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Point guard faces felony charges

**Kristy Shonka**

UCF point guard Al Miller found himself in Orange County Jail in the early morning hours of Jan. 2 after police arrested and charged the senior with armed robbery. The incident led to Miller's indefinite suspension from the men's basketball team.

Orlando police stopped Miller because he matched the description of a man who had just robbed a Taurus dime dam at gunpoint. He was arrested after officers found $200 each and a credit card with the victim's name and photo, according to a police report.

The victim said he had just gotten off work and was counting the $200 he had earned when a black male approached him with a gun. According to the police report, the robber said, "Homeboy, what's up? Give me all your money." Before the robber left, he frisked the victim for more money.

**Please See Miller on A-7**

A nation in PROTEST

They endured the winter chill, traveling to Washington, D.C., on a psychedelic bus, for different reasons but with one common goal.

They knew on Friday, when they boarded the blue, modified bus—the owner, Ken, removed the seats and painted the bus, for $300,000 raise in hopes of keeping him here. The trustees also gave Hitt a five-year contract at year's end with a salary of $295,000. Hitt considered other offers, including Robert Sorensen, who knew Hitt was considering UCF, but would remain at Carolina, has attracted other jobs, even after trustees told Alabama he was no longer interested in the job. As for Miller, he is "stunned to hear that Hitt was considering other offers besides Hitt, including Robert Will, president of University of Texas at Arlington."

United Press International (Act Now to Stop War and End Racism), the protesters marched from a rally in front of the U.S. Capitol to the Washington Navy Yard. Some came for the experience. Some came to protest the pending war.

Organizers estimate half a million protesters from across the country, including a bus load of UCF students, attended an anti-war rally Saturday in Washington, D.C.

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Brain aneurysm kills 23-year-old student

Sudden death of Delta Upsilon brother shocks family and friends

RACHEL ZALL
STAFF WRITER

The Delta Upsilon fraternity fraternity remembered James Schaller, 23, at a candlelight memorial service Friday evening after the senior died last Wednesday of a hemorrhage that burst in his brain.

His death shocked and family, who say Schaller never showed signs that he had any symptoms of an aneurysm—a ruptured blood vessel in the brain—which is a rare condition for young adults.

Schaller, a communications major, transferred from St. Petersburg Community College to UCF three years ago and planned to graduate in May. He pledged the Delta Upsilon fraternity during the spring 2000.

"He told me he spent his best times in life when he was at UCF," said senior Mike Chlebik, 21, Schaller's fraternity big brother. "He was a very active member of the fraternity. I'm sure he had a lot— but when he wasn't working, he was here."

"He loved his fraternity, it was the best thing that happened to him," said Karen Schaller, James Schaller's mother.

Schaller loved to golf, fish and scuba dive and wanted to work in an administrative career field, she said. Motivated and determined, James Schaller knew exactly what he wanted out of life, his mother said.

"He was the best kid a mother could ever want, and had a great sense of humor," she said. "He was very warm-hearted and caring. He got me through some tough times. Certain people just have an aura about them that draws people to them, and he was one of those people."

Junior Tasha Milian, 21, called Schaller a man with a huge heart.

"He was like my protector; he kept all the bad guys away," she said.

Former UCF student Ashley Silverling, 20, called Schaller a brilliant person.

Family members embrace each other as they look over a display of pictures and personal items belonging to James Schaller, who died after an aneurysm burst in his brain.

"He was like my rock," she said. "When he took me and Tasha on as his little sisters during Homecoming in 2000, it was one of the best nights we had."

Karen Schaller is thankful for everyone who has offered condolences.

"Being surrounded by all his fraternity brothers and friends is very comforting," she said. "It's good to know he was so well loved."

Schaller is survived by his parents, Karen Schaller and James Schaller Sr., and sister, Meghan Schaller, all of St. Petersburg.
Faculty Senate president joins Board of Trustees

Board welcomes public to discuss master plan

KRISTA ZILZI STAFF WRITER

Faculty Senate President Michael Mullin will join UCF's 15-member Board of Trustees as its newest member when the trustees convene for the first time this year on Thursday.

Mullins' position on the board is a representational status, created as a result of Amendment 11 that passed in November. That measure established a permanent seat on the Board of Trustees for faculty Senate presidents and created a board to oversee each of the local boards of trustees at Florida's 11 public universities.

The position is similar to the seat on the board held by Student Body President Marco Pedia — a guaranteed slot that grants the sitting Faculty Senate leader responsibility for representing the opinions and interests of UCF's faculty members.

"It's absolutely critical to have a professor on the board because someone has to articulate the viewpoints of the faculty," Mullins said. "In the past, I've been close if the faculty viewpoints have been understood."

"It's an important as having a student serve on the board," he added.

Kirlew believes that the loan deferments could be a viable part of Bush's economic stimulus package. The current $800 billion package includes extending unemployment benefits, accelerating 2001 tax reductions, ending taxes on stock dividends and creating new incentives for business investment.

If the resolution passes, Kirlew plans to convene the Board of Trustees in Orlando. The board will hear public comments regarding the plan in a public hearing during the day. Those interested in speaking should submit a request to Board of Trustees secretary Beth Barnes by 5 p.m. today.

SUNSET SUNGLASSES

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SGA senators vow to lobby for deferred student loan payments

Ben Baird

Student Government Association Vice President Brian Kirlew decided Thursday to petition lawmakers to defer student loan payments up to an extra year in light of a weak economy that has left many graduates jobless.

Kirlew plans to introduce a resolution Wednesday that would call for UCF's lobbying firm and the Florida Schools Association, a group that lobbies for 10 Florida universities, to petition Congress and the White House for deferments on federal student loans once the SGA Senate approves the plan.

Under the Federal Student Aid program, students must begin repaying their loans within six months of graduation. Kirlew and other student government officials want that time extended by 12 months for a total grace period of 18 months.

"President Bush introduced a stimulus package that addresses several concerns with the economy, however, these do not address help for students whose economic situation is getting worse and worse," he said.

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Student suspended after explosion

From Page A-3

market that erose data from hard drives, although Garfinkel says that many computer users are not aware of the products, do not know how to use them, or don't bother to use them. Some people believe that reformating a drive will erase all the information on it, but Garfinkel says that most cases data can still be recovered.

Arab student contests suspension

A woman who was suspended from Safed College, in Israel's Galilee region, on the basis of accusations that she had failed to prevent a suicide bombing is being reinstated.

The college says the campus will erupt in violence if the woman and a friend who has also been suspended are allowed to return.

The reality of today's Israel is being played out in miniatures at the college, a regional campus of Bar-Ilan University. The two Arab women are accused of involvement in an attack on a bus to Safed on Aug. 1. Two students were killed, along with seven other Israelis.

Yasmeen Bakrd is being tried on the criminal charge of failing to prevent a crime. According to the charging document, a suicide bomber warned her to get off the bus, implying that she was about to blow himself up. She denies that she was warned and acknowledges only that she disappeared with Samah Asad, a fellow student, shortly before the explosion.

The two women, only Bakrd faces trial. But at the end of October, when the academic year began, both were temporarily suspended pending a hearing before the college's disciplinary board.

Bakrd's suspension was taken up by Adalah, the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, which has appointed a lawyer, Gideon Novick, to represent her in the disciplinary case.

