Candidates ignore students, higher education

JASON IRSAY
STAFF WRITER

Jeb Bush and Bill McBride talked about nothing new during their final debate at UCF Tuesday, and they refused to talk to the hundreds of students who waited and watched outside the Student Union.

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Bush, McBride debate draws activists

Campus and national organizations speak, rally

Shelley Marmor & Andrea Milam Staff Writers

At 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, the Wildlife Advocacy Project's half-foot tall mannequin named Tallahassee went up. It was inflated, of course, with the use of Greenpeace's solar bus called Rolling Sunlight.

Conservative students who walked by the Student Union also observed Orlando-based band Kynza set up on the stage in front of the Student Union. A sign on the side of the stage read, "Pot is an abuser. It's a dope."

Most continued walking past until Kynza actually started playing when a crowd that quickly grew to about 100 people started forming. A few even started to dance.

This began UCF's first-ever "We the People" rally a day-long event that by noon was in full swing as mostly liberal activists and groups made their pitch to students while, inside the Student Union, preparations were under way for that night's live television broadcast from UCF of the third and final debate between Jeb Bush and Bill Clinton.

"We the People," which was set up by the Progressive Congressional Campaign (PC-CCP), gave a voice to issues that have been virtually ignored by Florida's gubernatorial candidates, said senior Brian Cregger, the event's organizer. This event included handouts and speeches from members of campus and national organizations, as well as local politicians.

Cregger said his goal in organizing the event was to "make people up." He would like to see the event a similar event every election year.

"It's good to see people getting educated, and not having stuff shoved down their throats like at rallies," said Ryan Browne, president of Free the Planet.

By 1 p.m., Greenpeace's solar bus was meeting all of the event's electrical needs with solar energy. Cregger announced this to the crowd, and a sign was put on the stage reading, "The Electricity for this show is brought to you by Solar Power."

"Actually, I don't think the message has gotten out there," Doyle said. "There's not a valid campus Green Party."

Also present was non-partisan gubernatorial candidate Bob Kunst, who is helping to fund his campaign by accepting $2 donations for bumper stickers that read, "No More Bushit."

"I've raised $16,000 from the stickers, but if everyone who hated Bush bought one, I'd be a millionaire," Kunst said.

In his speech, Kunst said he was not invited to debate Bush and McBride because, "with my exposure, they've finished." Cregger said he invited Republican organizations to present an Activist on 6

The central Florida Future

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER SERVING UCF SINCE 1986

October 24, 2002 • Vol. 35, Issue 20 • Page 3

www.UCFfuture.com

407-447-4555 Fax 407-447-4556

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Editorial board consists of students and is independent from the administration. The Future welcomes all letters to the editor.
Greeks, SGA oppose Golden Rule change

FROM PAGE 1

the vagueness of the new...while belonging to the few members...

Responsibilities, both said that the herself cannot spontaneously suspend entire student organizations based on a few organizations since they can't go...

administrators have not informed them...[and] they can't participate in recruitment Greeks, SGA said...

FROM PAGE 1

Russert opened the...at (what) law enforcement,

Likewise, she said, administrators like “If...than just a Greek organization, and so many other [Greek] members.”

Pulling all but one Greek float out of the Homecoming parade is a visible form of protest and the way to make other students aware, Brown said. Including the Greek contingent, last year’s parade had 11 floats. Parade organizers said this year’s parade still will have seven floats.

“We don’t care about winning Homecoming. We’re using our voices to voice concern for other student organizations.”

The 17 fraternities and nine sororities will donate $100 that they would have used for floats to the Ronald McDonald House.

“We are trying to do something proactive. Here, we are not just a bunch of brats. We are not just about social activities,” Schiller said.

I hate to see them miss Homecoming because of this—it isn’t going to get them the impact they want.  

—PATRICIA MACKOWN

FROM PAGE 1

Flecker’s opinion. Chanting “If God didn’t make them, they’re not students and activists called for Bush and Melchior to reframe the discussion.

At the debate, broadcast live on nine WRC affiliates across the state, Tami Rassett chose topics that the candidates spoke about during their first two debates, held on Sept. 27 and Oct. 15.

Rassett opened the debate with a question about gun laws, and in particular identifying guns with their owners as a way of deterring gun violence and catching perpetrators. Melchior said he supports Florida’s existing gun laws, while Bush expressed support for additional gun measures.

Melchior said he might support a “right to die” law “if it would help, and it was proven by law enforcement, the governor or any official would want to do that,” Melchior said.

Candidate took turns giving their views on familiar issues such as K-12 education, gun control and terrorism exemptions. Once again, the candidates did not address each other.

The candidates, for the most part, ignored issues that directly affect college education.

Melchior and Bush disagreed strongly about the auto-chip shortage, which would constitutionally limit the number of children in elementary education.

“ar the support of the amendment,” Melchior said.

“It passes if I try to make it work,” Beatty said. “If [Bush] was going to thwart the will of the people.”

Bush countered that the amendment would hurt the state’s economy. If voters approved the amendment, Bush said, “I will have to refer all consider raising taxes.”

The problem with this amendment is it will diminish the quality of our teachers,” Bush said.

Again, the candidates gave their opposing view—Bush opposes gay adoptions. But Bush opposes gay adoptions by legally adopt children, while Melchior supported it, saying Florida’s laws banning gay adoptions amount to discrimination.

“With the end of the debate, Rassett asked each candidate to identify the one thing they like most about the other. Melchior answered first, saying, “I like his mom.” Melchior said, referring to first Lady Barbara Bush, who has been the state’s governor in her son and attended the debate.

Bush responded, “I admire his service to our country,” referring to Bush’s service in the Vietnam War.

After the debate, Melchior, who is running in his first campaign and trails the more-experienced Bush by 5 percentage points, 49 percent to 44 percent, in the latest opinion polls, expressed confidence in his chances of upsetting Bush.

Although onlytwo weeks remain before the Nov. 5 election, Melchior said, “We think we have plenty of time to catch up with Bush.”

“I think what I’m going to be talking about, and continue talking about, is a bigger voter turnout,” he said. “If we have a bigger voter turnout, from Pensacola to Key West, I think we will win.”

However, the candidates’ lack of interest in the concerns of UCF students may perpetuate the voter apathy so typical of college campuses.

After neither candidate spoke to the students gathered outside of the Student Union, Flecker said, “I don’t support either candidate.”

Mayor announces gay rights public hearing

ADAM ROSCHE

Orlando Mayor Glenda Hood announced Tuesday that the City Council will discuss whether to add sexual orientation as a protected class to the city’s anti­discrimination ordinance. The council will hold a public hearing Nov. 18, with a final vote Dec. 2.

Hood said her long discussion on the contentious measure, in which she felt no additional protections for gay and lesbian businesses and discrimination policy already protects Orlando residents against discrimination based on race, gender, age, religion, disability and national origin in areas such as housing, public accommodation and employment.

If the gay-rights addition is approved, it would prohibit employers from turning away gay job applicants and prevent them from denying promotions and raises to employees because they were gay.

“If [Hood] placed the entire community and lied to us,” said Debbie Simmons, a committee member of the Orlando Anti-Discrimination Ordinance Committee, which pushed the measure after several groups of gay and lesbian advocates to organize and bring the matter to the city. “She never had any intention in supporting gay rights.”

Simmons Hood will try to kill the initiative again by allowing opponents from outside the city of Orlando to speak at the Nov. 18 hearing. Only residents of Orlando should be able to voice their opinions on an issue that only concerns the city, she said.

Alan Chambers, the executive director of Exodus International, a group that believes homosexuals can convert to heterosexuals, said he agreed with Hood’s, a committee member of the Orlando Anti-Discrimination Ordinance Committee, which pushed the measure after several groups of gay and lesbian advocates to organize and bring the matter to the city. “She never had any intention in supporting gay rights.”

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U.N. Day will celebrate peace-keeping history

Group wants to promote awareness

SHELLEY MARMOR
STAFF WRITER

The United Nations Association of the University of Central Florida (UNA-UCF) will host UCF's first United Nations Day in the Cape Florida Ballroom, room 316 in the Student Union from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday.

