International students seek new advisers

Joe Harless / Staff Writer

In the midst of new regulations and rigid paperwork now mandatory for international students who enter the country since Sept. 11, 2001, the International Students and Scholar Services office at UCF faces a shortage of advisers to counsel and advise about 1,300 international students enrolled at the university.

As of August, the ISSS office has been searching for three new advisers to help international students with changing INS laws—including new forms such as the I-944 that allow universities to legally retain international students in the United States.

Saleha Suleman, director of ISSS, says the biggest problem with these new forms is that some require immediate returns but the ISSS currently has only one adviser to help the 1,300 international students with problems and questions about the forms.

Owladys Kabure, president of the International Student Association, said, "It can take as long as three weeks to get an appointment with the adviser."

The ISSS had two advisers at the start of the semester. One adviser, Ragda Kurdy, was asked to reassign from the foreign language department in August. Since then, Suleman and the ISSS staff have been searching for a replacement and two additional advisers for positions the university appointed.

One reason the search has taken so long is that the advisers have to be trained immigration advisers. According to a ranking sheet provided by ISSS, specified qualifications for the position included both a bachelor's and master's degree in an appropriate specialization with six years of experience. Preferred qualifications included four to five years on immigration advising and counseling experience, administrative experience, bilingual communication and problem-solving skills. ISSS started out with 120 qualified candidates and are down to nine finalists.

Besides being able to retain and enforce the student

Wrong diagnoses, insensitive care have caused many students to lose faith in campus clinic

Linnea Brown / Staff Writer

Senior Nicholas Haines doesn't trust the UCF Student Health Services clinic. Two years ago, a doctor there failed to recognize a potentially fatal blood clot in his arm.

Senior Stephanie Macek blames the student health center for having to undergo painful reconstructive surgery on her foot last October. A provider at the clinic told Macek that her sprain was actually a torn ACL, a diagnosis that required surgery to repair.

ABian was diagnosed with a knee sprain from playing basketball in January. Trevor Cox, checked with a specialist to find his sprain was actually a torn ACL.

Senior Mark Nelson won't ever return to the clinic, either. Nelson claims a health-care provider there referred him for being openly gay.

Citing everything from misdiagnoses and insensitive nurses to lengthy wait times, many UCF students complain that the health center provides inadequate medical attention, often causing them more harm than good.

Health center officials take issue with that characterization. While patient confidentiality

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Making a major change

Consequences for academic alterations include added time in school

KRISTIN DAVID
STAFF WRITER

The average college student will switch majors about four to five times in their entire college career, according to the UCF Freshman Orientation Program. Junior Marcelo Carvallio can attest to that. Carvallio does not intend to make a commitment to one major yet. He has switched majors from athletic training to psychology and now to radio and television. However, if his current major does not work out for him, then English will be his next major of choice.

“I move around a lot. I’m a big major shifter,” Carvallio said.

When students request to change their major, the paperwork is first sent to the Office of Academic Support & Information Services (Oasis) and then on to the Registrar’s Office. On a slow day, Oasis receives about 35 to 40 student requests, said Maryline Rosario, the Oasis office manager. But when there is a busy day, they receive twice as many requests.

One of the reasons that students change majors is because they have a misconception of what the major encompasses.

“Many times students find a major is not what they expected it to be. They see a certain course on television and assume it’s actually like that when it isn’t,” said Trisha Vranaecho, a second-year graduate student who works in the Oasis office.

Sophomore Stephen Hucker was unaware of the requirements for his new major when he changed it from athletic training to pre-law and political science.

“When I found out I had to take all of these science classes, I knew I wanted out,” students who switch majors during their junior or senior year also may have trouble graduating on time and can become fifth-year students, Vranaecho added.

When they change majors that late in their college years, they sometimes have to start all over again from scratch and most of the credits they already had are wasted.

Jennifer Gendreau, a graduate assistant in the Registrar’s Office, agreed.

“That’s probably why it’s so hard for some students to graduate because the more often you switch majors, the more new requirements you have to meet because of the change in catalog years.”

Junior Andrew Janko, a 21-year-old business major, accumulated 20 credit hours in his former engineering major before switching. Although about half of the 70 credits are now useless in his current major, Janko believes he had good reason to switch.

“After taking Calculus 2 for the third time, it was getting too expensive. Then when you have to take physics as well, the workload just becomes too much to handle.”

Junior student Stefanie Storm, a 20-year-old art major, also has changed her major several times. When she found her original major in advertising was very selective, she changed to digital media and then to art.

Storm currently only has her general education classes completed due to changing her major three different times already.

“I think I’ll end up graduating in 2005 because I have been picking and choosing between majors. I am not yet focused in one particular area.”

However, when students research their specific major before they start taking classes, they are more likely to stay committed.

“I stuck with my major in good times and bad because I found out what accounting was actually about and what the major would entail before making my decision,” said 19-year-old accounting major, David Brannon.

However, if a student enters a major and is unhappy that alone is reason enough for them to switch, Brannon said.

“It’s better to change your major as many times as you have to until you find the right one. Then it is to stick with one major and hate your career for the rest of your life.”

Immigration laws create need for more academic advisers

From Page 1

The advi­sers, ISSS wants are trained professional student advo­cates, said Sullivan.

“I’ve worked with people with at least six years experience,” said Sullivan, who added that most of the candidates in the advising positions are still employed at their other jobs. “It’s competitive.”

Sullivan added that because of these requirements, ISSS cannot em­ploy more people to hire advisers to deal with stu­dents concerns. The department acts as a liaison between inter­na­tional students, the university and INS. Under federal mandate, all colleges must use the SEVIS (Student and Exchange Visitor Information System) to legally retain students in the United States, ISSS received its license for SEVIS in August and could lose that license if it brings in short-term advisers.

Sullivan hopes to have the new advisers hired by the end of November but can not say exactly when they will start.

“The remedy is on the way,” she said.

Spirit Splash to stir rash?

CHRISTINE DELLERT
STAFF WRITER

Thousands of UCF students gathered in and around the Reflecting Pond Oct. 25 for the campus’ annual Spirit Splash. Equipped with beach balls and inflatable pool rafts, some local alumni and students even brought their children and dogs along.

We, in the aftermath of the three-hour-long festivity, not all students felt the positive affects of this year's love of school spirit tradition. Many were just infested — with the flu.

UCF’s Spirit Splash received Florida Leader magazine’s award for best university tradition in Florida. But is it also the reason that many students are now sick?

“Rosario, 22, a junior from Madrid, attended Spirit Splash for the first time last week. Hercon wasn’t hesi­tate joining her friends and thousands of others in the main quad on Saturday.

“When my roommate told me it was going to be a geriatric, I just laughed at her,” she said.

Feeling recovered from her previous cold, Rosario was surprised when the flu symptoms returned over the weekend.

“I just got so much worse,” she said. “After going in the water, all the congestion came back right away.”

Hercon believes that the condition of the water in the Reflecting Pond is to blame for her relapsed illness.

“Rosario in the Registrar’s Office, was very selective, she said. He spent the last weekend in a doctor’s office to receive a pre­scription for a bacterial eye infection.

“His eyesight became blurred and his eyes turned bloodshot Friday evening. Upon awaken­ing the next morning with increased vision problems, his eyes and face were swollen.

“I think the infection was from something in the water because I noticed it right when I got out,” Rosario said.

Steve Massimino, senior coordinator of UCF’s Environmental Health and Safety, believes a student’s eyesight problems are due to the result from the condition of the water in the pond.

“The water flows through a very elaborate filter system and chlorine system,” Massimino said.

Grounds worker Jose Cruz checks the chlor­ine levels in the Reflecting Pond daily. “It’s treat­ed just like a swimming pool,” he said.

After cleaning and treating the pond both the night before and the morning of Spirit Splash, Cruz said he does not and never will change the condition of the pond.

“People and animals may use the chlor­ine residue in the water, it won’t stay clean for long,” Massimino said.

Professor Emma Both was surprised by what she found in the water.

“I knew there would be a lot of gross and dirt in the pond, but I never expected to see a girl’s read pad floating in the water,” she said.

She, like many other students, felt that the boisterous atmosphere in the pond was from the infestation of human and animal gnhms, not the lack of chlorine.

