Candidates forced to register

SHELLEY MARMOR

Students forced to register

Rachel Zall

Damaged cars drain students' dollars

Cross that intersection and risk a $45 ticket

CARY GRAYSON

A new traffic light in front of the Recreation and Wellness Center has eased traffic congestion, but pedestrian jaywalking is still rampant by students who continue to cross the intersection outside of marked crosswalks and stroll through "don't walk" signals.

"It is definitely a problem, people walking right out in front of you," said Sgt. Troy Williamson, the crime prevention coordinator at UCF. "Essentially there's no four, and people get hurt when they think that."
The Bush administration will propose a 5-percentage increase for the 2004 fixed year for programs for historically black colleges and colleges with large Hispanic enrollments. The proposed expenditure, $357.1 million, would represent an increase of $14 million over the 2003 level.

The announcement of the proposal came late Sunday days after Bush angered minority educators when he said his administration would fire a brief with the U.S. Supreme Court opposing the University of Michigan's affirmative-action policies.

The proposal would benefit three federal programs that award grants competitively to institutions serving black and Hispanic students for projects like construction, student services, scholarship aid and faculty development.

A total of 90 institutions are eligible to apply for grants under the Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities Program.

Over all, Bush wants to increase support for the three programs by 30 percent from 2001 to 2005. When he was running for president in 2000, Bush proposed increases over five years of 77 percent for the two programs for historically black institutions and 90 percent for Hispanic-serving institutions.

"Think Ghetto" party for King holiday canceled

Administrators at Texas A&M University at College Station forced a group of students to cancel an off-campus party scheduled for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday after learning that the students planned to dress in gangsta-rap outfits and other racially demeaning costumes.

Students being in one of the campus residence halls had been planning a party called "Think Ghetto," which was to be held in the nearby city of Bryan on Monday. An anonymous letter tipped off university administrators about the party.

University officials expressed outrage that students would plan to do something so racially insensitive on the holiday honoring the slain civil-rights leader. Officials went door to door in Walton Hall, the residence hall where the party was being planned, handing out letters condemning the party.

The anonymous letter to the administration alleged that the students planned to wear blackface.

RALLYING

Guy students gathered outside the Student Union Tuesday for a rally to gain support for equal rights on campus. Shannon Hill, freshman, and Paul Brit, a campus administrator for the group Our Generation, said that the rally is to encourage African Americans, Hispanics and non-homosexuals to demand protection.

Homeland security

The new Homeland Security Bill gives federal bureau a considerate and unprecedented license to pay, especially where the information is concerned. In accordance with the new bill, the government will have the right to collect and monitor any data that individuals may have otherwise thought to be private, including e-mail. Furthermore, the bill underlies the guise of an anti-terrorist preventative measure. It has strong implications concerning the privacy of future communications for Americans.

How do UCF students feel about the new standard for Internet privacy violation?

If you have nothing to hide then you should have nothing to worry about. Call for more bull from the government.

-J EFF FORD, EXPERIENCE

The bill is a truly diabolical one that could cause the loss of job and family of people that are law-abiding. You sent the government with the money to arrest the people that are already there. The bill on privacy makes it very difficult to amount for deals and business.

-CAROLYN YOUNG

If we do not have the truth about what occurs then, what is there to store light in the past? If we record the things we overcame along, then people will have more and it will help.

-WALTON HALL, EXPERIENCE

For as in the war years, it is definite -by the most important of the last days, but those who are now in due to a fraction of the generation that to any man can ever give. The 1.1 and U.S. is supposed to do operation communication and anyone there fore thing efficiently rests in which be the war is used in trade in liberty of society.

-CAPRICE YOUNG

Registration viewed as discriminatory

Florida Future • 1

employees to photocopy all the items in his wallet, including his driver's license and credit cards. He also had to answer an issuer's worth of questions posed to him by an INS employee - questions that dealt with his political ideologies, as well as his political ideologies of his family and friends.

"It's scary because they are looking at a computer screen," he said. "I don't know what they already know about you."

He added: "Now anything I do can be tracked by the government."

He denounces the legitimacy of including his country on that list, saying, "We don't have terrorism in Morocco."

Nonetheless, the federal government included Laassel's homeland in a list that also includes Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Egypt, Eritrea, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Kuwait, North Korea, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

While Laassel now has qualms about the process, and doubts it will work because he does not foresee terrorists going to INS to register, he concedes that he initially thought it might be effective.

"At first I had mixed feelings," he said, "I thought maybe they had to do this."

"But it's really the same as what [the Germans] did to the Jews, isn't it?"

Civil rights groups, such as the American Civil Liberties Union and the Arab American Anti-Discrimination Committee, agree. They have criticized the process, calling it discriminatory and saying it creates unnecessary stumbling blocks to an exclusive group of people.

However, some UCF students applaud this measure. Junior political science and history major Andrew Dillner believes the registration will lead to "terror plans being halted."

"I believe that if the measures are carried out properly and effectively," he said, "terror attacks have a better chance of being avoided."

Dillner, however, said he sympathizes with those who hate the legislation but believes that if they have nothing to hide, they should have nothing to worry about. He also said that the INS registration helps them feel more at ease about the U.S. delivering another terrorist attack.

"I feel like the measures proposed by the registration process because the government has now how to do things without stopping terrorism," Dillner said.

Senior political science major Jesse dismal disagreed. He called the INS registration process "prejudiced and unconstitutional."

"I don't think if the government proposed this new anti-terrorist measure, the INS registration process continues for many people, whether they agree with its validity or not."

"It's not fair, but what can you do?" Laassel said. "You have to do it."
Accidents happen daily

FROM PAGE 1

and books, or just a general rush to and from, accidents in UCF's many parking lots are common. It doesn't help that there are so many aggressive drivers fighting for so few parking spaces. About 37,000 parking decals are sold each semester for the 15,000 parking spots on campus, said Lisa Carpenter, the executive assistant for UCF parking services. The decals outnumber parking spots because not everyone has classes at the same time, she said.

Although UCF Police Sgt. Troy Williamson said accidents occur on campus once or twice a week on average, anecdotal evidence suggests that jaywalking continues to be a problem. "We get parking-lot accidents frequently," Williamson said. "Some people leave notes, but there are a lot of hit-and-runs."

Corso called UCF Police Right away after the other driver backed into her 1998 Nissan Sentra. "I knew that it was going to be expensive, and I couldn't afford to claim it on my own insurance or pay it myself," she said. "Besides, I didn't know how reliable she would be about paying the damages if we handled it on our own."

The mechanic estimated that repairs would cost $500 because Corso's entire bumper had to be replaced or it would never be the same, she added. "My car was fixed, but it was an extreme inconvenience to me because I couldn't get to work for the few days it was in the shop," she said. "I had no transportation."

Sophomore Andrea Friedman's 2002 Mitsubishi Eclipse was hit in the same lot as Corso's car. "One day I was driving into the parking lot and this girl hit me in front of me started to reverse, so I stopped," Friedman, 18, said. "She just kept coming until she was really close. I beeped my horn, but she still hit me."

Friedman's front bumper and part of her hood was denied when her car was hit. Unlike Corso, however, Friedman and the other driver handled it on their own rather than alert and wait for police, since they both were going to class and neither of them wanted to be late. "I think these accidents happen because of all the construction and reckless drivers around," Friedman said.

