Can UCF keep its football coach as the cost keeps climbing?

Coach Kruczek dropped one of the search candidates in the coaching job that paid $725,000 a year at Kentucky, preferring to stay at UCF where his package totals $500,000.

PeopleSoft: a problem at other campuses

MIKE RIEGEL
STAFF WRITER

The PeopleSoft software that caused last semester’s financial aid fiasco was not isolated to UCF. Universities in California, Texas and Wisconsin are all currently experiencing, or have already endured, difficulties stemming from the introduction of the software.

When the UCF financial aid department launched the software last semester, severe delays in processing financial aid occurred. Some students waited almost the entire semester to receive money for living expenses, tuition and books. Delays resulted from software errors and students having to navigate the new system.

Other universities, including California State University, can sympathize with UCF’s PeopleSoft troubles.

CSU, which has 23 campuses and 407,000 students, is currently in the middle of a massive software upgrade that includes switching over to PeopleSoft systems. In theory, the new software should help each campus under a common system and offer students a more comprehensive and accessible list of services.

This undertaking comes with a hefty $60 million price tag, a cost that has some wondering if the money could be allocated in a more effective manner, said Carolina Quijano, a reporter for The Green Hornet, the student newspaper at the CSU-Sacramento campus.

“There are teachers that feel the money being spent on PeopleSoft should be used to offer more classes and would be looking to tap off staff members,” Quijano said. Many sections have already been canceled as a result.

No girls allowed?

Tech fields still turn many women off

DORA PETERS
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore Michele Jensen is in a man’s world — at least she is every time she walks into her Intro to Computer Engineering class at UCF.

In the class of 300 students, she is a minority surrounded by mostly male classmates. But that doesn’t discourage Jensen, 18, even though computer science and engineering programs still remain widely unpopular among women.

“I do not see myself as less than a guy,” she said. “I can do everything they can as long as I work hard.”

She says the learning environment teaches her an extra lesson about the male gender while earning her a degree — something she calls an advantage.

But very few women remain as determined and confident as Jensen — and many who try to enter male-dominated technology fields end up feeling cut out or feeling isolated and turn to fields that women are traditionally more successful in.

That’s what happened to sophomore Amy Price. Price, 20, started her career at UCF as an aerospace engineer. But studying in a male-dominated field left Price feeling overwhelmed and out of place. She soon opted to switch to a marketing major instead.

UCF FACT

UCF baseball opened its season with a home game on Feb. 15.
STOP BY THE FUTURE TENT
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 5
11 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
IN FRONT OF
THE STUDENT UNION
TO PLACE YOUR
VALENTINE'S
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2 DOZEN ROSES FROM
MICHAEL "THE ROSE MAN"
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Orpington
St.
Disabled students call for transportation improvements

Doug Coumbsur ERITE WRITER

It’s difficult for senior Deborah Clendenin to get to her classes on time, even though she lives only 10 minutes from campus. The 40-year-old student can’t drive to school, nor can she use regular public transportation because she is spinal-cord impaired. So, Clendenin must rely on her UCF’s paratransit system for disabled people to get to classes and to town. But even then Clendenin doesn’t make it to class on time, or at all, because the transportation service often arrives late or doesn’t show up to take her to class.

In two and a half years of relying on Access Lynx to travel to school and local appointments four times a week, Clendenin says she’s often had to rely on taxi’s to get to classes and to town.

"It takes them two hours to find me, so I end up missing class, as usual," she said. "I never get the same driver twice, and they rarely find me, because they are so unfamiliar with the campus."

But Clendenin is not alone. She is one of many disabled students at UCF frustrat-ed with Access Lynx, who says delays, miscommunications and scheduling problems make commuting a complete nightmare for them.

Senior Berkshire Crosby, 23, who has cerebral palsy, has also experienced time-con-suming delays. On a recent afternoon, a trip downtown for a 2 p.m. appointment took her half a day to complete.

The van arrived an hour after her scheduled 1:30 p.m. pickup time, and a fellow rider had to be dropped off on the way to Crosby's appointment, causing more delays.

Crosby had to wait an extra hour for a van to pick her up from her appointment that was scheduled to take her home at 4 p.m.

"A driver came to pick up another woman by then, so when I was picked up, the dispatcher asked him to take me home also," Crosby said. "Since the other woman had to be dropped off first, by the time I got home, it was 8:30 p.m. All this for an hour-long appointment at 2 p.m."

Nikhil Freeman, manager of media relations for Lynx, admits such delays occur often.

Since Access Lynx serves Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties, the large scope of the program can contribute to the delays, she said.

Access Lynx is a ride-share program which means that two or more riders will usually travel in the same van at the same time. If each rider has a different destination, which can be anywhere throughout the three counties, it makes delays inevitable, Freeman said.

She said Lynx would like to make the program more efficient and is continually working to do so.

"Right now, we have dispatchers who schedule 2,700 trips per day," Freeman said. "We are implementing a computer software scheduling service that should be in use by April or May."

That way, riders whose destinations are close to each other will automatically be scheduled to ride in the same van, which should cut down on delays, she said.

But Crosby says it is just as difficult to make phone reservations for transportation as it is to get transportation to arrive on time.

"It's hard enough to talk to anyone there," Crosby said. "They never pick up the phone. There have been times I've been on hold for an hour."

Additionally, riders must schedule their trips 24 hours in advance, she said.

"There's no room for spontaneous outings with friends, because you have to make reservations in advance for a specific block of time," Freeman said.

"It doesn't make it easy for people who call Access Lynx to have to wait for absolutely nothing."

But Crosby says operators also make her uncomfortable when they ask her for her personal information.

"I don't like having to give the operators the reason for my doctor visits," she said. "I don't want them to know who I am because that would be going to the doctor for no reason? It's an invasion of privacy."

Freeman said operators need to know the reason for trips because they grant pri-ority for medical and work-related trips.

"If somebody's on dialysis, it's more important that they get there on time than if they are just going to the grocery store," she said.

There are few transportation options for disabled students such as Crosby and Clendenin, as they don't want to rely on friends and can't rely on public transportation as a viable solution.

Darwin Asher
Expanding women's technological horizons

FROM PAGE 1

"At least I was brave enough to try," she said. Professors at UCF and educators around the nation are concerned that the only thing keeping women out of the technological world these days is a lack of bravery. While females have showed the skills and an interest in computers, women still make up less than 20 percent of students within technology majors. The computer science program at UCF has more than 4,000 students, yet only 700 are females.

Richard A. Baldwin, regional director of Gestalt LLC, a software company located in UCF's Research Park, says he receives 10 to 15 male resumes for every one female resume.

He says the minority of females in technology fields is a result of many things — but certainly not because women are less capable in computer and engineering fields.

"I know of three women with degrees in computer science that are no longer working in the field because they discovered that they did not like it," he said.

"I've been working with computer software for 17 years, from a data-entry clerk through technical and now the management," he said. "I've worked with a lot of good women in this career field over the years on numerous projects. Sex does not matter."

David A. Workman, an associate professor of computer science, believes that women are less likely to join technology fields because of social conditioning.

"The primary reason for the apparent limitation of women from engineering and computer science into other fields, predominantly medicine and law, is that they feel they can make a greater impact on society in those professions," he said.

"Since women tend to be more concerned with social issues than do men, they therefore feel a stronger attraction to those professions," he added.

Senior Pooja Bhate, 21, an information technology major, is enrolled in an engineering technology program, believes that women are hesitant to pursue technology degrees. Educators hope that women's technological horizons will grow. As a female pioneer of science can..."
cds (this year alone): $300
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frame for concert ticket stubs: $13
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Kruczek stays loyal, for now

From Page 1

But the pursuit of Kruczek did raise questions for everyone associated with the Golden Knights. First, how much longer can UCF delay Kruczek’s departure when they have to fight off schools with far more financial resources and better facilities?