U.N. Day is a national holiday celebrating the 57th birthday of the formation of the U.N., a bi-partisan international peacekeeping organization. The daylong event will feature guest speakers, informational presentations from members of student organizations, and three traditional Filipino dance performances by the Filipino Students Association.

"We're having this event to commemorate the anniversary of the U.N. and to promote awareness about the U.N. -- its policies and practices," UNA-UCF President Nole Garey said.


Student organizations participating in the event include the Muslim Student Association, the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, REACH Peer Education and Free the Planet. These and other organizations will speak on a variety of issues applicable to their clubs, such as Diversity, Islam Awareness, Women's Rights, and HIV/AIDS.

"UNA-UCF wants to promote awareness about the issues of the international community that also affect the UCF student body," Garey said.

Garey said students have little to no information about international issues, and hopes U.N. Day will make them more aware. She also said many students either do not know the role of the U.N. or have misconceptions about its role in the international community.

There will be films when we go outside the Student Union, and students will come up and ask what the U.N. is," Garey said. "We want to break people out of their bubble and make them aware of the world that exists outside of Florida.

Activist groups push anti-Bush messages

From PAGE 3

attend, although none showed up until about 45 minutes before the 7 p.m. gubernatorial debate.

Republican Susan Schaffer, a non-student, said she was not invited to "We the People." She and other Republicans showed up to support Bush just before the debate started.

Most organizations at "We the People" promoted anti-Bush messages, to which the crowd applauded. But as the start of the debate neared, both students and non-students began turning up to show support for their candidates.

Democrat Mari Anderson wore signs saying "Buck Free$h" and "Texas Cocaine Fratboy."

Go Back to Texas." Anderson said she has similar signs in her yard at her Titusville home, and admitted that she is somewhat of a "public nuisance.

Other overt anti-Bush protesters came equipped with a 15-foot tall inflatable rat smoking a cigar with a sign around its neck saying "Devious Eebs." Other Central Florida Democrats had signs reading "Kids Don't Count With Jeb." "It just seems like Jeb is just not aware of what the people want," Anderson said.

Tom Proey, a junior and member of NORML, and Free the Planet, pumped up the crowd during an Open Mic session with a poem comparing Bush to Hitler.

"I hope this event will raise the awareness that there are other alternatives out there not conveyed in the mainstream media," Proey said. "People would like these ideas, but they are just not aware of them.

As the televised debate started, many students went inside the Student Union to watch it due to technical difficulties, it's been great," Proey said.

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Faculty forum to discuss board of trustees' future

Tiffany Repecki
Staff Writer

Concerned about the future of higher education, UCF's Faculty Senate is sponsoring an open forum on Amendment 11 at 6 p.m. today in the Student Union. If approved, Amendment 11 would reestablish a state board of regents that would oversee Florida's 11 universities while keeping a board of trustees at each institution. Gov. Jeb Bush dissolved the board of regents and appointed boards of trustees at each state university to put the decision-making bodies closer to the universities.

The boards act independently of one another and have responsibilities previously reserved for the board of regents. UCF's Board of Trustees has the ability to create new programs, hire or fire faculty members, construct new roads and buildings or increase tuition costs.

"We don't have any big problems on the campus, so we generally listened to the regents about other campuses," said President John Hutt, talking about the board of regents system. "If we have a 13-member board who is focused on one campus, and we get a lot more scrutiny in our operation month-by-month from the board of trustees than we did from the board of regents, it's important to the UCF community and faculty."

A panel comprising three UCF faculty members will pose a series of questions to the two speakers. Professors Ida Cook, Jim Gillenson and Audrey Balzetti make up the panel. For the past two weeks, they have been collecting possible questions from faculty members.

Cook said the questions reflect the faculty's concern about the formation of the board of trustees, concern about the politicization of the university by the board of trustees, concern about the board's ability to appoint or remove a university president, even President Hutt, at any time.

"If Hutt says or does something that upsets the board, it can get rid of him with no reason," Cook said.

Hutt agreed that the UCF Board of Trustees does have the authority to hire and fire the president. "If this amendment isn't approved, they [the trustees] will be the employes of all of the university's faculty and staff," he said.

Cook said academic freedom, which may be subject to the same pressure by board members, also concerns many faculty members. Hutt also said professors worry about the board's approval of issues or subjects that aren't in class.

Another worry among faculty is that some trustees — typically drawn from the ranks of local business leaders and those with political connections — are unqualified for the powerful positions they hold and could misunderstand what a research university, such as UCF does.

Cook cited September's UCF Board of Trustees meeting, at which a presentation was given about new research and discoveries by UCF faculty on the Aztecs. After the meeting, Cook said a continued board member approached the presenters. The board member did not understand the project's purpose, which was to advance knowledge about and understanding of the Aztec culture.

Cook said that Amendment 11, if passed, would keep the benefits of the board of trustees, but reduce the number of members.

"It's nice to have a local group advocating UCF [but the Board of Trustees] will continue to do that under Amendment 11," Cook said.
University searches for new leader

Committee hires consulting firm to research candidates for provost

Danuella DePari
Staff Writer

The search is on to replace departing provost and vice president Gary Whitehouse now that President John Hitt has appointed a panel headed by M.J. Soileau to identify candidates.

Soileau, the vice president for research, said he is looking for someone who knows how to build a university. Soileau will chair the search committee of five looking to replace Whitehouse, who announced he is returning to teaching at the end of the current academic year.

Whitehouse has served as provost and vice president for academic affairs for the past 10 years. "This is three times the average time," said Soileau. "People have a comfortable level with him. But it will be good to find the university to have a fresh approach."

The committee last week placed an advertisement for the position in three academic journals: The Chronicle for Higher Education, Issues in Black Education and Issues in Women's Education.

That advertisement seeks a candidate with "an proven record of broad, progressive, administrative, budgetary, and strategic planning experience; demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching, research, creative activity, and public service; a global perspective on curriculum design, and an understanding and knowledge of trends and issues in higher education is desired."

Hitt created the search committee, which includes faculty, students and staff, when he sent out a broadcast email on Oct. 16. Each college made recommendations. Prominent members include Geraldine Ferris, Judith Albertson and SGA President Marco Pela — all members of the UCF Board of Trustees — and William Merck, UCF's vice president for administration and finance.

Several groups also nominated members for the committee, including the department of Academic Affairs and the Student Government Association. After all nominations were made, Hitt added the names of people to ensure the group is as diverse as possible.

The committee hired a consulting firm, A.T. Kearney, Inc., to help with the search. Soileau said the firm does a background check on each candidate, checking credentials as well as primary and secondary references. Soileau said that the firm has conducted similar searches and has a network of people it can contact to ask if they are interested in the job.

Soileau said that Whitehouse is a very collegial and open in his decision-making process. He added, "He is appreciated by the campus community. He is very meticulous and open with the budget. He chairs the budget committee and is very inclusive in his discussions. He is known for his famous FYI e-mails."

Committee meetings are open to all, although meetings will not begin until the spring semester. The committee hopes to reduce the list of candidates to a small group by Jan. 1. Finalists will receive campus tours in the spring.

Soileau said a new provost should be interested in the university as a whole. He will have to deal with everything from students to contracts. "The provost is responsible for the daily operations of the university. Although the committee has yet to identify any candidates to replace Whitehouse, Soileau does not anticipate any problems in finding a replacement. "It will be easy to find someone, but hard to find a good someone," he said. "UCF is an attractive place to be, though, because we are still building. A new provost would be part of that."

I spent years growing up in church, but that was less of what I wanted and more of a glorified production event.

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But this also is my cry—
I want community. To be known, to be accepted and loved by others. At Numinous, I have found exactly that. I'm still not sure this place is real. I am blown away by their worship, the honesty of the community, & in their desire to live like Jesus.

I think that there are others like me. Can I show you that it's not what people tell you it is? Can I tell you the truth?
U.S. Airlines
Still Struggling

The sales over the U.S. aviation industry are growing even stronger.

Weighed down by the weak economy and increased security and insurance costs since Sept. 11 of last year, nearly all the major U.S. airlines have posted losses for the third quarter, except Southwest Airlines, which has grabbed market share from other airlines with its lower fares, fuel costs and low fares. Saying cost-cutting can’t keep up with its revenue in revenue, American Airlines parent AMR Corp. posted a third-quarter loss of $805 million. The carrier also told Boeing that it wouldn’t take delivery on any new airplanes in 2004 and 2005, marking the second time in two days that a major U.S. carrier cut its deliveries. Delta Airlines canceled orders earlier.

