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

Coach Kruczek challenged one of the search for a coaching job that pays $725,000 a year at Kentucky, preferring to stay at UCF, where his package totals $200,000.

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 the staff learning to navigate the new system.

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

CSU, which has 29 campuses and 307,000 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 $600 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 CSL-Sacramento campus.

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

Dora Peters
STAFF WRITER

No girls allowed?

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

In the class of 500 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 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 pulling out or losing interest 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.

The fighting for a win in a row

The UCF track team entered this season looking for a fourth Atlantic Sun Championship.

Regulated racing not a drag

Drag racing moves off the street, onto the track.

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Students receive this publication Mondays and Wednesdays.

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Amenities, Rents and Incentives subject to change.
Disabled students call for transportation improvements

DOUG COUSINER STAFF WRITER

It's difficult for senior Deborah Clendenin to get to her classes on time, even though she lives only 19 minutes from campus. "The 15-year-old student can't drive to school, nor can she use regular public transportation, because she is intellectually impaired. So Deborah must rely on Lynx's paratransit system for disabled people to get to class and around town."

But often Deborah doesn't make it to class on time, or at all, because the transportation service often arrives late or doesn't show up at all 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, Deborah says she's often had to rely on cabs to get to classes and get home.

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

Senior Becky 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 asked him to find out when my ride would arrive, 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 Premsey, 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, Premsey said.

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

"At this point, we have dispatchers who schedule 2,700 trips per day," Premsey 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 is 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 added. "There is no room for spontaneous out­ings with friends, because you have to make reservations in advance for a specific block of time."

Premsey said that, too, is something that is unavoidable because Access Lynx has such a small staff handling such a high volume of calls.

"We have a call center of 40 people," Premsey said. "When you are scheduling almost 3,000 trips per day, there is bound to be a hold time. We try to get to people as quickly as possible."

To improve phone service and speed up wait times, all operators are currently being cross-trained to the point where a person who called Access Lynx would have to be transferred to different operators for different services, which will reduce the amount of time a caller would spend on hold.

Crosby said she knows it is frustrating to call with any question, so callers will no longer have to be transferred from one line to another.

But Crosby says operators also make her uncomfortable when they ask her for her full name and telephone number. "I don't like having to give the opera­ tors the reason for my doctor visit," she said. "I don't see why they need to know what I would be going to the doctor for no reason? It's an invasion of privacy.""}

Premsey 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 also said.

There are five transportation altern­ natives for disabled students such as Crosby and Clendenin, they say they don't want to rely on friends and can't rely on public transportation as a viable solution.
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 only 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 lead 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 in­toleration of women from engineering and computer science into other fields, predom inantly 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 Pooh Bhato, 21, an information technology major, is con­vinced there is another rea­son why women such as herself are hesitant to pursue technology degrees.

"Focusing on the competitive nature of the male gender, women are coerced to believe that perhaps a male-dominated field, such as computer science or engineering, is not the area where they can excel and show case their skills," she said.

"But whether because of intimidation, an evolving interest over time or societal factors that turn women off from pursuing technology degrees, educators are desper­ate to attract more women to computer science and engineering careers."

At UCF educators hope that the female pioneer of science can convince more women to step into the technological fields.

Sally Ride, America's first woman in space, will visit the campus on 9 in an effort to encourage more than 1,000 girls in grades five through eight to pursue careers in math, science, engineering, and technology. She will participate in a deposition science festival hosted by UCF's College of Engineering and Computer Science.

"I'm proof that women can do it," she said. "I've proved it to my skeptics and myself."

Regulated racing not a drag

As cops crack down, drivers take contests to the track

JOE HARLESS
STAFF WRITER

Two cars line up next to each other, the engine roar while the brake lines seep oil and send clouds of smoke boiling out behind the vehicles. The drivers, one in a yellow Viper with black stripes and the other in a midnight-black Firebird, pull up a few feet to the starting line as crowds form on the side­lines across from the two cars. The spectators grow quiet just before the cars take off, music playing on the public address system hanging over the crowd on telephone poles.

Both cars shoot past the starting line, but the Viper jerks immediately and comes to a halt. The driver jumps out of the car and pushes it back to the makeshift pit area where he realized he popped the u-joint. Meanwhile, the Firebird streaks to the finish line with his speed system hanging over the crowd on telephone poles.

