In the first of a three-part series leading to the Feb. 17-19 SGA presidential election, the candidates share their views on funding Greek and other exclusive student organizations, and also how to increase involvement in SGA and campus groups.

Cary Geoffroy
STAFF WRITER

As the SGA presidential election looms, campus clubs and organizations are deciding where their allegiances lie. As always, the issue of Greek affiliation promises to be a factor in determining where votes fall. In the meantime, candidates must figure out how best to distribute almost $8.5 million of student activity fees among exclusive and non-exclusive organizations to please their constituencies.

While all of the candidates — both Greek and non-Greek — would fund sorority and fraternity events such as recruitment and guest speakers, none saw Greek affiliation to be the only factor in approving or withholding funds.

Each of the five candidate slates (except one) answered their questions with The Florida Times person. The fifth slate provided its responses via e-mail.

Pavan Thakala, 25, a non-Greek, said he would fund sorority and fraternity, while the Greek affiliations would fund only Greek and non-Greek organizations.

Elections commission clears SGA candidates of violations

Battles-MacLellan ticket receives endorsement on nightclub flier before official campaigning begins

Ben Baird
STAFF WRITER

Former student Sen. Juan de la Torre asked the SGA Elections Commission on Friday to disqualify one of the five slates running to lead student government, claiming the candidates broke election laws by employing too early.

The slate of Brian Battles and Joe MacLellan were accused of illegal campaigning after Primo Entertainment, a promotions company that works with several local nightclubs, began distributing advertisements around campus and through e-mail that endorsed the Battles-MacLellan ticket in the Feb. 17-19 election.

The advertising flier, which otherwise promoted the Hog and Honeys nightclub, included a single sentence at the bottom that read: "Don't forget to vote for Primo's favorite, Brian Battles and Joe MacLellan, in the UCF election.

Many SGA officials perceived the fliers as campaign material, and labeled it a direct violation of SGA campaigns laws that restrict.
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Higher education around the nation

Faul proposes $290,000 salary for its incoming president
Florida Atlantic University has proposed a salary for Li. Gov. Frank Brogan that would make him the state's highest paid public official. A draft contract released Friday details a base salary of $290.000, plus the use of a car and a new $3 million campus residence for Brogan, who beat out a field of academics last week when he was unanimously selected as the state's next president.

The contract also proposes a six-year commitment, apparently to dissuade any concerns over his role as a close friend of Florida Governor Jeb布ush, who is running as a stopgap to run for the U.S. Senate or governor in 2006.

Today said trustees considered the salaries of other university presidents and the benefits given to former President Anthony Caltabiano, who resigned July 1 to take up a position at Florida Institute of Technology, a private university in Melbourne.

University of Florida President Charles Young recently received a 36 percent pay increase to $350,000 and made him the highest-paid university president in the state. UCF President John Hitt, who makes $295,000, followed by Florida ADM University President Fred Galousis, who makes $275,000.

To guard 3 students' privacy, Georgetown expunges thousands of e-mails
Administrator at Georgetown University shut down the university's e-mail system and altered the accounts of thousands of students in order to erase the e-mail and told them what happened.

Brian Battles, 20, and Joe MacLean, 21, have similar beliefs about funding exclusive organizations like the LEAD scholars program and Greek organizations. Both believe all clubs should be funded, no less than they demonstrate that the money will be spent to improve the organization or will benefit the UCF community.

Train student who pays the activity and services fee should have a right to get some of that money back, he said. "We want to make sure that clubs across the board receive funding and are treated equally."

Andrew Houshian, 19, and Mackenzie Clevenger, 20, both Greeks, won't agree to fund any event unless it benefits the entire campus.

"They have a right to show how their events would benefit the school or community, and we'd also give priority to clubs or events which are open to the entire student body," Houshian said. "We wouldn't be opposed to funding [Greeks], but they wouldn't be a priority on our list."

Jeff Streep, 20, and Aaron Clevegler, 20, both Greek-affiliated, said they are concerned with events when they are open to the entire student body. As long as the laws stay the way they are, the only thing that student government can entertain paying for are things that are open to everyone, like recruitment, Clevegler said.

Beyond Greek organizations, Streep and Clevegler would fund all actively involved groups, believing that they provide educational opportunities for the entire student body, and also groups from other backgrounds, they said.

Brian Kirlew, 22, who is non-Greek, and Kevin Ortize, 21, who is Greek, said they would support funding for all student clubs, ROTC, cultural organizations, and professional and academic associations.

In an e-mail response, Kirlew added: "Candidates, who believe that groups requesting their own funds should help them, are not interested in the better students are exclusive, represent the worst aspects of government research."

Candidates from each slate also expressed a desire to come to a balance in SGA among participating who are Greek and those who are not. Tkalakad and Katsanana want to focus on involving the non-Greek community, which represents the majority of UCF students. "We don't want to keep anybody out. We want to bring the other 90 percent up to that level of involvement," Katsanana said.

Battles and MacLean want to create more voting positions in the emerging issue of SGA, or that student government has decided not to be involved, they said. "That means we can support any group they can use their group affiliations. By publishing ways for students to get involved during orientation and other events, they believe that SGA can attract more diverse participation."

Houshian and Mitchell believe that encouraging voter participation in this election for all students, Greek and non-Greek, is key to diversifying the involvement in SGA. "The reality is that [Greek] can be mobilized so many votes," Houshian said. "It's probably hard to change without advertising the student elections.

Houshian and Mitchell also intend to appoint those whom they believe are most qualified for cabinet positions; regardless of their affiliations.

Streep and Clevegler said they would appoint a diverse group of students to cabinet posts, based on merit. "Our cabinet will not look like our [fraternity] chapter restrooms," Streep said. "We will be looking for those people who have an academic background to fill those roles."

Sent Streep: "For me to have a..."
Should professors weigh in on war?

Danielle DePari
NEWS WRITER

In a time of mounting war, some members of the community have begun looking to higher education for a stance on the situation. In fact, groups such as the Massachusetts State College Association and the Modern Language Association have pronounced formal criticisms of President Bush's stance on the war on terrorism.

According to Nancy Stockdale, a UCF professor of Middle Eastern history, the public often turns to the university because of professors' expertise in the field.

"In my experience, there are many people in the public who are interested in the informed opinions of professors who are experts in the regions of the world affected by conflict," Stockdale said. "Part of the role of a university is to outreach to the public and share its knowledge with the general population."

Despite recent anti-war resolutions passed at such higher education institutions as the University of Montana at Missoula and the University of Wisconsin at Platteville, the UCF Faculty Senate has not even begun to discuss the subject, stating that such a broad-based issue is not on its agenda.

"We have not even begun to discuss the academic policy at UCF," Stockdale said that though members of the Faculty Senate have strong views on the impending war, these views and members are on both sides of the issue and could never come to one conclusion.

When in the classroom, Mullens said that professors should discuss their views with students in an appropriate manner. This could include a forum outside of the classroom or an in-depth discussion with students that professors are closest to, such as graduate students.

Stockdale feels obliged to speak with her students about the war. "Professors have a responsibility to discuss world events with their students, particularly wars that impact our daily lives. As a scholar of the Middle East and its history as long as I can, I feel that my students understand my position and, equally as importantly why I hold it," she said.

Stockdale added that professors have a responsibility to listen to the opinions and concerns of students on this issue as well. "Stockdale is not the only professor who takes this stance. By the mid-1970s, 41 percent of professors opposed or supported positions or resolutions indicating their position on the Vietnam War according to a Survey of Higher Education.

"The tradition, a UCF professor of history disagrees with resolutions filed on behalf of a public interest group. He said, "As official representatives of a publicly funded university the faculty senators should recognize that despite their own personal or even collective thoughts on the issue, they speak for a broad constituency which may hold many different opinions on the topic."

He added that as individuals, faculty members have rights to vote their own opinions as it does not present itself as an official statement. Through Shelby Park, chairman of the Philosophy Department, thinks that there is nothing wrong with professors sharing their personal opinion about the issue with students, she said that several points must be made clear first.

Park said that it should be made evident that these are only the opinions of these professors and are not a unified response from the university.

Doug Evans, a professor of humanities, said it is not the duty of a professor to go into his or her office, turn the mass up and close the door. He said professors should speak with students about the war in a sort of open debate. "It is discouraging that on this campus there are not more debates," Evans said. "It is like no one wants to make too much of an argument."

