Boating trips during summer 

By LINNEA BROWN

UCF grad making his mark

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

By JENNIFER PATTERSON

New system opposed

By ADAM SHIVER

Rock Springs Run in Apopka features eight-mile canoe trips. "It's a beautiful trip," said senior psychology major Nancy Schofield. "I went last summer with a bunch of friends, and I think it was probably the most fun I've ever had on a canoe trip. It was also nice because it's not really crowded with tourists like some places are."

The Ocklawaha Canoe Outpost in the Ocala National Forest offers day and overnight canoe trips on the Ocklawaha River. Tent sites are available for rental.

Hidden River Park on East Colonial Drive offers canoe and kayak rentals for hourly, daily or overnight trips on the Econlockhatchee River. "Canoe trips on the Econ are great because you don't have to drive far to get there," said Schofield. "It's cool because it's close to campus, but it makes you feel like you've taken a trip somewhere else."

Boating, Page 4

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

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

Introductions

By Nathan Ford, the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the McKnight Center of Excellence, introduces the mistress of ceremony at the eleventh annual awards banquet for the McKnight Center of Excellence. The McKnight Center of Excellence is part of the Student Outreach Programs at UCF and offers programs and services to address the failure rate of African-American students and other under-represented minorities.

THE FUTURE

Central Florida

Wednesday May 23, 2001 • The Student Newspaper serving UCF since 1968 • www.UCFfuture.com

-ENTERTAINMENT, pg. 8

Arena has many uses 
NEWS

Campus beautification
NEWS

Please, get a room OPINION

Call etiquette OPINION

Good Etoffee 
RESTAURANT REVIEW

Felix COMIC

Around Campus... pg. 4
Online Poll... pg. 7
Crossword Puzzle... pg. 11
Sports Commentary... pg. 16

UCF graduate Todd McFliker got to write about his favorite bands while covering the music beat at Rag magazine in South Florida. McFliker attended the Cocoholla Festival in Santa Barbara to cover the Jane's Addiction reunion concert.

UCF BASEBALL Falls to South Carolina in NCAA regional play.

NEWSPORTS BACKPAGE

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During summer, arena not just used for university

Edgewater

CLARE 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 itself. Patrick 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, is it a good idea to have high school graduations on our campus. Many say it is. Economically, 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 set-ups 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

CASBY 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. A 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 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

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

"In my religion it is not allowed, so I want to wait until I am married to live with someone I am dating," said UCF Engineering major.

"I don't want to live with anyone I'm dating until I get married," said recent UCF Graduate Shannon Costello. "There are very few things that people save in relationships...living together is one thing I want to save."
Boating trips inexpensive, enjoyable

From Page 1

Southland 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 oceanfront 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 Zum. “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 Daual’s Water Sports Center at Disney’s Contemporary Resort, which offers parasailing and water-ski trips.

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

That lake is so nice,” said Zum. “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 Watersports at the Monroe Harbor Marina in downtown Sanford offers powerboat, houseboat, Jet Ski and fishing boat rentals on Lake Monroe and the on St Johns River. Parasailing is also available.

Compiled 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 newstand runs out.

Magaizes 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:

Top 10 Magazines at Colleges Nationwide:

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

Magazine.com (www.magentineline.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

Maxim Magazine, rated most popular among UCF students.

CSRCE, Page 5
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 the Academic Affairs at UCF, feels the new system will be less politically controlled than the former Board of Regents.

Sweeney believes the right people now have the university's interests at heart. "We've appointed them because they're interested in the universities they have been appointed to."

"The two feel that one of two things will happen to improve the universities. The first is that Sweeney will be appointed to the Board of Regents and doing away with the new Florida Board of Education and the boards of trustee at each university. Graham and the mayor of his followers favor this choice.

The second plan of action would be to incorporate the local trustee boards with a board of regents. The board would resemble that of the previous one that had no governor appointed position. This is a compromise that some see as a good choice for both sides."

University of Florida president, Charles Young, was originally opposed to the idea set forth by Governor Jeb Bush. Young has come to accept the new system though as many of the state's university presidents have. "We must make the best of what we have in the public," Sweeney said when asked about the new system.

The proposal for a new system to govern the education system in Florida came after the passing of a constitutional amendment on June 2, 1998. The amendment transferred power from the state's commissioner of education to the governor. The transfer gave the governor the power to elect and remove board members at anytime.

