Maaking strides
The Knights finish their first season in the MAC with a 6-2 conference record.

SPORTS, 18

THE STULTST Sapper UCF SINCE 1968

Fraternity honors departed brother

KATRINA HAMMER
STAFF WRITER

Freshman Brandon Witcher was killed in a car accident Nov. 28 while driving home early Thanksgiving morning. Witcher, 18, had been at a party celebrating with friends and was driving back to his parent's home in Merritt Island when he crashed his car into a utility pole only a few streets from his home.

"He was a shining star inside and outside," said Macy Witcher, Brandon's mother. She described him as a man who was both compassionate and competitive.

Witcher graduated from Melbourne Central Catholic High School in 2001. He was active in the school's football program and was a member of the marching band.

New year, new you
How do you resolve to change in 2003?

LIFESTYLES, 11

Surviving the streets

JASON IRSAY
STAFF WRITER

It's 5 a.m., time for Steve Davis to begin his day. Davis gathers his belongings, only as much as he can comfortably carry with him, and makes his way to Compassion Corner, at Magnolia Avenue and Church Street in downtown Orlando. He goes to the charity, which offers homeless people coffee along with Christ, every morning that he does not trek to the other side of town, to Right Hand Man, a labor pool located on Amelia Street, to look for work.

Many of Orlando's homeless find refuge at the downtown public library, left. Steve Davis, above, has been homeless since June.

Steve Davis, who has curly red hair, a red beard, green eyes, and wrinkled, reddened skin that makes him appear older than his age—he turns 42 this month—is as optimistic as a homeless person can be. He goes to Right Hand Man to find work when he can, although the pay, about $37 for eight hours of hard labor, is poor.

"You take what you can get and you keep moving forward," Davis said.

Davis, a former cabbie, lost his job after the drop in tourism following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Since losing his apartment in June, he has bounced around various shelters, and now lives on the street. Like those in the majority of Orlando's growing homeless population, he simply wants to get his life back together, and reestablish himself in society.

Homeless advocates say the homeless population suffers on many fronts—from inaccurate stereotypes, inadequate resources, a lack of affordable housing and city policies that increasingly target homeless citizens. A number of causes have factored into the growth of the homeless population, said Marilyn Crotty, director of the

Please see Stereotypes on 14

Ring up sales on Monday and Thursdays

UCF FACT

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City Council: Gays deserve protection

SARAH DOWNES STAFF WRITER

It was a gray day and a gray day for proponents of Orlando's sexual orientation anti-discrimination law when city council commissioners approved the measure in a 4-4 vote May 29.

"I'm elated that it passed," said Debbie Simmons, president of the Metropolitan Business Association and a principal owner in Orlando. "But I'm still kind of numb from both hearings, listening to all the lies and harmful things that were said.

Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are now protected from job, housing and service discrimination within the borders of Orlando under the new ordinance, something they have been waiting for for years.

While the decision is a victory for Orlando's gay community, the new law does not breach the boundaries of the campus, and universities are immune to city laws because they are a state operation.

While UCF does not condone sexual discrimination, according to a statement that university officials plan to post on the UCF's website, President John Hitt does not intend to create a formal anti-discrimination policy.

"It's not that President Hitt is against it," said junior Joshua Smith, 20, a member of the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Student Union. "He was told he can't legislate against heterosexuals under the same provisions.

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Wild ride ends in arrest

Javier Roman and Luke Zayas flipped a Honda sports utility vehicle early Saturday morning. Roman lost control of his car entering UCF on University Drive at 85 mph. His car became airborne when it struck a curb in the right lane and flew 50 feet until it hit a tree. Roman was arrested for DUI and Zayas was transported to Florida Hospital East for minor injuries.

Prepaid can’t cover increases

FROM PAGE 3

tuition to be paid years in advance, locking in current tuition rates. It then invests the money received, earning a return that keeps pace with the 6 percent average yearly increase in tuition. If that rate of increase climbs faster, the prepaid program could not keep pace, Tate said.

Despite Tate’s objections, the HEFAC moved the proposal forward. The goal is not to bankrupt the prepaid program, Edmonds said. There are provisions in the proposal to honor all current contracts and restructure future contracts.

If tuition for out-of-state students increased by such a large amount, it could overtake the cost of in-state tuition in a student’s home state. Among UCF’s current student body, 6.4 percent are out-of-state students.

Freshman Abbie Voeltz, 19, said tuition costs for college is a major factor in her decision to leave Indiana.

“I don’t know if it would have changed my decision to leave Indiana, but it would have been more of a factor,” Voeltz said.

Yet opponents are poised to counter such large increases, if they advance. Pablo Perez, chairman of the Florida Student Association, said, “We would be against giving boards [of trustees] unlimited flexibility in increasing tuition.”

Organic foods now government-certified

Gabrielle Arnold

New regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture will ensure that foods labeled organic have not been treated with synthetic chemicals, commonly used in conventional farming.

“Organic” refers to a method of “earth-friendly” farming in which farmers use environmentally sound cultivating techniques. Organic growers say these methods, such as crop rotation and the spread of animal compost fertilizers, promote the earth’s natural balance.

Many UCF students, like senior Alejandro Almeida, 21, prefer eating organic foods. Almeida says he eats organic food because he fears the potentially negative long-term effects of using synthetic chemicals, used by conventional farmers, on the body and the environment.

“I prefer to buy organic,” she said. “It’s better for you.”

Those who buy organic foods have many more options than they used to. The organic food industry has blossomed since its origins in the 1970s, when “health enthusiasts could find organic foods only at small establishments. Today many organic stores, as large as supermarkets, offer an array of so-called “organic” products.

There is so much out there now to choose from,” Almeida said.

For some, these tightly packed shelves that display a multitude of products—all claiming to be “organic”—cause concern over the validity of the term “organic”.

On Oct. 21, the U.S. Department of Agriculture implemented its National Organic Program (NOP).

The new regulations establish, for the first time, one set of national standards for organic agriculture. Many organic supporters say the USDA’s existing will tighten up loosely defined regulations that have compromised the integrity of the industry for decades.

Lawrence Nelson, local marketing director for the nationwide health-food chain Whole Foods Market, says the regulations will ensure organic authenticity and clear up any questions consumers may have regarding a product’s level of purity.

“People will hopefully begin to understand what ‘organic’ means,” Nelson said.

In accordance with the NOP, an “organic” label prohibits the use of any synthetic chemicals (pesticides, fungicides, and fertilizers) or genetically modified seed on the food. The guidelines also forbid the use of antibiotics and hormones to promote growth and decrease bacteria levels in animals. USDA-certified organic farmers must also provide biodegradable, with living conditions that allow for exercise, freedom of movement, appropriate shelter and direct sunlight.

“The new certification requirements will keep the quality of organic products standard across the board,” Nelson said.

To obtain USDA certification the NOP requires farmers to pass inspections by licensed third-party certifying agencies. The same agencies have previously regulated the organic industry for decades, only now they will operate under the USDA’s guidelines.

See Purity on 8
Citywide protections for gays won't extend to campus

FROM PAGE 3

Although Gainesville and Miami also have enacted citywide anti-discrimination laws for gays, the University of Florida and the University of Miami have not adopted anti-discrimination policies either.

One higher education institution that would be required to adopt the code is Valencia Community College because it is funded by city taxes.

Despite the gay community's triumph, the battle rages on in Orlando. Some people think the approval Monday is not the end. "This is a constant, ongoing issue," Simmons said. "I think the opponents will lick their wounds for now, but I wouldn't be surprised if they push for a referendum."

If opponents of the ordinance collect enough signatures for a referendum, Orlando voters could have the chance to affirm or overturn the measure during a future city election.

Local gay-rights activists say they have no plans to take the issue to Orange County government. "This is kind of like a football game," Simmons said. "We're trying to get to a first down. We can't think of the end of the quarter until we finish the play."

Smith believes the wisest move for activists now is to take a step back. "I know it sounds discouraging, but I think it's the best strategy," he said. "They'll let people get used to the idea and see that it's not negative."

Simmons and other activists realize their battle is far from over, but they will continue to educate people. "Hate is taught," Simmons said. "People have a right to teach it, but we'll keep trying to educate people. If you vote against this law, you're voting for discrimination — discrimination against gays."

It may not be the right time to push the issue up to the next level, in light of the conservative political environment in Florida, he said.

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Video addiction?

Games take up hours of students’ time

Danielle DePari

Sophomore Jason Nelson, 20, has found his newest passion, a video game located in Wackadows called “Dance, Dance Revolution.”

“It’s no different.” Nelson said, looking completely hooked on it. “I am all about the competition of the game, and it is a great one to complete with other guys. At UF it is really big. They have competitions and the winner gets $150.”

Nelson added that although he plays at least an hour of video games a day it does not take away from his social life. He said he plays multi-player games and invites a lot of friends over to join in.

Though several UCF students like Nelson admit to playing at least an hour of video games per day, most believe the habit hurts no one.

Freshman Jamison Freyfield, 18, says he plays about an hour of video games a day. He said, “I think I play a reasonable amount.”