Smoke rises off the track after drivers spin their tires at Orlando Speedworld Dragway.

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Smoke rises off the track after drivers spin their tires at Orlando Speedworld Dragway.

In Florida, people caught racing or participating in a street race on a highway, road­way or parking lot can be charged with a second-degree misdemeanor, fined from $500-$500 and have their driver's license revoked for a year if convicted. Further violations can result in fines up to $1,000 and loss of a driver's license for two years.

Berrall Presha of the Orange County Sheriff's Office said drag racers can be arrested on the spot and sent to jail.

"It was awful during the summer," Presha said. "We still see it, but it's not as bad as before.

Trooper Kim Miller of the Florida Highway Patrol con­firmed that crowds of 300 or more racers and spectators were spotted throughout Orange County on a regular basis last summer. Sting operations and patrols were used to control the street racing before August, when the large gatherings start­ed to end.

Racing drivers in the act of street racing largely depends on being in the right place at the right time, Miller said.

"We'd catch motorists at random locations, but we've never had any reported to us," Miller said. "It's a good thing the Florida Highway Patrolled in Orange County are shorthand-
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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 Beaten to erode like the at the Syracuses 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 division rivals 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' side.

"Sureere reasons too, just like failure," Orsini said. "Other schools will see. 'Boy 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 this time, most of the noise 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 $825,000 at Louisville next season, and that University of South Florida Coach Jim Leavitt just got a contract raise that guarantees him a base salary of $419,173 in 2003 and escalates to $606,145 in 2007.

By comparison Kruczek made a base salary of $146,129 last season and had a total package, which included 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.

He said he could not afford to relinquish comparable funding levels 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 $290,000 more than the league average of $131,921.

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 in 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, we have the resources to meet 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 suddenly hand the search for a replacement.

"So while fans like the one at the Syracuses 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 sidelines for the Golden Knights. Thus, finding even a comparable replacement would likely prove difficult.

Getting more with less

UCF must cut and dry by the resources that you give him and what does he do with those resources," Orsini said. "In the past few years Mike has put Division I-A facilities and yet asked to compete at the highest level of Division IA. 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 in the past, it is a team that has gained against well-known programs, 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 quarterbacks' coach since 1995, became the head man on an interim basis.

Mike was given Division II-level facilities and yet struggled to pull out wins against well-known programs, the overall numbers the Golden Knights have inherited the black and gold long-term?

He inherited a team with Daunte Culpepper at quarterback, but also a team that had gone 4-6 for two consecutive years. He got the squad off to a start in the best start in history (7-1) and signed a guaranteed contract renewable at a school-board level.

In his five years as head coach Kruczek has compiled a 33-23 record, including the program's defining victory against Alabama. He had just one losing season, in 1998, the transition year between the Culpepper and Schneider eras. The former NFL quarterback, coupled with Schneider's Malcom Moore and Justin Dobbins, overcame a pass defense that had finished among the top 15 in the nation in each of his five seasons at the helm. Throw in the fact that UCF has not had an adequate practices or training facility, and all this looks even more impressive.

"Ryan Schneider is going to end an awesome career," Orsini said. "And Mike has a history, I call it revolving. Lose your star, rebound another one."

Along those lines Kruczek's departure could have cost UCF dearly in recruiting. Winter Park's Steven Moffett, considered the second-best high school quarterback in the state, recently announced his plans to play college ball at Kentucky. Kruczek's quarterback-friendly system played a major role in keeping Moffett home.

For all these reasons schools such as Louisville and Kentucky consider Kruczek a hot commodity. If a player is promised nearly two decades with keep 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 that I couldn't walk away 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 19 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 long-term 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, a new Indoor 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 what I want him to do, I'm going to do everything in my power to see that happen."

These factors may just keep Kruczek at UCF. Orsini 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. "You spend as long as I have around here, [plus] we've got a new facility getting 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."
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Delayed arrivals, departures leave students stranded

From Page 3

Crowley, who has used the regular bus service, found that it took her 20 to 30 minutes to get from her apartment at Paganini Lakes to the main campus. It’s a 500-yard walk on campus in her wheel chair.

"Some of the other stops don’t have or side-walks, so it’s a challenge for wheelchair users to use those particular stops," she said.

