Greeks maintain upper hand in student politics

Joel Addington
STAFF WRITER

At UCF, Greeks and government are a synergistic phrase. Five years of student body presidential elections have proven thus. Since 1996, student body presidents have shared one common characteristic—they were all members of a Greek organization.

After Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity member Jason Murphy took office in 1996, Greek membership is the platform that propelled future presidents into office.

Murphy's predecessor, Darren Puttin, was a Sigma Alpha Epsilon and his predecessor, Andrew Capitelli, was a Sigma Chi. In 2000, Dennis Szymanski's affiliation with Lambda Chi Alpha won him the student body presidency.

No Greek candidate has been more successful and has had more support than current student body president Marcus Peña. For the past three years, he has served at the top of student government—his first term as student body vice president in 2000 and then as student body president in 2001 until now.

His affiliation with Sigma Alpha Epsilon has put Peña into office with landslide victories.

And while independent candidates have stepped up to the challenge to run against Greek candidates who campaign with the support of an entire Greek community behind them, none have been successful in winning the presidential candidacy.

In a school of 38,000 students, where less than 10 percent are Greek, membership in many circles how Greeks manage to maintain the majority in student government.

Neil Goo, interfraternity council vice president of Administration and Communications, believes Greeks can ease into student government positions more easily than independent candidates because they have the polish and training the average independent candidate does not.

"Fraternities and sororities not only make it a characteristic—they were the first people to mold leaders, but also give you the support and confidence that a person would not get if they were not Greek," he said. "Also, with opportunity in Greek organizations to hold office positions, a person can learn from that and move up to a higher level such as SGA.

Benjamin Mongolow, a member of Beta Theta Pi, believes student government leaders are usually Greek because Greek organizations have made it a habit of selecting the most elite individuals.

"This often means we are involved in leadership positions, held higher GPAs than the average student.

PLEASE SEE GREEKS ON 3

Inflammatory e-mail stuns student government

Van Vorhees says he attacked policy, not race

Ben Baird
STAFF WRITER

SGA senator Tyler Van Vorhees stunned SGA officials after he sent out an e-mail that many say contained inappropriate and racist comments about student-body presidential candidates.

In his e-mail, Van Vorhees, a member of UCF's Trial Team, encouraged trial team members to vote for certain unofficial presidential candidates for SGA's upcoming election that he believed would best serve the Trial Team's personal interests. The candidates he named remain unofficial until they can declare their intent to run this Wednesday.

His e-mail continued to explain which candidates he did not like, encouraging them for supporting minority and ethnic groups on campus.

Specifically, he criticized Brian Kirsh, current student body vice president, calling him "the ticket of death." He wrote: "Kirsh has con-

PLEASE SEE Senator on 4

UCF conducts millions of dollars of research for military agencies. Projects range from tanks to human simulators

Jason Issay
STAFF WRITER

Within UCF's Research Park, researchers Mike Dolezal and Gary Green are perfecting an Army tank simulator to present Congressmen in Washington D.C. next month, while researcher Charles Hughes is developing a virtual reality environment that projects graphs and even fire on walls, which simulates an urban combat situation.

The million-dollar simulation projects are more than just war games though—they are the new training devices the military uses every day to prepare military for real-life battles. As the United States marches toward war with Iraq, UCF researchers are mounting technology projects to assist the nation's military on the front line that can preserve life—and destroy it.

J. Peter Rinaldo's research today centers around preserving life. A researcher at UCF's Institute of Simulation and Training, Rinaldo's...
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Lobbyists prepare for battle over Bright Futures

Lobbying firm Gray Harris, USA map out goals for legislative session

Danielle DePari
Staff Writer

Following student Government Association’s hiring of the lobbying firm Gray Harris this month, UCF’s influence in Tallahassee should grow. The firm, along with the Florida Student Association, helps SGAs legislative initiatives in an effort to better represent the student population. Joshua Grossmann, SGA Director of Governmental Affairs, said SGA was in the process of hiring Gray Harris last semester. He explained that the contract had to make its way through bureaucratic channels, so this time around SGA works with Gray Harris through the firm’s Orlando and Tallahassee offices. Grossmann communi...
Lobbyists to push funds for students and schools

FROM PAGE 3

Bright Futures Scholarship, work with PID funding issues and preserve the SGA Statutory Codification.

In the current budget crisis, stakeholders or bipartisan debates to change the Bright Futures Scholarship to save money and encourage legislators want to make the scholarship need-based, others want to reduce funding. The stakeholders are trying to keep the funding the same.

Unlike Bright Futures, which provides money for individual students, PID funding is the amount of government funding provided to universities based on the number of students enrolled. Although the universities still indirectly receive the funding from the Florida State Legislature, the state only funds a portion of the state's budget. The state has proposed to provide only 60% of the funding for the current legislative session.

"Most schools are way behind in funding. PID in particular," Grosshans said. "The state has promised as many as 85% of its budget may be fighting to get it."

This past summer SGA became part of the Florida Legislature (House Bill 335). The statute spells out procedures that SGA must follow. In the statute it states the way members can be elected in, size of government, and other specifications. The bill also requires the Senate and House to have an SGA, one of the most important issues the bill addresses.

Grosshans said the SFA has fought for this provision for a long time. In the summer when the Board of Trustees was implemented, the statutes were modified in House Bill 335. The bill outlined the role of the president of the university and the trustees, SGA was given the opportunity to add something to it and thought it was the perfect opportunity.

House Bill 335 benefits SGA because until now students did not have the right to sit down SGA when administrators clash with their opinions and decisions.

This happened at UCF in 1998 when President Bill disbanded the Student Senate.

Administrators still have control over the financial revenue of SGA, however, decisions must go through the Board of Trustees.

"In my opinion, administrators should not have the power to dictate how the SGA is run," Grosshans said.

Grosshans added that the bill is "hardly unique to review," and Gray Harris is working to keep the statute the same.

Van Voorhees signed his e-mail like you are considering the SGA's role in the legislature.

