Extra fee could raise $1 million for athletics

**SARAH DOWNES STAFF WRITER**

The UCF Board of Trustees finance committee will vote Thursday on a proposal to increase the athletic fee from $0.86 to $1.09 per credit hour. This $1.19 increase will generate approximately $1 million in additional funds for the athletic department.

These funds will be used to increase the salary for athletic positions, raise the amount for athletic scholarships in the summer, pay for maintenance of the Wayne Densch Sports Complex when it is completed this spring, hire more academic tutors for athletes, boost sports marketing on campus and enhance the athletic recruiting process.

Currently, UCF coaches are paid less than their counterparts in the MAC and Atlantic Sun conferences. "The majority of the extra funds will go toward increasing salaries," said Steve Orsini, UCF's athletic director. "I believe in investing in people first."

According to Brian Battles, SGA executive vice president and a member of the Athletic Fee Setting Committee, the salary increases will not go directly to the coaches, but rather to the coaching positions. By increasing the pay scales, the athletic department can hire better coaches in the future and hold the current coaches to a higher level.

"The increase in the athletic fee is definitely needed," Battles said. "Sports are an important part of a college experience.

The committee intends to double the amount of money offered for summer scholarships for athletes. Already it has $100,000 in scholarship money allotted for the summer and hopes to match that in the new increased budget.

Construction workers are beginning to build a Wayne Densch Sports Complex next to the UCF Arena, a state-of-the-art facility with a weight room, equipment room and sports medicine clinic for the 408 student athletes.

"This facility will be important when it comes to recruiting," Orsini said. "Potential athletes want to know where they will work out when they tour college campuses."

The complex will also have

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**OUTLOOK FOR FACULTY UNION UNCERTAIN**

Come Jan. 7, faculty union will lose bargaining power

By MIKE BLAKLEY STAFF WRITER

UCF faculty members remain in the dark about their financial futures because a critical method of addressing faculty issues will vanish when their union's contract expires in January.

"I am very worried," librarian Eda Correa said. "The union is the only association we have to look out for our contracts, benefits, grievances and salaries.

In the past, the United Faculty of Florida's contract allowed faculty members to collectively bargain for their needs. Its past efforts have provided full salaries for summer teaching, a set precedent for grievance procedures and a 2.5 percent pay raise for faculty members.

But when its contract expires on Jan. 7, 2003, the faculty union loses its bargaining power.

Ronie Joels, a professor of reading and education and former president of the United Faculty of UCF, says the faculty union will lose $1.19 million in revenue on Jan. 7. This is the amount the union will lose in the current fiscal year.

"The entire state has a $200 million fund to give to the universities," Joels said. "If we were to get that fund, we would likely get $1.19 million.

Joels says the university has a $200 million fund to give to the universities, and the faculty union is asking for its fair share of that money.

While the faculty union has the support of the university, it is still at risk of losing its bargaining power.

"The university has a lot of power," Joels said. "But they have to listen to us."

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**FORENSIC SCIENCE POPULARITY GROWS WITH CBS DRAMA**

By ANDREA MILAM & KRISTA ZILIZI STAFF WRITERS

Gena Ward starts her day much the same way any forensics scientist would. She will examine paint chips, analyze hair fibers and compare fingerprints. She will test an unknown drug and perform a handwriting analysis before she calls it a day.

She doesn't carry a gun, question witnesses or make arrests. She doesn't even solve real crimes for now because Ward hasn't become a real forensics scientist. She is a 19-year-old junior at UCF majoring in forensics.

But even when Ward becomes an official forensics scientist certified with a bachelor's degree and four years of forensics education, she still won't be fighting crime the way "CSI" does.

In real life, forensics scientists

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**UCF FACT**

The Student Academic Support Services office offers free study sessions starting at 6 p.m. Monday, Dec. 9, and finals binder, Dec. 10.
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...Rams, Quad Cabs, Caravans, Durangos, Intrepids, Neons, Stratus
National Briefs

BMG to offer simpler royalty system to musical acts

Breaking ranks with industry rivals, Bertelsmann Music Group (BMG) on Wednesday will launch what the company calls a “fairer, more transparent” accounting system for royalty payments, a move that artist representatives say could ease the controversy over whether performers are getting cheated by their labels.

BMG, home to such acts as Cario Santana, OutKast and Britney Spears, is the first major music company to scrap contract deductions that artists say unduly cut their earnings. The action comes as lawmakers in California and New York have begun to scrutinize contracts and pop star stories about questionable accounting practices in the industry.

In the years ahead, BMG plans to introduce a new contract model under which the company would control an artist’s recording career for fewer years but share a share of new revenue streams, including concert proceeds and sponsorship and film deals. BMG is designing a new agreement that is expected to reduce the number of pages in a standard contract from 100 to 12.

Initially, BMG’s royalty revisions are not expected to result in higher royalty payments to artists. But BMG executives say the new plan will simplify royalty computations, making it easier for artists to determine what they are owed.

None of the other four major music companies—Universal Music Group, Sony Music Entertainment, Warner Music Group or EMI Group—intends to follow suit any time soon.

Congress approves ‘Anton’s Law’

WASHINGTON — The family of a 4-year-old girl killed in 1996 when an adult seat belt failed to hold him in a crash, the bill sets federal auto safety standards for children weighing more than 50 pounds, requires automakers to install shoulder belts in rear center seats, and promotes research into how best to protect older children.

Most booster seats are essentially pads that allow children to sit in a vehicle so that adult lap and shoulder belts do not cut across their shoulders and necks.

Emergency-room doctors have documented a pattern of abdominal and neck injuries in children as a result of using adult belts. Despite the recognized risks, only 13 states require older children to ride in booster seats.

The middle of the back seat is statistically the safest place for a child to ride, but most vehicles only have a lap belt there. A booster seat cannot be used effectively without a shoulder belt.

Federal regulators at the National

Peace Prize Winner

Rigoberta Menchú Tum won a Nobel Peace Prize in 1992 for her work with indigenous people in Guatemala. During her speech at the University of Central Florida on Tuesday, she described some of her experiences around the world.

"I grew up in a small village in the middle of the mountains. When I was young I never thought I would be the person I am today. But I have always believed that we all have the power to change the world.

"It is my belief that we must all work together to create a world where everyone is treated equally and with respect. We must fight for justice and against the forces of oppression.

"It is my hope that my work and my words will inspire others to stand up for what is right and to never give up.

"Thank you for this recognition. I will use it as an opportunity to continue my work and to help others in need.

Freshmen find their way at UCF

Newest arrivals work hard to make smooth transition

DANIELLE VANCE

Staff Writer

Freshman Jennifer Hartler, 18, grew up a lot in the last three months. Along with a large class of freshmen, she has nearly completed her first semester of college. She describes it not as a magical, but as an eye-opening experience.

"An Orlando native, she already was familiar with the campus, and not put off by the intense atmosphere, she did not feel scared of the start of class during her first week.

"I did, however, expect them to pose very different challenges than she was used to.

"I took 16 credits this semester," she said. "It may have been a bit much, but I did well."

Indeed, she anticipates a 4.0 GPA at the end of classes next month.

Like many freshmen, Hartler made the transition to college life — with its requirement for balancing monetary difficulties, coursework, work, play and newfound freedom — by taking a workmanlike approach.

On the surface, she said, some students mistakenly believed college challenges would resemble the ones they faced in high school and made poor use of their time.

Germayne Crow, a counselor at the Counseling and Testing Center (CTC), which sees many freshmen over the course of the semester, said that many freshmen underestimate the difficulty level of college courses. The disappointment of lesser than ideal grades brings many students into the CTC.

"There are some students that come to the center very depressed because of lower achievement than what was accomplished in high school," Crow said.

"They have high grade expectations, and are usually disappointed after their first term.

"Freshmen who put in the necessary work, like Hartler and Jessica Brown, 18, made a smooth transition to college life. Brown has no regrets about her decision to attend the university and now looks forward to her classes because she loves her major and wants to excel in it.

"She has also grown fond of the campus.

"I love it here," Brown said. "It's its own little community. People are really friendly. Sure, the classes are different than from high school, but you learn to adjust to them.

"Both Hartler and Brown have done well in their classes, although both wish they had participated more in campus activities, especially..."
spend most of their days and weeks on a laboratory exhaustively tracking and analyzing evidence like fibers and textiles to solve crimes — not gathering evidence, analyzing it and throwing criminals behind bars in just under an hour like Nicky manages to do on the CBS crime show.

While Ward knows the television show is not completely accurate and the forensics field is not quite as glamorous — briefly explaining the hours of theories and chemistry formulas she has to know before she can ever get into a forensic lab — she enjoys the fact that the field of forensics is being given its day in the spotlight.

"[CSI actors] play the role of forensics and detective, and that never happens in real life. But the show does scratch the surface," she said. "If they were to make a real movie of the forensics field, it would take hours and days to discover something and most people would find it really boring."

