Greeks maintain upper hand in student politics

JOEL ADDINGTON
STAFF WRITER

At UCF, Greeks and government are no synonym for pleasant phrase. Five years of student body presidential elections have proven that. Since 1998, 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 1998, Greek membership became the platform that propelled future presidents into office.

Murphy's predecessor, Darren Patton, was a Sigma Alpha Epilson, and his predecessor, Andrew Capchick, was a Sigma Chi. In 2000, Dennis Spann'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 Marco 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 Epilson 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 36,000 students, where lesser, 10 percent are Greek, membership makes few wonder how Greeks manage to maintain the majority in student government.

Neil Gore, late Interfraternity Council vice president of Administration and Communications, believes Greeks can easily 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 point 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 president.

Benjamin Mongoli, a member of Iota Theta Pi, believes student government leaders are usually Greek because Greek organizations have made it a habit of accepting only the most elite individuals.

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

Inflamatory e-mail stuns student government

Van Vorhees says he was attacked policy, not race

RAN 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, criticizing them for supporting minority and ethnic groups on campus. Specifically, he criticized Brian Schmidt, the current student body vice president, calling him "the ticket of death." He wrote: "Karlson has concluded that Brian Schmidt is the ticket of death for the Trial Team's personal interests. The candidates he named remain unofficial until they can declare their intent to run this Wednesday.

Photo by LINDA BUNCH

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Photo by LINDA BUNCH
2003 All New GTI
Lease for $269 per month + monthly tax for 48 months
* Leases are calculated with $0 total down, includes 1st payment, 0 sec. deposit, tags, title and license. See sales person for details.

2003 Jetta GL
Lease for $219 per month + monthly tax for 48 months
* Leases are calculated with $0 total down, includes 1st payment, 0 sec. deposit, tags, title and license. See sales person for details.

2003 New Beetle GL
Lease for $219 per month + monthly tax for 48 months
* Leases are calculated with $0 total down, includes 1st payment, 0 sec. deposit, tags, title and license. See sales person for details.

2003 All New Passat GL
Lease for $297 per month + monthly tax for 48 months
* Leases are calculated with $0 total down, includes 1st payment, 0 sec. deposit, tags, title and license. See sales person for details.

2003 Golf GL
Lease for $211 per month + monthly tax for 48 months
* Leases are calculated with $0 total down, includes 1st payment, 0 sec. deposit, tags, title and license. See sales person for details.

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Hacker steals data on UI of Kansas foreign students

A hacker broke into the computers in the international relations office of the University of Kansas and stole personal information on more than 1,900 foreign students. The university had collected the data for the student and Exchange Visitor Information System, or SEVIS, a database that the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service uses to monitor and track foreign students.

The university’s investigation has revealed that the hacker apparently instrumected this intrusion into the university’s computer systems from Jan. 6 to Jan. 17, when the SEVIS information was taken. The hacker claimed to have used ordinary machines to illegally download and install cryptograpy and pornography.

Jeff Leonard, a special agent with the FBI office in Kansas City, Mo., said there was no indication that the thief had any connections to terrorism. This is the first known hack that has been linked with these interfaces with SEVIS, INS and FBI officials said.

The copied file contained records for 1,490 students and included personal information such as Social Security numbers, passport numbers, countries of origin and birthdays. The university collected the information using its ability to gather information it needs for SEVIS from its various computer systems and format the data to send to the INS.

Whatever stole the information could not have been a simple hack to fraudulently enter the country as a student, said Cathy B. Bendig, an INS spokesman. The hacker would have had to go for far beyond just acquiring personal information, he said, the thief would have to create a whole new identity including a fake passport and visa.

Under the USA Patriot Act, passed in October 2001 to improve homeland security the INS requires all colleges and higher-education associations to sign up for SEVIS by January 2003 so they can provide the FBI their right to review those students.