Van Voorhees has been charged with ethics violations.

"I support PID lobbying because they help protect my financial interest as a student by helping to keep my tuition low," Doe said.

FROM PAGE 2

Senator condemns e-mail as unethical and racist

"I will unequivocally deny that I am a racist," Van Voorhees told the e-mail critics.

"I support PID lobbying because they help protect my financial interest as a student by helping to keep my tuition low," Doe said.

Van Voorhees denied his e-mail was inappropriate or racist and contends the issues being provided to the e-mail critics are the candidates' policies, not their race or ethnicity.

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Interfraternity Council
Fraternity Recruitment Schedule
Spring 2003

Fraternity Recruitment Kickoff
Pick up a registration application and learn more about fraternity life
at UCF.
Date: Tuesday, January 28
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: UCF Arena

Fraternity Recruitment
Ask questions, define time commitments, financial obligations and
learn about membership requirements. This is a great time to meet
people and get acquainted.
Date: January 29 - February 1
Time: 9:00 p.m.
Location: Greek Park

For more information contact:
IPC / Greek Council at 407-823-2072
Mark Lim, IPC VP Recruitment, 407-482-9721, e-mail: riccpapa32@aol.com
http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~ipc
http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~gogreek

Group Kickoff
AppleCorps @ UCF, A Campus Apple Users Group
Friday January 31 • 12-2pm • Student Union, Key West 218
applecorps.ucf.edu

It’s Coming.
Motivation drives 76-year-old to pursue dreams

Laurea Stevens

Wilbur Houston is no ordinary student. He has been a meat cutter, a sailor, a manager, a window cleaner, an actor, a motivational speaker and now is a student for the second time—at 76 years old.

This semester, Houston is auditing classes, which means he takes classes but does not pay tuition. Life is only taking Italian this semester.

"Follow your own path," Houston said. "Not someone else’s, because when you follow your own dictates, you know you messed up because of you."

His mother died from tuberculosis when he was 11. He was put in charge of the cafeteria.

Next, he was named assistant manager of a small restaurant at the hotel and he was put in charge of the cafeteria.

He has held many jobs and taken many detours on a path that has led him to UCF. Houston talked about his path during his presentation, and stressed the importance of staying positive.

"I got a big kick out of that," Houston said. "I went into Hyatt hotels and I knew I wasn’t going to stay busying dinner."

More jobs and promotions followed, including the opportunity to manage other restaurants.

"I’ve always been moving," Houston said. "When the time came for graduation, a student from each specialization was awarded honors. Houston had turned in his work early, wrote a letter that was black and white, and another boy received the honor instead.

Time passed for graduation, and Houston took his work to the president’s office.

"I told the president to call me," he said. "I was going to leave then."

Houston and his wife of 10 years went to Italy last summer with UCF’s study abroad program, and Houston has continued to audit Italian classes at UCF whenever he can.

"I get the chance to experience conversations with a lot of different folks," he said. "I thoroughly enjoy being able to take classes because I get a chance to meet new people."
Bridging the gap between technology, human capability

FROM PAGE 1

J. Peter Kincaid shows off the simulated human patient, named Stan for standard man, to medics how to treat combat injuries. Kincaid, a professor in the Department of Experimental Psychology at UCF, has conducted research on how medics can be trained to handle life-and-death situations.

Kincaid, equipped with lifelike skin, organs and blood, allows medics to practice treating internal injuries and limb wounds. Civilian organizations, including Orange County Fire Rescue and the UCF School of Nursing, now use the simulated human patient as well.

Created in 1992, UCF's Institute of Simulation and Training conducts $4 to $6 million in simulation projects, working closely with the Federal Aviation Administration and the military.

Eduardo Salas, director of applied experimental and human factors doctoral program at the IST, also conducts research in the field of human factors simulation.

"I try to develop principles, tools, techniques [that] methods to enhance the way the Army, Navy and military in general train their troops," Salas said.

Salas said human factors research strives to bridge the gap between the technology and human capabilities.

"We build these things so sophisticated that most of the troops can't use [the technology]," he said. "We redesign the simulations to make them more user-friendly!"

He said the military research conducted at UCF benefits many parties.

"It helps national goals. It helps local goals. It helps the local economy. It helps students, because it supports a lot of students. It supports a lot of faculty. It supports the local economy. There is a lot of money in simulation," Salas said.

The military research projects provide opportunities for graduate students in psychology and other fields to conduct research. "What we give the students is the full experiences of experimental research," Salas said. "They do everything from library work, running the experiment, analyzing the data and writing the report."

Although many graduate students gain valuable experience working on projects at the IST, most undergraduate students do not know about the research that goes on here at UCF. "When informed of the research, students' opinions ranged from full support of military research at UCF to strong opposition to the projects."

Junior Richard Younkins, 19, a U.S. Army veteran and Florida National Guardsmen, offered his opinion on the research projects. "I fully support any military activity that happens at UCF or anywhere. In this world," Younkins said. "UCF should accept any money from the military if they are co-operating in accordance to their needs."

"UCF is in a public institution and military money originates from the tax payers. It is just being funnelled back into the system," Younkins added.

Others support the military research conditionally.

"I'm not particularly for or against any military activity that happens at UCF or anywhere else in the world," Younkins said. "However, if we are to spend a lot of money on the military, I would be OK with spending money on field medicine or training to reduce civilian casualties in urban environments. However, new ways to kill people is not necessary."
College peers help grade school kids plan for future

Student, which happened two years ago this coming Monday, the NTSB blamed pilot error and electrical problems. The pilot became disoriented because of distractions to families, but also gives a chance to talk regularly with current college students.

The company trains “campus peers” to guide future applicants through a personalized curriculum designed to help high-school students understand their academic interests and decide what type of college experience they want.

During weekly one-on-one chats over the ConnectEdu Web site, the campus peers monitor how students are preparing for college, answer questions about campus life and offer encouragement.