But even still, forensics is intriguing more and more students at UCF. The 28-year-old program, one of UCF's oldest, is becoming one of its biggest, boasting nearly 600 students. Back in 1974, the four-year program drew only 12 students.

UCF's program was created in response to President Richard Nixon's Safe Streets Act, originally designed to provide educational support for new crime labs in the state of Florida.

National Center for Forensic Sciences deputy director Bill McGee founded the program and spent nearly two-and-a-half years designing the curriculum and courses and gathering resources and instruments.

The major has two tracks: analytical sciences, which examines things such as hairs and fibers for the purpose of recreating a crime; and forensic biochemistry, which comprises the identification of bodily fluids and DNA analysis.

Today the program still centers around evidence analysis and lab work like it did back in 1974, but it's drawing hundreds of students who believe a forensics degree will allow them to lead the kind of careers "CSI" forensics scientists do.

"My comment is that if you watch 'CSI' just forget it, because what we do and what they do are only vaguely resemble each other," McGee said. "We have dozens of people a week call us up and say, 'I watch 'CSI' and that's exactly what I want to do.'

"I don't recommend, the second word in forensic science is 'science,'" said McGee, who admits that his first general chemistry course continues about 50 out of every 100 students who enter the program to drop out. Organic chemistry eliminates another 25, and the different specialized chemistry and forensic science courses weed out the rest. By the end, only 10 percent of the students who enter the program graduate. He attributes the large dropout rate to the major's strong emphasis on chemistry, which most students do not expect when they enter the program.

While chemistry is what causes many students to drop out, Tasha Dupras, who teaches a forensics anthropology course, attributes the program's success to that chemistry base.

"It is one thing that makes the program so good," she said.

Heather Karr, 22, knew what she was getting into when she chose to pursue forensics as a major. The senior was poring over chemistry theories within her forensics major before the CBS crime show ever made its debut.

For her, the lure isn't the glamorous forensics careers she sees on television and in the movies. It's seeing the book theories come to life inside the forensic labs at UCF.

"The application is the best part," Karr said. "You can do so much good with it, help a family member who buried a loved one, or someone behind bars."

But for Karr, that's also the biggest challenge.

"You're dealing with people's lives, so error isn't acceptable in this field," she said. "You work so much trying to be flawless with your work and it gets tiring and you want down."

But Karr, who admits she has a weak stomach, doesn't mind the challenge, so long as it doesn't involve blood.

She wants to pursue a career in forensic anthropology that will allow her to dig up skeletons and bones.

"I know I can't do live grit or blood," she said. "This is the cleaner side."

While "CSI" is further from reality than most students think, the show's cast is more representative of people like Ward and Karr than most stereotypes have portrayed in the past.

The field is no longer dominated by men or nerds in taped glasses and lab coats — it's a major that attracts as many women as men. Ward said 90 percent of the students in her classes and labs are female.

"It's a whole new generation," Ward said. "Women are able to do this because they don't have boundaries anymore."

But she isn't convinced that forensics majors can shake the nerd stereotype.

"When you read the shampoo bottle and understand it, that's when you know you're a nerd," she said.

McGee believes the program has been successful because of the quality of the students. "We have been very, very fortunate," he said. "We have a body of students who can make a commitment to the profession."

While McGee and the forensics department are considering adding a crime-scene track within the major — something a little more representative of the careers that "CSI" actors portray — the department doesn't have enough faculty members to do so yet.

"Our biggest problem is serving 600 students with essentially four faculty members," he said. "Because our faculty have to have Ph.Ds. It's very difficult to find someone with a Ph.D who has had this kind of experience and who's willing to work in a college or university."

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Florida, wondered what would happen when the contract expired. "The real question is who will be the employer of all the university employees in the future," Joels said.

Joels warned that if the faculty loses its bargaining power, the trends toward universities adopting a business-model style of operation, in which profits and efficiency become priorities. She said such a model emphasizes funding graduates who go directly into technical fields, like engineering, over graduates of the arts.

She said running a university according to a business model works against students' best interests.

"That kind of thinking certainly undermines humanities and certainly undervalues the students who go out into the helping public," Joels said.

She said although the potential exists for UCF to run itself as a business, the current administration understands students' needs.

"It is hard to put a price on graduates," Joels said. "They will value the students."

The United Faculty of Florida's UCF chapter has maintained a cooperative relationship in the past, according to Arien Chase, the union's local president.

"We have not faced the problems most of the other universities have," Chase said. He said that relationship differs from other Florida universities.

"I have not seen it as a rivalry" Chase said.

Instead, Chase said he works with the current board of Trustees in a fashion that resembles a think tank more than a rivalry.

Chase said the change in January is unlikely to cause major problems. He said the correspondence with the board has been mutually beneficial and neither side wants to upset the process.

To ensure that UFF maintains its bargaining power, Chase has advocated a campaign to have 60 percent of the faculty unionized. "Under Florida law the faculty union needs a majority vote to maintain its right to collective bargaining," Chase has set his goal at 60 percent, even though UFF needs only 50 percent to be recognized as a union, to show a substantial amount of support.

The union needs 60 percent of all Florida's public university faculty members to join in order to give it the legal right to collectively bargain. Chase said seven of the 11 schools already have reached their goal and that a team has toured several campuses to rally support.

He said 60 percent of the UCF faculty already has joined. The biggest challenge is lining employees, he said. Faculty extends beyond just professors, including a substantial amount of UCF employees, he said. Chase has had difficulty reaching faculty members at UCF's branch campuses.

"It's making it difficult just to find those people," he said. "It was just about getting signatures this would be a done deal."

In addition to not knowing exactly what will happen in January, the situation gets complicated further with the passing of Amendment 11.

The amendment establishes a statewide board of governors to oversee Florida's public universities.

Joels applauded the passing of Amendment 11. She hopes the new plan will better serve the students by improving the disbursement of funding to the universities.

The oversight will help more than just Florida's colleges, she added.

"The quality of life in a state is directly tied to the quality of its higher education," she said.

Gov. Jeb Bush will select most of the positions on the governing board, and the kind of role the board of governors will play remains uncertain.

Chase said having a faculty member on the board lends a much-needed voice to the decision makers.

But how much of a voice UCF's faculty will have remains uncertain. Chase has had difficulty finding a union, to show a substantial amount of support.

"They have the power to ignore the union even if we get 60 percent," Chase said. "But that is not the kind of relationship we have."

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College students confess—sometimes they lie

Stephen Hirst

Like many college students, senior Jason Hayner, 25, finds nothing wrong with lying to mom about his finances.

"In actuality I'm buried in debt," Hayner said. "But I don't want her to know about my financial burden." Hayner is not alone.

Most college students lie about money, relationships, sex or alcohol according to a study by the University of Virginia. College students in that study reported that they lied in about half of the conversations they had with their parents and in 28 percent of conversations they had with close friends.

The lies told by the students varied greatly in their nature and scope. Some lies told by students in this study were minor, such as telling a parent they got home from a night out several hours earlier than they actually did. Others were more serious, like telling a parent they were doing well in classes, when they were actually failing.

However, Rich McLaughlin, of the UCF Counseling and Testing Center, believes that sometimes, in certain situations, students have good reasons behind their lies.

"I think lying is a little harsh of a term in some situations," McLaughlin said. "When students are dealing with something traumatic in their lives like a sexual assault or an eating disorder, they could be withholding information for any number of reasons. Everybody keeps some secrets.

Yet, students like senior Ryann Bitter, 21, still lie to their parents so they will not have to listen to parents' lectures.

"If my parents know I was drinking as much as I do, it would lead to incessant nagging," Bitter said. "If they knew about the water cooler I converted into a four-man hookah, I could be in real trouble."

However, honors and second-year sophomore Kara Betsoumre does not feel she needs to hide things from her parents anymore.

"High school was different," Betsoumre said. "I was always being questioned about where I was going, with whom, and who was going to be there.

Senior Michele Stora, 21, has decided to come clean with her parents, about most things anyway.

"I am pretty honest with my parents," Stora said. "But when I do lie, it's mostly about relationship stuff.

"It's personal, and I don't really want anyone to know about that kind of thing, especially my parents.

Sometimes students like senior Shannon Hawke, 21, have naive parents already and do not see any reason to lie.

"I could be 65 years old and married with two kids, and my mom will still believe that I've never done it [bad sex]," Hawke said.

Students play games, watch movies, raise grades

Cary Grayson

Freshman Carrie Butler rushes to complete a last-minute extra-credit assignment for a better grade in her general psychology class before finals and all she has to do is little juggling to earn it.

"Juggling" is a fun assignment, and I'm even happier that it's for a grade. It's refreshing," Butler said.

Within the psychology department stands a bulletin board full of extra-credit assignments that range from volunteer surveys to playing video games.

Some of these assignments only require students to fill out a survey about drugs and alcohol or parental relationships, while others ask students to look for weapons in X-ray photographs or play action games on PlayStation 2.

Butler agreed.