Still, if anyone has an accident or returns to their car to find that it has been hit, they are advised to contact UCF Police. "If it's a hit-and-run, the only thing we can do is give the drivers a report form, unless there are witnesses," Williamson said. That short form — used in the case of a hit-and-run, or for drivers to exchange information themselves for the benefit of their respective insurance companies — is one of two types of forms that police use in accidents. The longer form, containing about four pages and requiring much more detailed information, is used if anyone has been hurt, wound up in the hospital or had extensive damage to their car, Williamson said.

Unfortunately, junior David Martinez, 20, was not aware of his options when he came out of his class and found a dent in his brand-new 2001 Honda Civic. "Since nobody was around, I figured there was nothing I could do," he said. "Then I saw the dent in my new car, it really made me mad. I had to pay for someone else's recklessness and lack of consideration out of my own pocket."

Martinez's advice is to try to park away from other cars if possible and pay attention at all times. "I think that if people would just try to concentrate on driving and not show off or do 10 other things at once, there would definitely be fewer accidents on campus."

Jaywalking continues despite traffic light

FROM PAGE 4

Before the university installed the traffic light, the intersection was a three-way stop sign, and pedestrians would often cross regardless of how many cars were waiting. Many students still seem to be following the same procedure, and officers four students are at a larger risk of getting injured now that the passing cars rely on a green light to direct traffic flow.

Students like freshmen Andrea Pignato, 18, cross the intersection illegally several times a day. Pignato has been warned by a UCF police officer that he would get a ticket if he was caught again. "Most of the time I just go when I know the light's going to turn right before it turns," he said. "I do it if I'm running late to class or trying to get home."

While he admits he is a frequent jaywalker, he isn't necessarily opposed to UCF officers' warnings to issue fines to违章者. "If they didn't, people would be walking across when the light was green; it would cause more traffic when the lights are there to fix traffic problems," he said.

For the time being, police have only issued warnings instead of tickets in an effort to convince students to cross the intersection legally. "If you're patient, you wait less than a minute and you can walk," Williamson said.
Punk isn’t dead, it moved to the class

MIKE BLAKELY
STAFF WRITER

Since the second week of January, some of the most famous punk-driven, three-chord ballads ever recorded have been heard blaring from a trailer behind the Classroom 1 Building. In fact, the sounds are so loud that neighboring classes occasionally have to ask them to keep the volume down.

This is situation?

It is if the teacher is Eugene Montague, the man behind the novel first-time offering in the UCF Music Department, a course titled Punk in the History and Practice of Rock Music.

Montague and his students meet twice a week to study bands such as the Ramones, Sex Pistols, the Germs and the impact that these and other punk bands have had on contemporary culture.

Like other students, those in Montague’s class must write papers, and there are in-class quizzes that require them to identify certain songs.

Those students already have defined the punk sound — simplistic, two- or three-chord songs with raw vocals, junior Jenny Baxter, 22, said.

“It is very hard to draw boundaries,” she added.

Montague said.

With the resident advisor, permission to enter the apartment.

Erik Lashinsky responded to a call at 1:30 a.m. on Jan. 11. Officer Paul Anderson was given permission to enter the apartment.

When Anderson came down, White asked for her identification. When she opened her purse, White saw a bag of marijuana. Anderson opened the bag and identified the marijuana as belonging to him.

Littering leads to marijuana mess

Melissa Anderson, 20, was arrested on charges of possession of cannabis by a substance on Jan. 11. Officer Paul White noticed people throwing beer cans from a balcony at Pegasus Pointe.

During a test of the marijuana, it proved the stereoypical definition wrong. His clothes smell nice. His hair shines.

In appearance, Montague himself proves the stereotypical definition wrong. His clothes smell nice. His hair shines. His voice — a Dublin accent that conveys an intellectual authority — sounds better-suited for a voiceover in a history documentary.

Like other students, those in Montague’s class must write papers, and there are in-class quizzes that require them to identify certain songs. But unlike most other classes, this one also sends its students out to visit “hole-in-the-wall” clubs around town and hear some really loud bands perform.

These students already have defined the punk sound — simplistic, two- or three-chord songs with raw vocals, junior Jenny Baxter, 22, said.

Yet, there is much more to it. The word “punk” can be applied to just about anything, Montague said.

“Punk isn’t dead, it moved to the class.”

— EUGENE MONTAGUE
Professor of Music in the History and Practice of Rock Music

In appearance, Montague himself proves the stereotypical definition wrong. His clothes smell nice. His hair shines. His voice — a Dublin accent that conveys an intellectual authority — sounds better-suited for a voiceover in a history documentary.

POLICE BEAT

Pot dealer passes out, offers signed confession

CARLY MULLER
STAFF WRITER

Mark Anthony Wynder, 20, was arrested on charges of possession of cannabis with intent to sell on Jan. 11. Officer Erin Lashinsky responded to a call at Pegasus Landing in reference to possible drug use.

Upon his arrival, he met with the resident advisor, Darren Evans, who said someone had called the front office and reported smoking marijuana. Lashinsky went to the room and knocked on the door, covering the peephole while he knocked. When the door opened, Lashinsky was given permission to enter the apartment.

Once inside, he saw three burnt marijuana cigarettes, a scale and individual bags with marijuana inside. During the search, Wynder fainted and an ambulance came. After he was awakened and examined for injuries, Wynder gave a signed statement claiming the marijuana belonged to him.

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Students study Middle Earth

Class analyzes J.R.R. Tolkien

STEPHEN HIRST STAFF WRITER

Imagine a course in which the study and discussion of the Fellowship of the Ring's journey from the door of Bag End to the drawn mines of Moria and essay topics range from "The Character of Gollum: A Study in Alienation and the Issue of Free Will" to "Tolkien and Modernism: The Meaning of the Ring." No it's not "Dungeons and Dragons" geek's wet dream, it's an actual UCF literature class and it counts for full three credit hours.

Welcome to Lord of the Rings 101, or as it is officially titled, "Tolkien and Fantasy Literature," taught by Dr. Jerome Donnelly.

During the past twenty years, Donnelly's been a more than slight resemblence to Ian Holm, the actor playing Bilbo Baggins in "The Fellowship of the Ring." His taught the class at UCF only three or four times.

The main goal that the professor has for all of his students is "the realization of the literary triumph that "The Hobbit" and "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy represent."

Although Donnelly is basically preaching to the choir (the class largely consists of longtime "Rings" fans), he is clearly eager to spread an appreciation of Tolkien's work to students who may never have encountered it before, as well as shed new light on issues for those already familiar with the author.

"Like all literature, fantasy is too important to be left to a specialist niche," Donnelly said.

The course revolves around the fantasy genre's biggest names, J.R.R. Tolkien, and his body of poetry, novels and critical essays. This also includes the author's life story, from his early days as a soldier in WWI, to his years at Oxford and his subsequent publishing success.

While the course emphasizes Tolkien's "hobbit-related" stories, course reading also includes one of Tolkien's lesser-known works, a translation of "Sir Gawain and the Green Knight," and the ancient and anonymous poem "Beowulf," considered a seminal fantasy influence.

While some students in the class enjoy the fantasy genre, many of them have not read what most literary critics consider the cornerstone of modern fantasy: Tolkien's trilogy. Senior literature major Melissa Ringfield, 22, was one of them until recently.