The disciplinary hearing, originally scheduled for last month, was postponed after Novick asked an Israeli court to compel the college to allow her to represent Bakrd at that hearing.

Safed College's director general, Hevron Trasvic, said he had no choice but to temporarily suspend the two women, because emotions are running high at the college and in Safed.

---CONFIRMED BY ARIYA RUDI---

---THE CENTRAL FLORIDA TIMES---

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D.C. protesters include 19 from UCF

FROM PAGE A-1
Not In Our Name, a mostly youth movement, marched with veterans groups and senior citizens calling for a peaceful solution to the crisis with Iraq.

The UCF protesters made the 800-mile journey to express their disapproval of the Bush administration's stance. The trip challenged them physically and mentally, but their devotion to the cause made the trip worthwhile.

Some students, like senior Andrea Cuccaro, 21, marched for the peace movement, "I'm here because I've never done anything like this," Holbert said. "I hope the government will get the message that the people are for more peaceful means."

"I don't believe in war," Cuccaro said. "It's not economical or ecological."

Others, like freshman Dan Holbert, 18, opposed the reasons for the war. "I think if we go to war a lot of people will die, resources could be used better, and I'm afraid of the power it could give the government over the so-called enemies," Holbert said.

Senior Joe McBride, 23, felt similarly about the protest. Asked why he felt obliged to voice his opposition to war. McBride said, "I don't believe in war." "I've never been to war. It's never been so anything like this," Holbert said. "I hope the government will get the message that the people are for more peaceful means."

"I'm glad that so many people are marching," McBride said. "I hope it will make the government think about what it's doing."

For senior Loren Mayo, 23, the trip itself was the reason for going. "I've been here because I've never done anything like this before," she said.

"I am amazed. It's definitely something I was glad I was a part of," she said. "It was cool that so many people showed up to record the event. They filmed the protest, hoping to make a documented history."

"I saw a wide range of people, some of whom I did not anticipate seeing. I saw Muslims, Pakistanis - that was cool," he said. "I saw people in wheelchairs. I saw a lot of kids. I didn't expect to see that."

"A lot of what I saw was people mocking Bush and his cabinet, calling it the "axis of power." There were a lot of old people," Lima added.

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National Briefs

Iraqi scientist accuses U.N. of ‘Mafia’ tactics

BAGHDAD, Iraq — An Iraqi physicist who was interviewed and had his home searched by U.S. and Iraqi security forces last week has been quietly released from custody, the inspectors’ local organizing committee announced Saturday.

The inspectors had accompanied a team of experts sent to Iraq to examine scientific facilities. They were conducted by inspectors, it was announced, accompanied by a large box of documents. The inspectors’ local organizing committee announced Saturday that the inspectors had accompanied a team of experts sent to Iraq to examine scientific facilities.

Bush leaves next week with plenty of conservative proposals

WASHINGTON — President Bush has launched the new year with a flurry of conservative proposals, from a tough new immigration bill to a package of major tax cuts.

Last week, he rejected a plan by five GOP moderates in the Senate to attach a conservative bill to the court's docket aimed at dismantling affirmative action. On Monday, he announced that he would sign a bill broadening the definition of “fetus” to include the unborn child.

But Bush’s moves to ease pressures in the conservative court that has blocked the election of a new judge by Democratic senators are not enough to stop the court’s conservative majority.

Bush advisers say that nothing is working to worry about. Matthew Dowd, who represents White House polling for the Republican National Committee, points out that since Bush’s election victory four years ago, there have been fewer court appointments than in any previous administration.

But Bush ‘concerned’ for her health, rather than a desire to spirit her out of Iraq, Hassan said she suffers from kidney stones, diabetes and high blood pressure.

The Bush administration wants the inspectors to go even further and insists that key scientists and their families be removed from Iraq, arguing that debriefing sessions in another country would allow them to provide more candid disclosures about the country’s alleged efforts to develop nuclear, chemical and biological arms.

bush: offload anti-abortion

WASHINGTON — President Bush on Thursday defended his record on abortion, saying that the United States should support the right of women to choose.

Bush signed a bill last week that bans abortion after 20 weeks, but stressed that the decision should be made before then.

A trio of National Right to Life leaders said they were pleased with the bill’s passage, but added that they would continue to fight for an eventual reversal of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

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Anti-war activists plan another event Feb. 15

FROM PAGE A-5

come together like that," she added. "To be the right age at the right place at the right time, it's really rare to capture that [on film]."

Anarchists made their presence felt, climbing light poles and harassing law enforcement.

One freshman who made the trip, Shannon Brady, 19, called the protest a life-changing experience.

"It was one of the most memorable events of my life," she said. "It was reassuring to see that there are so many people who feel the way I do."

Freshman Natalie Gomez, 19, said she did not know for sure how she felt about the war before the protest, she said she had heard strong arguments both for and against it. "I was trying to figure out what I believe . . . and educate myself," Gomez said.

Now, she definitely opposes it.

Freshman Richard Jones, 19, has no regrets about the trip. "It was a Stalin trip to Washington. I got to help out," he said. "I'm ready to go again."

The organizers of the trip, seniors Emily Ruff, 21, and Mike Tiner, 22, were pleased with the outcome of the trip and the protest. "I'm really glad that so many people showed up, both from UCF and in general," Ruff said.

"There was] a lot of unity and solidarity in the crowd," Ruff said. "I hope as college students we can take that unity and solidarity to campus and continue the movement there."

Tiner hopes to plan a protest trip again. "I'm definitely very happy about the way it turned out," Tiner said. "It was my first time to visit the capital. I'm glad I was as an activist and not as a tourist."

"Try added, "the next time there's a protest, we'll try to get three or four buses."

"International ANSWER has planned another protest for Feb. 15 in New York City."

Although they would like to attend the protest in New York, the UCF protesters said they cannot afford to make another trip so soon. They vowed to raise awareness of the war on campus.

As a crowd of protesters cheered him on, a member of an anarchist group taped a black flag to a light post at the anti-war rally Saturday.
Athletes score academically

Though standards keep student athletes successful, universities push for more

CARY GRAYSON

Senior Sheila Marti, 21, isn't the stereotypical dumb jock. Although she spends 17 hours a week practicing and training as the captain of the UCF women's crew team, she also is a resident assistant in the Libra housing community, serves as co-chairman of the United Student Resident Association's Charity Ball and maintains a 3.4 GPA.

"We are very fortunate to have excellent students," Kamrad said. "Most of the athletes on our campus are in good academic standing."

Alumni of the crew team may be in better shape than others, UCF athletes generally perform in the classroom at the level of the overall student body.

Said Alan Gooch, the assistant head coach for football, "[Athletes] are held to a higher standard than any other student on this campus."

In addition to the 30 hours of practice per week during the season, freshmen football players are required to attend weekly study halls and their class attendance is monitored. During the off-season, the team continues to spend up to eight hours per week on physical conditioning.

According to Rick Spence, UCF's head basketball coach, all of his players are monitored to ensure their academic success. Students who do not maintain an acceptable GPA are required to attend frequent study halls and to meet with their advisor once a week.

"We want our guys to make sure that they're focused on their classes," Spence said.

The basketball team has a similar practice schedule, starting with conditioning at the beginning of the fall semester and then with seasonal practice starting in October. The team takes a couple of weeks off at the end of the season and then returns to conditioning in the spring.