"[Juggling] is fun and it's for extra credit," she said. "I also get more money.

"It's refreshing," Butler said. "And I'm even happier that it's for a grade."

But some teachers, like psychology professor James Brophy, have other ideas for students that require a lot of research and time. But some teachers, like psychology professor James Brophy, have other ideas for students that require a lot of research and time. But some teachers, like psychology professor James Brophy, have other ideas for students that require a lot of research and time.

"[Juggling] is just as good. Students in this study were minor, and all she has to do is little juggling to earn it."

"But other students, like senior Eric Bratcher, 18, and sophomore Michelle Gonzalez, 18, were two of Ruscella's students who decided to take advantage of the extra-credit opportunity. Dressed in pajamas, the two performed the song, "Look at Me, I'm Sandra Dee," from the musical "Grease" in front of their class.

"The purpose of the assignment was to allow students to have a good time while bonding with other group members," Bratcher said.

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"I could be 65 years old and married with two kids, and my mom will still believe that I've never done it [bad sex]," Hawke said.

The best things in life are simple, like sitting in a swing with a child or the love of God. Simple, yet profound. Don't feel in control? Neither do I, but God's love puts it all in perspective.

I am teaching my child that fact now in my community.
Freshmen learn to balance school, fun

by since they live on campus and have better access to them than off-campus students. I wanted to focus solely on my classes and maintain my independence, but still have to work harder to keep my grades up," Crow said. I spent more time studying and less time playing around.

Without the guidance of elders, some freshmen put emphasis on the wrong things. Freshman Emily Williams, 18, wishes she had spent more time studying and less time playing around. I had fun this semester," Williams said. As a result, however, I spent less time focusing on my classes and more time focusing on my social life. I forgot about having to maintain my scholarship for a while, and now I'm going to have to work harder in spring to keep it," she said.

Off-campus students experienced many of the same things that on-campus students did. Freshman Jonathan Chung, 19, said living with friends helped him ease into college. "I moved into a dorm with friends from back home," Chung said. "If I hadn't known them, it would have been awkward. I just couldn't know their personalities, and it could seriously clash with my own." Chung attended many campus activities and participated in intramural sports. His participation in campus activities affected his grades this semester, Chung said, but in a positive way. "The [campus activities] help relieve the stresses of school work," he said.

Besides the struggle to balance work and play, Crow said that relationship issues greatly concern incoming students. "Making new relationships and finding old ones are among many of the worries that freshmen come to us about," Crow said. "They worry about not finding a place among the thousands of people here, and they worry about losing out on long-distance relationships." Crow dealt with the relationship issue by bringing her significant other with her. "We started dating over the summer, and I think that knowing that we were both going to UF helped bring us closer together," Crow said. "We haven't talked a lot about leaving the other behind." Chung said he is still looking. "There are a lot of nice girls around here," he said. "I haven't really been seeing anyone yet, but once I settle in here more, I might start." Freshman priorities may have changed, said Hartke, who still felt overwhelmed by all the changes that they endure. "The majority has a problem with learning how to survive on their own," Crow said. "There are no parents or teachers telling them what to do. They have to establish their own sense of independence, but how do they keep ties with family and friends back home?"

FROM PAGE 3

Highway-Friction Safety Administration has had the authority to require automakers to install full lap and shoulder belts in the middle seat, but they were reluctant to act without a congressional mandate.

Firms with White House ties backing controversial pipeline

WASHINGTON — Two energy companies, both closely tied to the Bush White House, are lining up administration support for nearly $800 million in public financing for a Peruvian natural gas project that will cut through one of the world's most pristine tropical rain forests.

A top priority of Peruvian officials, who see it as key to energy independence, the Camisea project has encountered fierce opposition. Worldwide environmental groups and some members of Congress argue that the massive extraction and pipeline project will destroy the rain forest and the lifestyle of its indigenous people.

The project backers' quest for financial support from U.S. development banks will test the political pull of the Texas companies, Hunt Oil Co. and Hunt Petroleum Co., which have longstanding ties to the Bush-Cheney administration and the Republican Party. Next month, Hunt Vice President Steve Stelstien is set to accompany Commerce Secretary Don Evans on a trade mission to Peru, where President Bush traveled in March to promote Andean trade.

The controversy surrounding the project highlights the conflict between Bush's energy policy, which advocates mining fossil fuels globally and U.S. environmental safeguards, which detractors say the administration plays down.

Government spokesmen say that no decisions have been made on public financing and that a careful review is underway.

Under federal regulations, projects receiving backing from the Export-Import Bank of the United States and the Inter-American Development Bank must pass rigorous reviews to ensure that they will not threaten rare natural habitats.

But officials reviewing the Camisea loan application, who asked not to be identified, say the project is proceeding despite warnings that it may lead the Bush administration to make illogical decisions and run afoul of international environmental standards.

Independent reviews commissioned by project developers have also noted numerous problems, including fuel spills, unauthorized pipeline route deviations, and destructive erosion and landfills.

—Compiled by SEMI WATER ORGAN JAKU
Opinions

Thursday November 21, 2002

OUR STANCE:

City takes lead; UCF should follow

On Monday, Orlando's City Council gave preliminary approval to protecting gay people from discrimination in housing and employment. The measure passed despite a "no" vote by Mayor Glenda Hood. The city is moving forward on the issue, even though the mayor turned her back on the gay community that had supported her for so long. Orlando may soon join a long list of cities, including Tampa, Miami Beach and Atlanta, which protect gays, by a narrow 4-3 vote. Now that it has momentum, Bush, who in May appointed Hood to a cabinet position, showed that she is merely a typical politician, rather than in the interest of the people who helped elect her. Hood seemed to care more about her political future than her political gallery. By acting in her own political self-interest, rather than in the interest of the people who have helped her serve as mayor for 10 years, Hood showed that she is merely a typical politician.

Regardless, the measure thankfully passed by a narrow 4-3 vote. Now that it has momentum, and will likely pass, UCF has no reason to drag its feet any longer on the issue of adding sexual orientation to UCF's own anti-discrimination policy. The university's administration has taken a weak-headed approach to this issue, seemingly unwilling to take a stand until the city council voted.

President Hitt has no reason to wait any longer. He should act as a leader, and make this issue a top priority. UCF's gay population should not have to worry about this issue. Students support this measure; the faculty supports this measure. Now it's time for Hitt to do his part.

Hitt has an opportunity to take a leadership role on this very topic today at the board of trustees meeting. Open to the public, in the Student Union, Hitt can start justifying the $90,000 raise that the board may grant him by pushing a measure that will make UCF a more tolerant university.

Students should attend the trustees' meeting, to voice their stand on this measure. They can also write to the board of trustees, let them know whether they think Hitt deserves his proposed raise. The meeting represents an opportunity for students to address the people who run UCF. Students should let the trustees know what they think of their actions and how they think UCF can improve.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor: Higgins' oration could finance more pressing concerns

I can't believe that they are going to give President Hitt a $90,000 raise and $70,000 raise for UCF. published Nov. 11, 4:46 p.m. We spend this money in a more constructive way. We should return financial and money that these people have been making on we since the beginning of the recession. Yes, if it had 450 aspirations, a thousand dollar idea. Not how about better compromising the sweat that we need, but also teaching kids about math and how to eat more dinner. And who do he need to raise an upper? Will these people getting any at least worth the $160,000 being proposed.

And how hard can it be to be me? I mean, how can those people do all that thinking for him, all he has to do sign at the dotted line. How can President Hitt asking for a raise, and his decisions really do affect us. All not only that, but most students won't be earning that kind of money 10 years after they graduate. So, I don't see why he should get a raise when he, doesn't own have to pay a mortgage or eat. He should only getting all of the house hundred thousand dollars a year away and start walking around campus, go to us and start thinking on our "tired" feelings.

MELA HERNANDEZ

Dear Editor: The grinch who stole...

I've always been a big fan of The Grinch who Stole Christmas. I'm beginning noticing the Christmas. By Jerry Nies, published Nov. 12.

So you plan to spendor Christmas with family and, expect to receive several presents. And you won't going to have any presents. You expect to receive presents. If this con­ cern, I feel that some nice when I was about 8 years ago. But the least I'll tell them in advance about my no present policy and aired my family not to get the anything. Is that what you intend to do? May I make a suggestion? What do you parents would probably want want? I know that this that because I am a parent and a grandparent, you can't buy at the store, find them in a tree and get better, make them own you like did

Dear Editor: You must be early! I wasn't expecting you as soon! It will be just one more minute, nice indeed! I just get out of the shower. I'll be right with you.

Sorry for the wait — my bad — I'm coming! It would be much longer...

GARY SPOON

Please See Letters on 9

CORRECTIONS

On the article, "HIGGINS' oration proposed for UCF," by Jerry Nies, published Nov. 11, due to an editing error, we incorrectly referred to Alvin Chase as National Chase.
Beating the clock

MENTAL DOODLES

Christopher Arnold
touch writer

Well, all, Halloween has passed and Thanksgiving's not far away. Decorations for Christmas and Thanksgiving are already up and the air's getting brisker. You know what that means? It must be time for finals.

