Runoff candidates trade tantrums

Voting resumes today amid spectacle of impeachment charges, election violations

**Ben Baird**

In what is shaping up as an extraordinarily close and ugly battle for the student body presidency, current Student Government Association vice presidents Brian Battles and Brian Kirlew both could find themselves ineligible for office because they are found guilty of campaign misconduct.

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Roundout the race were the slate of Thomas Tlhikala, 29, and his running mate Constance Katsadinas, 19 (1,052 votes, or 16.4 percent), and Andrew Houllis, 20, and running mate Nelson Mitchell, 20 (200 votes, or 3.1 percent). Another 22 votes were cast for write-in candidates.

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**Krista Zilizi**

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Orange County Fire Rescue responded in a call around 4 p.m. from a UCF police officer who reported the spill on the fourth floor of the building.

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Two other UCF employees who came in contact with the acid complained of nausea and dizziness and were examined on the scene. None suffered serious injuries.

UCF police evacuated about 100 people from the building by pulling the fire alarm and cordoned off the area as a precautionary measure while they waited for fire rescue workers to arrive.

Orange County fire rescue workers equip themselves with protective suits after an acid spill Friday in the Biological Sciences building.

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Students play lottery for housing

ROSEMARY R. DAY  CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Senior Leighton Cobin was feeling a little nervous Friday. It's going to be close, he thought, if he'd have a home on campus again next fall.

Another 907 students were in the same boat. They hoped they could remain in campus housing as well, but weren't sure if UCF would have enough room to accommodate them.

Due to a university policy that reserves 90 percent of on-campus housing for incoming freshmen, UCF only has space next fall for 2745 returning students in campus housing. As of Friday morning, a lottery was held to determine who could stay in those facilities and who would have to move out.

"I was nervous because I'm going to be a graduate student in August and if my name wasn't called, I didn't know what I was going to do for housing," Cobin said.

Freshman Shawna White, 19, was not as lucky, even though she turned in her applications and paid fees on Monday. "The first people to turn in their application and their deposit should have been taken first because those people were prepared and applied early," she said.

Not all the students were up for the lottery process. "I'm going back home to Tampa to go to school at the University of South Florida even though I like UCF," she said.

Freshman, Student Affairs, Matthew Croft, 18, was selected to live on campus, but two of her friends were not.

"I'm going to move off-campus now," she said. "All four of us would rather live together off-campus than not live together at all together.

Some, such as sophomore Heather Singelton, 19, didn't bother applying even though she was selected to move on campus because of UCF's new policy. "Since I only know 20 percent of housing is available, why even bother," she said.

Proposed draft leaves many uneasy

JOEL ADDINGTON

A draft may be totally foreign to the latest generation, but mandatory military service, something this nation hasn't seen in more than 30 years, may become a reality if Congress passes a bill that would reinstate a draft - a policy that would require men 18 to 26 to fulfill military service one year.

In 1973, the Vietnam War ended the nation's military draft and the selective service and introduced an all-volunteer armed forces. The Selective Service System in 1980 reinstated the Selective Service, but since then this country has drafted a serviceperson, said Robert Fleischer, a political science professor who teaches a course on the Vietnam War.

But the requirement that non-veteran registrants in a month of their 26th birthday registered since the 1980 ruling and if Oct. 21, 1993, Selective Service would have approximately 3.4 million registrants.

But the sponsors are not endorsing this bill. They say the bill will make veterans healthier, twice before deciding war if they know their sons and daughters would be doing the fighting.

"Only four members of the 104th Congress, which voted overwhelmingly in 1973 to ban the draft as "unconstitutional in the military," said Trap. "Congress has done its job.

In the last draft, the new legislation would require college students, as well as non-veterans, to register with the Selective Service and have their names drawn in a national lottery to decide military shortages.

"It would replace the existing Selective Service law to establish a
Mayors may not like idea, but citizens see it differently

FROM PAGE 1
to learn something Wednesday, on both sides of the issues.

Chapin used her connections within Orange County government to set up the forum. "With Dr. Liberman's expertise, we reached a panel of local government experts to respond to and challenge the study's ideas," she said.

The panel includes four experienced officials: Former Orange County Sheriff Tom Wilfong, former Orange County Administrator Jean Bennett, former city of Orlando Attorney Howard Tipson, and former Winter Park Mayor Joe Teranno.

Additionally, many government officials from throughout the region will attend the forum, according to Chapin.

"I'm very pleased with the response of local officials," Chapin said. "They came at the request of mayors, county commissioners and other elected officials who have let us know it's a forum they want to attend."

Chapin, Liberman and the graduate students anticipate a large turnout.

"There very well could be some strong feelings involved on the part of local government officials," Chapin said. "For instance, like the idea of minimizing services for the people who they can cheat on their own desire. All cities have their own characteristics."