Second, should UCF go to great lengths to keep Kruczek or Bolen to entice him to like the at the Syracuse game and let him go?

And third, what, if anything, would keep Kruczek wearing the black and gold long-term?

Delaying the inevitable?

What if Kruczek leads the Golden Knights to a MAC championship next season? UCF went 6-2 in its inaugural season in the conference, losing tight games to divisional powers Marshall and Toledo. So winning the MAC next year would hardly constitute a surprise. Then even more schools with even more money might come calling, making it even more difficult to keep Kruczek on the Golden Knights’ sideline.

“Success creates problems too, just like failure,” Orsini said. “Other schools will see. You look what Mike has to work with at UCF and he does well. Imagine if you give him the kind of resources that a University of Kentucky does, imagine what he could do with that.”

By taking his name out of the running for the Kentucky job, Kruczek walked away from much more money than he made at UCF last season. Birk, hired by Kentucky after Kruczek withdrew, signed a five-year deal worth $725,000 a year. Also consider that Petrino will make a base salary of $850,000 at Louisville next season, and that University of South Florida Coach Jim Leavitt just got a contract extension that guarantees him a base salary of $419,173 in 2003 and escalates to $806,145 in 2007.

By comparison Kruczek made a base salary of $140,125 last season and had a total package, which includes not only salary but also compensation received from outside sources such as television and radio show commitments, worth just a little more than $500,000.

But the pursuit of more money is not the only side of the equation that must be considered by Orsini in trying to find a comparable replacement level as a big reason for UCF’s joining of the MAC last season. And Kruczek does have the highest base salary of anyone in the MAC, making $200,000 more than the league average of $133,921.

But with an SEC school like Kentucky pursuing Kruczek, UCF must now consider markets outside of the MAC. With this in mind, Orsini has made a firm commitment to improving coaches’ salaries for football and other sports since becoming athletic director last year.

“If we want to raise our football coach’s salary, we have to look to put more resources into our budget,” Orsini said. “We have an aggressive fund-raising plan, we have an aggressive marketing plan. And we’re about to do student-athletic fee that was approved this fall, we’re going to put a large portion of that toward football coaching staff salaries. We’re below the Division I-A average, though.”

Still, Orsini freely admits UCF can’t afford to compete with schools such as Kentucky that compete in BCS conferences. That could not only lead to Kruczek’s departure within the next several years, but also severely handicap the search for a replacement.

“So who else is the one at the Syracuse game might want a more high-profile coach, they must keep in mind that Kentucky deemed Kruczek worth far more than he makes rounding the sideline for the Golden Knights. Thus, finding even a comparable replacement would likely prove difficult.

Getting more with less

UCF must look at the resources that you give him and what does he do with those resources,” Orsini said. “I think in the past few years Mike has used Division II level facilities and yet asked to compete at the highest level of Division I. In my evaluation, Mike has done a great job for UCF.”

Clearly Orsini does not share the same opinion as the aforementioned fan. And though UCF has struggled compared to schools with much more resources, the overall numbers the Golden Knights have built up over Kruczek’s tenure justly justify Orsini’s faith.

Kruczek took over the reins at UCF slightly more than five years ago. The previous head coach, Gene McDowell, stepped down on Jan. 20, 1998. At that point Kruczek, the team’s offensive coordinator and quarterback coach since 1995, became the head man on an interim basis.

Kruczek hopes to improve on the 3-11 career wins as head coach and continue to build on a consistent offensive line tradition.

He inherited a team with Daunte Culpepper at quarterback, but also a team that had gone 6-4 for two consecutive years. He got the squad off to an early start in his last season. He ended up in first in his five seasons at the helm. Throw in the fact that UCF has not had an adequate practice or training facility, and all this looks even more impressive.

“Ryan Schneider is going to end an awesome career around,” Orsini said. “And Mike has a history, I call it reloading. You lose your star, he reloads another one.”

Along those lines Kruczek’s departure could have cost UCF dearly in recruiting. Winter Park’s Steven Moffitt, considered the second-best high school quarterback in the state, recently announced his plans to play college ball at Louisville and Kentucky consider Kruczek a hot candidate for that position. The superior facilities that have cost nearly two decades with kept Kruczek from moving on. Still, had Kentucky acted sooner, things could have ended differently.

“It became apparent to me that we were a week out of recruiting there wasn’t any way that I could wait any longer,” Kruczek said, explaining his decision to withdraw from the Kentucky search. “I wasn’t going to compromise a program that I’ve helped build for 10 years. Kentucky couldn’t pull the trigger at that time.”

Loyalty to black, gold, not green

While more financial resources are explored, Orsini believes two things could help keep Kruczek: his longevity devotion to the program and its blossoming future. Over the past several years recruiting has continued to improve, with each class better than the last. Also, since the new $3.8 million State-Sports Center due to open in June, soon the team will have a state-of-the art training facility.

“Kruczek has great love and loyalty to this university. I don’t think I’ve ever met a more loyal person,” Orsini said. “Mike knows we want him here long-term. I’m going to do everything in my power to see that happen.”

Those factors may just keep Kruczek at UCF. Or they may not. Only time will tell.

“I’d like to sign a contract extension and be a part of the process for a while,” Kruczek said. “I know as long as I have around here, [plus] we’ve got a new facility flowing in, which is a sign of greater things to come for this program. I want to be a part of it for a long time, I really do.”

Kruczek looks to improve on his 3-11 career wins as head coach and continue to build on a consistent offensive line tradition.

UCF has never won a conference game in five seasons with Kruczek against a MAC power, losing tight games to both Bowling Green and Marshall. But Kruczek has great loyalty and respect for his university. I’ve never met a more loyal person,” Orsini said. “Kruczek knows we want him here long-term. I’m going to do everything in my power to see that happen.”

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Kruczek looks to improve on his 3-11 career wins as head coach and continue to build on a consistent offensive line tradition.
Indeed, pop culture and Weisinger. After several years, to the track in the environment holds races for its late-night drag racers. Bradenton Motorsports night stands for the number of feet in a late-night street-racing club according to the track's Web site. Incidentally, the drag racing was brought back opened in 1966 and they're back out there next current, but said it doesn't serve as a late-night street-racing club. Like the Auto-cross Web site. Presha added. Presha said. "You go to see a little of everything." But Ledgwood said he has never attended a real street race. "I know where some are in Deltona, but I've never been to an illegal race," he said. "It would be fun to see stupid kids doing stupid things." The organization of the races at Speedworld is much better than at Morooso race track in Palm Beach County, racer and freshman James Ingrassia said. "It's safer because of the emergency unit," Ingrassia said. "If you crash, you crash." Unlike the tracks at Morooso, which are too slippery and are not cleaned off properly to prevent oil slicks and damage to the vehicles, the quality of the track is better at Speedworld, Ingrassia added. Standing next to Ingrassia, freshman Thomas Barnett watches with envy as two more cars take off. Barnett does not drag race but participates in an event called Autocross, where drivers go to parking lots, set up a course with cones and drive around them. The course is intended to keep speeds in a domain that most drivers might have encountered on the streets and highways, according to the Autocross Web site. "We don't have drag racing in the Keys," Barratt said about his hometown. "We have Hondas with stickers." Barratt does not race at Speedworld due to the high insurance cost, but said he "would be here every day" if he could afford the payments. "I want to race so bad," he said.

Rush on the race track is safer than on the road

FROM PAGE 4
ed on people, so we don't do many sprints," Highway Patrol officers are seeing more spontaneous racing on busy roads in broad daylight, Miller added. Spontaneous racing occurs when two drivers pull up next to each other at a stop light, rev their engines and then take off when the light turns green. This makes it difficult for authorities to prove both drivers were racing since the drivers sometimes do not know each other. "We usually have pretty good witnesses, but sometimes it's hard to prove they were racing," Miller said.