Third-quarter losses also were posted by Northwest Airlines, Continental Airlines, America West, Delta Air Lines and UAL Corp., the parent of United, the nation’s largest carrier. UAL faces a possible bankruptcy-court filing if it doesn’t raise fresh capital. UAL has said it needs to raise up to $8.5 billion in federal loan guarantees after missing its deadlines last month for its unions to chop 53.5 billion in labor costs over three years. Delta said this week it will cut 7,000 to 8,000 more jobs to stem its losses; the No. 3 carrier soon will have cut 13,000 jobs, or 23% of its workforce, since Sept. 11 last year.

FDA May Speed
Generics to Market

The Food and Drug Administration is planning a new rule to help generic-drug makers get to market sooner, seeking to ease one of the longstanding complaints against brand-name drug makers.

The White House-proposed rule will limit drug makers to seeking a single 30-month delay before a generic competitor can be introduced after a patent expires; until now, some pharmaceutical firms have received more than the 30-month delay in connection with the same drug. The new rule, on which the Food and Drug Administration will now seek public comments, also aims to improve the availability of drug makers to file "trivialness" patents with the FDA, a move that can tangibly ease the ability of a generic rival to come to market.

What You Need To Succeed

Spunky Magazine Editors
Back Weak Economy, Line Up Offset Deals

By Mary K. Land

Most recently editor in chief of music magazine Spin, hopes next year to launch a magazine for adults, which he is calling, at least for now, Good Music. Other ideas being pitched to publishing companies by magazine veterans include Fuel, a stylish automotive magazine for young men, and Fix, a magazine about addiction.

"It’s true in many ways, working on a magazine is like blacksmithing—there doesn’t seem to be a lot of need for it right now," says Jane Goldman, the former Industry Standard editor, whose fresh spin on the food magazine is to pitch it to people younger than the typical competition’s readers.

A mix of quirky optimism, entrepreneurial spirit and the eternal hope of stumbling on another style or Maxim keeps publishers cranking out new magazines, even in a bleak economy. While not quite matching the record pace set in 1998, 348 new magazines came to market in the first nine months of 2004, according to a University of Mississippi tally—beating the 319 titles launched in the year-earlier period. The number of launches grew despite a pullback by corporate publishers from new ideas, especially those with circulation under one million.

Anne Kreamer, who launched Nickelodeon magazine for Viacom Inc., and John Ellis, the media and technology columnist, are looking for publishing partners for a monthly called Fix, which would offer support for people trying to kick smoking, eating, drinking and drug habits. "I’m really not sure about fixing a magazine," she says, "but I think it needs to be done."

Unique opportunities for UCF undergraduates

Thinking about graduate school?

UCF undergraduates have unique opportunities that provide a smooth transition to graduate school.

Senior scholar can take graduate classes that apply to both their undergraduate and graduate degrees.

Accelerated programs that enable students to complete both a bachelor's and master's degree in five years are available to history, liberal studies and nursing majors.

Fellowships worth $25,000 per year are available to outstanding UCF undergraduates.

Visit our web site for more information: www.graduate.ucf.edu

Every Thursday!
College Tuition Soars, but Aid Grows, Too

By Jane Rineer

Tuition at public colleges just took its biggest jump in a quarter century.

The College Board, in its yearly survey of higher-ed-

By Jane Rineer

tuition pricing, said tuition at four-year public colleges and universities is up 8.4% from a year ago, or about seven times the rate of inflation. Private-college tuition grew 8.6%, and tuition at community colleges rose 7.9%.

Student aid also increased, to $60 billion, almost triple what it was a decade ago. More than half of that money is in the form of loans that must be paid back. But a bigger slice than ever is also coming in the form of merit scholarships for high-scoring, high-GPA students.

Price Jumps

Price increases for average undergraduates:

Four-year public colleges:

- 2002-2003...$4,081 increase........+9.6%

- 2003-2004...$4,081 increase........+9.6%

Four-year private colleges:

- 2002-2003...$18,273 increase........+18.8%

Community college:

- 2002-2003...$1,735 increase........+1.9%

Source: College Board

What’s News—Continued from Previous Page

In Business and Finance

When you need to know more, call us.

Continued from Previous Page

Ready for Radar? Fuel? Fix?

Continued from Previous Page

A range of unhealthy habits. The nation’s 25 million alcoholics, 12 million prescription-drug abusers, 14 million users of illicit drugs and 22 million cigarette smokers trying to quit are a ready-made audience, Mr. Rineer says.

A former Details magazine editor, Tim Moos, says he decided to go ahead with his idea of a “wickedly stylish, fun” car magazine while having drinks in an East Village bar. “Ow it was as much a vote of (investors’) confidence that they put any of their money in as in a mooded like this,”

Of all the projects percolating, Mr. Roshan’s may be the boldest. A fixture on Manhattan’s magazine circuit, Mr. Roshan was deputy editor at Fadmea Inc.’s New York magazine before being tapped as Talk’s editorial director. Radar is intended to be a biweekly, covering news and culture, a combination of Vanity Fair and the Inquirer, in the style of the gossip tabloids. General-interest magazines have struggled in recent years because they don’t have a natural base of advertisers, who prefer to buy ads in magazines with obvious readers. Drug companies like to advertise in health-related titles, clothing companies in fashion magazines. Mr. Roshan says Radar’s subject matter will be broad-based, but it will have a narrow reader target of young urban professionals, a desirable advertising demographic. Starting circulation will be about 500,000.

Mr. Roshan has commitments from other backers for half the roughly $50 million in launch costs. He is hoping to publish three test issues beginning in March. “It still might not happen,” he adds. He and Mr. Light often meet for what Mr. Light calls “Magazine Launchers Anonymous” meetings—“to check that we are not completely out of our skulls,” Mr. Light says.

Continued from Previous Page

have dropped, the ads have gotten bigger and flashier, and advertisers are recognizing the Internet as a good way to reach people while they are at work.

Martha Stewart

Could Face Charges

The Securities and Exchange Commission has informed Martha Stewart it intends to recommend filing civil securities-fraud charges against her in connection with her sale of ImClone Systems Inc. stock in late December, people with knowledge of the matter say.

The move signals that government authorities are close to bring­

ing their case against Ms. Stewart after months of probing her role in the scandal at ImClone, a once-highlyvalued biotech company founded by her friend Samuel Wakt­al. A representative for Ms. Stew­art, who built a media empire around her flair for cooking and decorating, had no comment.

Mr. Waksol has pleaded guilty to the theft of insider trading and other charges, and prosecutors said they were continuing to investigate whether he tipped others off, in­clud­ing family members and an in­dis­crimate who sold $10 million in the biotechnology company’s shares.

U.S. May Require

Backup Wall Street

Three months after the Sept. 11 attacks temporarily shut down the stock market, federal regula­

tors are considering a plan that would require the nation’s biggest banks and securities firms to estab­lish backup facilities hundreds of miles outside of Manhattan as a hedge against a major catastrophe.

The plan, which suggests that securities firms might have to lo­

cate backup offices as far as 300 miles away from New York, is aimed at keeping the financial sys­

tem running in the event of a mas­

sive terrorist attack or other disas­

ter, according to a New York Fed­

eral Reserve official. Currently, most existing and planned backup sites are within 30 to 50 miles of New York City.

Odds & Ends

McDonald’s Corp., which has been struggling amid the glut of U.S. restaurant competition and perceptions of poor service, said it will sharply pare back new restaur­

ants in 2003—AERI Corp., reported revenue at its key consumer unit tumbled 26%, as long-distance sales continued to be hurt by competition from e-mail and cellphones.

By Jay Hershey

How to contact us:

CampusEdition@wsj.com

AT COLLEGEJOURNAL.COM

- How to avoid problems when emailing your resume to employers
- Five simple ways to impress an interviewer
- Why parents suddenly favor pub­

ic universities for their children
Higher education deserved center stage at debate

The debate between Jeb Bush and Bill McBride held in the Student Union on Tuesday was nothing more than a staged political event. The pretense for WESH Channel 2 and the Orlando Sentinel hosting the debate at UCF was that education occupied such a central role in the governor's race that UCF would be a natural place to hold it.