Some argue that whether a university takes a stance has little to do with how it's decisions on the war. On Jan. 23, The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that a petition faxed to the White House containing more than 300 signatures from places such as Harvard and Swarthmore colleges could not even be confirmed as received by the White House spokesperson.

Stockdale said that whether she would start a petition depends on the circumstances at the time. "However, I am active in community outreach educating people of various backgrounds in our community about the issues at stake in the war in Middle East, and I think there are many effective ways that we can all express our opinions," she said.

Speaker discloses the 'truth' about Iraq war

Shelley Marmor
NEWS WRITER

According to a recent CBS News/New York Times poll, about 65 percent of respondents believe President Bush should give the United Nations more time, with only 30 percent wanting to immediately invade Iraq. Most of the roughly 75 UCF students who attended a speech by Erik Gustafson on Thursday titled "What You Don't Know About Iraq," seemed to agree with that majority.

Gustafson, founder and executive director of The Education for Peace in Iraq Center (EPI) in Washington, D.C., delivered two addresses on campus regarding his view that the U.S. should not go to war. He also discussed his experiences in Iraq both as an Army specialist during the 1980 Gulf War, and on two other humanitarian visits he made on behalf of EPI in 1997 and 2000.

Advocating the position that the United States should not invade Iraq, Gustafson made it clear that he believes this war will have only negative effects in both Iraq and the United States. Gustafson said the war will harm the Iraqi people, not their leader, Saddam Hussein, and will also further harm the recessions.
According to internal U.N. documents, well over 100,000 Iraqis will need humanitarian assistance in the event of a war. The WHO also estimates that more than 50,000 Iraqis will need medical attention just days after a war breaks out, Gustafson said.

Senior U.S. donor of foreign aid, Gustafson also commented on the president’s national charter, addressing Thursday and questioned he believes Hussein withheld. to the White House, saying the the implementation of economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations in 1991.

"Due to the media constantly dramaticizing news stories, many people think they know all there is to know," Ali said. "Many people do not understand what implications economic sanctions have on the Iraqi people or what extent human rights are being exploited there."

"If Hussein believes he will lose support his don't order regime change at all. He also said that those who support a war with Iraq indirectly back the same thing this war is attempting to eradicate.

"It is premature to launch a war in the absence of a U.N. mandate, we will actually be repudiating the U.N. charter," the very system of international law we are trying to consolidate in the Middle East," he said. He added that those who support a war with Iraq indirectly back the same thing this war is attempting to eradicate.

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Economic downturn leads to drop in endowment value

JOE HARLESS

Market forces and few donors have taken a toll on UCF's financial status, but the financial losses have not affected the university much.

UCF lost 5.8 percent of its market value from 2001 to 2002. The value of the UCF Foundation, for example, fell from $85.7 million on June 30, 2001 to $81.2 million a year later, according to a survey conducted by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Although this loss of money hurts UCF, David Scott, a finance professor here, said the loss of 5 percent should not worry people too much, considering the state of the economy.

"A loss of 5.8 percent within the realm of U.S. financial market activities is very good," Scott said.

The survey ranked UCF at 401 out of 654 college and university endowments listed.

Robert Holmes, chief executive officer and vice president of development and alumni affairs for the UCF Foundation, Inc., says the economy contributed to the downturn.

"The value of endowments fluctuates with the market," Holmes said. "We enter the market with a portfolio. Endowments to colleges and universities usually operate with a foundation. If an individual or group wishes to give gifts to a university, the gifts go through the foundation before reaching the school."

Two kinds of gifts given to a college or university include restricted and unrestricted funds. Restricted funds call for specific uses of the gifts. A trust of fund given for the specific use of building a new football stadium is an example of a restricted fund. Unrestricted funds do not come with specifications on how the money or property must be used.

UCF has recently benefited from restricted gifts. During the fall semester UCF combined a financial gift of $300,000 given to the College of Education by Robert Heinzeckman with a $100,000 grant from the school to study the nature of giftedness.

UCF also began construction on the Rosen School of Hospitality Management last semester due in large part to the $20 million given in donations by hotel owner Harris Rosen. Even the Burnett House where President Hitt resides was built on endowments, a result of $500,000 in donations from Al and Nancy Burnett.

Linda Greg, UCF spokesperson, says universities very rarely get gifts that do not include some sort of attachment.

"The people who handle the gifts decide the best way to use the gift for the university," Greg said. "Financial offices may take some of the money and invest in other areas."

The biggest problem facing UCF in performing any fundraising activities is that the college has a young alumni base. An older, more established alumni base, such as that at Harvard or Princeton, has had more time to amass wealth and make connections than schools like UCF, which is relatively young in comparison.

As UCF's alumni base expands and grows older, the UCF Foundation hopes it will help out with donations.

Florida has a matching program, in which the state matches the amount of donations above a specific limit. Thus, the program effectively doubles the money given to the school. However, the state has not had the money to meet these matches.

Florida has 11 state universities, "Greg said, "There has to be money there."

The matching program meets the amounts in the order they are acquired. Greg uses this example. The University of Florida has one award for $10 million and another for $5 million. The University of Central Florida has an award for $5 million. In this model the state would have to match both of UF's awards before it matches the UCF award since UF acquired them before UCF acquired its award.

The matching program can also be used by the developments of a foundation to attract gift givers. An award for $5 million meant to fund research for AIDS at one college could be worth $10 million to fund the same research at another state university giving the gift giver something to think about. It also acts as a university in competition with one another.

The presidents of the 11 state universities have spoken with the governor and the state legislature, encouraging more funding for the matching program. More funding could encourage more philanthropy and donations, according to Greg.

"If money is tight, philanthropy will be hurt," Greg said. "Nonprofit organizations [have been] having trouble since Sept. 11."

Holmes said the December markets were not totaled yet, adding the foundation needs to have these totals by the middle of February.
Mixed emotions on tenure changes

FROM PAGE 1

Seemingly tenure is a designation that provides experienced professors the ultimate perk — it allows them to plan their long-term careers and develop their courses and departments as they see fit.

But what happens to professors who focus on teaching and service who never qualify for tenure because they haven’t devoted time to research and publishing, such as Grace Moore?

An instructor at the UCF Center for Multilingual Multicultural Studies, Moore teaches English to foreign students from all over the world. But she doesn’t qualify for tenure simply because she hasn’t conducted research or published her work.

Moore, who has lived all over the United States and in Japan teaching students to speak English, can’t count on the kind of job security tenured professors can, no matter how many years she teaches, because many universities such as UCF don’t grant tenure for service and teaching.

For her, being without tenure is a huge threat to her career because she can be fired for seemingly no reason.

And in a time when a sluggish economy has put many out of work, and homeland security has prevented many foreigners from getting into the country, Moore knows her job isn’t completely secure.

“With fewer foreigners getting visas, fewer teachers are needed to teach them English,” she said.

“I love associating with foreign students and would be very glad to do it the rest of my life,” she said. But Moore, like other nontenured faculty, would feel more at ease with a tenure designation that would ensure her job was protected.

In an effort to ease the minds of non-tenure faculty members around the nation, some universities are doing just that — offering new tenure paths to professors who focus on rewarding instructors for teaching service and advising.

Most recently, the University of Western Michigan decided to allow a group of non-tenure-track, full-time employees a chance to earn tenure — most of them in specific professional fields, such as nursing, English instruction and aviation.

These specialists will be judged for tenure using non-traditional standards and will earn a salary similar to traditional tenure faculty members. They will not be required to research and will be judged solely on their service and professional competence.

While professors like Moore call the new tenure track a fair reward for those who are committed to teaching, many faculty members at UCF say new tenure standards create a double standard.

Naval Modani, an associate professor within UCF’s finance department, believes Western Michigan’s new policy will dilute the faculty.

Tenured instructors, who have not been held to the same standards as traditionally tenure professors, can now join faculty committees of tenured professors who have completed research to help decide which faculty members should qualify for tenure, he said.

Glen Cunningham, chairman of UCF’s Chemistry Department, doesn’t believe the new tenure standards are fair either.

“Research and teaching go hand-in-hand,” he said. “We want teachers to be researchers as well.”

Lisa Huff-Corzin, assistant vice president in the division of Academic Affairs, thinks UCF’s tenure system, which is similar to tenure standards at most of the nation’s universities, works effectively and ensures that only the best and most qualified professors get to teach students.