Sophomore Ellen Hernandes wanted to wear her flip-flops while wading in the pond.

“Who knows what I could be exposed to with those people swimming in the water,” she said. “I even saw a couple of dogs swimming around in there.”

While students enjoyed the weeklong Hawaiian festivities, some cautious­ly viewed Spirit Splash as a health concern.

“I had fun while I was there on Friday,” said Hercon. “I don’t think I will be getting into the water next year.”
Apology to be issued to NORML@UCF

Barnes & Noble College Bookstores will issue a formal apology to NORML@UCF for painting over the marijuana plant on the window NORML purchased for Homecoming.

Company officials said that Denise Barrios, manager of the campus bookstore, violated company policy by covering the plant on NORML's window. Brian Frank, marketing director of Barnes & Noble College Bookstores, Inc., said the bookstore had received complaints about the painting.

Frank regretted the situation. "Our company is certainly a very liberal company committed to the First Amendment," he said. "It's simply a mistake by our manager."

Frank said that company officials spoke to Barrios and briefed her on company policy. "Our company policy is not to censor anything," he said.

"The manager will be more cognizant of her actions in the future," Frank added. "It certainly will never happen again."

NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, purchased the window to participate in Homecoming. NORML president Mike Tiner said that he explained to Barrios what his group stands for when NORML paid for it. "I specifically remember telling them that there would be a pot leaf on the window," he said.

According to Tiner, the painting should not have surprised Barrios or anyone else. "They should have assumed that there would be a pot leaf on the window, just as they should expect Fellowship of Christian Athletes to have a cross on their window," Tiner said.

Tiner said his group had been considering filing a lawsuit and called the formal apology a victory. "It was just an issue of having to challenge someone for a free-speech issue," he said.

"I feel satisfied not having to take this to court," Tiner said.

Initially, Tiner said, the corporate office immediately offered to refund the money NORML paid for the window, but Tiner declined. "It was never an issue with the $60," Tiner said. "It was completely about free speech. Our organization fully supports things like this."

Tiner added, "If we can open her [Barrios’s] mind and prevent things like this from happening in the future, then this is a victory."

Barrios did not return repeated phone calls.

Delta Upsilon member arrested

The Orange County Sheriff’s Office arrested the president of Delta Upsilon fraternity Saturday night on two felony charges after several members of the fraternity threatened members of Phi Delta Theta.

"Four of them tried to get into the house," Key said. "Their president, Chris Turner, put his arms around my neck and squeezed."

Tand Turner and his fraternity brothers apparently were upset about the outcome of Homecoming activities.

"They were definitely looking to pick a fight," said Dustin Miller, who was in the house with Key. "They antagonized us to come outside and call people and bring the fight to them."

Key and Miller pushed the Delta members out of the house, closed the front door of the house and went to the back door to make sure it was closed and locked. At that point, the DU members tried to run the door.

"One of the kids ran and broke a section of the front door," Key said.

Key and Miller called the Orange County Sheriff’s Office at 11 p.m. Key said sheriff’s deputies arrived minutes later.

"Once they heard the screams, they fled," Key said of the DU’s. "I knew him as a positive identity Turner."

Turner could not be reached for comment, as he did not return phone calls.
Shrinking budget forces cutbacks

FROM PAGE 1

UCF can also save money by regulating students' use of bandwidth. Right now, the university does not restrict bandwidth use, but instead supports its allocation and offers students the dial-up service. Hartman said that UCF does not plan to eliminate the service, but does anticipate the annual operating costs to decrease due to a lack of demand. Therefore, UCF will budget money for dial-up costs.

Hartman said there are more than enough rooms provided for those who use the dial-up service, which is about 15,000 students, or half of the UCF student body.

Also stated several students and faculty members use the service, thanks to broadband options like DSL. This trend means that each year UCF will spend less on dial-up service than the year before. The university removed 24 dial-up lines from PBX due to decreased usage this year alone.

UCF will spend less money on its PBX phone system, operated by the UCF Telecommunications Department, that earns more than $100,000 a year.

Hartman said that although students still use residential telephones, they increasingly buy and use cell phones, especially for long-distance calls.

The PBX phone system that UCF uses operates like a computer, tracking individual calls to determine how long students spend on the phone and billing them for that amount of time. This system can cost the university more than $100,000 a year.

UCF plans to spend less money on phone systems in the future as cell phone usage continues to increase.

By sharing licenses for Windows and other software with other universities, UCF can save a significant amount of money.

The Chronicle reported that sharing software licenses could save universities up to 32 percent. Hartman said UCF does participate in this type of arrangement when it is possible and cost effective.

Hartman also stated that the economies for WebCT are negotiated at the state level, and UCF participates in this process. All universities, colleges, and K-12 institutions can also purchase licenses through the process.

The university can save even more money by buying with other institutions to share a server and a license. "UCF participates in this type of agreement by doing some processing at the Northwest Regional data center," said Hartman.

UCF also saves money by keeping the computer labs unmanned overnight. Some campus computer labs stay open all night long, but full-time lab employees do not work between the hours of 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. "We really see very little need for them during those times," Hartman said.

Cutting employees' overnight hours also saves the university money: UCF doesn't have to pay computer lab employees for an extra six hours of work at night. That's a saving of 42 hours a week, which would equal another full-time employee.

"The university also employs students, who demand less pay, to work the computer lab during off-peak times.

Because of the overabundance of information technology professionals, UCF now hires them for less. Hartman said that UCF has seen a "moderate" increase in the number of applicants applying for technology positions.

Although the university now has the option to hire technology employees for less, annual salary adjustments and raises are the same for IT as they are for all other university employees.

Colleges can save substantial amounts of money by sharing hardware and software costs, according to the Chronicle. Universities can do this by joining purchasing pools, where a group of institutions shares costs for technology expenses.

The state of Florida has purchasing contracts that cover equipment, software, hardware, and communication services. Hartman said UCF uses these agreements frequently when they provide the lowest available cost.

"Life-cycle plans allow universities to purchase mass amounts of nearly identical machines at regular intervals. Such plans allow universities to upgrade and replace computers on a continual basis.

UCF uses a modified life-cycle program in the computer lab. While the purchasing costs are still low, but the school is not limited to one or two models or a time of purchase.

This type of purchasing program has resulted in savings of 15 percent to 30 percent.

Hartman said the life-cycle program works because UCF departments regularly purchase new computers to meet growth needs and replace obsolete, older computers.

Finally, UCF uses preferred providers for many technology items, including desktop computers (DELL), personal productivity software (Microsoft Office), servers (DELL and Sun) and networking equipment (Cisco).

Using preferred providers can save schools about 40 percent off the retail price of computer equipment, according to the Chronicle.

Hartman said using preferred providers also reduces the life-cycle costs to support and maintain technology on campus.

That's why REACH Peer Education is offering 2 sections of HLP2701 Peer Education Training class this Spring semester every Monday from 2:00-4:50pm and again from 5:30-8:15pm. This is a 3-hour elective course that covers a broad spectrum of topics like drugs, alcohol, and safer sex. Registration is limited, so call now or stop by our office (Trailer 617) to reserve a space.

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Health center says 94 percent leave satisfied

Deichen defended the health center's health-care providers, all of whom have six to eight years of experience working with college health issues.

"I'm pretty comfortable that most of the providers have seen pretty much every type of illness there is," he said.

Emile's personal experience is this: a year after his injury, Trevor Car's left knee hasn't regained its flexibility. A student health clinic provider said it was merely sprained. Days later, a private doctor ordered surgery.

"Her job is to side with patients and make sure they leave here feeling satisfied," Pantil said. "She handles complaints from students and calls from disgruntled parents."

"I feel like they just run in, look at you, and run out," Simone said.

"I was being misdiagnosed, many students grumble that it is extremely difficult to communicate with health-care providers at the clinic, who often seem rushed, uninterested and unwilling to take the time to hear students' problems or thoroughly explain their ailments.

Phillis, a senior who did not want her full name used, said that during her freshman year, a powder in the women's clinic scared her into thinking she had cancer.

"The doctor told me I had pre-cancerous cells in my cervix and that I wouldn't be able to have kids," she said. "I was devastated, and they said that my only option for getting rid of it would be to do a realy hard procedure of freezing the cells off."