But how much video game play is too much? According to Charles Negy a psychology professor, several clear indicators point to the presence of an addiction. He said when examining a behavior for signs of a problem, if the person cannot stop the behavior, it is probably an addiction.

“If an individual is playing video games instead of doing other important activities, certainly it is problematic,” Negy said. “But just because an individual likes engaging in a behavior, even if they engage in the behavior more than most do, it does not make the behavior an addiction.”

Some students such as Andrew Cook, an 18-year-old freshman, admit to initially becoming addicted to a new game, but after they defeat the game, they can go back to their normal routine.

“When I get a new game, I get really into it,” Cook said. “It’s like I can’t stop playing until I beat it. I will play for two or three hours without taking a break.”

Cook said he usually likes to play with friends.

Freyfield said that playing video games has helped him make friends in college.

Freyfield, a member of the UCF gaming club, said, “It creates similarities between me and them.”

Through the video game habit may be beneficial to guys on campus, most girlfriends could do without the habit. Sophomore Kristi Yutzy, 19, said, “The absolute worst thing a girlfriend can hear is ‘This game is unbeatable!’”

Senior Buck Stine, 20, says his girlfriend is always pressuring him to stop playing games and go grocery shopping. He said, “It can impact my life when I have things to do.”

Stine knows how to focus his attention when he needs to do so. The lure of video games brought Stine to the Wackadows arcade. He did not play any games. “At times like these, I am not playing because I have to study for finals,” Stine said.

Like Stine, freshman Stephen Schofield, 18, plays video games four to five hours a day but finds time for priorities. “If play when I am bored, and I am bored a lot,” Schofield said.

“I don’t take away from my classes though. I manage to balance a pretty tough schedule and still play that much a day,” Stine said that although video games are a big part of his life, he can control the urge to play.

Stine plays for at least five hours a day. He said the only thing games add to his life is better hand and eye coordination.

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Some turn to video games for the way it makes them feel. Mike Shore, a 20-year-old sophomore, said he plays video games as an escape.

“I play Madden 2003 because it’s my stress reliever,” Shore said. “I create my own team. It’s like my own football universe. I play at least one game a day. I play with my roommates sometimes, but I am the reigning apartment champion.”

Mature games appeal to college students

Duffy Hery

Staff Writer

It is a hot day in Miami, and Tracy Versetti is feeling a little bored today. He drives his brand new speed bike that he got with his drug money to the top of a warehouse. There, he begins unloading his sniper rifle onto innocent bystanders. He even takes a few pots to make it even more thrilling.

Rather than a story off the 5 o’clock news, this is a scene from the new video game by Rockstar called Grand Theft Auto Vice City. The game follows the recent trend of severely violent games, which have become popular.

Games like GTA Vice City appeal to college students like Junior Chance Stine. “I play it because it’s more fun than real life,” Stine said. “I get to do whatever I want, like driv’in’ around and shootin’ people.”

Stine is like many students at UCF that have been drawn toward playing these new games marketed toward college students. Games such

as Max Payne, Dead to Rights, Soldier of Fortune, SOCOM Navy Seals, and many others show scenes of violence in both the game-play and their storylines.

“We get a lot more college students in the store buying these types of games than anyone else. They’re definitely marketed toward ages 18-25.”

Wang Wu

Planet X sales associate

In years past, companies shunned games such as these, because of a lack of money in games with only a small audience, and too many protests.

“I think that the demand of these types of games, is larger than the protests now.”

Please See Violence on 8

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Committlement.

Some say the NOP will finally legitimize the organic industry and that clearly defined standards will ensure quality products for the consumer.

Senior Mary Edmundson, 22, who buys organic, welcomes a new set of regulations. Edmundson said although she generally has faith in the authenticity of organics, the USDA's ruling gives her peace of mind.

"I'm glad to think it's been paid for money for a product I thought was organic [but wasn't]," Edmundson said. "But, I guess I'm more assured now."

To assist consumers, the USDA has designed a green and white seal that may only appear on those products meeting the federal requirements for "100 percent Organic."

Products with less than 70 percent organic material may only identify organic content on the product label's ingredient list.

Some people hold on to their doubts though; they say even the USDA cannot guarantee the absolute purity of an organic product.

"We sell a lot of Mature games for mature college students," Prieto says. "With a few exceptions, most of the extremely violent games that have come out in the past few months have been the good guy killing the bad guy."

However, Wu says he does not always feel comfortable playing violent video games.

"The only time I've ever worried about those types of games is when I'm around my little sister," Wu said. "As long as they don't get their eyes near it, it's OK, they aren't old enough to understand that it's all fake."

That, however, isn't always the case as manager of K.H. Toys Ron Damiani states.

"We sell a lot of Mature-Audience games, but parents still come in and buy them for their 11- and 12-year-old kids. We tell them about the maturity, but they still buy them," Damiani said.

Sophomore Omar Prieto says the recent wave of adult-themed video games offer greater entertainment than past video games. "These games give people a lot more enjoyment," Prieto said. "With [college students], we know that the violence on the games isn't real, it's just for fun and doesn't really kill people."

Some games even just have an adult twist, without the violence, such as BMX XXX, which features nude computer characters along with traditional bike-racing game action.

BMX XXX is just a goofy fun game for drum college students to play, there's no worry about that game," Wu said.

Mature games for mature audiences keep appearing on the gaming landscape, but sophomore Craig Watson sees nothing wrong with that.

"I have a lot of fun blowing up the bad guys, shooting people, but if the end, I know it's not real," Watson said.

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Students demand better campus recycling programs

On-campus recycling costs thousands more than other off-campus options

SHELLEY MARMOR & SARAH DOWNES
STAFF WRITERS

As students pass by the tan colored aluminum cans recycling bins, they have two choices: to recycle or not to recycle.

Graduate student Lisa Shuford, 26, puts her aluminum cans in the recycle bins rather than the garbage can every time. Shuford is avid about recycling, both on-campus and at her home, saying that recycling breaks vicious cycles of laziness.

"I feel that we are depleting our resources and making more waste than we can handle," Shuford said. "I feel people who don't recycle are being lazy and apathetic to what is going on around them."

Shuford is one student who is part of the growing UCF population that participates in KnightCycle, UCF's recycling program. KnightCycle currently recycles one bale of aluminum cans every four months.

But cans aren't the only items UCF's recycling these days. White paper, plastic, glass and concrete blocks are other items that UCF recycles regularly in an effort to conserve waste.

While UCF doesn't do all of its recycling on-campus, it works with other waste management services to recycle materials that universities are required to recycle, according to the Florida Legislature. But since the state does not provide funding for recycling services, UCF has to dole out thousands of dollars every year — often paying more to recycle trash on-campus.

"It is less costly for the university to pay a company to recycle materials, said Richard Paradise, director of UCF's Physical Plant. "We have KnightCycle, which recycles cardboard and cans behind the physical plant, and this alone costs several thousands of dollars each year."

But UCF Environmental Society Vice President Carrie Avery and Web Secretary Susan Ehring argue that the recycling program should expand and it should begin on-campus.

"I think there is a lot of interest in starting a recycling program," Avery said. "Many people have good intentions, but they lack the resources and information to act."

Avery places the responsibility of improving on-campus recycling on faculty, staff and students, saying the three should establish a committee dealing specifically with recycling.

"While Ehring acknowledges the efforts KnightCycle makes, calling them a "good start," she believes one of their next steps should be positioning recycle bins in more convenient, high-traffice places."

"I would like to see more bins placed in better places, such as the parking garages," Ehring said.

"Now that [the Student Government] gives newspapers away for free to students, I think there should be newspaper recycling drop-offs," she said.

Currently, none of the newspapers on campus are being recycled, but that's UCF's next step.

"We are in the process of getting a contract with a company that recycles newspaper in addition to everything else," said Tony Yamada, assistant director of UCF's physical plant.

Companies actually have to pay a fee for every ton they send to a landfill, so it is actually in UCF's best interest to recycle as much as possible, Yamada said.
Housing Cools, Factories Still Weak

Housing, once a rare bright spot in a sagging economy, may finally be cooling down, according to a new federal report.
The appreciation of the value of existing homes slowed significantly in the third quarter, and the number of markets with falling prices continued to grow, says the report by the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight.
The report, which stands in sharp contrast to other recent accounts about the housing market, said the office's index of prices for single-family homes rose just 0.5% during the third quarter. In the second quarter, the price index rose a strong 2.2%. With the exception of a brief period after the Sept. 11 terror attacks, the office's home price index had been rising about 2% a quarter during the past two years as low-interest-rate mortgages boosted housing activity.
The report found that home prices fell during the July-to-September period in 21 states, including Illinois, South Dakota and Michigan. That compares with just three states in the second quarter.
In other economic news, manufacturers activity continued to trend up in November, damping the concern of a recession. But it was not enough to prop up a long patch of slow growth. The Institute for Supply Management's purchasing managers index rose to 59.1 in November from 59.3 in October. But it was the third month below 60, the point that indicates expansion in the manufacturing sector.

How to Game
The Retail System

While Christmas discounts have been creeping earlier for years, this time around retailers have a secret weapon driving the deals: new pricing software.