The company may not be within reach of many families, however. Although students and their parents can schedule a one-time consultation with a ConnectEdu adviser and a campus peer for $39, the cost of the full package, which continuing access to the company’s resources, is approximately $5,000.

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**OUR STANCE:**

### SGA needs non-Greek leaders

From Jan. 27 to Jan. 30, students interested in leading the campus can register for the upcoming election next month, when students will elect a new student body president and vice president. Hopefully some non-Greek student leaders will throw their hats in the ring this year.

Although students from the Greek system can do so with relative ease, students from non-Greek organizations would have a more difficult time to make decisions on its own, without having to rely on the advice of fellow students.

**OUR STANCE:**

### Athletic independence should help teams

The board of Trustees approved a plan to make the UCF Athletic Department financially independent of UCF. UCF joins a small group of Division 1-A universities with non-profit athletic departments, most notably the University of Texas. Although the move will not necessarily improve UCF’s athletic program, it could help the program get better. Additional funds may allow the football team to invest in facilities, which it needs because of the constraints that occur so often during the beginning of the season. More practice time should make the team better.

The improved funds-existing ability of the UCF Athletic Association will benefit more than just the football team. The softball team may get its stadium sooner; since it may have the funds to complete it all at once rather than in phases. Additional funds may allow the baseball team to add more seating to the baseball stadium, which would allow the team to host regional tournaments.

In theory, the athletic program will have more money to pay its coaches, which would allow it to retain its best coaches and recruit talented coaches to fill vacancies.

UCF athletic director Steve Orini has experience with this type of arrangement. During his previous jobs, as associate athletic director at Georgia Tech and associate AD and treasurer at Navy, the universities had private athletic departments. Orini approves of the change; he would not go along with it if it was a bad idea.

No one knows how successful the athletic program will be operating independently of UCF, but the program could improve, so it is a good move.

**Correction:** Due to an editing error, Shayne Calhoun’s name was misspelled in a caption in the January 25 issue.

---

**BIG BILL:** Big Bill is watching you.

**Who’s behind me?**

**MENTAL DOODLES**

**CHRISTOPHER ARNOLD**

**STAFF WRITER**

The impending war with Iraq is on hold.

**That’s right — troop deployments have ceased; carriers are pulling out; soldiers are coming home. Why the sudden change of plans?**

**France does not want to participate.**

**Apparently, the scheduled strike dates conflict with a national religious holiday whose name translates to “Sortex Lewis Month.” Still, France’s decision should not come as a surprise, since similar decisions in the past always seemed to work out well for the nation.**

**There are still any number of other nations out there ready to stand beside us China, Russia, even Germany even to mild — or at least, they might have if they had not recently expressed similar reservations about a war against Iran.**

But these details are moot points, really. After all, President Bush, or “W” — so I am everybody else likes to call him — has assured us that if and when we go to war, we will do so with international support. And by “international support,” he no doubt means that his brother Jeb Bush has pledged the full support of the state he governs, Florida.

After hearing some of the words our current president has stringed together into what he must have thought were coherent sentences, but were actually a modern day “Mad Libs,” this might not be too far from the truth.

**UK weapons inspectors have reported that Iraqi scientists are being tutored in how to answer their questions. Can’t someone tutor our guy? Of course, he has speechwriters helping him now, but apparently that isn’t enough.**

**A speech reader perhaps?**

**Or better yet, why not have the voice of that guy who narrates movie trailers dubbed over “W” on second thought, that might not work.**

**Personally, I might just start expecting the president to give us updates on Godzilla’s whereabouts if that were the case.**

**Bush’s poor speaking skills aside, however, we are still left with the issue of whether or not we will have to stand alone against Iraq.**

**We will undoubtedly receive some support from other countries, but will we?**

**PLEASE SEE Two-for-one on 10**
Raise your cup, throw it away

KATRINA HAMMER
STAFF WRITER

It is expected that a majority of college students attend parties. It is also expected that a majority of college students will drink. A lot of beer is consumed at these parties and take shots of whatever kind of liquor is available.

It is not expected, however, that they will leave your house or apartment in the condition it was when they first arrived. In other words, expect the house or apartment to be trashed.

This is not an expectation that I really would like to accept; instead, allow me to introduce party etiquette. The house or apartment should stay decently clean and people should try to clean up after themselves.

While I am not new to the party scene, I recently hosted my first one for my 21st birthday party. The lag was dragged to my second floor apartment and placed on the balcony. Attendees started in flood in the usual standard red plastic cups were passed out.

Several hours passed and the party reached its maximum. A lot of people who were there formed around the rooms and everyone was having a good time. The conversations were loud, people were everywhere and I was almost out of plastic cups. I lost my keg cup, people would say and I would point to the few remaining cups on the dining room table only to later find an abandoned cup in my bathroom next to the toilet or one in some obscure place in the kitchen.

As the night wore on, the party guests became louder, drunker and stupider. The couch in the living room had a cup of beer spilled on it, someone threw up in the sink and people began throwing trash and other things over the balcony to the ground below.

I understand that needlessly things can always happen and people do some stupid things to have fun, but I feel that people should be able to at least try not to make a mess in another person's home.

My roommate and I placed two garbage cans in the kitchen in an effort to keep our apartment clean. It was worth a shot, but unfortunately did not work.

The next morning I found red plastic cups scattered everywhere — everywhere but the trash cans. I studied sets of beer on the couch, saw puke and empty bottles and cans all over the kitchen. The kitchen trash cans sat almost completely empty.

A friend of mine, however, had it much worse. She threw a party last night and her dog had been unrolled on the house and was apparently trashed. My goal here is not to complain and ruin the fun of parties; instead, I would like to suggest some simple tips for party-givers.

Don’t be a jerk. If you’re going to throw a party, throw it. Have to pee? Do not use the dog, use a restroom. Feel sick? Head outside or toward a toilet rather than, well, anywhere else. It is that simple and will make the party thrower so much happier.

The host or hosspice provides guests with a place to socialize, relax and, of course, drink beer, take shots or whatever their pleasure.