Colleges to enforce stricter safety policies for traveling athletes

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is working with the NCAA to develop policies to ensure the safety of athletes traveling for games across the nation. The NCAA plans to use the same standards that apply to commercial flights, buses and cars. It also would determine whether planes and other vehicles are used when traveling.

The NCAA has required that all colleges and higher-education associations adopt stronger safety policies for traveling athletes. The board’s recommendations, coming as a result of an NTSB report that killed 10 people associated with Oklahoma State University’s basketball program, including two players, on their way home from a game at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

In a letter to the presidents of the American Council on Education, the National Intercollegiate Athletics, and the National College Athletic Association, the board’s recommendations are aimed at making sure the NCAA monitors the state’s new travel policy and develop a model policy for number institutions in compliance with the other two groups.

The NTSB subpoenaed information on Oklahoma State’s plan, and included the full text of the plan in its report.

The Oklahoma State policy includes specific guidelines on types of aircraft to be used by teams and licensing requirements for pilots, as well as regulations for taking off, landing, use commercial plans, buses, vans and cars. It also states that athletes ought not to be traveling on planes that are used by donors or fans, as the Oklahoma State party was, unless the planes and pilots meet the same standards as other charter airlines.

In its report on the Oklahoma State acci-
Lobbyists to push funds for students and schools

FROM PAGE 3

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

In the current budget crisis, officials have been debating ways to change the Bright Futures Scholarship to save money. Some legislators want to make the scholarship need-based, others want to reduce funding, and yet others are trying to keep the funding the same.

Unlike Bright Futures, which provides money for individual students, PICO funding is the amount of government funding provided to universities based on the number of students enrolled. Although the universities currently receive the funding from the Florida State Legislature, the state often takes a long time to provide the funding.

"Most schools are way behind in finding, UCF in particular," Grosshans said, "the state has promised as much as the other schools are fighting to get it." This past summer SGA became part of the Florida Statutes (House Bill 353). The statutes spell out procedures that SGA must follow. In the statutes it states the way members can be elected, in size of government, and other specifications. The bill also requires that the 11 state universities to have an SGA, one of the most important issues the bill addresses.

Grosshans said the FSA 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 353. 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 353 benefits SGA because SGA is not used to dividing funding between students and 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 working for review, and Gray Harris is working to keep the statutes the same.

This happened at UCF in 1996 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.

"For all the legislators, the statute spells out procedures for you ... every time he makes a conclusion, it's concerning his position as senator. I support UCF lobbying because they help protect my financial interest as a student by helping to keep my tuition low," Day said.

Senator condemns e-mail as unethical and racist

FROM PAGE 1

I was unequivocally deny that I am a racist," Van Voorhees said. "[Our] ethics and minority organizations do not deserve the same degree of policy and funding consideration as other small groups."

Sen. Marcus Gould, who brought the e-mail to the attention of the entire Student Senate Thursday, did not agree. "I just think you need to know that the person interpreting the statues for you... every time he makes a conclusion, it's colored through the eyes of a racist," he told senators at the SGA meeting.

While several student government officials are applauded that Van Voorhees made racially insensitive remarks, senators say he is at bigger fault for abusing his position as an SGA official by encouraging students to vote one way or another.

"SGA is currently considering an ethics provision to prohibit partisan activities by SGA officials as a result of students who have actively campaigned while serving in student government positions in the past. Based on the current statutes, Van Voorhees could be charged with ethics violations that could possibly face impeachment."

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

Gould said because Van Voorhees signed his name and senator title to the e-mail, his e-mail is a form of public campaigning simply because his position as senator is a public post.

"I am disturbed by this incident because it is a perfect example of Student Government focusing on trivial issues," Gould said. "In this case, one side is wrong for having written a potentially damaging e-mail in the first place, and the other side is wrong for digging into personal correspondence and generating scandal."

"I believe the scholar should be the most important issue on the agenda. It is a reward for students who worked hard in high school, and many look forward to it for four years. Without the program, I would probably be going to a community college," Mobihle said.