"After practice, we have a conference with the athletes each week to review their grades and academic performance," Spence said.

Athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA or face academic probation. This, as well as many other UCF guidelines, exceeds those mandated by the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA).

Although athlete GPAs from last semester have not yet been compiled, Spence estimates that the margin between athletes and other students is minimal and that in many programs the athletes surpassed the general UCF student body.

"The [UCF] and University of Wisconsin-Madison team has a 3.3 GPA, while the basketball team has a 3.4 GPA," Spence said.

Student athletes are required to attend frequent mandatory study halls and their class involvement with athletic teams so that they are well prepared because of lack of time, she added. Seven weeks of required break time occur in both the Ivy League and increasing athletic fees and restrictions in both the NCAA may result in fewer hours of practice and reduced scholarships to athletes. The NCAA restricts injuries may increase due to athletes not being as well prepared because of lack of time, she added. Seven weeks of required break time would substantially cut into organized conditioning that occurs in the spring.

Although the women's crew team is exceptionally well-rounded, with some members working up to 15 hours a week, maintaining above average GPAs and joining sororities, sometimes something, such as social activities, must be sacrificed in order to benefit the team, Kamrad said.

Students who already lead successful academic and social lives may suffer athletically from further restrictions with not any real gains.

"To be ready to perform in your sport, you've got to practice your sport," Gooch said.

With concerns about increasing athletic fees and coaches salaries already mounting, UCF could face bigger problems if its teams stopped performing at competitive levels.

Nevertheless, the success of UCF's student athletes is up to the athletes themselves.

"If the teams still stop participating at competitive levels, the success comes back to the individual," Spence said. "Most people are motivated to get their degree and graduate themselves."

Marti agreed.

"You assume that when you go to college, people will take responsibility," she said. "They shouldn't be here if they don't intend to graduate."
Opinions
Tuesday January 21, 2003

Where is campus activism?

S adly, UCF students don't seem to care much about anything. With all that is happening in the world today, most of them either do not notice, or they do not feel strongly enough about issues to do anything about it.

Thus, it is refreshing to see that some of them do care. In fact, 19 UCF students caring enough about the potential war with Iraq to drive 16 hours to Washington, D.C., to protest U.S. military action. They gave up their weekends — a foreign concept to many American students — to demonstrate their disapproval with American foreign policy. They traveled 500 miles on an unheated bus to join thousands of other Americans in the peace movement.

Campus activism can be much easier than that. Students should take advantage of the expanded free speech zones on campus this semester to speak out on a number of topics that should concern them.

As the country prepares for war with Iraq, the military sends thousands of young men and women — the heroes of UCF students — to the Persian Gulf. However, the war plays out, it is highly likely that many of those soldiers will not come back alive. The war will take a heavy human toll on both sides, and the war is not necessary.

At the same time that the U.S. government sends young people off to die, it demands that certain college students, including those at UCF register with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, so the INS can monitor them. Seemingly students get too caught up in their own lives to notice the bad things happening right in front of them. It's time to start paying attention and speaking up.

Raise can't buy security

T hursday, UCF's president, John Hitt, took his name out of the running for the open presidency at the University of Alabama — more than a month after UCF's Board of Trustees voted to give him a $80,000 raise and make him the highest paid president of a state university in Florida. Hitt confirmed he had been a candidate at Alabama for several months. In voting for the raise, the trustees cited Hitt's long tenure at UCF as evidence of his commitment to the university. However, Hitt raises questions with waiting long after he received the raise to withdraw his name from Alabama's search.

That Hitt might consider leaving UCF after it rewarded him with such a hefty pay hike makes one wonder about Hitt's intentions, and about how long Hitt really will stay here. The trustees stated that they would have to pay top dollar to retain a president of Hitt's caliber, but if they did not they may lose him to another university.

Even after the trustees approved his pay raise, while UCF faces budget cuts and its employees make inadequate money, Hitt continued to consider other offers. Perhaps he would have left if the Alabama offer had been more enticing. Will be leave if another university offers him even more money and perks?

While the UCF community can certainly feel proud to have a president that other universities would like to have, Hitt's actions raise the possibility that UCF will not have him for long. Hitt confirmed he had been a candidate at Alabama for several months. In voting for the raise, the trustees cited Hitt's long tenure at UCF as evidence of his commitment to the university. However, Hitt raises questions with waiting long after he received the raise to withdraw his name from Alabama's search.

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While the UCF community can certainly feel proud to have a president that other universities would like to have, Hitt's actions raise the possibility that UCF will not have him for long.
Of mice and men?
Score 1 for the mouse

MENTAL DOODLES

Christopher Arnold
staff writer

Call Mickey Mighty Mouse.
No doubt Hollywood is doing just that in light of a recent Supreme Court ruling that allows copyrights to be extended by 20 years. The legislation, known as the Sonny Bono Act and passed in 1998, changed the length of a copyright term from 50 years after an author's death to the life of the author plus 50 years.

While Disney was not officially part of the recent case, it did lobby for the original legislation. It had been the company's corporate strategy since the early 1960s, and possibly earlier to not let their characters slip into the public domain.

And why should they?

Those are, after all, the symbols of a vast entertainment empire. To interfere with such harmony and balance might send the universe into uncharted ways we cannot truly comprehend.

Seas could collide, temperatures could melt. The earth might boil and the sky might fall. Hippos might dance in trees and brooms could go insane. To let Mickey and company fall into public domain would mean absolute anarchy.

But readers who have continued to read this far might be wondering just how all of this affects them. It may not, unless you happen to be singing "Happy Birthday" somewhere in public within earshot of a Warner Communications exec. That's right, they own the song's copyright.

And until that copyright expires, royalties are required to legally perform that piece in public.

And while this example might seem a little extreme—who among us, after all, has not sung "Happy Birthday" in public—this is the essence of a copyright.

Therefore, when one expires, the work enters into the public domain, as did James Joyce's "Ulysses" in 1960. Once there, it is available for use and reproduction by all who seek it, without any of those annoying royalties getting in the way.

Enter Mickey Mouse.

When the Supreme Court overturned the Sonny Bono Act, it would have meant that in less than a year that incredible, perpetually prepubescent-voiced false idol himself, that Mouse—who would-be-looking, would have entered into the public domain, joining the ranks of Santa Claus and Uncle Sam.

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But just as砧子, it would lead to millions, even billions, of lost revenue dollars for the Disney corporation.

Those fighting the copyright extensions do so under the banner that the public domain is synonymous with the public's best interests. Without the burden of having to pay royalties, scholars and libraries could, in theory, utilize such entities as tools to enhance and further education.

More specifically, it means they could legally publish works of art and literature, musical classics and exquisite masterpieces on the same Web sites that currently house some backyard porn operation.

For the idea that such entities could enhance education, this is both lovely and laughable. If there are any school districts that are seriously relying on Mickey Mouse to remedy whatever educational troubles they are experiencing, their situation is disturbingly dire.

Opponents to the Sonny Bono Act also point to the fact that as originally defined, copyrights are meant to be temporary. Their terms have in fact been periodically lengthened from the original 14 years in 1790 to what they are today. To expect little or no changes in the more than two centuries that have passed in not only a pointless task, but stupid in all but one constant you can count on. Simplicy put, the issue is about greed. But this issue is not limited to one side of the line; rather it is shared mutually by all parties, much like mp3's are among today's computer users.