Liberman, a strong consolidation supporter, also expected vocal opposition to the students' proposals. "If there's going to be significant disagreement," she said, "then it will be a little apprehensive at first. I think the citizens will be receptive.

"I think Chapin has most goals for the housing decision. He wants "mostly to raise awareness of the possibility of consolidation, get the ball rolling, throw the ball out in the arena."

Coffin does not expect the presentations to change officials' minds. "This will not happen overnight," he said.

Citizens may not like both sides of the issue, but the mayor's role in the greater Orlando community. What is the purpose of a public research university if not to contribute to pertinent issues of the day and consolidation is one of those issues," Liberman said.

"Liberman said the demonstration of the study's importance to students, who come from different backgrounds, including public administration, criminal justice, social work, nursing and health administration.

"In any view, this is a real opportunity to UCF and the public affairs doctoral program to showcase the good work and talent of our students," Liberman said.

Chapin, who served as Orange County chairman from 1990 to 1998, agrees with Liberman that a university should generate dialogue within the community. "What I'm primarily interested in is promoting a dialogue on interesting and important issues.

Cities and counties have considered the idea of consolidation elsewhere for almost two centuries, Liberman said. New Orleans became the first city to consolidate when it combined with Orleans Parish in 1803.

In the 1950s, some major cities consolidated with their county governments, such as Indianapolis, Ind., which joined with Marion County in 1968, and Indianapolis, Ind., which joined with surrounding Marion County in 1968.

In the most recent high-profile example, Louisville, Ky., merged with Jefferson County for this year.

While Orlando follows in the footsteps of. Louisville, Liberman and Oetjen think the city and Orange County should at least consider it. "We're going to offer the first step in this discussion," Liberman said.

Oetjen wants people to notice the plan. "At least it gives citizens contact their legislators and city leaders to look into the possibility of consolidation," he said.

Officials urge students to go on waiting lists

FROM PAGE 3
it was going to be for non-freshman, I didn't think I would get housing," said and 34 percent that opportunity was "too much," Civin said. "Thirty or 70 percent would be more reasonable." The perception of a better chance of getting housing.

Peter Mitchell, associate director for Housing and Residence Life, explained the need. "There's little retention of students who have the opportunity to live on-campus for their first year, so we want to provide as many spaces as possible to those people," he said.

Chapin, director of Housing and Residence Life, felt the lottery was the fairest way to offer on-campus housing contracts to returning students.

"You can't make everybody happy in this process," she said.

Students wait as their fate to live on-campus is drawn from a little black box.

"We're sorry that there are some who may not get housing but we're glad we made 746 people happy," said Chapin.

Housing and Residence Life sent out several memos and e-mails as reminders to students to apply for housing, yet many students still failed to meet both requirements by the deadline. As a result, about 200 students were not included in the lottery and placed on a waiting list.

Those who did not win housing contracts through the lottery will be placed on a waiting list based upon when their names were entered. According to Chapin, College Housing participants were exempt from the lottery and will be awarded housing regardless of the lottery results.

According to Mitchell, students who were placed on the waiting list will be placed after those on the waiting list. Students who paid only the $100 deposit will be placed after the students on the waiting list, and students who turned in only the housing form will be placed next. The order of both groups will be based on the date the students submitted their applications.

The $100 deposit for on-campus housing will be refunded to any students not offered a contract. These students, along with any other students from the housing list, also are eligible for a $125 move-in fee at Pegasus Landing and Pegasus Pointe, the two UCF-affiliated off-campus apartment complexes.

Results of the lottery can be viewed in each on-campus housing community office as well as in the Housing and Residence Life office.
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For more info on Leadership Week visit www.lead.sdes.ucf.edu
Funded by the Activity and Service Fee as allocated by SGA.
Kirlew's calls generate a protest in senate session

Kirlew, who is an SGA senator, backed Battles' campaign against Kirlew and Maclellan. Kirlew and Maclellan were both identified as being involved in the campaign material that threatened students in any topic they like, though the offices would not say what the nature of the threats was. The student expressed their desire to be out here to support Kirlew, "I don't know who they were or who called them," Kirlew said. Throughout the campaigning period, Thursday's SGA Senate meeting ended and students and senators alike dispersed into small groups to discuss the situation. Batters' campaign took place during a bartending shift, and Kirlew, the current student body vice president, defended his actions and said he had employers who removed the banner because it wasn't allowed to hang in the Student Union. While the student who voted for him said he was "afraid," Kirlew said, "I have nothing to hide in front of the student body." Kirlew acknowledged that he had received a complaint about his campaign, but he said he had nothing to hide in front of the student body. "I'm not going to comment until the investigation is done," he said.
UCF scholar sheds light on Black Seminoles

MARSHALL SPENCE
STAFF WRITER

Rosalyn Howard abandoned the conveniences of modern life to explore a society that historians have overlooked.

