Faculty, students notified of sex offenders at UCF

ANDREA MILAM STAFF WRITER

Joel Hall must deal with the fact that students, faculty and staff at UCF now have access to his picture, address, and the sexual crime he was charged with since he was convicted of being a sex offender.

As a result of the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act, Hall’s information was sent out to all UCF students, faculty and staff via e-mail. He is one of five registered sex offenders at UCF.

States had until Oct. 27 to comply with the Wetterling Act, which set national standards for sex offender registration and community notification programs. Some states are fighting this act in the Supreme Court, arguing that it is not constitutional. States that do not comply with the requirements could lose 10 percent of their federal funding.

It was left up to university officials to decide how to inform students of sex offenders enrolled at their respective universities. Some campuses simply posted the information on their web sites, while others, such as UCF, took a step further by sending out thousands of e-mails with the sex offender’s information to students and faculty e-mail addresses on Nov. 18.

“That’s a gray area [in the act],” said Sgt. Troy Williamson, criminal investigation coordinator for the UCF Police Department. “We chose to make an extra effort.”

While some states argue that the act is not constitutional, many people agree with its provisions, including one of the local sex offenders.

“UCF has a right to distribute information they feel is necessary to protect their students and staff,” said Diane Tiffany, a registered sex offender, whose name appears on UCF’s list, despite the fact that he is not currently attending classes because of academic probation.

While Tiffany may not be comfortable with the fact that so many people now know him as a sex offender, he sees the justification in making the information public.

“Do I think it was necessary to inform 38,000 people? he asked. “Not really, but that is their right and the information is public domain.”

Tiffany understands why UCF took the extra step to inform students of sex offenders at its school.

“I realize that’s public information, and that’s the way it’s going to be,” he said.

Tiffany says that he is not on campus enough to worry if people look at him differently, and that his relationships with his friends have remained unchanged since UCF students and faculty were informed that he is a sex offender.

Dane Tiffany

Four-year degree at community college

Seminoie Community College becomes newest area campus to offer UCF bachelor’s degrees

SARAH DOWNES STAFF WRITER

UCF is spreading the butter, enrobing Daytona Beach to Kissimmee and Leesburg to Ocala with area campuses. Seminole Community College in Sanford/Lake Mary is the newest member of the UCF family offering bachelor’s degree programs.

For the fall 2002 semester, SCC, in conjunction with UCF provided students bachelor’s degree programs in elementary education and criminal justice for the first time. Additional bachelor’s degree programs will be offered in legal studies, liberal studies and psychology in spring 2003.

The number of SCC students looking for advising has quadrupled since last year, said David Moncrief, regional director for the west region.
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National Briefs

President scales back U.S. raise
WASHINGTON — Federal employees will receive a scheduled 3.1 percent raise in basic pay next year, President Bush said Friday. But Bush, citing a national emergency, said he would allow no increase in their locality adjustments.

The House and a Senate committee suggested in two spending bills that civil service employees get a 4.1 percent raise — about what the military is to get next year.

Under federal law, civil service employees receive an across-the-board raise and a "locally pays" adjustment. The across-the-board raise is based on a survey of nationwide employment costs conducted by the Labor Department. The locality adjustment reflects private-sector pay changes in the metropolitan areas where civil service employees work.

The average salary for the approximately 200,000 federal employees in the Washington region is about $72,000.

The 1990 law was designed to close a "pay gap" between federal and private-sector pay. Recent studies conducted by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and the Bush administration have shown that salaries for professional and administrative jobs in the government lag behind private-sector pay by more than 20 percent.

Clariott to be sold over the counter
Allergy sufferers can soon get the nation's most prescribed antihistamine without a prescription, the Food and Drug Administration said.

The agency's determination that Claritin be sold over counter followed an unprecedented two-weeks after WorldCom hired former executive and president. -

lion in accounting irregularities.

be fined leaves open the question of whether it

will have to continue federal oversight, but

Commission that requires the company to

Submit to continued federal oversight, but

the way of Enron Corp. and Arthur

- Andersen LLP. It was reached less than

Michael Capellas as its chairman, chief

largest long-distance telephone company

two weeks after WorldCom hired former

executive and president. -


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www.UCFfuture.com

 Students get flu shots to avoid sick season

BECKA KULCHAK

STAFF WRITER

Whether students choose to take care of themselves this holiday season by taking extra vitamins and drinking juice or by getting preventative shots, they still cannot escape the inevitable — flu season has arrived.

Junior Michelle Daucher, 21, has become a regular victim of the flu.

"I never get sick, but thanks to my friends I have the flu now," Daucher said. "It sucks because I'm sick right before finals and it's hard to study and concentrate."

However, Daucher only has herself to blame for not getting a flu shot to help prevent getting sick.

"I'm afraid of getting a vaccine," Daucher said. "I've heard if you get the shot, you run the risk of getting sick all over again."

The flu shot changes from year to year in relation to the specific viruses that are likely to circulate within the U.S.

This year's vaccine is equipped to fight the Panama, New Caledonia and Hong Kong viruses, said Bob Faust, director of Student Health Services.

Students who are first-time flu shot receivers may experience a slight fever and general aches and pains that may last one or two days, but the minor symptoms are worth preventing a full-blown case of the flu, Faust said.

The Health Center offers flu vaccinations free to all UCF students and has tried to make it more convenient to get shots by offering more times and locations to get them this year, Faust said.

'We've given over 1,200 shots this year. That's 30 percent more than last year."

Junior Megan Rose, 21, said the main reason she decided to get the flu shot is because she did not want her friends to get sick.

\p><strong> Please see Vaccinations on 4</strong>
Students double degrees for dual competitive edge

DENISE BLOOM
STAFF WRITER

While many students will find themselves confronted by the mob scene at the mall this holiday season, others will be trying to tackle a mountain of textbooks that a double major offers. Although many students are satisfied with the course load and the demand that one major offers, some such as freshman T.J. Echols, an 18-year-old finance and international business major, still crave more.

"With a double major, I can excel in two fields," Echols said. "Hopefully when it comes time for me to get a job, the double major will give me the edge over my competitors."

Students in colleges and universities across the nation are taking on the added responsibility of two or three majors in hopes of making themselves more appealing to the job market and graduate schools.