The sheriff's office encourages the organized races at the track as a way to keep racers from getting into trouble on the street, Weisinger said. Miller also believes that races like Speedworld are a good outlet for people who want to race. "I'd rather see them over there than endangering pedestrians," Miller said.

Presha agreed that race tracks offering the late-night alternative are a welcome addition, but said it doesn't serve as a substitute for those who are determined to engage in the real thing. "It's not street racing," Presha said.

Indeed, pop culture and movies such as "The Fast and the Furious," which glorifies street racing, continues to encourage those who want to duplicate the illegal activity, Presha added. "It seems like they don't care," Presha said. "People die, and they're back out there next week."

The Speedworld track opened in 1966 and hosted drag races until 1977, according to Weisinger. After several years, drag racing was brought back to the track in 1996 when Weisinger took over operations on a full-time basis.

"We try to add the elements of the streets for the late-night racing," Weisinger says. "The advantage is, it's structured."

Racing tracks throughout Florida have initiated similar themes for late-night drag racers. Bradenton Motorsports Park, located outside of "Motor Club 1320," a late-night street-racing club that hosts races for its "Club 1320," according to the track's Web site. Incidentally, the 1320 stands for the number of feet in a quarter of a mile, the distance of the track.

Most of the people who come to the races at Speedworld just want to have fun and be safe while doing it, Weisinger said. "We have an ambulance at all of our events," Weisinger said. "We're only 2.5 miles from a firehouse and we have deputies on our staff."

It was so overcrowded the first time that senior Dave Ledgwood went to Speedworld to race that he was forced to watch the action from the bleachers. "I got a couple of runs in the second time," Ledgwood said.

Currently residing in Deltona, Ledgwood said he does not go to the track very often due to his work and school schedule. But he still enjoys coming to watch and participate in the races. "It's cool in Bithalo," Ledgwood said. "You get to see a little of everything."

But Ledgwood said he has never attended a real street race. "I know where some are in Deltona, but I've never been to an illegal race," he said. "It would be fun to see stupid kids doing stupid things."

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Title VII: The Election Statutes

Chapter 601 Definitions: (Defined, but not limited to)

A. Active Campaigning—Any display or display of campaign materials, posters, or other candidates for election to a student office or student organization, as determined by the Election Commission.

B. Affirmative Action—Any action taken by the Student Senate to ensure that qualified candidates for election are included in the campaign.

C. Alternative Candidate—Any candidate who is not a registered student at the University of Central Florida.

D. Authorized by the Student Senate—Any candidate who has received the written consent of at least 25% of the student body to run for a seat on the Student Senate.

E. Candidate—Any person seeking election to a student office or student organization.

F. Candidate/Staff—Any person, including the candidate and any member of the candidate's staff, who participates in the campaign.

G. Campaign Materials—Any printed or electronic materials, including posters, flyers, brochures, and other materials.

H. Campaigning—Any activity related to the election of candidates or student organizations.

I. Campaign Coordinator—Any person responsible for the formal organization of a campaign.

J. Campaign Finance—Any funds raised from individuals, organizations, or other sources for the benefit of a campaign.

K. Candidate’s Media—Any media released by a candidate or their campaign staff.

L. Candidate’s Staff—Any person working for a campaign, including the candidate and any member of the campaign staff.

M. Candidate’s Media—Any media released by a candidate or their campaign staff.

N. Candidate’s Office—Any office or facility utilized by a candidate or their campaign staff.

O. Election Commission—Any person or group responsible for the conduct of an election.

P. Election Coordinator—Any person responsible for the conduct of an election.

Q. Election Period—Any period during which candidates may run for office or be elected to a student office or student organization.

R. Election—Any process by which candidates are selected to hold office.

S. Election Cycle—Any series of elections held during a single academic year.

T. Election Day—Any day on which elections are held.

U. Election Day—Any day on which elections are held.

V. Election Day—Any day on which elections are held.

W. Election Day—Any day on which elections are held.

X. Election Day—Any day on which elections are held.

Y. Election Day—Any day on which elections are held.

Z. Election Day—Any day on which elections are held.

Chapter 602 Duties of the Election Commissioners:

A. The Election Commissioners shall be responsible for the conduct of elections.

B. The Election Commissioners shall be responsible for the conduct of elections.

C. The Election Commissioners shall be responsible for the conduct of elections.

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Y. The Election Commissioners shall be responsible for the conduct of elections.

Z. The Election Commissioners shall be responsible for the conduct of elections.
Shuttle roll out early, but is swiftly cut back due to lack of riders

DANIELLE DEPARI

UCF shuttles began rolling out an extra 30 minutes earlier in response to complaints this semester. For the past 7 months, it wasn’t early enough to get to their 7 a.m. classes.

“Now that 33, Parking Services arranged to begin shuttle routes at 6:30 a.m. to accommodate students early classes. The shuttles deteriorate virtually empty after Parking Services pulled them after 7 a.m. For the past two semesters there would have cost Parking Services about $85,000.

This fall, Parking Services will plan to seek a five-year agreement with a transportation company to add more stops and purchase new buses. The money generated from the shuttles will be used to fund the construction of a fifth parking garage. The $82 million garage will accommodate 1,000 cars.

The UCF shuttle serving document is available at the Busch Lound and University House will continue to operate from 7 a.m.

January 30, 2003 • The Central Florida Future

10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Shuttle, But Not to Please Students

Jim Martin, Director of Parking Services, shuttles, therefore decided to remove 7 a.m. shuttles from the six extra trips at 6:30 a.m. Start times for only those routes that serve Pegasus Point and University House, the only two university-affiliated housing complexes.

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Economic recovery more important than Iraq

In his State of the Union address Tuesday night, President Bush gave his perceptions of the country's situation. He charged the United States with threats from Iraq and the rest of the world. Bush made some good proposals on cutting his domestic agenda. For example, he said he wants to improve the economy, protect the environment and lessen the country's dependence on foreign sources of energy.

Bush earmarked $1.2 billion in research funding to develop hydrogen-powered vehicles. If the U.S. develops the technology to free itself from its addiction to oil, the nation and world will benefit from having a clean energy source.

Unfortunately, Bush did not put forth a clear-cut plan to get the nation out of its two-year recession. He proposed more tax cuts, but his tax cuts primarily benefit the wealthiest Americans, who need relief the least. Before he commits the nation to a war with Iraq, Bush needs to concentrate more on resuscitating the American economy.

Bush pledged $15 billion to help fight AIDS in Africa and the Caribbean. Finally, he realized the scope and importance of this cause. However, it seems highly unlikely that the U.S. will wait much longer before rushing into war. Basically Bush used his two-hour-long speech to try to sell the country on war with Iraq. Bush tried to scare the American public into blindly following his lead.

He tried to make the case that the United States has to go to war with Iraq, because, if it does not start now, then Saddam Hussein will use his weapons of mass destruction on the U.S. or its allies. United Nations weapons inspectors have not located these weapons of mass destruction after three months of searching.

Bush said he has evidence that will convince all doubters that the U.S. must attack Iraq. He called the pending war a matter of national security and said that the U.S. would go to war because it has to.

"We seek peace," Bush said. "We strive for peace. If war is forced upon us, we will fight for a just cause and a just peace."

That does not make sense. Peace-seeking nations not spend hundreds of thousands of troops to a country's borders and threaten an invasion. Furthermore, the only nation forcing a war is the United States. War is not being forced upon us.

If Bush has the "smoking gun" to justify a preventive war on Iraq, now is the time to present it. Otherwise, he should focus his attention on domestic problems and the actual state of the union.

Letters to the Editor

Seniors correct in condemning funding for ethnic groups

In response to "Seniors' rally draws protest," (Jan. 27), I agree that the cultural and ethnic groups need to make their case for funding. United States Senator Tom Harkin is not being racist in his attempt to defend the funding of cultural and ethnic groups. He is asking for a time of constitutional and equality of representation for these cultural and ethnic groups.