Help them out. They have made our night by providing something fun to do, make their morning with one less thing for them to have to clean up.

To that, raise your cup, and when finished, throw it away.

Two-for-one mental doodles

FROM PAGE 9

receive enough? And while I am not trying to imply that we cannot eliminate Iraq on our own, we need to stop creating a reputation and an image to uphold in the eyes of the world.

I have taken the liberty of deciding several alternatives to war that just might suffice in solving the problem of Iraq once and for all.

1. Al Sharpton could announce he is a candidate for the presidency of Iraq. He did the same thing here, and a day later his office went on fire. A lot of people might have seen him as some sort of dignitary, but not Sharpton. So let’s see if we can harness that magic and unleash it on our country.

And after the CIA sets him up in his new “campaign headquarters” conveniently located next door to Saddam’s palace, the crisis is over.

2. Send in the beast. That’s right, the United States is home to countless zoos — and by “countless” I didn’t look up the figures. As that noblest of television institutions Fox Television recently pointed out, animals are tough. So why can’t we compel alongside humans, only two were beaten by us?

Of those two, one was defeated by a Navy SEAL. So I say let’s activate Operation Dustin’s Drop and shift it into Iraq a plethora of pachyderm platoons supported by bear hulls and impala artillery.

Crisis over.

3. If there is to be a war and it bores more and more those that will really stay up have Jerry Bruckheimer producing the actuals.

Crisis over.

4. Oakland Raiders fans lose.

Sorry, I’m not sure yet how a plan that involves them, but they are a sorry bunch.

And on that note, I would like to congratulate the Cleveland Browns on their Super Bowl XXXVII victory.

An extra mental doodle

Frankly, I’m still confused. Frankly, recent special “Plan vs. Basic” was blinded as just that.

Their marketing machine led me to believe that I was to root for the human competitors, because, well, it was us versus them.

So I entered into this less-than-the-entertainment fare with just that intention. The first event was a hot dog eating contest between a Kodiak Bear and the current world champion, who is from Japan. It was a long shot, I know, but I had to root for the human.

Then I noticed it. A dresses, flag hung behind the human competitor while an American flag hung behind the bear. The show was man versus beast, but the beast in this case was from the U.S.

I must have slid into some sort of cognitive state as the debate over whom I was supposed to root for went on inside my head. As a result, I don’t remember any of the rest of that hour.

Thank goodness they retired that special; I didn’t need those brain cells, after all.

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Hot second half lifts UCF over FAU

Sadie Sham
Staff Writer

After a slow start, the UCF women's basketball team beat Florida Atlantic, 77-62 and now shares a three-way tie for the top spot in the Atlantic Sun's South Division with Troy State and FAU. FAU (6-10 overall, 4-1 Atlantic Sun) started strong, jumping out to a 17-0 lead. UCF (8-8, 4-1) took the lead for the first time with about two minutes remaining in the first half. The game was tied at 33 at halftime.

When the Knights stormed onto the court in the second half, a completely different team had entered the arena. A three-pointer from freshman Shayla Smith got the Knights going. "We always talk about how in the first five minutes of the second half we need to jump on them," UCF Coach Gail Striegler said. "Smith hitting that three-point shot really got us going." UCF maintained its lead throughout the second half, even with a 22-point game from FAU forward Tamiya Pierce. Junior forward Adrienne Billings racked up a season-high 16 points for the Knights. UCF shot 54.4 percent from the field.

In the second half, "They decided that they really wanted it tonight," Striegler said. "FAU totally jumped on us in the second half."

After a slow start, the Gators improved to 14-6 on the year and 6-1 in the Atlantic Sun.

Men's basketball picks up two key road wins

Kristy Shonka
Staff Writer

The Golden Knights extended their winning streak to four games Saturday with a double-overtime win over Georgia State. UCF beat Jacksonville State on Thursday on a pair of free throws by Ray Abellard with four seconds left. After UCF and Georgia State managed just two points apiece in the first overtime period, the Golden Knights outscored the Panthers 12-5 in the second overtime for an 84-74 win. UCF improved to 14-6 on the year and 6-1 in the Atlantic Sun.

The Panthers led 47-45 with 2:11 left in regulation, but Abellard closed the lead to two with 2:01 left. Roberto Morentin hit a pair of free throws to tie it at 67 with just over a minute to go and that's where the scoring ended. Georgia State missed its last shot and Ed Dotson hit five free throws to end the scoring.

Four UCF players reached double figures, but only the starting five scored for the Knights. Abellard led all players with 24 points and Dotson registered career highs with 22 points and 14 rebounds. Dexter Lyons had 18 points, while Marcus Boyd had 10 points, seven rebounds and five steals. Against Jacksonville State, Abellard and Morentin combined for 22 points in the second half, leading the Golden Knights to their fourth straight win.

Gators pull out two close games over UCF

Matt Bethun
Staff Writer

Rachel Schmidt and Taylor Sawyer played brilliantly for UCF, but their individual efforts weren't enough as the Knights dropped both games of their season-opening doubleheader to the University of Florida on Saturday afternoon at the UCF softball complex.

The day turned out to be a tale of two players for UCF. In the opening game Schmidt homered twice, and her five RBIs accounted for all the team's offense in its 6-5 defeat. And fresh off a three-time-unilfing stink in the first game, Taylor Sawyer pitched a complete game one-hitter for the Knights in the rubber match, yet came away the hard luck loser as UCF was shut out 4-0.

The opening game was expected to be a pitchers duel between UCF's Dottie Cupp and UF's Jenny Gladding. Cupp went 2-00 in 2002 and pitched a 1.11 ERA for the Golden Knights. Gladding, a junior transfer from the University of Arizona, went 21-6 last year and was a member of two College World Series teams during her two years at Arizona.

The Gators struck early against Cupp,
Roberts, Washington injured in victory

FROM PAGE 11

beginning. They were making every shot, but we fought back and attacked them and put them on their heels. In the past, when we've been up by 10 or so points we started slack­ ing. But tonight when we were up, we stayed up. I think that's something we've rarely done. It's a big improvement. "

The kids are just going to have to step up and shoot," Striegler said. "To me, free throws are freebies and the girls need to be able to hit them. We try to put them in pressure situations in practice, but we'll keep working on it."

