Universities vie for politicians

As universities compete for state dollars, many turn to politicians for leadership

JASON IRBY

In higher education, educators may make the best presidents, but they do not possess the clout or fundraising power of politicians. In a time when states grapple with shaky economies and a shortage of qualified educators, universities are beginning to tap politicians for their presidencies. Former New Jersey governor Thomas Kean serves as president of Drew University in New Jersey. Former U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey leads New School University in Manhattan, NY. The University of Oklahoma considered former U.S. Senator Phil Gramm for its presidency.

In Florida, politicians are stepping into presidential positions at universities as well. The University of Miami tapped former Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala as its president in 2001. Now, three of the state’s 11 public universities may soon have former politicians as their presidents.

Florida State University’s selection of former State Senator TK Wetherell to serve as its 13th president reflects the growing importance of political connections in university presidencies.

For years, universities have

Please see Politicians on 5

Gay rights laws take shape in city, Will UCF be next?

CARY GRAYSON

Last month a gay rights crusade finally subsided when lawmakers voted to extend equal rights to Orlando citizens. Now UCF’s gay community hopes their quest for an anti-discrimination policy will be answered.

Currently, no anti-discrimination policy exists at UCF that protects professors, faculty or students from discrimination based on sexual orientation. Some UCF and other state institutions are not bound by city laws. But the issue may be the first thing to dominate the university’s Faculty Senate meeting later this month.

Michael Mullins, chair of the Faculty Senate, said that he expects the issue to be brought up in meetings sometime early this semester, although “no faculty has raised this as an issue so far.” Mullins said that while he was “not sure of the sentiments of the overall faculty,” he was certain that some members of the senate would bring the issue to the floor.

Although the senate cannot unilaterally change or create an anti-discrimination policy, it has the ability to make recommendations to UCF President John Hitt regarding what would be in the best interest of the university.

But its recommendation alone may not be enough to convince Hitt to pass such an ordinance. Hitt told The Future in a previous interview that he didn’t see a demonstrative need for a protection policy.

It is unclear what the president’s position on the issue is following the city’s decision to include a sexual-orientation protection policy and the fact that he did not return phone calls or e-mails before the interview.

If the Faculty Senate decides to pass a resolution for a protection policy, the process could take as long as three months to pass through the senate and on to Hitt. The first Faculty Senate meeting of the semester will be Jan. 28.

Even if such a resolution passes, it is still unclear if Hitt has the authority to change UCF’s anti-discrimination policy on his own. The change may have to be facilitated by the State Board of Governors, the new governing body that oversees all Florida universities.

“If certainly would be a viable show that the university is in support of no discrimination based on sexual orientation,” said Joshua Smith, 20, a member of the Gay and Lesbian Bisexual Student Union on campus.

Nationwide, 223 colleges and universities have sexual orientation protections in place, including Rollins College in Winter Park.

Web site aims to curtail student drinking

Counsellors hope interactive approach will convince students to learn about alcohol abuse

JOE HARLESS

UCF’s REACH program is currently considering a new approach to counseling students on alcohol abuse through the Internet.

The web site, MyStudentPulse.com, is currently being used on an experimental basis at 24 colleges and universities throughout the nation. This web site, developed by Inflexion, Inc., a company that specializes in interactive health communications, is paid for by universities to help make students more aware of the consequences associated with binge drinking.

University’s goal is to access to it through a school code assigned to them by the site.

Tania Lissmann, coordinator of the Drug and Alcohol Resource Center, says the site has not been received well, but would love if students begin to find the site is helping them.

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Big bargain lands big arrest

Counselors use web site in conjunction with other techniques

From Page 1

Center at the University of Florida, found out about the site through their e-mail. He sent it for U.S. Physical Therapy to use in conjunction with other counseling techniques.

"Online learning is just a piece of the puzzle," Williams said.

The site provides information based on data provided by each user. Responses and information about alcohol abuse and possible consequences, such as contracting sexually transmitted diseases, are created specifically for each individual user.

"Instead of provoking the dangers of drinking or attempting to cram statistics down students' throats, the site takes a no-blamed approach and presents the student with information so they can consider their options and make their own decisions.

By adjusting the level of aid for each student, the web site offers a more versatile approach to prevent alcohol abuse. Instead of treating each case the same way.

A study among 230 students with binge-drinking tendencies showed that the web site was most effective in encouraging students to drink less compared to other alcohol abuse web sites, the Chronicle of Higher Education reported.

MyStudentBody.com is one of the sites REACH is currently considering to help them upgrade their Alcohol and Drug Awareness and Prevention Training program (AAPT).

Williams hopes to include a web site like MyStudentBody.com to make the AAPT program more interactive and accessible when it is reintroducted on Feb. 1. Currently, no web sites are being used in the AAPT program to help educate college students about the consequences of alcohol abuse.

"Right now all we use is an interactive CD-ROM," Williams said.

This program allows students to view and explore various scenarios associated with alcohol, but Williams said REACH wants to use more up-to-date techniques to educate students.

School counselors say that part of the effectiveness of the web site is the anonymity. "It's very empowering," Williams said. "They should be used in conjunction with other counseling techniques to solve the problem of alcohol abuse."

"The site shouldn't take the place of a mandatory class and instructor," Williams said. "They should be used in conjunction with one another. There is no cure-all for these cases since none of them is in one."

Although the site is not substitute for peer educators, it does supplement education efforts, Glassman said.

"It's not a question of which is better, but of what else you can use to help."
Robert Morein was working towards his doctorate when he was dismissed after asking for a new adviser.

Servke Soles

Doctoral intellectual property

Robert Morein was uncommonly smart. He was a tenacious man regarded by friends as an inventive genius. "And we do come to a larger issue here."

A five-year legal battle between this unusual ex-student and one of Philadelphia's premiere educational institutions has gone largely unnoticed by the media and the public.

"It's a personality trait I have. I'm a tenacious guy," said Morein, a pleasantly eccentric guy," said Morein, a pleasantly eccentric man regarded by friends as an inventive genius. "And we do come to a larger issue here."

These are long traditions in American jurisprudence and the courts in academic decisions. 

Backed by every major university in Pennsylvania and organizations representing thousands of others around the country, Drexel appealed to the state Superior Court.

The state Supreme Court, in February 2000, Philadelphia Common Pleas Court Judge Esther R. Sylvester ruled that Morein's adviser, Esther R. Sylvester held that Morein's adviser, Esther R. Sylvester held that Morein had been unjustly dismissed and ordered Drexel to reinstate him or refund his tuition.

The appellate court, by a 2-1 vote, reversed Sylvester in June 2001 and restored the status quo. Morein was, once again, out at Drexel. And the time-honored action that courts ought to keep their noses out of academic affairs was reinserted.

The state Supreme Court declined to review the case and, in an ordinary litigation, that would have been the end of it.

Morein, 50, of Dresher, Pa., contends that he was dismissed only after his thesis adviser "appropriated" an innovative idea Morein had developed in a rarefied area of thought called "estimation theory" and arranged to have it patented.

Morein in 1995 because he failed, after eight years, to complete a thesis required for a doctorate in electrical and computer engineering.

