like the computer and Las Vegas as a whole), but it succeeds when highlighting the point of the dichotomy between genders and the roles that they pursue.

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Darkness was descending on the landscape and wails of longing were emanating from my hungry gut. I had been craving sushi for several days but was unable to find a Japanese restaurant in the general UCF area. I figured that a seafood dinner would be the next thing, so I decided to check out Shell's "casual seafood" on 436 just north of University.

After settling into a comfortable seat at the bar, I lubed up my trachea with a stiff White Russian courtesy of Summer the bartender. For an appetizer, I ordered the coconut lobster, which proved to be my first disappointment of the evening. It was half the size of Bahama Breeze's coconut shrimp appetizer and not nearly as tasty. It was remarkably greasy, and there was too much coconut in proportion to the lobster. For my entree, I ordered a combination platter of Alaskan Snow Crab and a half a dozen breaded jumbo shrimp. The meal was one of three $10.99 specials on the menu, and the price seemed reasonable for the amount of food I received. However, as I worked through the crab legs, I realized they were progressively shrinking in noticeable increments and began to change my mind. The posterior legs were so puny they were simply not worth the effort of gutting them. The shrimp were good, but not good enough to recommend a trip to the restaurant. I ordered a second Russian, which - whether by accident or by Summer's design I cannot say - was stronger than the first. With every trace of fiscal responsibility having drowned in a river of Kahlua, cream and vodka, I ordered dessert. Dessert was slightly less of a disappointment than my appetizer. It was an anogeous portion of apple cobbler, and to compound my dissatisfaction it was served in a small quasi-soup bowl that made utensil maneuverability difficult.

Despite my dissatisfaction with my appetizer and being less than impressed by dessert, my dining experience at Shell's was not entirely unpleasant. I did enjoy the restaurant's easy-going ambience and its quaint decor, and I found the service quick, friendly and at my disposal. My tally, sans cocktails, was only twenty-one dollars and change for an appetizer, an entree and a dessert (including tax). So if you're a huge seafood fan looking for a quiet and casual place to dine at a reasonable price, you might want to give Shell's a shot.

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Universal security at the time of escort: DJ 3 B 3 2001 Universal Studios. © 2001 Universal Orlando. All rights reserved, TM/STUD.
Steve McCain is still missing in action, but here at the Future we have managed to unearth early Felix comic strips dating back to the 1950's. Oddly enough, Felix wasn't the fun-loving college student that he is in today's strips... he was a Private Eye!

The case wasn't going anywhere. Nothing unusual about that.

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Women's basketball team signs JUCO point guard

“She played both the 1 (point guard) and the 2 (shooting guard) in junior college, so she can score and run the point.”

-Gail Strieger, UCF women's basketball coach

David Marsters
Staff Writer

Still searching for the answer at point guard, UCF women's basketball coach Gail Strieger has signed Palm Beach Community College's Jessica Scala to play for the Golden Knights next season.

The 5-foot-6 Scala, who was an Honorable Mention Junior College All-American and First Team All-Conference last year, enters a UCF point guard rotation that currently consists of senior Yvette Ash and sophomore Molly McGriff. Ash, the likely starter, played in 28 games for the Golden Knights in 2000-2001, starting 20. She dished out a team-leading 70 assists and was second on the team with 27 steals.

McGriff played in 26 games, and starting 20, second on the team with 27 steals.

McGriff, Ash, the likely starter, will be ready to play for the Golden Knights at point guard next season.

“She's really an all-around player,” Strieger said. “She can do a little bit of everything. She can score, pass, play good defense, and she has natural leadership abilities. I think she will fit in well with the team because she already has college experience and a good work ethic.”

Offseason Report: The Golden Knights have been hitting the weights this summer, trying to build strength and improve their offensive game for next season.

“Everyone has come in and worked on the fundamentals,” Strieger said. “Mostly offense, because of the problems we had scoring this season.”

Forward Adrienne Billings had offseason hip surgery, and guard Nicole Dunson is still rehabbing a shoulder injury, but both will be ready to play for the start of the 2001-2002 campaign.
UCF was one pitcher short

FROM PAGE 16

NCAA Regional.

Just like that, UCF's dream season was finished. It was deja vu all over again, conjuring up the ghosts of last season's identical double-bailout to Florida State on the Sunday of the NCAA Regional, needing just one win to advance. And the reason for the Sunday collapse was the same this year - UCF was one pitcher short.

In the end, Bergman only had two pitchers he could trust to start a game against top national competition. Justin Pope and Jason Arnold. Pope beat South Carolina to put UCF in the regional title game, but Arnold's best stuff was wasted in emergency relief against a considerably weaker Princeton team. Bergman's decision to start Busbin in Game 1 was the correct one - he knew he would need Pope and Arnold to pitch the tougher games, and he was right. The move was not a mistake on Bergman's part, but rather a realization that the Golden Knights didn't have enough experience, quality starting pitching to compete with the better teams. If UCF's third starter couldn't beat Princeton, then the team didn't belong in Omaha. He couldn't, and they didn't.