Sadly, the organizers opened the debate to relatively few people, mostly the candidates' supporters and influential people within the university. Furthermore, while education did take center stage at the debate, college education received no attention.

With an event of this enormity, college topics such as rising tuition costs and the uncertain future of the Bright Futures Scholarship program should have received some attention. UCF students' Activism would be a natural place to voice their concerns.

The candidates did not answer any new questions, but rather regurgitated the same answers they gave last week. Gun control, K-12 education, taxes and gun adoptions — the debate unfolded like a re-run of sorts.

Bush and McBride did not talk about the issues that UCF students hoped they would. They wanted to hear the candidates' plans to protect the environment, expand health care and improve higher education. Instead, what they got was a televised version of last week's radio debate with seemingly vague questions and even more ambiguous answers.

Both candidates had the opportunity to reach out to college students and show that they truly understand their concerns and votes. Both candidates could have spoken to the large crowd of students who waited and watched this debate outside the Student Union.

Unfortunately, both Bush and McBride chose to ignore the students. The students managed to answer one question for the entire student population without saying a word to them. Do politicians care about a student's vote? Certainly not.

Our Stance:

Activism is good, but protest misplaced

When our editorial staff recently called for activism, we never expected so much. An entire day of speakers, signs and demonstrations hovered outside the Student Union all day Tuesday.

Hundreds of students watched a live telecast of Bill McBride and Gov. Jeb Bush debating for office. Meanwhile, the Greek organizations and student government leaders waged their own protest. But theirs will come in the form of a float — or rather, the absence of eight floats.

We commend their decision to become active, and applaud their example of unification, but it's unfortunate that their protest is neither effective nor necessary.

Their refusal to build Homecoming floats for the parade on Saturday won't halt a proposed change to the Golden Rule that will allow university officials to discipline their entire organization if several of their members decide to misbehave at once.

It won't convince administrators to involve them in the decision-making process that they claim they have been excluded from.

Instead, it will put a damper on what should be a day of celebration and friendly competition for Greek organizations, and dispirit an entire community that turns out to see the remarkable floats and spirited members from Greek organizations.

If the Greek members had researched the matter further, they might have discovered that they could attend the monthly Golden Rule Review Committee hearings to suggest changes and voice their concerns.

They should have expressed their opposition at a meeting in July that invited 29 Greek members to a presentation regarding the guidelines and stipulations of the group disciplinary policy.

Greek members have had ample opportunity to voice their concerns, but have not done so, and therefore have no grounds to blame the administration for their resistance now.

To protest what they deem an unfair rule, Greek members want to flex their clout by experimenting with their own code of conduct.

Greek members should also realize that the Golden Rule deals with enforcing appropriate behavior, and as members of the UCF community, they should abide by that policy. A minimal rule stating that they will be punished if they fight, trash homes with baseball bats or terrorize the community is not unacceptable. It's the kind of standards the rest of society already lives by.

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Our Stance:

'More policing needed in Greek Ghetto'

As a student living in the "Greek Ghetto," I could not agree more that a greater police presence is needed regarding our activities. "Greek ghetto" should no longer be valid.

I believe if you research the police archives, you will find the problem of crime in this area more widespread than people think. There have been on-campus and off-campus incidents in this area that have gone unreported by your publication.

In addition to greater police presence, there is a need for improved lighting. The decision-making process will undoubtedly be that he is the current student body president. He is a member of his fraternity and staff and has not been involved in any international students and their families. It appears to me that these children and fellow UCF students are endangered because of "fadism." Police are still policing, regardless of where they are located. Safety for UCF students is not a matter of request.

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Our Stance:

Pena's protests for student panel stem from personal misconduct

I wonder why Mr. Peña suggests that students should make up conduct panels and pass judgment regarding other student conduct violations. "Peña, till conduct panel toward stu­dents," by Cheryl Roman published Oct. 17. I wonder why he suggests having SGA appoint or elect the student representatives. Could it be that it is because SGA is made up of several members of his fraternity and undoubtedly, being that he is the current student body president, he will have some influence over the selection of persons to his panel?

It is essential that student conduct panels include staff and faculty members, as they are also part of the UCF community. If the panel were to "realize" Mr. Pena, he would personally select the student panels.

The conduct hearings regarding Mr. Peña are under way, and we will never know what the panel finds. If the conduct panel has heard on his conduct violations, then apparently mis­conduct has changed. He is still the president of the student body, and to my knowledge, he has not received any reprimands on club or organization participation. It appears to me that Mr. Peña's statements regarding student-governed hearings are merely a way for him to target them. He knows more is that they are passing judgment on his own case.

Mr. Peña is placed on Mr. Pena, and he is removed from office and union organiza­tions on campus, he will argue the unfairness of these panels and use the statements he makes.

I can bet that if Mr. Peña did not have to appear before this panel - and he is believed in the past for other violations - there would not be addressing this issue and would not be con­sidered with it.

-ADAM CAVRATZ

Letters to the Editor

Letters are published in the order in which they are received, regardless of their origin. Letters are limited to 200 words. Letters exceeding this amount may be returned to the writer.

"Our Stance: Higher education deserved center stage at debate"

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Control, alt, delete...

MENTAL DOODLES

Christopher Arnold
STAFF WRITER

Imagine never having to use three of the most dreaded words in the language, neither ever again — control, alt, delete. It's easy if you try.

The idea is to start with something so obvious that you rarely even realize you're doing it. In my own case, is not a perfect human being. My own computer assistance, this thing I use to as computer assistance, turns out to be just an extension of my own human capabilities. It knows all of these things, and more that did not even bother to extract it from me.

I also recall that whenever he does have computer problems, he usually tells me how to deal with them. This seems to work for me, however, as my line is always busy. I had no idea I'd become such a popular person.

Who's with me? Unfortunately, as anyone who spends his or her time similarly might attest, a good portion of that time is spent trying to get some sup­ port, which in my case, is not at all. My own brand of computer assistance is not really a problem, it never bothered to watch.

What is wrong with this univer­ sity? We have a plenty of profes­ sors, including those with a tried and true method referred to as "restating." It is an ancient remedy, a contemporary of trapa­ zoids and love-trippin', but which survived them.

Usual­ ly, that works, I say again, usually. If it doesn't, I must reach deeper into my little bag of tricks. I ask myself what my father might do in the same situation. At some point there­ after, I end up on the floor flum­ ming around in some harmless div­ erge, flashing light in my mouth, playing with whatever cables I can find.

Hours later, after jiggling anything I can find on the com­ puter that is "jigglesable," I'll remember that my father is the same man who is convinced that tape, paste, and a steady regimen of "walking-­off" are marvels for whatever ails you. I also recall that whenever he does have computer problems, he usually tells me how to deal with them. This seems to work for me, however, as my line is always busy. I had no idea I'd become such a popular person.

Now, being the fairly literate person that I consider myself, I understand that different cultures all over the world deal with prob­ lems in very different fashion. Whereas we rely on witches and science, there are people who subscribe to dancing and chaos. However, someone who is a method might seem, there will inevitably come a time when one is eager to try anything. Let me assure you, now, however, that even when my computer does not work, I know, because I've tried. In fact, I've tried it a lot. And it has never worked. Not once.

Unfortunately, there are definite advan­ tages to having a machine that could repair itself. It has quite a bit of potential for saving user time and thereby increasing pro­ ductivity. That, in turn, could effectively reduce stress levels and promote longer, calmer and happier lives.

Controlled, there is a fragile to this vision of the software world the IBM offers us. The one readily apparent disadvantage of self-learning compu­ ters is that a relatively stubborn crust would be lost. The com­ puter, in fact, become what the computer was — a universal scout. Your professor didn't get a paper on time! Must have been a problem with e-mail. Because we all know you sent it. Missed a deadline at work? Must have been because your hard drive crashed and you're still recovering files.

Course of that is most likely a non-existent problem when offset by your newfound productivity. The dilemma not as easy to over­ look, however, now comes in the form of the killer robots, the neat­ ing technology could do to the. They are coming don't you worry. And once this new technology is in place, it won't be easy to defeat them.