Obviously, the owners of lucrative copyrights want to retain them. Who among us, after all, does not think their work might last longer than the time arrives. And while they themselves would not then own them, they too could begin to make profits off those looms.

Disney would face something in the merchandising world it might have never thought possible—competition.

Those fighting the Sonny Bono Act should be wary of what they wish for. Despite higher-than-expected profits, Disney's earnings lately have been less than impressive and during stock prices down. Now imagine for a moment that the Supreme Court had ruled copyright extensions unconstitutional. With Disney no longer able to reap the total rewards of its vast, ever-increasing annual revenue.

If Disney wished to survive, they would then need to recoup that money elsewhere. Minus a minute, layoffs are the first solution to be encountered, with the highest salaries going last. Stock prices no longer fall, they plummet.

Now read that scenario again, only this time replace "Disney" with "AOL-Time Warner". Repeat with "Hollywood" as a whole.

Mix all of that together in one pot, bring to a boil, stir occasionally and then simmer on low heat, and it begins to smell like a good, old-fashioned recipe for disaster.

Fortunately or not, however you feel, the justices ruling is not permanent lime frame. The copyright extensions will run out in 2018, if not soon as some might have liked. It should give copyright owners breathing room while offering combatants the time to regroup and try again.

And when that time comes, Mickey, put on those Mickey Mouse, will be there.

(Or, unless Christopher Arnold can be reached at donnaharrison.com)

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Adv'sity’s nothing new to these Knights

COMMENTSARY

Kristy Shonka

When UCF point guard Al Miller was suspended indefinitely from the men's basketball team, it seemed like one more thing the Knights had to deal with on the court during their season. But so far it hasn't been much of a problem for the team as a whole. This season's team has overcome much adversity as its players have stepped up to earn the Atlantic Sun Conference. The Golden Knights (13-6 overall, 3-1 A-14) began the season with only five returning players after twins Stephen and Joey Graham transferred to Oklahoma State. That loss was the most likely reason for the preseason A-14 poll's picking UCF to finish second-to-last in the South Division. And without Miller, who was arrested Jan. 2 and charged with armed robbery, the Knights any down to only four players who had any Division 1 experience prior to this season.

But instead of giving up, UCF continued to quiet doubters. In the Knights' first game without Miller they easily beat reigning Atlantic Sun champions Florida Atlantic. The Knights faced more adversity as their leading scorer, Ray Abellard, injured his ankle in the FAU game and was hampered in the Knights' game two nights later at Kansas State. UCF lost that game, but made a comeback late in the game without Abellard, illustrating the resiliency the team has shown all season.

Poor shooting dooms UCF against Trojans

Chris Bernhardt

Coming off two conference road victories, it seemed like UCF's women's basketball team finally had started to turn a corner. Getting into its first conference home game against Troy State. But instead of capitalizing on that momentum, the Golden Knights continued their puzzling offensive woes with another loss.

"A lot of things went wrong tonight and we did not fight back through them," UCF Coach Gail Striegler said. "We did a few things right, but you cannot play like we played and win games. It's our job, my job, to get it turned around, and we will." UCF looked lethargic and sloppy from the opening tip, getting pounded on the glass at the start of the game and allowing Troy State guard Charita Alexander to score nine early points. The last of those came on a lay-up at the 4:56 mark that gave the Lady Trojans a 21-16 advantage, their biggest of the half.

Alexander scored 13 points in the first half on 4-of-6 shooting, but got little help elsewhere. Troy State shot an abysmal 29 percent from the floor in the opening half, but hit 11-12 free throws.

"The referees were calling it very tight," Striegler said. "It's one of those things that you have to be able to adjust to. They did a nice job of letting their two free throws."
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UFC got offense from unusual people

From Page A-12

"They were making it up, going zone, coming back man," said Stono guard Alex McMillian. "We start most of our plays from the wings and they denied it good, and that really frustrated us."

With leading scorers Ray Abellard limited offensively by a sprained ankle suffered earlier in the season, the Knights received plenty of help from their supporting cast. Forward Dexter Lyons added 15 points and five assists, and freshman Will Bakowsky scored a career-high 15 points. Abellard scored only four points, well below his season average of 17.2 points per game.

"I told Ray: 'It's your presence on the court that's gonna make the difference.'" Boyd said. "You don't have to be the offensive threat like you've used to be.""

UFC Coach Kirk Speraw liked what he saw from his team.

"You're seeing signs of other people stepping up in their games, a little bit," Speraw said. "Collectively, you're seeing people step up in his [Abellard's] lack of being 100 percent."

UCF entered the game starting a stretch of four games in eight days. UCF hosted Jacksonville on Monday before hitting the road to play Jacksonville State on Thursday and Georgia State on Saturday.

"The best thing we can do is continue to play our game, continue to go to our strength, which is our defense," Boyd said.

Forward Dexter Lyons echoed his teammate's sentiment: "Offense sells tickets, defense wins championships."

FROM THE SPORTS DESK

Track team opens indoor season at Gainesville

CFF Staff Report

Sophomore Amy Giles and the 4 x 800-meter relay team achieved UCF's highest finish at the O'Connell Center in Gainesville.

Giles finished third in the mile event, while the relay team of Giles, sophomore Valory Martinez and freshmen Andrea Morrow and Astrid Claessens also took home third place.

Claessens finished fifth in the 800-meter dash. Senior Sara Dillman ran a 1:48 placing for the 1,600-meter race.

Senior Erica Garcia finished 11th in the 5,000-meter run, while freshman Diana Chin took 13th in the same event. Chin also placed seventh in the triple jump and 11th in the long jump.

The Golden Knights' next meet is the Bengal Bayou Classic at Baton Rouge, La., on Jan. 31.

Baseball team appears in third national poll

The National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association ranked UCF No. 24 in its preseason top-30 poll.

This is the third national poll the Knights have been ranked so far; in UCF was ranked 25th in College Baseball News and 30th by Baseball America. The USA Today Sports Weekly/PoPS Coaches Poll is the last preseason poll to be announced.

The NCDAW ranked two other Atlantic Sun Conference schools in its poll. Stetson was ranked 21st and Florida Atlantic was voted 29th.

Junior Dexter Lyons scored a team-high 15 points in UCF's 62-70 win over Stony.
UCF quieted doubters.

FROM PAGE A-12

Next up for the team was a trip to Troy, Ala., to play the Trojans, who UCF had lost to twice. Abellard struggled in the next game, and Mercer had the Knights' biggest loss of the season. Yet they rebounded again, beating Stetson on Saturday night. The Hatters managed to keep both the Knights' leading scorer to single digits, but newcomers Dexter Lyons, Roberto Mandarano and Will Bakowski all registered double-figure point totals. This inconsistency has plagued the Knights all season long, both with and without Miller.

They began the season with an unwelcome loss at Navy before demolishing Niagara in their home opener. The Knights went on to win the New Orleans Knockout, which included a win over Tulane on its home court. But then came a one-point loss to Florida A&M. Again UCF rebounded, this time earning them No. 25 College of Charleston. True to form the Knights fell to Tennessee-Martin before blowing out Chicago State. After the Knights held off Gulf Coast, a tough Miami team extinguished the Knights for their only home loss of the season, and that was the last game Miller played in.