Adapted from the computer programs that airlines use to set ticket prices, the systems analyze customer-buying patterns to help stores determine when to launch discounts. The programs are just the latest wrinkle in the high-stakes game of retailing, where fast, well-timed price drops can lead to sales and profits. But consumers are becoming savvier about finding the best deals.

Here are some tips on making the system work for you:

At stores like the Gap Inc., Anne Taylor, Limited, J. Crew and Neiman Marcus, there's a key time to land deals: Wednesday through Friday. Since the stores see the heaviest traffic on weekends, merchandisers use the beginning of the week to analyze that sales data and determine what isn't selling well. They get markdowns in place by midweek.

Videogames are priced highest when they are first released and drop in retail prices during the next year, as new products are released. Prices fall by 25% or more every three months.

With CDs and DVDs, a growing emphasis on sales volume means prices actually rise over time, a pattern that seems counter-intuitive to most shoppers. An effort to capitalize on the excitement created by a new release, stores launch deep discounts at the outset to drive demand even higher.

Fuel-Cell Test Cars
Head for California

Honda Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Corp. said they are each putting a few fuel-cell-powered test cars on the road in California, placing them in the hands of regular drivers for the first time in the U.S. and scoring another point in the fight for high ground in the environmental debate.
The test fleets are tiny: five cars from Honda and six from Toyota by next year. Fuel-cell vehicles aren't likely to hit the road in significant numbers for at least 20 or 30 years, but by fielding even a few fuel-cell cars in California, Honda and Toyota are again outpacing their U.S. rivals in the race to perfect a new automotive technology and to burnish environmentally friendly credentials.

A World Gone ‘Wi-Fi’

New Way to Surf Web Causes Some Static
For Cellular Carriers

By Jesse Drucker and Jolia Altman

A first glance, software executive John Karen would seem to be a cellphone company's dream. He subscribes to the slow Internet browsing option on his cellphone, painfully peeking away on the dial pad to type in Web addresses.

Lately, though, he has found a better way: When on the road, he uses Wi-Fi, the technology that gives him wireless access to the Internet on his laptop computer, at blazing speeds. "It's brilliant," he says. "The phone stuff is pretty clunky."

Once viewed as little more than a toy for tech hobbyists, Wi-Fi- will be the game changer in the Internet business. Chip maker Intel Corp. is integrating it into new microprocessors it's building for laptop computers. Phillips Electronics NV is planning to build it into home stereo systems, and Dell Computer Corp. is similarly seeding its PCs with Wi-Fi. Airports, hotels and Starbucks Corp. outlets are increasingly offering pay-in Wi-Fi hotspots.

While Wi-Fi poses problems for cable companies and conventional phone carriers selling high-speed Internet access, it has the potential to be a major headache for the cellphone business. Cellular carriers have spent billions of dollars over the past two years upgrading their networks to accommodate higher data speeds, and they are betting that consumers will send e-mail, browse the Web and make use of other applications from their new phones, laptops and head-held devices.

But now an insurgent technology with come along to threaten that strategy—just as Nokstep and the Internet itself sprang up from grassroots movements to challenge the old order of phone stuff is pretty tricky and expensive. But it's faster, more versatile, and cheaper to deploy. It's a wireless equivalent to broadband Internet access, and it has the potential to be a major breakthrough for the cable industry.
A World Gone Wi-Fi

Continued from Previous Page

Since wireless technology has grown up in the past few years, it’s gotten better, faster, and more popular. The result is a world gone Wi-Fi.

Meanwhile, the conventional telephone business, an industry in freefall, is trying to take part in the Wi-Fi boom. The two biggest players, Verizon Communications Inc. and SBC Communications, are selling Wi-Fi systems directly to their high-speed Internet customers.

Wi-Fi technology isn’t perfect. It uses a spectrum that was set aside by the Federal Communications Commission for oddball devices that use radio frequencies, so there’s interference from cordless phones, ham radios and other microwave ovens in a problem.

What’s more, cellular works better than Wi-Fi when the user is walking down the street or riding in a car. Wi-Fi is also subject to obstruction by everything from chimneys to elevator shafts.

Even so, John Stanton wasn’t going to wait for his high-speed wireless business to be eaten away before it even got started. The chairman of wireless carrier T-Mobile USA Inc., who once viewed Wi-Fi as a threat and an opportunity, now predicts the latter option.

In January, T-Mobile bought an unnamed Wi-Fi provider that had deployed wireless hotspots in more than 500 Starbucks around the country.

Since then, T-Mobile has added 1,500 more hotspots and recently announced plans to go into 100 air-lounge lounges and 400 Borders bookstores.

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What’s News

In Business and Finance

Continued from Previous Page

friendly public images.

Teams Raise Prices

For Best Games

Willing to pay just about anything to watch your favorite sports team play its archrivals? Increasingly, pro teams are making sure that you do.

Nearly a quarter of baseball’s 30 teams will offer staggered prices for the 2004 season, and a number of hockey teams, including the Pittsburgh Penguins, have made the switch already.

Variable ticket prices—set according to the demand for each game—are a concept familiar to anyone who has ever bought a plane ticket. But it’s a curvilinear in the tradition-bound sports business, where for decades the same seat for a regular-season game cost the same amount, regardless of date or opponent.

Baseball and hockey will be the biggest users of the new pricing models because of the sheer number of home games per team—81 in baseball and 41 in hockey—and because of labor and financial woes that have left teams in worse shape than in basketball or football.

Sports-industry executives say the strategy can actually be a clever way for teams to boost ticket prices under the guise of giving fans a break. The New York Mets, for example, will offer 43 games with tickets priced $10 or less and 38 games priced $15 or lower. But the Mets will charge $51 for the best seat at 17 games for which the club already is assured of big crowds; that’s an increase of $6 from the highest ticket price this past season.

So, with jumps of 23% to 25% for the most desirable games, Mets fans will probably fork over substantially more overall.

Odds & Ends

AOL Time Warner said it expects declines of 49% to 50% in advertising and commerce revenue at its America Online unit next year. The company also announced moves to make certain Time Inc. and CNN content available exclusively on America Online. Without giving specifics, AOL Time Warner said content from People, Entertainment Weekly, InStyle, and other magazines will be "restricted" on the free Web, but available to AOL members.

At the first day of a court battle between J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. and 11 insurance companies over about $1 billion in losses related to Enron Corp., lawyers on both sides focused on whether the handshake settlement sought to deceive the insurers into taking on Enron risk.

By Jay Hershberg

At COLLEGELJOURNAL.COM

How to improve your odds of turning a temporary position into a permanent job.

Why schools are turning down FIS requests for student information.

Where to seek employment during your holiday break.

BIPOLAR DEPRESSION

Do you have...

Problems with Eating Too Much or Too Little?
Trouble Sleeping?
Poor Self Image?
Difficultly Concentrating?
Downhearted and Blue Feelings?

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.

(202) Clinical Neuroscience Dds., Inc.
Our stance:

Lethal law leaves UCF gays unprotected

Orlando's City Council formally approved a ban on discrimination based on sexual orientation Monday. Now that the measure has passed, UCF President John Hitt has no excuse to delay action on pushing for a similar measure at UCF.

Hitt should follow Orlando's lead, and make sure gays at UCF also have protection against discrimination. He said he would wait and see how the council voted before making a decision. The council has spoken, and Hitt should do as he promised.

UCF falls outside Orlando's city limits; thus, the new law, which takes effect Jan. 1, does not apply to UCF. That makes it more imperative that Hitt take action. UCF needs its own policy, not because widespread discrimination against gays has occurred at UCF, but to ensure that it never does.

In the meantime, the Faculty Senate should use its power to pressure Hitt into taking action. Hitt listens to the Faculty Senate, and generally approves its resolutions. It should pass a resolution as soon as possible supporting the addition of a similar orientation to UCF's anti-discrimination policy.

Also, SGA should speak up on this issue. UCF's student government leaders have remained notably silent. Now is the time for them to represent UCF's 38,000 students by passing a resolution supporting a ban on discrimination of all types.

Hitt cannot ignore a unified student body, coupled with a unified faculty. If SGA and Faculty Senate apply enough pressure, Hitt will have no choice but to act.

The Orlando law certainly represents progress, regardless of what its opponents say. Whether the city needs to protect gays from discrimination or not, all people deserve protection from discrimination. No one should have to suffer discrimination for any reasons, whether for race, national origin, sexual orientation, religion or anything else.

However, religious organizations and churches, whose members voiced the lowest opposition to the law, are exempt from the law. Essentially, the new law allows bigots to remain bigots. The organizations that discriminate that the most against gays have the right to continue discriminating against homosexuals.

Orlando should strengthen the new law, which fines violators only $500. A more severe fine for violations would demonstrate that Orlando is committed to upholding the new law and punishing the people who break it. A harsher fine would also show that Orlando truly wants to protect all its citizens from discrimination.

Our stance:

Time to find real solutions for homeless

Orlando, "The City Beautiful," took a big step in the right direction Monday with the passage of a new law prohibiting discrimination against its gay citizens, but its policies toward homeless citizens leave much to be desired.