Creating alternative tenure tracks might move less-qualified professors into classrooms, she said.

“If you’re going to take a group of people who have less than an education than the rest of the faculty, I think the students would be cheated,” she said. “We want to keep about 70 percent of our courses taught by tenure or tenure-earning faculty.”

Huff-Corzin, who helps facilitate applicants for tenure positions, said current tenure standards at UCF have done an adequate job of accommodating both.

“We do tenure people here who are not Ph.D.s,” she said. “Anyone who has reached the highest level in their field can apply for tenure.”

“All the faculty in the chain of reviews take the faculty member’s work extremely seriously,” she said. “It’s a person’s life work.”

While psychology professor Richard Tucker understands the plight of part-time faculty who have considerably lower pay and fewer benefits, he doesn’t think job insecurity is as much of a threat as some nontenured faculty might think.

“While it seems that full-time instructors have no ‘job security,’ in fact they may actually have less pressure on them in that they are not subject to requirements necessary to gain tenure,” he said.

“But as long as they’re doing a good job teaching, they will be reappointed.”

While political science instructor Cindy Benson doesn’t feel her job is threatened because she isn’t tenured, she isn’t opposed to the idea of offering other tenure paths to faculty members.

“In general, such a program would be of benefit to individual departments, the university, the students and instructors alike,” she said.

“In this department, I feel quite secure, but I know and...
Language barriers in the classroom

Heave accents of foreign-born instructors’ both belp and hinder teaching

ALEXIS VALLAS

time write

Senior Brian Johnson is one of many students on campus who struggle to overcome the communication barrier with foreign teachers. Like others, Johnson sometimes feels foreign-born instructors’ accents hinder their ability to teach students effectively.

"It is sometimes difficult to understand a professor with a strong accent and this could affect the education we receive," said Johnson, 22.

However, some students, such as sophomore Andrea Sauls, 19, do not see a communication barrier.

Sauls’ lab instructor acknowledged that his non-native background could cause some difficulty in communication and as a result, tried his best to assist his students and make sure that they understood the material so that it would not affect their grade, she said.

"To avoid confusion, he would type out everything he said so the students didn’t have to ask him to repeat himself or better explain. He was always more than willing to help us out if and when we needed it."

Freshman Lauren Weber, 18, believes foreign teachers are an excellent way to motivate students to learn. She said despite the strong Arab accent one of her instructors has, she is doing well in the class.

"I think [having an accent interfering] forces people to pay better attention in order to get the notes and learn the material," Weber said.

Indian professor Geetanjali Spina was born in Goa, India and attended a five-year linguistic high school that required students to study three languages in addition to Latin, and a well-rounded curriculum of history, the arts and sciences. After attending the University of Puerto Rico in her hometown, Spina decided she wanted to put her studies to the test in the real world and undertook a 12-year world travel experience.

"I have always focused on culture, museums, books, plays, archeology, anthropology and music of diversified and various countries. In this light I feel [my travels] enable me to make my students richer in their path to knowledge," Spina said.

After moving to the United States with her husband and becoming an interpreter for NASA on the International Space Station project, Spina was hired as an Italian professor two semesters ago at UCF. Because she speaks five languages fluently (including German and French), Spina always informs her students about several cultural origins and modern applications for every lesson learned because it is a way to "plant the seeds of culture" in the students’ minds she education she provides.

Eladio Scharron of the UCF Music Department comes from a Puerto Rican background that he believes only enriches, does not hinder, his guitar-teaching abilities.

Originally born in San Sebastian, Puerto Rico, to a family of prominent guitarists, Scharron graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in music from the University of Puerto Rico. After earning his degree, Scharron moved to Paris for his graduate degree in guitar. He received several prestigious awards and invitations to renowned guitar festivals while in school.

He soon began teaching at the Paris Municipal Conservatory and then at the University of Puerto Rico as a professor. Two years later the University offered Scharron a full scholarship to attend the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, for doctoral studies.

Living in the United States since 1984, Scharron said he has grown to become a part of American culture and familiarize himself with it. In March 1996, Scharron attended a play with one of his professors and learned about a job opening at UCF. After several interviews and auditions he was hired as a professor of guitar.

"Diversity is important for everyone, especially with music and the arts in general," Scharron said.

Consumer behavior professor Pranjal Gupta was born and raised in Singapore and remained there until he earned his masters degree. He then studied at Texas A&M as a business major with a focus on marketing and eventually taught there. A school like Texas A&M is known for its pool of people and lifestyles, which allowed him to embrace new ideas and concepts, Gupta said.

Gupta has taught at UCF for three semesters now and has found the teaching experience to be quite positive.

"The students are very inquisitive, not limited to one type of thinking, so it keeps things interesting. I haven’t had any problems in communicating with students; I was educated in English all my life.

Foreign teachers must meet certain requirements before they can teach at UCF. There is a faculty union contract under the United Faculty of Florida that details the specific requirements of professors entering the university from another country, said John Schell, dean of Undergraduate Studies.

First there is an annual evaluation by the department chairman to determine whether or not the prospective professor can pass a spoken English test. If he or she is found deficient in any area, the potential instructor is offered several workshops and remedial training sessions to help reach a satisfactory speaking level. If the prospect is not speaking English at an appropriate level after a couple of years, they are then released from the university.

"UCF follows specific guidelines with the United Faculty of Florida union contract very closely," Schell said.

These requirements the professor must meet before teaching at UCF should prove they can teach just as effectively as any other teacher, Schell added.

"I haven’t had any problems in communicating with students," Gupta said. "I was educated in English all my life.

Tenure change sets a double standard, some say

From Page 7

have spoken to others who are not so comfortable," she said. "I am wary however, that as UCF continues to evolve, that [job] security may lessen.

But there is evidence of at least one UCF professor who lost her job because she didn’t have tenure protection.

Despite glowing evaluations and completing tenure require­
ments within UCF’s legal studies department, professor Diane Sudia was fired just before she would have been considered for tenure.

Sudia, who has taught at UCF for four years, and serves as both an adviser and professor to students in the College of Health and Public Affairs, received a notice of termination last fall.

Bernard McCarron, chairman of the Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Department, gave Sudia no other reason for firing her except that "he felt she did not fit the direction he wanted the department to take."

"I do not wish to believe in teaching in a non-traditional manner and thereby sharing my experiences inside and outside the classroom very different ways."}

Sudia’s job loss has prompted an investigation by the university into whether or not the prospective professor

While Sudia has appealed to both the department chairman and President Hitt, her appeals have been dismissed as unfounded. The only thing that may save Sudia’s job now is a lawsuit she has filed against the university for a technicality — the university did not give Sudia a one-year notice of her termination, something UCF is required to do.

But despite Sudia’s case and the nagging fears that other untenured faculty members have, Thomas Koon, dean of the College of Business, thinks granting instructors tenure is unnecessary.

"The College of Business has instructors who have been on for almost 20 years," he said. "If someone is feeling uneasy, I would hope they would apply for a five-year renewable contract."
Increasing student diversity in SGA a major theme

From Page 3

been Greek on this campus, I first had to be a UCF student. I would say that UCF is the first time I really took seriously my responsibilities as a student. I use the technology and revamped our entire site to give you more accurate search results!

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Look for additional election coverage of SGA candidates' stances in this Thursday's issue of the Future.

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Non-tenured pros need job security, too

For professors, the Holy Grail and panacea of their careers is earning tenure status. They work very hard, often for many years, to achieve this status. In the process of earning tenure, professors advance their universities, improve the infrastructure of their fields, and advance their own careers. Tenured professors have written and published papers and articles and conducted research. Tenure is a sticky issue for professors. Those who have it worked hard for it. To do so, they often do not want tenure standards to be eased, as they do not want their own tenure status to mean less or somehow be devalued. Tenured professors do not want just anyone to have tenure. A professor should have to earn it.

However, during the long process of earning tenure, professors have little, if any, job protection. If anyone doubts this, look at the case of H. Sudia, a legal studies professor who led the UCF Trial Team to national prominence and engaged her students in unorthodox but very popular ways.

Sudia’s style conflicted with that of some of her peers and superiors, and last fall UCF tried to fire her. Sudia was on a tenure-track. She advanced the name of the university if she had the time and did not face the opposition of her superiors. Sudia would earn tenure, as she deserves. Still, even though her students adored and admired her, Sudia had no job security because she did not have tenure status.