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Interfraternity Council
Fraternity Recruitment Schedule

Spring 2003

Fraternity Recruitment Kickoff
Pick-up a recruitment 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, rules, 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:
Mark Lim, IPC VP Recruitment, 407-482-9721, e-mail: ricepapa32@aol.com
http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~ifc
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
Motivation drives 76-year-old to pursue dreams

Laura 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 70 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.

We spend 98 percent of the time talking to ourselves, so we should have more influence on our lives than anyone else.

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

His deep, bass voice does not fit his slim stature. Facial hair frames his face. "I see all this outdate-

tude and improve," he said. "Within two months I was doing $6,000 a week... from $2,000," he said.

"In 1960, I decided to leave Cleveland and move to Washington, D.C."

Houston managed a fast food restaurant in D.C. before moving to Florida, where he started a window-washing business to make ends meet.

"I sold [the window washing] business in 77 and I went into work for Hyatt hotels, busying dishes," he said.

But he knew he would not be cleaning up dishes for long.

"As soon as I got there I knew I wasn't going to stay busying dishes."

Houston earned a promotion to manager of a small restaurant at the hotel and then was put in charge of the cafeteria.

Next, he was named assistant manager of restaurants and then finally became the convention coordinator.

"The coordinator took care of all of the details," said Houston. "I get a big kick out of that."

In 1982, Houston became a hotel sales clerk at the Quarter Sails Hotel.

"I was the first hotel sales person [there] that was black in a long time," he said.

He worked there for six years and left when new management came in.

"I was new 01-years-old and I needed to find a new job," he said.

During the 80's Houston began making presentations for elementary schools based on the phrase, "I think I can."

Houston took six months off and decided to see if he could make it as a motivational speaker.

"It's been the most rewarding thing I've ever done in my life," he said.

Houston said he uses the book, "The Little Engine That Could," to illustrate his life in his presentations.

"Success in any endeavor is based upon two things, ability and effort... and I think I can," he said. "At each little juncture you make, you reflect, 'I thought I could,' but there is always something else. Setting another goal and meeting another goal."

Houston has spoken at UCF a few times, most recently in 2001 at the opening reception for the UCF Leadership Institute.

Throughout the years, Houston said he has seen a vast improvement in racial equality.

Race relations don't need to improve," Houston said. "People need to improve. It is all left with the individual. This is a country that has free speech. As I read recently, it's not illegal to be stupid in the United States."

However Houston still has a difficult time with the term African-American," he said. "I am a unique individual."

Everyone is unique in their own way and that should give them the right to equality, he said.

'We have problems when we get into houses,' he said. 'There is only one race, and that is the human race.'

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.'

Wilbur Houston relaxes during a recent trip to Italy, to which he traveled through the study abroad program at UCF, along with his wife of 10 years.

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Bridging the gap between technology, human capability

J. Peter Kincaid shows off the simulated human patient, nicked named Stan for standard man, which is used to teach combat medics how to treat patients with battlefield injuries.

FROM PAGE 1

simulated human patient, nicknamed Stan for standard man, teaches combat medics to treat battlefield injuries and handle life-and-death situations.

Stan, 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 and 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 experience of experimental research," Salas said. "They do everything from literature 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," Younkins added.

"UCF is a public institution. It has to be affordable to the tax payers. It is just being funnelled back into the system," Younkins added.

Others support the military research conditionally. Freshman Richard Jones, 19, a U.S. Army veteran and Florida National Guardsman, offered his opinion on the research projects. "I fully support any military activity that happens at UCF or any other place 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.

"I'm not particularly for us spending so much on the military," Jones 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
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, few student leaders would actually run for the position. While Greek leaders have a vested interest in the campus, as they often live on campus and are responsible for the Greek system, non-Greek leaders, who make up a minority of the student body, would hopefully promote a more equitable distribution of students' funds.

The situation has changed recently, as the Greek system has become more decentralized. While the Greek system still exists, non-Greek students have taken control of the Greek Council and are now in charge of the Greek system.