As usual, I'm beginning to stress. Sure, I need to study. But I also have to work. And if I miss any more classes, then their finals become a moot point. Not only do I have to do holiday shopping, but also if something befalls my friends and family have birthdays in the final two months of the year.

Yeah, I'm beginning to stress a little bit, but I'm not worried. After all, I put the "pro" in procrastinate.

That's right; when it comes to putting off until tomorrow what I don't want to do today, I am the king of the hill, the top dog, the head honcho of procrastination's able and skillfulorden. And if, you will permit me, "the man." I'm setting into the face of an impending deadline as I write this, and I'm laughing all the way. If Nike offered endorsements of deals in this field, well, I'd have to sign with the procrastinator's arena. I've spent a good number of hours mired in the procrastinator's arena. I've learned a trained professional when it comes to delaying the inevitable. I spent years mired in the moratorium minor leagues, developing my skills and learning all that my instructors and coaches and fellow loafers could offer. But I also watched a lot of good-intended kids burn themselves out in the process, unable to handle the pressure and rigors of that last-minute action, unable to savor that rush of adrenaline, that thrill that is the game of beating a deadline as it expires.

A grizzled dally-day veteran, I'd like to share a few things I've learned with the up-and-comers out there who think themselves the future of the sport. Either commit fully to the game or go home now. As long as you procrastinate purdly will proclaim, we're not about delaying a task only to fail. Let's be honest: any idol with a short attention span and Spongebob Squarepants playing nearby can do that. Anybody out there who's rather live off a liquid diet of coronas and Jack Daniels can successfully do it all. But to accomplish that thing in its final hours, as the time counts down and the bell begins to toll, well, folks, that's the stuff of legends. It's better than heroin.

Or so I'm told. After all, it's against league regulations to use illegal substances while procrastinating. That, too, only demons and belittles the sport. No crack, no steroids, no kind of drug you go to clean the whole way. Besides, after you've washed down the coffee and Elk Kats with a bottle of Dr. Pepper snuck through a Plexie stick straw, you don't need any banned chemicals to get you through an all-nighter writing papers, studying for exams, rebuilding your enqueue, nereting your drug while translating "War and Peace," or whatever other tasks you've being meaning to do.

You also may not sleep for a few days, but that's one of the prices you pay to play. We live by the adage: "Good things come to those who wait." That's right, we've got an adage. We also have a handshake I've been meaning to learn, but our slogans is impervious to falsity. I challenge any of you to find something that disproves this little universal truth.

"Carpe" what? OK, that is a good one.

But that's neither here nor there.

After all, haven't we all had that one paper that we just absolutely dreaded? You just knew it would be something extraordinarily difficult to write, and even though you might have had a few weeks or more to prepare it, you either had other classes, work, family or whatsoever to thankfully keep you from. And the deadline, why start it now? Who was to say after all, that your professor was not a secret agent in some shadowy government anti procrastination program? Or she could very well be "acti­uated" for some covert ops on the other side of the world, and then what? You'd have wasted your time writing that stupid paper.

Besides, anyone with a library card and day planner can prepare and write a paper in that span of time, right? But only a select few are able to do so in one day. So you wait. Circle the wagons and rally the troops, because an all-ender's on deck. You scramble to gather resources, lock yourself in your room, and pray to the great god of writing, Caffeine. He sends you his masses joy, David and Conan, and then Jay again, to accompany you during the process. You organize your; your thoughts, find the information that is far from routine. Somehow, through all of this, you manage to have it ready on deadline.

So what if you show up to class in the same disheveled dry clothing you'd worn the day before, teeth unbrushed and hair unkempt and walking amid your very own little cloud of dirt and dust like Charlie Brown's friend, Pigpen.

Welcome to the game. This is just a taste of a procrastinator's schedule when the season's in progress. Think you can handle it? Because you value sleep over your pet, you prefer media teas over them from the vending machine, and if you want the time to maintain your personal hygiene, then walk away now. Go and prepare responsibly for your finals and don't try to memo­ralize it all in the hour before your test. Budget your time as you need it.

As for me, I pick my Plexie stick high beginning to subside. Wake me in an hour.

Colin Christopher Arnold can be reached at chris@ucffuture.com

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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BIPOLAR DEPRESSION

Letters to the Editor

Dear editor, I'm not necessarily the first.

A modest proposal

In today's article entitled "Animal rights are wrong," published in The Florida Times-Union, I was quite astonished to read that sogglitist do not "favor enough protection for non-human animals" because they would resent the situation. You, my fellow vegetarians, I am looking at you, so please take this letter to heart. The way we are going to save the world is going to have strong backends like our friend Mr. Myers!

I am writing to you to suggest a better solution. When I'm dead, I will just give it all up, and feel free to do with it as you see fit. When they, I would like you to formally request that you do the right thing, namely add a clause to your will that will allow vegetarians to farm upon your organs after you have suffocated out of the mortal coil. Perhaps, the reader thinks that this is a local proposition? To all my readers, I should explain my proposition in his own words, "They Myers will, if not a organ donor, in order to be cremated." Mr. Myers,

My name is Jared Rice.

Send your letter

Don't agree with our columnists? Let us know.
Send e-mail to: editor@ucffuture.com or log on to www.ucffuture.com

Send from page 8

November 21, 2002 • The Central Florida Future

Opinions • 9
The Knights travel to Ohio for a MAC game against the RedHawks

CHRIS BERNHARDT
STAFF WRITER

Miami. In college football, that name garners respect. Over the past two seasons, no other name has instilled more fear in its opponents. The record speaks for itself: one loss in three years, a national championship and perhaps another pending this year. So when UCF travels to Miami this Saturday, they can expect a tough contest and 40-degree weather.

What's the weather? Oh, wrong Miami.

Rather than an intra-state contest with the No. 1 team in the nation, the Golden Knights will square off against conference and division rival Miami of Ohio. But even though the RedHawks don't have quite the talent and prestige of their Florida counterparts, don't take this Miami team for granted.

"Miami of Ohio is a great team," UCF quarterback Ryan Schneider said. "Right now, they are the second-best team in the Eastern Conference in the MAC. We have to go out there and beat them. I think they came in second place last year behind Marshall.

"I'm pretty sure they should have won the game against Marshall (Nov. 12)." They got robbed. They're mad, they're upset. They're coming out with hostile intentions and we have to go out and perform well and beat them. We are going to have to prove to them that we are good enough to be in the conference. We are going to have to go out there and earn their respect.

The RedHawks come into this game as one of the best teams in the Mid-American Conference. They're reeling after a heartbreaking and pivotal 29-26 loss to Marshall, but they still sport a 7-4 overall record and 5-2 in conference. Much like UCF, they trail the Thundering Herd by a game in the East Division and Marshall has the tiebreaker over both. That means to keep any slim hope of making the MAC championship alive, both teams desperately need a victory Saturday.

Aside from their position in the standings, the teams have other similarities. Whereas UCF sports a potent passing offense led by Schneider, Miami possesses a strong running game led by Ben Roethlisberger. As just a sophomore, Roethlisberger has already become one of the most prolific passers in RedHawks history. He's the school's all-time career leader in completions (489) and second in passing touchdowns (46). His season numbers are just as spectacular: 2,559 yards, 61 percent passes completed and 21 touchdowns to just nine interceptions.

"Roethlisberger is a big threat," UCF Coach Mike Quick said. "Obviously, he can do it with that big arm of his and he can also do it with his feet. At 6-3, 230, he is also a formidable runner for his size. For a kid who is only a sophomore, he's come a long way.

The trip is huge," Colorado said. "They mean business this weekend. The RedHawks are hosting the Atlantic Sun Championships on Friday and Saturday, which helps the players out because they get to go about their normal routines.

"You get to sleep in your own bed. You get to eat your own food. You are in front of your fans, you're locker room," UCF Coach Meg Colorado said. "I think they are so many positives. We just hope that we get a lot of fans out to support the girls."
**WOMEN’S ROSTER**

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**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK**

**Women’s basketball team splits preseason schedule**

**Chris Bernardt**

The Golden Knights completed their two-game exhibition season Friday with a 89-52 win over the Houston Cougars.

Playing a team with just eight players available, UCF was able to run its offense often from the field in the first period and cruised to a 32-22 halftime lead. With the game never in doubt, head coach Gail Striegler used the opportunity to take out minutes from her deep team. Twelve players received at least 10 minutes of playing time and nine got at least 15 minutes.

Guard Marcelous Washington paced the team with 15 points off the bench. Newcomer Erin Pajcic and freshman guard Celeste Hudson scored 12 points and forward Adrienne Billings added 10 points and five rebounds.

Senior Demetra Richard had a double-double with 15 points and 14 rebounds, and junior Delamay scored a team-leading 17 points.