Senior Marcus Boyd stepped into Miller's role at point guard, with help from freshman Troy Lineback and Abellard. For the second year in a row Boyd has seen his role grow with the loss of another player. Last season Boyd played very little before Dotson broke his leg. After Dotson's injury, Boyd became the team's defensive stopper and source of intensity on the team. He maintained that role through the beginning of the season, until Miller's suspension. Since then Boyd has taken over ball-handling responsibilities and recorded a career-high in points (13) and assists (11) Saturday against Stetson.

Dotson and Abellard had been taking care of the scoring with both averaging double figures. But with the Stetson win, the Knights proved they can win even when both are shut down. The Knights even got a spark from junior college transfer Robert Ross, who scored his first points of the season with back-to-back three-pointers in the second half. Ross came in during the first half after Boyd went down with a scary head/neck/ back injury. And Abellard tweaked his ankle again. Coach Kirk Spurrier said he didn't really have anywhere else to go when he put Ross in, and that he was happy with the way he played. It was the first time Ross had seen playing time since the Knights' Dec. 15 loss to Tennessee-Martin.

If the Knights can continue to spread the scoring around while allowing Abellard to get healthy, this surprising season should continue down its positive path. Abellard's presence on the court distracts defenses and if other players take advantage of that, it will make the sharp-shooting Abellard that much more dangerous when he recovers from his injury.

Whatever happens the rest of the way, the Knights' accomplishments so far have quieted those doubters down to mere whispers. And Miller's suspension looks like it's headed for the list of obstacles UCF has overcome in this surprising season.

Prime Time Playaz repeat in sports trivia

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Softball vs. the Florida Gators
Sat., Jan. 25th at 2 p.m.
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... AND TAKING NAMES!
My first tattoo
Marking an experience to last a lifetime

CARL GRAYSON
STAFF WRITER

Tonight is a first for junior Sarah Body. Standing with three friends inside Erotica Tattoo and Body Piercing, it's not her first time in a tattoo parlor, but it is the first time she's deliberating what kind of design she wants to be inked on her skin.

While getting a tattoo is not an unusual concept for many college students, it's the closest Body, 20, has ever gotten to seriously considering a tattoo. Her friends, Sarah Greene, 20, Nicole Posada, 20, and Juliana Valencia, 21, have been trying to convince her to get a tattoo for a while, they say. Tonight Body tries to back out a few times, but is again persuaded by her friends to stay. Now that she's rid of an ex-boyfriend who didn't want her to get a tattoo, the time to do it is now, they urge.

Valencia has three tattoos herself, a flower on her ankle, the Peruvian national emblem on her left thigh and an Inca goddess on her right thigh.

"It does not hurt that much," she reassures Body.

But Body is still a little apprehensive and thumbs back and forth through the tattoo samples, rejecting all the tribal symbols, Chinese letters and Jesus figures she sees. Valencia's nomination for a small, Smurf-like gnome is quickly overruled by the group.

They are looking for something "cute and sexy" for Body, Posada says.

Greene chimes in, "We don't want anything stupid."

After 20 minutes of deliberation, Body decides on the small rose about an inch long. The only problem now is deciding where to put it.

"It's not like everybody's going to see it," Body says matter-of-factly.

A nursing major at UC, Body's not allowed to have visible tattoos that might make patients uncomfortable. She considers the discrete places to tattoo her rose and finally decides on her upper-right buttock.

Body places $50 on the counter and Greene squeals, "It's a done deal, can't back out now."

Five minutes later her tattoo artist, Sin Jin Yoo, is ready to make her mark. Body and her friends walk into the back room, where two people are already getting tattoos.

Surrounded by buzzing needles and blaring music, Body looks to her friends for a final word of coaxing.

"Just drop your pants," Greene tells Body. Body and her friends walk into the back room, where two people are already getting tattoos.

Body settles into a high chair backwards and seconds later Yoo has disinfecting the area and stepped on the stool with a needle. Body winces and clenches her fists as the load buzzing of the needle begins.

Body distracts herself from the pain by chatting about classes, friends, jobs and boys. Although they are less than five feet apart, her friends still have to

How to avoid fouls and fumbles when hosting your own Super Bowl bash

RACHEL ZALL & JEFFREY ASHARK

The Super Bowl is beyond a sports game to some people—it's a holiday to be celebrated just like Thanksgiving or New Year's. Almost 155 million viewers will commemorate the event by watching the game, or at least the commercials, according to Quickfacts.com. And people will commemorate the event much the same way as they would Thanksgiving and New Years—with consuming massive amounts of food. An estimated 14,500 tons of chips, 4,000 tons of popcorn and eight million pounds of guacamole are eaten on Super Bowl Sunday, according to the American Institute of Food Distribution reports.

So Super Bowl Sunday becomes one of the biggest occasions for hosting house parties and gathering with friends. But before you host your own bash, consider the following tips to plan your party.

Things to do
Plan for more than you think will attend. Make sure there's a designated driver to be able to go out and grab more beer and cocktail supplies just in case you run out. Set up a video game station with games like "Madden" or "NHL" for guests to play during commercial breaks. Make sure there is plenty of room available for guests to watch the game, rest and sleep. Set up garbage cans near doors, coaches, bathrooms, keep and cooler. Keep beer and soda in coolers and keep guests out of your refrigerator. Stock up on bottled water, paper towels and garbage bags. Use your empty household or washing machine to ice down extra cans and bottles of drinks. When the ice melts, the water just drain away.

Tips to host a Super Bowl party

• Serve foods that are easy to eat, finger foods are the best solution. If you are serving peanuts wait until halftime to serve them.

• Forget dessert. Remember to serve it at the end of the game.

• Keep beer and soda in coolers and have plenty of water and soda for guests who don't drink at all.

• Free space for the Super Bowl party and stick to them.

• Forget to serve guests to bring something to the party, whether it's a snack or a drink to make the party more fun.

Please see Serving on A-19
FULFILL YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION
DO SOMETHING WITH THE OFFICE OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Tue Jan 21, SU Cape Florida 221 AB
Wed Jan 22, SU 221 AB
7:30 pm EKCEL: Leading with Integrity.
What does it mean to have integrity? And how does this principle affect your leadership ability?
Find out more about knowing how to successfully make decisions that are in alignment with your personal and organizational values. Session repeated for your convenience. Come Tuesday or Wednesday. This session is presented twice for your convenience.

Sun Jan 26
5 pm - Superbowl party at Wackadoo's.
Free giveaways, contests, prizes, half time ad awards, and more!

Tue Jan 28
12 pm - 2 pm Volunteer Expo, SU South Patio
12 pm - Motivational Speaker Dr. Calvin Mackie presents "Free Willy - Because everyone can be great," SU, Cape Florida Ballroom. Be exposed to concepts, ideologies, and perspectives of Education with the ultimate aim of Intellectual, spiritual, and emotional stimulation. Learn how to be FREE... free to create, produce, and live a holistic and fulfilling life in a diverse and dynamic world.
8 pm Tuesday Knight Live Comedian Dan Levy, Wackadoo’s

This February and March Look Forward to:

The Miss University of Central Florida Scholarship Competition, Saturday February 1, 2003. 8 pm
Pegasus Ballroom

EKCEL's Annual Etiquette Dinner, March 1, 2003.
6 - 10 pm, Marriott World Center, Cocktail/Semi-Formal
The Etiquette Dinner is a dinner event, sponsored by EKCEL, that provides students with a four course meal and an etiquette instructor in order to teach them how to dine professionally. Spaces for 100 people will be raffled. Sign up at the front desk in the Office of Student Activities Jan 27 - Feb 3, or online at http://www.osa.ucf.edu/Etiquette Dinner

VUCF Clothing Drive will continue through January 24th. Drop boxes are located in the Student Union and in the breeze way near the bookstore.