"I've always read a lot of fantasy, but never "The Lord of the Rings." It wasn't until recently that I realized that all these authors I had been reading owed so much to Tolkien," Ringfield said.

But most students have several reasons for opting to gain a better understanding of the author. Ringfield calls the "father of fantasy." "It's just easier to get away from the literary canon," Ringfield said.

Everyone has to read "Chaucer, Shakespeare," I wanted to study someone a little different,"

Though Ringfield read "The Hobbit" in her childhood, she never got around to reading Tolkien's most widely recognized books until "The Fellowship of the Ring." She was dismayed.

Donnelly said this semester's class is heavier than any in the past, and this is due to partly due to the popularity of the current movies based on Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings." ("What does he think of Hollywood's take on the fantasy masterpieces," Donnelly asked.)

Tolkien, who has been reading the books since childhood, since the 1940s, any movie is going to be at least a little disappointing," Donnelly said. With that said, Donnelly still enjoys admiring the movies, and would have liked to see a few things done differently.

"For one thing, I think the hobbits looked too reddish and courteous," Donnelly pointed out. "They looked a little too Disney for my taste."

A large portion of the class focuses on debunking myths about Tolkien and fantasy literature in general and J.R.R. Tolkien in particular.

Donnelly has very specific goals for his students when it comes to the author:

"Probably the biggest misconception about Tolkien is that he is some kind of a throwback to a different age or mentality," said Donnelly.

"The reality is that he is a highly sophisticated writer with real applications to modern issues."

Class Page 5

tional documentary than it does for a discussion about Green Day.

But he knows his stuff. In his doctoral dissertation, Montague compared French dance music to the Six Pistols, although he listens to a variety of genres and believes all styles of music have their benefits. Acts such as Barh, 1980s garage bands or whatever other sounds on the radio catch his ear all get a turn on his stereo.

"I'm a facilitator pointing [students] to information," he said. "They are learning from each other and about how music functions in life and the meanings it can have."

"As a department, we are looking for ways to broaden ourselves in the university. We want to provide opportunities for all students to engage in diverse styles of music."

Supplemoresh Shadey Cahalan, 20, likes the course because her classmates can discuss punk music more intelligently than people in the punk community she said.

In the clubs, people may over hear opinions from those who consider themselves to be punk, but all they can say is, "well, this music sucks...," or "punk is dead because..." she said. But in class, people not only voice their opinion and but also support it because the readings provide them with the sources to back it up, she said.

Added Baxter: "One of the things we have tried to find out is if punk attitude is something now or just another term for something that has always been around."

For example, the class contemplated whether Michael Jackson demonstrated a punk attitude when he dangled his hair over a balcony or if Marshall C议题's breakdown was a "punk thing" to do.

In addition to discussing celebrity rockers on the punk scale, students pick up on the significance of countercultures and social movements.

Montague said he hopes his students gain a greater understanding of punk history and the impact it has on today's culture.

Arguing over whether punk is dead or not has failed to come up in class so far. But Montague assures the debate will come.

"Most people writing about punk, write about it dying in 1979," he said.

It is ironic that college students can now earn credit for studying music that could have had them kicked out of school 20 years ago, Montague said. That does not mean punk music has died, he added.

"Punk music is not dead because it is being absorbed into the established system," he said. "If ever it had the image of not being for intellectuals, it has certainly lost it now."

The established system at UCF has welcomed its new edition. The music department has been accommodating in helping to get the class started, Montague said.

"Everyone in the department can see the importance," he said. "No one is taking the stance that this is a bad thing to be doing. It shows a change in what college stands for. I like to think it acknowledges that a lot of different subjects are worth studying."

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Poorer parents are unaware of aid

FROM PAGE 5

face and that the party had been a tradition for sever­

al years.

When administrators confronted the students planning the party, the students denied being racist but apologized for the party and canceled it.

The university was investigating how much resi­

dence-hall advisers knew about the party and whether leaders of any student group had helped to plan it. After the inquiry is complete, the university might take disciplinary action.

Low-income families need student aid information

Low-income families, who need the most infor­

mation about student aid, have the least information about how to pay for college, according to a report released Monday by the Sallie Mae Fund.

The report is based on a national poll of parents with children who are 18 to 24 years of age.

The poll found that among those families earning less than $50,000 a year, 50 percent said that they needed more information about how to pay for col­

lege. Only 37 percent of those earning at least $75,000 a year had the same view. And of families with salaries under $25,000, 65 percent of parents said they had "no idea" how they could pay for college for their children.

The survey found a gap in the ages at which chil­

dren start to learn about financial aid. The average age in families with annual incomes over $75,000 was 14, while the average age for families with annual incomes under $25,000 was 10.

A racial gap also exists on information about stu­

dent aid. The poll found that while 61 percent of white parents said that they did not have enough informa­

tion about paying for college, 60 percent of black parents said that the lack of information hurt their children.

The Sallie Mae Fund is the charitable arm of Sallie Mae, the largest financier of federal student loans.

Current SGA trio will remain until May 8

From Page 1

said Student Body Vice President Brian Kline, "Whether or not public opinion says it's in violation, we have to follow what the Judicial Council says." Sen. Marcus Gould, who had opposed the change in the statute that eliminated the third position.

Verizon suffers legal setbacks in online piracy case

The decision, which Verizon plans to appeal, is a blow not only to major record labels, but also to Hollywood studios, book publishers, video game developers and other copyright holders whose works are copied freely online.

U.S. District Judge John D. Bates in Washington ruled that a copyright holder can force an Internet service provider to disclose the names of customers accused of piracy without having to file individual lawsuits against alleged violators.

If upheld, Bates' ruling will make it easier for the RIAA to take its fight against piracy directly to the heaviest users of online file-sharing networks, such as Kazaa and Morpheus.

But critics of the decision said it gives people accused of copyright infringement less legal protection than those accused of other crimes.

The case comes at a critical juncture for the music industry, which is changing its legal strategy to turn up the heat on con­

sumers who copy music online.

The labels want to send a clear chil­

ling message directly to consumers that unauthorized copying is illegal. In particu­

lar, they're focusing on the people who make large amounts of music available for others through an online network.

Most sites have increased dramatically, study finds

Confirming a gastronomical trend that nutritionists have long suspected, a new study demonstrates that food portion sizes have grown dramatically — a finding that may help to explain the growing debt­

y levels in the United States. 

The study, covering the years 1977 to 2000, found that the average hamburger was 23 percent larger; an order of fries was 10 percent bigger and the size of a soft drink had jumped 60 percent. And that was true whether you ate in a fast-food joint, in a classy restaurant or in your own kitchen.

Although the researchers could not establish a direct link between increased portion sizes and weight gain, experts say the results provide powerful insight into why the incidence of obesity has more than doubled since 1977, climbing from 14.5 per­

cent of the population to 30.3 percent.

U.S. is ready to ship smallpox vaccines to 4 states

Federal health officials began ship­

ments Wednesday of smallpox vaccine doses to four states, identified Tuesday only as those ready to start inoculations. 

Currently, the student body vice presi­

dent chairs the Senate, breaks tie votes and is first in presidential suc­

cession. The executive vice president oversees cabinet members. Three attempts in two previous Senates to create one vice president's position had failed.