And Crowley is not the only one feeling completely safe riding certain bus routes in the evening either. "The 500 is a little frightening to ride, because, I’m sorry to say, a lot of the other people who ride are creepy, drunk and ..." she continued.

The new "safety patrol" program, managed by the Student Senate’s Campus Safety Committee and the University Police Department, has been established to deter crimes.

For the past two years, the program has been in the planning stage, but was only recently approved by the Senate.

Currently there are five "safety patrol" officers who are responsible for maintaining the security of the campus from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays.

The positions are paid by 

The patrol will also include a number of volunteer citizens who will work with the "safety patrol" officers.

The Volunteer Citizens Program, which is currently in the planning stage, will be implemented within the next three to four weeks.

The "safety patrol" program has been planned with the help of several community leaders.

Specifically, the program was planned with the help of the Student Senate, the University Police Department, the Campus Safety Committee, and the Student Senate’s Campus Safety Committee.

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The program is currently in the planning stage, and will be implemented within the next three to four weeks.
Shuttle roll out to begin, 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, but the frequency has virtually emptied even after Parking Services decided to run those shuttles. To continue running all shuttles 30 minutes earlier between the fall and spring semesters, the shuttle service would have to cost Parking Services about $9,800.

This fall, Parking Services arranged to seek a five-year agreement with a transportation company to add more stops and purchase new buses.

The money generated from the transportation fees will help funds to the construction of a fifth parking garage. The $82 million garage will accommodate 1,000 cars.

The UCF shuttle service serving University Clubs, alcohol, Busch Road and University West will continue to operate from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

"We use the shuttle and am happy to pay for the transportation fee because it is responsive to student concerns," he said. "It comforts me to know that we're paying this fee toward a service that is helping students to move around campus."
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 touched on some domestic issues but dedicated much of his speech to foreign affairs. Bush made some good proposals in outlining 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 $12 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 would 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 outlined 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 strike first, then Saddam Hussein will use his weapons of mass destruction on the U.S. or its allies. United Nations weapons inspectors still have not located those 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 do not send hundreds of thousands of troops to a country’s borders and threaten an invasion. Furthermore, the only nation forcing war is the United States. War is not being forced upon us.

If Bush has the “smoking gun” to justify a preventative war in 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

Senators is correct in condemning funding for ethnic groups

In response to "The Journalism email from student government," by Ben Baird published Jan. 21, I think that what my email intends to bring out is not to question the funding of a particular group of people. It is apparently trying to focus on the allocation of dollars to one group over the other should one group be able to do anything with the ethnic background of that respective group. But, in fact, that is not the reality. It certainly all the students are in favor of a particular group of ethnic people - one that does not deserve it or any particular group of people.

I state that educational organizations allow and encourage all of its members to participate and become successful, not just those who belong to a particular ethnic group. Allowing that type of motivation to continue, I believe, they would be victims.

-GREG H. BRICK

Greek leaders because of initiative, not status

In response to "Greek leaders because of initiative, not status," by Brian Kanim published Jan. 21, I agree that the Greeks have taken the initiative to become leaders, not status. Greeks have taken the initiative, not status, to go out and change the way they are perceived in the university. Greeks have taken the initiative to become leaders, not status, to give the Greeks a chance to be leaders, not status.

Well, at least they don't have "vocational" weaponry.
2010: A UCF odyssey

Glenda gives Orlando a token of remembrance

INSPIRED

My reaction when I heard that Mayor Glenda Hood was leaving Orlando reiniti-ated the celebration of the universe in "The Wizard of Oz." It was seeing the discovery of the wizard with his wonder. "Dingdong, the witch is dead, the witch is dead," Dingdong the wicked witch is dead.

Well, she may not be dead, or being overrun by belligerent protesters. I've seen what she has done to our town, and that is why she is dead. The only real way to help preserve the environment in this case is to save the gallon and prevent the situation. The witch is dead, and she left the city in a deficit.

While she was leaving, the city was being overrun by belligerent protesters. I've seen what she has done to our town, and that is why she is dead. The only real way to help preserve the environment in this case is to save the gallon and prevent the situation. The witch is dead, and she left the city in a deficit.

The city will need protection for the city's budget.

It's a shame for an incoming mayor to bring a witch to Orlando. She is leaving the city in a deficit, and it is the responsibility of the city to hire a new mayor. It's a shame for an incoming mayor to bring a witch to Orlando. She is leaving the city in a deficit, and it is the responsibility of the city to hire a new mayor.