One non-Greek student body president would be able to represent the student body better than the Greek system. A non-Greek student body president would be able to lead the student body, as it is in the best interests of most students to vote for him or her.

**OUR STANCE:**

**SGA needs non-Greek leaders**

**Athletic independence should help teams**

The board of Trustees approved a plan to make the UCF Athletic Department financially independent of UCF. The athletic department has a small group of Division IA universities with non-profit athletic departments, most notably the University of Florida, which is not a member of the SEC.

Although the move will not necessarily improve UCF's athletic program, it could help the program get better. Athletic programs at other universities that have implemented non-profit athletic departments, such as UF and the University of Georgia, have prospered under the new model. Still, these universities had strong, established athletic programs before making the switch.

Even if UCF's sports teams do not immediately improve under the new organization, they may have better access to funds. Since it is all about the money in college sports, more money could help the teams improve.

The athletic department should allow the athletic department to make decisions on its own, without having to wait for approval from the Board of Trustees as it used to, and should make the department more efficient. The newly formed UCF Athletic Association may be able to raise funds easier now that it does not have to deal with the red tape that currently slows down fund-raising.

Several sports teams could get better facilities because they may raise funds easier. The football team will be able to build an indoor football practice facility, which is needed because of the rainouts that occur so often during the beginning of the season. More practice time should also make the team better.

The improved fundraising 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 Orsini has experience with this type of program, as he was athletic director at Georgia Tech and associate AD and treasurer at Navy, the universities had private athletic departments. Orsini approves of the change, he would not go along with it if it was a bad idea.

The time has come for a non-Greek student leader to stand up and register for the election. Additionally, the student body has a responsibility to actually vote next month. Too often in the past, a dreadful minority of students has taken the few minutes required to vote in elections. If a qualified, independent candidate runs for student body president, it is in the best interests of most students to vote for him or her.

**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 “Jerry Lewis Month.” Still, France's decision should come as no 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 comes to mind — or at least, they might have if they had not recently expressed similar reservations about a war against Iraq. But these details are moot points, really. After all, President Bush, or "W" — as I hear 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.**

**U.N. weapons inspectors have reported that Iraq scientists are being tutored in how to answer their questions. Can’t someone tutor our own? Of course, we have speechwriters helping him now, but apparently that’s not enough. A speech reader perhaps? Or better yet, why not have the voice of that guy who narrates movie trailers dubbing over “W” on second thought, that might not work. Personally, I would just start expect-**

**ing 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 sup-**

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**PLEASE SEE TWO-FOR-ONE ON 10**

"It's not enough that I should succeed — others should fail.”

— DAVID MILBURN

**Correction:** Due to an editing error, Stephen Calabro’s name was misspelled in a copy in the Sunday, Jan. 26 issue.
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 liquids from plastic cups at these parties and throw 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 house was dragged up to my second floor apartment and placed on the balcony. Attendees started to flood in and the usual plastic red plastic cups were passed out.

Several hours passed and the party reached its maximum capacity. Quiques had 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.

As the night wore on, the party guests became louder, drunker and sloppier. The couch in the living room had a cup of beer spilled on it, someone threw up in the sink and one in some obscure place in the kitchen.

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

My goal here is not to complain and ruin the fun of parties; instead, I would like to suggest a few simple tips for party-goers.

Sip beer? Wipe it up. Done drinking? Throw away your cup. Have to potty? 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 hostess 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 your 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? While I am not trying to imply that we cannot collaborate on our own, we nevertheless still have a reputation and an image to uphold in the eyes of the world.

With that in mind, I have taken the liberty of detailing several alternatives to war that just by their nature should not be cruel, and only two were beaten by us.

If there are two, one was defeated by a Navy SEAL. So I say let’s activate Operation Diamond Drop and shift into Iraq a plethora of pathetically pitiful supported by beer bulletin and impala insanity.