It seems highly unlikely that the U.S. will have to wait much longer before rushing into war. Bush used his two-hour-long speech to try to sell the country on war with Iraq. Bush tried to scare the American public into blindly following his lead.

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2010: A UCF odyssey

Mike Riegel
Staff Writer

Like it or not, 10,000 more students are coming to UCF this minute. That's what is being projected growth by the year 2010. With that in mind, the UCF board of trustees recently passed a campus growth plan that will accommodate the expansion.

There are going to be more buildings, more classes, more lecture halls, more everything. But I don't think nobody was ever quite as surprised as I was when I heard the news. There is some people out there who are opposed to pouring concrete on grasslands and being overrun by heligment college students. Can you believe the nerve of these people?

Spending the block to the development is concerned citizen Steven Sea.gal. He lives northwest of campus in the RiverWalk development. She's addressed to the President Hit at the Board of Trustees meeting and told them: "Nobody's happier with the growth. The whole question is, how can they grow? We've got a mess over people too, but spending in this way is not always equate to worthwhile."

ask a Native American, if you want to know about the culture that America was built upon a case is to save the land. Nobody's happy with this. The way it's been done is not entirely unexpected, for Sen. Gould to be leading the point this week's issue? I'm not even factoring in the

The Central Florida Future

Glenda gives Orlando a token of remembrance

INSPIRED THOUGHTS

Adam Shiver
Staff Writer

My reaction when I found that Mayor Glenda Hood was leaving Orlando to initiate the celebration of the birth place of "The Wizard of Oz" upon the discovery of the witch-which is the main street's."

"Dingdong, the witch is dead, the witch is dead, the witch is dead, the witch is dead," I'm laughing out loud.

"Well, she may not be around, or be dying, but she is certainly known and that in itself is cause for celebration."

But it seems Glenda is going to be leaving Orlando in worse shape than a farm-house hit by a tornado.

Hood is leaving in late February to become Florida's Secretary of State under the Governor. And she is leading us with a little something to remember her by.

The little something is actually huge, an $1.5 million deficit. That Hood was wailing on a rainbow for a city without homeless or gay rights, she wasn't paying attention to the city's bottom lines.

This budget deficit of nearly $12 million has not been matched in nearly 20 years. The last major deficit in Orlando's history was during the construction of the Orlando Arena, now the TD Watermark Centre, in 1997. Even that only put the city in the red by $10 million.

So what put Orlando in such a pitiful position financially? Hood claims it was a downturn in tourism and an increase in over-time pay for police and fire personnel after Sept. 11.

But while she was busy ignoring the city's growing deficit, she was frantically forging a plan to entice citizens and law enforcement to police the homeless and harass them out of the city's streets.

She was also busy campaigning against a gay-rights ordinance, which thankfully was voted down in December and will provide much-needed protection for Orlando's gay community.

And let us not forget Hood's royal goof — selling the city's closed Senior house to developers for next to nothing.

Another perfect example of Hood's habit of poor planning is that she allowed the city to rely on the generosity of the Orlando Utilities Commission to balance the city's books for years.

It seems that UCF over the last several years has been playing the part of the good witch of Oz.

Thank the city-owned utility company within a check to the city to balance the books. In the past UCF had been heading to库里 revenue and was padding the checks with a little extra to supplement the city's budget. Approximately $2.8 million.

The supplemental funds for the city suddenly were no longer considered a supplement, but was earmarked in the city's budget over the years.

When two years ago, the OUC was stricken to fail, over the extra $35 million because of a flattering economy, the city's budget also plummeted $35 million into debt.

The mayor says that the city's reserves will cover the shortfall, but the funny thing is they are unsure how much of it the reserves can cover. In fact they are uncertain of how much they even have in the city's virtual piggy-bank.

While I foolish the fact that she is leaving the city in a deficit, I am glad to see Hood go. I would rather have seen a house dropped on the old witch.

It's a shame for an incoming candidate to be left with such a burden.

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Letters to the Editor

What's polish got to do with leadership?

When we think of coup we usually expect the two articles to student govern- ment in this week's edition. I was flabbergast at how well and after reading "波兰 americans are hand in hand, political" by Joel Addington and "Orlando Mainstream" by Ben Riegel published Jan. 27. Was shocked by what the articles were saying about our current political scene. One article accused of a being a racist? Maybe he is, maybe he isn't. But that's what he says, he went to the trouble of writing it down. I'll let the people judge for themselves, if they dare.

In the second article, there's a quote that Mr. David has been in Florida as long try ing to firk up some, the white trying to fight the black. There's a lot of rage that go together and unite.

The articles go on about the actions of another student who is a student. He is a way to write an article. Very clear that a number of students are hand in hand, political action is to be suppressed. In one case someone decided, find out if they were the place for him. While I do agree with what Sen. Riegel said, I don't think that entirely supports for Sen. Gould to be the one to bring it to the attention of the future.
**Hunting for 4 in a row**

**Jon Schoggins**

The UCF women's track and field team enters the 2003 season seeking its fourth straight Atlantic Sun championship.

A good mix of talented underclassmen and senior leaders gives the team an excellent chance of defending its title, though Coach Marcia Mansur-Wentworth expects a more challenging season than last year's.

"We have a great team, and we're expecting another great year," Mansur-Wentworth said. "But we lost a lot of key people, so we're not going to be quite as strong. Winning by 100 points - that's not going to happen. We'll be beating it out a little bit more. But I have confidence we'll rise to the occasion."

The squad quite literally ran away with last season's title, but the losses of Jamie Perez, GeAna Rivera and Valerie Rasumussen to graduation and LaTresa Firby to medical concerns leave Mansur-Wentworth concerned about this year's depth.

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**Knights search for first wins of season**

**UCF faces off against Morris Brown, Bethune-Cookman**

**Matt Bethon**

After dropping its first two games of the season, the UCF softball team looks to rebound this weekend against the University of Florida, losing both games by a combined two runs. They lost the first game 6-5 in extra innings and were blanked 1-0 in the second. Despite the 0-2 start, Coach Renee Luers-Gillispie remained upbeat.

"Knowing that we could stay with Florida through those games, I think the girls are definitely looking forward to next week," she said.

The Knights had success last year against both Bethune-Cookman and Morris Brown. They took two of three from the Wildcats in 2002. The one loss came in the Knights' first game in their inaugural season, implanting the Wildcats in the UCF history books.

"Bethune-Cookman will be tough, they're just a very scrappy team," Luers-Gillispie said. "They've got a lot of speed."

The Wildcats play a much different style of softball than the Knights saw against the

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**Face-off of division leaders**

**South-leading UCF hosts North-leading Belmont Bruins**

**Kristy Shonka**

Last week, the UCF men's basketball team earned road wins against Jacksonville State and preseason Atlantic Sun Conference favorite Georgia State. This week the Golden Knights come home to face A-Sun North Division leading Belmont tonight at the UCF Arena and the 7-11 Stanford Bulldogs on Saturday. Both games begin at 7:30 p.m.

The Bruins are 9-9 on the season and 1-2 in the A-Sun. Belmont averages 71.9 points a game on offense, compared to UCF's 66.8. But the Bruins' defense gives up nearly that many at 71.1 points, and the Knights' defense leads the A-Sun allowing just 69.6 points a game.

Junior Adam Mark is third in the conference with his 16.9 points a game average, and leads the league in field goal percentage (58.8). Adam Somm is the A-Sun player averaging a double-double as the senior scores about 15 points and grabs about 12 rebounds a night.

Senior guard Ray Abellard leads the Knights offensively, but has been streaky this season. He's coming off two 30-point performances and averages 16.5 points a game for the season. Doton is next for the Knights averaging 13.0 points and leads UCF in rebounds with 6.2 a game. Junior college transfer Daxter Lyons has come on strong since the conference schedule began.