Drexel says it dismissed Morein in 1995 because he failed, after eight years, to complete a thesis required for a doctorate in electrical and computer engineering.
found no evidence of misconduct by Dr. Ferrer in the case. But Penn administrators punished Dr. Ferrer by preventing him from conducting or supervising any research on human pathogens and restricted his ability to conduct experiments on animals for a period of two years.

Foreign students in Colorado charged with visa violations
At least six Middle Eastern men enrolled in Colorado colleges have been arrested and imprisoned in the past three weeks for allegedly not taking enough courses to continue qualifying as full-time students, to their criticism of the state's new system to track foreigners entering the United States. The system has been criticized as discriminatory, particularly by Arab and Muslim groups, because it focuses primarily on people from the Middle East and predominantly Muslim countries.

Registration at local INS offices was required by December 16 for men over the age of 16 from six countries that the Justice Department has declared sponsors of terrorism — Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria. Men over 16 from Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei, Lebanon, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen must register by January 16. Pakistanis and Saudis, however, have until February 21 to register. The system will expand to track all non-immigrant foreign residents by 2005.

Men posted $5,000 bond and leaving the United States. But after six weeks for allegedly not taking credit hours, the minimum required by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. The men posted $1,000 bond each after being held in jail, some for two days. In December, at least 22 men were arrested at the INS office in Santa Ana, Calif., when a previous deadline came due.

All of the men in both states were responding to orders to register with the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System, or nonvisas. Under a Congressional mandate, the U.S. Attorney General's office created the system to collect information about nonimmigrant aliens living in the United States. The system has been criticized as discriminatory, particularly by Arab and Muslim groups, because it focuses primarily on people from the Middle East and predominantly Muslim countries.

Registration at local INS offices was required by December 16 for men over the age of 16 from five countries that the Justice Department has declared sponsors of terrorism — Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria. Men over 16 from Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei, Lebanon, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen must register by January 16. Pakistanis and Saudis, however, have until February 21 to register. The system will expand to track all non-immigrant foreign residents by 2005.

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No support for action against N. Korea

GLENN KESSLER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WASHINGTON—In 1994, when North Korea faced a crisis over its nuclear ambitions, two former officials in the first Bush administration wrote an influential opinion article in which they argued for “denuclearization” — a military strike against a nuclear reprocessing facility designed to convert nuclear rods into weapons-grade material.

The Clinton administration was already contemplating a military buildup in the region. The Pentagon produced a contingency plan for bombing the facilities, concluding that it would take about two months, and that a military strike against a nuclear reprocessing facility was logistically possible.

But to date, there has been no evidence of North Korea having such a weapon. Even if it did, the United States would have to consider the possibility that the strike could trigger more nuclear tests or even a nuclear war.

There is virtually no support for military action, even in the administration, which has been criticized for not doing enough to deal with North Korea. But officials have been divided on how to proceed, and the issue remains a sensitive one.

The administration’s hardline strategy has been a matter of debate among policymakers. Some argue that a strong response is necessary to deter North Korea from pursuing nuclear weapons, while others believe that a more diplomatic approach is needed.

There is a general consensus that the United States must continue to apply pressure on North Korea to denuclearize, but there is no agreement on the best way to do so.

The administration has been considering a range of options, including economic sanctions, diplomatic pressure, and potential military action. But so far, it has not taken any concrete steps.

Some have argued that the administration has been too soft on North Korea, while others believe that it has been too hard.

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Some have argued that the administration has been too soft on North Korea, while others believe that it has been too hard.
University: Professor did not steal idea

FROM PAGE 4

But Morein, in a quixotic gesture that goes sharply against the odds, has filed the highest court in the land to give him a hearing.

His attorney, Faye Riva Cohen, said the Supreme Court appeal is important even if it fails because it raises the issue of whether a university has a right to lay claim to a student's ideas—or intellectual property—without compensation.

"Any time you are in a Ph.D. program, you are a serf, you are a slave," Cohen said. Morein "is concerned not only for himself. He feels its what happened to him is pretty common."

Drexel's attorney, Neil J. Hamburg, called Morein's appeal—and his claim that his idea was stolen—"preposterous."

"I will eat my shoe if the Supreme Court hears this case," declared Hamburg. "We're not even going to file a response. He is a brilliant guy, but his intelligence should be used for the advancement of society rather than pursuing self-destructive litigation."

The litigation began in 1997, when it was found that K-Tron then applied for a patent, listing Kalata and Morein as co-inventors.

Before Sylvester in 1990, Kalata and Morein as co-inventors.

At a nonjury trial before Sylvester in 1990, Morein testified that Kalata in 1990 had posed a technical problem for him to study for his thesis. It related to estimation theory.

Morein testified that, after much study, he experienced "a flash of inspiration" and came up with a novel mathematical concept to address the problem Kalata had presented.

Without his knowledge, Morein said, Kalata shared the idea with K-Tron.

K-Tron then applied for a patent, listing Kalata and Morein as co-inventors.

Morein said he agreed "under duress" to the arrangement, but felt "locked into a highly disadvantageous situation." As a result, he testified, he became alienated from Kalata.

As events unfolded, Kalata signed over his interest in the patent to K-Tron. The company never capitalized on the technology and eventually allowed the patent to lapse. No one made any money from it.

In 1991, Morein went to the head of Drexel's electrical engineering department, accused Kalata of appropriating his intellectual property, and asked for a new faculty adviser.

He didn't get one. Instead, a committee of four professors, including Kalata, was formed to oversee Morein's thesis work.

Four years later, the committee dismissed him, saying he had failed to complete his thesis.

Morein claimed that the committee intentionally had undermined him.

Judge Sylvester agreed. In her ruling, Sylvester wrote: "It is this court's opinion that the defendants were motivated by bad faith and ill will."

The U.S. Supreme Court receives 7,000 appeals a year and agrees to hear only about 100 of them.

"He is a brilliant guy, but his intelligence should be used for the advancement of society rather than pursuing self-destructive litigation."

—NEIL J. HAMBURG

Drexel University lawyer

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Rep. Rangel introduces bill to reinstate draft

Legislation's goal to increase white, affluent military enlistment

WASHINGTON — Three decades after the military draft ended, a small group of lawmakers in Congress is working extraordinarily hard to bring it back. They seek to expand the risks and burdens of war so that the sacrifices of the middle and upper-middle class men and women who seldom volunteer to serve in the armed forces, are reflected among those who do.

A bill introduced Tuesday by Rep. Charles Rangel, a New York Democrat, is unlikely to become law — the Pentagon opposes it — but it throws a spotlight on issues of patriotism, sacrifice and fairness in an all-volunteer military that in its enlistment ranks is disproportionately poor and African-American or Hispanic.

Rangel, a vocal opponent of war with Iraq, proposes drafting 18-to-26-year-old men and women for military duty once a month rather than once a year. He would eliminate the exemptions for college or graduate school students that allowed many middle, white, and upper-middle class men to avoid fighting an unpopular war in Vietnam a generation ago.

If President Bush declares war again, Rangel said, he should ensure that Americans from all walks of life fight in it.

"I truly believe that those who make the decisions and those who support the United States in this war would feel more deeply the pain that's involved, the sacrifice that's involved, if they thought that the fighting force would include the affluent and those who historically avoided this great responsibility," said Rangel, a decorated veteran of the Korean War.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld rejected Rangel's proposal on Monday.