Nation briefs

All told, the administration hopes 500,000 health care workers will volunteer for vaccinations. The program expands in the summer for additional states, in which 60 million volunteers from the ranks of fire­

fighters, police officers and emergency workers will be immunized.

Inoculations can begin as early as Friday, the day the federal Homeland Security Act goes into effect. A provision in the measure protects from liability all involved vaccine manufacturers, the feder­

al government and those who administer the vaccinations. Negligence, however, is not covered.

President Bush last month noted that health care workers volunteer to be vacci­

nated against smallpox to provide a large group of protected citizens and first­

responders in the event of a bioterror attack. A similar vaccination program has already begun with inoculations of members of armed forces.

Federal health officials expect the vac­

cination program to run smoothly but they do not expect it to be problem-free. The live­

virus vaccine carries more risks than mod­

ern vaccines and in the past was known to cause death in 1 to 2 out of every 1 million people inoculated.

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RANDALL B. COVERMAN, M.D.

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You are so important to us that all of our services are FREE and totally confidential
Our stance: Even more growing pains to come

According to its Master Plan, UCF wants to have 48,000 students by 2010. The university already has too many students to accommodate nearly 10,000 more students without compromising the surrounding environment?

To add that many more students, UCF will have to expand and build, likely on undeveloped land if it now owns. The construction and development necessary to hold 48,000 students will take a serious toll on the environment.

The expansion and growth envisioned in the Master Plan seems unrealistic and irrational given the university's ongoing problems. UCF already lacks professors and classroom space to accommodate the current student population. The university has serious traffic problems on campus, and the roads that lead to UCF have too many vehicles on them now.

Even if UCF can expand its roads and add more roads to handle the additional traffic that would accompany the extra students on campus, UCF's Board of Trustees must realize that the university does not exist in a vacuum. The university already lacks professors and classrooms for its infrastructure. How does it plan to accommodate the current shortages.

The university wants to add more access roads leading into the campus, the area around UCF cannot afford the added traffic that 10,000 more students would bring.

Then there's the problem of a shortage of professors. As things stand now, UCF does not have enough professors to teach its students. If UCF cannot find or afford enough professors to teach those extra students?

The Board of Trustees wants to build UCF into a nationally recognized university which is certainly honorable, but before it proceeds with its plans to grow the university to its projected goal of 48,000 students, it must consider the costs and feasibility of that growth.

UF CF does not need to rush into the growth that the Master Plan prescribes. The Board of Trustees should slow down its growth and realize that UCF is still relatively young. Rome was not built in a day, and UCF should not be either.

It makes little sense for UCF to grow so quickly when it has experienced so many growth problems in recent years. Until UCF catches up to its recent growth, it should not try to grow much more. UCF does not need to add 10,000 students by 2010.

Our stance: In times of war, impoverished ignored

Be nier the obvious reasons against war with Iraq, i.e., war is bad and the global community does not support it, there are the financial and humanitarian reasons.

Estimated costs of a war with Iraq range from $60 billion to $160 billion—the right, billion. At a time when the U.S. economy is mired in a recession and companies in various industries lay off thousands of American workers, that money should go toward reviving the economy and providing jobs. It makes no sense to spend so much money on an unnecessary war overseas when the economy here needs a serious boost.

As the U.S. government focuses all this attention on the self-created crisis with Iraq, it neglects and outright ignores an impending humanitarian tragedy on the forgotten continent of Africa.

In a statement issued Tuesday, The United Nations World Food Program said that 11.1 million people there suffer from severe starvation.

Thousands of people die daily in the horror condition that exist on the continent. Eerie has destroyed the agriculture upon which millions of Africans depend for survival, and drought has created devastating water shortages. Additionally, a lack of education and medical care has allowed diseases like AIDS, pneumonias and tuberculosis to ravage African countries.

For a small fraction of the cost of a war with Iraq, the U.S. could save millions of lives, and save a continent that suffers on the edge of destruction. A serious American commitment—of at least millions, if not tens of millions of dollars or more—to Africa could avert this horrible tragedy.

The U.S. should invest in Africa on many fronts. It should send money and food to alleviate the starvation that threatens to kill millions. The U.S. should send medicine and medical professionals to try to slow down the spread of diseases.

It should send teachers to educate the people of Africa. It should build up the infrastructure of Africa to create conditions for sustainable growth.

If the U.S. dedicated itself to helping Africa, instead of waging an unpopular war against Iraq, such a move would go a long way toward generating America's image around the world. Other countries would perceive the U.S. less as an imperialistic bully and more as a humanitarian helper.

On top of helping its image, resolving the crisis with Iraq diplomatically would save the U.S. billions of dollars—money that it could spend to get the U.S. economy out of the gutter.

In three words I can sum up everything. I've learned about this. It goes on.

—Joseph Wenz

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Washington war protest misguided activism

I am writing in response to the signature column, "Beyond our resources," published Jan. 25. I am not against activism as such but am against misguided activism. It is perfect model of misguided activism is the war protest. The United States has been appealing from terrorist and the administration that support them for over 30 years.

This began with allowing Middle Eastern thugs to infiltrate American soil and steal the flag of freedom events—greatly weakened American sovereignty.

The fundamentalists Muslims, wanting that the United States would not stand up for the rights of a nation would commit a series of terrorist attacks on both foreign civilians and military personnel, then sing in tears, "peace."

The war with Iraq was not about "peace."

A serious American commitment to help Africa, an immediate withdrawal from Iraq, and a focus on real world problems in Afghanistan and Iraq could lead the United States to be a great power again. However, the United States has been consumed by the most recent war. Iraq and it needs to focus on the tasks at hand.

—ARGY MANIS

Washington, D.C.

Editor, Opinion Page Club at UCF

War with Iraq could save more than oil industry

I would like to comment on the DUO students that went to protest the possible war "rally in protest." I know the protest was held Jan. 25. During the News and I was present. I was there all the time. I found that the activist that burned the American flag was against that caused them food or money or death do them injuries.

I think we need to rethink these questions on this. We need to rethink the message of America and Iraq and no one will be killed, but the question is when will America step up and end the violence that is occurring in Iraq. It is time to end the violence.

—ANTHONY FREIWALD

Principal, Orlando High School

Students contribute to anti-American propaganda

Jason says interest in newly support of the "peace" movement. In his article, "A nation in crisis," published Jan. 25, the "student" is not in crisis, and I don't see what impeachment students like Jason would understand they are simply contribut­ ing to anti-American propaganda.

When students, go back and study what has been published with America's future and the future of the United States. Then go back and study what America should do now in crisis. While you are reading the "peace" movement, you are not doing the work that needs to be done.

—CURT RODRIGUEZ

Thanks, Al.


Payback, not payoff, off the books

INSIPID THOUGHTS

Adam Silver Staff Writer

"Even though progress has been made, there's more to do," said President George W. Bush in his State of the Union address. It is impossible to separate discussions of racial issues in the United States.

During tribute to Martin Luther King, Bush spoke at the First Baptist Church of Glenarden in Landover, Maryland. Bush's gesture to honor civil rights leader Dr. King was ironic in light of the statement he made that denied affirmative action programs, calling them discriminatory to minorities.

Specifically Bush is one of a handful of African Michiganders' non-concise policies currently in place at the university involving the golden rule of not being afraid to white students.