The Office of Student Activities is now accepting applications for the following leadership positions on the Campus Activities Board (CAB)

- Special Events
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- Dance Marathon
- Promotions
- Spectacular Knights
- Cultural and Fine Arts
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- Comedy and Variety
- Cinema
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- Video Productions - Operations Coordinator
- Video Productions - Production Coordinator

Pick up and drop off applications in OSA. All applications are due on Jan 24 by 5 pm.

Visit us on the web at osu.ucf.edu
For more info on any of these events contact the Office of Student Activities, Rm. 208 in the SU, or call 407.823.6471
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Rules for guests

Arrive before the game begins and don't leave before the game is over.

Don't be announced guests to the party.

Don't repeat anything said by Fox pre-game personalities Terry Bradshaw and Jerry Glanville, unless of course you have an inexcusable desire to reframe yourself as an obvious and egotistical version of sometime Pylon.

Don't grab the TV remote control and switch to CNN during time-outs. Others enjoy the commercials as much as they enjoy the game.

Don't laugh at your own jokes. Even if you do it.

Don't bring unannounced guests. Having pre-game friends decided to put his feet up and don't leave before the game is over.

Don't quarter your guests to the Super Bowl party.

Sauteed chopped onions

• can of l...

Wrong with a little c...
Making a permanent mark

yell to be heard over the chorus of three needles.

After all, Body admits that it doesn't really hurt that much. It just feels like a "tingling prickly" sensation.

Twenty minutes later, the procedure is over. Body's skin around the tattoo is red and already starting to swell, but she doesn't notice. She's too busy examining the design in the mirror.

She doesn't say much, but she smiles and Yoo is relieved that she is satisfied with the result. She doesn't notice. She's too busy examining the tattoo to notice.

"It's a bonding experience," Pasuda says.

"This will be the spring of body modification," she says.

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M/T to share 3/2 house w/ couple. $475/month+$50 security deposit. 10 min. from campus. Must be responsible and pay bills on time. Contact Shelley or Divy @ 412-536-6230.

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The perfect interview

KATRINA HAMMER
STAFF WRITER

The call just came. Everyone knew the talk. "Hello, this is so-and-so from such-and-such company. I was just calling to see if we could set up an interview?"

So, you take the next several minutes running around the room, calling friends and dancing with joy. But now what? Your heart starts pumping and the questions race through your head. What to wear? What to say? How to act?

There are few incredibly simple steps that can be taken to avoid a nightmare interview.

Before the interview

Know that getting ready for an interview should take place at least two to three days before the actual interview occurs. Nothing should be last-minute when it comes to preparing for the interview.

Consider the perfect interview outfit based on the position and company you are seeking.

Clothes make the man (or woman).

Please see 3 parts on B-3

Dressing for the interview

**PARTS:** Men should wear long pants, preferably pleated slacks and women should wear either a shirt, a skirt, or slacks. Never wear shorts.

**SHIRT & SUIT:** Men should wear a freshly pressed long-sleeve button-up shirt and women a long-sleeve blouse or dress. Short-sleeved shirts can sometimes leave a bad impression. T-shirts should never be worn.

**SHOES:** Men and women should wear dress shoes. A good polish never hurts either. Never wear sneakers or sandals.

**TIES & JEWELRY:** Men should wear a necktie that complements the dress shirt. Avoid clip-on ties at all costs. Jewelry can be worn but should be kept to a minimum.
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Hundreds of employers coming to UCF campus

JOE HARLESS
STAFF WRITER

The UCF Career Resource Center will host its Spring 2003 Career Expo from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Jan. 22 at the UCF Arena. More than 80 organizations will be on hand to answer questions about employment and job opportunities for students.

"It's a big networking opportunity," said Cassandra Jackson, assistant director of the Career Resource Center. "The expo provides a variety of organizations, with representatives from Florida Power and Light to Kraft Foods scheduled to attend."

The Career Resource Center holds job expos once a semester and hosts a statewide expo during the summer semester usually in May. Jackson added that some of the organizations come to the expos on a regular basis.

"Those that continue to come to campus want to recruit UCF students," Jackson said. "We provide interview rooms on the spot if an employer wants to use them."

Students are encouraged to attend the event. Dress for a job interview and bring several copies of a resume to show employers. Registration through the Career Resource Center is not required to attend the expo.

To view a list of the organizations scheduled to attend the expo, go to the Career Resource Center's home page at www.ucf.edu.

3 parts to an interview

FROM PAGE B-1

Follow the cliché: practice makes perfect.

Like anything else, interviewing is a skill that can be learned. Practice it. Participate in mock interviews or practice the interview with a friend or mirror, and try to answer the questions from different points of view. Remember, it's all about being prepared.

This interview is based on an interview with a recent UCF graduate.

B-6

January 21, 2003 • The Central Florida Future

Employment • B-3

What to do to prepare for your interview

1. Choose an interview outfit. Have it cleaned and pressed.
2. Print extra copies of your resume.
3. Organize extra documents and work. Store them in a folder that will prevent them from getting wet, wrinkled or dirty.
4. Stock your purse or briefcase with pens, paper, mirrors, etc.
5. Research company.
6. Practice potential interview questions with friends or mirrors.
7. Send thank you note after interview.

Receiving the call from a targeted employer begins the process of preparing for an interview.

FROM PAGE B-1

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Juggling classes, family, work, fun
Finding right balance takes dedication and organizational skills

Samantha Fredericks  STAFF WRITER

Senior Kelly Diedrich, 21, remembers a time last year when she was working an average of 55 hours per week at Bed Bath and Beyond, on top of running Phi Sigma Pi national office and taking 12 credit hours of upper-level classes.

After several occasions, Diedrich found herself feeling anxious and feeling physically ill. She realized she needed to make a change. In how she faced her life. Prioritizing her health and matters of well-being, not the less important demands upon her.

"It was the first time that I actually stopped long enough to realize: I was pushing myself too hard," Diedrich said. "I ended up stepping down in a part-time associate position and dropping a class that cost me a scholarship, but I just couldn't do all the things I needed to do.

"Though she has managed to pace herself, a little better, Diedrich still suffers from an existing attack that are a direct result of her packed schedule of work, school, and community involvement. Working an average of 30-40 hours a week, going to school full time and being an active member of her fraternity, Diedrich says she is lucky to get at least five hours of sleep and rarely has time to sit down and eat a meal.

"It's hard for me to focus sometimes, and staying awake and paying attention in class can be difficult. I feel run-down but I can't just stop because too many people count on me to get things done, so I find a way to do them," Diedrich said.