Phillis made an appointment with another gynecologist, who diagnosed Phyllis with cervical dysplasia, a common irregular cell condition among young women.

"The second physician] said that the health center only told me the worst-case scenario," she said. "They didn't tell me how common it was, and they certainly never told me to get a second opinion."

Deichen defended the health center's diagnostic, contrasting that the procedure required to treat cervix dysplasia is a simple intervention treatment.

While Deichen said he never specifically instructs his providers to warn patients to get second opinions, he encourages any dissatisfied student to do so.

"If you don't, click with one provider, please see a different one," he said.

Health center complaints unfulfilled with the medical attention they receive at the Student Health Center, Faust suggested they direct their complaints to the center's patient advocate, Betty Callon.

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Thomas Barnett

Ever since then, I have gone to him every time I get sick, for everything from sore throats and flu — even when I broke my toe.

In September, when freshman Thomas Barnett fell off his bike and broke his jaw in a UCF parking garage, he said health-care providers at the student clinic not only treated all his injuries within less than an hour, but also drove him to the hospital.

"I was bleeding all over the place when I called medical help back into the urgent care room immediately," Barnett said. "[A physician] dressed up my chin, gave me eight stitches and took an X-ray and declared my jaw broken, all in less than an hour.

Barnett requested that the health center not call an ambulance, so a nurse rode with him to the emergency room at Florida Hospital East, where a specialist wired his jaw shut.

"I waited for hours in the hospital emergency room, while the health center took me right in," he said. "It was the most efficient doctor's experience I've ever had.

Indeed, a survey of students who used the health center indicated that 92 percent felt that their clinic provider adequately explained their diagnosis to them, listened well and treated them with respect and courtesy. Ninety-five percent of the students surveyed thought their provider explained preventative measures clearly.

Another survey of 400 health center patients conducted in April indicated that 90 percent of patients waited less than half an hour in the waiting area.

Deichen said the health center has developed several internal improvement programs that the health center continues to continuously upgrade the medical care for students.

The Peer Review Committee, which meets quarterly, studies commonly treated illnesses. "We look for trends in students' charts to make sure that their providers' 'treatments are all effective," Deichen said.

Another such group is the Risk Management Committee, which meets monthly and examines trends in all UCF student injuries to see if there is anything the health center can do to prevent these things from happening.

The health center has also outlined goals to provide extended hours for students on week-ends, to convince 80 percent of students at UCF to use the health center as their first center of choice for minor medical treat- ment. They hope to receive satisfac- tory reports from 85 percent of students who indicate that they have not performed adversely in their classes because of health problems.

Besides having its own inter- nal hierarchy for monitoring quality and handling patients' complaints, the health center is monitored by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.

The AAAHC accredited the health center in October 2000, making it one of only two accred- ited student health centers in the state, (The other is the University of Florida.) In order to keep that accreditation, the health center must follow strict guidelines set forth in the AAAHC handbook. The health center is up for its next accreditation in 2003.

"We're emerging as a real leader in terms of health care," Raust said.

A A AHC auditors can check up on the health center anytime to ensure UCF's health-care providers comply with the rules of safety of qualifications of staff and medical records, Deichen said.

But senior Trevor Cox said he won't put his health in the hands of student health-care physicians even sooner, despite their goals and satisfactory sur- veys.

A diagnosis almost ended his basketball career just September, when a health-care provider X-rayed his injured leg and declared it slightly sprained.

"I was in pain two days later," Cox went to his personal physician in Orlando. "That doctor referred me to a sports medicine specialist, who told Cox, he had torn both his meniscus cartilage and his ligaments.

"I had surgery to repair the damage a few weeks later," he said. "But I had listened to the doctor who said it was sprained, I would never have been able to play basketball again.

Deichen explained that when a patient suffers a knee injury, their leg can become so tight from swelling that a torn ligament can be difficult to discover.

"I hope the provider told him to come back if his symptoms continued," he said. "Some severe injuries are better served by an outside consultant. Two-thirds of our students have outside insurance and make the decision themselves to go elsewhere.

"I will ask students to wait even longer, for enough time to cure the majority of students who come in with complaints," Deichen said.

"I would recommend that everyone use the health center whenever they need it."

Graduate student Hope Wolfe said she has always received excellent treatment from the physician assistant Gerald Vega.

"I really trust him," she said.

"My mom is a nurse, and she always agrees with his diagnosis and treatment suggestions."

I had this infection on my arm my sophomore year and he cured it," she said. "I really appreci- ated the fact that he asked me ques- tions, listened to me and explained my treatment clearly.

Deichen said the university's personnel rules state that any provider whose work is deemed unsatisfactory after two years can be transferred out of the clinic.

"I've only seen a provider get moved to a different area of the university once," Deichen said. "That person is not involved with our facility anymore."

Rust said he has never had to fire anyone, but that he would have been inclined to "fully answer the question" for confiden- tiality reasons.

Deichen said he is taking steps to rectify the issue of the providers' con- dommed Nelson's hygiene.

"Part of our big staff meeting in December will be gap-sensitivity training and any patient awareness," he said. "We want all of our providers to be as sensitive as possible to these issues.

"The scarce parking situation has been addressed by adding 12 spots to the original five spaces that existed for health center patients before.

"The lengthy wait times that some students complain about should be alleviated by a policy that allows students who are late for their appointments to see a nurse first, if necessary, whether their illness requires immediate medical attention or if their appointment is scheduled to be resched- uled.

"Previously, any student who arrived late lost their appoint- ment time, but we have relaxed the schedule, regardless of their condition.

"While late appointments set the health center back, the students are flexible about rescheduling, thus forcing patients to wait even longer, the average wait time is now only 15 to 20 minutes, Rust said.

But Callon and Deichen said they also hear many positive com- ments from students.

"A lot of students come in just to tell me how happy they were with the provider they just saw," Callon said. "I hear from members who got complimented all the time."

Psychology senior Evelyn Burton, who had a particularly posi- tive experience.

"I needed treatment for an infection, and only had a two- hour break between classes," he said. "The secretaries' computer was down due to a high line of people, but when I explained that my problem was urgent, they sent me in and a doctor who was about to go home stayed overtime just to see me.

Burton added that the provider listened and agreed with what he said. Burton said which antibiotic has worked best for her in the past, and even gave her free samples of it.

"I was completely impressed by the professionalism of the entire staff," she said. "In fact, I would recommend that everyone use the health center whenever they need it."

Deichen said students look through each health-care provider's medical charts careful- ly and even go through his or her personnel file with them during an annual review.

"I do, and she always agrees with his diagnosis and treatment suggestions."

Another such group is the Risk Management Committee, which meets monthly and examines trends in all UCF student injuries to see if there is anything the health center can do to prevent these things from happening.

The health center has also outlined goals to provide extended hours for students on week-ends, to convince 80 percent of students at UCF to use the health center as their first center of choice for minor medical treat- ment. They hope to receive satisfac- tory reports from 85 percent of students who indicate that they have not performed adversely in their classes because of health problems.

Besides having its own inter- nal hierarchy for monitoring quality and handling patients' complaints, the health center is monitored by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.

The AAAHC accredited the health center in October 2000, making it one of only two accred- ited student health centers in the state, (The other is the University of Florida.) In order to keep that accreditation, the health center must follow strict guidelines set forth in the AAAHC handbook. The health center is up for its next accreditation in 2003.

"We're emerging as a real leader in terms of health care," Raust said.

A A AHC auditors can check up on the health center anytime to ensure UCF's health-care providers comply with the rules of safety of qualifications of staff and medical records, Deichen said.

But senior Trevor Cox said he won't put his health in the hands of student health-care physicians even sooner, despite their goals and satisfactory sur- veys.

A diagnosis almost ended his basketball career just September, when a health-care provider X-rayed his injured leg and declared it slightly sprained.

"I was in pain two days later," Cox went to his personal physician in Orlando. "That doctor referred me to a sports medicine specialist, who told Cox, he had torn both his meniscus cartilage and his ligaments.

"I had surgery to repair the damage a few weeks later," he said. "But I had listened to the doctor who said it was sprained, I would never have been able to play basketball again.