Crisis over, if there is to be a way, and I’m more than happy to help with an idea provided by the American flag hanging in the middle of the world, who is from Japan. It was a long shot, I know, but I had to try for the human. Then I noticed it.

A Japanese flag hanging behind the human competitor while an American flag hanging behind the bear. The man was more human, but the bear in this case was from the US.

I must have slid into some sort of existence-state with just that intention. The first event was a hot dog eating contest between a Yokohama Bear and the current world champion, who is from Japan. It was a long shot, I know, but I had to try for the human. Then I noticed it.

A Japanese flag hanging behind the human competitor while an American flag hanging behind the bear. The man was more human, but the bear in this case was from the US.

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When Your Business Has An Opportunity Or Need...
Hot second half lifts UCF over FAU

Sadie Sham

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, 4-1 conference) 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. But the game was tied at 33 at halftime. When the Knights stormed onto the court in the second half, it was as if 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 Walt Striegier 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 Tanias Pierce. Junior forward Adrienne Billings racked up a season-high 16 points for the Knights. UCF shot 54.1 percent from the field.

The Golden Knights improved to 14-6 on the year and 6-1 in the Atlantic Sun.

PLEASE SEE Roberts on 12

Men's basketball picks up two key road wins

Kristy Shionka

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 47-43 with 2:11 left in regulation, but Abellard closed the lead to two with 2:01 left. Robert Moremian 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 missed a shot at the buzzer for the Knights.

In the first overtime the Knights held Georgia State without a field goal, but could only manage one basket themselves, making the second extra period necessary. A Dotson basket with 2:35 left put UCF up 76-74 and the Knights 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 Moremian combined for 22 points in the second half, lead-

PLEASE SEE Abellard on 12

Gators pull out two close games over UCF

Matt Bethon

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 6-3 defeat. And fresh off a three-hitting performance in the first game, 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 26-6 in 2002 and posted 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 attached them and put them on their heels. In the past, when we’ve been up by 10 or so points we started slacking. 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 had tied free points on the scoreboard, it was an eventful night for senior Erin Paige, as she surpassed the 700 career-point 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 99.

FROM PAGE 11

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 held on for a 68-60 win.

The Gamecocks’ Danielle Richardson hit two free throws to put his team up 62-61 with 1:25 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 64-62.

Lyons picked up a steal on JSU’s next possession, and passed it ahead to Abellard, who got two points on a Gamecocks foul shooting call. The Knights led 64-62. But Jay Heard hit his second 3-pointer of the game with 20 seconds left, cutting the lead to one. Heard 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 held 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 49.1 percent from the floor but just 50.0 percent from the free-throw line.
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Field goal propels Team USA over Florida Team

**Christopher Bernhardt**

When UF wide receiver Jimmy Fryzel caught two passes for first downs in the opening drive of Saturday’s Rotary Classic, it might have just been the beginning for Team USA. But it was a 49-yard kick from Tallahassee’s Jonathan Raymond that swung the momentum in the third inning, sending the ball just so happened it went over the fence off the left field wall, allowing Team USA to take the lead 2-0. Seventeen more runs over the next two innings, and the game was over.

Schmidt was the only batter to go deep during the game, though he said they were frustrated by the poor pitching. “We’re a pretty experienced team,” he said. “We’ve been to the College World Series.”

Fryzel led the way with two hits, including a double into right-center. “When you have that opportunity, you have to capitalize on it,” he said. “We didn’t have the hits when we needed them.”

Two out of three players interviewed after the game said they were disappointed with their team’s performance. “It was just a pretty quiet day up there,” Schmidt said. “We just weren’t aggressive enough to take the second game.”

The Knights took over the top of the 1-0 lead for the fourth time in the game, but the game was called in the sixth inning after a controversial double play.

Despite the loss, all four Golden Knights who participated in the game varied in their opinions. “It’s a little sad,” Fryzel said. “I was proud of our team. I actually made a few good plays. I wish we could have come back and play again.”