At Georgetown University, 22 percent of the 2001 graduates had double majors. The same is true at Washington University, where 42 percent of the 2002 arts and sciences graduates had double majors or degrees. At the University of Wisconsin, not only did a quarter of the 2002 graduating class have double majors, but 160 also graduated with a triple-major status. Many UCF students are moving towards the same kind of education.

"I think it's the next step for students who are already excelling in their current major," Echols said. "High school teachers preach that all (advanced placement) classes are the next level to getting ahead, and double majors are the next step in college."

Students like Senior Senica Gonzalez, a 25-year-old creative writing and theater major, enjoy the security a double major offers.

"I have one major to back me up because I know realistically I may not be some acting star Broadwayshe said. "So my theater major may not take me anywhere, but my creative writing major will."

Sometimes students like Gonzales find it difficult to choose between two majors and find double majoring is the ideal solution when they can't make up their mind.

"It was better to take both of them because I really love theater," she said. "I wouldn't be able to just do creative writing. I have to have theater. It was either both or theater."

Junior Megan Holstrom, a 20-year-old speech pathology and physical therapy major, hopes the double major will give her an edge when it comes time to apply for professional schools after graduation.

"I find speech pathology very interesting, and I know it will help me in the future," she said. "I also hope that when it comes time for me to apply to physical therapy school, this major will help me in my acceptance."

Some students pursue a minor in lieu of the double major. Junior Lauren Malo, a 20-year-old advertising and public relations major, is completing a marketing minor to complement her degree.

"I didn't feel a double major was necessary but I did like the idea of learning about two fields," she said. "I chose to complete a marketing minor to give me a taste of the field. I hope that this minor will help me in my future with advertising."

Vaccinations help healthy students in fight against flu

From PAGE 3

Thanksgiving trip with her family to New York to be ruined by illness.

"In addition to bringing extra costs, I thought it would be a good idea to get the flu shot," she said. "[It was] my extra insurance." However, senior Geoffry Sonie, 24, believes it is not the flu shot that keeps students healthy, but the confidence in the student's mind that they will not get sick.

"I think it's having a positive outlook that keeps me from getting sick, not necessarily the shot," Sonie said. Senior Christopher Leszy, 21, has his own beliefs on how to prevent getting the flu this season.

"The best way to keep from getting sick is not by getting a vaccine, but rather having proper knowledge of how to take care of yourself," he said. "Having a good lifestyle means paying attention to your diet, exercising and getting enough sleep — that is what helps your immune system."
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Doctorate programs draw students to UCF

Other universities suffering from a doctoral drought

Cristal Espinosa
THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Across the country, the number of doctorates awarded in recent years has fallen, but at UCF, doctorate students and degrees are on the rise, with 1,073 doctoral students on campus this fall, 43 of whom will earn doctorates degrees this month.

According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, doctorates awarded in the U.S. have declined 4.5 percent since 1998, when doctorates awarded reached an all-time high of 22,654.

But UCF has managed to escape the nationwide decline and awarded more than 100 doctoral degrees between 2001 and 2005.

"UCF is showing growth in doctoral enrollment, but in part, that's because we are increasing the amount of doctoral programs we offer," said Wendy Bolyard, recruiting coordinator for graduate studies.

Bolyard suggests that UCF is escaping the doctoral drought the rest of the nation is experiencing by offering programs that students and employers are demanding.

"And certainly, when research dollars increase and faculty members that are nationally and internationally known [are hired], there is an increase in demand for students wanting to join the new programs and work with these faculty members," Ronald G. Ehrenberg, director of Cornell University's Higher Education Research Institute, said he believes that the combination of declining doctorates, an increase in student population, and growing number of faculty reaching retirement, may lead to inadequate faculty resources, according to a report in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

UCF student Jill Painter, who is currently seeking her educational doctorate, hasn't experienced any problems yet, but admits she may down the road.

"One problem that I see for the future is that I have two advisers for this program," she said. "They are both retiring in three years and I graduate in about five. So that's going to be confusing when I'm trying to finish up my requirements."

But there are other incentives that are drawing students into doctoral programs at UCF.

Full-time doctoral students are provided full tuition support, something not done in the past. Full-time students on graduate assistantships, either teaching or research, also receive full tuition support.

This year a need-based tuition scholarship for part-time doctoral students has also been created.

"If they are a full-time student on a teaching assistantship, they get a stipend for teaching or research," Bolyard said. "But because that isn't a very large salary, we are able to provide tuition support for them."

Being a teacher's or research assistant is not required for the graduate degree program. However, students pursuing a doctoral degree who intend to teach or do research receive experience through the assistantships, and doctoral students tend to support themselves through these assistantships.

"One of the big motivators for getting my doctorate is that work pays for it otherwise, I'd be on the 10-year plan and wouldn't have the money to take the classes," Bolyard said. "This is where I'm happy and the fact that they pay for it, that's what enticed me to stay here and get a degree."

-----

Five sex offenders registered at UCF

FROM PAGE 1

"The people [who] know me before they get the e-mail have not changed," he said. "They know me and what my character is."

"I'm not as comfortable with his criminal status when it comes to his friends."

"But I think the fact that my friends are talking about it," he said. "However, he is more upset that he is listed as committing sexual battery, something he calls a false charge.

"What I see as being a big deal is the facts of the charges that were made against me," he said. "They have the offense listed as battery, which is completely inconsistent with the facts of the case."

According to Hall, on the day of his arrest, the police there were no investigative allegations of battery, but no evidence of any kind of sexual contact was dropped. The crime that made him a sex offender was when he was 17-year-old when he was 24, which he admits was a mistake.

People who commit crimes such as Hall are deemed sex offenders. In order to be determined a sexual predator, a person must be convicted of one first-degree felony sex crime, or two second degree felony sex crimes within 10 years of each other. There are currently no known sexual predators at UCF, only five sexual offenders.

All sexual predators and offenders residing in the state of Florida can be found on the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's web site at www.fidel.state.fl.us/sexual_pr edators. Visitors to the web site can enter a first name, last name, county, or other information and the database will return all of the sexual predators matching that information. There are plans to expand the database to include a nationwide search.

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Large raises reward, retain good presidents

FROM PAGE 1

Tom Ingram thinks so.