He isn't alone in ignoring the idea of the African American vote or the problem of being afraid of the African American vote. For every African American who has been arrested, there are at least four times as many white students who have been afraid to go to the university without giving preferential treatment to minorities.

And as any sane person knows, marijuana smokers account for responsible for plenty of false allegations as depicted in the commercial where a kid carelessly shoots his friend while they are both a long time away.

So do these depictions accurately reflect the state of mind of the typical pot user? To find out, let's play a little game called — "Name That Intoxicating Substance!"

Mystery ingredients number one can make the user violent, unpredictable and sexually aggressive to a dangerous degree. Those who abuse it often feel like they are not in control of their behavior and often lead to fatalities on American streets every day.

Mystery ingredient number two makes the user lazy, easily amused and leaves a person with a feeling of euphoria. There is zero possibility of any hangover or overdose. Those who use this substance generally order out for Domino's pizza and Chinese food.

Mystery ingredient number three will continue to work as a cheap labor instead of purging a college education — evidence that a college education is not really good for minorities even today because the opportunity is not as readily available to them as it is to white students.

And racial preferences and affirmative action programs to whiten minorities into higher society are still fairly new. Not until the civil rights movements of the mid to late 20th century did white Americans even take notice that minorities didn't have the same opportunities and that something needed to change.

Many reparations still have to be made — reparations that will help get minorities on equal ground with white students. This can only be achieved through measures put in place by the president.

It seems that what Bush and his cohorts are really after is finding a way to keep blacks and other minorities out of the mainstream society because the best middle ground solution that he could come up with to improve educational opportunities for minority students is a promise to grant more money to predominately black and Hispanic-serving universities. This isn't a payoff.

Thankfully for the first time since he took his current position under President Bush, Colin Powell has finally spoken up and taken a stance that I agree with. Powell wholeheartedly disagrees with the policies of George and Jeb Bush because this measures continue to get the short end of the stick when it comes to post-secondary education.

Minorities are in desperate need of programs such as those at the University of Michigan, and if the president follows through and overturns Michigan's affirmative action policy, he will undoubtedly isolate minority voters and reverse the progress minorities are only starting to achieve.

— Louisiana Alan seen can be reached at adrianseen@ucf.edu

The stoned cold sober facts

Stephen Hurst Staff Writer

We've seen them dozens of times by now — The Partnership for a Drug-Free America's hold new name of anti-drug advertisements, featuring the running slogan, "Marijuana harmless!"

In one segment, two stoned teens in a fast food drive-through become disponibles and run over a little girl with her dog, as the cat says nothing. The cat speaks to the camera with a slightly slowed down voice and the advantage of a party by a fellow reekee.

And as any person knows, marijuana smokers account for responsible for plenty of false allegations as depicted in the commercial where a kid carelessly shoots his friend while they are both a long time away.

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Opinions 9
Aiming at a conference championship

Knights look to pick up where they left off

**MATT BETHON**

For an inaugural 2002 season that surpassed even her expectations, Coach Nance Luers-Gillispie's Golden Knights softball team is aiming to take home the Atlantic Sun Conference title in 2003. Luers-Gillispie leads the Golden Knights softball program into its second year of existence in 2003, and in her first year she carried the program to unparalleled success. The Knights finished with a 46-19 record, and at one point posted a 21-game winning streak. The team defeated 10th-ranked Florida Atlantic, and also posted victories over much more established programs like Arkansas, Mississippi State, and Tennessee. The Knights made it all the way to the semifinals of the Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament and finished the year third in the conference.

"46-19 is a huge record to have in your first season, and it passed all my expectations," Luers-Gillispie said.

Prior to her stint at UCF, Luers-Gillispie was no stranger to winning. She spent four years building the Texas Tech program and led the team to Top-25 finishes in 1998 and 1999. In addition to her four years at Texas Tech, Luers-Gillispie rebuilt programs at Bradley University and Joliet Junior College, and in 1994 her Bradley team posted the fifth best winning percentage in the nation.

Luers-Gillispie said that the team is focused on getting to the NCAA Regional Tournament this year, and in order to do that they are going to have to win the A-Sun Tournament. The team also needs to bolster its BPI ranking (Batting Percentage Index), which measures a team's strength of schedule, and how that team performs against that schedule.

**Please see Gators on 12**

Illustrated by Anson Howard / CFP

Last year's bitter end fuels men's tennis team

**MATT BETHON**

The UCF men's tennis team opens up the 2003 season today against fifth-ranked Florida, and Coach Bobby Cashman's team is looking to build on its first ever Atlantic Sun Conference Championship.

Cashman enters his fourth season as the head coach of the Golden Knights and has seen his team improve in each of his first three seasons, culminating with a 15-4 overall all record and 7-4 A-Sun mark in 2002. The team ended the season second in the conference to Georgia State.

"I thought that we could have won the conference championship last year," Cashman said. "I think this year we're gonna be the team to beat. I look at last year as a blessing because it kept them hungry. Sometimes I think things happen too easy."

Cashman's team returns six letter-winners, including juniors Gabriel Strangberg and Catalin Branu, both of whom earned A-Sun All-Conference first-team honors in 2002. Strangberg finished the year 21-4, dropping only three matches in the spring season. Branu finished with a 12-7 record.

"I think holding the pick will be these two juniors," Cashman said. "Also, Augusto Sauzeta, our captain, does a good job in doubles, he's a tough out."

UCF also has three talented newcomers to the team in September, the three all won

**Please see Ultimate on 12**

Illustrated by Anson Howard / CFP

Women's tennis team looks for national attention

**SADIE SHAM**

The 2003 women's tennis team has something to prove. Following a tough schedule last year in which the Knights played 10 nationally ranked teams, they never appeared in the rankings. However, this year they are poised and ready to take on the challenges.

"The rankings are important because they help solidify our spot to be able to go out and recruit better and better players," Coach Allison said.

Although they lost Atlantic Sun Player of the Year Tammy Crevar, Allison believes other players will rise to fill her spot.

"I think that the team is strong enough to handle that," Allison said. "I look at last year as a learning experience, and the depth on the team is so incredible that any one of our girls can step up and play number one," Allison said.

Senior Mireika Gjumian and juniors Anna Westin, and Julie Pecastaing are all capable of stepping up and filling in the No. 1 spot, according to Allison. In 2001-02, Gjumian went 16-15 overall in the singles division and has been ranked 60th nationally, while Pecastaing went 21-7. Westin's year third in the conference, and it passed even her expectations, according to Allison.

"We will probably alternate Gjumian and Westin at the 1 and 2 and use Pecastaing at the number three spot."

Following another successful season, in which the Knights won their fifth Atlantic Sun Championship, Allison still sees room for improvement. "I think we have now have a chance to have a team ranked nationally in the doubles," Allison said.

With the power-punch of Gjumian and Pecastaing, they might have a chance to make that happen. They will also be solid in the No. 2 spot in doubles with experienced junior Anna Westin and freshman Pamela Fernandez.

**Please see Section on 13**
Thursday Nights

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Back To School!
Thursday Nights.
Newcomers expected to contribute immediately

Sadi Sham

In its inaugural season, the UCF softball team earned a 44-14 record, had a 21-game winning streak and finished third in the Atlantic Sun Conference. This season, they hope to go even further. With the loss of nine leavers from last year’s team, they have an influx of talented newcomers. They are Jenna Wansa, Taylor Sawyer, Jennifer Whitley, Kaycee Clark and Cristina Vilidoko.