Even though she only bad­ lied five points on the score­ board, it was an eventful night for senior Erin Paige, as she surpassed the 700 career­ points milestone. "Erin didn't have one of her best games tonight, but she did a lot of good things for us," Striegler said. "Erin is a leader. She's just been a solid player since she's been here and I'm glad to see her getting some recognition for it."

Also acknowledged was sophomore Ali Roberts. Before the game, Striegler and UCF's Athletics Director Steve Orsini presented her with a signed basketball to commemorate her record for most blocks in a career with 90.

UFC did lose two players Needing improvement, in the game because of injuries however, was the team's free- though. Marvelous Washington throw percentage. The Knights wenf down with a deep quad bruise. She may not partici­ pate in Monday's practice, but will likely play in Thursday's game. Ali Roberts suffered a high ankle sprain, but is expected to see playing time this week. "The kids are just going to have to step up and shoot, " Striegler said. "='They've played all year. I'm very proud of them because they went out and executed everything we'd been practicing all week. They really did it."

From RAFU

Abellard, Morentin lead UCF over Gamecocks

FROM PAGE 11

ing UCF in a period that saw 15 lead changes and nine ties. Neither team could pull away, as the largest lead by either team was four points. The Knights hold on 45-33 win.

The Gamecocks' Double Richardson hit two free throws to put his team up 42-41 with 1:35 left in the game. Abellard answered though, nailing a three-pointer with the shot clock winding down, to give the advantage back to the Knights

The Gamecocks led 64-62. But Jay Howard hit his second 3-pointer of the game with 13 seconds left, cutting the lead to one. Howard then hit one of two free throws with 13 seconds left to tie the game. That's when Abellard was fouled, and the senior hit both for a two-point UCF advantage. The Knights hold on for the win.

The Gamecocks led 34-33 at halftime. Abellard and Morentin were the only Knights to reach double figures in scoring. Abellard had 21 while Morentin added 16. UCF shot 41.3 percent from the floor, but just 35.0 percent from the free­ throw line.

Senor Ray Abellard scored 45 points in the Knights' wins over Jacksonville State and Georgia State.

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Field goal propels Team USA over Team Florida

UCF's Jimmy Fryzel led all receivers with seven catches

Chris Bernhardt Staff Writer

When UCF wide receiver Jimmy Fryzel caught two passes for first downs in the opening drive of Saturday's Rotary Gridiron Classic, he might have believed he could take flight to Texas Florida. But as a 45-yard kick from Cincinnati's Jonathan Brown fell well through the uprights with just 13 seconds left, Team USA clinched a 23-17 victory.

Once again the Citrus Bowl played host to this college all-star game, started in 1900. It pits one team comprised almost entirely of players either from Florida or Florida schools against one full of top college players from around the nation. This year's event included three Golden Knight players: Fryzel, defensive end Elton Patterson and centerback Austin Samuel.

It also featured UCF Coach Mike Krzyzewski as one of Team Florida's co-head coaches, though technically the traditionally pass-first coach and former quarterback reached the running lane.

"It was fun," Krzyzewski said. "I had a good time. I'll tell you, we were invited to this game were good people. Good people, great characters. These games mean a lot to them, but being straight up for our team means a lot to them, too."

Saturday's Rotary Gridiron Classic was the last game at the Citrus Bowl.

Morris Brown, Bethune-Cookman next

From Page 11

scraping across a run in the first inning on Jennifer Mozellode's RBF double. UCF left the bases loaded in the first, but picked up right where it left off in the final inning. Lindsey Cameron led off the second inning with a single, and one out later scored on Jenelle Garner's RBF triple. Garner also scored on the play after the relay throw from left field sailed wide of the plate. The Gators added another run in the inning on a Gaddig RBF single to take a 5-0 lead.

Cupp settled down however, and the score remained 4-0 heading into the bottom of the fourth. Nikki Grider led off the inning with a walk, and Schmidt came up to the plate knowing the team was in desperate need of a hit.

"I just thought, 'It's or do the right here,'" Schmidt said. "I got lucky and it went over the fence."

Lusk or not, Schmidt took Gaddig's 2-2 offering over the left field fence for a two-run home run and the Gators lead was down to two.

Mozelle homered to lead off the fifth inning for Florida, but the Knights once again clawed back into the game. Treliving 5-2 with two outs in the bottom of the fifth, Janis Shindler scored and Green washed, bringing Schmidt to the plate. The right fielder delivered once again for the Knights, tying the game with a three-run home run. Schmidt's two home runs practically equaled her entire total during the 2002 season, when she went deep three times.

"The second time I was aiming for just a double into right, right-center," she said. "It just so happened it went over the fence again."

Neither team would score again the next two frames, and the game went to extra innings. Cupp departed after the fifth inning surrendering five runs on nine hits. Gaddig went six innings, allowing five runs on six hits and striking out five. The Knights had a chance to win in the bottom of the seventh when they loaded the bases with one out. Stephanie Best struck out to end the threat.

The Gators scored once in the top of the eighth on a Garner RBF single to take a 6-2 lead. The Knights had runners on the corners with two outs in the bottom half of the inning, but Kayson Clark struck out to end the frame. Amanda Moore got the win for the Gators after pitching two scoreless innings of relief. Sawyer got the loss once again for the Knights, as the sophomore became the lucky loser for the Knights, pitching seven innings and allowing only one earned run. But she did not give up the most effective pitcher in the game. "We played great defensively, but we just didn't have the hits when we needed them," Sawyer said.

UCF Coach Renee Lussier-Gillett agreed. "We should have taken it to them, but we just weren't aggressive enough to take the second game," she said.

The Knights have been greatly under-managed so far this season, with only thirteen players on the roster. Schmidt admits it has been difficult for the team to adjust. "A lot of people are playing out of position," she said. "When you make one substitution, you have to make more. It's hard to get people to accommodate holes and people's abilities. It's tough.