For students who are forced to work on top of going to school, doing can be a real balancing act. With the average salary ranging from $4-68 an hour, working 30 to 40 hours a week is sometimes necessary in order to support one's self. This is on top of taking classes and attempting to have a social life can be a serious strain on a person, both mentally and physically.

Junior Alecia Betch is also familiar with the stress of balancing school and work. Her average day begins around 7:30 a.m. and is spent on campus, where she is either in class or working for the music department until 5 p.m. After that, either she is doing homework, running errands or going to a meeting for one of the many organizations she is involved in.

"I am usually lucky to make it to bed by 1 a.m.," Betch said. "Like Diedrich, Betch suffers physical deterioration from the stress of her schedule.

"By the time the end of the semester comes, I am ready to go home and I usually sleep the next day or two to gain back my energy. Sometimes my body will physically ache because I am so tired," Betch said.

With only 24 hours a day, one wonders how students like Diedrich and Betch are able to accomplish everything on their agenda.

"I used to use a Palm Pilot, which helped me keep my schedule down to the minute," Betch said. "I don't do all the things I needed to do, but I tried to get things done, so I find a way to do them," Diedrich said.

"I don't sleep as much as I should, and at times I lay awake at night with millions of things running through my mind for the next day. So if I do have some free time I try to take a small nap," Betch said.

Betch does admit that the hardest part of balancing everything is not having any personal time. "I feel almost guilty taking 30 minutes of my day for me," she said.

Diedrich is a strong advocate of free time. She says that the little she has is what maintains her overall sanity.

"When I have an actual day off, I go visit my family in Lakeland, but the best thing I do when I have free time is meeting up with my friends for lunch to catch up and talk with them. My friends are my greatest strength. They are what makes each day worth living," Diedrich said.

Though their schedules run them ragged, force them to lose sleep, eat unhealthy, and rarely give them time to relax and enjoy themselves, neither Diedrich nor Betch say they would eliminate any of these things in their lives, not even if it meant giving up something else. "I wouldn't know what to do with myself," Betch said.

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Thank-you notes a must

FROM PAGE B-3

During the interview

Typically, lasting impressions are made within the first 10 seconds of meeting an interviewer. It is in the first 10 seconds that can play an important role in determining whether or not the interviewer receives a job.

It is always a good idea to open with a good, firm handshake.

Chemistry, or a lack of chemistry, between the interviewer and the interviewee is determined based on both appearance and body language, according to monster.com. Shortly after meeting, an opinion is formed by the interviewer.

To avoid a negative opinion, avoid vibes of desperation. For instance, rather than telling the interviewer about really needing a job, comment on the result of possibly receiving the job. Listen to what the interviewer says and be prepared to explain your interpretation of the information. Also, take note of the tone and pace at which the interviewer talks. Try and copy this pace to keep the conversation on the same level.

When the interviewer begins questioning, avoid saying anything negative about past relationships. This includes both former bosses and coworkers.

Also, try to remain calm and focused. Look the interviewer in the eye and talk slowly and carefully. Try not to babble or rush your thoughts.

Body language is very important. Hand gestures, if perfectly fine and also completely natural, but do not get carried away. Do not fidget. Do not play with your hair, tap your foot repeatedly or click the top of your pen. There is nothing worse to make you look more nervous.

Finally, the interviewer will ask if you have any questions. Never, ever say "no." Asking questions proves your interest in the company and job. Ask questions about the responsibilities of the job, ask the interviewer to elaborate on something they mentioned earlier or ask a question about the company.

After the interview

The interview is over, but you did well because you followed the simple tips listed above.

Now, seal the deal by sending a simple thank-you note

Thank-you notes help the interviewer remember you, and also help you to stand out. In fact, it is estimated that only about 5 percent of job seekers send a follow-up note or card. Cards can be handwritten or sent by e-mail. Just be sure to send the card within 24 hours after the interview.

There are a few guidelines for each format.

Handwritten:

• Write the note in pen, not pencil.
• Trash mistakes and start over.
• Proofread carefully. Better yet, have a friend proofread.
• E-mail
• Choose a conservative, professional font in black.
• Avoid e-mails that come across as unprofessional.
• Do not "CC" or carbon copy the note to others.
• Check spelling carefully.

In the thank-you note, include strong points that were discussed during the interview and write anything important that you may have forgotten to mention. A sloppy, error-filled note will prove deconstructive, while a nicely written, professional note will improve chances. Find all these helpful hints and more online at:

• Monster.com, "Interviews are Like First Dates," by Carole Martin
• hotjobs.com, "A Crash Course in Interview Preparation," by Christopher Jones

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The Career Resource Center invites all UCF students to meet with over 100 employers at the UCF Arena.

January 22, 2003
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Internet makes job hunting easy

KATRINA HAMMER
STAFF WRITER

Applying for jobs, creating a resume and searching for facts such as current pay rates and a company's history has never been easier.

Job seekers can turn to their computers to unlock a myriad of sources for career information. The largest and possibly most popular Web site, www.monster.com, provides visitors with information regarding applications, interviews, job searches and much more.

In career-related Web sites, visitors can:

Search jobs
Typically, visitors will choose their city and state or ZIP code and a basic category of their job type. Categories will be general such as engineering, financial services and sales. After a general selection, visitors will have the option of choosing from a range of more specified jobs. The jobs will include location, job title and company.

The job title contains a link that visitors can use to inquire about the job and receive some general information about the job including requirements, responsibilities and contact information.

Post a resume
Career-related Web sites allow visitors to create a resume as well as post it online. Visitors can follow the templates that the Web site has set up or they can review tips and create their own.

Web sites such as www.hotjobs.com provide links to articles about resume creating, what to include (and not to include) in a resume and also basic formatting information.

After completion, job seekers may choose to post their own resume on specific sites that allow corporations to search through posted resumes for potential employees. Job seekers also have the option of attaching their resume as part of an application online or one submitted through e-mail.

Learn current pay rates
Web sites offer visitors information on current pay rates for both national and international positions. Sites can provide averages and ranges for specific jobs in cities and states and can compare them to the national average.

Research helpful tips
There are many Web sites that provide all kinds of information for job seekers. Web sites such as www.jobdirect.com feature career resources for people of all ages. Jobdirect.com has articles and tips on salary negotiation, job searching, promotions and career and industry profiles.

UCP students should also look at www.monstertrak.com for information about the most popular and most in-demand majors. Monstertrak.com is a specialized part of monster.com that focuses on college students and degrees. It provides career advice, has a salary center and a virtual interviewer.

Students can look at sample questions in the virtual interviewer and choose what they think is the best answer. The Web site will provide explanations for the best and worst answers.

The most popular feature of monstertrak.com is the major-to-career converter. Students can use this tool to narrow their job search and also learn about other career options that fall under their particular major.

Two of the best online resources sites are careerbuilder.com and monster.com.

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Positions require evening and Saturday schedules, and excellent abilities of persuasion to represent or sell a diversity of products and services. Basic computer knowledge and professional phone manner also essential.
Real world trials after graduation

Samantha Fredericks
STAFF WRITER

Upon coming to that last semester before graduation, a sudden fear overcomes many students. No longer will you have the excuse of having classes or homework or whatever reason you may have given to not be able to go to work. Now you are expected to grow up, get a 9 to 5 job and hope that it mates in some way to what you studied for the last four years.