"We're not going to implement a draft. There is no need for a draft," Rumsfeld told reporters.

The current military prepared for war and a much larger draft would be costly and ineffective because it would require the military to train soldiers to serve for very short periods of time, he said.

"If we have people serving today — God bless 'em — because they volunteered. They want to be doing what it is they're doing," Rumsfeld said.

Politically, the proposal also is likely to run into problems in the Republican-controlled Congress.

"I've got some serious concerns," said Rep. John McHugh, R-N.Y., the chairman of the House Armed Services military personnel subcommittee. "This is not a new proposal. It's been debated at various times since the draft was placed in inactive status. The Department of Defense and the military services command all oppose the idea and feel that the volunteer service is working extraordinarily well on all levels. It's hard to disagree with that."

But Rangel's proposal raises anew questions that go to the heart of America's concept of equality. Already, it has created strange alliances: Conservative objectors have sided with the Pentagon while other notable Vietnam War foes have joined the call for conscription.

"I'm dead set against us declaring war on Iraq, but if we're going to do it, if that's what the country wants, then everybody should participate on equal footing," said former South Dakota senator George McGovern, a World War II bomber pilot who ran for president in 1972 on a Democratic anti-war platform.

"That never happened in Vietnam," McGovern said. "It was always the minorities and the poor fighting and dying. If we're going to go to war with Iraq, a rich Harvard or Stanford student ought to be as subject to the draft as a poor kid of any kind."

"I'm opposed to deferment. We should never repeat that injustice," he said in a telephone interview.

McGovern said his position was a logical way to oppose war, "It might cause some of the people who think going to war is a good thing to think twice about it if they think their sons or grandsons or nephews would be in it," he said.

But Brian Cross, a director of the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, a nonprofit based in Philadelphia and Oakland, Calif., said renewing the draft is "a very bad idea." He said the argument posed by Rangel and McGovern that a draft could help deter war is akin to "hostage-taking," adding, "The young people of America don't need to be Charlie Rangel's hostage."

William Galston, the director of the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy at the University of Maryland, praised the draft as a form of public service.

"We've constructed a notion of citizenship that is all rights and no responsibilities," said Galston. "I don't think that's good for the country in the long run."

In the last Congress, according to Rangel, only one member had a child who enlisted in the military, although several lawmakers were parents of officers.

Rangel presented Pentagon statistics showing that African Americans comprise 22 percent of enlisted men and women in the military. They represent less than 13 percent of all Americans, according to the 2000 Census.

The story of African American Vietnam War fatalities is complicated. Between 1961 and 1969, African Americans comprised about 10 percent of U.S. men at arms but accounted for almost 20 percent of Vietnam combat fatalities, according to the Encyclopedia of the Vietnam War. Under heavy criticism, the Army and Marine Corps worked to reduce black casualties after 1968. By the war's end, African American combat deaths amounted to about 12 percent, slightly above their proportion of the U.S. population.


The draft, requiring two years of military service, ended as American troops pulled out of Vietnam in 1973, and registration halted two years later. Former President Jimmy Carter reinstituted registration after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan in 1986.

— JODI ENDA

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Making a difference during spring break

KRISTIN DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Last spring break Annie Howe didn't party. She didn't hang out on the beach and didn't even have fun lines to show. But Howe, 19, did have a unique experience that few other spring breakers did—a chance to brighten the lives of a group of children diagnosed with life-threatening illnesses at a camp in Eustis, Fla.

It was campfires and crafts that kept this sophomore more busy at Boggy Creek Camp during her week, off from school and she'll do it all over again this spring break.

Howe is one of many students who participated in UCF's Alternative Spring Break. Last year, students visited three locations in Georgia, Florida and Tennessee to volunteer their time to help the less fortunate.

“I loved the atmosphere,” she said. “Volunteering has always been something I have loved to do.”

Howe is no stranger to volunteering. She has accumulated about 200 hours of community service just last year. This year, Howe will return to the same camp in Eustis to work with seriously ill children. She hopes to see some of the same children she worked with last year.

“I sent Christmas gifts to two of the young children I met at the camp,” she said. “They aren't old enough to write letters yet, but they tell their older sister what to write and she sends them to me.”

Senior Priscilla Casados, 21, made the same trip her freshman year and it remained one of her fondest memories to date. Casados met a girl at the Boggy Creek Gang Camp who still keeps in contact with. She befriended the 15-year-old girl three years ago and she has watched her grow up and go to college. The two keep in touch via e-mail and Facebook.

Casados looks forward to hearing about what's going on in her friend's life each month.

“Spring break is a time when most college students spend thinking only about themselves and planning which parties to go to,” she said. “Alternative Spring Break allows you to spend the week giving something back.”

This year, students will have the opportunity to visit five locations. In Tennessee, student volunteers will work with United Cerebral Palsy and construct four wheelchair ramps during the week for low-income individuals. Cerebral Palsy is a disease that cripples victims' motor skills and muscle movement, 90% of which confine them to wheelchairs.

In Eustis, students like Howe serve children with chronic diseases, many on ventilated assistance, and camp with them for four days.

In Augusta, Ga., students will volunteer their time with Habitat for Humanity in its annual Collegiate Challenge. Started in 1989, Collegiate Challenge is one of nation's largest year-round alternative break programs. More than 9,000 students participated last year and volunteers will spend the week constructing a program in Augusta.

In Atlanta, Ga., students will volunteer with hands on Atlanta, a non-profit volunteer organization. Students will spend the week volunteering in five different community agencies in Atlanta. In Miami, Fla., students will volunteer with Hands on Miami and serve AIDS patients and restore beaches.

Students should attend an informational meeting Tuesday at noon in the Student Union or at 5 p.m. in the Libra Area Community Center. Students may also contact Jeff Novak at (407) 302-4438 about lodging, food and transportation information.

For more information, please call (407) 496-2400.

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Bush Outlines Plan
To Boost Economy

President Bush unveiled his plan to kick-start the slumping economy.

The plan calls for some $600 billion in tax and spending initiatives—despite warnings from economists about widening budget deficits and complaints from liberals about rezoning the rich. The plan includes eliminating the tax on dividends—a gamble on the idea's mainstream appeal in a country where more than half the population now owns stocks—extending unemployment benefits, and spending provisions of the tax relief package approved by Congress in 2001, such as tax-rate reductions and increases in child-tax credits.

Democrats blasted the plan's high cost and benefits for the well-to-do. They released their own economic plan that focuses almost entirely on short-term help for working families and hard-pressed state governments.

And even some business analysts who praised Mr. Bush's forward-looking aims worried that his plan risked doing too little to boost the economy in the short term, while damaging long-term finances of states and the federal government. Some well-established industries also fretted that the new plan's tax breaks on dividends could lure investors away.

OPEC May Boost
Oil Production

With war in oil-rich Iraq looming, Saudi Arabia and several other OPEC members are backing a plan to increase oil output around the world by as much as two million barrels a day, opening the spigot much wider than expected.

The move comes as a strike in Venezuela has crippled oil production and sent prices higher—and as the U.S. and other countries have been quietly trying to stockpile oil in advance of potential war, with limited success.