Lussier-Gillett liked what she saw from her team defensively but admits that the team has a lot to work on early in the year. "The defense is very poor defensively out there, but that's part of going through your first game," she said. "The thing we always talk about is ball security. It's hard to get it out of them. It happened early in the game, but we're able to come back andweeney's 17-3 win due to a strong pitching performance. But we were able to come away with a victory."

The Knights faced much stronger Saturday afternoon at the Seminole Team Tournament in Tallahassee. In the morning play, the Knights lost to Alabama-Birmingham 4-2, but rebounded in the afternoon to defeat Tennessee 3-2. Increased heat for the Knights with a 4-2 win over Florida Atlantic, followed by a 6-1 win over Florida A&M's LaVaughn Miller 5-6. UCF had almost two weeks off before their next match, a home date Feb. 7 against Bellis.
Women's tennis team starts season with win over JU

Sadie Sham  
Staff Writer

In its 2003 season opener, the UCF women's tennis team triumphed Atlantic Sun rival Jacksonville on Thursday afternoon at the UCF Tennis Complex. Senior Maritelle Gunawan shined as the Golden Knights struggled through cold, windy conditions and beat the Dolphins 7-0.

UCF won all three matches in doubles play, which is hopeful to a team that has struggled in this category in the past. Last season the Knights posted a 25-41 record in doubles. Gunawan and Julie Pecastaing played at the No. 1 position, defeated Jacksonville's Nisrine Hajbane and Kim Packer 8-3. Anna Westin and Pamela Fernandez eased by Tamara Kaftalovich and Martina Strusova, 5-3, in No. 2 doubles. In No. 3 doubles, Kristiina Lohmus and Amira Siavari won a back and forth match, beating Amber Otto and Kristina Puck, 6-4.

At the No. 1 singles position, Gunawan was stellar, defeating Hajbane, 6-3, 6-2. Westin picked up another UCF win at No. 2, defeating Packer, 7-5, 6-4. Pecastaing defeated Strusova, 7-6, 6-1, at No. 3 singles. Lohmus knocked off Kaftalovich, 6-3, 6-0 at the No. 4 spot. Fernandez, a freshman, was victorious in her dual match debut, getting by Puck, 6-3, 6-4. Ola Ljucnak quietly defeated Otto at the No. 6 position, 6-4, 6-2.

The Knights next match is 2:30 p.m. Sunday at home against Rollins.

ATO leading the pack of dodgeball teams

Julie Reeves  
Contributing Writer

To most, avoiding flying rubber objects is about as difficult as it gets for a hundred of teams. It's like a walk in the park. The first week of dodgeball has come and gone, and Sigma Chi, defended summer dodgeball champ, is ranked second ahead of the first week tournament. ATO, another Atlantic Sun team, is currently on top of the charts after its six-match winning streak. Sigma Chi, ranked first with flawless records in week one, but ATO holds the edge due to the modified "DPS" points system that takes margin of victory into account.

Some of the highlights of the first night were Phi Kappa Phi defeating the O'Doylea, two games to one. The O'Doylea have appeared in the championship game of the previous three dodgeball events, winning the inaugural tournament. Phi Kappa Phi's John Crawford led his team in getting out, but was the key emotional leader in the win.

End of the game also went undefeated on the first night of play as the looping lefty Clint Crawford led his team in outs. The makeup of the night however was SIG's win over the Trojans. TSL, whose team sports 5 females in the starting lineup, whipped up on the all-male Trojans.

Thirty-nine teams entered into the four-week dodgeball league, and only one will win the fall championship, Camelot. Games are played Friday nights in the Recreation and Wellness Center.
Under the Sea

Divers drawn to deep blue worlds

Personal Treasures

Eclectic tastes reflected in the things collectors fancy

Libby Bird

Staples for Smith, at does not have a stamp or coin collection. Instead, she has
been collecting little things. "I’ve been
picking up little things for years and just
piling them up."

Her dad helps her look back through her
collection. "We’ve got some Alaska
coolers, some little gifts my mom and
dad got in Alaska."

Mallory, her younger sister, "loves" the
collection as well. "I’m not sure if I
like them all the time, but I like to
look at the stamps and coins."

Smith is always looking for more,
adding "I like stamps and coins."

"My dad is a stamp and coin
human being," she said. "And he
would have the most."

"I like stamps."

"I like coins."

PHOTO BY CHRISSY ARnow

KATRINA HAMMER

STAFF WRITER

Freshman Danny Rood would
rather be underwater than sitting
in class on any day.

Rood, 19, has been a certified
scuba diver for over two
years. "I really enjoy diving," he said. "There is
a whole other world to see underwater."

Rood has gone diving in the Florida Keys, the Gulf of
Mexico and other exotic places such as Cozumel,
Mexico.

"With Florida’s warm temperatures, scuba diving is
a popular hobby. The bodies of water within Florida
and those that surround it provide divers with an
elegant environment to explore. Florida offers
saltwater, freshwater and cave diving, each with a
different experience for the diver."

Scuba divers can see a variety of animals and plant life,
depending on the environment they choose to dive in.

Florida is known for its manatee population, which
inhabits the freshwater springs and rivers of the state.
Manatees are known for being friendly, gentle creatures
and will often, with no hesitation, approach divers.

While diving is gaining popularity and becoming
more common for people of all ages, there are some
restrictions, serious dangers and open water certification
is strongly recommended.

According to the Divers Alert Network, about 100
people are killed while scuba diving each year and
another 1,000 are injured. Experts contend that a
majority of these deaths and injuries are preventable
and occur because of unsuitable divers who receive
inadequate scuba training.

Many people believe that they can become
adequately trained in one weekend, and
will often pay hundreds of dollars at resorts while on
vacation. Scuba diving requires more intense training and total
comprehension of the sport. One mistake could
cause serious complications or even death; therefore, it is better
to receive proper training in the form of weekly classes.