Ingram said. Ingram praised the decision to give Hitt a $80,000 raise, especially considering how long he has served as president. "These days, that's a remarkable and happy fact," Ingram said. "The fact that your president got such a significant raise ... [the trustees] realize that they have found someone who is deeply committed to the institution and its people," Ingram said.

Ingram said the average presidency at public universities lasts six years.

Gray and Ingram said that higher boards evaluate presidents annually. "We're more than doubling the research in the past three years," O'Neal said.

While rising presidents' salaries have slowly taken hold over the last decade, universities appreciate their presidents annually. Boards of trustees evaluate a president's performance, including "evidence that people who care about the university are pleased with the university, evidence that the faculty holds the president in good regard [and] evidence that he can attract quality faculty," Ingram said.

Boards also look for evidence that the university has met its goals, Ingram said. "This is a very unusual thing to have a president stay at a university for 15 years between four universities, to see that the president is doing a good job in order to retain their services," Ingram said. "They [boards of trustees] realize that they have found someone who is deeply committed to the institution and its people," Ingram said. Ingram said that Hitt's leadership, much more money has come into UCF. "We did $75 million in research, in external research," O'Neal said. "We've come more than doubling the research in the past three years."

O'Neal credited Hitt for UCF's growth as a research university. "He's been behind many of the changes," O'Neal said. "He's been instrumental in developing the high-tech corridor."

"Once he got behind making research a high priority, it became a high priority," O'Neal added.

Hitt's leadership has helped UCF grow. Ingram said that although most students do not think their presidents deserve raises, they should not complain. "We should not take shots at this from the sidelines," Ingram said. Ingram explained that presidents have to deal with many external pressures, and that they should receive compensation. "It is no easy job being president of anything, especially president of a public university," he said.

"In the end, our taxpayers and our more-enslightened students will recognize that leadership comes at a cost," Ingram said. "Their compensation represents the value to which they are held."
National Briefs

FROM PAGE 3

depend on WorldCom's continued cooperation with federal investigators and the outcome of other investigations of the company.

WorldCom admitted no wrongdoing and the settlement does not stop criminal investigations involving the company.

American Muslims debate donation by Saudi prince

One of the nation's most prominent Islamic organizations has accepted a $500,000 donation from a Saudi prince, sparking a blunt debate among American Muslims over whether foreign contributions are compromising their independence and the integrity of their organizations.

Omar Ahmad, board chairman of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, which received the gift, said the donation would be used to support a $2.5-million project aimed at placing Islamic educational material into the nation's 16,000 public libraries.

The gift to the council from Saudi Prince Alwaleed bin Talal, a nephew of Saudi Arabia's King Fahd and one of the kingdom's richest men, comes at a time when the Saudi royal family's spending on Muslims in the United States has been the subject of new questions.

Late last month, it was disclosed that Saudi Princess Haifa al Faisa1, the wife of the Saudi ambassador to the United States, apparently gave thousands of dollars to two Saudi nationals in San Diego, who then provided funds to two of the Sept. 11 hijackers.

FBI investigators have said that they do not believe the royal family deliberately aided the terrorists, but the issues has fanned concerns on Capitol Hill over Saudi financial support of Muslims here.

Saudi Arabia is the largest single contributor to Islamic causes ranging from mosques to religious literature to refugee aid around the world. Experts say, however, that its support of American Muslims has significantly dropped in the last decade.

Critics of the gift have begun publicly questioning it, calling it everything from immoral to a "strategic misstep" that would fuel criticism of American Muslims as Saudi mouthpieces.

Supporters of the donation, by contrast, argue that the critics are unwittingly aiding what many U.S. Muslims see as a campaign by fundamentalist Christian and conservative Jewish groups to demonize the Saudis.

—Compiled from wire reports by Krista Ulff Claiborne/Paris News

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With criminals, there can never be too much information

The UCF Police Department's decision to send an e-mail of the five sex offenders who attend UCF is a good move. UCF students and professors shouldn't care what kinds of people attend their university.

UCF Police continue to do a good job of keeping UCF safe, and this measure will, at the very least, raise awareness of sex crimes. Sex crimes are very serious in nature, and people who commit them should bear responsibility for their crimes. Hopefully, the shame of having their names posted on the Internet will discourage people from committing sex crimes in the future.

Society attempts to discourage crime by exposing criminals and shaming them. Notifying the public of sex offenders encourages sex offenders to act right, and keeps the public alert to the presence of criminals. However, UCF Police should not stop with sex criminals. It should inform the UCF community of all criminals. Students and professors should know whether thieves or shoplifters attend UCF. If a UCF student has beaten someone, the rest of UCF should know. Minors criminals pose a threat to the community as well.

Now that UCF students and professors know that five sex offenders attend the university, they should treat these individuals respectfully. These five men are sex offenders, not sex predators. They committed a sex crime once, not repeatedly. Do not roll out a red carpet for them, but do not shun them either. They have paid their dues to society, and continue to pay them. They deserve an opportunity to improve their lives with an education and hopefully avoid a life of crime.

Notifying the UCF community by e-mail is an appropriate way of letting students, professors and staff know who attends UCF. Students and professors rely on the Internet for information, so e-mail is a proper method of getting information out to the public.

By making students aware of the sex offenders, UCF Police have created an atmosphere in which people will know more about sex crimes.

OUR STANCE:
Thanksgiving spree
no excuse for excess

Thanksgiving Friday came and went, and once again, American consumers participated in the annual ritual of spending too much on holiday gifts. The day after Thanksgiving is generally the biggest shopping day of the year. Apparently, everyone rushes to the mall of the day to consume, consume, consume.

People buy items they do not need. They buy stuff that people do not want. They buy whatever is popular. They spend recklessly, disregarding the consequences of such excessive spending because they "need" to buy this or that, and they "need" to buy it now.

As much good as Thanksgiving Friday brings for the economy, the ritual that the day after Thanksgiving has become demonstrates how mindless the American people can be. Similar to the binge-eating that accompanies Thanksgiving, binge-drinking that goes along with New Year's Eve, Americans' binge-shopping on Thanksgiving Friday leaves them with a hangover, only it is not the after-effect of a stomachache or a headache. Rather, they realize the hangover of credit-card debt months later.