The prospect of a war in Iraq has sparked fears of serious oil shortages, and a strike alone has subtracted two million barrels a day from world markets. Iraq is producing more than two million barrels a day itself and exports much of its oil to Japan and other nations. Some U.S. energy information administration records last week that crude-oil inventories for the end of December would be at their lowest level since 1973.

OPEC officials say they could not make up for the simultaneous loss of oil production from both Venezuela and Iraq. The group is now taking the unusual step of calling on non-OPEC exporters such as Russia, Norway and Mexico to produce extra barrels. "There is a realization that a shortage might take place," said a senior OPEC official. "We don't want that."

PepsiCo Game Plan
Takes on New Flavor

PepsiCo, having long failed to create a winner in lemon-lime soft drinks, is betting it will finally score during this year's Super Bowl.

The purchase, N.Y., beverage marketer intends to use nearly half of the airtime it has acquired for the game to promote Sierra Mist, a lemon-lime brand it launched nationally last week. Two 30-second commercials, created by Omnicom Group's BBDO, will kick off an aggressive national marketing effort. Walt Disney's ABC network will broadcast the Super Bowl Jan. 26. The Sierra Mist campaign will be expensive. ABC says 30 seconds of commercial time during the game is selling for an estimated $2.2 million, although big advertisers tend to pay less.

PepsiCo is betting the campaign will transform Sierra Mist into a "major trademark along with Pepsi and Mountain Dew," said Klein Nicholson, Pepsi's vice president of flavored soft drinks. "We plan to be the dominant number three in the market," Klein said. "We expect the brand to be a leader in the market and do big business."

The U.S. Energy Information Administration predicted last week that crude-oil inventories for the end of December would be at their lowest level since 1973.

On American Market

By Nissan Sunshade

T

he latest sport-utility vehicle to hit the American market is bigger than its predecessor on the outside, bigger on the legroom, bigger in the cargo area and better under the hood.

In short, it's American in every imaginable way but one: It's the new Lexus RX330 SUV, from Toyota Motor Corp.

Making the old RX30 more American and less Japanese is exactly the point. For Toyota, as well as Honda Motor Co. and Nissan Motor Co., what American consumers want is becoming more important than the wishes of customers in Japan's shrinking market.

Vehicles such as the new Lexus SUV, a hulking Mississippi-made pickup truck Nissan plans to launch later this year, and Honda's new Ohio-built Element SUV, mark an important turn in the long-running battle between the auto titans of Japan and Detroit.

The Japanese are accelerating their shift away from their home market, which they see headed for long-term decline. Flush with cash earned largely in America, Toyota, Honda and Nissan are boosting investment in new factories, engineering labs and vehicles. They plan to storm the American car and truck market with an intensity that will rival their early-1990s assault.

Gene are the days when Japan's top car makers would tread lightly in markets such as big pickups and SUVs for fear of a trade backlash and tough competition from Detroit. Almost nothing is sacred anymore, as Japanese executives have shown this week, coming to Detroit's annual auto show to pocket the "Automobile of the Year" award from Automobile magazine for the new Nissan Xterra sports car.

Nissan's large pickups are designed to compete head-on with Detroit cash cows such as the Chrysler Silverado and Ford's redesigned F-150. Detroit executives also are bracing for Toyota's roll out of a larger replacement for its Tundra V-8-powered pickup. Such moves mean more competition—and potentially less profit—for a segment that up to now has provided a huge chunk of annual revenue and profit for General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and the Chrysler unit of DaimlerChrysler AG.

For the Japanese giants, the math has become simple. With the market shrinking back home, even boosting your share of the pie might not mean higher sales and profit, notes Norio Matsuura, a

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Graduate Studies
What's News—
In Business and Finance

IBM said it signed a three-year, $3.6 billion contract with Sanmina-SCI under which the contract manufacturer will make servers based on Intel Corp., chips for customers in the U.S., Latin America, Europe and the Middle East. Sanmina will also make certain laptop computers.

A year ago, IBM announced an agreement under which Sanmina took over IBM's desktop personal computer manufacturing in the U.S. in a $5 billion deal.

Odds & Ends
Factory orders dropped more than expected in November, pulling back from a strong gain the previous month. . . . UAL Corp., the parent of United Airlines, said it intends to shed 14% of its management and support employees by Jan. 19, part of its plan to lower expenses to meet the strict terms of its debtor-in-possession financing package. United, meanwhile, said it is cutting one-way business fares by as much as 48% for travel to and from its largest hubs, Chicago and Denver.

By Jay Hershey

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IBM Corp., continuing to reduce its manufacturing operations, said it will outsource most of its Intel server making to Sanmina-SCI Corp.
Buch’s history of ill-advised installments

Once again, a political appointment by Gov. Jeb Bush has stirred controversy. This time, Bush named the former warden of a Florida prison in which a prison inmate lost his life to head the Department of Corrections.

The watch of James Crosby Jr.—Bush's choice to head the Department of Corrections—ended on July 17 with inmate Frank Valdes killed at the Florida State Prison in June 1999. A lengthy investigation into Valdes’s death led to the indictment of five prison guards on murder charges. The guards were acquitted of the charges.

Crosby, who had found someone with a clean record to head Florida’s prison system, Crosby’s past calls his ability to administer 73,000-plus inmates into question.

A person with no concern for humanity should not be in charge of Florida’s prison system. Although prisoners gave up many of their rights when they committed their crimes, inmates still deserve protection, particularly from the guards who supervise them. Following the ill-advised choice of ultra-conservative Jerry Regier to head the Department of Corrections.

Bush either did not take the time to thoroughly investigate Crosby’s past or did not care that Crosby allowed his prison guards to beat a prisoner to death.

Also like Regier, Crosby has strong political ties to the Bush family and the Republican Party. In effect, Bush is rewarding Crosby for his past political support.

At the least, it can be said that the governor rewards political loyalty. He appointed Orlando Mayor Glenda automated system that knows when and who to disburse the state’s new university system. The Bush administration has to make the decision to spend more on his educational experience.

Unfortunately, that world does not exist.

In the real world, the state universities face severe budget crises. Worse yet, Florida’s 11 universities must compete for a limited amount of money, making it necessary that university presidents devote as much attention to raising money and acquiring other revenue sources as they do to pursuing the academic mission of their universities.

The days of educators working their way up from professors to chancellors to presidents have all but passed. Although a majority of university presidents still have roots in the world of higher education, these educators retire politicians with almost certainly fill their positions. Politicians connections make the difference between a well-funded and an under-funded university.

In this academic and economic climate, it comes as no surprise that as many as three of the state’s university presidents have political experience. Unfortunately, with little financial relief on the horizon, public universities will consider the political connections of their presidents increasingly important, perhaps to the point that a president’s political connections will matter more than his or her educational experience.

Unless the state university system gets a large influx of cash to the point where all 11 universities have enough money to meet all their needs, politics will continue to play a large part of the apportionment process. University presidents will have to sell their respective institutions to the most needy and most deserving of the state’s insufficient funds, and those presidents ties to legislators and the governor will determine the amount of their funding.

Furthermore, future presidents at all public universities will need to be well adept at playing the political game. They will have to know who to talk to, what to say and how to get money. Their roles as educators will become far less important than their roles as fundraisers.