As the case of Sudia illustrates, job security for non-tenured professors does not exist. No matter how popular or successful professors may be, Professors who do not have tenure have to work with the fear that if they conflict with their superiors, they could lose their jobs.

Tenured professors here have not had the time or opportunity to publish enough articles or conduct enough research to earn tenure. They should not have to worry about job security for teaching in an unorthodox manner.

Improving job security would go a long way to improve morale among non-tenured professors. They would not have to work under a cloud of uncertainty. Additionally, they might be motivated to pursue tenure, and improve themselves and UCF.

Letters to the Editor

Please express your views on any issues of local, state, national or international importance.

How many anti-war protesters can dance on the head of a pin? (Before it blows up?)

Columbia coverage sensationalized

In a week after the Columbia space shuttle incident, we are still wriggling out of our own confusion over it. It is scary.

I know that the news is like salt, and I know that the more potent is a purified salt. Anne L. Blumberg, with that I agree.

More than ten people died every day just in the vicinity of my own home. The sporadic coverage is deadening attention and pure ignorance from other pressing issues, such as the situation with Iraq, our declining national defense and the tense situation between India and Pakistan. Our northern neighbors, this world seems to be going in an impotent yet_handlered by some other issues.

Hindsight is always 20/20

In the wake of the January tragedy, there are always the questions and the second-guessing that mostly plague the ones left behind.

As an article "Could You Have Saved Dennis?" published Feb. 6, 1990, "Breyer rightly calls if NASA did all it could to help the astronauts and warn their family." I say "rightly," because as long as it is said, but there is no right duty to question the established branch of expertise and authority no matter what their size. However, I take exception to its criticism of NASA safety protocols and the response to the Columbia incident. The article states that if NASA had acted immediately, the resulting procedures would have been used and would have worked for the space program.

What are some questions about NASA procedures in their article, and although, I do not intend to be an expert in the matter of any way, did some basic research and came up with these answers for you.

1. They say that they did not have the means to save the astronauts. This is not true. NASA had the means to save the astronauts. The simple answer is what NASA procedures were in place and what they did not do to save the astronauts.

Letters is on 11
Smells like freedom

MENTAL DODGERS

Christopher Arnold Staff Writer

Integrity. Defined as the steadfast adherence to a set of moral or ethical principles, it is why truth prevails, at least should. In journalism, that is fairly rare.

Newspapers contribute a great service to their communities in that they provide information. Accuracy in information. Timely information. "They do this honestly — sometimes brutally and uncompromisingly. And with the exception of opinion sections, they offer it all impartially.

The paper's role in society then, is not to judge but to observe and collect data so the public is able to draw better-informed conclusions on its own.

Newspapers are entrusted to do this through the provisions of the Constitution, and more specifically the First Amendment. The right that allows our citizens to freely speak, print or impound — or to worship a religion of our choice at the same time — that right could be controversial or assume its Supreme Court precedent. Such actions would be nothing but essential to a student journalist future.

Today, we see there are similar disputes about the student press. So long as papers — all newspapers — remain steadfast in their mission and faithful to their readers, the institution will remain great. And to those individuals or organizations who would like to see the paper shaped to accommodate them, I say where is your integrity? What ethics will you take with you in your future endeavors?

What often goes unremembered is just how valuable a part newspapers play in their communities and how important. God, I love the smell of newspaper in the morning. Stick to the facts.

Johnston (Bongo) Johnson to be honored at annual alumni/ae weekend.

Letters to the Editor

From Page 10

but the very sanitizer form could have damaged the shield. Why won't the anchor?).

During my last two years as an undergraduate in journalism and chemical engineering, I always felt frustrated enough to work furnishing sessions a pseudo in German from Georgia (get the idea?) in a book at the presentation and at every mark. When primary exposure has been and will always be, varying within the space program and especially with the erratic flight program.

In fact, it is good practice for a student at the space center who spent six days of one type or another. There are a few redundant processes that pick up space programs, but it is actually very predictable that the paper will need to be modified to accommodate the author. Some additional work, but not much. The idea is to make sure you are prepared for flight operations, and be ready to handle the change.

One student has been known to sacrifice to thereeze or image of your team and everything it stands for.

The students have been known to be the site of many events ranging from minor to major, and everything in between. The students have been known to be the site of many events ranging from minor to major, and everything in between.

Finally, the student has been known to be the site of many events ranging from minor to major, and everything in between. The students have been known to be the site of many events ranging from minor to major, and everything in between.

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**QB Moffett's the prize of 2003 class**

Chris Bernhardt  
Staff Writer

For a program with a prolific passing offense, UCF football had developed a strange trend when it came to recruiting in the backfield. Over the past several years the Golden Knights have managed to snag quality running backs out of high school in Alex Haynes and Dominick Wilcox. Yet in each of the past two years, highly touted quarterbacks reneged on an earlier commitment and chose to sign somewhere else.

But this year things were different ... sort of. This time UCF got its quarterback. Winter Park's Steven Moffett. And they still managed to ink three running backs. P.J. Smith, Brandon Williams and Ron Williams.

Among all 25 players in UCF's 2003 recruiting class, Moffett ranks the highest. Considered one of the best high school quarterbacks in the state, his signing marks a huge step toward continuing the program's progress in the near future. An all-state, all-district, all-county and all-Central Florida selection as a junior and senior at Winter Park High School, he threw for 5,041 yards and 43 touchdowns in his prep career while completing 76 percent of his passes. At 6-foot-5 he has the height to be a great college quarterback and he'll also bring athleticism to the position not seen at UCF since Darrein Collier's departure. Moffett ran for 1,400 yards and 27 touchdowns.

I have tremendous confidence in throwing the ball. That doesn't mean we can't run it also. We're the ninth team in the history of T-A that had two 1,000-yard receivers and a 1,000-yard running back. I think we can do that just about every year.

**Tight end Joiner provides size and experience**

Jon Scroggins  
Staff Writer

With the academic eligibility of junior tight end Michael Gallon still in question, recruiting coordinator Scott Fountain made sure the Knights wouldn't be lacking at the tight end position. Fountain, who doubles as tight ends coach, said Gallon already has a highly capable backup in the school's freshman Dante Johnson. But on Wednesday the Knights signed another tight end Harvey Joiner from Trinity Valley Community College in Texas, confident the tandem will immediately compete for playing time.

Please See Knights on 14

Additional signing-day coverage inside and in Thursday's Future.
Softball team struggles in St. Augustine

SADIE SHAM
STAFF WRITER

The UCF softball team defeated Mississippi, 5-4, and lost to Arkansas, 6-2, on Saturday at the UCF/Triple Crown Classic in St. Augustine, Fla. The Knights lost games to Northern Illinois and Purdue on Friday.

Rachel Schmidt dominated for the Golden Knights (5-4), finishing Saturday 3-for-4, with a double and the game-winning RBI against Ole Miss.

Against Mississippi, the Golden Knights got off to a bad start. They allowed the first four Ole Miss batters to score, three of which came thanks to a home run from Andrea Brahs. Schmidt answered back in the bottom of the first when sophomore shortstop Stephanie Best nailed a three-run home run over the left-field wall. The home run was the second on the season for Best and the 18th of her career.

The Golden Knights tallied two runs in the second inning when Junior pitcher Taylor Sawyer and Schmidt amassed a double and a single. Only three Ole Miss runners reached base the rest of the game after UCF took its 5-2 lead.

Junior pitcher Taylor Sawyer picked up her third wins of the season for UCF and Schmidt went 2-for-3 at the plate. Dana Brall was credited the loss for Ole Miss, which allowed three runs on five hits.

Best scored another run in the fourth inning before UCF scored to prevent a shutout in the top of the sixth.

UCF's Schmidt saved a single in right field, advancing Nikki Green to second base. Green reached third on a passed ball and scored UCF's first run on a sacrifice fly by Cupp. Schmidt then scored on an error by Arkansas' second baseman, Blaire Woodward.

With the loss, Simmons' record fell to 1-1 while Arkansas' Heather Schlichtmann improved to 3-1.

After a three-hour rain delay Friday, the Knights lost to Southern Illinois University, 3-2, and Purdue University, 4-2.