The city's leaders have taken the wrong direction by not providing a similar measure at UCF. In the meantime, the Faculty Senate should use its power to pressure Hitt into taking action. Hitt listens to the Faculty Senate, and generally approves its resolutions. It should pass a resolution as soon as possible supporting the addition of a similar orientation to UCF's anti-discrimination policy.

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Letters to the Editor

Persecution not the answer

Perhaps just noticing the community of the press a few others, and other small but enough regarding the editorial, "With commons, they can never be too much information," pub­lished Dec. 2.

The Orlando Police Department would want full­-boarded or anything that dupes each criminal's name, crime, home address and telephone number so that the rest of us can all be gone then or even force them to move out of our community. Yes, better, we would rule all these into "lawful" wear bright colored badge symbols of their crimes.

The criminal justice system exists to dispense justice, usually by punishing the guilty. Over an individual has been judged guilty of committing a crime, that individual begins to pay his or her debt to society. If the life time has been served, and the time has been paid, the debt to society has been paid.

Unfair punishment should take place in our jails and prisons, not on our streets and within our communities. Permanent shame is owed and unusual punishment and goes against one of the principles our country was founded upon. If we ever paid them and科教 you less is necessary to discharge criminal activity (I and I enthusiastically agreed that they are, then our need for punishment should be removed. Your editorial imply to treat these individ­uals respectfully, but it is much easier to say this kind of facility then to do it. They do deserve the opportunity to start again and build new homes, but it is unlikely that anyone who sees and recognizes them for the first time will be able to help us give them the kind of dreams they deserve.

Worse, your editorial advocates the expul­sion of this practice. Every time, no matter how tiny, would be engaged, with no room to escape more by the simple juvenile mistakes. Before you can agree, better take a look at yourself. How can you look at me? I wonder that you don't tell us that on the ground. I'm not sure if you stand for the rest of your life.

—John Colbyerson

Send your letter

Don't agree with our columnist? Our editorials make you mad?

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The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

—Winston Churchill
Ignored reality in Hollywood

STEPHEN HIRST  
CULT WRITER

While watching "Collateral Damage," the latest offering from esteemed thesis Arnold Schwarzenegger, I came to a shocking realization about the American movie industry. It seems, perhaps not shocking, but something worth mentioning.

I beg recollecting every movie I would think of watching terror atrocities portrayed on the screen, not to mention the plot. I started with Bruce Willis' venerable "Die Hard" series. In total, four, two and three of the series were retconned around fictional terror atrocities to blow up something—a skyscraper in Los Angeles, an elementary school in New York City and so on.

In the original "Die Hard" and all of its sequels, the terrorists are always white men with American ancestry. In the recent "The Spirit" blockbuster, "The Sum of All Fears," the main terrorist buddy is a Nazi.

There's a slight variation on this theme in "Air Force One," where Harrison Ford duels with some ex-KGB communists who aim to return Mother Russia to its former glory.

Now, here's the part I found out of place. In recent times, the number of recent attack perpetrators by Muslim extremists has been largely disproportionate to their population.

Curiously none of the movies I've mentioned feature an Islamic terrorist. In fact, I can think of no movie in the last several decades that featured Islamic terrorists. In direct contrast to this, I have seen five guillotine movies featuring terror atrocities perpetrated by Nazis, or sometimes, if the writer is feeling especially creative, that day former KGB agents of the Soviet Union.

Why is Hollywood so afraid of portraying Muslims or Arabs as terrorists in movies? Perhaps they don't want to unfairly perpetuate a negative stereotype. But it's no longer a stereotype these days. It's being a stereotype when Muslim extremists start slamming planes into buildings and blowing up embassies.

So, you will say, but it's a fact that the overwhelming majority of recent terror atrocities have been committed to al Qaeda or the Palestinian Liberation Organization.

Can anyone remember the last time a group of Nazis hijacked a plane? How about the last time a militant Nazi group tried to obtain some nukes? Have any Colombian drug dealers attempted to assassinate an American politician in recent years? No, you can't remember because it didn't happen. Airport security personnel aren't going to take advantage of Muslim terrorists more often than the rest because they're out of practice. They're searching those people because they're learning from experience.

I'm not saying that non-Muslim terrorists aren't out there. Ted Kaczynski and Timothy McVeigh were responsible for some of the most devastating and horrifying acts of terror this country has ever withstood.

I'm also not saying that the religion of Islam or its followers are inherently violent. That can be disproved by simply looking around at the many peaceful Muslim students who attend UCP.

But Islamic spiritual leaders have issued death sentences and effects of Holy War for years against all Americans, different races or military. And it is a credit to Islam that so few of its members have sunk to a point in the hands of violent threats. There are more Muslims than most keep their touch by the hands of those false prophets.

That being said, I would really make me happy to see just one courageous director portray a terrorist as a Muslim extremist. And please—no more Nazis. No more Hitler's grandchildren, no more cloyingly from WWII Nazi secret agents, and no more neo-Nazi groups armed with nuclear weapons.

The Nazis were some of the most despicable and evil human beings that ever lived, but they are gone now.

I know it's asking a lot for the entertainment industry to portray something seriously wrong. God forbid an occasional ounce of truth or reality seep into entertainment out of Hollywood, but it's time that our movies started to look a little more like our reality.

After all, when I'm checking the scores on an air travel flight, I'm not checking for Nazis. Maybe that isn't exactly politically correct, but it's real.

College newspapers tempered

JONATHAN ZIMMERMAN  
KNIGHT RUNNER

Twenty years ago, I served as a staff member at my college newspaper. My editors and I stayed up until six or seven in the morning, five nights a week. We drank stale coffee, smoked cheap cigarettes, and binged away on food and wine, trying to affect a grizzled, hard-boiled image.

Most of us were privileged kids from the suburbs, not working-class gumshoes. But the tough-guy image we cultivated included a deep skepticism of authority—especially of the institutions that ran our university.

So we made it our job to make these institutions miserable. Every day, our newspaper attacked the university. It wasn't providing enough coverage. It wasn't hiring enough minority professors. It wasn't assisting the nearby community. Whatever the university did or didn't do, we deplored it.

Formerly, Today's world ponders embrace the cool vibe of popular culture. Their stories focus on celebrity politics and more on music, film, fashion and sex.

Sexually, college newspapers can't get enough. Many papers now feature regular sex columns, almost all of them female. At the University of California at Berkeley, Teresa Chin dispenses frank advice in her "Sex on Tuesdays" column.

at my own institution, New York University, Tovia Salikhov serves as our paper's resident "Sexpert," and at Yale, Natalie Krikis authors the popular "Sex and the City (Em) Guys." Like the show whose name it borrows, Krikis's column combines snappy writing with a strong feminist slant. We now have students seeking to change the world. Krikis urges girls—always "girls"—to "Get them back!"

To be fair, some papers continue to criticize university policies. Over the last few years, for example, the Yale Daily News has blasted Yale's efforts to block graduate students from unionizing. But generally today's student journalists give administrators a free pass—or, at the most, a light touch.

That's why you rarely read a letter or comment from an irate school official condemning the school paper. Twenty years ago, administrators routinely called us to scold—yes, scold—about our attacks on poor dormitory security. These calls must continue, where the college daily turns to more urgent matters, like stress-induced impotence or the political correctness of hazing.

What's going on here? Some papers might temper their coverage of university policies for fear of reprisals. Last year, editors at Governors State University in Illinois suspended publication of a student newspaper after it attacked the teaching performance of two professors. The editors sued the university, which has claimed the same powers to censor student papers as high school principal powers.

The Governors State case will be heard in January by a federal appeals court in Chicago. Even if the court rules in favor of students' press freedom, the decision won't do anything to change the climate from which it sprang.

Most of all, universities won't be called to account without a strong and independent student paper. The only other campuses news comes from "public information offices," which put a cheery gloss on everything the school does. If student journalists don't present another side of the story, nobody will.

Two decades ago, I'll admit, we should have gathered more information—and done more thinking. I don't blame us. We had no idea how we had already embraced the other side. We were too quick to maligned the university, too sure of our moral righteousness.

I appreciate the student paper, which put a cheery gloss on everything the school does. If student journalists don't present another side of the story, nobody will.

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Stereotypes, inadequate resources plague homeless

FROM PAGE 1

UCF Institute of Government in 1998 Crotty led a UCF study commissioned by the city of Orlando that examined the expanding homeless population in and around Orlando. The study identified several causes of homelessness in Central Florida and made several recommendations to the city. The recommendations included:

- Shifting from a shelter model of care for the homeless to a home model of care.
- Establishing comprehensive one-stop centers, also known as drop-in centers.
- Rapidly expanding job placement and supported employment services for the homeless.
- Decentralizing homeless facilities in Central Florida.
- Reviewing existing nuisance ordinances and their enforcement.
- Expanding the Homeless Services Network of Orange County to include the entire region of Central Florida.

However, the city has failed to act on most of the recommendations, and has gone in the opposite direction on one recommendation, the nuisance laws. The only one that was acted on was expanding the Homeless Services Network, Crotty said.