He's scoring about 10 points a game for the season, but that figure jumps to 14.5 for A-Sun games.

The Knights head into the game tied with Troy State for the top spot in the A-Sun South Division with both teams 6-1 in the
FSU DROPS KNIGHTS

Pitcher Taylor Sawyer pitched 10 innings in Saturday's loss to Florida, giving up only two hits and one earned run.

UCF mercy-killed Morris Brown last season

FROM PAGE 12

Junior Julie Pecasting earned UCF's only point in the Knights' 6-1 loss to No. 30 Florida State. UCF gets another chance at a ranked opponent Sunday when it hosts No. 42 Florida International.

Morris Brown last year, winning both games against them by a combined 20 runs. Each game took just five innings, as the Knights beat them by the 10-run mercy-kill rule. The Lady Wolverines finished 2002 with a 12-23 record.

The Knights play each team twice this weekend. Saturday they host Bethune-Cookman at noon and Morris Brown at 2 p.m. On Sunday, the Knights will take on Morris Brown at noon and Bethune-Cookman at 2 p.m. The Knights should get back on the right track this weekend. "I think we'll have an opportunity to get a few wins," Luers-Gillispie said.

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Knights hit stretch of Northern opponents

CHRIS BERNHARDT/SPECIAL WRITER

After having finally gotten back to 2001 and in a three-way tie with Troy State and Florida Atlantic for the South Division lead in the Atlantic Sun, the UCF women’s basketball team (8-8 overall, 4-1 A-Sun) will finally get a chance to play teams from the North Division in the next few weeks.

Though the Golden Knights got through their five game swing through the South Division with a healthy 4-1 mark, they might find things tougher in the North. The South Division only has one team other than UCF with more than six wins (Troy State) and none with more than nine. The North Division has four teams with seven victories or more and two teams with double-digits in the win category.

Tonight the Golden Knights begin their march through the North in Nashville to take on Belmont, one of those double-digit win teams at 11-5, 2-3.

The Bruins are one of the highest scoring teams in the A-Sun, second only to Jacksonville State with 69.3 points per game. They have four players averaging double-digits in scoring but their leading scorer, sophomore guard Khadija Davenport, hasn’t played since injuring her knee against Georgia State on Jan. 9. Without her 10.0 points per game, the Bruins have struggled to a 2-3 record.

Still, they have guards Holli Davis (12.1 points per game) and Natalie Brown (10.7) as well as center Chastity Campbell (11.7) to provide some scoring punch. Howard Brandt Miller can also put the ball in the hoop, averaging 9.8 points per game to go along with her team-leading 9.9 rebounds per game. That rebounding total ranks third in the A-Sun.

They also lead the A-Sun in steals by a healthy margin, averaging 13.7 per game. Again Davenport paces them with 43, but six more Bruins have at least 19. That doesn’t bode well for the Golden Knights, who turn the ball over more than 20 times per game. It will likely take a strong showing from UCF to pull out a key road victory.

But while beating Belmont will likely prove a difficult task, the Golden Knights will get a little relief Saturday afternoon when they conclude their two-game road trip at Samford. Unlike the Bruins, the Bulldogs (4-11, 0-4) are the worst scoring team in the conference. They scored a paltry 53.3 points per game, and do not possess a single double-digit scorer. Junior forward Giovani Price is closest with a 9.0 scoring average.

They also don’t rebound very well, cleaning the glass at just a 33.5 pace. Senior forward Naut Pittman leads the team with 5.7 a game, followed by Price at 5.2. Overall, this team does very little well, making this a game UCF should win.

The Golden Knights have made some strides of late, rebounding from a poor start to the season. But they’ve done so against mostly mediocre teams within their own mediocre division. The North Division will present a much greater challenge for UCF in the coming weeks, and a long way in proving whether they’ll be a legitimate threat in the A-Sun Tournament.

From Page 12

conference. While Belmont will challenge the Knights, the Trojans should have an easier time going against 2-16 Gardner-Webb. UCF needs to beat the Bruins to maintain the tie for first.

On Saturday the Bulldogs come to town sporting a 3-4 record in the A-Sun. Samford is coming off an 18-point loss to Troy State on Sunday. The Bulldogs are one of three A-Sun teams to beat Jacksonville State though. While the Knights are playing at home, Troy State will be in North Carolina taking on Campbell. The Camels are just 4-13 on the year and have only one conference win, a two-point decision over Gardner-Webb.

If the Golden Knights can get through these two games unscathed they will be poised to extend their conference-leading four game win streak to 10. After this week, their next four opponents have a combined 8-21 conference record. The only team during this stretch without a sub-500 A-Sun record is Jacksonville, and the Knights blow out the Dolphins Jan. 23, 72-68.

Seniors Ray Abellard’s clutch shooting last week earned him a share of the A-Sun Player of the Week honor. He averaged 22.5 points in UCF’s two wins, shooting 66 percent from the field.
Giles continues to excel at track

FROM PAGE 12

One runner Mansur-Wentworth is not concerned with is senior Sonja Shedden. Shedden qualified nationally in the 10,000 meters in 2001 and in the 5,000 meters last season. She's racked up four conference titles, 10 all-conference honors, four UCF records and was an academic All-American last season.

The team's captain, senior Kelly Roloff, also figures to have another outstanding season. She scored 4,783 points in the heptathlon last season, and assistant coach Chad Halverson is expecting her to qualify nationally in the event this year.

"She's a phenomenal athlete. She's one of the hardest working and most durable athletes I've ever been around. She'll be in tons of events, and she'll be competitive in all of them," Halverson said.

The team's other seniors are high jumper Jamie Perez, thrower Elese Wilcox and Erica Garris, who holds four UCF records and earned all-conference recognition in the 100 meter dash in 2002.

The sophomore class will have to make a big contribution to the title defense. Conference champion 100-meter hurdler Dinna Chin, conference champion shot putter Tiffany Hoobrock, and conference champion high jumper Ann Larson are expected to be the most valuable contributors.

Sophomore Amy Giles had a great showing recently in the season debut at University of Florida's Collegiate Indoor meet. The team of sophomore Valery Martinez, freshmen Andrea Morrow and Astrid Comesens and Giles finished third in the 4x400 meter relay and Giles finished third in the individual mile event.

Giles individual performance surprised her coach a bit.

"I wasn't sure how fast she was running during the race — I realized she was running well and competing hard, but I wasn't sure about her speed. I realized with about 400 meters left how fast her time was going to be," Mansur-Wentworth said.

The Knights' next test is Friday in Baton Rouge, LA, where they will compete in the Bengal Bayou Classic.
American Sign Language: a possible foreign language

Christine Dellert Staff Writer

Recognized in the United States by the early 19th century, American Sign Language is not on the list as its predecessors - English, Spanish, French or German - yet it is now gaining an equal amount of use and familiarity in this country.

As ASL becomes the third most popular language in American educational institutions debate whether or not it is considered a true foreign language. The United States Department of Education lists ASL as a language in the latest Study of Foreign Language Enrollment. This is being recognized by schools and colleges, although the list is not yet complete.

U.S. Foreign Service, the University of Illinois in Chicago and South Florida and the University of South Florida and Florida State University recognize ASL as an official foreign language course.

UCF's mission is different from that of other schools, foreign languages associate professor Karl-Heinrich Buck, deaf adjunct instructor for American Sign Language, said. "The university places an emphasis on proficiency in language. Our goal is to teach ASL as a true foreign language, whereas many other universities consider it a disability language." He added that this is not a separate language but a disability language.

Deborah Kamm, coordinator for Student Disability Services, signs to Mike Devaney as they eat lunch in the Student Union (above).

Sophomore Valerie Wilson feels many people avoid talking to her because she is deaf.