In the first game, the Golden Knights had a 5-4 lead over the Southern Illinois infielders on top of the seventh inning. However, two singles and a batter's choice loaded the bases for SIU with two outs. The Salukis' Lindsey Bennett homered a single to left field, scoring two runners. SIU finished up their second win of the day and of the season.

Against SIU, UCF's Taylor Sawyer fell to 2-3 on the year while Katie Koons picked up the win. UCF's Stephanie Best tallied a triple and a double in her 3-for-4 performance at the plate. Rachel Schmidt also shined, going 2-for-4 with a double.

In the second game UCF was tied up at two in the top of the fourth inning. The next inning Purdue scored two runs on a walk. They clinched the game in the bottom of the sixth when the Boilermakers scored six runs, including a two-run home run by Andrea Brahs, ending the UCF's season-opener with the game with the eight-run mercy rule.

Best and Simmons each recorded doubles. Schmidt finished against Purdue. Purdue's Leighann Barker picked up the win while UCF's Dottie Cupp walked the team in for the loss. Purdue finished the day 1-1 overall.

Bergman: Composure will come with experience

From Page 13

Bergman: Composure will come with experience

Playing time next season.

"[Jaden] [Johnson] has got to make some grade, and we're hoping he will, and we'll have him. But if not — well, that's why we signed [Johnson]," Fountain said.

UCF did discover a few bright spots in the loss to build on, however, as starting pitcher Von David Skuttach picked five innings and allowed three runs on four hits, with a curveball and slider.

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"UCF did discover a few bright spots in the loss to build on, however, as starting pitcher Von David Skuttach picked five innings and allowed three runs on four hits, with a curveball and slider."
**Recruits add much needed depth at IB, DL**

Chris Bernhardt
Staff writer

The mark of a strong program wasn't how much depth it can build during the recruiting process, especially at its weakest positions. In a showing of how well David Kirk's small program continues to improve, the Golden Knights went out and did exactly that. As graduation and academic adequacies continue to take their toll on his linebacking corps and defensive line, UCFBernard and two true freshman quarterbacks at both the fullback and quarterback positions, coach Clark Barresi said. And the construction of the new stadium is only filled with players that can help ease the burden.

With this in mind the Golden Knights, originally stocked to recruit three players at this position, instead brought in four: Randy Deter, Darin Goleas, Craig Harvey and R.J. Pullings.

"You have to evaluate what you have and you have determine whether you're going to have it when the season starts," Howard Coach Mike Krueckel said. "And you have to make a call based on that evaluation. And we did it that exact segment."

Two of these players, Harvey and Pullings, come from locally Regional Community College in Palm Beach and are expected to contribute right away. "We would like to essentially get away from signing multiples of junior college players but right now we have specific needs, urgent needs at certain segments," Krueckel said. "One of those segments was at linebacker." Pullings, 6-foot-4, 242 pounds, originally from Cocoa, has a unique connection to UCF in that he's the cousin of former Golden Knights quarterback Darreus Cyphepper. He was a Parade All-American in high school and made 86 tackles, 10 sacks and 11 pass breakup on the JC last season. He also had two fine fumbles and recovered two. With these accomplishments and accolades on his resume, UCF had to extend with Temple and Michigan State for Pullings' services. Harvey, 6-foot-4, 250 pounds, also has impressive numbers in junior college.

In the linebacker corps, UCF has already brought in three players directly from local high schools. Deter, a 6-foot-5, 200 pounds, just finished a fine career at Olympia High School. As a senior he made 146 tackles and three sacks. Combined with his ability to bench press 300 pounds and his 4.55 time in the 100-meter, he caught the attention East Carolina and Louisville before deciding on UCF.

Goleas, 6-foot-6, 235 pounds, played multiple positions at two-time defending JCs champion, Roledge High School. He opted for his 350 pounds, nine sacks and four interception senior year by attending the MVP

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Hubbard chooses UCF over University of South Florida

In the state championship games, he garnered first-team all-state and all-district honors, as well as making the All-Space Coast team and getting named the All-Central Florida Team MVP.

"Overall I think it's a good group that we brought in right there," Toto said. "And with the young guys, you never know what's going to happen with them right away, but I'm excited to start working with them.

UCF also had holes to fill at defensive end. One starter, Ethan Patterson, has moved on and the other starter, Jerrice Rashad, Beauty is academically ineligible for the moment. Thus the Golden Knights inland three defensive ends: Rodney Allen, Dennis King and Josh Stephen.

The 6-foot-6, 254-pound Stephens brings the most experiences, transferring from Trinity Valley Community College in Texas. A JUCO first-team all conference player as well as a former first-team all-district player for Port Arthur High School in Texas, he had 47 tackles and 10 sacks for Trinity Valley.

The versatile King comes to UCF from Midland High School in Dayton Beach after lettering in football for four years and basketball for three. He impressed as both a tight end and defensive end as a senior last year, getting 56 tackles and 9.5 sacks on one side and 27 receptions on the other. That got him all-conference and all-state selections and interest from UConn, East Carolina, Troy State and Vanderbilt.

Though Allen has committed to UCF he still must satisfy academically. If he does, the Golden Knights gain an immediate nose tackle in what is otherwise a thin defensive line. It's something Allen is counting on.

"I like the guys that we brought in right there, I think they have a great future here and a couple of them have the potential to end up inside," Toto said. "Achille has a chance to get a quality defensive lineman, particularly defensive end, I think. You do that."*

UCF has solid depth at defensive tackle, but still took the opportunity to snag Marcus Hubbard out of South Florida's group. An all-state and all-conference choice at Seminole High School, the 6-foot-5, 255-pound athlete will have 45 tackles, five sacks and two forced fumbles. He is considered one of the top high school defensive linemen in the state and not only choose UCF over USF, but East Carolina and Cincinnati as well.

Overall the Golden Knights achieved what they set out to accomplish: building depth at two areas where they sorely needed it. They can take pride in knowing the program has reached the point where it can do such a thing.

"You have to be competitive across the board to have a great football team," Kranzak said. "We're getting to that point where the first levers are always being challenged by the second levers and I think once that occurs you have a great program.

Women's golf team begins spring season

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Women's tennis team improves to 2-0

The UCF women's tennis team shook out its opponent for the second time this season with a 7-0 Atlantic Sun Conference win over Stetson on Saturday at the UCF Tennis Complex. The Golden Knights improved to 4-0 in the A-Sun and the victory and 8-2 overall. The Hatters fell to 0-1 in the A-Sun and 0-2 overall.

UCF dominated in the doubles category to gain the first point. Kristina Lohmus and Aneta Samara had an outstanding performance at the No. 1 position, winning 6-3. Julie Peacosting and Anna Westin defeated Stetson's Beth Hayden and Missy Miliawanovic 6-3 in the No. 2 spot while Pamela Fernandez and Ola Luczak picked up a win in the No. 2 spot, 6-4.

In singles play, Lohmus and Pamela Fernandez both smoked their opponents in swift wins. Lohmus eased past Beth Hayden, 6-2, 6-1, while Fernandez defeated Woeke, 6-2, 6-4. Peacosting took it a step further at the No. 3 spot with a 6-2, 6-1 win over Bohannon. Mikromakos fell to Westin 6-4, 7-5 at No. 1. At the No. 4 spot, Ola Luczak won a terrific match over Marlene Levin, 6-3, 7-6, 7-4. Junior Aneta Samara got her second straight match at No. 8, coming back to beat Jen Wisniewski, 4-6, 6-3, 10-4. In Thursday's match UCF defeated Rollins College 5-2, UCF swept the doubles matches, which is an improvement for a team that has struggled in this category in the past. Rollins lost 4-0, 7-5. Ola Luczak defeated Lindsey Solles 6-4, 6-3. Pamela Fernandez defeated Danielle Giron 6-4, 6-4 at the No. 4 spot, Aneta Samara stepped up to win 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 match at the No. 3 spot.

"She dropped the first set but did not fold," coach Patricia Allison said. "She fought back, won the second set and then was down in the third back to back games. That's really important." Rollins' Vanessa Coddie took out Anna Westin 6-2, 6-1, while UCF's Julie Peacosting fell to Carla Prieto 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 at the No. 2 spot.

The Knights travel to Tampa this weekend to play in a partial match against the University of South Florida.