UCF had a magical baseball season this year. The Golden Knights created an atmosphere of fan excitement that has been sorely missed at this school able to watch one of the best teams in school and good enough to make the College World Series. It was the second straight year the Golden Knights lost two games on the final day of the NCAA Regional, needing only one win to advance to the Super Regional. Last season, UCF fell to Florida State.

Senior right-hander Jason Arnold had excellent numbers in his first year as a starting pitcher and will likely be picked very early in the Major League draft. Out of medi­um-annual contenders for the Cy Young Award, the rest of the team's starting rotation left much to be desired, bringing life to the famous motto, "Spahn and Sain and then pray for rain." That motto, indicating the hope for rain after Spahn and Sain's starts so they could rest and start every game the team played, applies to what happened to UCF at the NCAA Regional.

Pope and Arnold and then pray for rain. Unfortunately, Busbin, Arnold, Pope, Clark and Arnold wasn't good enough. And it didn't rain.

Golden Knights fell twice to South Carolina on regional's final day

FROM PAGE 16

more runs in the top of the fourth for a 7-1 Princeton lead. Then UCF's bats came alive in the bottom of the fourth, and five runs in the frame pulled the Golden Knights to within 7-6. Stormbach allowed two runs in both the fifth and sixth innings, ending the UCF momentum and putting the Golden Knights in an 11-6 hole.

Once again, however, UCF was able to rally, and scored four runs with two outs in the bottom of the sixth. Mike Myers reached on a fielder's choice, stole second base, and scored on a single by Jeremy Kurrella. Df Andy Johnson and Jeremy Frost then hit back-to-back home runs, bringing the Golden Knights back to within one run. The home run was Johnson's first of the season.

UCF took the lead in the seventh inning on RBIs by Myers and Bill Oakley, but Jason Arnold, who had followed Paul Lubrano in relief of Busbin and Stormbach, allowed the game-tying run in the eighth.

The Golden Knights had a chance to win in the bottom of the ninth, but Summers was thrown out trying to stretch a lead-off double into a triple, ending the threat. Arnold cruised through the Princeton lineup for the rest of the game, allowing UCF a chance to win with just a run in the bottom half of every inning.

Then in the 12th, Summers led off the inning with a single, followed by a Ty Hanson walk. Oakley advanced the runners to second and third with a sacrifice bunt, and then Graham drove in the winning run with a bouncer over the second baseman's head.

In UCF's second game of the regional, Justin Pope overcame his worst statistical outings of the season to throw a complete game and beat South Carolina 8-6. Pope allowed 11 hits, six earned runs, walked six batters and threw four wild pitches, but managed to dig in and keep the Golden Knights in position to win. With the game tied 4-4 in the seventh inning, UCF scored three runs to put the game out of reach. Pope got Brennan Dese to strike out looking to end the ball game.

"This might be one of the best performances I've had because it was such a good game," Pope said. "Once we got in the lead, I didn't back down."

For the season, UCF went 51-14, and won the Trans America Athletic Conference regular season and tournament titles. It was the second straight year the Golden Knights lost two games on the final day of the NCAA Regional, needing only one win to advance to the Super Regional. Last season, UCF fell to Florida State.

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Postseason awards handed out to players

Offensive Player of the Year: Jeremy Kurella
This was a close one, but Kurella edged out fellow Big Ten transfer Chad Ehrenberger by virtue of his above-400 batting average. While it isn't as tough to hit .400 in college as it is in the pros, Kurella's .401 season average was still a remarkable achievement. He totaled 99 hits in 247 at-bats, both of which led the team. He was second on the team with 63 runs, 17 stolen bases and a .459 on-base percentage, third on the team with 16 doubles and 49 RBIs and fourth on the team with seven home runs. Kurella's pure hitting ability earned him third-team All-America status, and placed him in the UCF record books despite spending only one season as a Golden Knight.

Game of the Year: UCF 8, South Carolina 6
It wasn't Justin Pope's finest pitching performance, but the UCF staff ace dug in to hold off the Gamecocks and put the Golden Knights into the NCAA Regional title game. UCF took a 3-0 lead, only to fall behind 4-3 when Pope got wild in the fourth inning. The Golden Knights battled back for a 5-4 lead, but South Carolina tied the game at 5-5 in the sixth. In the seventh inning, however, UCF scored three runs to take the lead for good, and held on for an 8-6 victory. Pope threw a complete game, giving up 11 hits, six earned runs, six walks and four wild pitches while striking out eight. And while his numbers weren't stellar by any means, Pope said it was one of his best games ever because of the pressure of the situation. This game qualifies as one of the biggest wins in school history.