The ASL mission at UCF is to have students with a hearing loss learn the sign language. "I cannot identify with some students because I am deaf," Wilson said. "They feel that I am not a native and that I cannot understand the American Sign Language language. They do not realize that I am deaf and that I live a normal life."

In the U.S., American Sign Language is first proposal requesting that ASL qualify as a foreign language. "I think ASL is a foreign language, but it is not given the recognition it deserves," said Deirdre Yeager, a senior at UCF.

Despite her hearing problem, Wilson is very self sufficient. She became interested in school at the age of 10 when her parents signed her up for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program. "I realized that I could communicate with other deaf students," Wilson said.

In the three years since then, Wilson has become an active member of the ASL community. "I have learned a lot of vocabulary and signed a lot of sentences," Wilson said. "I have learned a lot of the ASL culture, but it is not separate from the hearing culture. It is a part of the hearing culture."

Wilson's schoolwork is not affected by her hearing loss. "I have learned to speak and understand the hearing language," Wilson said. "I have learned to read and write the ASL language."

Wilson's favorite class is ASL 101. "I enjoy the class because I can express myself in ASL," Wilson said. "I also enjoy the class because I can communicate with other deaf students."
'Rhodes' to scholarship

CRYSTAL ESPINOSA
STAFF WRITER

UCF's first Rhodes scholar, graduate student Tyler Fisher, has recently been accepted to study European Literature for two years at England's Oxford University.

"I'm fairly intimidated right now," Fisher said. "I am looking forward to having a few years of focus on my discipline."

The arduous process of intense interviews, rigorous requirements, stiff competition and even cocktail parties are only a few of the tasks prospective Rhodes Scholars must overcome to obtain one of the highly coveted scholarships.

"I think it was important that Dr. Jayasriem Shivamogga (Fisher's mentor and former director for honors student development) didn't encourage us thinking of the motivation of one day putting it on our Rhodes application," Fisher said.

Fisher said Shivamogga's advice to students is to stay motivated throughout the process, and then apply for the Rhodes during their senior year.

"If students set it as a goal early and concentrate on the process, the means as opposed to the end, they can be motivated and work hard, then become well-acquainted with their professors and the mock interviews," Fisher said. "Some of the hardest things are the 100 or more hours of preparation that we went through in preparation for the Rhodes interview."

"We spent many hours studying in preparation for the interview," Fisher said. "We were looking at you to be self-deprecating, "It's been a tough year for me," and even "I'm really, really trying to be my best.""

"I don't think it was important for Professor Shivamogga to have studied abroad, and/or even a minor in a foreign language," Fisher said. "I think studying abroad allows you to look at yourself objectively as an American citizen."

"I think studying abroad allows you to look at yourself objectively as an American citizen."

"When you are abroad, people often times are looking at you to be representative of America so what really calls into question who you are," Fisher said. "We begin the path to prepare for a Rhodes scholarship, students are recommended to become well-acquainted with their professors. Whether it is for a recommendation or a mentor to help with research that will later go on a resume, professors are a key component to a student's success."

"Barry Mauer, from the UCF English department, acted as Fisher's mentor and worked with him on a research project for two semesters. Students may be afraid to ask about working with their professor on a research project, but professors are generally really flat­fer when students approach them, Mauer said."

Before students can even begin the application process for the Rhodes, they must first be nominated by their university. The Burnett Honors College at UCF is the campus representative for all prestigious scholarships, including the Rhodes, Marshall, Truman and several others.

"We have an office for students and fellowship applications," Wang said. "We advise all students, whether they are seniors or juniors or sophomores, to come in. We represent the entire campus. We don't do any­thing special in regard to honors students."

Honors students are more likely to visit the honors Web page and see the link for prestigious scholarships even though the link is accessible to every­one, Wang said.

"If students are interested, we point them in the right direction and work with everyone who has the credentials to pur­suit a prestigious scholarship," he said.

After much preparation and hard work that was staff, the selection process for the Rhodes begins.

"I have to project myself... you can't be self-deprecating," Fisher said. "What was really helpful were mock interviews. I had three of them on campus with professors and the mock interviews were actually far more difficult than the actual Rhodes interviews were."

Fisher spent his space time reading British Broadcasting Company (BBC) news page and catching up on international news since the interview process required a student to take a stance on world issues, defend them in conjunction to a judge's opposition, identify world leaders and answer questions about the current national debt.

"What made us stand out was that we were able to talk about things we were currently working on and plans for the near future," Fisher said. "We weren't just resting on our laurels and talking about our past accomplishments. I think the judges were very interested in seeing that we were still active; we weren't just saying here's my resume, give me the award. We were obviously not pursuing the Rhodes as an end in itself."

The rigorous process to attaining a Rhodes scholarship challenges students to define who they are early in their col­legiate years, and whether they receive the scholarship or not, walk away with a sense of pride for their accomplishments.

"It's the fact that I was getting to know myself better and able to define myself and my goals," Fisher said. "I was becoming a stronger student through the process rather than just making it about whether I won or lost in the end."
Rockin', rowdy crowd creates a horribly picturesque show

THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED

Linnea Brown Staff Writer

"Now remember, this show is probably going to be the weirdest thing you've ever seen," my friend Kevin cautioned, swelling open the heavy theater doors and warming me and our four French exchange student friends that we were about to witness a bizarre phenomenon.

Yeah, yeah. Why was he always so dramatic when he described such unusual things? I threw on the arboreal for the impending wacky performance of Uter Follwedday's Friday Night. At Little show, my four friends and I headed into the Citrus Walkway Theater for the Rich Weirdos' new, monthly midnight showing of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show." Since the movie had already started, we frantically peeled into the theater seats. We could find in the first row, unaware we had just made a huge mistake.

We immediately became targets for the dozens of spirit gum -dabbed, nose-sticking, lipstick-wearing party goers behind us. Glowering around the theater, I realized that everyone else knew how to keep day by covering their heads with newspapers, marking Susan Sarandon's sopping character "He's sitting on a giant penis," Kevin crossed, drawing my attention back to the screen, where star transfused Frank-N-Furter was indeed, straddling a gigantic, penis-shaped weight bench. Dozens of other subliminal penises prevailed throughout the show. For the rest of the movie, I tried to understand if there were the types of people who always shut out the existing of a movie that they've already seen.

"Look, he's sitting on a giant penis," Kevin drawled, "Kevin crossed, drawing my attention back to the screen, where star transfused Frank-N-Furter was indeed, straddling a gigantic, penis-shaped weight bench. Dozens of other subliminal penises prevailed throughout the show. For the rest of the movie, I tried to understand if there were the types of people who always shut out the existing of a movie that they've already seen.

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Translators assist deaf students during class

FROM PAGE 16
also appear to be shy and withdraw in her classes, but this is merely a facade.

As soon as Mandy David, Wilson's friend and interpreter, walks into the classroom, Wilson is all smiles and her face lights up as they communicate excitedly through sign language.

Translating for deaf students at UCF is a natural stop for David to take since her father was deaf while she was growing up.

David began learning sign language at the age of one, but she did not become fluent with it until 11 years later.

She started by translating music in church and has been translating for students at UCF for a year and a half now.

"People tend to talk to the interpreter instead of the deaf person because they look at the deaf community as though they are handicapped when that's not the case," she said.

Her father is currently employed as a pastor at a Baptist church where he does the entire people to pity deaf people and bring them to Jesus, she said.

"When teaching for someone who's deaf, you have to think differently because you can't hear them," she said.

David is one of the many translators at UCF who attends classes with various deaf students to translate their professor's lectures from spoken word to sign language.

"You build a relationship and a connection with the student," she said. "It's a totally different world for them and it makes them feel good to know they have someone they can communicate easily with, without the frustration of not being understood.

Wilson said that interpreters like David have made her feel more comfortable in class.