Gould...I'm looking forward to it. I'll be直径一gradually closing to graduate.

Second, the talk about expanding the college and addressing the issue of enrolling students in Orlando Public School will still be on the table.

The real result of this situation is people living longer due to medical science and air conditioning that allows people to remain cool in the Central Florida area.

I'm not even entertaining the idea of a number of cloned Raedans that will be attending major universities such as UCF. There are bunch of people dressed like Star Trek extras with hot haircuts and this could get really ugly.

Glenda Hood has been in Senator for over a couple of years. I've seen her house dropped on the old witch. She allowed the city to go into a deficit of Orlando's history and will provide much-needed protection for Orlando's gay community.

And let us not forget Hood's royal gift — selling the city's closed park to developers for next to nothing. Another perfect example of how the community is诗意 the homeless and hurries them off the city's streets. She was also busy campaigning against a gay rights ordinance, which thankfully passed in December and will provide much-needed protection for Orlando's gay community.

Lucas...I'm looking forward to it. I'll be直径一gradually closing to graduate.
Thursday January 30, 2003
Sports

Hunting for 4 in a row

JON SCROGGINS STAFF WRITER

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 Luers-Gillispie expects a more challenging season than last year's.

"We have a great team, and we're expecting another great year," Luers-Gillispie 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 revealing it out a little bit more. But I have confidence we'll rise to the occasion."

The squad quite literally ran crazy with last season's title, but the losses of Jamie Pesc, Araceli Rivera and Valerie Baselshum to graduation and LaTanya Firby to medical concerns leave Mansur-Wentworth concerned about this year's depth.


Knights search for first wins of season

UCF faces off against Morris Brown, Bethune-Cookman

MATT BEHON STAFF WRITER

After dropping its first two games of the season, the UCF softball team looks to rebound this weekend with games against Morris Brown and Bethune-Cookman at the UCF Softball Complex.

The Knights dropped two tough games Saturday against the University of Florida, losing both games by a combined two runs. They lost the first game 9-5 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 throughout 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


Face-off of division leaders

South-leading UCF hosts North-leading Belmont Bruins

KRISTY SHONKA STAFF WRITER

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 at the UCF Arena and the 7-11 Sanford 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, compared to UCF's 69.8. The Bruins' defense gives up nearly that many at 71.1 points, and the Knights' defense leads the A-Sun allowing just 64.6 points a game.

Junior Adam Mark is third in the conference with his 16.6 points a game average, and leads the league in field goal percentage (60.8). Adam Sinn 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 Abdulfad leads the Knights offensively, but has been strickly this season. He's coming off two 32-point performances and averages 16.5 points a game for the season. Dotson is next for the Knights averaging 13.0 points and leads the A-Sun in assists, while Colon leads the A-Sun in boards with 6.0 a game. Junior college transfer Dexter Lyons has come on strong since the conference schedule began.

He's averaging about 10 points a game for the season, but that figure jumps to 14.3 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 losses to Florida, giving up only two hits and one earned run.

UCF mercy-killed Morris Brown last season

FROM PAGE 12

UCF gets another chance at a ranked opponent Sunday when it hosts No. 42 Florida International.

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**Knights hit stretch of Northern opponents**

**Chris Bernardt**

After having finally gotten back to 500 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 stretch 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 11:55-2-3.

The Bruins are one of the highest scoring teams in the A-Sun, second only to Jacksonville State with 60.9 points per game. They have four players averaging double-digits in scoring but their leading scorer, sophomore guard Ectiona 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 Hollie Davis (12.1 points per game) and Natalie Brown (10.7) as well as center Chasity Campbell (11.7) to provide some scoring punch. Howard Brandt Miller can also put up the ball in the hoop, averaging 9.8 points per game to go along with her team-leading 9.0 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 23, but six more Bruins have at least 10. 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 (4-1, 0-4) are the worst scoring team in the conference. They score a paltry 53.7 points per game, and do not possess a single double-digit scorer. Junior forward Giovanni Price leads the team with 5.7 a game.

**Page 12**

The Central Florida Future | January 30, 2003

Senior Roy 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 56 percent from the field.