But I'll more likely be dead by that time! At least it's a picket of staring at my reflection in a blank screen, struggling to midnight to retrieve a sound that is needed by 7 a.m. but unable to extract it from deep within that hunk of chips and processors, hurtled with pliable and metal. And all the while it knows how much I need that material — oh, you, it knows — it won't cooperate, but it knows.

It knows that the sooner I can retrieve those files, the sooner I can get to bed and spend a few hours of sleep before my deadline. It knows all of these things, and yet all is in a state that I cannot forget. "It's not... not... you..." So let's hurry up and make this technology a reality. I need my sleep, and am even willing to risk the killer robots.

Columnist Christopher Arnold can be reached at christopherarnold@ucffuture.com.

Where has all the spirit gone?

HORSE WITH NO NAME

Joey Myers
STAFF WRITER

Joey Myers, a former University of Central Florida football player, is now the Gridiron Gazette, a student-written publication available on campus.

As I sit at the football game this past Saturday, the only thing that felt was shame. I was embar­ rassed to be a Golden Knight on that field.

No, I'm not griping about our loss to Tulsa. It was a great game, and Talbott was a formidable foe. The reason for my shame is the lack of enthusiasm at this univer­ sity.

There is only one thing I can say about the students of UCF: they're rare.

UCF's sports marketing made a huge attempt to get the students behind the team and get in the game. They created a buzz, they created a crush. They created prism­ buster stickers and pete con­ tests. It was advertised all over the radio and all over campus. The turnout was pathetic. While there were some great fans cheering on the Knights, the larger crowd hung around in the parking lots, gazing over watching other foot­ ball games on portable TVs. The plan was to go to downtown clubs and bars. Most were too drunk and too well to even set foot inside the stadium to catch a single play.

There were hundreds more that did not even bother to make the drive to the game at all. What is wrong with this uni­ versity? We have no tradition, no pride. What will it take to muster some pride among UCF students? What does UCF have to do to earn a Little Support? Do we have to beat them, or rather, out of them?

I feel for the Pride and Tradition people. I feel for the athletes on this campus. Who appreciates the cheer­ leaders? The dance team? The marching band and the players? I know I do. I know there are others, but I might be the only one, and there is only so much cheer­ ing and hollering I can do as one person.

Every other distinguished university in the state supports their student athletes through the soliciting heat and torrental downpours at home football games. We, on the other hand, cannot be bothered.

Grades, as you might be able to see, are a reality dealing with the students of UCF. There are definite advan­ tages to having a machine that could repair itself. It has quite a bit of potential for saving user time and thereby increasing pro­ ductivity. That, in turn, could effectively reduce stress levels and promote longer, calmer and happier lives.

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Columnist Christopher Arnold can be reached at christopherarnold@ucffuture.com.
Homecoming games tend to have a rich tradition of two things: pageantry and an easy win. During halftime the homecoming court gets marched out and honored. Before and after some poor weakling of an opponent gets pummeled by the home team, giving plenty of chances to cheer on the special occasion.

UCF's homecoming opponent, Akron, seems to fit the bill. The Zips are a dismal 1-6, 0-3 in the Mid-American Conference, giving up an obscene 40.6 points a game. And this is the same Akron team UCF crushed 57-26 in last year's game, which occurred the very week UCF announced its entrance into the MAC. Zips coach Lee Owens told his team to give the Golden Knights "a brass-knuckle welcome." The Zips then proceeded to dance on the UCF locale at midfield of the Citrus Bowl prior to the game. And oh yeah, they're MAC East Division foes too, which is enough motivation for a team desperately needing conference victories.

"I remember the brass-knuckle comment they made," Brown said. "We're just going out right now to try to get us a win and do our best." UCF's offense should have a field day against Akron's nonexistent defense. The Zips' run defense ranks amongst the worst in the country, giving up an average of 261.3 rushing yards a game.

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"1 don't really know if it's a rivalry but we're going to have fun," Brown said. "If we don't win, then it doesn't make a difference."

The senior has never failed to start a game at center in his 3 years. Mike Mabry has been there every game, caring only about one thing: winning. Mabry has been there every game, caring only about one thing: winning.

"We got to win, that's how I grade myself," Mabry said. "If we don't win, then it doesn't make a difference." The senior has never failed to start a game at center in his 3 years. Mike Mabry has been there every game, caring only about one thing: winning.

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Linebacker Chris Pilinko came to UCF with no guarantee of becoming a Golden Knight

Chris Bernardt Staff Writer

During the second quarter of UCF's home game against Toledo last weekend, linebacker Chris Pilinko limped off the field. He had beenwise to see a triple threat, which kept him out of the last home game and has bothered him for the entire part of year. Yet two plays later, Pilinko was back in and making a drive-stopping tackle on third down.

"Knowing that you get to go out there and get it done, it's not really an option to come out of the game," Pilinko said. "You go to play.

It's hard to expect Pilinko to willingly stop playing after it took so long for him to get to this point. Sure he starts at UCF's strongest linebacker position now. But from where he started at UCF it's been a long and unconventional road.

In 1998, Pilinko graduated from Nease High School in St. Augustine. He was coming off of a superb senior season, earning team MVP honors with 121 tackles, 27 tackles for loss and a sack. He had even rushed for four touchdowns offensively. Those numbers earned him all-county honors. But it didn't produce a football scholarship.

So Pilinko arrived at UCF with no guarantees of becoming a Golden Knight. But he did, as a walk-on, and ended up redshirting for the 1998 season. But that one year of sitting out didn't kill his dream and active roster for the following year. He again saw no action in 1999, spending the year on the scout team. Still, he used the time to his advantage and won the team's outstanding defensive sophomore team player award.

"He's got something inside there," said defensive coordinator Bill D'Ottavio, who doubles as a linebacker coach. "He's had to fight for every bit of everything he's ever gotten out of this program.

In 2000 he finally cracked the active roster, and he spent the next two years as a back up in the back field. Still this year he broke into the starting lineup. Injuries made him particularly valuable when his turn came, allowing him to start one game at middle linebacker and another on the strong side. He registered 27 tackles, two sacks and an interception in just seven games.

"He was one of the play calling seven game of an ankle injury. He suffered it during UCF's homecoming game against Louisiana-Monroe. He comes into this year's homecoming game against Akron with a similar problem. Bone chips in the ankle forced him to miss UCF's home opener against Liberty, but he's returned for the past two games.

Still, he's limped off the field more than a few times in both contests. "If he's going to push through things, he always plays in pain," D'Ottavio said. "He can go at all he's going to try and go. He enjoys playing the football game and he comes out with a purpose and each and every day." That kind of toughness helps to make Pilinko a leader on this Golden Knights team. He's one of his three seniors on the starting defense, along with defensive end Elton Patterson and cornerback Asante Samuel. Though he isn't a vocal player, his willingness to play through pain and the scrappiness he's shown to rise from walk-on to starter sets an excellent example for UCF's young defenders.

"I think it runs off on the other guys," D'Ottavio said. "Anytime you have a guy that plays hard and lays it on the line every day the other guys see that."

Last season the Orlando Touchdown Club honored Pilinko when they gave him the Shula-Stripe Award. The award is given to player who exemplifies studing commitment to a goal, perseverance through all obstacles, dedication to the team, academic achievement and dependability on and off the field. It be hard to find a better description of Pilinko's five years as a Golden Knight.

Pilinko has had a solid season thus far. In five games he has 33 tackles, tied for fourth on the team. He's also forced one fumble. But perhaps most impressive considering his humble beginnings, he's started every one of those games.

"It's definitely gratifying," Pilinko said. "I know after the season I'll look back and I will be a good accomplishment. But right now I'm just trying to go out there and play as hard as I can and help this team win games."

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Knights shut out Belmont, climb above .500

Tom Alexander Staff Writer

The UCF men's soccer team improved to 6-3-1 and 5-1-1 in the Atlantic Sun Conference with a 3-0 victory over the Mercer Bears on Sunday afternoon.

Sophomore Xavier Delgado got the scoring started for the Knights when he scored off Tobias Kruenberger's feed just over a minute into the match. The next goal wouldn't come for either side until the 75th minute, when UCF freshman Cristiano Girandone scored his fifth goal of the season on a shot that hit the crossbar before finding the back of the net.