The UCF Karate club utilizes the student union for their meetings and classes. The classes meet year round and more information on them is listed on the UCF Karate lab site, http://karate.ucf.edu/.

On May 23, 2001

CSRCE hosting conference on Social Responsibility

From Page 4

The Consortium for Social Responsibility and Character in Education (CSRCE) will be hosting the summer 2001 conference at UCF June 14-16. The CSRCE is a group dedicated to serving as a center for partnerships on the local, state, national and international levels to improve the effectiveness of education. The CSRCE works in conjunction with the UCF Academy opening its new doors in 2003. The CSRCE's June conference will discuss 'defining social responsibility.' Present will be a number of guest speakers focusing on character and leadership education, service learning, and conflict resolution.

The CSRCE is also responsible for promoting research and providing teacher training such as workshops, lectures and scheduled courses. For more information, visit the CSRCE at http://ucfed.ucf.edu/csrce/

Darcy Rodriguez contributed to this report from information compiled from press releases and magazineonline.com

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Just get a room

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 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 overcrowdedness 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 submit their children to that sort of behavior. Sure, take the kids out to eat for their birthday. They’ll get a free cake, birthday song and oh yah, a porn show in your home. The behavior recently displayed by Estero High School Principal Fred Bode, when he suspended National Merit scholar and high school senior Lindsay Brown for five days, ultimately denying Brown a chance to attend graduation ceremonies and walk with her class.

As perfectly unassuming honor student Lindsay Brown sat in class, pondering her many plans for post graduation celebrations, a law enforcement officer was skulking around the campus parking lot of a Florida high school located in the city of Estero near Fort Myers. Little did Brown know, later that day she would be placed under arrest, charged with felony weapons possession for a “kitchen knife” left in the backseat of her car parked in the school lot. Principal Bode immediately took action, calling for a suspension period of five days. But Brown had her exclusion in upcoming May graduation ceremonies.

So at first you may casually dismiss this incident as a common case of high school delinquency, but the so-called “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 “sword.

Where to begin, where to begin... the level of incompetence overwhelming me to the point of outrage. This Centers 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 by those three words, which made her a student at a 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 doing enough to stop this incident a ridiculous waste of public­ity and our time. President Merwin announced that the university would uphold tuition money if Brown had denied the state-awarded scholarship because of the arrest. At least someone has enough common sense to see this whole situation for what it is—a principl­on a power trip, trying desperately to

cover the fact that he big-time screwed up, arresting a honor student just days before graduation ceremonies.

As for you Ms. Brown, on behalf of all students across the country, I would like to apologize. Apologize for the igno­rant and asinine decision handed down by your former high school principal regarding a “kitchen knife” found in the backseat of your car. Properly, you should have been told the truth, or written for that matter, that will ease the resentment and frustra­tion felt by this absurd and totally inept decision felt by this absurd and totally inept behavior recently displayed by Estero High School Principal Fred Bode.

Thank you to my good friend James, we would not be able to get our story published in the local paper if it wasn’t for you. Golden words of wisdom:

Maybe I should have gone to journalism school instead. I’ll make new ones.

There are appropriate locations for public displays of affection; your home and convenient places called hotel rooms.

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 origi­nate. 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 than him to his 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 decide that it’s time they were written 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 not for their valueless. Memories could be relived 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 rested my butt on the backseat of your car, or back to the week I made a $2 gift certificate for Dry Cleaning order. The certificate is good for Dry Cleaning services only and must be presented at the time of the incoming order. 

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Student suspended for kitchen knife

Couples may enjoy making out in public, but no one else wants to see them.

CASY MCCORKLE
STAFF WRITER

Asinine—Found in Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary to mean: 1. marked by inscrutable failure to exercise intelligence or sound judgment 2. of relating to, or resembling an ass.

Thanks to my good friend James, we can easily and accurately conjure this wonderful adjective, asinine, to the behavior recently displayed by Estero High School Principal Fred Bode, when he suspended National Merit scholar and high school senior Lindsay Brown for five days, ultimately denying Brown a chance to attend graduation ceremonies and walk with her class.

As perfectly unassuming honor student Lindsay Brown sat in class, pondering her many plans for post graduation celebrations, a law enforcement officer was skulking around the campus parking lot of a Florida high school located in the city of Estero near Fort Myers. Little did Brown know, later that day she would be placed under arrest, charged with felony weapons possession for a “kitchen knife” left in the backseat of her car parked in the school lot. Principal Bode immediately took action, calling for a suspension period of five days. But Brown had her exclusion in upcoming May graduation ceremonies.