To fix the problem, Florida’s legislature must make the decision to adequately fund the state university system. The legislature has to devote enough money to help the system become one of the nation’s best, so that Florida’s 11 public universities can work together to serve the state’s citizens better, rather than compete with one another for scarce resources.

“We can try to avoid making choices by doing nothing, but even that is a decision.”

---

Budget constraints make politicians of presidents

In a perfect world, budget deficits would not exist. Florida would have more than enough money to fund all its programs and universities would choose only qualified educators to serve as their presidents.

Unfortunately, that world does not exist. In the real world, the state universities face severe budget crises. Worse yet, Florida’s 11 universities must compete for a limited amount of money, making it necessary that university presidents devote as much attention to raising money and acquiring other revenue sources as they do to pursuing the academic mission of their universities.

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“We can try to avoid making choices by doing nothing, but even that is a decision.”

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I am highly disappointed at UF yet again, because of their inability to support and maintain the overcrowded school that is so desperately needed. Because of our overcrowded school, I, and a host of other people I know were unable to register to vote in Florida, to change my driver's license and get my schedule. After an hour of trying, I finally could not get into the god-forsaken web site. The error message that I got said 'I'm sorry, I couldn't do that as the site is too busy. Leave message that I try again later after school. There are too many people accessing the site at this time.' No surprise there, since there are too many people accessing the site at this time. No surprise there, since there are too many people accessing the site at this time. No surprise there, since there are too many people accessing the site at this time.

Disappointed, yet again

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Decoding speech codes at universities

Becky Kulchak
Staff Writer

If you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say it at all, my mother used to say. I remember wondering how long I would have to live uttering only nice things to people even if that’s not what I believed.

Fortunately, today I say things that aren’t always nice, that are sometimes controversial and that others find offensive from time to time. Luckily for me, the Constitution and the First Amendment protect me from people like my mother who insist that “not nice” views should be kept to oneself.

But my mother’s opinion is somewhat far-reaching and like her, some still believe that it is improper to stigmatize conflict at all costs than to hear unorthodox views.

Ironically, that rationale is taking shape at one of the most liberal places in the world—Harvard—where controversy and freedom of expression are not only acceptable, but encouraged.

Harvard’s official policy is to discourage the use of racial slurs, hate speech and derogatory language. The policy states that racist language is against Harvard’s expectations of students and the university.

Unfortunately, that rationale is still taking form at one of the most liberal places in the world—Harvard—where controversy and freedom of expression are not only acceptable, but encouraged. Harvard’s official policy is to discourage the use of racial slurs, hate speech and derogatory language. The policy states that racist language is against Harvard’s expectations of students and the university.

The ramifications of enforcing a speech code are endless, but more importantly, it will not achieve the racial sensitivity on campus that they hope for.

The Black Law Student Association immediately recommended a speech code be enforced to keep racially offensive language out of classrooms and out of Harvard. 

But what the Black Law Student Association fails to realize is enforcing speech codes and stifling politically incorrect statements are not only ineffective, they are Constitutionally deplorable.

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UCF hits Atlantic Sun schedule

After losing its final non-conference game of the season Monday, the UCF men’s basketball team dives head first into Atlantic Sun play beginning Saturday at Troy State. The Trojans knocked off preseason South Division favorite Jacksonville, 70-68, in their first league game of the season.

The Knights lost Monday to Kansas State, but beat Florida Atlantic on Saturday; 80-69, in their first A-Sun game of the year. The Owls were picked to finish second in the South behind Jacksonville.

"We've got the momentum going for the conference and hopefully we can keep it and maintain it throughout the confer-

Knights look to put rough start behind them

"My realistic goal going into (the season) was to be a little bit over .500 coming out of Christmas," Striegler said. "The bigger games, the Florida States, the Florida, the Georgia Techs and the Mississippi States, you always hope you can win one of those 'cause I think our team is good enough to play with those. We weren't able to do that.'"

Fortunately, what has already taken place doesn't really matter. Sure, a strong beginning to the year would have helped build momentum, but the true season for UCF begins this week when it opens up its conference schedule. On Thursday the Knights will travel uptown to take on Jacksonville, then go on to play bitter rival Stetson on Saturday.

Both teams have come out of the gate even slower than the Golden Knights. Jacksonville comes in just 2-8, 1-5 at home. Despite leading the Atlantic Sun in field goal percentage and three-point shooting, the Dolphins have struggled to score points, ranked second-to-last amongst A-Sun teams with a 56.2 point-per-game average.

Forward Kat Sung has served as a bright spot, averaging 14.1 points per game and leading the conference in rebounding with 9.8 per game. Center Kara Donnell has also gotten off to a strong start, averaging 10.1 points per game and 7.3 rebounds. These two will make for an interesting match-up against UCF's frontline of shot-blocker Ali Roberts and continually improving Tahira Allen.
Turnovers, poor shooting plague UCF against FSU

CHRIS BERNHARDT
STAFF WRITER

The Golden Knights traveled up to Tallahassee on Sunday for their final non-conference game of the season. And just when it seemed they might grab some momentum before entering conference play, UCF Achilles' heels flared up again: poor shooting, turnovers and rebounds.

"I thought we played good for about 33 minutes, and the last seven minutes we just fell apart," UCF women's basketball coach Gail Striegler said. "We couldn't ever get it on track offensively. Defensively we did a pretty good job. Had too many turnovers and too many offensive rebounds."

When the dust had settled, Florida State sent UCF home with a 77-47 loss, the Golden Knights' third consecutive defeat and seventh overall.

Though it ended up a blowout, the game was closer than the score would indicate. For the first six minutes of the game the two teams were tied at 11, the Lady 'Noles went on a 11-0 run over the next four and half minutes and eventually finished the half up 30-21.

Early in the second half FSU seemed to pull away when Lauren Bradley converted a three-point play for a 43-26 advantage. But on three successive three-pointers, the Golden Knights crept to within 11 points at 43-32 with 11:07 left. Yet they would get no closer. The Lady 'Noles netted UCF 31-13 down the stretch for the winning margin.

"I thought the kids played hard," Striegler said, "but to beat a good team you've got to play 40 minutes, you can't have turnovers and you got to outrebound them and you got to execute." The Golden Knights, a shooting

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Stetson, JU have early season struggles

"They don't really have true post players," Striegler said. "They play kids that will hit the 12-foot, 15-foot shots that are going to pull our post players outside a little bit and cause some problems for us that way. I think they're going to have a hard time matching up against us because they don't have the power post players which we do."

But with apologies to the Dolphins and all of UCF's other opponents, Saturday's game against Stetson has probably been circled on the Golden Knights' calendars for quite some time. In each of the past two A-Sun tournaments, the Hatters have disposed of UCF. Now they are hoping to get a measure of revenge.

"You can forget the score because whenever the two of us play it doesn't make any difference, both teams are going to play their best games they can play," Striegler said.

Two wins this week would go a long way to building UCF up for its remaining schedule, made up exclusively of conference games. A big finish in those games will surely help make UCF's failures during the non-conference schedule disappear.

"I think winning erases a lot of things," Striegler said. "We need to continually get better every single game, every single practice. If we continue to do that we will win those games."

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Kansas State holds off UCF

Kristy Shonka
Staff Writer

When Ray Abellard injured his ankle Saturday against Florida Atlantic, UCF Coach Kirk Speraw said his senior "tweaked" it. The injury kept Abellard from practicing Sunday, though he did start Monday night at Kansas State. But UCF's leading scorer only played 11 minutes and went zero for three from the floor.