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FROM PAGE 12

conference. While Belmont will challenge the Trojans, the Bruins should have an easier time gaining 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 4-83 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 primed 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. 25, 72-63.
Halverson is expecting her to have another outstanding season. She’ll be in a ton of events, and she’ll be competitive in all of them,” Halverson said.

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 a ton of events, and she’ll be competitive in all of them,” Halverson said.

The team’s other seniors are high jumper Jamie Perez, thrower Elise Wilson, and Erica Garcia, 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 Dinah Chen, conference champion shot putter Tiffany Roebuck, 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 Chavers and Giles finished third in the 4 x 800 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 as old as its predecessors — English, Spanish, French or German — yet it is now gaining an equal amount of use and familiarity in this country.

ASL becomes the third most popular language in American educational institutions debate whether or not it is considered a true foreign language. The University of Florida, in the spirit of what the faculty considers being a foreign language.

Like UCF, the University of Tampa and Florida Southern College do not include ASL in their foreign language department. However, the University of Florida, University of South Florida and Florida State University recently recognized ASL instruction for foreign language credits.

UCF's mission is different from that of other schools, foreign languages associate professor Karl-Henrich Bartsch argues. "The university has an international focus on programs and curriculum," he said. "ASL teaches about a different subculture in our country. It does not take us out of this [American] world." Learning Disabilities Coordinator and ASL interpreter Deborah Kamrn claims that in many other universities ASL does meet all the criteria for a cultural linguistic study. "Deaf culture is thought of more as a disability, not a separate culture — but it is," she said.

Dennis Beuk, deaf adjunct instructor for communication disorders, does not understand why ASL is not considered a foreign language. With 28 million deaf Americans, students will benefit from learning their language and
Tyler Fisher earned the prestigious Rhodes Scholar award and will soon spend two years studying at Oxford.

‘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 32 highly coveted scholarships nationwide.

“I think it was important that Dr. Jayashree Shivamoggi [President and former director for honors student development] didn’t encourage us to put in too much motivation of one day putting it on our Rhodes application,” Fisher said.

Fisher said Shivamoggi’s advice to students is to stay motivated and continue working hard, 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 successful even if they don’t get it,” Fisher said. “It can be a real growth process.”

Students should start preparing their freshman year, sophomore at their latest, for the prestigious scholarships, Alvin Wang, associate dean of the Burnett Honors College, said.

“The very first thing a student should do is make sure that they are taking the right courses for their major, so always meet with advisers,” he said. “If they wait to their junior or senior year, it’s probably too late.”

The Rhodes committee looks for various qualities the applicants possess, which should reflect the four criteria left in the will of Cecil Rhodes, the scholarship’s creator.

“A high GPA, even a 4.0, would not be sufficient,” Wang said. “Many foundations are looking for well-rounded individuals, and while that means a good GPA, the concept of well-roundedness is a student involved in extracurricular activities, one who gives back to the community in terms of volunteer service and active in regard to their discipline through research.”

In addition to a high GPA, and academic success, many Rhodes winners demonstrate sustained involvement in a position of service and leadership, have studied abroad, and/or meritorious accomplishments in multiple areas of interest.

“I think studying abroad allows you to look at yourself objectively as an American citizen,” Fisher said. “When you are abroad, people often times are looking at you to be representative of Americans so it really calls into question who you are.”

As the path to prepare for a Rhodes scholarship, students are recommended to become well-qualified with their professors. Whether it is for a recommendation or a mentor to help with research, Wang said, 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 flattered 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 student scholarships and fellowships,” Wang said. “So we advise all students, whether they are honors or not, to come in. We represent the entire campus. We don’t do anything special in regard to honors students.”

Fisher said Shivamoggi’s advice to students is to stay motivated and work hard, then apply for the Rhodes during their senior year.

“When we were looking at applications, 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.”

Notable Rhodes Scholars

Edwin Hubble
astronomer

J.W. Fulbright
senator, creator of the Fulbright Scholarships

Robert Penn Warren
poet and critic

Bill Clinton
former U.S. president

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Beyond the Classroom
“Now remember, this show is probably going to be the weirdest thing you’ve ever seen,” my friend Kevin cautioned, swinging open the heavy theater doors and warning me and our four French exchange student friends that we were about to witness a bizarre phenomenon.

Yeah, yeah. Why was he telling me all these love unatural things? I thrived on the absurd. Naively enough, I also thought I’d seen it all. However, no amount of priming could have prepared me for the impending wacky performance that I witnessed Friday night.