Davis said the police have harassed him before, but he has a positive attitude toward most officers. He said two or three bad cops harass the homeless around the rest just do their jobs.

"Orlando's warm climate and tourist economy have made poverty and homelessness, "a lot of people know about Orlando because of our tourism," Crotty said. "Certainly we have high recognition around the country, and the opportunities are here. There are opportunities here, but a lot of them are low opportunities."

Kelly Caruso, founder and president of The Ripple Effect, a nonprofit charity dedicated to helping the homeless, agrees with Crotty that Orlando's service economy has fueled the rise in homelessness.

"People come here because they think there's a lot of work here," Caruso said. "They get here and they find out the work is really not well-paying work. They get caught up in the cycle of low-paying jobs."

Marilyn Gordon, executive director of Homeless Services Network, said many people with low-paying jobs find it difficult to afford a home in Orlando. She said even someone with a single room with kids would have a hard time.

Homeless population growing

Indeed, Caruso says the number of women that attend The Ripple Effect's weekly food and clothing distributions at Lake Eola Park on Saturday mornings has steadily risen during the past few years. "I'd say it's gone from no women, to an occasional woman, to about five women, and [now] maybe up to 10 to 12 women each week," Caruso said.

"One thing I've noticed is that prior to Cindy coming to Orlando, it was a lot harder to get to the streets, but love has helped," said Gordon, who is the founder of the Homeless Services Network, said that Orlando's service economy is not the only factor keeping many homeless people from escaping homelessness. "There's not a lot of affordable housing here either," Caruso said. "The opportunities are here, but a lot of them are low opportunities."

Caruso said that Orlando's service economy is not the only factor keeping many homeless people from escaping homelessness. "There's not a lot of affordable housing here either," Caruso said. "The opportunities are here, but a lot of them are low opportunities."

The UCF study came to a similar conclusion, it states, "There are several causes of homelessness in Orlando. The most commonly cited causes of homelessness is unaffordable housing."

"I think the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks contributed to the rise in homelessness," Davis said. "People in service-industry jobs have a hard time making ends meet nowadays. Having your hours cut from 40 hours a week to 20 doesn't help."

Davis felt the impact of the economic downturns first-hand. When tourism dropped off following the attacks, he lost some of the best jobs that he could no longer afford to put up money for his tax. He said that 30 percent of the people he knows on the streets fell into poverty after the terrorist attacks.

Davis, an articulate native of Farmington Hills, N.Y. with a theater background who served in the Navy, came to Orlando in February 1997 to take care of a friend who was sick. When she died, Davis stayed in Orlando and found work. He credites his hard training in the Navy, for teaching him the survival skills he relies upon on the streets, but love has also helped him.

Steve meets Cindy

Davis has found a companion to help him get through, his girlfriend, Cindy Meyer. Meyer, 19, has never been to stay with Davis because of the "hazards on the streets," while suffering from cerebral palsy and seizures.

Unlike Davis, whose parents have both died, Meyer has parents who could turn to for help, but she chooses not to ask. "I don't want anything from them," Meyer said. "I feel like I am a burden to my parents."

Davis and Meyer have been together since Oct. 2. They lease

"If we uphold the dignity of any one of our fellow citizens, we are upholding our duty to help that person," said Davis.
For food, fashion and films, Oviedo Marketplace is your destination for fun! We’re right around the corner... visit us soon!

I always saw myself working in an office. But it turned out I like thinking on my feet, doing ten things at once. I like managing a balance sheet impacting a $6 billion company. And I definitely like the potential to earn more money than my friends climbing the corporate ladder.

It’s a little surprising how much I enjoy it. But Enterprise is a surprising place. They train me. Support me. Reward me when I perform. Yet they let me do it my way, and I’ve never learned so much in my life.

My personal enterprise

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Entrepreneurial applicants, please send resume to: Christine Todd, Recruiting Manager, 130 University Park Dr., Ste. 235, Winter Park, FL 32792. Phone: (407) 670-1733 ext. 201. Fax: (407) 670-1744. E-mail: ctodd@erac.com. EOE
Homeless need more services, support to end cycle

FROM PAGE 14

each other, and keep each other from taking life too seriously. For example, Meyer purchased a superhero doll that resembles Davis from the Sufficiency Center. She called the doll "Little Steve.

"We have to have a sense of humor on the street," Meyer said.

Although Meyer's disabilities sometimes present challenges for Davis, she said they do not bother him that much. "He takes it in stride because it all really relates ... [to] that one statement I give at the forum," Davis said. "If we're in the dignity of any one of our fellow citizens, we are upholding our own dignity.

"Sometimes it's a bit inconvenient when things happen, but it's my fellow humans being here, and she's someone who is so big-hearted, that that outweighs any type of ailment of any kind," Davis said.

Meyer, like many homeless people, has battled substance abuse. She said she had been sober for 18 days. "I don't want to use anymore. I don't want to drink anymore, but temptation does creep in," Meyer said.

Most homeless people do not face Meyer's combination of physical, mental and substance-abuse problems, but many have some type of problem complicating their situations, Gordon said.

"The last time we did a survey, which was about three years ago, 20 percent had a substance-abuse problem, 10 to 15 percent had a mental-health problem, and it is 10 percent who had a physical disability," Gordon said. "Probably about 40 percent have a combination of disability." Gordon and Caruso both say the lack of mental health services in the Orlando area contributes to the problems homeless people face. "I think there are not enough mental health and substance-abuse treatment services in Central Florida," Gordon said.

Caruso has taken this problem on herself. "We've started a program where we're doing depression screenings and mental-health counseling," Caruso said. "It's a tremendous help. Of the people I've seen and counseled ... I've gotten at least five people off the streets, get them into transitional housing programs.

Smashing the stereotypes

Although many homeless citizens have a substance abuse problem, Davis said many, if not most, ordinary citizens stereotype homeless as substance abusers. Davis works with The Ripple Effect's Homeless Literacy Project, a committee to raise awareness and spread truth about homelessness.

By working with the presentations in the community, members do not immediately disclose that they are homeless, Davis said. "It's great to talk out with the stereotypes. Kelly Caruso will ask a class, "When we say homeless, what comes to mind?" and we stand there and we listen to all of the negatives. Drunk, drug, alcoholic, they're insane." At the presentations, after they
Davis paces with “little Steve,” above. Davis rejects the City of Orlando’s new infamous “blue boxes,” left. The boxes are intended to keep panhandlers in specific areas instead of allowing them to freely roam the city.

She added, “What I also would like the city to do is back off harassing the people. There’s been an increase in harassment and trespassing. It’s a systematic, methodical effort to get them off the streets, and I don’t appreciate that at all. I find it very insulting, and I think it is not the answer.”

Still upbeat
Despite the daily struggle to survive and the bad luck that has befallen him, Davis remains optimistic and determined to make his way back.

“I’ve seen five or six people escape homelessness, Davis said. “If it does happen, you have to persevere,” he added.

Davis currently takes a humanism course designed for the homeless at Valencia Community College, where he has established contacts and made friends. He also knows an Orlando city commissioner, Patty Sheehan, who may help him get a job. Davis hopes Valencia will be his ticket out of homelessness.

“I really am confident that eventually I will be at Valencia. As I see, it’s a matter of will I be starting in January or in May... Any money I raise can be put toward it. Even if I’m paying my way for a couple of credits during the spring semester, it would be better than nothing,” Davis said.

Sheehan said Sheehan may help him get a job with the parks department at the beginning of the year. "In the meantime, if I do not receive to get into school by Jan. 2, I’ll have the credibility of saying, ‘Hey, I’m a student at Valencia college,’ which will open up some extra doors for me on the job market, as well as a work-study program, and so on,” Davis said.

“I would say eventually get a few weeks’ worth of payment coming in, and be able to get into a [bedroom], and start gradually, and slowly but surely, starting back from this very streamlined aspect,” Davis said.

“I will be back on my feet again,” Davis said. "And after two years at Valencia, who knows, I might be joining up with the Golden Knights."
Colado faces alma mater in NCAA Championships

Kirsty Shonka

UCF volleyball coach Meg Colado knows Gainesville very well. She spent four years there playing for the University of Florida volleyball team. And last year she led the Golden Knights there for the first round of the NCAA Volleyball Championships.

Last year UCF drew Florida International as its first-round opponent and lost 3-0. This year the Knights will again travel to Gainesville for the NCAA Championships, but this time it will be to play Colado’s alma mater, the fifth-seeded Gators. When the Gators and Knights line up at 7 p.m. Friday, it will be the first time the ex-Gator will coach against her former team and former coach.

“Despite whatever history I may have, this is a great experience for our kids,” Colado said.

The Golden Knights finished the season as Atlantic Sun Champions with a 22-12 record and earned their second consecutive NCAA berth under Colado. The Gators finished as Southeastern

PLEASE SEE Arkansas ON 19

Going out with a bang

UCF bid farewell to 20 seniors Saturday

Chris Bernhardt

His first touchdown catch, a 24-yarder to tie the game at seven, gave UCF fans something to remember him by. His second score, a 50-yard pass to put the Golden Knights up 14-7, reminded everyone just how good of a UCF career he had. By his third touchdown, this one from 34 yards to open up a 14-13 game before halftime, made everyone wish he could stay just a little longer. And the fourth and last time he hit pay dirt on a 59-yard bomb in the third quarter ensured he left a lasting imprint in the school record books.