Deichen explained that when a patient suffers a knee injury, their leg can become so tight from swelling that a torn ligament can be difficult to discover.

"I hope the provider told him to come back if his symptoms continued," he said. "Some severe injuries are better served by an outside consultant. Two-thirds of our students have outside insurance and make the decision themselves to go elsewhere.

"I will ask students to wait even longer, for enough time to cure the majority of students who come in with complaints," Deichen said.

"I would recommend that everyone use the health center whenever they need it."

Graduate student Hope Wolfe said she has always received excellent treatment from the physician assistant Gerald Vega.

"I really trust him," she said.

"My mom is a nurse, and she always agrees with his diagnosis and treatment suggestions."

I had this infection on my arm my sophomore year and he cured it," she said. "I really appreci- ated the fact that he asked me ques- tions, listened to me and explained my treatment clearly.

Deichen said the university's personnel rules state that any provider whose work is deemed unsatisfactory after two years can be transferred out of the clinic.

"I've only seen a provider get moved to a different area of the university once," Deichen said. "That person is not involved with our facility anymore."

Rust said he has never had to fire anyone, but that he would have been inclined to "fully answer the question" for confiden- tiality reasons.

Deichen said he is taking steps to rectify the issue of the providers' con- dommed Nelson's hygiene.

"Part of our big staff meeting in December will be gap-sensitivity training and any patient awareness," he said. "We want all of our providers to be as sensitive as possible to these issues.

"The scarce parking situation has been addressed by adding 12 spots to the original five spaces that existed for health center patients before.

"The lengthy wait times that some students complain about should be alleviated by a policy that allows students who are late for their appointments to see a nurse first, if necessary, whether their illness requires immediate medical attention or if their appointment is scheduled to be resched- uled. Previously, any student who arrived late lost their appoint- ment time, but we have relaxed the schedule, regardless of their condition.

"While late appointments set the health center back, the students are flexible about rescheduling, thus forcing patients to wait even longer, the average wait time is now only 15 to 20 minutes, Rust said.

But Callon and Deichen said they also hear many positive com- ments from students.

"A lot of students come in just to tell me how happy they were with the provider they just saw," Callon said. "I hear from members who got complimented all the time."

Psychology senior Evelyn Burton, who had a particularly posi- tive experience.

"I needed treatment for an infection, and only had a two- hour break between classes," he said. "The secretaries' computer was down due to a high line of people, but when I explained that my problem was urgent, they sent me in and a doctor who was about to go home stayed overtime just to see me.

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AOL's Case Speaks OfUndoing Menger

After months of complaints from AOL, Time Warner Inc. executives and investors that the America Online-

Online division is dragging down the com-

company, Chairman Steve Case has been telling senior executives that he would just as soon take back the unit through some sort of spinoff.

It isn't clear whether Mr. Case is seriously considering a spinoff—a distribution to a company's share-

holders of the stock in a division or subsidiary—or if his statements are just an expression of his own frus-

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ment more than once recently, in-

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DVD Burners May Be Hot This Season

BY ANNA WILDE JAIN
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his holiday season, elec-
tronics companies and
computer makers hope
DVD "burners," or
recorders, will become a
hot new product, following
the success of compact disc burn-
ers in recent years. Another Indus-
try, the movie business, has reason
to dread the same prospect.

The rising popularity of the de-
vices is raising the anxiety level of
the motion-pictures industry, which
wants to avoid what has happened
in the music industry since CD
burners hit the market. Record la-
bel managers blame the burners for the re-
cent drop in album sales, because
the devices allow music fans to
casually create their own compact
discs using songs copied from CDs
or downloaded from the Internet.

Bringing Out the Big Guns

Continued from Previous Page

stakeholders have gotten even higher,
with music executives fretting
about everything from Internet
piracy and thinning margins to the
slow death of the profitable teen-
genre. According to Nielsen
Data Corp., this year, the
firm projects 4.32 million, with the num-
bers mounting even faster in the
coming few years. The main rea-
nos: new CD recorders and
blank DVDs have dropped
sharply, even since Apple Com-
puter Inc. rolled out its early entry,
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Makers of DVD burners warn
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any kind of movie copying:
"There's so much copy protection,
plus the goods are too difficult to get around," he says.

And retailer managers say that
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But automakers are warning that
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ber, driven primarily by the slump
in stock prices.

Richard Cullen, director of the
University of Michigan's survey of
consumers says that if confidence
falters any further, the economy could
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Certainly, the October index was a bit higher
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October 9, but the十月 availability of new DVD recorders
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market share will be working harder
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Several releases, like the sound-
track for "Billy's Way," a soon-to-be-re-
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rock band P.O. M.O.: will re-
ward early buyers with a bonus CD
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Marketing techniques or not,
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Continued from Previous Page

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Don't know how to vote?
We'll tell you

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students who care enough to vote will choose whether to implement 10 amendments on Nov. 5. Here is how students should vote on the amendments:

Amendment 1 would change the wording of Florida's death penalty law from "cruel or unusual punishment" to "cruel and unusual punishment," thus bringing Florida in line with the U.S. Supreme Court. The amendment would allow Florida to execute minors ages 16 and 17 when they committed their crimes. Florida executes enough people already; it does not need the power to kill more. Vote: No.

Amendment 2 would require the Florida State Legislature to issue economic impact statements to the public before voters go to the polls. Amendment 2 would let voters know what amendments they are voting for and how the state would pay for those amendments if they pass. Vote: Yes.

Amendment 3 would give the Florida Legislature the power to determine what appears on the ballot in Miami-Dade County. Considering the problems in Miami-Dade County during recent elections, the state should make an effort to ensure that elections there proceed correctly. However, a constitutional amendment is not necessary to address this problem. Voting problems have occurred statewide, and Florida should not single out Miami-Dade. Vote: No.

Amendment 4 would make it more difficult for the Legislature to sell public documents from the public. Presently a simple majority vote in the Legislature can keep the public from ever seeing public documents. Amendment 4 would require a two-thirds vote in each house of the Legislature to seal a document from public viewing. The amendment would make Florida's elected officials more accountable to the public, and prevent a party with a simple majority to seal a document. Vote: Yes.

Amendment 5 will not appear on the ballot due to mislabeling language.

Amendment 6 would ban smoking from indoor workplaces. If passed, non-smoking employees and patrons of all workplaces will benefit from cleaner air. Currently, smokers infringe on non-smokers' rights by exposing them to second-hand smoke. The ban will encourage a decline in smoking and improve public health. Vote: Yes.

Amendment 7 would give tax breaks to homeowners who construct new homes in their communities to accommodate parents or grandparents. The amendment encourages families to take care of their elderly relatives rather than place them in nursing homes. The amendment has merit, but it needs to be clarified further after it is passed. Vote: Yes.

Amendment 8 would establish a statewide volunteer pre-kindergarten by 2006. It will allow parents to begin their children's education earlier, better preparing them for their passage through Florida's public school system. The amendment also offers parents a viable, inexpensive and valuable option to day-care. Vote: Yes.

Amendment 9 is one of the most controversial and most important amendments on the ballot this year. Amendment 9, the class-size amendment, would reduce class sizes to 18 students per class in grades kindergarten through third grade, 22 students per class in fourth grade through eighth grade and 25 students per class in high school. The state needs to improve public education, and smaller classes will help. Teachers can teach better with fewer kids in class. Amendment 9 will force the state government to raise taxes, but higher taxes are a small price to pay for better education. Vote: Yes.

Amendment 10, the pig amendment, would create better conditions for pigs during their pregnancy. Although pig farmers should treat their animals more humanely, this should not be an amendment. Why is there an amendment for pigs and not for homeless people, poor families, etc.? Let the Legislature handle this issue. Vote: No.

Amendment 11 would establish a regulatory board above the boards of trustees. Under the current form of governance for Florida's higher education system, politicians factor in too greatly. Politicians would play less of a role in the university governing process if Amendment 11 passes. The board of trustees need oversight. However, the board of governors should consist of elected representatives. Amendment 11 will improve the system. Vote: Yes.

Letters to the Editor

We're here to make sure you see our Opinion columns.

Amendments explained here are not necessarily those of The UF Oracle.