“We have better talent than we did last year,” Coach Renee Luers-Gillispie said. “We have more maturity and experience in all our positions than we did in the previous season.”

As the only freshman Luers-Gillispie signed, high school standout Wansa will start at second base. She was a four-year letter-winner at Seminole High School and is a four-time all-area and all-state team selection.

She was named the Orlando Sentinel’s Player of the Year as a senior.

“She’s a great athlete,” Luers-Gillispie said. “She was really lucky to get her. She could have gone anywhere, but we are so thrilled she committed to UCF and what a great lure.”

Sawyer is a junior who came from the University of California at Los Angeles. She is a left-handed pitcher. Sawyer was an 18-4 record and a 0.91 ERA in 122.3 innings last season.

“She has a good mix of pitches and does really well with throwing gimme pitches,” Luers-Gillispie said. She also compiled a 265 batting average with 35 RBIs. She was named to the first-team All-Bay Valley Conference.

She is a mainstay on our squad list this year is keeping everyone accountable,” Luers-Gillispie, said. “I think by the start of our season we’ll be where we know it’s early but we don’t split, but we have a lot of respect but at the same time we also get teams that are like, ‘We don’t want to lose to an 11U, UCF or Georgia State so why play us?” Coaches that are ranked between 25 and 50 that I’ve known for a long time are like, ‘We’re at a point where you guys are good and we don’t want to play you.”

In the past it has been difficult to get local teams to sign for our kids. UCF doesn’t yet have the notoriety of a big program, and Cashman says the program is still in the “infant stages.” He says people look for tapping into the community and getting free team clinics to kids.

“We think we could do a fan appreciation day, especially when we play big teams. We could do a little bit of that to just get the fans out there,” Cashman said.

After coming up just short against Georgia State in last year’s A-Sun Tournament, UCF looks to be in prime shape to take home the title in 2003. Both Georgia State and FAU lost key players. Cashman believes Drey Thai is the stronger team in the conference, and looks for them to upset some teams.

The team’s performance in the University of Miami Spring Fling last weekend showed they have some talent and poise. After stellar performances by Bruns and Sisk on the first day of the tournament against William & Mary and Texas Tech they were outscored by the doubleheader Jan 25 against the University of Florida. Luers-Gillispie said she was looking to limit the mistakes and hopefully earn at least a split weekend.

“At that point where you guys are good and we don’t want to play you.”
Pumped up Lyons leads Knights over Dolphins

UCF plays its next two games on road

TIM ALEXANDER
STAFF WRITER

The UCF men's basketball team continued to silence its preseason detractors Monday night, beating the Jacksonville University Dolphins 72-38 in what was a matchup of the team picked to win the Atlantic Sun South division in the preseason polls (Jacksonville) and the team picked to finish second-to-last (UCF). The Golden Knights were led by a career-high 20-point performance from junior forward Dexter Lyons. Lyons also pulled down 10 rebounds, recording his third double-double of the season.

UCF came out of the locker room with guns a-blazing, starting the game with a 10-2 run, which lasted over four minutes. Jacksonville got on the board four minutes, five seconds into the contest with a three-pointer by Steve Daniels, but the Knights defense would only come back harder midway through the first half, going on an 18-5 run and pulling 44-21 in halftime. During that run, Jacksonville didn't score for nine minutes and only had 12 points with just over two minutes remaining in the first half.

After halftime the Knights didn't let up, beginning with a Dexter Lyons three-pointer right out of the break, growing the lead to 14 before Daniels hit a three-pointer later in the half with a breakaway dunk that brought UCF to 54-30 lead. Lyons said after the game that the crowd, which sounded much larger than it was, helped him play better basketball.

"I love them guys. I absolutely love them. They get me going. When I'm down a little bit, when I made a bad play, I just have them there shouting and it turns me on. I just go from there," Lyons said.

The Golden Knights have been drawing much larger crowds of late, and Coach Kirk Spurrier said that not only has that increased turnout been instrumental to the team's 7-1 home record, but that he would love to see more students come out to the UCF Arena to see their team play.

"I think we've got a team that's showing an awful lot of heart and determination. This is a group that's hard to go behind, easy to cheer for. I don't know what numbers we have student-wise, but let's double it. Yeah, let's triple it." The 22-0 Golden Knights play their next two games on the road against Jacksonville State and Georgia State, but they return home Jan. 30, to take on Belmont at 7:30 p.m.

King sparks UCF over Mercer

KRISTY SHONKA
STAFF WRITER

In Saturday's game against Troy State, the UCF women's basketball team came out flat and remained that way for most of the game. The result: a 67-56 loss. Well, that loss didn't sit too well with Coach Kirk Spurrier who real-ized the Knights' defense would only come back harder midway through the first half, going on an 18-5 run and pulling 44-21 in halftime. During that run, Jacksonville didn't score for nine minutes and only had 12 points with just over two minutes remaining in the first half.

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King scored those 11 points in just 12 minutes on the court. Junior Celeste Hudson scored 12 points and sophomore All Roberts just missed registering a double-double with 10 points and nine rebounds. It was the first time this season the Knights had four players reach double figures in points.

"I think that they came out on Saturday, 'We don't know what numbers we have student-wise, but let's double it. Yeah, let's triple it.'" The 22-0 Golden Knights play their next two games on the road against Jacksonville State and Georgia State, but they return home Jan. 30, to take on Belmont at 7:30 p.m.

King spark...
Fumbling for Football Knowledge

When Super Bowl Sunday rolls around, will you know how to follow the game?

CHARLES MAIER

This Sunday is the biggest sporting event in American culture. And while householdholds all over the nation will gather around the TV sets to watch the biggest football game of the year, the Super Bowl, many viewers may struggle to keep up with the action. This 'Guide to Football' will help you enjoy the game better by explaining the basic rules of the sport.

Between the Bumphs

The game is played on a football field, which is 300 yards long. There are 16 outs at either end of the field. The game is divided into four 15-minute quarters.

The Teams

You need to pick a team to root for...

Gestures

Some common motions you will see at the referees make are:

- Time in: The referee makes a big motion of putting both arms up and then brings them down. This means the play is over.
- Time out: The referee will wave both arms. This means the game has stopped.
- First down: The referee will blow the whistle and the offense is given a new set of downs.
- Second down: The referee will throw a white flag. The team has two more downs to get a first down.
- Third down: The referee will throw a blue flag. The team has three more downs to get a first down.
- Fourth down: The referee will throw a yellow flag. The team has no more downs to get a first down.
- Touchdown: The referee will blow the whistle and the team has scored a touchdown.
- Field goal: The referee will signal the field goal is good and the team has scored.

The Linemen

Quarterback: The quarterback is the leader of the offensive line. He is responsible for calling the plays and distributing the ball to the running backs or wide receivers.

Running Back: The running back is the player who carries the ball. He is responsible for running the ball and scoring touchdowns.

Wide Receiver: The wide receiver is the player who catches the ball. He is responsible for running down the field and catching the ball.

Searching for My Subconscious

I love to travel. When I'm not working, I spend as much time as possible exploring new places and cultures. I believe that traveling not only broadens your horizons, but also allows you to experience new things and learn about yourself.