All told, senior Doug Gabriel had seven receptions for 179 yards and four touchdowns in his final collegiate game. That quartet of scoring catches matches a single-game record set by Bernard Ford in 1987 and David Rhodes in 1993. His yardage left him with 1,237 for the season, shattering Ford’s single-season record of 1,190, also set in 1987. And just

PLEASE SEE Patterson ON 21

Chris Bernhardt

A slow start, a strong finish and a team of “maybes” and “what ifs.” Sound familiar? Such has become the recurring theme for the UCF football program. After dropkicking with Ohio 42-32 at the Circus Bowl last Saturday, the Golden Knights’ season ended an respectable 7-5. That marked their fourth win in a row and seventh out of their last nine games. It also helped erase the pain and frustration that plagued the team throughout the season, when it limped out to a 0-6 start.

“It’s very pleasing the way it ended up,” offensive coordinator Bobo McFarland said. “Coach Knapp, I got to tip my hat to him. He just stood in front of the team and told them ‘hey guys, we’re a good football team. And I know it’s not shocking in the record but it’s time to redefine ourselves.’ I thought they really responded to his challenge and they proved that they were a good football team.”

Problem is, this continued a disturbing pattern. In the past three seasons UCF has gone 6-12 in August and September and 11-6 in October and November. In its defense, they have played some tough opponents in the season’s opening month, such as Florida, Georgia

PLEASE SEE Flinn ON 20

Joe Kuras / UCF

UFC volleyball faces fifth-seeded Florida Friday in Gainesville.

The Knights finished their first season in the MAC with a 6-2 conference record

PLEASE SEE Arkansas ON 21
Arkansas match provided good tune-up for team

FROM PAGE 18

Conference Champions with a 30-2 record. Their only losses came to top-seed Southern California early in the year and fourth-seed Northern Iowa to end the season.

Arkansas' Jenny Frank, who lost to the Gators in the SEC Championship match, said playing Arkansas gave the younger players good experience before playing in the NCAA Championships.

"You got to experience a team at a pretty high level and I think that's always a good thing because we go to the NCAAs." Colado said. "We go in having some of that experience, so it won't be totally new to them."

Santé said her advice to the younger players is to enjoy it. "Just go and have fun," she said. "Don't think about they're big. Don't think about they're good. Don't think about they're ranked third in the nation. That doesn't matter. If you just go in and play your best player, whatever you want. You just need to want it more than them."

"It's all about positive feedback for the younger players. According to Frank, "The only thing we can do is talk about it positively." She said, "We can't say anything bad about them, showing them that having confidence and belief is the only thing that's going to get us through this." Florida averages 2,430 fans for a home game, compared to 184 for the Knights. Frank said she likes playing in front of big crowds, even if they aren't root- ing for her team.

"Actually it gets me pumped up," Frank said, "Playing in front of that many people, I think it's exciting when it's loud out there. I think our team feeds off that and gets energy off that." In the first match of the regional, Florida State will play South Florida at 5 p.m. at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center before the UF-UCF match at 7 p.m.

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Flinn, Rhule were team's biggest surprise

FROM PAGE 18

Tech, Synnace and Penn State.

The Golden Knights have also failed to cash in on several potential upset chances. This season alone, they dropped a 22-21 contest at Penn State, took a 29-21 loss at Marshall and blew a lead at home in each game against former rivals Toledo and 28-35 loss to Synnace. This loss helps fuel the perception that UCP has a significant talent leak in each of the last three straight winning years.

Still, the significant difference this season was UCP's entrance in the Mid-American Conference. The Knights went 6-1 in conference play, the only two losses coming to Marshall and Toledo. Those two respective divisional changes that will baffle it out this weekend in the MAC Championship game for a second consecutive year. The Golden Knights certainly need more than even both of those teams and arguably should have been able to record a significant win at Miami of Ohio two weeks ago, their first victory over a winning team in four years. That served as the biggest highlight in a year full of memorable moments and historic milestones.

For the first time two receivers, Doug Gabriel and Jimmy Fryed, went over 1,000 yards receiving in the same season. Running back Alan Haynes became just the fourth Golden Knight to rush for over 1,000 yards. And quarterback Ryan Schneider set a new school record with 3,770 yards passing.

Six pivotal plays of the year

1. Schneider's interception returned for a touchdown against Akron State

At this point in the third quarter UCP had already gotten up two touchdowns and a safety that turned a 13-10 halftime lead into a 25-13 deficit. On the ensuing drive Schneider got picked off by Josh Amold, who returned it 21 yards for a score. That basically ended the Golden Knights' chances of winning the game, but more importantly Schneider went down with bruised ribs on the play. This injury likely forced him for several weeks to come, a key stretch in the schedule.

2. Schneider's interception against Marshall

With the Golden Knights down five on the road against the top team in the East Division, Schneider looked to be driving the team down with just over three minutes left in the fourth quarter. But J.T. Rembert picked off Schneider on the 29-yard line, snuffing out UCP's best scoring chance. The Knights would get the ball back a minute later but Schneider again got intercepted on a desperation free-throw play in the end this time proved enough to cost UCP the division title.

3. Cornerback Tony Ade's interception against Western Michigan

For its first conference victory in one of the toughest places in the MAC to play, UCP changed to a 31-21 lead with just 21 seconds remaining and the Broncos 7 yards from a game-winning touchdown. But senior cornerback Steve Munden came through for the second time in the game with the interception.

4. Gabriel's fumble against Toledo

Hosting the defending MAC champions in its first ever conference home game, UCP saw a 14-0 halftime lead disappear and found themselves down 27-24. Set the Knights appeared to regain control as they drove into Toledo territory with a 5-yard strike to Gabriel. But the star wideout fumbled the ball away, ending the Golden Knights' final scoring chance.

5. Safety Peter Sanders' interception against Buffalo

Having lost two of its last three games by getting run over defensively and blowing two halftime leads in the process, UCP again found its second half woes rearing its ugly head as Buffalo scored two third quarter touchdowns to take 21-14 advantage. But after the fourth frame the Golden Knights gave just 13 receptions for 295 yards and no touchdowns. Flinn scored with 58 catches for 1,128 yards and five touchdowns, all scored on the road to Gabriel. In addition he had several spectacular and key gains during the season ending in a victory. All this got him named second team all-conference.

Defensive MVP:

Defensive end Etion Patterson

No surprise here, Patterson came into the year considered one of the best defensive players in the MAC and backed it up by making first team all-conference. The senior defensive end led the team in sacks with 5.5 and nearly broke the school's all-time record in that category. He also had a team-leading 16.5 tackles for a loss to go along with 41 takedowns overall.

Biggest surprise: Linebacker

Flinn, Rhule were team's biggest surprise

One this is a tie. Rhule, a sophomore, wasn't even supposed to start. But when sophomore Poe went down with a broken ankle during two-a-days, Rhule stepped on the weak side and took off from there. Despite missing a game with an injury he led the team in tackles with 142 and had three sacks, an interception, forced fumbles and a fumble recovery.

Flinn, a fifth year senior who originally walked on, had the unenviable task of replacing Jerrie Boozel. He did better than anyone could have imagined, averaging 41.8 yards on 40 punts. That should have made him the top punter in the MAC, though he didn't qualify on lack of attempts. That likely cost him the first team all-conference honors he deserved. Still he did far for second team.

Fryed gets an honorable mention here, as nobody expected him to have a career year with the presence of Gabriel and Haynes in the offense.

Feel good story of the year: Wide receiver Josh Taylor

After walking on and spending nearly five years without ever getting his name in theoleon, Taylor finally lived the dream when he caught a pass late in the fourth quarter of a 38-14 victory over Kent State. That reception, for 12 yards, ended up the only one of his collegiate career, but provided a heart-warming moment for his team.

Game of the year:

48-31 win over Miami of Ohio

Not only was this the first win over a team with a winning record since 1988, but it also came against a division rival in a game UCP had to have. For the first time all year the Golden Knights stepped up when they had to and played their most complete game of the season. The offense had its way over a listless Miami team and the defense demolished through a few late touchdowns skewed the score.
Patterson sees big things in UCF's future

From Page 18

for a little cherry on top, Gabriel garnered the Offensive Player of the Week award for the Mid-American Conference East Division. "I had to show the underclassmen what to do, just show them that we have to give everything," Gabriel said. "Right now I'm just kind of reminiscing. Being with those fellows for two years, I'm going to miss them. I'm happy Coach [Mike] Kruczek gave me a chance to go out with a bang."

Though likely the one with the brightest future, Gabriel was just one of 20 seniors who played their last game as a Golden Knight against Ohio last Saturday. That list also includes his running buddy Jimmy Fryzel.

Like Gabriel, Fryzel ended his UCF career on a high streak, going over 100 yards in five of his last six games and finishing with 1,126 yards on 56 receptions and with five touchdowns. He and Gabriel are the school's first wide receiver duo to go over the 1,000-yard barrier in the same season and both were named second team all-conference.