Every year, the same routine plays out, yet people never learn. They get swept up in the tradition, and do not think to ask themselves why. Yes, the holiday season is about giving, but it does not mean that people have to consume as much as possible. People should relax, and let their food digest from Thanksgiving dinner. The all-important stuff that they need to buy will still be there.

"No man is ever old enough to know better."

—Nelson Maddox

Letters to the Editor
From expressed here are not necessarily those of the author.

Time to recognize low-profile sports

First of all, I'd like to thank you for such a great newspaper. I enjoy being turned onto all of the up-and-coming projects at UCF, the athletics and information on the student life. But I have a request. By way of Rugby Club at the University of Central Florida has recently won the state championship game. Brenda Jo. They beat the University of Miami 64-1, and scored 96 points in three games on a victorious road tournament to Mobile, Alabama Battleship Rugby Tournament, where they beat Florida, Tulane and SMU.

Despite all of their success, the school has shown no appreciation to them or any other sports. To activities that accompany such a great honor, and we should commend them for their hard work.

What I am getting at is, I would like to see sponsors, perhaps, owning the Rugby Club. Or I know a club or organization that has been a part of UCF for 20 or more years and are giving out a superior name such as crew, water polo, soccer, etc. I think this would be great for the students.

—THOMAS HAYES

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Aiming to tap into young minds

JANE EISNER REPORTER

I may not be the best arbiter of cool, but this sure seems cool to me. A blast of laughing young woman wearing a pair of low-slung jeans and a shirt that is pouring drops of liquid on her bare belly. A hotly young man is folding them up, laughing prominently on her skin.

"Vegetarian by day," says the message, "punk rock by night."

Next, an ad for a non-advertising genius, either of this if I am also sure. With that message, Bacardi's tagline: "Looking to get my business, I don't dress like that, and at this stage in my life, don't even want to live;  do I generally read Rolling Stone, where this ad appeared last year?

Yet more than 4 million people who cannot legally drink in the United States read this magazine, comprising 25 percent of its audience, and only the industry's merchandising efforts would argue that this sexy scene escaped their attention.

As I write this, the foolish, the foolish, the foolish, and the liquor industry. The industry, which gets to regale advertisers with a "Bacardi / Friends" has, for example, advertised on this magazine, comprising 25 percent of its audience, and only the industry's merchandising efforts would argue that this sexy scene escaped their attention.

I might add that these are not advertising genres, either of whom of this if I am also sure. With that message, Bacardi's tagline: "Looking to get my business, I don't dress like that, and at this stage in my life, don't even want to live; do I generally read Rolling Stone, where this ad appeared last year?"

BIPOLAR DEPRESSION

Dr. Charles Bailey, with CNS Healthcare is offering screenings in Orlando for participation in a research study of an investigational medication for those experiencing symptoms of bipolar depression. Eligible participants between 18 and 65 years of age will receive a comprehensive psychiatric examination and study medication at no cost. Health insurance is not necessary. Enrollment is limited.

Do you have...


Dr. Charles Bailey, with CNS Healthcare is offering screenings in Orlando for participation in a research study of an investigational medication for those experiencing symptoms of bipolar depression. Eligible participants between 18 and 65 years of age will receive a comprehensive psychiatric examination and study medication at no cost. Health insurance is not necessary. Enrollment is limited.

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Men's Basketball Notebook

Knights on a roll

Tom Alexander
Staff Writer

Seniors Ray Abellard and Ed Dotson scored 46 of UCF's 72 points as the Golden Knights remained unbeaten in the University Hoops Classic this weekend.

UCF put an early lead on Tulane 16-9, mostly because of the shooting of freshman Troy Lindbeck, who made his first start in a Golden Knight uniform. Lindbeck finished with 13 points, a career high, and hit three 3-pointers.

Although the Knights missed a few free throws in the last two and a half minutes as UCF beat Tulane 66-61 Friday, The Green Wave played host to the University of Maine Saturday with a 72-55 win over Nicholls State.

Seniors Ray Abellard and Ed Dotson were the only Knights just under 14 minutes remaining in the game, but Abellard hit a three-pointer with just over four minutes to go as Maine tied the game at 36. Dotson then dropped a career-high 29 points, mostly in the second half, and the Golden Knights shot 49 percent from the field.

UCF outscored Nicholls State 25-10 in the second half with the help of 15 Golden Knight points, including 12 from Abellard and seven from Dotson. Shyra Smith scored a game-high 15 points. Adrian Billings was the only UCF player in double figures, scoring 13.

The road trip began last Monday at New Orleans. There the Golden Knights lost a heartbreaker in overtime, 64-62. UCF went cold for a long stretch covering the end of the first half and beginning of the second, allowing the Privateers to come back from an early 15-2 deficit.

The two teams battled down the stretch until Lee Roby gave New Orleans a three-point lead with eight seconds remaining. Freshman Maria Johnson answered for UCF with a three-pointer to send the game to overtime.

But the Golden Knights couldn't pull it out, getting outscored 6-3 in the extra frame. Montana Taylor hit a basket with 35 seconds remaining to seal UCF's first loss of the year.

Taylor paced New Orleans with 20 points. Marvelous Washington went 11-for-12 from the free-throw line for UCF, en route to a game-high 20 points. Allen finished 7-15 for 12 points, and Adrienne Billings grabbed a team-leading 10 rebounds.

Allen on a role

As a freshman last season, Allen got off to a very slow start. The center had trouble adjusting to the college game and spent most of her time on the bench while fellow freshman Ali Roberts started in the middle. But as the season wound down Allen began to come on and

PLEASE SEE UCF ON 18

Women's Basketball Notebook

Golden Knights go 1-2 on road trip

Chris Bernhardt
Staff Writer

The UCF women's basketball team spent the Thanksgiving break in Louisiana and Mississippi picking up a win over Nicholls State, but falling to Southern Miss and New Orleans.

The Golden Knights ended a two-game skid Saturday with a 70-50 win over Nicholls State. Sophomore Ali Roberts led UCF with a career-best 30 points. She hit nine of 11 shots from the floor.

Nicholls State jumped out to an early 13-8 lead before freshman Shyla Smyth put UCF up 15-9 with 8:11 left in the first half. The Knights finished the half on an 18-6 run to go into the locker room with a 30-25 lead.