The previous Saturday UCF dropped a contest against the NWHL All-Stars, 74-68. Midway through the first half, the All-Stars went on a 10-0 run that blew the game open and took a 37-27 lead into the half. In the second half the Golden Knights outscored the All-Stars 47 per cent to 33 percent, but couldn’t put away the game to earn the win.

Washington again led the Knights with 10 points, while Billings had 10 to go along with a team-high eight rebounds. Center All Roberts at 11 points. Betty Lemos and Jennifer Jordan both had 17 points for NWHL, while Terrell Brown and Tracey Reid had 15 and 11 respectively.

“We’re still not where I want us to be, but I think we’re further ahead than we’ve been at this time of the year,” Striegler said. “Some of the upperclassmen are starting to step up a little bit, which is nice. I’m very happy with the two games.”

**Marcelous standing out**

Junior Marcelous Washington averaged a team-high 15.8 points per game, Washington had excellent shooting first half against Houston. She shot all seven of her shot attempts in the period for all 12 of her points.

**All Roberts named to A-Sun All-Freshman Team last year.**

Though she had back surgery in the offseason, she has steadily improved during preseason practice and should be ready come opening night. Her role is pivotal to how far the team can go.

“I think we have a really good chance of winning the conference tournament,” Striegler said. “Everybody on our team believes that we can.”

Robert, a sophomore, got named to the All-Freshman Team after an impressive first season. She averaged 8.7 points per game and a team-leading 6.0 rebounds. But her shot blocking ability stands out. She assisted 76 on the season, few and away the conference leader. That left her just two short of Mag’s McGrady's single-season school record of 78 and puts her just 18 short of Schuler’s single-game school record.

Despite getting the all-conference tag, sophomore Scala nor Roberts led the team in scoring. That honor went to Washington. Despite starting less than half the games she played in and dealing with a foot injury that caused her to miss the final two regular-season games, the sophomore averaged 11.1 point per game. Now a junior she’s going to be a great player for us. As a freshman she’s really stepped up and done a good job, not only playing but leading,” Striegler said.

All Roberts was named to the A-Sun All-Freshman Team last year.

Senior Erin Pajcic scored 9.2 points and pulled down 5.9 rebounds per game last year.

**Scala, Roberts highlight Striegler’s best team ever**

Gail Striegler, UCF’s women’s basketball head coach, can sympathize with her counterpart for the men’s team, Larry Spera. When she arrived four years ago from Stephen F. Austin in Texas, Striegler inherited a team burden by graduation and injury. Much like UCF’s men’s squad, who returns just five players from last season, Striegler hardly had enough able bodies to field a team.

“My first two years I kind of went through the same thing Gail’s going through right now,” Striegler said. “I only had like eight players I could actually play the first year. Then, I’ve just gotten along. I’ve lost some kids along the way, but the core has stuck with us.”

The core has grown over those years, from a 5-10 team in Striegler’s first year to an early favorite in the Atlantic Sun this season. For the last two years in her tenure, the Golden Knights have a bevy of experienced opportunity to go along with an all-around group of recruits and second-year players.

Eight players return from last year’s squad, which went 15-13 in conference play last season; the team averaged 62.4 points per game and finished the year 7-0. The team had a team-high 17 points from senior guard Marcelous Washington. Energetic guard Yvette Allen, junior post Kristy Culligan and sophomore guard Takina Allen round out the returnees.

An impressive freshman class makes a UCF team even deeper. Guards Scala, Smith, Celeste Hudson and LaShay King, together with forward Shelby Weber, form this group, which Smith, a point guard who graduated from Canaday County High School in Georgia, has particularly stood out. In two preseason games, she had 14 assists and seven steals.

“The thing that she brings is a lot of enthusiasm,” Striegler said. “She has gone hard all the time. That says a lot to me. I think she’s going to be a great player for us. As a freshman she’s really stepped up and done a good job, not only playing but leading.”

Still, other newcomers will see plenty of action as well. Washington, a student-athlete out of Lyman High School in Alamosa Springs, has also drawn great praise from Striegler. The coach promises to play them all with varying degrees, while at the same time not putting too much pressure on them as they get adjusted to the college game and life.

“You don’t want to put too much on a freshman’s shoulders because all freshmen are going to have their ups and downs throughout the year,” Striegler said. “They’re not used to playing as long of a season, they’re not used to being as physically cut all year long and they have off-the-bas­ketball-court stuff with a little bit harder school.”

For now the team will be in the steady hands of the veterans. Scala and Roberts are both entering their second year with the team after finishing all-conference honors in their Golden Days in peach. Junior Scala, who transferred to UCF from Palm Beach Community College, was named Second-team All-Conference Atlantic Sun after an impressive freshman year. She averaged 13.6 points, 9.6 rebounds, 3.9 assists (10th), 1.6 steals and three point percentage (41st).

“Based on that performance, Scala has been named to the Atlantic Sun Preseason record.

Despite getting the all-conference tag, Scala nor Roberts led the team in scoring. That honor went to Washington. Despite starting less than half the games she played in and dealing with a foot injury that caused her to miss the final two regular-season games, the sophomore averaged 11.1 point per game. Now a junior she’s going to be a great player for us. As a freshman she’s really stepped up and done a good job, not only playing but leading,” Striegler said.

Overall, these three lead the best team on paper that Striegler has coached at UCF. She plans for the regular-season competition to go nine-to-10 players deep.

“This is by far the most talented team that I’ve had since I’ve been here,” Striegler said. “We have more outside shooters, we have more post players. And that allows us to be able to play with more depth.”

The Golden Knights begin the season picked to finish second in the South Division of the A-Sun by both coaches and media polls. Florida Atlantic got the nod for top team in the division, defending conference champ Georgia State getting top honors in the North Division. But so long as UCF advances to the conference tournament, Striegler has the team to see.

“I think we have a really good chance of winning the conference tournament,” Striegler said. “Everybody on our team believes that we can.”

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Speraw faces challenge with only 5 returning players

Tom Alexander

"Each and every year it's a new team," said UCF men's basketball coach Kirk Speraw.

"In no year has a statement like that been more true than this one. Just a few short months ago, the UCF Golden Knights turned the ball over 687 times. That trend continued and the Golden Knights will have to really work on that. The graduation of four seniors, including standout guard Ray Abellard and forward Ed Dotson, will be hardest hit because of that loss. The Knights return two starters from last season and four seniors including standout guard Ray Abellard and forward Ed Dotson. With a large quantity of newcomers, the returning players will have to take charge, Speraw said.

"Some people are going to have to have good seasons for us. Ed Dotson, Ray Abellard, Al Miller, Josh Bodden, Marissa Boyd are going to have to really carry the load even early in the season," Speraw said.

Abellard and Miller will provide a veteran presence in the Knights' backcourt, but Boyd should also see time there as well. The position where UCF will be hardest hit will be at center where the graduation of Paul Reed leaves a pretty big hole to fill. Right now three players will try and fill that role. Dotson, Bodden, and junior college transfer Roberto Morentin. At 6-foot-4, Morentin will provide some size in the paint. With Miller and Abellard seeing increased time together, size will be something UCF may have a hard time filling. (Miller is nearly six feet, while Abellard tops out at 5-foot-10).

"UCF will have to count on its newcomers to produce very quickly if they are to succeed. The loss of Jason Williams leaves a big void and our class needs to step up," Speraw said.

Ed Dotson was side-lined for most of last season after breaking his leg early in the season.

UCF picked to finish second in A-Sun South Division

FROM PAGE 12

Washington, a junior, led the team in scoring last season averaging 11.1 points per game.

Turnover turn around

Last season UCF had a problem with turnovers, losing the ball 697 times. That trend continued against NWBL, where the Golden Knights turned the ball over 32 times.

But against Houston they took much better care of the ball, losing just eight turnovers.

"We definitely have to take care of the ball better," Stringer said. "I think that's the key point. There's no reason we should be having as many turnovers as we had in the exhibition game. The other night because we have lots of solid guards."

UCF's defense played well against the Golden Knights.

Freshmen show potential

Stringer has talked highly of freshman point guards Hudson and Shaeyla Smith all preseason. In the two exhibition games, both players showed why.

Smith dished out nine assists and got five steals, scored eight points and grabbed six rebounds in 26 minutes of the bench against NWBL. She started against Houston and had six points, five assists and two steals in 21 minutes.

Hudson scored 12 points and had two steals in 15 minutes against Houston.

Fellow freshmen Claudia Johnson and Shelby Weber also played solidly in those games in limited minutes. Johnson, a guard, had 13 points combined in the two games and Weber, a forward, had nine points, five rebounds and three blocks all together.

The last freshman on the squad, guard Lashay King, played just four minutes against NWBL and not at all against Houston.

"I think all the freshmen are going to play a part in the season that we have this year," Stringer said. "I think Celeste and Shaeyla are going to get a lot of minutes. The other three are going to get minutes depending on the different people that we play."
Senior Jessica Scala is a major reason for the Golden Knights' turnaround

CHRISS BERNHARDT STAFF WRITER.