Fryzel, the offensive captain, spent four years with the team. He had the opportunity to witness the Golden Knights go from the post-Jamie cum era to a competitive team in the MAC. "My first year here we were 4-7, (and) now to end up 7-5 [and] be in the MAC. I just want to be thought of as one of those guys that made this program grow to where it will continue to grow," Fryzel said.

Another group the offense will surely miss is a trio of starting offensive linemen. Center Mike Mahey, left tackle Brian Huff and right guard Taylor Robertson worked in "The Mold" for the last time Saturday.

In a heart-warming moment their fellow lineman, Garrett McCray, made an appearance in the backfield on the games final play. McCray who started the season's first two games at right tackle and the next two at left guard, blew out his knee in the beginning of October and saw his season and career take an early end.

"I just wanted to make sure he was healthy enough to put on his pads and walk out on that field. I told him if there was any way possible I was going to get him in there for that last play," offensive coordinator and offensive line coach Robert McFarland said. "I don't even like to talk about it, boy it gets me. I can't say enough about those guys. It's going to be a huge loss, not just as football players but just men."

On the defensive side of the ball, end Elliot Patterson felt just one sack short in his bid to break Darrell Hubbard's career record of 31.5. Still, he finished with an impressive four-year career that included 204 tackles, 50.5 for a loss. The defensive captain earned first team all-conference honors for his efforts this season.

"I'm just happy that I had a successful season, successful career here," Patterson said. "I'm very satisfied with that. I'm not disappointed at all, I'm not even thinking about the sack record."

Two other starting defensive players saw their last action in the black and gold, cornerback Asante Samuel and strong side linebacker Chris Pilinko.

Like Patterson, Samuel had a superb senior season that garnered first team all-conference honors. He picked off a team leading and career-high four passes. Also serving as a special teams captain, he returned 19 punts for an average of 12.5 yards. He finished with eight interceptions in four years on a Golden Knight, but one in particular will provide the fondest memory for Samuel.

"My interception against Western Michigan," Samuel said of the play that clinched UCF's first MAC victory. "I love all those boys like they're my family. I'm going to miss everybody."

For Pilinko the Ohio game ended a tremendous rise. Originally a walk-on back in 1998, he spent three years trying to break into the playing rotation before becoming a valuable backup last season. This year he took over as a starter on the strong side and recorded 67 tackles.

"This is something I'll never replace again in my lifetime," Pilinko said "All the friends and relationships I've had around here, the amount of time you put in, all striving for one goal, that's just something you never get again."

The list includes defensive tackle Nick Rosinski, long snapper Bobby Brown, punter Ryan Finn, wide receivers Eivy Gaudin, Brett McGill and Josh Taylor, fullback Sean Gandion, tight end Mario Jackson, offensive linemen Johnovan Morrison and Thomas Andrews and cornerbacks Carlos Thompson.

This class leaves behind a team that still has plenty of talent on both sides of the ball and the confidence of a strong finish to the season. Now the 20 seniors will watch and hope that the foundation they built will lead to bigger and better things for this program.

"I think they're going to be one of the top teams in the MAC next year," Patterson said. "Wherever I'm at, I'm going to be rooting them on."
### 8 Days a Week: Highlights of the Cultural Calendar

**Shelley Marmor • Staff Writer**

**Thursday, Dec. 5**

**Wit's Birthday Party/Concert**

Communication senior Chris Stine, formerly known as the Joint Dispute Resolution Services' first timer, will celebrate her birthday with a party and concert. Stine will perform with her band, Ten Foot Pole, at the Student Union. The event will begin at 9 p.m. with performances by Stine and other musicians who will compete for a variety of hair care products. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to join in the fun.

**Friday, Dec. 6**

**NORML-UCF Benefit Concert**

The Orlando-based band Ten Foot Pole will perform at the Student Union. The event will begin at 8 p.m. and continue until 1 a.m. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to attend.

**Saturday, Dec. 7**

**Freak Dance Concert**

Come see Emily Stine, former singer of the early 1990s alternative band the Lemonheads, perform at the Student Union. The event will begin at 8 p.m. and continue until 1 a.m. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to attend.

**Sunday, Dec. 8**

**Georgia Mile Hopkins**

Dans will be the address on the American Grounds. RSVP for the open house (5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.), and a Mike Hopkins will be serving hors d'oeuvres and a great atmosphere. The Student Union will host a Freak Dance concert on Friday night, Dec. 6, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to attend.

**Monday, Dec. 9**

**Emily Stine Opens Up**

Come see Emily Stine open for an open mic night at Central Station. RSVP for the open mic night, and a Mike Hopkins will be serving hors d'oeuvres and a great atmosphere. The Student Union will host a Freak Dance concert on Friday night, Dec. 6, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to attend.

**Tuesday, Dec. 10**

**Phat and Sunny**

Phat and Sunny will perform at the Student Union. The event will begin at 8 p.m. and continue until 1 a.m. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to attend.

**Wednesday, Dec. 11**

**See Ten Foot Pole Concert**

The ten-foot pole packs a punch. The Ten Foot Pole shows are legendary for showcasing their own talent and inviting others to join in. The event will begin at 9 p.m. and continue until 1 a.m. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to attend.

**Thursday, Dec. 12**

**Mediation Training**

Come experience the practical art of mediation at the Dispute Resolution Services' free services mediation training. The event will begin at 8 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. Admission is free, and everyone is invited to attend.

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**New Year, New You**

**Kristin Davis • Staff Writer**

As the world counts down to the new year, sophomore Rebecca Eberlein, 19, will be counting down to her new year's resolution to be 10 pounds lighter and partying more often. Although Eberlein resists normality doesn't make new year's resolutions, she felt her overall lifestyle needed a change this year.

"I want to live it up more because I am young and should enjoy life to the fullest," she said.

Eberlein isn’t the only one with a resolution for 2003.

"I want to be nicer to people," junior Laura Stewart, 19, said. "I think I need to be more conscientious of other people’s feelings.

As the new year approaches, many people make a resolution for themselves and try to uphold it throughout the year.

Stewart’s resolution, like most people’s, requires a lot of dedication since she was unable to accomplish the same resolution last year.

Everyone starts out following their resolution, but after a while they lose interest in it," Stewart said.

But Stewart does not feel her resolution was a complete waste of time.

"I think I have actually gotten more apathetic than I was to begin with since I made the resolution to be nicer a year ago," she said.

Sophomore Basil Wang, 19, shares the same desire as Stewart.

Everyone would benefit by being more generous and thoughtful toward one another. Wang said.

"If everyone tried harder to be nicer to each other, the world would be a much better place to live in," he added.

Other UCF students are making resolutions whose results can easily be seen on paper.

Like many students, freshman Erin Kinney, 19, promised herself she would make better

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**Vanity no longer a strictly female stereotype**

**Rachel Zall & Mike Blakely • Staff Writers**

As junior Chris Suh, 20, steps out of the shower, he looks into the mirror. After getting dressed in his designer clothes and spraying on his cologne, he spends about 15 minutes styling his hair, making sure each strand is in place. He takes one more overall look in the mirror before leaving for a night out on the town.

"I think it’s so important for men to look good because it makes me feel and act more confident," Suh said.

Although many people assume women spend the most time primping in front of the mirror, men like Suh can give them some competition. Nowadays, men are wearing designer clothes, more colognes and spending more money on accessories like hair products.

"My attitude changes when I wear different styles of clothing," Suh said. "I probably shop more these days, and when I see name-brand items, I will buy them."

"I always try to make it a point to have some competition."

For Suh, his clothes are the things he cares about the most.

"I’m picky because I get the most compliments about the way I dress. I’m high maintenance for myself — I make it a point to look nice."

Senior Matt Rothlein, 21, can relate.

"I wear everything from Polo to Calvin Klein," Rothlein said. "As long as I’m not wearing Abercrombie & Fitch, I really don’t care."

Yes, there is one main thing he is concerned about when it comes to his clothes, even if not everyone can see it.

"I make it a point to have nice shoes, ties for any occasion."

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**Decking the halls with festive adornment**

**Becky Kulchak • Staff Writer**

When it comes time to decorating trees and sharing presents with loved ones, sophomore Stephania Speno, 19, is always excited.

"We’re Catholic, so Christmas is a very important holiday for me and my family," Speno said.

Christmas is Speno’s favorite holiday. It is a time when she can share that special bond with her mother while they decorate her tree and apartment.

Speno even has a coordinated light system. She only puts blue and white lights on the interior, and green and red on the exterior of her apartment.

"My mom and I always decorate the tree together. So I think that helps ingrain decorating into my psyche," Speno said.

For Speno, decorating has no limits at Christmas time.

"When I decorate, I like to go all out. My mom and I are both obsessed with snowmen, so there

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**Sally’s Beauty Supply is a common destination for men looking for a variety of hair care products.**

**Please see Men on p. 26**

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**The holidays offer an excellent opportunity for students to use their creative instincts.**

**Please see Decorating on p. 24**
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Decorating for the holidays brings together family, friends

For this Christmas, 19-year-old sophomore Rochele Cusmitre's gift to her boyfriend cannot be wrapped, placed under the tree and tossed to the side with a mound of wrapping paper. Instead, this gift has great sentimental value — one that she considers the perfect gift.