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Cell phone etiquette

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. But that guy won't get a second date after the hottie 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.

University of Central Florida 61%
Florida State 07%
Florida 01%
Miami 28%
Stetson 00%
Florida International 00%
B-CC 00%
South Florida 01%
Jacksonville 00%

For more about UCF's Golden Knight baseball team and the NCAA championships turn to The Future's sports section starting on the backpage.

We want to know what you think. You can let us know by logging on to www.UCFfuture.com and participating in the Online Polls, Letters to the Editor, reader forums, and our TalkBack feature located in each story at the bottom of the page.

Every week we will publish your Letters to the Editor and the results of your Online Polls. We will also make it a point to respond to your Letters to the Editor each week.

So log on today and make your opinion heard!

Let us know what is on your mind.

opinion@UCFfuture.com
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 novices in terms of thinking what will eventually come of themselves? It can be seen stemming from the compliant, "we have money so let's do everything" or "we have power 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 fears and desires may not need to speak volumes to us personally but don't be surprised if you happen to find some odd similarities within the characters. Richard (played by Kris Sarggaard) is in his mid twenties coping with the seventy-five thousand dollar debt he is making off of his computer programs and investments when he takes Florence (Molly Parker) on an extended weekend trip to Las Vegas. Through diluted flashback exposition, we listen on in their two's first conversation and become aware that Flo has hopes to get a band formed, but to make ends meet before the next Lillith Fair comes Flo must make ends meet for herself. Strolling her way she dances at a place called Pandora's Box. After spending a couple nights in the lap dance room with her, Richard breaks a cardinal rule in any strip club and asks if she would like to accompany him for the weekend to the land of the lost and plenty. Its not as if he may really have feelings for the girl, he's just has money to burn and time on his hands. Most choices are made because he can.

Flo isn't rich, but she isn't stupid either, the $10,000 Richard pays her to escort him for the weekend isn't a Free Parking pass for him to cash in on between trips of picking and Caribbean Sand. No her rules may sound simple but they are still her rules; between the hours of 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. is when she will "work." No kissing on the mouth. No penetration. Florence makes it clear, the only reason she is there is for the money; as the audience, we believe her act every time she can't follow Richard's monotonous small talk or when something else is going on in the nightly lapdance begins to fade out. How are we able to truly communicate to one another when true feelings are left void? Richard knows this too, but like so many men before him, thinks that he can be that one guy that can get the stripper to see past the money and start to fall in love with him.

The Center of the World is, at least externally, quite erotic, but however strong you may deem the sexual activity on screen it isn't played for the curiosity of glorification. The most intense scenes are more relaxed to watch compared to when Florence is putting on makeup in front of the mirror, subtly such as a beautiful woman doing common things that we men don't realy think about is very, engrossing. The films 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. Screenwriter Ellen Benjamin Wong's script can, in guilty instances, meander into trite and 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.

The film is also shot digitally thanks to the director of photography, Masato Fotu. Along with a heaping of natural light, this scene is almost sudden. With the verite-voyeurism style it comes off as more authentic to some scenes; you can even see a few tourists turning when she stares into oblivion as the nightly lapdance begins to fade out. How are we able to truly communicate to one another when true feelings are left void? Richard knows this too, but like so many men before him, thinks that he can be that one guy that can get the stripper to see past the money and start to fall in love with him.

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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 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 anegorius 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.
Steve McCain is still missing in action, but we here at the Future 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.

A few straight-up bourbons should help me forget it...

And everything else, for that matter...

But the dame had other plans...

Or, well...

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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 Striegler, UCF women’s basketball coach

David Marsters

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

The 5-foot-7 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 McGuff. 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.

McGuff played in 26 games, and was second on the team to Ash with 46 assists.

But neither Ash nor McGuff offered much in the way of a scoring threat, with Ash averaging 2.4 points per game and shooting .295 from the field and McGuff scoring only one point per game and shooting .375. Striegler says Scala, who played both point and shooting guard in junior college, brings a two-dimensional approach to the point guard position.

“She’s giving us a different look,” Striegler said. “She played both the 1 (point guard) and the 2 (shooting guard) in junior college, so she can score and run the point.”

Scala averaged 14 points, five assists and four steals last year for PBCC, who was ranked 11th in the nation and second in the state during the 2000-2001 season.