At little after midnight, my five friends and I flooded into the CityWalk Theater for the first Waneecones new monthly midnight showing of “The Rocky Horror Picture Show.” Since the movie had already started, we frantically plodded down in the first seats we could find in the fourth row, unsure we had just made a huge mistake.

We immediately became targets for the dozens of spirit gum—coated people party guests behind us. Gliding around the theater, I realized that everyone else knew how to keep dry by covering their heads with newspapers, mimicking Susan Sarandon’s sopping character, or —and on stage.

Yep — on stage. Actors costumed identically to the Addams Family’s movie characters, were setting out the screenplay on a platform in front of the stage, occasionally climbing through the crowd for effect.

And that was just the beginning of the show. I must admit that without Kevin veteran Kevin along, I wouldn’t have understood a thing. In fact, by the end of the film, my senses were so overwhelmed that I just felt very confused.

So I went back the next night. This time, I dragged my friend Doug along. Neither of us knew of the audience participation lines or brought anything to throw, but we still had a blast. I began to realize why people become hardcore Rocky fans. It’s an opportunity to have fun, be silly and celebrate everything that society deems obscene.

Determined to understand it all, I brought out the cast and crew after the show. Director-off-Eyelash explained that the show’s oral tradition started in 1975 when the movie — which was originally intended to be a spoof of 50s horror movies — gradually morphed into people yelling specific lines, doing and throwing things.

“It’s just like Mystery Science Theater 3000, only it’s the same movie over and over,” Eyed said. “It’s become such a tradition that on any given night, there are hundreds of people all around the world participating in shows just like this one.”

At midnight on show nights, the cast calls all virgins — meaning anyone who has never attended a live Rocky Horror show before — to the stage and lightly embarrasses them before the show.

“This gets everyone tired up and oriented to the fact that it’s OK to participate in the performance,” Eyed said. “Virgins aren’t supposed to know what’s going on—that’s part of the fun of it.”

Eyd’s cast, referred to as the Riff Raff, also sells homemade “peep huggs” for $3 with a few of the throwing essentials: a newspaper, a party hat, a latex glove, playing cards, fingerless gloves, confetti and a noisemaker.

Neither Eyed nor his actors earn any money for putting on the production. Anyone is welcome to join the cast, and they typically rehearse at least once prior to each monthly showing:

“We do this because we love the show,” Eyed said.

Eyd glanced at me. “You know, fans can only last for so long without joining the cast,” he said lightly. “You would make a perfect Magenta.”

Glimbling, I briefly imagined myself moonlighting as Magneta, the nipple-twitching, purple-haired groupie character. Then I imagined my parents coming to see the performance — and promptly dismissed the idea.

If I ever accepted the offer, I would definitely have to be a close Rich Weinm.

A heavily tattooed female actress played the role of leading man Brad, but she did a great job unlike a couple of the other performers. But hey, since they don’t get paid, I’m not complaining.

In the movie’s closing monologue, the narrator asked, “What does this movie lack?”

“Meaning” the members of the audience happily shouted back.

I have to admit that my friend Kevin was right all along about the show was unlike anything I’d ever seen. In fact, I would recommend that everyone experience it at least once. In the famous words of MTV’s Diary, “You think you know... but you have no idea.”

The next showing will be the weekend of Feb. 28. For more information, visit www.Filmsyndrome.com.
Translators assist deaf students during class

FROM PAGE 16
also appear to be shy and with­drawn 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.

You build a relationship and a connection with the stu­dents,” 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.

“UCF has a strong American Sign Language department,” Kamm said. “Everyone in the program seems to really care about it.”

Debra Wilson, 28, even has a pro­fessor who was born deaf. Dennis Bick, 42, is a prime example of someone who has overcome the stereotypes people have built for the deaf.

Under normal circumstances for hearing people to pity deaf people and think “poor thing they can’t hear, and attached it to a metal

Debbie Wilson said her relationship with Wilson, as well as many of the other deaf students, goes beyond playing the role of the translator.

“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

Barsch does not deny the importance of learning ASL in the United States, however he does not see it as a substitute to its existence as a separate lan­guage — Creole, Haitian and Barbage — just as there are in sign languages,” she said.

This month’s renewed debate of ASL does not question

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 French there are different variations of the language — Creole, Haitian and Barbage — just as there are in sign languages,” she said.