Senior Sverrir Sarginson scored his first goal of the year about three minutes later to finish the Knights' attack for the day. Freshmen Billy Judyino and Arden Green picked up assists.

The shutout was goalkeeper Ryan McIntosh's second of the season. He recorded seven saves. Girandone's goal gave him the team lead with five. Belmont dropped to 2-7-2 overall and 2-4-1 in the Asun. The Golden Knights are back in action when they host Mercer at home at 7 p.m. Friday.

Rowers do well in Boston

The UCF women's crew team took seventh and 12th places at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston last weekend.

The UCF varsity 8+ finished seventh on Saturday with a time of 17:57.49, while the lightweight 8+ took 12th in 18:14.74 on Sunday.

Leigh won the varsity event followed by West Virginia and Louisville. The Riverside Rowing Club finished first in the lightweight event followed by Radcliffe, Princeton and Wisconsin.
Penalties could make for an ugly game

"Defensively, we’re going to have to step up and stop Charlie Frye," Kragowski said. "He thrives around and runs around. He’s the guy." He’s also very liberal with whom he throws to. His top two receivers, Miguel Irvin and Matt Cherry, have 30 and 29 receptions apiece. Third receiver Morris Elliott has 18, and running back Brandon Payne has 20. Plus the Zips can get creative, using wide receiver/quarterback Nick Sparks, Sparks has 19 catches and a receiving touchdown on the year, and completed 2 of 10 passes with a throwing touchdown.

The Zips also have two capable running backs in Payne and Bob Hendry. Hendry, the starter, has 476 yards on the ground. On average, Payne has 280 yards and three scores. Even Frye is mobile, running for 111 yards and four touchdowns. As a team, the Zips average 185 yards per game and have 14 rushing touchdowns. They should continue to have success against UCF’s soft run defense, which gave up 300 yards on the ground last week against Toledo.

Their one big special teams threat is kickoff returner Matt Castine. He’s averaging 24.7 yards on 24 returns. Akron has allowed two punt returns for touchdowns, as does a player.

Mabry hopes to have a future in coaching

Two-year UCF career. Only left tackle Brian Huff has done the same over that period. After losing Edwards and Comerford last season, Loges hit the hard early this year.

Right tackle Kyle Watkins missed most of two-days, pushing senior Garrett McCray into a starting role. When right guard Taylor Robertson went down with a sprained knee against Arkansas State, McCray slid over to left guard and started his starting spot. Then just as Robertson got healthy two weeks ago, McCray blew out his right knee in practice, ending his college career.

Some of the effects of all this missed time up front showed. In UCF’s first two games, the Golden Knights allowed eight sacks and rushed for just 28 total yards. But in the past four games, opponents have sacked quarterback Ryan Schneider just once and the Golden Knights have averaged 122 yards on the ground.

"We’ve finally been able to get everybody kind of gelling and working together as a unit," said offensive coordinator Robert McDuffie, who also serves as offensive line coach. "Every ballgame we’re getting better. That’s all you can ask for.

Mabry has been a big part of that turnaround. At 6-feet-6, 265 pounds, he has helped stabilize the line since he transferred to UCF last year. One of many players who transferred to UCF via Southeast Mississippi Community College, he started at the junior college level. A 33-yard reception by wide receiver Doug Gabriel and the Akron defensive end in practice, ending his collegiate career.

Injuries hit the line early in the season, injuries hit the line against Akron (1-6). But the big thing to expect in this game is plenty of penalties. Not only do both teams typically see lots of yellow flags, but also the intensity of this potential rivalry is liable to cause some heated exchanges.

"It ought to be an interesting football game," Kragowski said. "I’m sure there’s going to be some heated encounters between the two teams. I’m going to tell my guys about waking away from it." UCF desperately needs to beat Akron team for a conference win and expect nothing less. The Zips will have no way of stopping an ever-improving UCF offense. And if they try to dance on the midfield logo again, they might be in for a surprise.

"We’re going to have Knightro out (at midfield) looking for them," Brown said.

BY METRO, June 20

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Jackie Vanlooven leads a defense that has produced nine shutouts this season

CHARVI MAGDAOON
STAFF WRITER

In soccer, like in other sports, there is the type of person who likes to take the glory for scoring the goals. Then, like Jackie Vanlooven, there is the type of person who likes to deny goal-scorers their glory.

As a senior on UCF’s women’s soccer team, Vanlooven remains a stable component of a defense that continues to shut opponents down. While the Golden Knights’ offense might put up numbers ranging from one to nine, the defense rarely sees any number other than zero producing nine shutouts.

No opponent, except for ranked teams Florida State and Duke, has scored more than two goals on UCF.

One exception, Jacksonville, did it too, handing UCF its first 1-0 loss this season. The Dolphins defeated the Golden Knights 3-0 on a goal with 49 seconds left in the game. However, Vanlooven said that game out because of a high ankle sprain suffered at the Troy State match.

“She’s an awesome leader,” UCF Coach Amanda Cromwell said. “She’s been our captain for two years. She sacrifices her body day in and day out, running through people. She’s a great leader. Going up for crosses, she’s a threat in the box.”

Vanlooven said playing defense is a selfless job. In 78 games in her career, she started 73, scoring three goals and one assist. She had one game-winning goal to her credit, against Alabama A&M during her sophomore year. However, her favorite memory as a Golden Knight came her freshman year when UCF made it to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. The Golden Knights lost 8-0 to No. 8 North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

“Getting manhandled by UNC,” Vanlooven said, “but it was an honor. Playing in that stadium with such a history. Every girl growing up wants to play soccer at UNC, Chapel Hill.”

Vanlooven started playing soccer around the age of 5, but her athletic talents led her to volleyball and golf. At Lake Mary High School, she was selected as the Most Valuable Defensive Player her senior year for her role in helping the team win the 6A Florida State Cup.

For volleyball, she set the Lake Mary assists record. Vanlooven earned the school’s Outstanding Athlete of the Year twice.

“I chose soccer because it was my passion for the longest time,” Vanlooven said. “I loved playing volleyball. I could jump and set, but there were girls 5’10 that same ability who were way up the totem pole. I wasn’t prepared to have to beg, plead and really scrape it together when my heart was really with soccer.”

A communications major, Vanlooven hopes to pursue nothing in the area of public relations, but her love of soccer keeps her attached to the game.

For an internship last spring, she helped out in the sports information department at UCF, covering men’s and women’s soccer. She saw how press releases were handled and worked with preparing media guides.

This winter, Vanlooven is coaching at Winter Springs High School as an assistant varsity coach and wants to see if that opens any doors.

“With how things are going this year, I’ve been getting more confidence with my play,” Vanlooven said. “I might look into the WUSA, or hopefully they look into me.”

After graduation, wherever soccer takes Vanlooven, hopefully it isn’t too far from home.

“I’m such a homebody,” Vanlooven said. “I’m not planning to, but I don’t know that I’ll look for anything far away. If something presents itself, I may have to go to see where it is. I live in Florida. I love my heat and humidity.”

Jackie Vanlooven (left) has started 73 of 78 games in her four-year career at UCF.
Big Gulps score big in IM Sports Fest

1:30 a.m. The top five finishers starting from fifth to first were: Fearsome Foursome with 970 points, Club U with 895 points, Funky Chickens with 800, BCM Maction with 1000 points and our winner with a 50 point win. The Big Gulps finished first in Dodgeball and placed second in the track relays. The Big Gulps were tied with the Alcoholics, Michael Pilla, Joel Lovenson, Karen Steinmertz, and Shee Goble and Diana Keesler, won a free dinner and viewing of a show at Medieval Times. They finished first in Pajama relay, tied for first in Dodgeball and placed second in the track relays. The Big Gulps were not the only team to dominate the event. The two teams tied for first place with 445 points each. The two teams tied for first place with 445 points each.

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“Get Ready for Knight Fest”
Mary 3 comes home for UCF Homecoming

Band to perform after Spirit Splash

Jason Irsay
top writer

Friday’s Homecoming performance by 7 Mary 3 will mark a homecoming of sorts for the band as well, the ten-year-old band got their big break in Orlando when their song “Umbrellas” received its first radio airplay on WJZM in 1996.