Forward Ed Dotson picked up the offensive slack for Abellard, with a short bench UCF lost 71-50. After the Wildcats held the Knights without a field goal for almost seven minutes to start the second half, Dotson sparked a UCF run that cut a 14-point deficit to four with 4:17 left in the game.

The Knights (6-8) had to send FSU in the free-throw line to stop the clock, stalling any opportunity to cut further into the lead. The Wildcats held UCF scoreless the final 2:06 of the game.

After Kansas State hit seven 3-pointers in the first half, UCF held them without any in the second half, but the Knights could only convert 11 of theirs themselves. UCF's defense held Gibson Dolosia, who ranks among the nation's leaders in assists behind the arc, to just two of 11 from three-point range.

Kansas State jumped out to a 43-31 halftime lead, but UCF couldn't make up the difference, despite playing much better in the second half. The Wildcats only outscored UCF 26-20 in the final 20 minutes.

Allen leads Golden Knights

FROM PAGE 17

The Knights have struggled to hit shots and score points all season, did manage to shoot 35 percent from beyond the arc. But they hit just 28 percent from the field and their turnover bag-a-boo landed his ugly head again, as UCF gave up the ball 21 times compared to just 10 by FSU. Also, the Golden Knights managed just eight assists while the Lady Owls reeled in 20.

"Our past players had about 15 turnovers," Stringer said, "A lot of them are from three second calls, post players making bad decisions, trying to force passes. You had a couple of them that actually walked when they caught it."


Forward Tikai Allen, UCF's leading scorer, once again paced the Golden Knights with nine points and eight rebounds. Fellow forward Erin Prater also had nine points to go along with six rebounds. Sharp-shooting freshman Claudian Johnson chipped in with eight points.

UCF fell to 4-7 on the season, while FSU went to 10-0.

All the Golden Knights' remaining games will come against Atlantic Sun Conference opponents, starting Thursday at Jacksonville. From there UCF hopes to turn things around and fulfill all its preseason expectations.

"The first part of the season was a little bit disappointing to us," Stringer said, "The second part of the season we expect to go out there and be able to play with every single one of these conference teams."

Trojans have Atlantic Sun's top offense

FROM PAGE 15

"It's a little bit, senior forward Ed Dotson said after the Florida Atlantic win.

After twins Joey and Stephen Graham transferred to Oklahoma State and the Knights only returned five players from last year's squad, expectations were minimal. The A-Sun coaches and media polls both picked the Knights to finish second last in the South, only ahead of Sceston.

But the Knights have used a stifling defense to jump out to a 9-5 record. UCF leads the A-Sun in scoring defense, allowing just 62.8 points a game. The Knights only score 89.5 points a game, compared to 81.2 by the Trojans.

The Knights' offense could suffer this weekend though. Guard Ray Abellard has been the Knights most consistent source of offense averaging 18.9 points a game, but he injured his ankle Saturday. The senior started Monday against Kansas State, but played only 11 minutes.

Senior Ed Dotson, who's second on the team with 18.5 points a game, picked up his scoring with 18 points and freshman Troy Lindbeck scored 16 points in Abellard's place. If Abellard can't play Thursday, the Knights will be left with just three returning players — Dotson, Marvin Boyd and Josh Boddie — as point guard Al Miller has been suspended indefinitely from the team. The Knights have deferred expectations all season and newcomers Lindbeck, Will Bakanowsky and Dexter Lyons have all played well of late. UCF will need all three to pick up some offensive slack if Abellard is sidelined.

Lyons has averaged 8.7 points and 8 rebounds in 31.5 minutes over the past four games. He's started the past two games in place of Miller. Lindbeck will probably start in place of Abellard if the senior can't play Thursday. Lindbeck played 34 minutes Monday. He has started once already this season. In the 60-61 win over Tulane during the Thanksgiving break. He scored 13 points in 24 minutes.

The Knights are now 9-5 on the year, but the only games that matter are A-Sun games, where they stand 1-0. But UCF Coach Kirk Speraw said this year's conference teams are the best top to bottom he's seen in his 10 years at the school, and anything can happen any night.

"It's going to be a battle every night out, and if you're off your game just a little bit, you're going to get clipped," Speraw said. "So you have to be focused and ready every single night out in our conference."
**Web cams offer new dimension in e-voyeurism**

RACHEL ZALL
STAFF WRITER

Junior Eric Harris, 26, sees his friends and family everyday, even though some of them are about three-and-a-half hours away—thanks to his web cam. Harris first purchased two web cams for $100 three years ago. He not only uses it for his web site (http://www.teriadesigns.com), which gets more than 100 "hits," or visitors, a week, but for other beneficial reasons as well.

"Web cams have helped me to keep in touch with family, friends and even meet new people," Harris said.

Web cams transmit images online and are usually used among students to see their friends and family members while they are talking online.

"Nowadays, a web cam is almost like a telephone to me," Harris said. "Almost every message-program supports the use of live video conferencing, which is a now, exciting way to talk to people because it gives you the ability not only to hear the person, but see them as well."

There are even free web cam sites, such as Teveo (http://www.teveo.com), which Harris uses to allow people from around the world to see his recorded still images or live video on his web site.

"Web cams have become popular among students because many people like to at least see a picture of the person they are talking to," Harris said. "Web cams give you the option of taking a still picture or even streaming video onto the web."

However, students are not the only ones using web cams. Colleges started using web cams five to 10 years ago, according to the Society for College and University Planning, and more than 250 colleges use web cams, including UCF.

Many colleges use web cams to provide an overview of certain parts of the campus. UCF, for example, has web cams focused on five different areas. The cameras show the inside and outside of the Student Union, the library, the Recreation and Wellness Center, the John T. Washington Center and also outside the Reflection Pond and refresh every 10 to 15 seconds for students, staff, parents and alumni to see.

"Many universities use web cams as a tool to provide an overview of campus," said RACHEL ZALL.

"Web cams can be used to provide an overview of the entire campus, and they give students an opportunity to see things they might not see otherwise," said RACHEL ZALL.

"Web cams can be used to provide an overview of the entire campus, and they give students an opportunity to see things they might not see otherwise," said RACHEL ZALL.

**Flame and fortune at the P-house**

LINNEA BROWN
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to the road less traveled: a weekly trip to anywhere out of the ordinary. Over the course of this semester, I intend to prove just how much fun it can be to appreciate the unusual, celebrate the obscure and find excitement beyond the still boredom of the UCF bar scene.

After spending New Year's Eve downtown giving out fake dollars and whipping off slobber from the throats of manic, sweaty drunk pans that were packed like sardines into the "six-bucks-for-twenty-bucks" deal on Wall Street, I was more than happy to take a much-needed breather on Jan. 1.

So, I lined up my go-go boots and met two of my favorite gay friends at one of Orlando's most intriguing places — The Parliament House — a notoriously fun (if somewhat seedy) gay club on Orange Blossom Trail.

This wasn't just any night at the P-House, mind you — it was a Wednesday, which meant the splendid "Flame and Fortune" trivia show would be held at 10 p.m. I had no idea what the trivia show would entail, but my friends assured me that it was fabulous. "It's hosted by a drag queen," they chirped, remembering their zealous fascination with divas.