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

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

UCF currently offers four ASL electives: SPA 4012, SPA 4013, SPA 4014C and SPA 4617.

“People should not take it as a substitute to the importance of learning ASL in the United States,” Wilson 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.”

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Sign language classes to meet foreign language requirements

FROM PAGE 16

Barsch 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 who believes that instruction in ASL can be applied 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 French there are different variations of the language — Creole, Haitian and Barbage — just as there are in sign languages,” she said.

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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 terrorism.

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 1.5% in December, the Commerce Department said, for an annual rate of 790,000, the highest level since the government began tracking sales in 1963. The report was much stronger than ex- pected by economists, who predicted December sales would fall 4.1%, according to a survey by Dow Jones Newswires and CNNMoney.

Consumer confidence fell in January for the second straight month, largely on worries about jobs and income, a new survey showed. The Conference Board said its consumer confidence index fell to 71 from 79 in December. "With the threat of war looming, consumers have become more pessimistic about the short-term outlook," the group's research director said.

Especially worrisome were durables, which rose 1.7% in December. Orders for durable goods, items meant to last three years or longer, climbed 0.2% in December for the second straight month.

The recording industry is increasingly deploying electronic "bots" that monitor traffic on file-sharing networks. Since those networks are open to the public, the bots cannot know the identity of a user or even his name. The company says it opposes "the type of legislation that would allow theICA to get into the computer systems of millions of people and millions of computers around the world," said Alan Siegel, chief executive of Siregazia Inc., a brand consulting firm.

In the Pepsi ad, called "The Brand Bunch," Pepsi Twists, a 32-year-old reporter attending a Super Bowl party in Brooklyn, N.Y. "I have seen it three times and I am still laughing," said Alan Siegel, chief executive of Siregazia Inc., a brand consulting firm.

The University of Michigan in defending its affirmative-action programs before the Supreme Court. The companies, including Coca-Cola Co., Abbott Laboratories and United Airlines, say they will file a friend-of-the-court brief in favor of the companies' affirmative-action programs. The move aligns the companies with many educational and liberal groups that advocate affirmative action.

Record Labels Go Free on a Nationwide Basis

A ruling by a federal court raises the stakes for anyone who goes online to get free digital music.

The ruling, by a judge in Washington, gives the recording industry the right to get a federal court to dis- trict court in Washington, gives the recording industry the right to get a federal court to dis-
Retailers Join Venture for Net Music

By Nick Wingfield

A half-dozen major music retailers, ceding from a slow-down in CD sales, formed a company that plans to offer songs for downloading from the Internet.

Best Buy Co., Hastings Entertainment Inc., Tower Records, Trans World Entertainment Corp., Virgin Entertainment Group Inc. and BestBuy Communications 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 their 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 interest in downloading songs for downloading from the Internet.

Who Won the Ad Super Bowl?

Continued from Previous Page


You are in real trouble when you spend $2.1 million on 30 seconds of TV air time and you spend most of it running old TV footage--which has nothing to do with your brand," said Michael Markowitz, who operates Markowitz & Associates, a consulting firm. WPP's Ogilvy & Mather created AT&T Wireless's ads.

Some spots may have overreached. Ad experts, for example, said they were confused by the Levi Strauss & Co. spot featuring a couple who mysteriously put a founding herd of bison. "There will be no stampede to those jeans," said Dave Logan, professor of advertising at Michigan State.

One Bad Light ad, also by DDB, was off pitch. In it a smarmy 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 ExMaxx.

Unlike in prior years, the dozen ads left much to be desired. Yahoo Inc.'s Hotjobs commercial, with singing factory workers, is glossy. Super Bowl rookie m-Fo.com, a Web site owned by Paul Isaac & Co. that enables consumers to check their credit ratings, looked out of business. Brand and ad experts say most Internet concerns are trying to hard to be associated with the Web, sacrificing quality and ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

Most businesses also prefer uniform and clear forms and rules on issues such as race as the best way to avoid legal problems.

J.R. Reynolds

Hurt by Discounts

J.R. Reynolds Tobacco Holdings Inc. said in its fourth-quarter earnings report that the company's products. The company also forecast a sharp drop in earnings for the current quarter and the full year. Revenue for the final period of 2002 was $4.41 billion, down 8.7% from a year ago.

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