The Golden Knights took one on the chin Wednesday, losing 76-45 to Southern Miss.

UCF managed to dig out of an early 9-2 hole to tie the game at 12, but the Eagles took a 1-23-5 lead into halftime and never looked back. They continued to build their lead in the second half with the help of 13 Golden Knight personal fouls and went on a 21-7 run to close the game. Southern Miss' Lena Lewis scored a game-high 15 points.

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PLEASE SEE Knights on 18
The Central Florida Knight • December 2, 2002

Inside the Numbers

3,770
Quarterback Ryan Schneider’s passing yards on the season, a UCF record.

1,237
Wide receiver Doug Gabriel’s receiving yards on the season, a UCF record.

1,104
Tailback Alex Haynes’ rushing yards, the first time since 1996 UCF has had a running back break 1,000 yards.

4
The number of receiving touchdowns by Gabriel in the game, ties a UCF record.

210
The number of passing yards by Ohio quarterback Fred Ray, the Bobcats only average 76.3 yards in the air.

Football Notebook

Schneider breaks Culpepper’s records

CHRIS BERNHARDT STAFF WRITER

He’s Ryan Schneider, the shadow of Daunte Culpepper will never fully go away. That’s the price he pays for playing the same position as UCF’s greatest player. But quietly, Schneider has grown about making some of Culpepper’s records disappear.

Against Ohio, Schneider set single-season school records for yardage (3,770) and touchdowns (31), both records previously held by Culpepper. The junior also closed in second year of Culpepper’s record for consecutive games with a touchdown pass (22).

“It’s nice,” Schneider said. “I respect what he did and what he did. He’s a great quarterback, just to be mentioned in the same breath with him is a great thing for me. But at the same time I’m trying to go out there and do my own thing.”

Schneider also moved into second place in career completions with 649 and third in career touchdown passes with 73.

Please See Injured on 17

Around the Locker Room

“Way to go out with a bang,” —Mike Kruczek on Doug Gabriel on his four-touchdown day.

“I think right now we’re probably the best team in the MAC conference,” —Quarterback Ryan Schneider.

“Coach Kruczek, I got to tip my hat to him. He brought the team together.” —Offensive Coordinator Todd Monrad.

“I’ll probably miss everything,” —Gabriel on what he’ll miss about cut football.

“Schneider. How could you ever forget a quarterback like that.” —Mike Schneider on what he’ll remember most about UCF.

“We’re excited to do it, it’s quite an accomplishment, it’s one of the highlights of the 2002.” —Wide receiver Jimmy Pizell on what he’ll remember most about UCF.

“My first year was a learning process, second year was just show them what you know.” —Gabriel.

“Considering where we were at the end of September, it’s a tremendous gratification,” —Chris Bernhardt on the Knight’s strong finish.

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VOLLEYBALL NOTEBOOK

Splits tournament

Kristy Shonka
STAFF WRITER

The UCF volleyball team came in third in its Thanksgiving Tournament this weekend after splitting games against Southeastern Conference opponents. The reigning Atlantic Sun Conference Champions beat Kentucky 3-1 Friday night, but fell to Arkansas 0-3 Saturday in their final regular season game. Arkansas won the tournament.

All-tournament team selection: Jevyn Frank led UCF in Saturday's loss to Arkansas with 32 assists, five kills and five digs.

"She has absolutely been our rock in terms of emotional and consistent play," UCF Coach Megan Colaco said.

UCF MVP Libby Windfeld led both teams with 14 kills and she registered four blocks. Ruckersburg setter Kelly and Jevyn Coen joined Windfeld on the all-tournament team. Koehle had 13 kills and seven blocks, while Coen had 15 kills and five blocks.

"It wasn't our best game tonight, but last night we proved to ourselves and everybody else that we deserve to go to the NCAA Tournament," Frank said.

The night before, the Golden Knights dominated Kentucky, winning 3-1. Freshman Emily Watts led UCF with her second double-double, registering 15 kills, 10 assists and 15 digs.

The Wildcats won the first game 30-26, but the Knights caught fire in the second and third games, blowing out Kentucky 30-16. UCF hit .427 in the game. The next two games were close, but the Knights pulled

both out.

"Our win [against Kentucky] was exciting for us," Colaco said. "I think that today we were a little bit flat and Arkansas is a very good team. Give them credit for executing pretty flawlessly for three games."

Leyna Sanchez-Santin and Frank both had double-doubles for the Knights against Kentucky. Sanchez-Santin had 10 kills and 16 digs, while Frank added 40 assists and 10 digs.

UCF is now 22-12 on the year. The 32 wins are the most since the 1987 season when UCF went 29-4.

Please see Watts on 18

Knights have a Big Easy Thanksgiving

FTR PAGE 13

looked like a player that could provide big minutes for the Golden Knights this season. And she has. Her 19 points against New Orleans and six rebounds in her 16th game against Nicholls State are good for second on the team behind Washington.

Turnover trouble

The Golden Knights turned over the ball 40 times on the road trip, continuing a bad trend from last season. They look better care of the ball Saturday against Nicholls State, making 13 turnovers compared to 25 in the previous two games.

Coach Gail Stringer hoped that the addition of freshmen point guards Shayla Smith and Celeste Hudson might help ease the problem. For her part, Smith had seven assists against just two turnovers in 28 minutes versus New Orleans. Hudson, playing her first game of the season, had two assists and a turnover in five minutes of play.

But against Southern Miss the two played 23 and 25 minutes, respectively, with a combined one assist and six turnovers.

Scala still struggling with shot

Guard Jordana Scala, still recovering from off-season back surgery continues her early shooting slump. She went 7-for-25 over the three games and is shooting just 31 percent on the year. She improved against Nicholls State, shooting 50 percent from the floor for 12 points.

Thanksgiving in the Big Easy

Following the Southern Miss game, the Golden Knights returned to New Orleans for Thanksgiving dinner with their male counterparts, who participated in a tournament in nearby Tulane.

Also while in New Orleans the team got a taste of Mardi Gras, getting a tour of some dens which house old Mardi Gras floats and props. They got to wear masks and try on some costumes after the tournament.