Runner Up: UCF 5, Alabama 1
UCF set the tone for the entire weekend with a 5-1 series-opening victory against Alabama, and went on to sweep the 11th-ranked Crimson Tide in the most-attended series in Golden Knight history. Alabama took a 1-0 lead on a UCF error in the fourth inning, but the Golden Knights responded with three runs in the bottom of the fourth, one in the seventh and one in the eighth to seal the victory. Pope threw a complete game, allowing only seven hits and the unaarned run. He threw 131 pitches, striking out a career-high 13 batters and only walking two, a performance that earned him the National Pitcher of the Week award, and earned UCF baseball a considerable amount of national respect.

Play of the Year: Jason Graham's throw preserves UCF victory
After fighting back to take a 4-3 lead over Alabama in the final game of the three-game series, UCF faced a furious Crimson Tide attempt to score a run in the ninth inning. After striking out Scott McNamara to start the inning, Golden Knight relief pitcher Von Stertzbach allowed singles to Jeremy Brown and Grant Redding. With Redding on first base and pinch-runner Beau Heard on second, pinch-hitter Chad White singled on a slow roller to right that wasn't fielded. With two outs, Pope found the ball in the infield, prompting the Alabama third base coach to wave Heard home. But UCF infielder Jason Arnold fielded the ball threw a perfect strike to catcher Jeremy Frost, who tagged Heard out to prevent the tying run. Arnold was the runner up for the TAAC Regional title game. Stertzbach then got Adam Pavkovich to ground out to end the game, with the Golden Knights winning 4-3.

Most Improved Player: Jason Arnold
It may seem odd to put Arnold, already the best relief pitcher in school history, in this category, but what he did this season was nothing short of amazing. After being an All-TAAC closer for three consecutive years, Arnold became a starting pitcher in the UCF rotation. In order to do so, he developed two more pitches, a changeup and a hard breaking ball, after relying almost predominately on an overpowering fastball for most of his collegiate career. The results were extremely impressive - a 1.97 ERA, 150 strikeouts and five complete games. He held opposing batters to a .191 average against him, and gave one of the gutsiest performances ever for a UCF pitcher in the NCAA Regional, pitching 5 2 innings in emergency relief against Princeton and then starting the decisive game against South Carolina on just one and half day's rest and going 5 1 innings, giving up three runs and striking out nine.

Surprise of the Year: Freshman pitching performances
Freshman hurlers Paul Lubrano, Butt Clark and Justin Cerrato were a pleasant surprise for Coach Jay Bergman this year, starting a combined 15 games and compiling a record of 9-4. Lubrano (3-3, 3.56 ERA, 48 IP, 34 strikeouts) even replaced Brad Busbin in the weekend rotation for a while, and made the TAAC All-Freshman team. Clark (3-4, 4.12 ERA, 39 IP, 33 strikeouts) was one of UCF's midweek starters, and threw eight strong innings in the TAAC Championship game, allowing just two runs in leading UCF to a win over Jacksonville. Cerrato (1-0, 4.50 ERA, 36 IP, 37 strikeouts) started midweek games for the Golden Knights, and was a valuable long and middle reliever, including an outstanding performance to Hong UCF in the game in a 9-7 loss to South Carolina in the NCAA Regional. With these freshman developments, UCF baseball rests on solid arms.
UCF baseball has record-breaking season

DAVID MARSTERS STAFF WRITER

The 2000 baseball season was one of the best in UCF history, with the Golden Knights going 51-14, winning the Trans America Athletic Conference regular season and tournament titles, and climbing as high as No. 7 in the national polls.

And though the team didn’t make it to the College World Series in Omaha, Neb., UCF fans were treated to some of the best baseball ever played in Orlando, and some of the best individual performances. Those who frequented the inaugural season at Jay Bergman Field have many fond memories to carry with them now.

Here, in capsule form, are some of those memories and top performances.

Player of the Year: Justin Pope

The junior right-hander broke nearly every UCF pitching record on the books, going 15-1 on the year with a 1.68 ERA, 158 strikeouts, six complete games and two shutouts. He broke the single-season school records for wins, ERA, and strikeouts, and the career records for wins and strikeouts.

He was a first-team All-American, TAAC Player of the Year, TAAC Pitcher of the Week three times and the National Pitcher of the Week twice. Pope had a 38.1-inning consecutive scoreless streak and did not allow an earned run at home in over 68 innings, dating back to the first game of the season. In short, it was the single most

UCF starting pitcher Justin Pope earned TAAC Player of the Year and first-team All-America honors this season.

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