Lindsey Brown

START WRITER

"Let's talk a little bit about going into the future," rooked a middle-aged version of Heather Locklear, commanding the attention of the middle-aged group gathered in front of her.

"The future," echoed a portly man, stroking his thick brown beard with reverence. "Speaking quietly into a small microphone, the woman, dressed in black boots and a turquoise skirt and jacket, allowed her piercing blue eyes to settle comfortably upon each of her eight students.

I glanced curiously around the small, dimly-lit yellow room. A bookcase was located in one corner, a lamp in another. Resembling a small chapel, a dozen metal chairs were arranged neatly into three rows on the wooden floor, occupied by an agnus of group of attentive answer-seekers.

Sneaky. Needless to say, this was my first time attending a group hypnosis session. Later Wednesday evening, I forked over 50 dollars for a shot at certified hypnotist Diane L. Ross' "hour-long, weekly hypnosis class known as Cutting Edge Consciousness."

When I explained my objective as a columnist, Ross delightfuledly informed me that she had spent years working as a journalist before pursuing hypnotism through the National Guild of Hypnotists and the American Society of Clinical Hypnotherapists.

I briefly entertained the fantasy of regressing my journalistic tendencies and becoming a professional vocational spellcaster.

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY CHRISTIANA ALMENDAR CALIF. PAUL KUHLMAN STAFF PHOTO

PLEASE SEE SPELLING ON 17

THE ROADS LESS TRAVELED

Lindsey Brown

START WRITER

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PHOTOGRAPHED BY CHRISTIANA ALMENDAR CALIF. PAUL KUHLMAN STAFF PHOTO

PLEASE SEE SPELLING ON 17
Gear up to become a football fanatic

The score
There are several ways to score points in a football game. Touchdowns: Worth six points. This happens when one team carries or catches the football in the other team's end zone. The PAT: After a touchdown, the scoring team has the option to kick the ball through the uprights for one additional point.

- Two-point conversion: The scoring team can try for a two-point conversion. This is like scoring another touchdown, but it's only worth two points. Generally teams do not go for two points until late in the game.

Field goal: The field goal is worth three points. A team has to kick the football through the uprights to get this. This is usually attempted only on fourth downs, and the ball has to be close enough to the uprights for a kicker to try, usually within 50 yards.

Time
The game clock runs continuously, but can be stopped periodically throughout the game. The two most common ways are when a punter is incomplete or a player runs out of bounds. Time is also stopped at the end of each quarter and with two minutes to go in the second and fourth quarters. Either team can also call a timeout, up to three times in each half. The officials can also stop the game at any time, or a head coach can challenge a call by the official.

A challenge is when the coach simply throws a red flag onto the field. The officials will then review the play. A coach can do this twice per half. If the coach wins the argument, the referee will overturn the call. The team loses one of the timeouts if the coach loses the argument.

Coin manipulation is one of the key points to winning a football game. The winning team will run the ball a bit, trying to use up as much time as possible, giving the opposing team as little time to work with as they can.

Moving the ball
Each team has four downs to move the ball. If the team can go at least 10 yards in any combination of passing and running, the team is given a new set of downs. If, on the fourth down, the team has not moved the ball forward 10 yards, the team has to decide to go for it, punt or attempt a field goal.

Punt: The offense simply kicks the ball to the defense.

Field goal: Explained earlier.

Go for it: This usually only happens in the following situations: when the offense is on the defense’s side of the football field, the offense has only half a yard or less to go, the offense is too close to the defense’s end zone to punt but too far to try a field goal, the team that has the ball is holding, or the game is almost over.

Penalties
Perhaps the most confusing part of the game. The ones you will see broken the most and the referees use to signal them are:

False start: This is signaled by the referee twisting his hands in a circle in front of his body. If someone on offense moves before the ball is snapped, the play is stopped and the offense is moved back five yards.

Holding: This is signaled by the referee grabbing one wrist with his other hand. No one is allowed to be held except the ball carrier. The offense is penalized 10 yards for holding the defense.

Pass interference: This is signaled by the referee grabbing one wrist with his other hand. This can be ruled on either the offense or defense. These are the calls that really get the crowd worked up. A player has a right to catch the football, and cannot be touched by another player until the ball is touched first. If pass interference is called on the defense, the offense gets the ball wherever the penalty happened. If it’s called on the offense, the team is penalized 10 yards.

And there you have it. You should be able to follow about 95 percent of the Super Bowl now. If you come across something during the game you haven’t mentioned, or you forget some of these basics, remember. Look at the other people’s reactions and follow them.

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Work-out fear stops some

Students sweat the idea of shaping up at the gym

Mike Riegel

Most people go to the gym to work up a sweat. Others, like 22-year-old junior Karen Mauro, start sweating before they even reach the gym. Mauro is afraid of the gym, and that fear keeps her from doing what she wants to do most—get in shape.

"I went to the UCF Recreational and Wellness Center for about five minutes," Mauro said. "It was just overwhelming. It was huge and there were people and machines everywhere. I walked in, and then I walked right back out."

Freshman Dana Bailey, 19, also finds the gym to be an especially unnerving place.

"The first time going out a few times, but it’s intimidating," he said. "I think I will be working out in there, I would look really out of place."".

Sophomore Daniel Beardon, 20, can’t seem to overcome his fear of the gym either.

"People are posing and sinus each other up constantly," he said. "I don’t want to know what they’re thinking about me, so I look for reasons not to go to the gym.”

While a fear of working out in the gym may not technically qualify as a medical condition, plenty of students simply find the experience too demoralizing and choose to sidestep the idea of getting physically fit, at least in the company of others.

Steve Torres, a freelance trainer who has worked with professional athletes in the Orlando area, agrees the conditions are normal, but like the case of low self-esteem. It is essential to remember the narcissistic nature of working out, he said.

Keep your focus inward will delight the from the surroundings,” he said.

Just as Fitzgerald, building manager of UCF’s Recreation and Wellness Center, has a different view of the gym patrons.

"I see people here of all body types doing all types of exercises." he said.

Both agree, however, that students can overcome their fear of the gym very easily if they are really motivated to work out.

Fitzgerald suggests finding a supportive friend who can offer positive reinforcement. And mapping out a fitness plan will also keep students focused on their goals, instead of their insecurities, he said.

"Many people will have a goal in mind and ask a staff member about the best way to reach it," Fitzgerald said.

That's exactly how sophomore Julie Diakos, 19, overcame her fear.

"I didn’t want to go, I didn’t like it and was hard to keep coming back," she said. "Having a plan was what kept me through the beginning."

The next hurdle is the equipment. Fitzgerald says often students are apprehensive about working out with equipment they aren't used to using.

"I've tried going to workout a few times, but it's intimidating. I think I wasn't watching myself in there, I would look really out of place."

—Darin Bailey

UCF student owns thriving local liquor store

Becca Kuchera

"It’s just like any other after school job, I get off work and have fun, the only difference is that I have a responsibility," he said. "It’s a very relaxing job, I don’t make any of my employees push a customer to buy something. I don’t believe in that."

Although Patel said he has not tasted everything in the store, he can still tell the difference between the "to top shelf and the regular stuff." "I like being truthful about the product, if someone asks if a wine is good, I would tell them to try it, then I’m going to tell them, he said.

Most of the customers that come into just regular college students and workers, he added.