Bandits go back, back, back to win baseball title

Julie Reeves
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As Yogi Berra once said, "It's tough to make predictions, especially about the future." After watching Bandits starting pitcher James Jimenez struggle early, Miss Cheo couldn't have predicted how he responded. Jimenez shook off a rust start on the mound and hit three mammoth home runs to lead the Bandits over FCA, 10-9.

FCA led off the top of the first with a barrage of hits, with Ty Hanson, Greg Good and Nicholas Turnbell reaching base. Hanson scored the first run of the night on a Matt Ebel grounder, as FCA took a 1-0 lead.

FCA starter Hanson made quick work of the Bandits in the bottom half of the first inning, and Jimenez got rocked by a two-run homer by Wayne Summers in the second.

Jimenez had his own cause in the bottom of the second, with a solo home run to center field. FCA got the run back in the top of the inning, as Good went yard making it 4-1.

The game would change in the bottom of the third, as FCA pitcher Ryan Gaufman got into some trouble on the hill. Gainsford walked Jeff Arntzmaier and Sergio Eligurez and yielded an RBI single to Doug Marcello. After retiring the next two batters and walking Wayne Jacobson, James Jimenez blasted a hanging slider over the right field fence for a three-run homerun. The Bandits scored five runs in the inning, taking a 9-1 lead.

FCA wouldn't see the lead again, as the brother tandem of Doug and Matt Marcello combined in relief to give up only five hits over four innings. Jimenez put the game out of reach again, this time with a two-run homer in the fifth inning, scoring himself and David Stanek.

Tall with small wins Speraw challenge

Coach Speraw and crew look out. The tall with small wins Triple Threat in the Kirk Speraw 5 on 3 Basketball Challenge to earn a chance to play the UCF coaching staff. UCF men's basketball coach Kirk Speraw has faced off with student teams in each of the last two years, winning easily both times.

Players Brandon Kimell, Bryce Mordell, Kevin Swecker and Stephen Keilman combined to run through the pool play and elimination tournament, and will face the coaches early in the spring semester.

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Injured McCray gets in for a down

FROM PAGE 14

Both records are held by — guess who — Culpepper, who had 880 completions and 54 touchdowns in his UCF career. ‘I think a lot of the credit should go to the people around me,’ Schneider said. ‘All the receivers and tight ends have done great all year making big plays happen. The offensive line, they’ve given me hours back there to throw.”

Gabriel saves best for last

Playing the last game in his two years as a Golden Knight, wide receiver Doug Gabriel left a lasting impression. He caught four touchdowns, tying a single-game school record. Bernard Ford set the record in October 1987 and David Rhodes matched it in November 1998.

“I had to show the underclassmen what to do just show them that we have to give everything,” Gabriel said. Gabriel also broke Ford’s single-season record of 1,580 receiving yards. For the game he had seven catches for 179 yards and 1,257 on the season.

Haynes hits 1,000

Going into the fourth quarter, it seemed that running back Alex Haynes would fall in his bid to become just the fifth Golden Knight to rush for 1,000 yards in a season. He had 40 yards going into the final period, needing 73 more to join the club.

Then he broke a 24-yard run on UCF’s first drive of the fourth quarter, snowballing from there. He pounded out 111 yards on the ground in that quarter, finishing the game with 151 on a season-high 27 carries.

“The offensive line was determining they were going to get it for him,” said Robert McFarland, offensive coordinator and offensive line coach. “The offensive line said they were not coming out till he got 1,000.”

The sophomores finished with 1,035 despite missing the better part of two games at midseason with a high ankle sprain. No Golden Knight again had that barrier since Marquette Smith in 1995.

This game was also Haynes’ third straight 100-yard game and could have been his third straight 150-yard game had he not stopped at 148 against Kent State three weeks ago.

Even more impressive for the first time in school history it gives UCF a 3,000-yard passer (Schneider), a 1,000-yard receiver (Gabriel) and Ford going along with a 1,000-yard rusher.

Fumble record

One of the few offensive blunders for UCF in the game came when Schneider got hit hard inside the Golden Knight 10-yard line and fumbled the ball. UCF recovered in the endzone, the second time an opponent had done this season. Liberty did it to UCF in September.

That’s the first time in school history UCF had it happen to it twice in one season. A fumble was returned for a score against them only twice prior to this season, once in 1980 and again in 1984.

Small holiday gathering

Though expected for a holiday weekend, UCF played in front of a small crowd for the fourth consecutive game. At least this time attendance was above 10,000, an 12,827 showed up. The previous three games, one at the Citrus Bowl and two on the road, didn’t come close to that mark.

CFB Cornerback Boyd Hamilton recovered a fumble in the first quarter, the first of his career. Safety Alphonzo Hopkins Jr. forced a fumble in the second quarter, a career-first for him as well. And linebacker Lemee Bernard recorded his first-ever fumble recovery.

Senior offensive lineman Garret McCray, whose season was cut short after breaking his middle finger in October when he blew out his knee, made an appearance in the backfield for the last play of the game.

Linebacker Stanford Riddle got helped off the field in the third quarter and did not return due to a sprained knee.

The following 20 weeks say goodbye: Thomas Andrews, Bobby Breedin, Ryan Fittin, Jimmy Fryxell, Doug Gabriel, Steve Galloway, Sean Gaudette, Brian Hall, Mario Jackson, Mike Mahoney, Garrett McCray, Brett McGehee, John B. Morgan, Elton Pattison, Carlos Patterson, Chris Pittino, Taylor Robertson, Nicki Rosinski, Ashton Samuel, Josh Taylor and Carlos Thompson.

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PHOTO BY JIM KASTEL/UCF
Watts comes on strong

From Page 16

Tournament provides final tune-up

UCF’s Thanksgiving Tournament provided a final test for the Golden Knights before beginning the NCAA Championships this weekend.

Frank and Colado agreed that playing last weekend was a better idea than taking the weekend off.

“Especially since we faced a high-level team and those are the types of teams that are going to be in the tournament,” Frank said.

Added Colado: “It’s a very good thing to have, especially right before the NCAAs because this is the kind of caliber team that we’re going to face in the first round.”

The Knights learned their first-round destination Sunday night. They earned the berth to the NCAA Championships by winning the A-Sun Championship.