Cusmitre is taking her boyfriend to Sea World on a backstage tour. He has always wanted to go and the memories of the day together will be his gift, she said.

"I didn't want to get him something boring like a T-shirt or a CD. I know this gift is a bit untraditional, but I think he will really like it."

Like Cusmitre, many UCF students try to give unique gifts during the holidays. Several students are able to create unique gifts by using their artistic talents. These gifts are often the most memorable.

However, the most important thing to consider is the interests of the recipient. This will make it easier to find a gift that will stand apart from the rest.

Tara Weidenfeller, a 23-year-old senior, plans to paint a portrait of her mother's dog as a gift to her mother.

"This will be a very sentimental gift and I know she'll just love it," she said.

Since she already has the supplies on hand, the gift will also be one that is economical, Weidenfeller said. And cost can often make or break a gift idea.

Yet Terry Daffron, a 22-year-old junior, feels it's the effort he puts into his gifts that makes them unique.

Daffron is making his friend an origami rose with velvet and construction paper, which will take two hours or more to put together. It is rare that someone gets something that takes him so much time to make, said Daffron.

Celeste Oldham, a 19-year-old sophomore, is also making gifts for the holidays. For her sister, she is making a collage out of copies of real photographs and magazine cut-outs for her bulletin board.

"I made her one last year and she really loved it," Oldham said. "It is a great present for someone, and it does not cost too much to create."

When Oldham was really broke one year, she had to use her imagination to make a gift for her father and created a gift that is economical, but for a good reason.

"Seeing as he lives with three roommates this year like Speno — , " Oldham said. "I know this doesn't mean something boring like a T-shirt or a CD because that is economical, but I think he will really like it."

Yet Dario Donahoo, 23, just returned from the holidays and said he has a unique gift for his Christmas presents.

"I love the fake snow," said Donahoo. "I think it's great. Tinsel will probably be making an appearance on my tree as well. My roommate and I are going to be decorating together since my boyfriend doesn't care for it."

Despite the small decorations, Schumer said she will still like to spend the holiday spirit by helping her boyfriend decorate his apartment as well.

"I'd like to do his place, just seeing as he lives with three other boys, I don't think they'd take it too well." But Schumer isn't the only one with small decorations this year. Sophomore Justin Schumer said.

This year, Schumer will only have a fake tree, wreath and a few other small decorations.

"I love the fake snow. I think it's great. Tinsel will probably be making an appearance on my tree as well. My roommate and I are going to be decorating together since my boyfriend doesn't care for it."

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Getting a loved one a unique gift will say more than a gift certificate.

Decorating for the holidays brings together family, friends

FROM PAGE 22

are going to be about a million snowmen everywhere around my apartment. I like to get a real tree and put only special ornaments on it. She gives me one new decoration every year; it's really special to me."

She even has that final touch she likes to put on her tree.

"I also like to throw on some tinsel and usually I top it off with a star," said Schumer.

Sophomore Mandi Schume, 19, is not going all-out with decorations this year like Spone said. "But for a good reason."

"I'm going away to Illinois to visit my 15 cousins for Christmas, so I can't be coming home to some rotting, cried-over ornaments that's a fire hazard."

Getting a loved one a unique gift will say more than a gift certificate.
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With a huge grill behind the kitchen and windows surrounding the dining room so customers can see in, diners feel as if they are at a backyard family barbecue.

"It's a nice, comfortable place where you can meet some nice people and get a home-cooked meal," Caroline Wishart, co-owner of Big John's, said.

Customers can start off their day with breakfast combos that come with up to three sides, starting at $2.99. Eggs, french toast, bacon, grits and Texas fried steak are just a few of the items available.

Big John's also offers sandwiches such as catfish, chicken, pork and hamburgers. These items come with fries, homemade coleslaw or baked beans and start at $2.99 as well.

A favorite among customers is Big John's Big Burger. This is no ordinary burger, but a mountain of meat and cheese with all the fixings.

The owners, Caroline and Joe Wishart, initially were just customers at Big John's, but jumped at the chance to buy the restaurant when they were approached by the original owner. Although the Wisharts kept the original concept of the restaurant, they added a few of their own recipes, such as the oak-smoked meatloaf, which comes with two side items for $4.95.

"Big John's is not only a restaurant but a social hub as well," Caroline Wishart said. "We get a variety of people from all over the community," she added. "We try to show everyone a good time and appreciate the business."
Men pay price for fashion

FROM PAGE 22

sions that I may run into. I refuse to get caught sporting a pair of tasty whites.”

Although Rothlein is an average guy when it comes to his clothing, he said he must always smell good.

“I wear colognes like Issey Miyake, Curve and Alfred Dunhill — chicks dig it.”

The way Rothlein styles his hair is also a big part of his look.

“I will actually take the time to blow dry and style my hair, depending on whether I want to be laid back Matt or cool, hip Matt.”

He has even gone as far as dying his hair all sorts of unique colors.

“They are pretty extreme colors, like purple, red and wildfire — which actually looks like your hair is on fire and is black-light reactive,” Rothlein said.

Unlike Rothlein, freshman Ryan Clinton, 19, said he doesn’t concern himself too much with his hair.

“I spend about $100 bucks on a haircut,” Clinton said. “I would highlight it, but it just doesn’t look right on me.”

“I wear only takes him about 20 minutes to get ready, he has a different attitude when it comes to his clothing.

“I shop about once a month and yes, all I buy is brand name clothes,” Clinton said. “If you’re going to get dressed up, you have to rock top of the line brands. I hate the person that spends two hours trying on clothes and doesn’t walk out with anything.”

But some, like freshman David Krbec, 19, go to the extreme when it comes to their upkeep.

“I probably spend $120 on my hair a month, and clothes are like $2,000 every six months,” Krbec said. “I also get my hands and feet manicured sometimes and my hair dyed at a salon.”

—DAVID KRBECK freshman

“I probably spend $130 on my hair, and clothes are like $2,000 every six months,” Krbec said. “I also get my hands and feet manicured sometimes and my hair dyed at a salon.”

Nevertheless, Krbec has his own favorite characteristic about his look.

“I think I’m sexy. I sing in a group, too. I think that’s the best.”

Heather Sandersen, owner of the trendy Orlando resale clothing store Echo Exchange, said men are willing to pay higher prices than the women that shop at her store.

Many of the guys at her store need more assurance about how they look when they try on clothes, Sandersen said.

“They’re always unique, those that are out-of-the-ordinary may be unique as well,” she added.

“Guys need the assurance. They really don’t know but more guys want to know what’s going on [with fashion],” she added.

She attributes the media and actor Brad Pitt’s role in the movie Fight Club as a reason for the increase in men’s vanity.

“They are definitely more vain,” she said. “They’re getting that they’re eyebrows waxed or they are working out just to look good. Even the fraternity guys are doing it.”

FROM PAGE 24

Students opt for more personal gifts

coupon book for him.

“I had to think of something cute I could get for my dad that would be inexpensive,” he said.

The book was filled with various chores that Oldham would do when handed a coupon. He really liked the personalized gift and it was very economical, she said.

While hand-made gifts are always unique, those that are out-of-the-ordinary may be unique as well.

Michelle Coutinho, a 19-year-old sophomore, is getting her 19-year-old brother, who just got his 16-year-old brother, who just got his first girlfriend, a pack of mini condoms from Spencer’s.

“It will be hilarious,” Russo said. “I am going to tell him I was asking around and I heard they would fit him. This is going to be something we’ll all remember.”

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When asked about their New Year's resolutions, many students said they would try to exercise more. Yet, breaking old habits prove to be the hardest resolution to keep. "It's hard to break bad habits. I made a resolution last year to be nicer to my parents, but I don't think I really kept it," she said.

The only New Year's resolution sophomore Caroline Candeto, 19, made was to stop procrastinating with school work. "Procrastination is something I told myself I would stop when I got to college, but it's only gotten worse," she said. Being able to narrow one's goal is the key to accomplishing it, Candeto said. To accomplish her resolution, she plans to spread out and prioritize her classroom assignments from now on. "It probably won't happen, but it's a nice thought," she said. Sophomore Jennifer Bramski, 18, has had the same resolution — to elevate her self-esteem — for two years in a row. Bramski knows the key to achieving her resolution is not by wearing more makeup, fasting her hair or altering her body with plastic surgery. Rather, it's something she must face mentally. "I just want to be happier with myself and accept who I am," she said.

Freshman Sam Malo, 19, has no desire to change his body image or improve his school work; instead, Malo has resolved to win an open-call wrestling match he plans to enter during the spring semester.

Although Malo is not a member of a college wrestling team, he wrestled in high school and hopes that experience will give him an advantage over his opponents. Malo already has taken the initiative to prepare for the competition by running more than two miles a day, as well as lifting weights.

"The only reason people don't accomplish what they set out to do is because they are lazy," Malo said. "I usually don't even make resolutions, because I'm lazy too."
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