Ten years on the road have made the band wise, tough and humble, according to lead singer Jason Ross. In a phone interview, Ross talked about the music industry, life on the road and what UCF students can expect at Friday’s concert, among other things.

7 Mary 3 came together back in 1992, at the College of William & Mary in Virginia. Ross formed the band with bassist Case Daniel (both Orioles natives), guitarist Jason Volkert and drummer Giri Khalsa, while they attended school. They signed a record con-
tact after Ross, the youngest member of the band, finished college.

Ross does not regret finishing his degree and encourages other college bands to do the same.

Along the way, Ross said the band has learned a lot. The most important lesson they’ve learned?

Everyone also needs to be kept in the dark, according to Linda Gooch, Team Knightro’s head coach.

It’s all a part of the mystery,” Gooch said. “We don’t want people to think of Knightro as a person.

But it’s not just one person who wears the Knightro costume anyway. Since the demand for appearances has increased drastically in the last four to five years, Gooch said playing the role of Knightro has become a team effort.

One senior, one junior, and two freshmen rotate costume-wearing duties. These rotations become particularly important at football games, where the students are required to take a break at the end of each quarter.

“We were even discussing the possibility of hoping Knightro up to an L.V. at the Arizona State game if it ended up being a hot one,” Gooch said.

Although Knightro faked out at the rainy game. In Arizona, some home games have been just as hot and the 30-pound costume can take its toll on the students.

“Hot, humid weather requires more frequent breaks for the students,” Gooch said.

In addition to running around in the heat at football games, Knightro also makes appearances at community and campus events. He shares his views on the current state of the music industry.

“It’s a very volatile time,” Ross said. “I wouldn’t want to trade shoes with anybody who’s trying to get signed right now.”

“It’s really tough out there, but at the same time, we’re going through a period that, ten years from now will be seen as a real revolution in the music industry with the technology that’s available to consumers, he continued. Ross touted the greater expo-

sure that people have now to different types of music, a result of digital music and file sharing.

“Coming to terms with the digital age is going to be the most important thing that happens in the music industry,” Ross said.

Ross said he has mixed feelings on file sharing. He understands the position of artists who oppose it, yet does not personally oppose it.

“I think one of the things that would be remiss not to mention...”

Please see Band on 21

Who is Knightro?

Julie Monheim
staff writer

He’s one of the most mysterious characters on campus. Everyone wants to know who’s hiding behind that golden armor, but the identity of Knightro, UCF’s mascot, is kept confidential.

In fact, only a handful of people actually know who plays the part of Knightro. The cheerleaders and coaching staff, along with a few close family members are enlightened.

Everyone else needs to be kept in the dark, according to Linda Gooch, Team Knightro’s head coach.

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Please see Band on 21

The Rowdy

Kristin Davis
staff writer

Left! Right! Left! Right! At home baseball games, the Rowdy Knights can be heard long before they are ever seen. They chant these words in an attempt to distract and annoy UCF’s opponents as the players anxiously shift their feet back and forth in the dugout’s box.

In the midst of the noise and chaos that surrounds a UCF sporting event, the “Rowdy Knights” can be found in the center of the action. These sports enthusiasts take pride in heckling the other teams, promoting school spirit, increasing attendance at events and competing to be the loudest...

Please see Students on 25
Band returns to roots, rocks again

people don't realize is, for bands like us that aren't on MTV and aren't on VH1, and that, and the other, the internet is a very important source of getting our music out there, so to share is really important to us and we don't really have a problem with it."

But at the same time, when you are on MTV and you are on VH1, and you're one of these bigger bands who's being compensated at such a high level, they see every MTV that's being downloaded as income [lost], and rightly so."

Ross said he wishes music fans that download music for free would return the favor.

"I mean, if people want to download my music for free, that's fine, just it would be great if they could just send me a little e-mail saying, 'Hey I'm John so-and-so, and I own John MCDonald, I need law services, I'd be great to hold these kids accountable to something that is basic human nature.'"

Ross said that most of the people who download music support the music in other ways, such as going to shows and buying merchandise.

"For the most part we've had great success with our fans sharing our music with people over the net, and exposing us to people," Ross said. "If you can make a living playing live shows, it doesn't matter as much to you."

Ross said major changes would take place in the music industry in the near future.

"We're in the very beginning of a revolution. Legislation that is happening right now is going to impact music in an unbelievable way."

The front man made the analogy of music as a commodity.

"The fact of the matter is that if you put an act on MTV and you put it in high rotation, you're going to sell records," Ross said. "It's just like selling a commercial for toothpaste."

Ross said that great music fans suffer from current music industry practices.

The kind of fans who support that level of bandwidth, the Who's of the world, they're the ones really getting screwed here. Those are the loyal fans. Those aren't the flavor of the month fans. Those are the people who seek out great music, it's a shame that they're the ones who are getting the short end of the stick."

Ross said Mary 3 wants to return to its roots.

"If it's just one band right now it's really important to reinvent ourselves in the mainstream and create another plateau. We've gone through our creative, arty period, we're kind of back to just wanting to rock again, really straightforward, so that's our goal for the next record."

Ross talked about life on the road. He said the band's attitude toward touring has evolved as they have matured.

"When we first gained popularity, the band loved touring. I think in the earliest, in '96 and '97, when we were really hitting it hard, and we were so young, there was a brief period of time when we were playing a lot of shows with people that we listened to growing up, that we were really big fans of," recalled Ross. "That was a definite time where you felt like you were kind of living a dream."

That kind of wears off after a while. It becomes more of a survival issue. I think that's where we're at right now:

"Going on the road is increasingly more difficult the older you get, but it's also more important. There's a period of time where you might consider doing something else. If you make it through that time, the road's really all you've got left. The road is not a bad thing."

"Experience on the road is probably the single most important thing that goes on in the band. I mean, it's different everyday. There's different people, there's different experiences there's, at this point - you can from doing it so long - there's friends that you've made that you only see if you're on the road."

That road brings Mary 3 back to Orlando on Friday. After learning about the gig, and how it will go along with Spirit Splash, Ross offered his thoughts on the concert.

"It should be a good time then. My experience playing shows like this is people are either really into it or they could care less because they're already so drunk that it doesn't really matter who's playing.""

"Hopefully we'll find a happy medium in between and people will get excited about it, and we will have a great time. Our policy is, basically, we'll play the same show for 50 people as we would for 5,000. We're going to bring as much energy as we would in any other situation. We're not going to dilute it. I think people generally, in Orlando, support us really well, so I think it's going to be a great show."

I think people in Orlando support us really well, so I think it's going to be a great show.

-JASON ROSS
lead singer, Mary 3

In Army ROTC you'll push yourself. Test your limits. And in the process, learn how to think on your feet and be a good leader. You could even get a scholarship. Register today for an Army ROTC class. Because you're not just like "everyone."
A hopping good time at Froggers

Donna T. Schuman
Staff Writer

King George and his royal family were on their way to dine when a Warlock turned the family into frogs. The family traveled to a warmer climate knowing they would never survive the cold winter as frogs. The prince, still seeking a place to dine, decided to create a place of his own. That is how Froggers Grill and Bar was born, so reads the legend on their menu.

This Florida-beach themed sports bar offers a variety of appetizers, salads and entrées all for under $8. The food categories offered consist of hamburgers, fajitas, pasta and several seafood dishes for vegetarians.

One of these locations is the Oviedo location, which opened in 1993. Oviedo residents Rick Hayne, Frank Joyce, Mike Lougee and Gary Nossaman purchased this Froggers in 2001. They decided to take this opportunity and make it work said Nossaman. Froggers is a place that is “fun for everyone,” he added. Lougee stated that the owners’ goal is to be the “first choice” for casual dining and adult beverages in Oviedo and the surrounding area.

Nossaman, Froggers co-owner and general manager, said Froggers is unique because it caters to all types of people. “We can have 10 different people come in together and order something they like instead of being tied down to one type of food,” Nossaman said. The Light Lunch Special is one of the specials offered Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and consists of soups, salads and sandwiches. Happy hour is everyday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., in which 35 cent wings are sold from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. But Happy Hour doesn’t end there. It starts back up again at 10 p.m. until close. Dollar draft beers are also offered everyday from open to close.