Sniping at gun laws won't prevent vicious crimes

After reading your Oct. 28 editorial titled "Sniping at gun control laws," I came to the conclusion that people are constantly trying to blame blame on someone. In the editorial's "snipers at gun control laws," published Oct. 28, you both the NRA for not approving of gun control laws such as a ballistic fingerprinting and background checks on gun buyers. This article makes everything sound so simple by saying if we used the fingerprinting system, we could find the gun, find the gun, find the gun... Yes, maybe ballistic fingerprinting would help to solve some murder cases or other gun-related crimes, but how much would it cost the taxpayers to keep this system? If no one thought of that, it would easily pro­vocative criminals from altering their gun somewhere to avoid being caught. I doubt it. According to the NRA, firearms may be modified, replaced or enhanced with new ballistic markings. Logic tells me that crimi­nals would definitely find their way of setting them to somebody else on the street so they are not caught.

I would suggest that citizens of the United States have freed themselves away from them because of a few men who don't care about laws or society anymore. There is no reason that responsible citizens should not be allowed to own guns. More people are killed in car accidents and then by gun deaths, so the government is going to take cars away from us? That would be insane, and taking our rights away from us would also be insane.

The reason that the sniper killing even took place was because the suspect chose to do wrong, not because our country has bad "gun laws." The blame belongs to those, not with the NRA and its list of micro-missile guns. It's just sad that irresponsible and vicious people make up questions right that we have had for over 300 years.

-MELISSA BROWN

Egyptian government is a far from perfect, but its most active system is the Greek system.

The Greek system is such far from perfect, but for a very small school lacking to build traditions and school spirit, perhaps it is better to avoid choosing it among the students who provide the most of it.

The administration stopped burning rails with the Greek system and suggested them for the sport that they are in this university. It is time the Greek system approached the Greek spirit from what it is and what it provides the school.

-MIKE SMARTY

Letters to the Editor

Please See Letters on 11

The Florida Times-Union welcomes letters from readers. All letters should be typed double spaced, not to exceed 300 words and must include your name and address. We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity, concise language and to fit available space. Letters can be mailed to P.O. Box 12000, Jacksonville, Fla., 32211, faxed to (904) 393-6360 or emailed to letters@florida-timesunion.com. We reserve the right to refuse or edit letters. Power of Print: Oct. 19-25.
The time is once more upon us. Despite summer temperatures, there is that ominous chill creeping into the air. It’s that time when people put on costumes and hide their true selves. It’s an unsettling amalgamation of unseen sensations, the sources of which can arise when you least expect them. They can drive you to keep constant vigil over your shoulder. The time is again near: Can you feel it? That’s right — another Election Day is quickly approaching.

Now, I will readily and freely admit that I am no political scholar. After that last election, however — you know which one I’m talking about — I decided that maybe I should pay a little closer attention to political matters. And I have made a concerted effort to understand them too, trying to find meaning behind the rhetoric.

I have a personal quirk, however, that I have yet to overcome and which continues to hinder me in political matters. You see, whenever I try to focus on them, my eyes have this nasty tendency to fog up and roll into the back of my head. It happens every time.

Despite this, I think I am making headway. In that I believe I have discovered what turns me off most from politics — the politicking. During this particular campaign season, rarely have I seen a candidate do anything that he or she stands for or believes in. There have been a few exceptions, mind you, but they are somehow always overshadowed by others’ marketing campaigns.

Very few candidates out there have convincingly tried to persuade me to vote for them. More often, they are trying to dissuade me from voting for their opponent. Is that what politics has been reduced to — the lesser of two evils? Are we to simply vote for a candidate because he or she is not as bad as the other name on the ballot? If this is what it has become, then it seems to me to be a poor reflection of ourselves that we could let such a thing happen. Unfortunately in this day and age the majority of people and voters find their time split unevenly between any number of endeavors, whether it be school, work or family. Campaigning sycophants have been exploiting this fact for years, indirectly revealing that no longer is a race for government seat about finding the best person to serve the people, but is in fact, just another sporting event to fill the calendar year. They are called races, after all.

What complicates the matter is that not only are the candidates and their parties doing the politicking; but so are a number of other groups with vested interests in election outcomes. Often these groups are the lobbyists that have donated large sums of money to try and get their candidate into office. And they all want their person in office, so voters are inevitably assaulted with any number of spins to make said candidate look even more appealing.

I’ve seen ads from teachers telling me not to vote for a candidate because he wants to turn all of the schools into Kathy Lee Gifford sweatshops. Well, that would create more jobs for Florida, right? I might have mixed up some of the details on that one — my eyes rolled into the back of my head and my hand fell on the TV remote.

I, personally, do not necessarily think the same way as major newspapers, television stations, teachers and lobbyists. I find it difficult to vote a certain way simply because so many others are leaning that way. It is really unsafe in numbers, or do we become Lemmings racing for the cliff?

Instead of smoke and mirrors, I would prefer politicians to tell me who they are and what they stand for. I do not want them to tell me what they think I want to hear in order to secure my vote. I do not want them to assume a reverse angle where I leave the room just to discover someone else’s vote. Sometime the best person to lead in government might be the one who is willing to give it all up if that was right for people they were leading.

Of course, then someone like Franklin Perez comes along. He is the Libertarian candidate for House District 32, and he wants to privatize schooling and legalize drugs and prostitution. Oh, yeah, he also sees no problem with a strip bar existing next to a house. Be careful what you wish for. Maybe politics are just another sporting event. Everyone wants to win — so much so, in fact, that they will do whatever it takes. And as voters, we are left more often than not to decide whom amongst the candidates we can tolerate more.

Or we just vote against the one we like least. Or we may not vote at all. Maybe I’m jaded, and I know I am real, but I feel more than a little foolhardy. I’m going to crawl under my bed now and curl up in a fetal position. Someone please call me when this is all over.

Christopher Arnold
Staff Writer

Mental Doodles

Letters to the Editor

Putting UCF pride before politics

The past Sunday several student organizations, along with the majority of our fellow students, organized a protest against the anti-Utica policies of the university administration. It was a large and loud gathering that was heard by the entire community of UCF. We, the leaders of this Student Union, felt that there would be neither time nor space for us to discuss student policy. Having already compromised the resources required to hold a giant float, we saw no need to boycott this event.

Remember in a year or two...
Cross-country teams gear up for Atlantic Sun Championship

Kristy Shonka  
Staff Writer

When the UCF men's and women's cross country teams travel to Troy, Ala., this weekend for the Atlantic Sun Championships it will be the first time all season the teams have left the state of Florida to compete. UCF Coach Marvila Mansur-Wentworth kept her teams close to home because of their youth. Between the two teams there are only five upperclassmen. "I know that we need to prepare a little more," she said. Limiting UCF's travel meant fewer races for the Knights. They have only competed in five races, with a two-week break in the middle and a bye last week. Both teams came around toward the end of the season with their top finishes coming at their last two races. The men's and women's teams won the Stetson Invitational on Oct. 18 and finished second at the Disney Classic on Oct. 12. Junior Danny Cook and sophomore Ron Menas have been the top two runners for UCF's final three races. Cook finished third at Stetson for his highest finish of the season, while Menas finished fifth at the same race for his top performance of the year.

Mansur-Wentworth said she expected Cook and Menas to help the men's team to a strong showing at the conference championship. "Both of them managed to break the course record this season," said UCF head coach Chris Cornell.

Women's cross country teams

The Golden Knights moved into a tie for first place with Florida Atlantic in the Atlantic Sun Conference. Both teams have won the past two Atlantic Sun championships.

UCF moves into tie for first

Charvi Magdaong  
Staff Writer

The Golden Knights moved into a tie for first place with Florida Atlantic in the Atlantic Sun Conference. Both teams have won the past two Atlantic Sun championships.

UCF's final opportunity for a win over a big-name school comes Saturday against Syracuse

Chris Bernhardt  
Staff Writer

In a way UCF will get a break this week. Its last three games have all come against Mid-American Conference teams. Its final four games will come against AAC teams. So Saturday's home contest against Syracuse, the first time the Golden Knights have ever played host to the Orangemen, marks the only non-conference showdown of UCF's final five games. The game starts at 2 p.m.