Men's tennis team breezes by Rollins

UCF Golden Knights' men's tennis team defeated Rollins College 7-0 Friday night. The first home match of the season at the UCF Tennis Complex. The Golden Knights are 5-1 in A-Sun and 6-2 overall. The Knights travelled to Rollins in hopes of a strong win. Coach Bobby Cashman said: "Golden Knights players really well. He stuck it out for all three sets. It was a good win for him.

Ultimately the match 5-7, 6-2, 7-5. Notable was UCF's Simon Janser's win over David Tatham 6-2, 6-2, 6-1. At No. 3, Joseph Sierra defeated Matt Umbers 6-4, 6-3, while Antonio Sierra easily defeated Brian Gottfried 6-4, 6-1. At No. 4, the match came from Matt Thompson who defeated Gabriel Strangberg 6-4, 6-2, 6-2. UCF took all but one win. The second set was an epic match between the Knights' Juliano Bruni and Carlos Erasto, who is ranked No. 10 in Division II.

"We played really well. I thought that today we showed that we were a good team," Cashman said. The Golden Knights will return to the courts Friday when they make their 2003 Atlantic Sun Conference debut at Stetson University at 6 p.m. The Knights finished last season as the runner-up in the Atlantic Sun Championships, after Georgia State upset the Knights in the Finals. UCF is hosting home Sunday for the match against Colorado State. The match is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m.

* UCF Athletic Director Adam Phillips notes: "At this point in our season, it's important for us to get the doubles MATCH against the University of South Florida.
Knights jump to 10 games over .500

Kristy Shonka Staff Writer

With five regular season games left on the schedule the UCF men's basketball team has already reached its win total from last season. The Golden Knights ran away with games against Atlantic Sun Conference North Division basement dwellers Campbell and Gardner-Webb to improve to 17-7 on the year and 9-2 in the conference.

UCF beat Gardner-Webb 82-29 Saturday at the UCF Arena. The Knights jumped out early on the Bulldogs, using their trademark stifling defense to gain a 35-9 lead with 7'21 left in the first half.

"I thought the first 10 minutes of the game was the deciding part of the game," UCF Coach Kirk Speraw said. "I thought we did a very nice job defensively of establishing our defense. I thought we did a nice job of moving the ball offensively getting good looks."

Robert Moorin and Dexter Lyons paced the Knights in the first half. Moorin was a perfect 5-for-5 from the floor for 13 of his 14 points and he grabbed seven of his eight rebounds in the first half. Lyons scored 11 of his 13 points and grabbed all five of his rebounds in the first half. Ray Friend had UCF from three-point range, nailing three of his five 3-pointers in the opening 20 minutes.

UCF went into the locker room up 42-21, but some confusion about the length of the half-time break led to a Gardner-Webb run to start the second half. Speraw said 20 minutes were on the clock when the Knights left the court, instead of the usual 16. But at one point during the break the time was cut back to 15 and the Knights did not violate the clock. The UCF players did not arrive back on the court until the buzzer was sounding; and they began the second half without their coaches on the bench. The Bulldogs were out and had a chance to warm up and it showed. They went on an 11-2 run to cut the lead to 12, but that was as close as Gardner-Webb would get.

Freshman Troy Lindbeck added to the Knights lead as he began a string of three consecutive three-pointers with 9:20 left in the half. When he was through the Knights held a 63-41 advantage.

"He's been shooting the ball pretty well lately in the last 10 days and gaining his confidence back," Speraw said. "He went through a little spell where he was struggling, but I think he's back focused and we need him to step up and play that role for us and he's done a nice job in the last three games of knocking down shots." Lindbeck also hit three 3-pointers in the Knights 58-40 blowout of Campbell on Tuesday. UCF's point total was a season high, while the Knights also set a school record by clothing out 29 assists on 33 made field goals.

Abellard led UCF with a career-high 10 assists. He also had three triples and the Knights hit a season-high 14 from behind the arc. Ed Donlon led the Knights with 20 points as he was one of five UCF players to reach double figures. The Knights shot 60 percent from the field in the second half.

"UCF did not play Golden Knight basketball in the first half," Strieger said. "They pushed us around from the tip, out-rebounded us, out-scored us, out-everything us.

But as badly as they played in the first half, they rallied back in the second. Billings hit a short jumper to give UCF a 44-44 lead and cap a 15-2 run with a 66-40 lead.

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As the first half second would indicate, the Golden Knights allowed the Lady Panthers to dominate. They got out-shot 52 percent to 32 percent and out-rebounded 25-11. At one point they went nine minutes without scoring, allowing a 10-6 advantage to turn into a 20-10 Georgia State lead.

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The Knights hit the road this week for 7 p.m. start against Jacksonville on Monday in DeLand against the Dolphins.

Golden Knights split two game home stand

Chris Bernhardt Staff Writer

The UCF women's basketball team continued its recent string of strong play Saturday, winning for the fifth time in its last six games with a 82-67 triumph over Jacksonville State.

After going into halftime down 34-31, the Golden Knights saw themselves fall behind by as much as seven after the Gamecocks got a layup from Fredericksa Emiley with 16:56 left, making it a 45-38 ballgame. But UCF rallied back, tying the game at 37 on a Shayla Smith's basket at the 10:15 mark. From there the Golden Knights never looked back, going on a 26-8 run over the next eight minutes to seal the game.

"It just clicks in the second half," Elena Paiga said. "I can't tell you what it is but I think that's one reason why our team is so confident, because we know the second half is our half."

This hot second half, where UCF scored 51 points and shot 54 percent from the field, followed an ice cold first half that saw both teams shoot under 35 percent. After trailing by as much as nine early in the period, the Golden Knights came back to tie three times in the opening half and even took two brief leads midway through.

But after Amanda Tyus hit a three-pointer to give Jacksonville State a 52-50 advantage, the Gamecocks fought off UCF for the rest of the half.

They also out-rebounded the Golden Knights going into the intermission, 23-22. But by the game's end UCF had won the battle of the boards 51-38, including 16 offensive rebounds. Paiga led the charge with 12 rebounds to go along with her season-high 17 points. Takira Allen chopped in with 12 points and five rebounds and Jessica Scala had 11. Adriane Billing also continued to improve on a poor beginning to the season with 12 points.

"She's always been kind of a second semester player, she did the same thing last year," Coach Gail Strieger said. "She really has picked it up and is continuing to play well. I think our whole team is playing well."

Shanika Freeman had 21 points and 10 rebounds to piece Jacksonville State, who fell to 11-9, 9-4. UCF improved to 11-8, 7-2.

On Thursday night the Knights suffered a heartbreaking 53-50 loss to Georgia State. The game turned out to be one with two very different halves, with UCF outscoring Georgia State 20-19 in the second half after getting pounded in the first, 34-20.

The second half was the deciding part of the game, according to Coach Kirk Speraw. "I thought we did a very nice job defensively of establishing our defense. I thought we did a nice job of moving the ball offensively getting good looks."

As badly as they played in the first half, they rallied back in the second. Billings hit a short jumper to give UCF a 44-44 lead and cap a 15-2 run with a 66-40 lead.

"(UCF) did not play Golden Knight basketball in the first half," Strieger said. "They pushed us around from the tip, out-rebounded us, out-scored us, out-everything us."

But as badly as they played in the first half, they rallied back in the second. Billings hit a short jumper to give UCF a 44-44 lead and cap a 15-2 run with a 66-40 lead.

The two teams battled back and forth for the remainder of the game, exchanging leads five times. Then with seven seconds left, UCF's Lashay King drove through the paint and hit a layup that appeared to give the Golden Knights a 52-51 edge. But instead a charge was called and the clock was wound down.

After Angela Miller missed her second free throw, UCF had a chance to tie with four seconds left, but couldn't advance the ball far enough to get more than a desperate
Paige reaches career milestone

FROM PAGE 17

Paige reaches career milestone

Paige reaches career milestone

The women's tennis team was recognized as the UCF team with the highest GPA at halftime of Saturday's men's basketball game.

Kappa Sigma wins wiffleball tournament

Kappa Sigma did it with a wiffleball bat by defeating End of an Era 24-15 in the wiffleball finals last Saturday in the Rec and Wellness Center. End of an Era defeated Sigma Alpha Epilson 18-4 and Bu. Knight 22-14 to advance to the semi-finals against Kappa Sigma. Kappa Sigma beat That's Right 15-6 in the first round of the double elimination tournament to move on.