All I knew was that "Flame and Fortune" were seemingly more appealing than the other Wednesday night trivia options: Monday Night Football Trivia, Tuesday Night Trivia; or the Loaded Hog.

After paying the $5 cover charge, I made a quick detour into the ladies' room. An adorable thirty-something lady was busily urinating — with the stall door wide open. I nonchalantly studied her nails as I waited for her to finish.

"Are you waiting to pee, honey?" the guy exuded drunken. "Here, let me prepare the stall for you." As I watched in smarmy disbelief, the guy carefully put the seat down.
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Strippers and scavenger hunts highlight night of fun

FROM PAGE 20
wiped it off, placed two room strips of toilet paper on the seat, washed his hands and curtseyed deeply. And to think that most guys can't even remember to put the seat back down. I thought, smiling to myself. I felt like Alice in Wonderland.

However, back out in the trivia showroom, my friends were unimpressed with my new bathroom buddy. "He's old," they hissed distastefully, wrinkling their noses. Obviously, they had higher standards than I did. I made a mental note to choose their potential dates more carefully.

But back to the show. Any hopeful contestants simply had to enter his (or her) name before 10 p.m. by dropping it in a big green hat at the front of the stage. A sten, middle-aged, bespectacled man introduced himself as Wanzie, one of the show's hosts. Dressed in green doctors' scrubs, a yellow silk sports coat and Nike sandals with socks, he bore an odd, clashing resemblance to Dr. Doolittle.

No sooner had Wanzie finished speaking than Miss Sammy herself sauntered across the stage in a plaid 90s-style dress, lip-syncing to a hilarious number called "Just being a girl." A foollishy whimsical drag queen, Miss Sammy was barreling with more sparkling, nostalgic stage presence than a modern-day Liluette Hall. Secretly I immediately decided that Miss Sammy was my hero.

I watched as the first three contestants took their places behind glittery, rainbow-flamed podiums. Wanzie read a succession of witty, naughty questions about movies, music and celebrities from behind a pink, sparkly question-mark painted podium.

Miss Sammy cleverly sprinkled the spooky trade with light-hearted, comical dialogue. My guy-hungry friends and I spent the entire first round drooling over contestant four times and I've seen city commissioners play. .. and my straight roommate even came away questioning why I never met one of these days: As my friend looked blankly, "I've been to every sin- gie show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged.

Wow, what a fun job. Divas have it made, I thought. Meanwhile, at the bar, my poor friends had been cornered by an obnoxious "Flame and Fortune" groupie named Colleen. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged.

But I digress.

The most hilarious part of the entire game show was a three-minute scavenger hunt in which contestants had to beg audience members to give up personal items — down to their underwear.

The participating audience members each received a free drink coupon and needless to say, I participated. At the end of round three, a well-known Orlando choreographer won the weekly prize of $1200.

"That will be me next week," my drunken bathroom buddy bellowed, determined to win...one of these days. As my two friends wandered into the bar area to catch the end of an 11 p.m. strip show, I merrily caught up with Miss Sammy to gash over her imperial performance charisma.

Miss Sammy laughed, explaining that the show's host, Doug, had called in sick two hours before that night's performance. "I made up all the questions and answers myself an hour before the show," she confided.

Meanwhile, at the bar, my poor friends had been cornered by an obnoxious "Flame and Fortune" groupie named Colleen. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged. "I've been in every single show since the beginning," Colleen bragged.

A foolishy whimsical drag queen, Miss Sammy was...
Rodeo’s gives taste buds wild ride

DONNA T. SCHUMAN
STAFF WRITER

When Danny Lunsford, owner of Rodeo’s Wings and Sub Shop, opened his restaurant in February 2002, he designed his menu to specifically serve UCF students.

“I wanted to be able to offer them a large quantity of food at an affordable price,” Lunsford said.

The atmosphere at Rodeo’s is bold and friendly. The walls are decorated with horseshoes and large rodeo photographs, a theme idea that came from Lunsford’s home state of Oklahoma.

“In Oklahoma, rodeos are very prominent,” he said.

There are also writings on the walls from patrons expressing their opinion of Rodeo’s.

“The original intent with the griffled was to get customer feedback,” Lunsford said. “Over time, people started to add their own expressions.”

Lunsford’s daughter, Tiffany, greets customers and takes their order and diners can watch their food being made in full view of the open kitchen as well.

The menu offers specialty subs and wraps, such as the Cowboy Club and the Triple Cheese, and all of the sandwich es are available hot or cold. Rodeo’s also offers wings in a variety of flavors such as honey garlic, teriyaki and BBQ. These jumbo wings are char-grilled, not fried, making them a healthy alternative to fast food.

For the light eater, Rodeo’s offers garden, chef and chicken salads. The French Fries, which Lunsford seasons with lemon pepper and parmesan cheese, are a favorite with the customers. Dollar drafts are offered everyday from open to close as well.

All meals are under $8 and there are various lunch specials offered for about $6, making it affordable for most college students to eat there. Yet, the student crowd has still not developed as much as Lunsford had hoped.

“I would love to have more UCF students come in, but the word is not getting out there,” Lunsford added. “We still have people coming in that never knew we were here.”

Rodeo’s also caters to the customers by giving them the option of eating in the dining area or taking their food to go. However, Lunsford would like to change that.

“We get a lot of carry out orders,” he said. “I would eventually like to go to full service and get the seats filled.”

As an incentive for people to stay and dine, Lunsford has equipped the dining area with a PlayStation 2, a football table and numerous televisions throughout the restaurant. On Saturdays and Sundays, Rodeo’s offers their “Big Game Special,” which consists of 20 jumbo wings and a pitcher of beer for $10.

“We try to televise as many sporting events as possible,” Lunsford said.

Rodeo’s is currently under expansion, Lunsford said.

“We will be adding things to the menu over time and hope to open a new location soon.”
Removal's cons fail to sway unhappily tattooed

Joe Hollemann
Contributing Writer

Getting a tattoo removed is a pure case of "good news/bad news."

That's how Dr. William Goldstein describes tattoo removal to prospective patients during his initial consultation.

"The good news is 'Yes, we can get the tattoo out and the area will be totally normal or very close to normal,'" said Goldstein, director of the Vein and Skin Care Institute in Chesterfield, Mo.

"Then, I tell them that the bad news will take about 15 minutes."

The short form of that conversation is this: A laser can cleanse or make the tattoo, or more accurately, the ink particles, easier to extract.

That's the tattoo is not really erased off. It's actually pushed deeper inside the body so the body can cleanse it out over time," Goldstein said.

The standard description of the pain level is that the treated area will feel like it has been repeatedly slapped by a small rubber band. Patients usually take the painkiller before the treatment and then use numbing cream afterward. The treated area will scab or blister, much like it burns.

Does any of this scare off customers? Goldstein said some prospective customers decide to live with the tattoo.

"But about 95 percent don't even blink at my little speech," he said. "They just want it off."

\[\text{FIGURE 1} \quad \text{Source: Vein and Skin Care Institute, Chesterfield, Mo.}\]

Tattoo removal will take a long time, it will cost a lot of money and it will hurt. So much for the soft-sell approach.