Still, Syracuse represents a difficult test for UCF to pass in a season full of challenges. This isn't exactly the Syracuse team most people are accustomed to. "I don't understand the 3-6 record," UCF Coach Mike Kruczek said. "They're (in their games) in the very end. They're in it with Temple; they're in it with Auburn in overtime. Right on down the road it's a mystery."

Syracuse did manage to break a four-game losing streak last week, beating weak-fingered Rutgers 35-24. And they did it with backup quarterback Paul Pasqualoni.

UConn Player of the Week honors

For her performance against Miami and Gardner-Webb, freshman Jennifer Montgomery earned A-Sun Offensive Player of the Week Honors. She is quickly taking over UCF's record books with her 42 points she has amassed so far this season. The point total surpasses Michelle Aker's single season mark of 40.

Sophomore Allison Blagriff gave UCF 2-6 advantage with her seventh goal of the season in the 67-48 mark off a cross from Jennifer Montgomery. With the clock winding down, Montgomery got into the scoring act by producing her team-leading 10th goal of the season.

The Golden Knights closed out the regular season Nov. 1 at rival Stetson. The match is slated to begin at 4 p.m. in DeLand.

Montgomery earns A-Sun honor

Jennifer Montgomery earned A-Sun Player of the Week honors and has 42 points on the season.

WOMEN'S SOCCER NOTEBOOK

A-Sun Player of the Week honors

Sophomore Amy Giles has been a constant on the board, starting every game of the season and has 42 points on the season.

Jennifer Montgomery earned A-Sun Player of the Week honors and has 42 points on the season.

PLEASE SEE CIESLAK on 15

A-Sun Player of the Week honors

Sophomore Amy Giles has been a constant on the board, starting every game of the season and has 42 points on the season.
Syracuse struggling with 2-6 record

FROM PAGE 12

Troy Nunes. The senior started in place of L.J. Anderson, who left Syracuse’s game the previous week with an injury. Anderson had not enjoyed the same success of last season, when he won the job from Nunes. He has completed just 62 percent of his passes with four touchdowns and eight interceptions. Nunes—whose two touchdown performance should garner him another start—has had interception problems in the past and will match up against a strong UCF secondary that’s already surpassed its pick total from last season. Still, Syracuse runs an option attack, and UCF has had problems containing mobile quarterbacks this season.

(Nunes) is a combination of things,” Kruczek said. “He can throw the football, he can run the option. He’s been there five years now. They’ve got a guy they can rely on to execute what they want to do.”

The Orangemen have had success running the ball, an area they can exploit against a poor UCF run defense. Sophomore Walter Jones leads the team with 88 yards and nine rushing touchdowns. They have seen progress from Anderson freshmen Damien Rhodes, who has 301 yards and five touchdowns. As a team they have scored 14 touchdowns on the ground.

“We’ve been kind of marked with the way that people can move the ball against us,” Kruczek said. “We got to make sure we’re able to stop that.”

But for the third consecutive game, UCF faces a weak defense it can take advantage of. Though the Orangemen returned six starters from last season, they rank 10th nationally in total defense. In particular they give up 253.1 passing yards per game. That should lead to a good night for UCF’s 13th ranked passing attack.

But Syracuse does have 19 sacks, despite the graduation of star pass rusher Dwight Freeney. Defensive tackle Louis Gachelin pressures the team with seven. How well the Syracuse’s front four matches up against a UCF offensive line that’s given up just one sack in the last five games should have a major impact on the outcome of the game.

The Golden Knights faced a similar challenge at Western Michigan several weeks ago and held the Broncos sacksless.

“Defensively I don’t see them drop off any from last year as I’ve watched this tape,” Kruczek said. “They don’t have Dwight Freeney back there but for the most part they’re every bit as athletic and as big and strong as they’ve ever been.”

Syracuse has been equally ineffective in stopping the run, allowing 188.6 yards per game. With the return to health of running back Alex Haynes and emergence of reserve Dee Brown, UCF has the tools to put up big numbers on the ground. But don’t expect UCF to run the ball too often if they have success in the air.

One of the few places Syracuse has performed well has been on punt returns. They average 11 yards per return, good for ninth in the nation. Jamel Riddle has the majority of the returns, averaging 15.3 yards with one touchdown. Rhodes has also returned a punt for a touchdown.

Despite Syracuse’s poor

Jimmy Fryzel has 20 receptions on the season and has reached the endzone twice.

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Come and Support your UCF Golden Knights as they take on the Orangemen of Syracuse

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Bus leaves the parking lot across from the Rec & Wellness Center @ 3:00pm open to all UCF Students!
Chris Bernhardt
Staff Writer

Late in the first quarter of last Saturday’s game against Akron, UCF quarterback Byron Schneider connected with a receiver for his longest pass of the day. The pass ended up going for 56 yards. It took the UCF drive down to the Akron 19-yard line, and helped set up an Alex Haynes touchdown run a few plays later.

The man who caught the ball wasn’t highly touted star wideout Doug Gabrieli, steady veteran Juan Paydel or even young speedsters Tavaris Capers or Lather Huggins. Instead it was Ivery Gaskins that made the play; a seldom used and somewhat overlooked senior with just four receptions for 52 yards coming in.

“I know I’m a role player. When my number is called I like to make plays,” Gaskins said. “Under the circumstances I know that anything can happen and whenever I play, I play like it’s my last.”

Gaskins has become something of an x-factor in the UCF offense, a big (6-feet-1, 205 pounds) yet speedy receiver who has made the most of any opportunity he has gotten. Considering how hard he has worked just to get to this point, it’s hard to imagine him taking any chance lightly.

There was a time when Gaskins played a much greater role in his team’s offense. Three years ago he was at Grambling, where he started for two seasons. So on the field he had found a niche, but off the field things weren’t nearly as comfortable.

“My experience at Grambling it was great from an athletic standpoint,” Gaskins said. “From a social standpoint I felt I was being overlooked.”

Wanting to be closer to his family in West Palm Beach, Gaskins decided to transfer to UCF. To play for the Golden Knights, he had two major obstacles to overcome. One was the NCAA’s requirement that a student-athlete transferring from a four-year university sit out a year before playing for his new school. The other, he had to make the team as a walk-on.

“I actually had confidence. I knew things were going to work out for the best,” Gaskins said. “I prayed; I knew the abilities and the talent that I had. There was no doubt in my mind that coming here, I was going to be a threat for this team.”

Armed with great skill and that belief in himself, Gaskins succeeded in making the team. He redshirted while sitting out in 2000, and then played as backup and on special teams in all 4 games last season. He made one catch on the year for 21 yards. He also recorded 10 special teams tackles.

Still, Gaskins had one more problem to deal with. He had no scholarship, and no other way to pay for school other than doing what he described as “dirty work.” He worked at places such as Burger King and Chico’s, having to show up right after a full practice without so much as a shower. He’d work till almost 1 a.m., then get up early and go to class.

“If there’s a success story, I think Ivery is one of those guys,” said offensive coordinator Robert McFarland. “People don’t realize all the jobs that kid was doing off the field to be able to afford to go to school, pay for school, pay to live off campus, plus play football and put all the time in that’s required.”

Gaskins did earn a scholarship for this season. It has given him what he called the privileges of not having to work. Thus he has had the opportunity to just concentrate on school and football. Even though UCF loves to run plenty of multiple receiver sets during games, the presence of so many gaudy receivers has made playing time for Gaskins hard to come by. His long stretch against Akron marked his only reception of the game. He has five on the year for 107 yards. He also has eight special teams tackles, supporting his desire to be an all-around player.

Four of Gaskins’s five catches have helped set up a scoring chance. That seems appropriate for a man who wants to help people so much, he’d like to pursue a career with the fire department. Through all the long practices, odd jobs, late nights and early mornings, Gaskins has learned the value of a helping hand.

“Adversity has made me a better person, a strong person,” Gaskins said. “But through it all, even when I experience some success, I just want to stay humble and always be there to help somebody else along the way.”

When you can gear up for signing up, that’s mLife.
Men’s soccer team edges Georgia State

TOM ALEXANDER
STAFF WRITER

The UCF men’s soccer team maintained its impressive conference record as they edged out the Georgia State Panthers Sunday 2-1, improving to 4-2 in the Atlantic Sun Conference and 7-4-2 overall.