Team USA went on to win the game 9-0, setting up a dramatic game-winner.

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**Morris Brown, Bethune-Cookman Next**

**From Page 11**

Morris Brown and Bethune-Cookman Next

Scraping across a run in the first inning on Jennifer Mosqueda’s R1 double, UF left the bases loaded in the first, but picked up right where it left off in the next inning. Lindsey Cameron led off the second inning with a single, and one out later scored on Jeannine Gauthier’s R2 triple. Cameron also scored on the play after the relay throw from left field sailed over Run in the inning.

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**Men’s Tennis off to a 1-3 start**

**Matt Benthon**

The UF men’s tennis team got off to a good start last week against the University of Florida, but rebounded with a solid performance against the University of Virginia.

The Knights struggled Thursday against the fifth-ranked Gators, losing all nine matches. After losing all three doubles matches in straight sets, the Knights didn’t fare much better in singles play. Juniors Catalin Brada and Antonio Sierra put up solid fights in singles, but neither were able to come away with a victory.

The Knights faced much stronger Saturday afternoon at the Seminole Tennis Tournament in Tallahassee. In morning play, the Knights lost to Alabama-Huntsville 4-2, but rebounded in the after­noon to defeat Virginia Tech 7-0. Brada and Gabriel Strangberg both won two matches on the afternoon.

Fryzel said the Knights played well in the afternoon, but couldn’t break through the strong lineup of the Virginia Tech players.

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**UCF’s Jimmy Fryzel led all receivers with seven catches**

**Chris Bernhardt**

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**Citrus Bowl Mystery Solved**

Citrus Bowl Mystery Solved

Citrus Bowl Mystery Solved

**Saturday’s Rotary Classic was won by Fryzel last game at the Citrus Bowl.**

**Bratt Hart / CFP**
Women's tennis team starts season with win over JU

SAIDIE 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 Gumusan shined as the Golden Knights struggled through cold, windy conditions and bested 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 2-4-1 record in doubles. Gumusan and Julie Fernández playing 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, 8-3. In No. 3 doubles, Kristina Lohmos and Amber Samara won a fast and forth match, beating Amber Otto and Kristina Puck, 6-4.

At the No. 1 singles position, Gumusan was stellar, defeating Hajbane, 6-3, 6-2. Westin picked up another UCF win at No. 2, defeating Decker, 7-5, 6-4. Preanestria defeated Strusova, 7-5, 6-1 at No. 3 singles. Lohmos knocked off Kaftalovich, 6-3, 6-0 at the No. 4 spot. Fernández, a freshman, was victorious in her dual match debut, getting by Puck, 6-3, 6-4. Olivia Luuickan quickly 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 handful of teams, it's like a walk in the park. The first week of dodgeball has come and gone, and Sigma Chi, defending summer dodgeball champs, is ranked second after the first week of the Atlantic Sun Dodgeball League tournament. The charts after its six成功举办 rounds in week one; Sigma Chi remained with flawless records in week one, but ATO holds the edge due to the modified "DEP" system that takes margin of victory into account.

Some of the highlights of the first night were Phi Kappa Phi defeating the O'Doys, two games to none. The O'Doys 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 an Era also went undefeated on the first night of play as the looping lefty Clint Bagtravel led his team in outs. The makeup of the night however was TRO's win over the Trojans. TRO, 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 elusive championship. Cameron were played Friday nights in the Recreation and Wellness Center.

UCF ATHLETICS THIS WEEK

Support Your Knights!