Maygan Avitabile, 22, graduated from UCF last fall with a bachelor's degree in business administration. She now works as a sub-contract administrator for Lockheed Martin Information Systems. On an average day, Avitabile wakes up at 5:30 a.m. to be at work by 7 a.m. and doesn't leave to come home until about 5 p.m. She then does some chores, runs some errands and relaxes for a short time before going to bed at about 9 p.m.

"The best part of having a steady job is that I have a schedule that is consistent, and I have more free time because I don't have classes after work, and I am not involved in extracurricular activities," Avitabile said.

For most students who are lucky enough to land good jobs once they graduate, it is a rewarding experience. Unfortunately though, many suffer through a lot of disappointment when their dream jobs are not waiting for them.

The Career Resource Center offers many workshops and advising sessions to help graduating students with the transition into the career world. Besides workshops for creating a resume and obtaining an internship, the CRC also offers job-searching tips, Web resources and tips on connecting your majors with careers.

Besides the CRC, individual colleges at UCF aid in launching the careers of their graduates by keeping in contact with employers and keeping track of their former students' progress. Most professors and advisers suggest early internships or co-ops to gain experience before graduation. Advisers say that once a student finds a steady job, they are usually able to adjust fairly quickly, but the hardest part is finding that job.

Avitabile said the only real adjustment she had to make in the transition into her job was getting used to the new amount of responsibility that was placed upon her.

"I had a lot less responsibility as a student at all my jobs that I worked. I was also given a lot more flexibility to take random days off. I am now expected to fully commit to work since school is not a conflict anymore. If my boss wants me to work on a tough assignment or go on a quick business trip, I can't just say 'Well, I have class tomorrow,'" Avitabile said.

Some students, like Angie Plemons, 23, advance in the company they were working for while in college. Plemons was an employee of Publix for two years and now works for its corporate office in the franchise-purchasing department. Plemons graduated from UCF in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in art and has been at her job with Publix for a year.

Plemons says she feels much more comfortable with her life now than she did in college. Martini didn't enjoy college that much, mainly because I was studying and working while many of my friends were out having a good time. I had no choice. I had to put myself through school by both attaining scholarships and working as many hours as I could," Plemons said.

"Even though Plemons is the youngest person in the department where she works, she says the one thing that separates her is that she has a degree. "I know that even though I am treated like the rookie, they respect me for getting the education many of them didn't pursue," Plemons said.

However, even with advice, planning for a degree, many students are left with less-than-desirable job opportunities after graduation. Some are forced to continue with wage-earning jobs until they are able to make a break into the field of their choice. Some areas of work are more competitive than others, forcing students to search outside their major for job opportunities. Some majors even suggest having a second degree or a minor to fall back on in these cases.

"Remember if you're having trouble landing that spectacular job with your degree there's always graduate school." - ANGIE PLEMONS

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SAMANTHA FREDERICKS
STAFF WRITER

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Though most students complain about something at their jobs, ranging from not enough money or working too much or not enough, to not liking coworkers or customers, there are times when there are more unusual circumstances surrounding what makes a job good or bad.

If you enjoy the excitement of danger, then perhaps working the graveyard shift at a convenience store in downtown Miami would be fun. However, Tricia Holting, 24, had a different perspective.

"I worked behind one of those bullet-proof-glass windows. It was supposed to make me feel safer, but it just reminded me of the reason why they had proof-glass windows.

"It was something to be afraid of when the people that hung around the store at night were at the 7-Eleven, just a few blocks away. They would gather and talk, and then maybe one of them would walk in and start to pull out a gun and start shooting," Holting said.

You don't have to necessarily be afraid of physical hazards on the job, however. Erick Paulus was a lifeguard in Gainesville when he encountered an unruly group of sunbathers.

"There were always two cops stationed at the door. They told us it was to make sure no one walked out on the clock, but we knew it was really in case someone decided to pull out a gun and start shooting," Paulus said.

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"You don't have to necessarily be working in the worst part of town in the early hours of the morning to experience physical hazards on the job, however. Erick Paulus was working as a lifeguard in Gainesville when he encountered an unruly group of sunbathers.

"A few gentlemen had glass bottles on the pool deck, a big no-no, and were asked to leave. They refused to leave and started throwing the bottles. Unfortunately, the 30 or so people at the pool were all related. It was a family reunion, and they perceived my actions as harassment and proceeded to join in with the bottle-throwing and vandalism."

Fortunately, Gainesville police responded quickly with guns drawn and K-9 units. It was a weird day," Paulus said.

Now Paulus works as a lifeguard at Disney and describes the job as "one of the friendliest work environments I have ever encountered." He is an advocate for lifeguarding jobs.

"You will never get paid so much for doing so little," Paulus said.

Not all Disney employees enjoy their jobs quite so much, though. Simon Yorinks, 23, who worked in the parks at Disney over last summer, described many encounters with guests as "frustrating, mind-numbing experiences."

"Besides the endless, stupid questions that people ask, nothing compares to the stupid things they do," Yorinks said.

He described one incident in which a man was spotted standing on the front bumper of the Splash Mountain boat, saluting the employee checking to make sure everyone was in their seats.

"The man was standing upright, not in the boat, not even on the seat... No, this tonehead decides that he needs to stand and salute on the front bumper of the log that was about to go off a cliff," Yorinks said.

Some jobs, on the other hand, have some real perks. Monica McCormack, 23, has two jobs. She has not only a job at the Marriott Hotels, and she has helped cold, naked students get back into their rooms at her job as a RHAP on campus.

"Both jobs have their good points. The RHAP job doesn't require much work but produces some funny stories, and the hotel job gives great benefits, discounts and tuition reimbursement," McCormack said.
Dear Student,

The UCF Career Resource Center is pleased to host the Spring 2003 Fall Career Expo. On behalf of the staff at the Career Resource Center, I'd like to encourage you to attend this important event. Over 100 companies interested in recruiting UCF students will be available to discuss full-time career opportunities. Many of these companies also sponsor internship opportunities. This is a "must-attend" event for college seniors and graduate students who are graduating between now and May. For other students, this event provides a unique opportunity to explore various career options, to find information about many of the top U.S. corporations, and to network with recruiting professionals.

We would also like you to stop by the Career Resource Center or visit us via the Web site at www.crc.ucf.edu, where we can help you with a full-range of career planning, internship, and employment search services. From first-year students generating ideas researching and narrowing their career plans; to juniors seeking career-related experience; to seniors and graduate students preparing for and implementing their employment searches, career specialists can provide targeted strategies for success.

Services include:
- Career assessments
- Career counseling
- Career workshops
- Intern & Job Listings
- Lockheed Martin work-experience program
- Job fairs
- Career library
- Alumni mentoring (new this spring)
- Career information resources (via the Web)
- Free career publications and magazines
- Resume and cover letter critiques
- On-campus interviews
- Mock interview program

All of these services are FREE of charge for current UCF students. Students should register via the GOLD (Grads On-line Database) Connection to take full advantage of internship and job-seeking services.

The Career Resource Center is located in the Student Resource Center and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. We look forward to helping you jump-start your career.

-MELANIE L. PARKER, 
Career Resource Center Director

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www.cae.com/careers/
January 21, 2003
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Location: Live Oak

January 22, 2003
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Location: UCF Arena

List of EMPLOYERS for both events at: www.crc.ucf.edu

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