Kappa Sigma faced End of an Era for the first time and relegated them to the losers bracket. End of an Era bounced back by hammering Curved Balls 31-10, and moved on to the finals to face Kappa Sigma for the second time of the day, End of an Era upset Kappa Sigma 19-10 in the first game, creating a winner-take-all matchup in which Kappa Sigma wins was victorious.

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The perfect gift guide for valentines

Knowing what a girl wants

KRISTIN DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Sophomore Jennifer Bramski, 19, isn't hoping to get the traditional box of chocolates and flowers for Valentine's Day or for her boyfriend Dan, who she has been dating for a year, to get her something that is just picked up off a shelf or bought at a grocery store. Instead, she wants a gift with sentimental meaning to it.

"All I want for Valentine's Day from my boyfriend is something personal and creative," Bramski said. "I would like him to plan a romantic dinner that he cooked himself or take me out somewhere fun like Disney!"

With Valentine's Day approaching, many women with boyfriends are hoping to get a unique gift this year—one that has emotional value to it. However, for some women with boyfriends, like sophomore Laura Walton, 19, receiving an expensive gift would also suffice on Valentine's Day.

"Every girl loves diamonds. I actually have never gotten any diamond jewelry from a guy, but if I could pick out anything I wanted for Valentine's Day, I'd want it to be it," Walton said. Although she is looking forward to exchanging gifts with her boyfriend, Walton said that the best present on Valentine's Day is spending quality time with the person you care about the most.

Freshman Jolene Macleod, PLEASE SEE Couples on 21

Searching for a man's heart

KRISTIN DAVIS
STAFF WRITER

Senior Kevin Lee, 21, believes that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. He plans on having a romantic home-cooked meal with his wife for Valentine's Day.

"Having a nice dinner by the fireplace with my wife would be the best gift in my book," Lee said. "All that matters to me is that we get to spend quality time together."

Senior Lee's family owns a day spa, he plans to get her a day of relaxation at the spa for part of the present. But even Lee likes to receive gifts. One of the most thoughtful presents he has received were flowers a woman once sent him, he said.

"Guys don't normally receive flowers, but I actually thought it was nice since it was different from the typical gift," Lee said.

Sophomore Carl Stewart, 21, also finds unique gifts to be the most memorable. The best Valentine's Day gift for a guy would be doing something for him that girls don't ordinarily do, he said.

"I think it would be sweet if a girl took a guy out to dinner for Valentine's Day and paid for him. I believe that a man should always take care of his girlfriend, but for one night it would be nice if she took him out and paid for him."

PLEASE SEE Women on 21

Athletes flock to certain majors

Liberal studies, other majors perceived as less challenging, attract athletes

STEPHEN HURST
STAFF WRITER

Certain majors, such as physical education, building construction, criminal justice and perhaps most typically liberal studies, attract a large number of student-athletes.

The extensive enrollment of student-athletes, particularly that by no means exclusively football or basketball players, in such academic programs has raised them the unflattering title of "jock major." Athletes at universities across the nation tend to study in such majors, and the trend holds true at UCF as well.

A recent study conducted by The Chronicle of Higher Education, which analyzed the majors of football players at UCF and other universities, revealed some startling statistics about UCF's football team.

Among all undergraduate students, the most popular major was business administration, claiming nine percent of students. The football team holds true to the makeup of the general undergraduate population, with nine percent of the players majoring in business administration. However, some particular majors draw a majority of the team.

The numbers for business majors are only slightly higher than the rest of the student body, but the other two represent a disproportionately high percentage. Some feel that liberal studies in particular may appeal to athletes because of the relative ease and lower admission requirements of the major. The bare minimum 2.0 GPA is necessary to gain acceptance into the program and also for graduation falls far below the stringent 3.0 and above that many other majors require.

Curl Mooney, the football team's academic advisor, admits he understands partly in the diversity of content that liberal studies offers.

"Liberal studies offer a greater variety of choices," Mooney said. "Any time you are talking about programs in that field, you are choosing between two areas of emphasis and one minor!"

Although the flexibility is a selling point for most, the concern is that the graduate will be a 'jack of all trades, master of none.'

Senior elementary education major Jeff Perkins, admits he sometimes has a preconception of liberal studies majors. "I think of someone who doesn't really have a clear idea of what they want to do," Perkins said. "I believe that those types of majors are set up to be exceptionally well-rounded ... but at the expense of any specific knowledge."

Mooney also noted that athletes do not have as much free time as most of their peers, possibly influencing them to observe majors in liberal studies.

"With many students having jobs or work at an internship during the summer, college athletes haven't had those summer months available," Mooney said. "Many of them are busy."
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Women give heartfelt gifts to their boyfriends for Valentine’s Day presents

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2) Orlando Predators arena football tickets – $8 - $60 – orlandopredators.com

Atlanta Braves spring training tickets – $12 - $19.75 – milb.com

Orlando Magic tickets – $10 - $94 – nba.com/magic

3) Strip Poker – includes deck of cards and chance cards which read things such as “Remove a piece of clothing from the person of your choice” – $20 www.redenvelope.com

4) Valentine’s Beer Pack – Experience the romantic side of beer with flavors such as cherry and raspberry from Belgium poured into flute-style glasses – $29.95 - www.realbeer.co.nz

5) Gap Men’s Boxers – special Valentine’s Day Boxers, three for $25 or regular boxers, two for $20 www.gap.com

Top five best Valentine's gifts for her:

1) Diamond Heart Ring - $150 ice.com

2) Tickets to indoor sky diving at SkyVenture - $30

3) Reversible Satin Robe from Victoria’s Secret - $54.00 - www.victoriassecret.com

4) Victoria’s Secret Satin Pajama Set - $39 - www.victoriassecret.com

5) Puppy Love Gift Basket nine-piece set includes strawberries and cream bath items, cherry blossom lotion and a stuffed animal that can record a six-second message to your loved one for $34.99 - www.avon.com

Couples share thoughtful gifts with loved ones

FROM PAGE 19

18, recommends being adventurous and spontaneous when purchasing a Valentine’s gift for that special someone. Tickets to go indoor sky diving are at the top of her V-day wish list for her boyfriend of ten months.

“Anything with hearts, flowers or hot pink is as it should be avoided completely,” Maiedood said. “Traditional gifts are boring and over-used. One time I received a present that was obviously from a grocery store that came pre-packaged with a balloon, stuffed animal and chocolate. I thought it was so corny and impersonal.”

Sophomore Jamie Grabloski, 18, has been with her boyfriend since their early school days, she believes he knows what she would want on Valentine’s Day. It’s not the price but the thought behind the gift that matters most, she said.

“I would show me that she actually pays attention to the things I like. If she gave me a CD of my favorite band,” Jefers said.

Even the traditional candy gift would be a nice gesture, she said.

“If in doubt, go with chocolate. You can’t go wrong with candy.”

Top five best Valentine’s gifts for her:

1) Diamond Heart Ring - $150 ice.com

2) Tickets to indoor sky diving at SkyVenture - $30

3) Reversible Satin Robe from Victoria’s Secret - $54.00 - www.victoriassecret.com

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5) Puppy Love Gift Basket nine-piece set includes strawberries and cream bath items, cherry blossom lotion and a stuffed animal that can record a six-second message to your loved one for $34.99 - www.avon.com

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Unique teaching methods

Katrina Hammer
Staff Writer

Students line up across the classroom, ready to run as fast as they can to the wall on the other side. With markers in hand, the signal is given and they are off, rushing to beat their fellow classmates to the pieces of paper and poster board hung on the other side of the room. Chairs are quickly pushed out of the way and beamsems jump up and down in the excitement of the game. Students cheer and team points are added onto the board.

This is not a kindergarten classroom in an elementary school. Instead, the participants are UCF students attending Spanish class. The signal comes from foreign language instructor Allen Korovy, who has brought Spanish board games and toys in a way for students to learn their vocabulary and verb conjugations.

"I try to have a sense of humor," Korovy said.

Sophomore Amanda Mohammed, 19, has enjoyed the experience so far.

"You feel like you're not in class. I would completely recommend her to everyone. I love her." Korovy presents his classes with a variety of activities so that they can "actively learn." He comes up with new ideas for classes all the time, at any time of the day.

"Most teachers are never off duty," she said. "I always think, "What can I do that my students will get this better than in the past?"

Unique teaching methods are becoming more common at UCF as instructors look for interesting and fun ways to help their students retain important information, if not keep them more entertained (and awake) in class.