Basically, a professionally drawn tattoo will take about 18 months to two years to remove, will cost about $5,000 and will require the use of numbing cream and over-the-counter painkillers before and after a treatment.

For this average tattoo — the area of the palm of a hand or smaller — a patient will see Goldstein about every month to six weeks. If the tattoo contains colors other than the basic red, blue and green ink — such as greens, oranges and purples — it could take longer than two years.

The process works like this: A laser machine shoots out a small beam of light aimed at the tattoo, or more accurately, the ink molecules. If the tattoo is red, a green beam is used because red absorbs green. The absorption creates heat, which breaks up the ink molecules. This allows the body's white blood cells to actually eat away at the ink.

"The tattoo is not really erased off. It's just moved, it's scarred over, and it's there but not obvious," said Goldstein.

Removal's cons fail to sway unhappily tattooed

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**Crossword**

ACROSS
1. French dining
5. Petrol
10. Island west of Cape Cod
14. Actor Julia
15. Copper's last stand
16. POP song
17. Shade providers
19. Peggy Lee hit
21. Hockey setting
22. Printer's measure
23. Young guys
25. Hero shop
26. Bloodsucking bugs
31. Houseplant
32. Get out of line
34. Puts in past
36. Evening In Rome
37. Fairy crime
38. Princess Tiana's leader
39. Baked white wines
40. Nitrogen compound
41. Clock in
42. Taped awards?
43. Rich's partner?
45. Painkilling elixir
46. Base of Rivers
48. ALS and Jack
49. Transatlantic
50. Steer porn
51. Blacken
52. High cards
53. Listen to
54. Device for mixing
55. Bouquet
56. Medals/stamps
57. Lugos
58. James Doolittle's mount
60. DOWN
61. Length times
62. Length times
63. "On the Rocks"
64. "Beep beep"
65. "Blink, blink"
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See solutions, page 25

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Web cam popularity rises among students

Osbourne raffle leads to hassle

HOLLYWOOD — Diamonds may be forever, but possession could be fleeting. Beverly Hills police were summoned to investigate after a dispute arose over who gets to keep a necklace awarded in a raffle at a New Year’s Eve party hosted by the Osbournes.

A female agent from the talent agency ICM says she won the necklace fair and square, but Sharon Osbourne, wife of rock star Ozzy Osbourne, maintains a police report that the raffle was strictly for invited guests and that the agent was not invited.

The dispute arose following the Osbournes’ bash at the Beverly Hills Hotel. According to a Beverly Hills Police Department report filed by the Osbournes, the Osbournes asked her to return the diamond necklace — which the police report puts at $42,000 — although news reports estimate it at $15,000.

She pleaded not guilty and received three years’ probation and was released by the agency.

In a Beverly Hills courtroom on Saturday at the Prada boutique in the Prada hotel. According to a statement filed by the Osbournes, the Osbournes asked her to return the diamond necklace — which the police report puts at $42,000 — although news reports estimate it at $15,000.

The agent, who has not been identified by the police because she is not a suspect at this time, denies any wrongdoing. ICM categorically denies the false and reckless charges made by Sharon Osbourne, according to a statement released by the agency. The agent in question was the guest of a close friend of the Osbournes family and won raffle tickets for the necklace in a fair manner and without any inappropriate contact.

Police are investigating and will soon determine if the case should be sent to the district attorney.

Just can’t keep a shopper down

HOLLYWOOD — Barely a month after she was sentenced in a Beverly Hills courtroom to three years’ probation and 490 hours of community service, Winona Ryder is shopping again.

The actress was spotted Saturday at the Prada boutique on Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills. Like a kid in a candy store, she perused merchandise from the Italian label’s resort collection off practically every shelf — including an $850 fruit-print nylon tote and a $760 red canvas purse with flower appliqués — while a saleswoman stood by.

Ryder, dressed casually in a black sweater and a black cloche hat, was overheard saying, “I like almost everything.” She later loaded her downed Prada estate.

Looked like she’ll be starting out the New Year in her right foot, in a Prada silhouette she paid for.

—guest from the reporter Solutions

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Hollywood Briefs

FROM PAGE 20

way of showing the greater Internet public the beauty and vibrancy of the campus,” Joel Hurtman, vice provost for Information Technological and Resources at UCF, said.

These webcams cost about $350 per camera, in addition to the networking and installation cost, and are not used for security purposes.

“UCF’s main web cam page receives more than 4,000 visits a month,” Hurtman said. “It is one of the top 20 most visited pages on the main web site.”

Junior Blake Stephens, 20, decided to get a web cam for her senior year in high school. He paid a total of only $55 for the server it’s running on, the RAM, HD’s and camera. He now has two sites he uses his web cam for, (http://www.TheResourceFork.com) and (http://www.DadAV.com).

Since setting up a counter on his web site last year to record how many hits he gets a day, Stephens has had 92,650 hits to date and on average, six new people visit his site a day.

“My web cam records almost every part of my room that I live in all day. It’s on even when I sleep.”

—Blake Stephens

“Ballet dancer and model Sharon Osbourne, wife of Ozzy Osbourne, introduced her to a web cam two years ago.

“My friend was always online talking to her friends and could see them wherever they were talking to her from,” Harkins said. “I thought it was a great idea since I have family up north and it would be a great way to keep in contact with them and my friends back home.”

Harkins mainly uses her web cam to show her family and friends her apartment in Orlando and allows them to see her and her friends in Orlando as well. Harkins added that she also uses her web cam to create music videos for fun.

“I think webcams have become pretty popular among students over the past couple of years,” Harkins said. “Along with instant messengers, students love keeping in touch with friends and family in a number of new ways, as well as possibly meeting new people over the internet by seeing them on the cam.”

Crystal Walters, 23, a fifth year second degree student, agreed.

“I think webcams are a great invention for some people,” Walters said. “People in the military, overseas, people stationed far away, long-distance couples and businesses can benefit greatly from them.”

Although Walters finds webcams somewhat popular among students, she does not plan on getting one of her own.

“I don’t need a web cam. Instant messages work just fine for me,” Walters said. “Besides, I’m the type of person who’d probably forget to turn it off.”

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MUSICIANS WANTED! Looking for vocalists and instrumentalists to join our musical ability! River Run Christian Church is a community church with a diverse and vibrant worship service.

FREE WEIGHT TRAINING
The Exercise Physiology Lab at UCF is looking for healthy, male and female volunteers aged 18-35 to participate in a study. We are examining how genetics affects the way a person responds to weight training.

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- 24 supervised training sessions
- MRI scans of the upper arms

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Healthy Volunteers, ages 18 to 29, needed for Smallpox Vaccine Study

The Orlando Clinical Research Center is conducting an important clinical research study of an investigational vaccine being developed to immunize against Smallpox...

And you can help!

To participate the following must apply:
- No previous smallpox vaccine
- No history or presence of eczema or skin problems
- No immune disorders.
- Willing to make 7 outpatient visits and complete a diary after vaccination

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Orlando Clinical Research Center
4401 S. Orange Ave., Suite 108
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Wed. 1/8 University of Central Florida Student Union 11am-4pm
Fri. 1/10 Church Street 7pm-midnight
Sat. 1/11 Florida Mall Parking Lot noon-5pm

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