“She’s really an all-around player,” Striegler 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,” Striegler 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 loss 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 long 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 misstep on Bergman's part, but rather a painful 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 for a long time. Going to Jay Bergman Field was one pitcher short. For the season, UCF's fans had hope.

The old Boston Braves had two great pitchers, Warren Spahn and Johnny Sain, both of whom were likely picked very early in the Major League draft. But 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 was one pitcher short.

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.

Stertzbach 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 Kurella. DH 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 Stertzbach, 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, but 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 at 5-5 in the seventh inning, UCF scored three runs to put the game out of reach. Pope got Brennan Dyes 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

FROM PAGE 16

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, allowing only seven hits, six earned runs, 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 unaearned 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 serious Crimson Tide attempt to score a run in the ninth inning. After striking out Scott McClanahan 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 ball through the left side of the infield, prompting the Alabama third base coach to wave Heard home. But UCF lefty Jackson Tribble struck out the ball to a perfect strike to catcher Jeremy Frost, who tagged Heard out to prevent the run. Tribble then loaded the bases. 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 going the decisive game against South Carolina on just one and half day's rest and going 5+ innings, giving up three runs and striking out nine.

Surprise of the Year: Freshman pitching performances

Freshman hurlers Paul Lubrano, But 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, 38 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 some weekend games for the Golden Knights, and was a valuable long and middle reliever, including an excellent performance to stymy UCF in the game in a 9-7 loss to South Carolina in the NCAA Regional. While these freshmen developed, the future of 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.

POSTSEASON, Page 15

UCF vs. Princeton 13-12

South Carolina ends UCF s run to Omaha

David Marsters  STAFF WRITER

COLUMBIA, S.C. — UCF’s road to Omaha ended where it started, at Sarge Frye Field on the campus of the University of South Carolina. The top-seeded Golden Knights, needing only one win to advance, lost 9-7 and 5-2 to second-seeded South Carolina on the final day of the regional and were eliminated.

In the first game, freshman starter Burt Clark allowed seven runs in a wild third inning, and UCF was never able to recover. UCF closed within 7-6 on a Mike Fox fifth-inning grand slam, but the Gamecocks added runs in the sixth and seventh innings to seal the victory. Designated hitter Andy Johnson went 5-for-5 to lead the Golden Knights.

In the UCF’s fourth and decisive game of the regional, senior right-hander Jason Arnold returned on just one and a half days’ rest to start after pitching 5.2 innings of emergency relief against Princeton. Arnold pitched admirably, striking out nine batters in five innings, but allowed a three-run home run to Tripp Kelly in the fifth inning that proved to be the difference in the game. UCF got to within 3-2, but South Carolina hit two home runs in the eighth inning and went on to win 5-2, eliminating the Golden Knights from the regional and ending the UCF baseball season.

UCF vs. South Carolina 2-5

A large percentage of No. 1 seeds start their third starter in the first game of NCAA Regional competition, going on the assumption that they should be able to beat a No. 4 seed without their staff aces on the mound. And that assumption, which had to be Bergman’s assumption, is a correct one. Any true contender for a spot in the College World Series would have no trouble beating a lowly No. 4 seed with its third-best starting pitcher.

Unfortunately, when all was said and done, UCF wasn’t one of those true contenders. Busbin and reliever Von Stetzsbach spotted fourth-seeded Princeton, a team with a losing record, a 7-1 lead, leaving Bergman no choice but to bring in Arnold. But Arnold was supposed to be starting the third game of the regional, the one in which UCF was supposed to clinch a spot in the Super Regionals. Instead, Arnold threw 77 pitches in 5.2 innings of relief in Game 1, keeping UCF in the game long enough to come back and tie out an extra-inning victory.

That 13-12 win turned out to be a Pyrrhic victory, as Arnold’s long appearance prevented him from starting Game 3, and Bergman was forced to go with freshman Burt Clark. Clark cruised through the South Carolina lineup for two innings, but lost his control and allowed seven runs in the third inning, giving the Gamecocks momentum they would never relinquish. Arnold, ever the team player, trotted his tired right arm to the mound to start the decisive Game 4 of the regional on just one and a half day’s rest. He pitched unbelievably well, considering the situation, but the fatigue got to him in the fifth inning, and one of the best power pitchers in the country had to resort to breaking ball after breaking ball. Eventually, Arnold gave up a three-run home run to Tripp Kelly, and UCF couldn’t catch up, going on to lose 5-2 and be eliminated from the