Divers require a variety of complicated and
expensive equipment and should also take lessons
to learn how to use the equipment. A
majority of dive shops will provide equipment
to dive students taking lessons.

Many colleges offer scuba diving for credits,
offering courses that are certified by Scuba Schools
International or the Professional Association of Diving Instructors.

Those that are already certified and are looking to spend a day diving
have the option of renting equipment by an hourly or daily basis, rather

PLEASE SEE Diver ON 20

Illustration by Christopher Arnow | CRF
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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

Sat Feb 1
7:15 am - Volunteer UCF Ripple Effect - Meet in front of Millican Hall to carpool to Lake Eola to feed the homeless and distribute clothing.
8 pm - The Miss University of Central Florida Scholarship Competition, Pegasus Ballroom

Tue Feb 4
1:30 - 2:30 pm - Knights of the Round Table meeting for clubs, SU 224
9 pm - CAB Cinema presents "Punch Drunk Love," Cape Florida Ballroom, SU 316

Wed Feb 5
1 - 5 pm SAK Improv Comedy Class. Class limited to 20 participants, SU 224
8 pm Dance Marathon Dance Competition. Clubs can have fun and compete for prizes! Registration fees go to Children Miracle Network, Pegasus Ballroom.

Fri Feb 7
9 pm - 2 am Late Knights Polar Bear Pool Party.
Recreation and Wellness Center.

Sat Feb 8
9 am - UCF Beach Cleanup at Alan Shepard Park.
Carpool from Millican Hall.
12pm - 4 pm SAK Improv Comedy Classes. Class limited to 20 participants, Student resource center Auditorium, and Wired Cafe.

Sun Feb 9
2 pm - Knight of Sushi, Fusian Restaurant. Learn to make sushi then eat your own creation. Advance registration required. Sign up in the Office of Student Activities, Rm. 208 in the Student Union.

Visit us on the web at osa.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

Funded by the Activity and Service Fee as allocated by SGA
Finding fun in odd possessions

FROM PAGE 16

people build personal collections, and in a few cases those collections go over the top — or veer into the bizarre.

Smith’s roommate, senior Kara Gajentan, 22, is also a collector. While her collection isn’t as final as Smith’s, it is nonetheless over the top.

“Kara has Post-it-note clad book covers,” Smith said. “They’re all wearing vintage clothing pulled dangerously low.”

Her collection of over a hundred romance novels used to be proudly displayed on a shelf on her dresser until a pipe in her house burst, and ruined all her books.

“It was funny,” Gajentan said. “They all started to expand.”

Her collection is now stored in a plastic tupperware container under her bed. Gajentan said her collection began from childhood hobbies.

For others like senior Eric Stevenson, 21, beer bottles is his choice Item to collect. He began saving every bottle he drank when he was a freshman, and now has about 50 different bottles. Eventually he couldn’t keep up with saving every beer he drank, so he only started saving any of each brand. His favorite is La Fin du Monde, or “the End of the World.”

“They’re organized by country on display in my room,” Stevenson said.

Among the countries represented are the Czech Republic, Cuba, Ireland, Canada and France. He also collects them from grocery stores or brings them home from bars.

Graduate student James Friman, 32, has been stalking antique costume jewelry in an eight-sided trunk for about three years now. He is saving them for when he gets married and has children, he said.

“I wanted to have a big treasure chest for my kids when they get to that age,” Friman said. “It can be dress-up stuff or pirate treasure.”

Firmans plans to hide the trunk in his attic for his future children to find and play with. He has about 150 pieces, some of which he inherited from his grandmother.

“Some of them are actually designer sets from the 40s,” he said.

He scour garage sales, rummage sales and antique shops. But it’s getting harder to find them because of antique dealers from up north who come down to Florida to hunt for bargains, he said.

“It’s very seasonal, most people don’t even bring out three pieces until they know the northeners are coming down,” Friman said. “I told myself at one point I wouldn’t spend more than $40 a piece, but they’re getting hard to find, so I moved up to $100.”

Senior Sleekie Dickey, 22, has a Winnie the Pooh collection. She has been collecting them since the end of her freshman year in high school and now has 1,100 dolls, costing more than $20,000. The first Pooh she started to collect was her maternal Pooh stuffed animal that a child she used to babysit for gave her.

“Everyone said that I was crazy when I started,” Dickey said. “I remember when people said that I would grow out of it.”

During Dickey’s freshman year a hurricane hit and her whole apartment complex had to be evacuated. Her mother told her to bring her most important belongings, so she packed the entire car with as many Poohs as possible, she said.

Dickey hopes to marry on her collection as long as possible.

“I haven’t stopped buying because I will pass it on to my kids,” she said.

Junior Brittany Starkey, 50, collects Barbie dolls. She has about 20 Barbie dolls now and said her first Barbie was probably one of the first ones to be released, however she no longer has it because her mother gave it away, she said.

Among her collection are the Star Trek Barbie and Ken, Dorothy Barbie, anthropologist Barbie and an army Barbie. She plans to keep adding more Barbies to her collection, such as the Bob Livingston Barbie she saw when she went to EOM Schwartz in West Palm Beach. Starkey also has her sights set on a newer, more realistic Barbie.

“I want a real-life Barbie, the one [with body measurements] a real person could attain,” she said. With the old Barbie’s measurements, it would probably not be possible.

“If Barbie were a real person, she would be too skinny and she’d fall over.”

But for Starkey, her Barbie dolls have a more sentimental meaning to her than just another collection.

“They remind me of when I was a little girl,” Starkey said. “If you think about it, when you’re little, all you have to worry about is being playful, going to school and staying out of trouble — so it reminds me of happier times.”
Diver awareness needed to combat dangers of the deep

FROM PAGE 16

than purchasing their own. Depending on the type of class, lesson fees can range in price. The average price is about $185 for three lessons a week for three weeks. After the completion of the nine classes, the required practice of safety skills and dives, the student will take a written test to become a certified open water diver.