Watts continues to shine

The freshman Watts recorded her second triple-double of the season Friday night and has come on strong at the end of the season. Watts credits the team with her success.

“I think we got more comfortable with each other as a team and [Frank] sets me awesome balls,” Watts said. “I mean it’s a total team effort all the way around.”

Frank said she enjoys setting Watts.

“I love it. I absolutely love it,” Frank said. “She’s very diverse with what she does, so she’s able to move all around.”

Colado credits Watts’ athleticism.

“She’s just a great freshman,” Colado said. “She’s just a really high-level player and we’re going to continue to go to her.”

Joe Kaleza

UCF signs JC player

Mississippi Junior College player Marcus Avant has pre-qualified and signed to play for the Knights in the 2003-2004 season. Avant is a 6-foot-7 forward from Valdosta, Georgia, and currently leads the Rangers in scoring after seven games this season. He is averaging 17.7 points per game and 7.1 rebounds a game (2nd on the team). He has started every game this year for the Rangers and is projected to play forward next season for the Golden Knights.

Joe Kaleza
**On the runway to rich rewards**

**Danielle DePari**

At 18 years old, Miss UCF Isabel Rougeau, now 22, won her first title as Miss Claudinella Orlando. Yet the $10,000 in prize money she has accumulated thus far is not used for materialistic things. Instead, she uses it to pay for school.

"I would encourage every young woman to try to win some of the scholarship money and have fun while doing it," Rougeau said.

Many women at UCF earn scholarship money by participating in pageants. The Miss UCF pageant awards a variety of scholarships, with the winner receiving $1,500 and free books for a semester, said CAR Spectacular Nights Director Scott Florence.

"Many women build up their confidence by first winning smaller pageants and then moving on to bigger ones like the Miss America pageant, which is the largest scholarship pageant in the world," Rougueau said.

"It was not until this year, when I won Miss UCF that I had the chance to fulfill my childhood dream of competing in the Miss Florida pageant," Rougeau said.

**Juggling motherhood and studies**

**Kristin Davis**

After years of changing diapers, cleaning crayon marks off of her son's interior and dealing with temper tantrums at 2 a.m., freshmen Alisha Evans, 19, would like nothing more than a power nap. "It's not easy being a single mother and a college student," she said. "I have to make the grades that I do," she said.

Her day usually begins at 4 a.m., when she gets up to dress Destiny for school and make breakfast. Since Evans currently lives with her aunt in Kissimmee, she ends up driving two hours to and from work and school everyday. At night, she is in charge of bathing her daughter and two young cousins, as well as getting the children to bed on time.

By midnight, Evans is usually attempting to wrap up schoolwork, before finally getting some much-needed rest.

"Many people are surprised that I have made it to college after having a child at such a young age," Evans said. "My daughter is my motivation to succeed, so it makes me work that much harder. What I do now not only affects my life, but hers as well."

But it is spending time with her daughter Destiny that makes being a student parent all worthwhile to Evans.

"If I didn't have Destiny, I wouldn't be here," she said.

"I would encourage every young woman to try to win some of the scholarship money and have fun while doing it." - Isabel Rougeau

Photo by FL/PRESS/CF

**Finals arrive, students stress**

**Rachel Zall**

As finals draw closer, Krystal Walters, 23, a fifth-year, second-degree student, starts to feel the pressure of cramming for tests and rushing to complete any last-minute assignments.

"For some reason, professors all decide that your last two weeks of the semester should be like hell," Walters said. "I've got two exams, a major project and a mini-paper all due within the next two weeks."

For most students, the stress of finals carries with it many side effects. These side effects are usually caused by students having so much to complete in such a short amount of time.

"This is my second degree and I've managed to keep myself mostly stress-free this semester, but I've had ulcers, allergies and migraines caused by stress," Walters said.

Sometimes Walters is so overwhelmed with work that she doesn't know where to begin. "I can't decide between writing or studying, and it's even worse if you have more than one test or paper or a combination of both on the same day," she said.

But there are ways Walters tries to avoid any more health-related problems as a result of stress.

"I cope with stress by listening to music and meditating. Lighting candles also works pretty well." - Sokleine

Sophomore Christine Hargrove, 20, can relate.

"I only take classes on Monday and Wednesday, and I feel like my finals are all on the same day, one after the other," Hargrove said. "I tend to get stressed when I have too many things to do all once."

But it is not just finals that stress Hargrove out.

"I work part time and attend UCF full time, which keeps me constantly occupied," she said. "When finals come around, trying to balance everything out gets stressful."

Although Hargrove finds herself getting less sleep and tends to take out her problems on others when she is stressed, she has figured out ways to relieve some of this stress.

"I try to get as much sleep as I can, eat healthy and work out. The gym is always a good stress reliever," she said.

For sophomore Jessica Paulson, 19, her most stressful class this semester is theater survey.

Please see Students on 22

Photo by FL/PRESS/CF

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Students learn to cram for tests, cope with stress

FROM PAGE 19

"It is supposed to be an easy class, but my teacher was very unorganized and she made everything seem more difficult than it was," said Paulson. "Besides, it was also the most boring class I've ever taken.

Although Paulson said she doesn't get stressed over finals because she feels it's just another round of tests, she still needs enough time to study and feel confident about the material she just learned.

"When I put things off to the last minute, I usually study harder, but it still stresses me out sometimes because there is a lot of material to learn over a shorter period of time.

Yet, Paulson refuses to let finals overtake her life.

"I sometimes see students studying day and night for finals, but I can't do that. After studying for so long, it's like I am just reading the words in the books but not comprehending them. I've realized I just need to concentrate and try my hardest and hopefully, the outcome will be good.

Freshman Whitney Loring, 19, tries to better prepare herself for finals ahead of time by beginning to study as early as possible.

"The idea of having to take finals in general stresses me out," she said. "But studying ahead of time really helps me learn and review more of the material so that I'm better prepared for the exams.

However, It is not the just the written finals that stress Loring out.

"My most stressful class is speech because I hate talking in front of people, and we had to give four speeches throughout the course," Loring said. "Even just thinking about having to give a speech stresses me out."

Like many students, Loring's health usually suffers around final's time.

"I tend to get sick around finals time due to my lack of sleep and stress level," she said.