If Jessica Scala had her way, she probably wouldn't have been able to step back six inches in the offseason, multiple injuries didn't help her keep her resolve in last year. So why, at 5-feet-6 inches full-pump, did Scala choose to be a guard?

"Coach is always pulling her out of drills, [Scala's] just upset," teammate Erin Page said. "She's right there. She goes, 'Oh, we're on the line again,' She is like the first one on the floor. No, you can't run.

Such has become the calling card of Scala. For all her crisp passes and sharp shooting, her toughness impresses people as much as anything. Despite dealing with a back injury and a severely sprained left ankle, Scala finished third on the Golden Knights in games last season and started 39 of them. Now as she embarks on her second and final season at UCF, she hopes her body can hold up enough to carry a deep Golden Knights squad to prominence.

"I'm getting better everyday. About 70-75 percent is where I'm around right now," Scala said.

That much out of her, especially about injuries, is a lot. She's self-spoken in interviews when she speaks at all, and clearly isn't very comfortable with all the attention she receives. But her play speaks for itself. The 5-foot-6 inch point guard joined the team last year after transferring from Palm Beach Community College and instantly quickened the pace of the Golden Knights offense. She averaged 19.5 points per game, good for second on the team. She grabbed 5.5 rebounds per game, third best on the team. She dished out 116 assists, nabbed 64 steals and nailed 44 percent of her three-pointers, all team-bests. She clearly established herself as the most versatile player on a Golden Knights team that finished 17-13, its first winning season in three years under Coach Gill Strieger.

"She helps a lot of things," Strieger said. "If you ask anybody in our conference, they would say she's the number one reason we had a turnaround last year. That's just because up until that time we really couldn't get the ball up the floor and get in a more up-tempo game. And Joe does a great job of getting the ball where it needs to be and she's able to create a lot of opportunities for her teammates."

All that got her named Second Team All-Conference. All that recently got her named to the A-Sun Press release team. Yet all that doesn’t seem to phase her one bit.

"I don't really think about it that much," Scala said. "I'm a lot better at connecting with her teammates. Last season some of the Golden Knight players had problems matching and holding onto our quick strikes. That contributed to her 120 turnovers. Minimizing mistakes has become a team-wide goal, and a year of playing with UCF's experienced core should help.

"They've been a lot better about that this year," Strieger said. "The post players have really been doing a nice job of keeping their hands up and being ready for the pass and the guards have had a year to play with her and I think they know what to expect out of her." Regardless, she simply being on the court at less than 100 percent will send a message to the team as a whole. That truth is wanted to go all out even when hurt happens not only the younger players but the most veterans of teammates.

"Some days you can tell she's kind of in pain, but she's not going to complain," said Paige, one of team's longest tenured players. "She's heart and soul."
UCF loses regular season game to Florida International

By Chris Bernhardt

When you’re a punter for UCF, life can have a lot of twists and turns. The Golden Knights have that high-octane offense that tends to go zero-to-60 from half-to-half. In the first half you could be placing punts inside the one. In the next you could be watching the whole game from the sidelines. Such was the case for Ryan Flinn in UCF’s 32-6 victory over Kent State last Saturday.

“Me not playing to good for us. I’d like to play as much as I have,” Flinn said. “It’s all about field position. I’ll do my best to get it down as close to the goal line as possible.”

At times this season that potential and veteran UCF offense has sputtered. At other times the inexperienced defensive players have had trouble keeping teams from running them over. The Golden Knights have gone through problems on kick returns and coverages, and even true freshman place-kicker Matt Prazier has walked a fine line between spectacular and inconsistent. Yet one thing has remained consistent.

The senior has been nothing short of great for the Golden Knights this season, breaking kicks from deep in UCF territory or delicately placing them inside the opponent’s 20-yard line. On 34 punts this year, he has 1,419 yards and an average of 41.6 yards per kick. He has a long of 61, yet has put the opposing team inside his own 20 six times.

“He’s been the biggest surprise I’ve had in a while,” UCF Coach Mike Kruczek said. “I’ve known Ryan since he got here, obviously and we put him on scholarship last January. I had some questions about his game toughness and mental approach to the game, being able to handle the crowds, but he’s performed and really, done a great job.”

Though this kind of production shouldn’t seem that unusual for a senior kicker, Flinn doesn’t qualify as an ordinary senior. Though part of the team for the past five seasons, he came into the year with only five career punts. The reason: four-year starter Javier Beeroldt blocked him. Though Beeroldt has kicked both punt and place kicking duties, his specialty was the punt. He ranks second in school record book with 3,200 career punting yards. He has a 41.4 average ranks third. All that combined to keep Flinn on the bench.

But in a sport that is all about changing things, Flinn didn’t have a scholarship. That meant he had to pay his way through school, while finding time to attend class and practice. During the summer he worked close to 50-60 hours a week at a telephone research company back home in Fort Myers. He also tutored computer science for athletes during the season and depended on loans to pay off his rent. At one point he said he was close to donating plasma.

“I had a rough time when I came here financially. There was a couple of times that I was thinking about transferring and/or getting a job,” Flinn said. “But everybody else told me to stick with it. Javier was actually one of them that was real close to me and said just stick with it, it will be worth it in the end.”

And he was right. Staying has turned out well worth it for Flinn and the Golden Knights. Yet he still had the difficult task of filling Beeroldt’s kicking shoes. As a senior last year, Beeroldt averaged 43.5 yards per punt, the third best season in UCF history. Clearly Flinn has come through. As a team UCF leads the MAC in net punting with a 37.4 yard per punt average. That’s more than a full-yard over the next closest

Punter Ryan Flinn has made the best of his limited opportunities at UCF team, Marshall, who averages 36 yards. Flinn’s average would make him the league leader if he had enough punts to qualify. But UCF has the third least punts in the conference (behind Toledo’s 36 and Marshall’s 35).

“We’re the No. 1 punt team in the conference and we’ve also punted less than anybody in the conference,” Kruczek said. “It’s unfortunate because he’s done just a fantastic job with get-off distance, hang time, accuracy being able to poach the ball. He’s got all the kicks. He can kick it deep. He can spot punt the ball. Kick it out of bounds. He does a tremendous job.”

Though Flinn stands out physically for a kicker at 6-feet-5, observers questioned whether he could do so with his play. But both he and those around him never did.

“I’m not really surprised, I’m happy for him that he’s having this great year,” long snapper Bobby Brown said. “I didn’t expect that he would have a bad year. I always knew he had the potential to be a really great punter and he’s really proven that.”

Added Flinn: “There was never a doubt in my mind. I just kept it up and didn’t let some else’s doubts to rest. I just pushed myself more in practice so I could do better and better.”

Now the former walk-on has a scholarship, and the only full-time job he has is kicking shoes to a few practice players. He is involved with the kicking game (Brown is the other) he has become a leader. Using his experience and the skills he’s learned Brown describe him as a “goosy” guy. Flinn has helped out freshmen place-kickers Prater and Hagan with punting duties.

Flinn still talks to and hangs out with the older Beeroldt, called him his best friend in the world. And even planned to go out to the bench with him the morning following the Kent State game. He credits that time competing with him for a lot of his success.

Like Beeroldt, he surely impressed some scouts. But punters take time to make it real big, and Flinn says he wouldn’t mind heading to NFL Europe to not only develop but knock out a life goal some true freshman Kevin Beeroldt, Javier’s younger brother and Flinn’s eventual replacement.

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Knights have something to prove against Miami

FROM PAGE 10

more, he is mechanically as sound as there is. He is also very smart with what he does with the football. So he is going to be a tremendous challenge. Strength-wise and defense, he is every bit as much as Doyno (Leftwich). And he has got more mobility. You're looking at a guy, two years who could be the No. 1 pick in the country simply because of his athleticism and the way he delivers the football.*

The Rodfawas are also plenty capable of running the ball. Veteran Cal Murray has been in and out of the lineup all year with injuries, but Luke Clemens has filled in nicely. The junior has 16 rushing yards and an eye-popping 18 rushing touchdowns. He's also a formidable pass catcher out of the backfield, with 25 receptions. Clemens will start if Murray returns, but if both are available then Miami will have an extremely dangerous ground game.

One last offensive weapon at Miami's disposal is place-kicker Jared Penegro. The most accurate kicker in the MAC this season, he hasn't missed a field goal since last year. He has connected on 16 straight attempts, a conference record.

On defense, Miami doesn't live or die on paper. They give up over 400 total yards per game. Miami's run defense isn't good, allowing 130 yards per game. Even worse, Miami's passing defense ranks among the worst in the nation, as it gives up 275 yards per game in the air. Facing the highly ranked Golden Knights' passing offense, that's a very bad news.

Yet the Rodfawas' defense has stifled up when it has had to. Miami is the best in the conference in redzone defense and third down conversions allowed.

They are a lot more blitz and play more man coverage than [Defensive Coordinator] Kenner said. In certain formations they like to come and get you. They have a multitude of different looks that they can present, they can come out with the blitz."