Men's Basketball v. Belmont
Thurs., Jan. 30th at 7:30 p.m. - UCF Arena

Softball v. Bethune Cookman College
Sat., Feb. 1st at 12 p.m. - UCF Softball Stadium (Behind the UCF Arena)

Softball v. Morris Brown
Sat., Feb. 1st at 2 p.m. - UCF Softball Stadium (Behind the UCF Arena)

Men's Basketball v. Samford
Sat., Feb. 1st at 7:30 p.m. - UCF Arena

Softball v. Morris Brown
Sun., Feb. 2nd at 12 p.m. - UCF Softball Stadium (Behind the UCF Arena)

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HURRY IN... AT THESE RATES... THEY WON'T LAST LONG!
Freshman Danny Rood would rather be underwater than sitting in class on any day. Rood, 19, has been certified scuba diver for over two years now. "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 excellent environment to explore. Florida offers saltwater, freshwater and cave diving, each with a unique 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 a more common hobby 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 credit, 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
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EKCEL's Annual Etiquette Dinner
March 1, 2003.
6 - 10 pm, Marriott World Center, Cocktail/Semi-Formal
The Etiquette Dinner is a dinner event, sponsored by EKCEL, that provides students with a four-course meal and an etiquette instructor in order to teach them how to dine professionally. Spaces for 100 people will be raffled. Sign up at the front desk in the Office of Student Activities Jan 27 - Feb 3, or online at http://www.osa.ucf.edu/Etiquette Dinner

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
7:30 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 - VUCF 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

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Finding fun in odd possessions

FROM PAGE 16

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

Smith’s roommate, senior Kara Gajentan, 21, is also a collector. While her collection isn’t as foil as Smith’s, it is nonetheless over the top.

“Kara has Floio-ripple clad book covers,” Smith said. “They’re all wopathy 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 Feistman, 21, beer bottles are his choice Item to collect. He began saving every beer bottle 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 one 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,” Feistman 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 Forman, 22, has been amassing 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,” Forman said. “It can be dress-up stuff or pirate treasure.”

Forman plans to hide the trunk in his attic for his future offspring to find and play with. He has about 350 pieces, some of which he inherited from his grandmother.

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

He scouts garage sales, thrift shops 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 north winters are coming down,” Forman said. “I told myself at one point I wouldn’t spend more than $40 a piece, but they’re getting harder to find, so I moved up to $100.”

Senior Sloane Dicky, 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 that started it all was her musical Pooh stuffed animal that a child she used to babysit for gave her.

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

During Dicky’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.

Dicky 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 Battle 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 Barbies and Ken, Dorothy Barbie, anthropologist Barbie and an army Barbie. She plans to keep adding more Barbies to her collection, such as the Bob Project Barbie she saw when she went to MD 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 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 coloring, playing, going to school and staying out of trouble — so it reminds me of happier times.”

Senior Sloane Dicky’s collection of Winnie the Pooh has cost her more than $20,000.
For additional information on scuba diving or lessons, visit the following Web sites:

www.susoa.com
www.padi.com

Diver awareness needed to combat dangers of the deep

FROM PAGE 16

than purchasing their own.
Depending on the type of class, lessons 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 others to dive.

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 common issue 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.

Junior Ethan Copesrito 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."

Copesrito, 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, Copesrito said that he "blamed" 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 is, 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."
Meatless weiners a healthy mouthful

Gabrielle Arnold

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 out 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, hotdog, a popular item — but this time, vegan style.

A downtown Orlando vegan holding 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 holding stand. But underneath this street vendor's umbrella is 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 holdings (onion, paprika and garlic) and cooked in a vegetable broth.

Vegan hotdogs look similar to beef holdings, but they taste significantly different. Junior Patricia Michel, 20, tried the holdings 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 holdings now." For $2, customers have a choice of either French bread or a bun for their holding, 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 holding, reoccurring customer Jennifer O'Malley, 21, said.

"They never give me a stomach ache, he's generous with the toppings and it's cheap," she said.

McKee's stand is a pleasant experience, senior Mike Wilkie, 21, said.

"I like his holdings," 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 socially 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 holding stand is located on N. Orange Avenue across from the Social seven nights a week. Most of McKee's business comes from repeat customers. Occasionally new people stop and don't realize he serves vegan food until they read the menu, but by then they are usually ready to try it out, McKee said.

"It's a good venue to introduce vegetarianism to people."
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