"Debbie Kamm, coordinator for Student Disability Services, is in charge of arranging schedules for translators to meet with students in their classes.

Kamm has worked closely with the deaf community for 13 years. She fell in love with sign language after taking it as a class in college, she said.

There are approximately 30 students who require accommodations for their hearing loss at UCF.

"UCP has a strong American Sign Language department," Kamm said. "Everyone in the program seems to really be close.

"David Buck is a professor who has been deaf for 42 years. He has overcome the stereotypes people have built for the deaf.

"He is in demand for hearing people to pity deaf people and think 'poor thing they can't hear," she said. "They think deaf people have limits and that they can't do the same jobs those with hearing can do."

Buck began attending St. Rita School for the Deaf when he was 10 years old. Even the sports coaches there would use sign language to communicate with the team players, he said.

"I've been teaching the hearing for 13 years and has even written his own book titled "Deaf Peddler," Buck added.

"There are deaf doctors, attorneys, programmers, and instructors," he said. "I feel that deaf people need to educate hearing people that they are fully capable of doing anything."

Kamm arranged for the students in the program to have lunch together this past week for the first time. Several interpreters were also present, as well as a few students. Kamm plans on expanding those group gatherings to trips to movies and other various places.

Wilson was among those who attended, as well as her good friend, junior Michael Doversie, 19.

She first met and Doversie two years ago at a gathering for the deaf community at the Orlando Fashion Square mall. He is a comedian and a fun-loving guy, she said.

At lunch, he told a story about how he was bored during class one day so he took a ruler and attached it to a metal hearing device on his head. Since then, he has become notorious for making classes interesting with his comedic antics.

"That's one advantage I have over some hearing people," Doversie said. "They don't always have as much fun in class as I do.

Wilson believes that everyone should try to find the humor in life when things become very overwhelming.

"At least when I don't want to hear what someone is saying, it's a lot easier for me to tune them out than it is for most people," she said.

Although she is partially deaf, she has found her sense of hearing and can remember a person's appearance down to the most insignificant detail.

"After meeting a person for five minutes, I could tell you all of their physical details," she said. "It just comes to me naturally."

Kamm hopes that other hearing students will eventually come to realize that deaf students aren't so different from themselves.

"People shouldn't be afraid to become friends with them because of something like a hearing problem," Kamm said.

Despite Wilson acknowledging others' reactions toward her disability, she tries not to take it to heart.

"There are some people who doubt my abilities, but I have made up my mind that I can do anything and overcome any obstacle that comes my way," she said. "I won't let my hearing loss hold me back from living my life."

Sign language classes to meet foreign language requirements

FROM PAGE 16
respecting their culture, he said.

Barsch also does not deny the importance of learning ASL in the United States, however he does not see it as a substitute to an international language. All countries have their own different sign languages, he said.

ASL professor and interpreter, he believes that instruction in ASL can be supplied outside of the United States in countries such as Canada and Mexico.

Barsch also argues that foreign languages such as Spanish and French vary depending upon what region of the world they are spoken in. "In French there are different variations of the language — Creole, Haitian and American — just as there are in sign languages," she said.

This month a renewed debate on ASL does not question its existence as a separate language, but its application in a globalized world, said Barsch.

The Undergrad Program Curriculum Committee will report back to the Faculty Senate after reviewing arguments of both departments.

UCF currently offers four ASL electives: SPA 4612, SPA 4613, SPA 4614C and SPA 4617.
What's News—
In Business and Finance

**State of the Union: Economy in Flux**

Mixed economic news offered little cheer as President Bush delivered a State of the Union Address focused primarily on Iraq and the war on terror. Housing remained the bright spot, with new-home sales unexpectedly surging in December to end the year at a record level. But consumer confidence fell in January, and durable-goods orders rose only slightly in December.

Sales of single-family homes jumped 0.5% in December, the Commerce Department said, for an annual rate of 976,000, the highest level since the government began tracking sales in 1963. The report was much stronger than expected by economists, who predicted December sales would fall 4.5%, according to a survey by Dow Jones Newswires and CNW.

Consumer confidence fell in January for the second straight month, largely on worries about jobs and incomes, a new survey showed. The Conference Board said its consumer-confidence index fell to 79 from 80.7 in December. "With the threat of war looming, consumers' hopes are being scuppered about the short-term outlook," the group's research director said.

A record 54% of good-paying four-year college graduates say they expect to get a job. College students were more optimistic than recent graduates and workers. The hopefuls were especially bright about the technology sector.

**Record Labels Go After Individuals**

Court orders are increasing the stakes for anyone who goes online to get, or pass, music files. Some 29% of users have admitted to sharing files they are using the Net to get, or pass, music files with others. The companies, including Sony Corp., Warner Bros. Records, and Universal Records, say they will file a suit against anyone who goes online to get, or pass, music files with others without paying royalties.

The suit will be filed in a federal court and will focus on so-called file-sharing networks, such as Napster. The companies are supporting the controversial admissions that monitors traffic on file-sharing networks.

**Economy in Flux**

Economists say, there must be a turnaround in business confidence. In December, the University of Michigan in defending its consumer-confidence index fell to 79 from 80.7 in December to end the year at a record level. But consumer confidence fell in January, and durable-goods orders rose only slightly in December.

The industry initially is expected to focus on accused superrunners—the estimated 80% of every runner offering at least 10% of the files. But Verizon will target the music files themselves. The company says it opposes the Verizon ruling, but will comply with the federal court decision.

The recording industry is increasingly deploying electronic "bots" as the equivalent of internet protocol, or IP address. Advertisers say they are using these bots to monitor traffic on file-sharing networks. Since these networks are open to the public, the robots can find within seconds any song you are sharing with others. The robots note your Internet protocol, or IP address, which is unique for your computer and can track the number of people that you are sending at one time. The robots also look for annoying characters, such as viruses.

**Shock Absorber**

The Super Bowl's biggest winners Sunday night included a commercial for Pepsi Twist starring rock singer Ozzy Osbourne; and a Bud Light spot featuring a man wearing a dog on his head. The commercials are expected to focus on so-called aggressive advertising. The game was Pfizer Inc.'s Trident gum ad featuring a squirrel that takes a bite out of a startled dentist. "It's short, sweet, hilarious and it sells the product, all in 15 seconds," said Mark D'Arcy, creative director at WPP Group PLC's Young & Rubicam. The low-budget ad, from WPP's J. Walter Thompson, stands tall among some of Madison Avenue's most expensive work.

The lackluster economy added pressure on marketers looking for a hit with their ads. Advertisers paid an average of $3.1 million for each 30-second spot, compared with $1.9 million a year ago. In 2000, 134 companies bought ad space, but only 15% of users have admitted to sharing files they are using the Net to get, or pass, music files with others without paying royalties.

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Retailers Join Venture for Net Music

By Nick Wingfield

e half-dozen major music retailers, reeling from a slowdown in CD sales, formed a company that plans to offer songs for downloading from the Internet.

Best Buy Co., Hastings Television Inc., Tower Records, Trans World Entertainment Corp., Virgin Entertainment Group Inc. and Wherehouse Music Inc. said they have founded Echo Inc., a consortium developing a service that will let each of the retailers distribute music on the Internet under its respective brand names. Echo will immediately seek to negotiate music licenses from record labels, said the company’s chief executive, Dan Hart.

The consortium represents an effort to answer the explosion of music piracy through Internet file-sharing services and compact-disc copying that retailers and music companies blame for an estimated 95% drop in CD sales last year. Retailers also are seeing competition from the major recording companies that release most popular music, which have formed separate ventures, MusicNet and pressplay, for downloading music.

In setting up their own consortium, the retailers are effectively betting that they can get better terms by collectively licensing music from recording companies, rather than cutting deals individually with the labels.

"It’s clear that retail stores are threatened by digital distribution," said E.J. McNealy, a digital media analyst at research firm Gartner. "Echometrophone service is available at AT&T Wireless's ads."