Mathematics Instructor Arup Guha mentions types of liquor in his lectures. He will plug the word "vodika" or "rum" into his problems.

Junior Tyler Siebersroeder, 20, remembers being one of Guha's classes his freshman year.

"Guha's lectures made people laugh," he said. "We're talking about hard core engi neers here. That's an accomplishment in and of itself."

"Sometimes students just appreciate the effort that their instructors make to keep them entertained in class."

Junior Melanie Wilson, 21, said she loved her organizational behavior and theory class taught by Lauren Mignery. During the section of the course that focused on emotions, Mignery played seven or eight different songs for her students, Wilson added.

"Students were then asked to analyze the song and write down what emotions they felt and what products the song might be useful for promoting."

"Instead of standing there and lecturing, she keeps us involved," Wilson said. "She wants our feedback and wants to know what we think."

Wilson said she enjoys Mignery's class because of the entertaining ways that she teaches. The classes are fun and have been a positive experience overall, she added.

These unique methods seem effective since instructors use them and students love them.

"It's the most effective teaching I've ever had and it's a lot of fun," Mohammed said.

Korovy believes that her method is more successful than students may think it is.

"In 10 years of teaching they haven't said that they haven't learned anything or that they hated the games." 

Summers focused on game, training

FROM PAGE 19

with weight training or running during that time, continually training to stay in peak condition."

Although the study in The Chronicle focuses on football, Mooney believes that the trend is not limited to just a university's marquee sports. He contends that ambitious athletes, no matter the sport, will focus on their game and their training.

"For years there wasn't such an emphasis on women's sports," Mooney said. "Now, however, many female athletes are dedicated to improving over the summer. So I think this is a trend we could see moving more and move in the future, all across the board."

Effort Vlites, director of the office of liberal and interdisciplinary studies, believes that many athletes pursue liberal studies because the program makes a concerted effort to work so closely with the athletics department.

"We take time to explain everything to the athletes. We obviously feel liberal studies is a worthy and important major, and we give them a very comprehensive campaign," Vlites said.

While some students view the program as an automatic way to easy 'A's, Vlites takes a very different stance on the matter.

"I don't believe it's that simple. The student must complete a full 66 credits in the program," Vlites said. "It's a busy schedule, but it allows students to fit in different minors of classes that they wouldn't otherwise experience ... it got the most out of college."

"That's why I think that many athletes opt for such a flexible academic program. In fact, two of the highest-profile athletes to ever attend UCF were in liberal studies - Michelle Akers and Danielle Colaprico," Vlites said.

While Akers went on to become a soccer legend and star of the 1999 USA Women's World Cup team, and Colaprico (though he never completed his degree) now starts in the NFL for the Minnesota Vikings, not every athlete needs to be a role model of ability and desire to play his or her sport for a living.

"That's what is at the heart of the survey: underlying concerns for the athletes' well being. There is a growing fear that some college athletes are not receiving the education they need to thrive in the job market, or do not know what to do with their degrees after graduation if they can't play professionally.
Back pain is a very common complaint among adults of all ages but is even more frequent as we get older.

There are many causes of back pain including muscle strain, muscle tightness, trauma (injury), degenerative arthritis, and nerve involvement. In the college age group, the most common reasons for back pain are a sedentary lifestyle and/or excess weight. In these students who are physically active, the cause can be improper lifting and/or lifting with bad form. Everyone will likely suffer from back pain at some time in their life.

Good posture both when standing and sitting is important to prevent back pain. A slouched posture puts undue strain on the small muscles in the lower back which can lead to pain. A head forward posture such as reading at a desk or working at a computer puts tension on the neck muscles leading to symptoms.

The abdominal muscles contribute more than 50 percent of the support to the lower back so weakness of these muscles increases the chance of developing symptoms.

Severe, acute pain is probably indicative of a more significant injury and should be evaluated by a health care provider. Occasionally this will require prescription medication and/or surgical therapy.

There are numerous Patient Information Handouts* regarding back pain available at both the Student Health Center and the Campus Wellness Center if you desire to learn more.

*Handouts

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VALENTINE’S DAY 2003

Dear Customer,

Valentine’s Day is quickly approaching and you’re probably looking for the perfect gift for your Valentine! Look No Further! We have a special Offer:

Dozen Roses Direct From Grower

$49.95 + (9.95 S&H)

**These Prices are only valid for on-line ordering**

**Please keep in mind that Prices are subject to change without notice closer to Valentine’s Day depending on product demand.**

**With this sélection you receive one dozen elegantly wrapped Premium Long Stem Red Roses (22"–26") with Filler Greens, a personalized card, floral preserving packets and rose care information. Your order is wrapped in decorative celophane and carefully hand packed on ice in an attractive, fully insulated gift box, and shipped via Overnight Courier. We also have other Flower specials starting at $34.95.** Also, surprise your Valentine early and receive a FREE VASE** plus 10% off coupon for future order by ordering for delivery on or before Feb 13th.** Beginning February 1st you will receive $5 off if you choose delivery before February 12th. See us this VALENTINES at RosesExpress.net

Phone orders

Monday-Friday 8AM-8PM EST:

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If you quote the discount code "404642" you will receive a 5% discount off the phone order price.

All Direct from the Grower Gifts are unconditionally guaranteed to arrive fresh and beautiful every time you order. If you are not 100% satisfied with the product you can return it, we will replace it free of charge. This guarantee applies to orders for which we have received complete and accurate delivery information. **This Price is only valid for on-line ordering.** Free Vase is offered only on cut flower bouquets.
Vote On Line!! https://connect.ucf.edu

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

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

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

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

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

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

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The University of Central Florida Dance Marathon
February 22 - February 23, 10 am - 10 am
Recreation and Wellness Center.
The UCF Dance Marathon is a 24-hour no sitting, no sleeping fundraising event that benefits the Children's Miracle Network. The Children's Miracle Network provides comprehensive care and monetary support for pediatric cancer patrons and their families while continuing to foster innovative pediatric cancer research initiatives.

Tue Feb 11
10 am - 6 pm VUCF Blood Drive, outside the SU
11 am - 2 pm VUCF Green Ribbon Day for organ and tissue donation, SU South Patio
7:30 pm EKCEL "Time Management" workshop, SU 316
9 pm CAB Cinema presents "Moulin Rouge." There will be dancers, decorations and more. Come get lost in the Moulin Rouge! SRC Aud.

Wed Feb 12
10 am - 6 pm VUCF Blood Drive, outside the SU
11 am - 2 pm, 4 pm - 6 pm CAB Popular Entertainment Knight of Talent auditions, SRC Auditorium
7:30 pm EKCEL "Time Management" workshop, SU 224
8 pm CAB Concerts Battle of the Bands, UCF Arena. Winner plays a at Orlando Magic Game. Top 8 bands out of 47 competing, plus a return performance from last year's winning band, Unsung Zeroes.

Sat Feb 15
7 am VUCF Paws in the Park. One mile walk at Lake Ella for animal services. Volunteers will help with registration and clean up. Carpool from Millican Hall at 7 am.
3 pm - 4 pm VUCF Winter Park Retirement Community Post Valentine's Day Party. Carpool from Millican Hall at 2:15 pm.
7 pm Block Party sponsored by CAB and Affiliated Housing, Pegasus Landing

Sun Feb 16
2 - 5 pm VUCF Bingo with residents of Sunbelt Health Facilities. Carpool from Millican Hall at 1 pm.

Tue Feb 18
7:30 pm EKCEL workshop "Say It Right." Communication, SU 316
8 pm CAB Popular Entertainment presents Hypnotist Tom DeLuca, UCF Arena. Free to everyone.

Wed Feb 19
Tickets available in OSA for CAB Mystery Dinner Theater event on 3-13-03
7:30 pm EKCEL workshop "Say It Right." Communication, SU 224

Thu Feb 20
4:30 pm VUCF Best Buddies. Have pizza, meet UCF Men's Basketball team, and watch the game the with kids. Meet at Lake Claire.
7 pm VUCF Get Carded info table at UCF Men's Basketball game. Volunteers will hand out info on organ and tissue donation, UCF Arena

Visit us on the web at osa.sdes.ucf.edu
For more info on any of these events contact the Office of Student Activities, Rm. 208 in the SU, or call 407.823.6471
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee as allocated by SGA