The Golden Knights were led by the increasingly impressive play of freshman Juan Pablo Girauzo, who scored the first goal of the game off a pass from senior Freddy Rojas in the third minute. Junior Brian Malec put the Knights up 2-1 little more than 30 minutes later with a goal off a corner kick from sophomore Liza Vasquez.

Goalkeeper Ryan McNabb’s bid for a third shutout this season was squashed by the Panthers when Paul Schwaik scored with just over seven minutes left to play. McNabb’s four saves on Sunday moved him into ninth place on UCF’s all-time list for most saves in a season with 79.

Girauzo now has seven goals and one assist this year totaling 15 points, a team high. With what seemed like no proven goal scorer up front for most of the season, coach Bob Winch now has a go-to forward for this crucial stretch run.

The Golden Knights are now in second place in the conference behind Mercer, who is 6-1-1. Georgia State slipped to 6-7-1 in the A-Sun. The Golden Knights trailed to Gardner-Webb (0-3-3, 0-4-1 A-Sun) to try and start a winning streak and improve their conference record at 3 p.m. today

Coach expects Samford, Belmont as top finishers

FROM PAGE 12

“She’s going to be a lot better than anybody thought,” Mansur-Wentworth said.

She added that that includes Classrooms.

“She’s a big meet performer,” Mansur-Wentworth said.

Last season the women’s team finished third at the A-Sun Championship, while the men’s team finished fifth. Cook is the only returning All-Conference honoree for the Knights from last year.

Mansur-Wentworth said she expects Belmont and Samford to be the front-runners for the team title Saturday.

“They’re very deep,” she said. “They put the predominant amount of their scholarship in distance running.”

The women race is a 5K, while the men will run an 8K.

Cieslak, Kuhlman advance in UCF’s record books

FROM PAGE 12

points. Now she is only behind Amy Jones, who earned 40 in a single year. Montgomery’s 15 goals and 12 assists this season ties several past players for fourth place in a single season, in both goal production and assists.

Climbing the record books

Senior goalkeeper Josie Kuhlman’s seven shutouts this season moved her into a tie for 10th place in a single season, while her 70 saves on the year is good enough for eighth place in an individual season.

For her career, Kuhlman has 17 shutouts credited to her, which is the sixth-highest in school history. She trails Kim Wyant, who has 19 career shutouts, in fifth place. With 112 saves earned so far this season, Kuhlman is in third place with career saves.

Nicole Cieslak’s three game winners this season, combined with her five from previous seasons, moved her into a tie for fifth place with Amy Geltz and Amy Jones with eight career game-winning goals.

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COLLEGE IS THE PERFECT TIME TO START MAKING INTELLIGENT CHOICES.
With three sacks against Akron, Elton Patterson won Defensive Player of the Week honors in the MAC. From The Sports Desk

**Patterson earns MAC honor**

**Kristy Shonka**

Staff Writer

Senior defensive end Elton Patterson picked up UCF's third Mid-American Conference Defensive Player of the Week award for his performance against Akron. Patterson recorded three sacks and forced a fumble in the Knights' 28-17 win Saturday. He had eight tackles and four quarterback hurries leading the UCF defense to a second half shutout of the Zips. The Knights held Akron 11 points under its average.

Patterson shared the award with Miami's Ryan Turvy, who had six tackles and a key fumble recovery.

**Sante cited by A-Sun again**

For the third time this season UCF outside hitter Leyre Santarrella Sante earned Atlantic Sun Conference volleyball Player of the Week. The junior led the Golden Knights to a pair of 3-0 wins last week.

Sante averaged 6.5 kills, 3.33 digs, .33 aces and .50 blocks per game last week. Against Birmingham-Southern she hit .576 and recorded 22 kills, 11 digs and two blocks. In a key ASUN game against Troy State, Sante had 17 kills, two aces, nine digs and a block.

She is only the fourth player in A-Sun history to earn the volleyball award three times in one season.

**Crew team grabs three titles**

The UCF women's rowing team earned three first-place finishes Saturday at the Head of the John. In the first race this season, the novice 4+ beat Boston with a time of 22:12. With a time of 20:51, the novice 8+ took first place in its race. The lightweight 4+ took first place with a time of 20:36.

The Golden Knights took second place in the open 8+, novice lightweight 4+ and the open 4+ events. Next up for the Knights is the Head of the Chattahoochee on Nov. 2.

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No NyQuil?

Looks like an all-nighter.

The nighttime, sniffing, sneezing, coughing, aching, stuffy head, fever, best sleep you ever got with a cold.
Running off at the keyboard

KATRINA HAMMER
STAFF WRITER

When sophomore Sharina Pratt, 19, needs to vent, she does not pick up the phone and call friends or relatives; instead, she releases steam on the Internet — to thousands of people.

Pratt maintains an online journal, also known as a blog or web log. Broadcasting her ideas and problems, to which others can then respond with their own written reactions, enables her to collect different perspectives, not only from friends, but also from complete strangers.

"I enjoy getting input on some things going on in my life by others who are not directly related to the situation or me," she said.

Web logs pages naturally reflect the personality of the blogger, or author. But not everyone uses it to vent. Some logs consist of nothing more than a rundown of a person's daily activities, said Rebecca King, a 20-year-old creative writing major. Others "write their lives daily," she said.

Monday, Nov. 4
Web Dog Bowling

Rock n' Roll Dog Bowling, a music group composed of three canine musicians, will bring their unique brand of live music to the Orlando Oval 8 Cinema, 1850 Orange Ave. According to lead singer, lead guitarist and bassist Pecker, the group consists of a west highland white terrier, a miniature schnauzer and a shar pei. The show starts at 9 p.m. and is free for everyone.

The group, which has been performing together for over a decade, is known for its performing noisier, including a dog playing the drums, a rabbit playing the organ and a bird playing the clarinet. The group's first album, "It's a Dog's Life," is available on Amazon.

Wednesday, Nov. 6
Indigo Arts

An exhibit of African art and culture, "Indigo Arts," will run through November 15 at the Orlando Museum of Art located at 800 E. Washington Ave. in Orlando. The exhibit features works of African artists, including sculptures, paintings and prints. Admission is free and the museum is open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 7
Wishbone Ash: Glass Heart Tour

Internationally known British rock band Wishbone Ash will perform at the Hard Rock Live at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Florida. The show is scheduled for 8 p.m. and tickets are available for $34.50. For more information, visit the museum's website at www.omart.org or call 407-823-1161.

"I was warned when I left college for a long-distance relationship, relationship would be hard and probably not last past the first month," said Wright. "But my girlfriend and I are almost past the first semester."

Wright and her boyfriend have known each other all through high school and middle school. They started unofficially dating their senior year, and after one month, on Oct. 12, 2001, they decided to make it official.

"Being in a long-distance relationship doesn't feel like a chore to me, it just feels right," Wright said.

Wright and her boyfriend can't see each other weekends, they only see each other about once a month. Most college students cannot even comprehend the thought of a long-distance relationship, nevertheless a long road of long-distance relationships.
EIGHT DOLLAR DINING
Small place, big taste

DONNA T. SCHUMAN
STAFF WRITER

For students who are away at college and still crave those home-cooked meals, Costanzo's Italian Restaurant is a small restaurant with a big taste that can satisfy their urge for under $8.

When Tony Abbate, a native of Palermo, Sicily, started working at Costanzo's as a manager in 1984, he had no idea that in a short time he would become the restaurant's owner.

"Costanzo's was originally a franchise," Abbate said. "When I was working here, the store went bankrupt so I decided to buy this location but keep the original name. This was the only location to remain open.

Eighteen years later, the restaurant is still going strong. Everything served at Costanzo's is homemade by the restaurant's chefs of the past seven years, Tony and Joe Amaturo. This duo and the imported ingredients they use in each dish are responsible for creating that authentic flavor in every bite.

"The sauce is made from scratch and the pizza is the best you will find anywhere," Abbate said.