In the 49ers they're using a three-deep pass rush, led by defensive end Matt Edwards (nine sacks) and linebacker Matt Nakhoul (five sacks). As a team, Miami has 23 sacks, though they've also allowed 28.

On the coaching box, the Rodfawas have a huge question mark. The school suspended defensive coordinator John Wadford after he got arrested on battery charges for allegedly shoving a Marshall fan to the ground after last week's game. How well they do without him will make a big difference in the ballgame.

Miami also suspended assistant coach Travis Johnson after he accepted full responsibility for damaging Miami's couches' box after the game.

"I don't think they fall off a whole lot other than the fact that you lost two coaches who run a lot of drills and who do the kids work with and have an identity with," Kenner said. "I don't think that they are going to fall off that much. Even are a problem because you've won so much and a lot of the way they do things is the Norrell.

But you have to have a guy call the game. Now [Hoeppner] is going to be a lot more involved, but I don't think that will bother him."

The last thing UCF will have to contend with is weather. So far the Golden Knights have locked down on the road. They got an unusually warm Buffalo in play two weeks ago. Will Mother Nature continue to smile on the Golden Knights, if it doesn't, how much of a factor will the cold be in this extremely important game?

"It's looking it is snowing," Schneider said. "Tail their all pre­ season is we can't play in the cold games, we are going to make to when it gets cold and snowy. We are Florida boys who can't play in the cold weather. I want to go out and show everyone that we can handle it and we are just as good in 60 degree weather as we are in 30 degree weather."

UCF hasn't beaten a team with a winning record since 1998. This marks its last chance to do so this season. Miami's defense will likely come without their coordinator, which means the Golden Knights should score some points. But can the UCF defense stop Rodfawas' offense? This UCF team hasn't shown the ability to rise to the occasion in big games, and until they do it's hard to pick them to win.

Miami 35, UCF 21

UCF plays winner of JU-JSU

FROM PAGE 10

UCF is coming off its third consecutive win over Jacksonville State. The Knights beat the Gamecocks 3-1 last week on Oct. 18, and UCF still has two more conference games.

"Jacksonville State is playing very well right now," Colado said. "I think that that's going to be a very good match and very much a battle. Jacksonville State has a new coach and he's done a fantastic job with the program in the short period of time.

Jacksonville and JSU face off at 11 a.m. Friday with the EAU-Troy State game following it at 1 p.m. UCF will play the winner of the first game at 5 p.m. and Georgia State plays the winner of the second game at 7 p.m. The championship game will be Saturday at 1 p.m."

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DRINKING IS ALSO AN ELECTIVE.
Airborne ambition

Mike Blakley | STAFF WRITER

Students juggle careers, families and classes on a daily basis, but now they can learn to juggle the old-fashioned way like graduate student Jason Burdieck.

Burdieck started the UCF Juggling Club three years ago so he could learn how to juggle better. Now, as its president, he teaches 20 to 25 students every Thursday afternoon in the lobby of the engineering building.

“I want to make it so everyone can learn in about an hour,” that’s the goal,” he said.

He puts together instruction booklets and teaching methods on how to juggle for his students. He measures reaction times, accuracy rates and correction ranges to come up with a system to teach juggling.

“I’m in this industrial engineering program, I have to make a system,” said Burdieck.

However, Burdieck is not the only one who uses this process. Psychology professor James Brophy, over the past eight years, has accumulated his students to learn how to juggle for his general psychology class.

This active learning helps them understand how stress affects performance, how practice can change behavior and how their minds work Brophy said. Students are also required to write a paper about juggling and take a juggling exam in front of the class.

“At first students grumble a lot, but by the time they finish they are really glad they did it. Some people just learn better while they’re moving,” Brophy not only sponsors the UCF Juggling Club, but helps recruit members as well since almost half of the club’s members join because of his class, said Burdieck.

Every little tip helps pay their way

Kristin Davis | STAFF WRITER

The majority of students who work at service-oriented jobs like senior Nicole Biscuiti, 22, usually rely on tips from customers to financially support themselves.

Biscuiti has been a waitress since she was 15 years old. She currently works at Windsors, where she has been a server for almost three years now and usu-

ally makes about $10 an hour in tips alone.

She even recently received a $10 tip for a $2 check.

“Senior Eric Stewart, a 22-year-old waiter at TG1 Fridays, makes an average of $55 to $100 in tips per shift. If his customers don’t tip him at least 20 percent, he feels he didn’t do his job right. There was even one instance when an overly grateful customer left Stewart a much larger tip than 20 percent. “My best tip was unbelievable,” said Stewart. “I got a $1,000 tip from a rich guy who had a $53 check and too much to drink. I was very grateful for the payment of $100 for a vacation I went on.”

But Stewart has not always been so lucky. He said he has been left with any tip at all on more than one occasion.

Although, not many customers will tip $1,000 for a $53 check. Stewart still feels every little bit counts.

“If every customer would tip in 20 percent, it would make a world of difference to the server,” Stewart said.

“There isn’t anyone who will miss that extra dollar, but it really helps the waiter.”

Said Biscuiti: “Serving is the ideal job for students in college. For most people who work in this type of industry, customer’s tips are essential to them since they help pay their way.
Student servers rely on tips for financial support

That is how they usually make most of their money.
Freshman Kelly Morrell, 19, can relate.
"Most servers depend on making most of their money at work from tips," Morrell said.
Morrell noticed from her past experience working at a local Italian Restaurant in Melbourne, her hometown, that regular customers and people in the restaurant business tend to be the best tippers.

Biscuiti agreed. "I know what it's like to have to work for tips so I am more generous with tips when I go out to eat. I think most students tip well because they can relate to having to work hard to support themselves.

The amount each server makes in tips also depends on the time of their shift and how busy the restaurant is at that time.

According to Junior Kelley Scottaline, a 23-year-old wairess at Olive Garden, she usually makes most of her tips late in the evening on the weekends.

For each shift Scottaline works during the weekdays, she makes about $60 to $100. In comparison, she makes about $40 to $60 during the week.

Nevertheless, tips are not always guaranteed.

Sometimes foreigners don't realize they are supposed to leave a tip because in their country it is usually already included in the bill, Scottaline said.

Yet students aren't the only ones on campus who face this problem.

Gina Mckenzie, 44, has worked at the Clip Joint, a barbershop/salon in downtown, for five years now. She has found that the amount of money each customer tips depends on the individual. On average, she usually receives $2 per hair cut.

"Tipping should be voluntary," said Mckenzie. "I don't expect to get a certain amount each time."

Elaine Poole, 51, also works at the Clip Joint and has made a living styling customers hair for the past 17 years.

"In my line of work, we live off of the extra money we get as tips," Poole said. "It is the money we use to buy gas to put in our cars, pay tolls and put our expenses money.

Poole makes about $80 a day in tips and said that upper classes at UCF usually tip the best.

"Freshmen usually don't tip as well because many of them don't have jobs," she said.
"Generally though, students have given me better tips than any other place I have worked at before."

Although she appreciates every tip she receives, she still feels each person should give what they feel is right.

"When I tip someone, I give from my heart."

For more information call (407)707-0863.
Psychology professor works with club to help students juggle

FROM PAGE 17

said Burdick.

"I would have never even thought of learning how to juggle if it weren't for that class," said 18-year-old freshman and the Juggling Club's historian, Lynette Kidwell.

Brodhy's teaching methods are more effective than just reading from a textbook, Kidwell added.

"The class is certainly more memorable," she said.

However, the club's vice president, 18-year-old freshman Kenny Toombs, has his own reasons for juggling.

"I enjoy the repetitive motion and performing in front of people," he said. "I'm a showoff."

They practice old tricks and learn new ones, such as how to unicycle, still walk and contact juggle, which is when a juggler rolls a glass ball across his/her arms and body.

The contact jugglers have to take off all their jewelry to do it right. Many of the times, we end up practicing later than planned because nobody has a watch to keep track of the time, Burdick said.

Brodhy already has plans to invite the club to perform in his class next semester. Burdick hopes to schedule future performances in the student courtyard and add stunts, such as an organized unicycle ride and a human wheel.

Burdick was even inspired to create a geared unicycle that can go up to 20 mph because of a project a team of engineering students did.

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What's News--
In Business and Finance

**Consumer Spending Reassures Some**

Pears about a major slowdown in consumer spending have proven to be unfounded, and, adding new hope that the economy, while weak, isn't slipping back into recession. In October, shoppers increased their spending on clothing and many other retail goods. The Commerce Department said retail sales excluding automobiles rose 0.7%, far better than what most economists had been expecting. The gain was led by a 4% increase in spending in clothing stores, as the coldest October in years helped make up for weaker sales of winter clothing earlier in the season. Auto sales fell 1.3% after a 5% decline in September. Including autos, retail sales were flat in October, after a 1.3% drop in September.