"Some people come in and you know what to grab off the shelf," sophomore biochemistry major Josh Haupt, 20, an employee at Pat’s Liquors,Leaf & Wine said.

But when running a liquor store, the occasional alcoholic is inevitable.

"We open at eleven in the morning and sometimes people are walking in at the doors," he added. "Sometimes you see someone everyday for two weeks straight and then you never see them again. It usually turns out we never really do because we are just the people behind the counter and the people behind the counter don’t really care."

There are also many different promotions underdrinks to try alcohol.

"I try to be cool about the underage drinkers," Patel said. "Some people want to embarrass themselves, but I give them a nod, they usually get the picture and leave quietly. Sometimes Though, I’ll get some guy screaming up and down about how his LD is real, but I can’t sell to some guy like that."

Patel has recently had to take some time off from school to keep up with his complexion, the new Wal-Mart liquor store that opened across the street from Patel’s store, as well as the other locally owned stores located within a three-mile radius.

"I’ve had to take the semester off, but I still play for the Rugby team," Patel said. "When the team has recruitment parties we’re responsible for the keg sales, it’s a custom-made thing we do here at the store.

Aside from ice slides, Patel also gives back to the UCF community by offering free liquor samples on Friday and Saturday nights from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. It’s a great way to thank all the loyal customers that have patronized us since our opening in August, Patel said.

"When there are home games I like to give back," he said. "We go out to the games and set up a tent and give away free stuff. Sometimes it’s Pillsbury or whatever promotion stuff we have saved up, but we always like to give away some liquor. You’d be surprised at what some people will do for free alcohol."

Working at Pat’s Liquors, Leaf & Wine is different from everything else, Haupt said.

"I’m just crazy working here, people are always coming in inviting us to parties," he said. "We’re just having a good time, we work late into the night and anything going on in the store. Everybody that works at the store is from around here, we work late into the night and play out and party."

Senior mechanical engineering major Josh Braggins, 22, has worked for Patel since he first opened the store.

"Working here is cool because you get to meet everybody that goes to UCF," Braggins said. "We get invited to all the parties and meet some very cool people. It’s just the perks of the job."

Patel said he is staying with Pat’s Liquors, Leaf & Wine for the time being and is just waiting to see where it will take him.

"We’ve got to play right now, I just enjoy the ride."

The owner of Pat’s Liquors, Leaf & Wine, Mitch Patel, enjoys his day at work with his friends surrounded with a store full of alcohol.
Spelling out the future

FROM PAGE 14

Instead, however, a quick flash of the brushstrokes swirling through "Weekend at Bernie's" brought me swiftly back to reality.

Ross was calmly explaining the various levels of consciousness that one could reach during hypnosis. "We don't want to go into the theta level, which is the deepest level of consciousness, because you won't remember anything," Ross explained. "We only want to go as far as the Alpha-level consciousness, which is the feeling you get right before you fall asleep, even when you're almost dreaming but you can still hear everything."

Incredibly, I breached a deep sigh of relief. I had been getting horrible mental pictures of falling into a trance so deep that I would become a zombie for the rest of my life (think, the heart-attack-hypnoses in "Office Space" gone bad). Or worse, being brainwashed into joining the Brain's Cult of Something.

Here goes nothing, I thought, attempting to squelch the butterflies in my stomach as Ross instructed us to relax and pressed play on her cassette-player. Soft, futuristic music filled the room as Ross continued to speak into the microphone, talking us through a step-by-step process of relaxing every muscle in our bodies, then our minds.

To be perfectly honest, I'm still not sure if I was really hypnotized or just half-dreaming. But whatever it was, it was pretty cool.

While in an altered state, Ross asked us to look at our lives in one year, five years, 10 years and 100 years. She then asked us to look at the Earth and how people were living in 100 years, then 500 years. When our session was over and Ross had firmly guided us back from La-la-land, she encouraged us to share our experiences and visions.

In the 10-year vision, one woman said she met her unmar-ried, childless friend's future 8-year-old son; in the one-year vision, a man saw himself with his mother...at his father's funeral. "The spirit guides knew you were coming," Ross said knowingly.

And for my own hypnotic visions, I had a couple of night-marish visions about misery and loved ones oneself.

However, I'm too skeptical to jump to the conclusion that those visions were prophetic or truthful; instead, I think they may have simply been a product of the things I felt subconscious­ly guilty about.

One hilarious example of this self-approach was the horri-bile nightmare/vision of getting a Dolly Parton-styled surgically enhanced bust, which I shared with the group.

"Maybe you're trying to get something off your chest," one man suggested solemnly.

The group members' 100-year predictions were less believable. Every one of them seemed to have seen the same colorless, stereotypical forecast of rubble everywhere and people living underground. Now perhaps their predictions were accurate, but I must admit that I saw nothing except campy re­runs of "The Jetsons" running through my head, which I doubt was anything more than my overactive imagination.

But who cared? Regardless of the visions' truth value, my imaginations were enough to warn me that I'd better make a few changes in my life now to prevent inevitable failure later. So the question of whether or not I buy into all that "floaty­woody" stuff is now rather rel­evant. Instead, I now respect hypnosis as a highly misunderstood tool that can motivate people by allowing them to listen to their deepest intuitions.

As we walked out of the Sage building, I learned that the brown-bearded man was a certi­fied hypnotist who brings his hypnosis act to colleges and clubs.

"Who knows, I might do a show at UCF soon," he boasted honestly. "You can be one of my on-stage guinea pigs.

And have him trick me into believing like a real guinea pig? Maybe next lifetime, I don't think I'm quite ready for the hypnosis performances circuit yet.

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Bonus
5 Madison Ave
10 Sol
14 Mom's potato salad
16 Tilt
17 Morfo, as in score
18 Services
20 Underwater
22 Jaguar
24 On
26 Go-Go
27 Macedonian
30 Everlasting
32 Living room
36 Goblet
42 Santa, as in...go.
44 Noodle
45 Wine
47 Rummage
50 Early computer game
51 Rain jacket
53 Rider of polo
55 Clay of Iowa's capital
60 Semaphore
62 Corporations
64 Old canvas
65 Venetian capital
67 Culture
68 "return" singer
69 Musicians
72 Adress Book
71 Wise off
72 Down
74 Not high
76 Comedy
78 Camera
80 Goggles
82 Performer
84 Photographer
86 Injuries severely

DOWN
2 Noodle
3 Bicycle bell
4 Stamps
6 Hug
7 Triggers
8 Shoots
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8 Author Barron
9 Noval
10 Urgent requests
11 God
12 Old money in Italia
13 Holy
19 Fried
21 Serafina
22 Abbot
27 Henry Holiday
28 Mount Hood's
cave
30 Toothed ground
31 Solitude
32 Trig
33 Snail's trail of hub
34 Aphid
35 Cohort of Henry
36 Bubbly for ball
41 Crossword
44 Strip
47 Salesman
49 Total
50 Airport
52 Screen
55 "Papa grunts"
56 Meeting
57 Unarmed as a...contract
58 Talents
59 "Talented" or "Talented"
61 Greenert
62 Sandwichman
63 Spoon
64 Alligator
65 Rattler
66 Coconut
67 Alligator
68 Koala, as in..."50 Years"
69 "Papa grunts"
70 Address Book

Please see solutions on page 19

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