Guests can choose from a variety of delicious entrées, such as pasta dishes ranging from their traditional spaghetti to their lasagna and baked sti. Additionally, Costanzo's also offers more than 30 different types of fresh subs and vegetarian dishes, such as spinach lasagna and eggplant parmesan.

For guests who like to eat something sweet after a meal, tiramisu and baklava are a few of the desserts available. Beverages offered include cappuccino, espresso, beer, wine and San Pellegrino Italian mineral water, as well as soft drinks.

Costanzo's is not only a restaurant but a deli as well. They sell fresh meats and cheeses for the guests who just cannot get enough of that authentic Italian food.

"Costanzo's, now operated by Abbate, his wife Rosa and their children, gives new meaning to the phrase a 'family style restaurant.'"

"I have all watched my kids grow up." Abbate believes that another recipe for success is to make sure each customer feels at home. Customers like to come into a friendly environment after a long day at work he added.

"We treat them like family.

How couples overcome the distance between them

FROM PAGE 17

wouldn't change one thing about our relationship," Wright said.

However, not everyone who tries to make long-distance relationships work feels the same. "Dance, advertising major, Brooke Herron said the reason she chose to pursue her long-distance relationship was because she was in love. But as time progressed, her feelings changed.

"The way I see it, college is all about meeting new people and having new experiences," Herron said. "It is the last step before the reality of careers and families sets in. Your time to meet new people is rapidly running out, so why limit yourself to someone who can't even physically be there for you?"

Matt Rigg, a sophomore graphic design major, felt the same as Herron when he first met his girlfriend Kathleen.

"When I met her through friends at a party back home in Naples this summer, I had no intention of dating," Rigg said. "But as things kept going, I stalked with it and luckily they have worked out."

Although distance may determine whether most couples make it or break it, Darrah Winder, a sophomore with an undecided major, and her boyfriend of four and a half months refuse to lose each other over something as small as distance. Despite Winder living in Orlando and her boyfriend living in Daytona, the longest they go without seeing each other is two and a half days.

"There are times when I feel I miss out on the single life and that is sometimes the hardest part of the relationship," Winder said. "But I know I have something meaningful and someone who loves me, so I don't think I've given anything up in the end."
Love of learning brings seniors back to school

Elders learn, stay active with LIFE

CRYSTAL ESPINOSA
STAFF WRITER

UCF student Lois Dennis, age 77, already has a college degree, but she still has a desire to learn.

The graduate of Florida State College for Women, now known as Florida State University, said she enjoys the perks that go along with her student status.

"One benefit [as a student] is I can get into the movies with a discount," Dennis said. She quickly added with a chuckle, "Of course you can do that anyway being old, or I should say elderly.

Dennis is one of the 380 students, ranging from 55 to 90+ years of age, who attend UCF as members of LIFE, the Learning Institute for Elders.

The program, which has existed for 15 years, allows retirees to continue learning by attending four-week lecture, consolidated classes (without the homework and tests) and discussion groups about current events.

"I have been in the program for two and a half years," said Ann Funk. "And I absolutely love it. I love learning. We are all avid readers and have discussion groups after class to talk about current events. We are all very into the arena of staying alive brain-wise."

Besides keeping their minds sharp, LIFE helps its members stay connected with young people.

"I have two grandchildren around 18 years old and it's great keeping up with their studies as well as their music and everything in between," Funk said. "It's wonderful because it keeps them interested, and keeps me interested. I'm able to give them history, but also attend classes with them and even internet with them on the computer.

Louis Vollero, a retired teacher who has been in the program for one year, has several reasons to come back to school.

"This is actually very intellectually stimulating for me because I am interacting with people approximately my age," Vollero said. "I find a little bit of a problem because most of my career, I worked in Europe and Asia. So although I came back periodically for vacations, I was exposed to different philosophies and thoughts."

Vollero added, "And it's good getting back and being with people my age and learning their thoughts and also giving my opinions about what I've learned by being in other countries."

More so, Vollero, whose wife passed away only a few years ago, found that being enrolled in the LIFE program at UCF helped pull him through a very difficult adjusting period.

To the astonishment of some younger students just dying to graduate, these men and women attend UCF, many of them after already attaining degrees and working for years, for the sheer love and hunger to continue growing through higher education.

"I like it because I reflect back to when I was getting my bachelor's and master's degrees," Vollero said. "When you leave school you sort of forget the theories taught by your professors because you are in a practical world, so it's nice to get back to that academia."

Dennis shares Vollero's love of learning. "It feels wonderful to return, it's invigorating!" Dennis said. "It's fun because old people are supposed to stay at home, not move around and vegetate and I want to prove that that isn't necessary."

With an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, these non-traditional students demonstrate a truly traditional and time-honored commitment to the ideals of higher education. Such dedication will keep these students at UCF for quite a while. Or as Dennis said, "I'll keep coming as long as I can keep my driver's license."
Questionable judgments

- District of Columbia judge Frederic Weisberg in July sentenced John Hardy, 40, to prison for assault, he committed during a domestic altercation, which broke out when Hardy and his wife were snuggling and ended when Hardy's pit bull became excited, provoking Hardy to fatally stab him. Weisberg sentenced Hardy to three months for assaulting his wife and 24 months for the attack on the dog.
- Decision announced one day apart in September, Toronto prosecutors dropped public nudity charges against seven men who gathered naked in a Gay Pride parade, finding that it would be impossible to convict them, in that they were wearing shoes. And the Washington state Supreme Court dismissed voyeurism charges against two men who had been convicted of shooting "upskirt" photos of women in public, concluding that the state peeping-tom statute applies only to victims who have an "expectation of privacy" because they are in secluded places.

Thinning the herd

A man fleeing police in a stolen car leaped over a turnpike guardrail, and Ladd and Ladd, off 49 Key of Canada, 51. Edward McBride, 37, fleeing police after a car crash in the Altona area, weight down as he was with about 50 pounds of stolen cameras (Tulsa, Okla., August).

Jefferson

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Fitness Center with Free Weights
Amenities, Rent and Incentives subject to change.
Blogger post personal diary entries

FROM PAGE 17

Things just to get responses," she added.

Personal diary entries are just one component of online journals. Some bloggers post a variety of their writings, such as poems and short stories, or else write about specific topics such as current events, sports or politics.

However, the amount of time spent maintaining a blog depends on the author. Some dedicated bloggers write at least once a day; others write every few days or weeks.

Pratt explained that an online journal is similar to a handwritten one.

"I write when everything is so clogged up inside of me that I need that outlet my journal provides to release it," she said. "A journal should be a place for you to write your thoughts, no matter (how) extreme."

The reasons for maintaining a blog also vary among bloggers. Sophomore Lee Sherman, 19, maintains his blog strictly to entertain his friends.

"I use my live journal to post all of the funny stuff that happens in my life," he said.

But Melanie Schwartz, a 25-year-old art major, maintains her journal for a different reason: to fight boredom.

"Sometimes people are up late with nothing to do," she said. Indeed, that's the time people are most likely to write and read such online confessions.

Schwartz co-developed a blog especially for UCF students. She helped to set up a page at LiveJournal.com under the name "UCF Students Talking over the World." The journal currently has more than 140 members and encourages them to address student issues such as tuition, Greek life and events in the Student Union.

Other students enjoy the freedom of expression that blogs provide. Junior Eric Harris, a 20-year-old computer engineering major, said he created his blog so that friends, family and others can better understand who he is and where he's going.

"It helps my friends to keep up on my life, and it helps my parents to keep in touch," he added. Harris recently wrote in his blog about his experience seeing "Rent," a touring Broadway musical.

"So I saw RENT last night... It was INCREDIBLE! I can't wait to see it again and again... and if for some reason I don't get to, well then at least I know I'll die a happy man. Life is good." 12:57 PM

Harris' blog, at Trrcodesigns.com, includes journal entries, pictures, poems and inspirational quotes.

"I've written almost everything on my site," he said. "Anything I haven't [written] should have quotations around it."

Like most blogs, Harris included a page with his contact information. This allows anyone who comes across his site to e-mail or instant message him because they liked something about it and wanted him to know.

Although some may wonder what brings people to broadcast personal information on the Internet, Pratt has her own idea of why they do it.

"We all have some sick part inside of ourselves that enjoys the attention that we receive from others who read it."

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