Once certified, divers can purchase their own air tank refills and can pursue more advanced diving certifications. With these certifications, divers can participate in more advanced dives and have the opportunity to become a diving instructor in order to teach other divers.

Seabed diving is an entertaining, but complicated hobby. In fact, divers must be very careful and must stay aware of their environment at all times. Gauges on divers' equipment help them keep themselves out of dangerous situations.

Divers can suffer from dehydration very quickly. Another concern is surfacing too quickly, which can cause decompression sickness (also known as the bends).

When a diver swims to the surface at a rapid pace from a deep level of water, tiny air bubbles in the blood stream expand. In most cases this is not harmful, but some rare cases can be fatal. Severe cases require the diver to go to the hospital and get treated by a hyperbaric chamber, which exposes the diver to high pressures to relieve pain and discomfort caused by decompression sickness.

El Nino, Mike Coperario has been a certified diver for almost five years. He paid for his own classes and equipment using the money he earned from his part time job. "The classes are a bit expensive," he said, "but the experience makes it all worthwhile."

Coperario, 20, may have a chance at a unique experience in Australia this summer. "I was given the opportunity to participate in a work program over the summer," he said. "I would work for two weeks and then have two weeks for recreation."

During his two weeks of recreation, Coperario said that he planned on visiting Australia's Great Barrier Reef to do some scuba diving. "I'm sure that there are all kinds of things to see there — tropical fish, sharks and coral. It's going to be a totally different experience than diving in the Gulf."

The Gulf of Mexico, while not as extraordinary as the Great Barrier Reef, provides divers with some interesting and unique scenery as well. "Almost everything underwater is untouched by humans," Hood said. "That's it, with the exception of some artificial reefs."

The artificial reefs in the Gulf of Mexico serve a purpose of promoting and balancing sea life. Artificial reefs provide all kinds of aquatic creatures with a home to live and breed and they also provide divers with some beautiful scenery.

"I wish I could spend more time diving," Hood said. "For one, I don't have a boat. Two, UCF isn't all that close to water."

Another concern is the distance from bodies of water makes it more difficult for students to dive, the UCF Diving Club plans monthly dive trips, to both fresh water and saltwater destinations.

For additional information on scuba diving or lessons, visit the following Web sites:

www.ussos.com
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Meatless weiners
a healthy mouthful

Gabrielle Arnold
STAFF WRITER

At the stroke of 2 a.m., a mass exodus begins when downtown Orlando's nightlife establishments close their doors, releasing crowds of club and bar hoppers onto the streets. While many still crave more alcohol, some just crave good food. At this hour though, the choice of cuisine is pretty limited, which makes America's favorite food, hot dogs, a popular item — but this time, vegan.

A downtown Orlando vegan hotdog stand offers a solution for many people who prefer meatless dining or a healthy alternative to traditional beef hotdogs. At first glance, John David McKee's business looks like any given street corner's classical hotdog stand. But underneath his street vendor's umbrella is something more than a typical meal on wheels.

McKee's meatless weiners are made of textured vegetable protein, seasoned with the same kinds of spices found on regular hotdogs (onion, paprika and garlic) and cooked in a vegetable broth.

Vegan hotdogs look similar to beef hotdogs, but they taste significantly different. Junior Patricia Michel, 20, tried the hotdogs for the first time Friday night and enjoyed them. "The texture is not what I expected," she said. "It was a lot softer. After trying them and reading the menu I'd rather eat them over regular hotdogs now." For $2, customers have a choice of either French bread or a bun for their hotdog, in addition to about 10 toppings which range from spinach and artichoke to ketchup and sour kraut, for no extra charge.

At 110 calories, vegan hotdogs contain about half the fat of beef hot dogs. A regular sausage can't compare to the quality of a vegan hotdog, says customer Jennifer O'Malley, 21, "They never give me a stomach ache, he's generous with the toppings and it's cheap," she said.

A downtown Orlando vegan McKee's stand is located on N. Orange Avenue across from the Social. Most of McKee's business comes from repeat customers. Occasionally new people stop and don't realize he serves vegan food until they are already willing to try it out, McKee said. "I like his hotdogs," Wilkie said. "The service is good, plus, it's convenient."

McKee said he started his business three years ago because he wanted to have a social conscious business that would raise environmental awareness. "The meat industry, second to the automobile industry, is by far the most polluting industry in the country," he said. "I wanted to do something for the environment and the mistreatment of animals."

McKee's hotdog stand is located on N. Orange Avenue across from the Social seven nights a week. Most of McKee's customers are either vegetarians or just prefer the food. McKee said, "It's a good venue to introduce vegetarianism to people."
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- Sublease or sublet
- roommate
- Furnished or unfurnished

SPACIOUS TOWNHOUSES

Mendel Villas

- 2/2.5 w/garage
- 5660 including all utilities
- Available now!

Contact: 407-324-7773
Anytime Minutes, Domestic Long Distance, and Discounted Activation Fee are available for limited time.

- $49.99 UNLIMITED Nights & Weekends
- $34.99 UNLIMITED Nights & Weekends
- $39.99 UNLIMITED Nights & Weekends
- $49.99 UNLIMITED Nights & Weekends
- $99.99 UNLIMITED Nights & Weekends

Included:
- Digital Features: Voice Mail, Caller ID, Call Waiting
- FREE ACCESSORY PACKAGE: Handsfree Earpiece, Car Charger, and Leather Case (worth $60 in savings)

S.G.A. Presidential Elections

Vote On Line!!

Petition Pick-up: Jan. 20-30th (9am - 5pm)

Declaration of Candidacy: Jan. 27 - 30th (9am - 5pm)

Active Campaigning: Feb. 10 - 19th (Beginning at 9am)

Candidate Forum: Feb. 13 (12 - 2pm, infront of the Student Union)

Elections: Feb. 17th - 19th (Online voting ends @ 5:00pm Feb. 19th)

Run-off Elections: Feb. 24 - 26th (online - if necessary) Online voting ends at 5:00pm

https://connect.ucf.edu