For junior Chris Suh, 20, his most stressful class this semester is system software.

"It is definitely my hardest and the most time-consuming class," Suh said. "The program that I had to write was about 15 pages long each and were hard to understand."

Although Suh said stress is a daily thing for him, he can't help but concern himself with his grades more at the end of the semester.

"I can assure an 'A' in the four other classes I am taking," Suh said. "But for my system software class I am borderline 'A' or 'A-'. If I can get an 'A', I will earn my 4.0 for the semester."

Nevertheless, Suh has his own method of relaxing when he gets too stressed out.

"I tend to have the urge to drink more because that relaxes me a lot."
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Nevertheless, Maldonado helps support her family with the retirement checks he receives from when he served in the military. His wife is currently employed as a real- estate agent and also helps provide financial assistance for their family.

But unlike Nestrick, Maldonado’s son doesn’t need his father to do his laundry or clean up around the house after him. “It’s much easier for me to study now than it would have been if I had gone to college sooner,” Maldonado said. “I don’t have to check up on my son every second because he’s old enough to take care of himself for the most part.”

Nevertheless, Maldonado still tries to set a good example for his son so that he will focus more on his main priorities, such as the one thing his son tries to avoid — homework.

“I try to show him that if I can do well in school, so can he.”

**Crossword**

**ACROSS**

1. Delta  
2. Dignity drink  
3. Mayberry kid  
4. Hi, or HI  
5. Biblical paradise  
6. Word before theory or ventured  
7. Upper  
8. Yer  
9. Eugene and Ed  
10. Lessen  
11. Late model  
12. Shoot from —  
13. I Fine  
14. Some anorectics  
15. Harvest  
16. That lure  
17. Vegas  
18. Bajo (in a country)  
19. Eiden or ore  
20. Putter to the lead  
21. Angle of a triangle  
22. Numbers  
23. Paper in  
24. Bridal suite  
25.薄弱  
26. Nudge  
27. Demonstrate  
28. Running in  
29. The king of法国  
30. At rest  
31. Light weight  
32. With fully  
33. Little snakes  
34. In agone  
35. Brand image  
36. Needle  
37. English county  
38. Cash penalty  
39. Left empty  
40. Pocket pets  
41. Greek  
42. "The Chronicles of Narnia."  
43. "Gorilla  
44. Colors  
45. Latin’s neighbor  
46. Pet shoppers  
47. Wine  
48. Boozy  
49. Dusty  
50. Boarding a plane  
51. Sauer  
52. Odyssey  
53. Hilbert  
54. Williams and  
55. Assent  
56. Passenger walks  
57. Chicago transplant  
58. St. Eval  
59. Ellen price  

**DOWN**

1. Brand image  
2. Needle  
3. English county  
4. Cash penalty  
5. Left empty  
6. Pocket pets  
7. "Gorilla  
8. That girl  
9. Vesper or much  
10. Source of sleep  
11. Transformer  
12. Starter chips  
13. Bow with a saucy cry  
14. Sheep (for the sheepdog)  
15. German POW  
16. Overwear  
17. Way overweight  
18. Carillon  
19. German  
20. To the paradise  
21. From  
22. To  
23. From  
24. To  
25. From  
26. To  
27. From  
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32. To  
33. From  
34. To  
35. From  
36. To  
37. From  
38. To  
39. From  
40. To  

See solutions, page 25

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**Student parents stay in school, support family**

**FROM PAGE 19**

computer or study," she said.

In addition to the child support Nestrick receives from the children’s father, she works in the little spare time she has, as a substitute teacher for Orange County Public Schools to help take care of her family.

Although the children’s father spends quality time with the children every other weekend, Nestrick still finds herself taking care of her children by herself for the most part, with the occasional assistance of her mother or babysitter.

"I used to live with my mother and she would help me out often, but now I’m on my own and have to take care of things most of the time," Nestrick said.

However, Nestrick still does whatever it takes to do well in her classes.

"I have to hire a baby sitter every time I want to do anything, even if it’s just to work with a group on a project for school," she said.

She takes off work and school if one of her children is sick so she can take care of them, she added.

Although senior Ed Maldonado, 50, has four boys, three of whom are in their 20s, he still supports his youngest son, who is 10 years old.

Maldonado helps support his family with the retirement checks he receives from when he served in the military. His wife is currently employed as a real-estate agent and also helps provide financial assistance for their family.

But unlike Nestrick, Maldonado’s son doesn’t need his father to do his laundry or clean up around the house after him. “It’s much easier for me to study now than it would have been if I had gone to college sooner,” Maldonado said. “I don’t have to check up on my son every second because he’s old enough to take care of himself for the most part.”

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**24 • Lifestyles**

The Central Florida Future • December 2, 2002
UCF women compete in beauty pageants for scholarships

FROM PAGE 19

These pageants also helped Rougeau become involved with her community as well. Rougeau started to take an interest in helping young people get involved in politics and the voting process when she became the president of her youth advisory board in high school. Rougeau said this worked in conjunction with her pageant platform.

"From being this involved in the community, I was recognized and won many awards, as well as scholarship money," she said.

Kristy Burgess, a 21-year-old senior, has earned more than $5,000 participating in pageants over the past eight years. In the past two years alone she has participated in six Miss Florida preliminary pageants.

"I would recommend doing scholarship programs like Miss Florida for people who want to earn money for school, but also have a platform that they feel passionate about bringing to the community," Burgess said.

However, pageants are not just about earning money; she said. "A titleholder is a role model, advocate for their platform and a public speaker. Just wanting financial aid will not win someone a title."

Junior Christine Cooper, a 19-year-old recent recipient of the Miss Silver Springs title, agreed. Earning scholarship money serves as a bonus to other pageant incentives, such as speaking about a platform, making friends and performing a talent, Cooper said.

"I wouldn't recommend joining a pageant just for the scholarships. It's a big commitment of time and there's no guarantee you'll ever win a scholarship," Cooper has participated in pageants in high school, as well as other pageants such as Miss UCF and Miss Orlando. She also plans to participate in the Miss Florida competition this year.

"The money from pageants certainly helps because I am saving for graduate school," Cooper said. "I've received most of my scholarships for academic achievements, but the money I've received from pageants has also been a big help, which I'm quite grateful for."
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