In choosing its own consortium, the retailers are effectively betting that they can get better terms by collectively licensing music from recording companies, rather than cutting deals individually with the labels. "It’s clear that retail stores are threatened by digital distribution," said E.J. McNealy, a digital media analyst at research firm Gartner. "Echo's predecessor, Echo Networks Inc., folded early last year, when it decided it couldn’t obtain music licenses on favorable enough terms to support a business. Mr. Hart says he believes the new Echo can be more successful by piggybacking on the existing marketing muscle of retailers. Pushing their own Internet services may not help retailers build more brand recognition in stores. But Tower Records, for one, hopes to have its cake and eat it, too, by making the Echo service available at its stores in its retail locations."

Who Won the Ad Super Bowl?

Continued from Previous Page

million people watched in the ball game. "There will be a stampede to those jeans," said Dave Regan, professor of advertising at Michigan State.

A new AT&T Wireless spot, also by DDB, is amusing. It is off pitch. In it a smarmy guy who runs and staff...businesses for the company's products. "One Bad Light ad, also by DDB, was off pitch. It is a smart guy attempts to pick up women on the beach using a seashell. A crab then pops out and grabs him. "It was a miss," said Doug Ray, executive producer at DDBMaximo. "Unlike in prior years, the Ad Council ads left much to be desired. Yahoo Inc.'s Homestyle commercial, with singing factory workers, is glossy. Super Bowl 50's my Fico, a Web site owned by Fair Isaac Corp., that enables consumers to check their credit ratings, focused on business. Brand and ad experts say most Internet concerns are trying too hard not to be associated with the Web, sacrificing quality that made their commercials amusing. "The best thing about the dot-com boom was the advertising," Mr. D’ArCY said. "Bring back Pets.com."

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What’s News—

In Business and Finance

Continued from Previous Page

action, and against the Bush administration, which argues that the Michigan plans are unconstitutional. The filing also highlights Mr. Bush's difficulties in managing among various constituencies in the politically charged issue of race.

One of the president's conservative supporters were angered that the administration didn't offer a stronger denunciation of affirmative action in coming out against the Michigan plans. But Mr. Bush also doesn't want to alienate moderate voters whose support is vital to flooding his political base. So the president advocated the value of diversity, while opposing the use of racial quotas in education, which, in fact, were preserved by the Supreme Court in 1978.

Citing the changing global marketplace, the business sector is expected to argue that "individuals who run and staff businesses must be able to understand, learn from, and: collaborate with...clients and associates from diverse racial, ethnic and cultural backgrounds." Most businesses also prefer uniform and clear rules on issues such as race as the best way to avoid legal problems.

R.J. Reynolds

Hurt by Discounts

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Holdings Inc. swung to a loss in the fourth quarter, as the weak economy and increased government restrictions forced the company to compete with cheaper brands. Some of the company’s biggest unvoters have been forced to offer discounts, coupons and special offers to compete with cheaper brands. New makers of discount cigarettes are profiting as the economy has weakened and states have pushed up cigarette excise taxes, making smokers more inclined to switch to lower-priced brands. Odds & Ends

An Internet stock promoter who made $1 million by flooding investors with so-called spam, or unsolicited commercial e-mail, that looked like stock picks from America Online was sentenced to 27 months in prison. United Parcel Service Inc. is looking to add and Europe in its growth this year, calling the timing of the U.S. economic recovery "the biggest unknown."
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- 3/25/200 House home plus den, brk, large, recently remodelled, Sunny side, fenced yard, 2 car garage. All appliances, linen service included, no pets. $1050/month. Call 407-880-3026
- LOOKING FOR HOUSEMATES!!! Unfurnished master bedroom/den in Laporte Lakes Apt. in beautiful neighborhood. NOS, no pets. 2 available. $475/mt. each call 407-847-2050
- **Move in Specials!!**
- Room for rent. In a 4bed, quiet, Female pref. Furnished/unfurnished. No pets. $450/mth. All utilities included. Contact DJ 321-592-1155

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**250 for Rent**
- House for Rent - Aladaya Woods - 3 bed, 2 bath, garage 1250 permo (includes W/D). To see, contact 321-492-4924 or 321-492-4924.

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**For Rent**
- 2 - 2500 sqm includes wind, garage, and local phone with service. W/D. Call 407-691-5171 or UCF Pets OK. Call Ronnie 781-3182.

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**3 months FREE rent on all studios!!! 12,3 apt homes, Arbor Villas Apartments**
- 407-302-1100

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F, non-smoker wanted. $475/mt incl. everything. w/cable. Telephone. Cable Internet. 11/2 bath. House of the Week. Located near McLoud/Connell. Contact Materials 
- 407-302-5271

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Looking for someone to sublease apartment. Pegasus Landing, F, only.
- $450/mth. Willing to pay $100 to anyone willing to help. Will pay $100 in coat - half of first months rent. Move in immediately. Call Mary toll free 1-877-887-6830

**Brand new house on lake, never lived in.**
- WD, kitchen, pool high speed internet, cable, house faces on lake.
- Located in Winter Garden, 407+ Call Daniel 317-387-0216

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**Room for rent. All units, except kitchen. UCF**
- $90/month. Use of UCF, kitchen, community pool and tennis courts.
- Call 407-366-3629

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**Searching high and low**

The future is looking for dedicated, hard-working staff members.

Available positions include:
- **Editors**
- **News & Lifestyle Writers**
- **Photographers**

E-mail materials@UCFfuture.com for more information!
**400 Services**

- **LESS JUICE**
  - Premiun Discount Sports Book
  - **Pay-Per-View**
    - # of Teams
    - Pays
    - 2 Teams: $10 Min/$5,000 Max
    - 3 Teams: $5,000
    - 4 Teams: $4,500
    - 5 Teams: $4,000
    - 6 Teams: $3,500
    - 7 Teams: $3,000
    - 8 Teams: $2,500
  - **Bet Online**
  - **Bet Over the Phone**
  - **100% Legal**
  - **Safe and Easy**

- **400 Services**
  - Free Sunglasses at www.Freesunglasses4u.com

- **Oakley Imposter**
  - Free Sunglasses at www.Freesunglasses4u.com

- **Mary Kay**
  - Your One-and-Only
  - Mary Kay has the gifts for Valentine's Day. Let me help you find that perfect something so you can spend more time with that special someone. For your one-and-only gift shopping, call me or visit my website. Custom gift sets and gift ideas available.

- **HoneyMoon Specialist**
  - Florida's ONLY 4 Day, 5 Night SPRING BREAK packages. Student Express J1 permits in Cancun with all legal appearances by DJ SHRUBLIE and SHAHEEN's Spring Break on another level Riviera Beach and Hotel. From $439 per person. Call 877-HONEYMOON or (800)787-3972 for details.

- **Travel**
  - FSU President, Helen E. Godслов, has chosen to travel with Student Express J1 permits for the Spring Break at Riviera Beach, Florida. Florida State University is proud to be associated with Student Express J1 permits. Student Express J1 permits provide the best. Call 877-HONEYMOON or (800)787-3972 for details.
Are you ready?
We are.

Announcing the kickoff of AppleCorps @ UCF!

When: Friday, January 31, 2003 - 12-2pm
Where: Student union, Key West Room 218C
applecorps.ucf.edu

Come and be a part of an active, creative group that integrates technology with real life. Whether you are a current Mac user or just thinking about getting one - whether you are a Mac Genius or a total beginner, we have something to offer you. Missed MacWorld? Find out what Apple's new iLife suite is all about. Because Spielberg and Sony aren't the only people who want to create great-looking digital movies, music and photos...you do, too.

Guest Speaker John Allen, Systems Engineer for Apple Computer will give a Tech Brief on MacWorld's announcements and an introduction to the iLife digital lifestyle suite.