Customers seem to be enjoying the atmosphere and food. “This is my first time here and the service and food have been great,” said Scott Kotyk, 22, who was on vacation from Canada.

In addition to these specials, the Oviedo location has 13 Mad Mike entertainment rooms from 6 p.m. to close every Saturday. Froggers also hosts an adult-themed party every two months. “We had a beach party in July and are planning a Halloween party for October 30th,” Nossaman said.

Mad Mike entertains the crowd with games such as trivia, twister and the limbo. “We play ‘Name that Tune’, but the guest that guesses right has to come up and sing the song,” Nossaman said. Prizes such as t-shirts, hats and free shots are offered to the winner. But Froggers isn’t only for party-lovers. Sports lovers can enjoy watching the games every Saturday and Sunday on the Oviedo Froggers’ two big screen TV’s and its 21-, 19-inch TV’s.

“We play every televised game available on those days,” Nossaman said. There is always something to keep one entertained in Froggers. Even while waiting for food in the dining area, there is a complete assortment of video games and six dartboards to keep patrons occupied. “You have to see it for yourself,” Nossaman said.

The Oviedo Froggers is located at 27 Alafaya Woods Blvd. The other locations are 4520 N. Pine Hills Road in Oviedo, 1112 Town Center Blvd. in Hunter’s Creek and 110 N. Clark Road in Ocoee. Froggers is open 11 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday and from 11 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. Sunday hours are 12 p.m. to 11 p.m.

EIGHT DOLLAR DINING
Four students play the role of Knightro

visits hospitals and attends community service events.

The students also practice once a week. Much of practice time is spent discussing who’s going to appear where. The team views tapes of previous events to critique the appearances. They also practice their walks and rehearse interactions with other mascots.

One mascot that Knightro used to interact with was UCF’s very own Glycerin, but Gooch said just like college students, mascots’ relationships are often unstable.

“Last year Knightro and Glycerin decided to cool it a bit and maybe date some other people,” she said. “But they kind of fell back on each other like if they don’t have a date for Homecoming, they’ll get together.”

Even without Glycerin, Knightro has a lot of help. “Team Knightro” consists of the four students who wear the costume, the escorts, who follow the mascot around at the events, and the coaching staff, which trains the students.

“T really does take the effort of the entire team,” Gooch said.

With four different students playing Knightro, things can get confusing. The team works hard on creating a uniform persona for Knightro.

“No four different walks, four different ways to sign a signature, and four different gestures,” Gooch said. “We try to work on doing everything the same because Knightro is one character.”

Even though Knightro is just one character, coaches sometimes think of him as a person.

“I might say we’re going to have Knightro at this event, even if I’m talking directly to the student who’s going to wear the costume,” Gooch said. “It’s as if he is a different person.”

The students who play Knightro take their jobs seriously. Once they put on their costumes, it’s as if the character possesses them, Gooch said.

But, many of the students are not as outgoing as the character they play.

“It’s such a wild and crazy guy, you’d think the students are like that, but some of them are the shyest people you’ll ever meet,” she said.

To play Knightro, students have to go through an audition process. This year twenty-five students tried out for the part. They had to perform a skit in front of judges and also participate in an interview session. For the skit, students were given a bucket and a mop and told to create a scenario. Gooch said this was training for them because Knightro often creates his own skills.

“Sometimes he’ll reach over and grab something on the sideline and suddenly it becomes a trumpet, and he’ll start playing in the band,” she said.

Gooch said it’s important that those who play Knightro are quick-witted and dedicated. So far this year, Gooch said she’s been lucky.

“We’ve been so fortunate because they have amazing school spirit,” she said. “They really do bleed black and gold.”
Also, in the last month...

A 25-year-old man in scrubs was arrested at Toronto’s Mount Sinai Hospital and charged with sexual assault for fondling women after telling them that he was a “sedation consultant.” And at a meeting on Oct. 5, citizen J.E. James angrily threatened to initiate a lengthy recall campaign against all five Salinas, Calif., city council members, apparently unaware that his Democratic opponent ran attack ads that Taylor said made him look gay.

Recurring themes

As News of the Weird has reported, sometimes workers accidentally fire their nail guns into their heads, and often they survive just fine, thanks to skilled surgeons (and luck). In August, Denver firefighter David Lilja’s cheek, but they missed vital parts (except for an artery but the position of the nail kept the artery from hemorrhaging); he’s fine now. A few days later in Santa Clarita, Calif., an errant nail went through construction worker Jorge Hernandez’s eye socket, into his brain, but he remained conscious and didn’t realize what had happened until he looked into a mirror; he’s fine, too.

Can’t possibly be true

• In September, Washington state Sen. Joe Zarelli acknowledged to The Columbian newspaper that he had collected $12,000 in unemployment benefits in 2001-2002 without documentation that he was also being paid $32,000 a year as a senator; but he blamed the state bureaucracy for not catching him and explaining to him why that was wrong. Sen. Zarelli said he “had no clue” that he was supposed to report his legislator’s salary.

• Medellin Banks, a retarded, poor black man and another worker Jorge Hernandez’s eye socket, into his brain, but he remained conscious and didn’t realize what had happened until he looked into a mirror; he’s fine, too.

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2. "Back in the Saddle Again"
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See solutions, page 27
Students strive to make UCF opponents miserable

FROM PAGE 20

est group of UCF fans in the stands.

Senior David Taylor said the Rowdy Knights enjoy aggravating other teams, yelling their heads off, and just going completely crazy cheering for UCF.

Club members seem to have judged fans as the most miserable for UCF's opponents.

"When they react to the things we say that’s when we know we’ve gotten into their heads," said Taylor, the group’s treasurer. Taylor said he has heard people say that UCF is one of the most difficult places to play due to the crowd’s enthusiasm. "I take a lot of pride in that," he said.

The club was started by junior engineering major Adrian Moore, who basically corralled about eight of his friends to attend games together and sit in the same section each time. To give themselves an identity, they had bright yellow shirts printed with the words “Rowdy Knights” in black letters. That original group has since grown to about 30 members.

Moore said he came up with the idea after attending his first UCF football game against Georgia Tech, which had a similar student fan club that called itself “The Swamp.”

The Rowdy Knights are diehard UCF fans dedicated to doing anything in order to show support for UCF teams.

And boy do they take that seriously. For a basketball game last year against the University of South Florida, group members created bull-shaped pinatas and encouraged fans to “bash a bull” to prove their loyalty to UCF.

At an away basketball game at Stetson, the Rowdy Knights took it upon themselves to provide their own halftime entertainment, with one of their members running several laps around the court waving a large UCF flag.

Senior Greg Connell, the group’s current president, said the Rowdy Knights also have helped him make new friends.

“I came from a high school out of state and when I came here as a freshman, I felt lost,” he said. “Now, students who may not have many friends and are interested in sports have a group of people who can go to games with and have a good time.”

Added freshman computer science major Chris Moss: Being a Rowdy Knight is definitely one of the best things I have done, and I want others to experience this as well.

The only requirement to become a member is a $10 dues fee each calendar year to cover the cost of the signature yellow shirts worn to all sporting events. Although the group has applied in the past for SGA funding, so far it has been refused with the exception of minimal office supplies, Moore said.

Although Moore had been trying to establish the Rowdy Knights as an official campus club since the fall of 2000, they were not given that designation until earlier this year, when they were formally recognized by the Office of Student Activities and SGA. Members are proud that their club has functioned so long with little outside funding.

Moore said it’s important to represent UCF not only at home games, but at away games as well.

“We have gone on many road trips together including football games at Clemson, Georgia Tech, Alabama and Penn State. One time we even drove to Marshall and back on only five hours of sleep,” said Junior Kelly Higginsbottom, a criminal justice major and the group’s vice president, said the best aspect of the club is its diversity.

“It gave me a chance to hang out with different people and cheer on UCF with others who love it just as much as I do,” Connelly said. He hopes the Rowdy Knights one day will have several hundred members — enough to become an intimidating presence at UCF home games.

“It’s a growing school, and so are its athletic traditions," he said. "We get a chance to play a part in helping UCF reach new levels.”

“Some people believe we act the way we do for attention, but there’s more to it than that. We act this way to create an atmosphere. We’re just trying to show support for our team, win or lose.”

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