The weak economy has put many households in a financial pinch, but thanks to downward price pressures consumer satisfaction with a wide range of products and services is edging higher, in large part because consumers feel companies are offering better values, according to researchers at the University of Michigan. The university's quarterly Survey of Consumers Satisfaction Index edged up during the three months ended in September, to a reading of 71.1, from 69.1 in the second quarter and from 72 a year ago, but still below 72.5% in December. The index is based on a seasonally adjusted, annualized basis.

**Antitrust Suit Hits Visa, MasterCard**

Visa and MasterCard under- took a decade-long effort to discourage the use of rival debit cards in favor of their own more-expensive versions, driving up costs for retailers and consumers, newly unsealed court documents show. Depositors and internal company memoir depict the companies as paying banks millions of dollars to curtail rival debit-card transactions, demanding that merchants take their debit cards or lose access to credit-card sales, and even trying to disguise their debit cards so merchants couldn't tell them from credit cards.

Thousands of pages were un­ sealed in a massive federal an­ titrust suit seeking damages from Visa USA Inc. and MasterCard In­ ternational Inc.—the world's biggest credit-card issuers—by the nation's retailers, led by Wal-Mart Stores Inc. The suit alleges the two companies responded to the threat from debit cards by creating their own more-costly, less-efficient ver­ sions and illegally leveraging their power in the credit-card market to dissuade merchants from using the companies.

Visa and MasterCard say none of their actions were illegal and all

**Flattening Out?**

Retail sales, in millions

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**Glimmer of Hope**

Month-to-month percentage change in retail sales and sales excluding autos

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**So Deck the Halls Already**

As Retailers Slash Prices, Shoppers Hit Mills In Early Holiday Rush

By SHIELLY BROWN

Until's sleigh is getting an early lift.

For weeks now, retail prognosticators have preached concern about the key holiday selling season. A fragile economy, bad jobs, and a possible war with Iraq have led to predictions of one of the weakest holiday buying seasons in recent memory.

But determined shoppers hit the malls last week well in advance of the traditional holiday shopping kickoff, the Friday after Thanksgiving. Consumers said they had good reason for battling the foul weather and long lines and holiday waits for parking spaces at major malls in the South. Some, worried about possible layoffs, say they want to get their spending done while they still have healthy credit lines. Others are aware that retailers are keeping inventories lean, which means that both trendy and basic merchandise may sell out.

Retailers have their own rea­ sons for getting the season started early: Hanukkah starts early, on Thanksgiving weekend, and with Christmas falling on a Wednesday, stores get fewer shopping days be­ tween Thanksgiving and Christ­ mas in which to sell.

At the Garden State Plaza Mall in Paramus, N.J., shoppers armed with coupons examined the mall en­ trances to Macy's and J.C. Penney Co., where "sale" and "discount" signs were both abundant and

**Unique opportunities for UCF undergraduates**

As Retailers Slash Prices, Shoppers Hit Mills

In Early Holiday Rush

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November 18, 2002

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Every Thursday.
Wireless E-mail Getting Getting

By JESSIE DROCHER
AND ALISON LUDLOW

What if you upgraded your network and nobody came?
Over the past several months, the major cellular companies
have begun offering data services on their new, higher-speed
networks. The goal: Get callers to spend more by offering them
email, Web surfing and even digital photography right on the phone.
But early sales have been disappointing, analysts say.
As a result, prices are falling dramatically. Instead of paying
double-digit premiums, you can now get some services for a few
extra dollars a month. And deals may get even better soon. Some ana-
lysts believe the new data offerings will go the way of caller ID and
three-way calling—services that subscribers used to pay extra for,
but are now included in most calling plans.

Sprint PCS recently introduced new "unlimited data" plans, letting
consumers do as much e-mailing and Web browsing as they like—for
half what Sprint was charging just a few months ago in some
cases. A customer with a $49.99-a-month calling plan (for 140
anytime minutes) gets unlimited data for an additional $5. The data
service can actually be even cheaper, since Sprint PCS throws in the first
two months free.
Meanwhile, AT&T Wireless Services Inc., and T-Mobile USA Inc.
both recently doubled the amount of data available in some plans, ef-
cently cutting prices nearly in half. AT&T Wireless has also cut
rates on several of its plans; for heavy users, to $59.99 from $79.99,
and for medium users, to $12.99 from $18.99.
Prices for data-enabled phones are dropping, too. The Motorola
T720, a slick, color-screen flip phone, was selling for $299 last
month from Verizon Wireless. Now, it is available for a third that
price. Samsung A500 phones for $399 from Sprint PCS come with a free
attachable camera, if you buy a data plan.
The new services let you do things like surf the Web, pick up
stock quotes and e-mail pictures to friends. Some phones now come
with bigger screens that make Web browsing more comfortable. But
speeds of the networks—about as fast as a dial-up connection—can
frustrate subscribers who are used to getting the Internet at broad-
band speeds.

So Deck the Halls Already

Continued from Previous Page

searchers SuperCash, 16% of shoppers said they intend to finish their
holiday shopping before Thanksgiving, compared with only 7% who
did so in 1999. Of course, the finding may reflect wishful thinking and
good intentions.
Early shoppers aren't necessarily shoplifting. An analyst survey
from the International Council of
Shopping Centers, a trade group,
concludes shoppers on average will spend only 2% more than in 2001.
The figure at least signals that con-
sumers don't plan to slam their wal-
pockets shut in the wake of some big
losses in the stock market.
Huddled at J.C. Penney's jew-
elry counter, Cara Aquaro and
two friends pecked at a calculato-

Apply for in person 9:30am - 4:30pm Mon - Fri
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Welcome to the Classifieds section!

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**Classifieds**

**Thursday November 21, 2002**

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**3-D creation.** Desired by the College of Education & Human Performance. Call 321-939-1214. Male students, graphics artists tor reference poses for complex anatomy.

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**Valet Parking - Positions starting at $9.** Valet Parking Attendants Needed. Locations throughout Orlando area, evenings nightly, $20 per shift, $40 bonus. Call 407-823-5163 and ask for John, Michael or Mark.

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**UNLIMITED POTENTIAL!** TCBY Treats. Hiring PT/FT, ext. 100. Must be a team player, and have a positive attitude. For more details, see www.tcby.com immediately.

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**Do you have a great personality, good sales skills, and a few hours a day to give?** We are looking for PT/FT Sales Consultants to work for $.50 per hour plus commissions. Start immediately, call 407-982-3175.

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**2 issues (1 week):** 69 per wk
**8 issues (4 weeks):** 58 per wk
**24 issues (12 weeks):** 57 per wk
**Building:** 54 per wk
**Large Deadline:** 51 per wk
Charges listed above include an ad of up to five lines, 5 characters per line. Stock for extra additional line.

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**Beds**

A Queen pillow-top set. Name brand w/warranty. NEW in plastic, $250. Call 407-833-0585

**BED**

A full size set, new, still in plastic w/warranty. $175. Call 407-833-0585

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A queen set, orthopedic, unused in plastic, $150. Can deliver. Call 407-833-0585

2001 Sundown 2400, V6, 5 spd., new tires, brakes & dual Dunlop tires, gas mileage 15-18 mpg, reduced to $3,199. Call 407-671-8172 or (606)443-6473

300 FOR RENT

Private bed and bath in 1/4 close to UCF Female only. All util. incl. Call 511-696-2441.

300 FOR RENT

Room for rent in Student house. Level 1, $595/mo., 1/4 util. Avail. 1/1.

300 FOR RENT


300 FOR RENT

Large 2bed/2bath Apartment, includes all util., washer/dryer, vaulted ceiling, spacious floor plan. Across from UCF. Available in Jan. $495/mo. Call 501-614-5950.

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UCF/Oviedo area, 4bed/2.5 bath house 6 miles from UCF. All util. incl. Quiet neighborhood, close to park. No pets. $850/mnth. Call 508-681-9289.

300 FOR RENT

All util. incl. Quiet neighborhood. 2/2 Condo. New in UCF Circle, 4BR/2.5 Bath house. Avail. immediately. Call Carol 407-383-0585

350 ROOMMATES

Roommate sought to share 3bed/3bath apt. in UCF area. $499/mnth. Call 407-671-8172.

350 ROOMMATES

Room for rent in 3bed/2bath apt. Close to UCF. Female only. All util. incl. Call 352-239-1426.

350 ROOMMATES

Room for rent in 3bed/2bath apt. 1/4 from UCF. $400/mnth. Call 407-407-4021

400 SERVICES

Roommate needed for 2br/2.5 bath apt. Call 407-813-1515 from UCF. Fully furnished, cable, road runner, and quiet neighborhood. Call 954 297-0493 or 407-677-4688.

400 SERVICES

$400/mnth. Call 407-671-3893

400 SERVICES

Send $17 in cash to bill's box for Great Opening Day 1-101 Tree special.

400 SERVICES

Send $17 in cash to billboard for great opening day. 1-101 Tree special. Call 407-671-3893

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