Howard, an assistant professor of anthropology at UCF, brings to light the history and culture of a unique, Bahamian, black community that has roots in the Seminole Indians of Florida, in her book, "Black Seminoles in the Bahamas."

Howard spent a year in the Bahamas studying the people of Red Bays, a relatively isolated settlement on the northeastern end of Andros Island. The community consists of about 300 people known as Black Seminoles, a group whose African descendants escaped slavery in the United States to peacefully coexist with the Seminole during the early 1900s.

Howard lived with two different families during her stay, and only took a weeklong break to attend her son's graduation from the University of Pennsylvania.

When she arrived in Red Bays in November 1996, Howard said she was not prepared for what she discovered there.

"It was a culture shock for me," she said. "You had to get used to no access to showers, and no electricity and sometimes bathing at a water pump."

The settlement had only one telephone, run by BATELCO, the Bahamas Telephone Co. Some houses had satellite dishes for television, but many of them were damaged during storms and no longer worked. The owners could not afford to have them fixed, so the satellite dishes stood there, their round exoskeletons pointing uselessly into the blue, tropical sky.

Yes, isolated from outsiders, Red Bays is a safe and friendly community, according to Howard.

"It felt so safe there," she said. "There weren't any guns or violence. People didn't lock their doors."

Howard said Red Bays had an interesting diversity of life. Some people lived in concrete houses and others lived in chickees, a Seminole wick for wooden houses with thatched roofs. Families of seven people sometimes lived in a room smaller than a student's dorm room, she said.

It took some time for her to get accustomed to life in Red Bays, Howard said. But the people were kind and welcoming and were more than happy to talk with her and answer her questions.

"I took time walking around the settlement and meeting people. They let people get used to me," Howard said of her first days.

Howard said she met an 80-year-old woman during her stay in Red Bays named Omeda Marshall. Not only was Marshall widely accepted as the settlement's matriarch, but she also served the community as a midwife and bush doctor. Marshall made innovations in the traditional basket-weaving style of Red Bays, started by her father. She has also been awarded several times for her contributions to Bahamas tourism.

The community of Red Bays is a patriarchal society, according to Howard, and the men are traditionally thought of as the breadwinners. But ironically it is the women who actually bring in much of the income with their basket weaving.

In fact, the people of Red Bays rely upon basket weaving as one of the island's main sources of income. Fishing.

For more information, contact Jackie at jackie@flahillel.org.

It's a BAR-MITZVAH.

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Black History Month

Critics: Affirmative action needed

Impact of One Florida unclear

DANIELLE DEPARI
STAFF WRITER

After the Bush administration filed legal briefs with the Supreme Court in January urging it to overturn Michigan's affirmative action admissions policy, igniting a bitter debate among supporters and opponents, President Bush praised Florida as an ideal model of racial diversity in public education with a neutral admissions policy.

But many at UCF where One Florida apparently works best, call Bush's answer to racial diversity in higher education flawed and misguided because it is disproportionately ratio of minorities to non-minorities.

Of the freshmen who entered for the fall 2002 semester, minorities comprised 30 percent. This included 12 percent Hispanic, 25 percent African-American, 5 percent Native American and 0.7 percent American Indian.

Timmy Dietz, assistant psychology professor, said students should not yet praise One Florida, as the program does not have a proven record of increasing diversity.

"You must realize that increases in minority student representation at UCF or any other state university may be caused by something other than One Florida such as changing population demographics and non-Hispanic whites choosing to go to out-of-state schools," Dietz said. "More importantly because we do not have data on graduation rates and may be to one should really draw any conclusions about the success or failure of the One Florida program."

Many students such as sophomore Chauntel Lewis, 19, believe One Florida is an excellent chance for repatriations needed for years of open discrimination.

"If they won't give us repatriation for slavery affirmative action is needed, nor Florida, as the governor's effort to make things right," Lewis said. "Affirmative action is good, but peaceful; I am sick and tired of this. I hope the policy will be needed in the workplace," she said.

The One Florida program, launched by Jeb Bush in 1999, guarantees students who rank in the top 20 percent of their graduating class admittance to a state university. However, the plan does not guarantee a university of their choice, which students like sophomore Joseph Thomas, 19, think allows particular universities to discriminate.

"Even if students have the same grades as others, there is still discrimination as to what universities will accept which students," Thomas said. "Affirmative action is needed."

Dr. Tecia Wright, II, in assistant psychology professor said that higher education needs some type of affirmative action to promote a learning environment reflective of society.

He said that when teaching race and ethnicity classes in the Midwest he had little to no racial diversity in the classroom. He added that it made the classroom an inadequate place to learn about racial issues. He called UCF the most diverse place at which he has taught. That diversity helps students learn from experience.

"Some people say affirmative action is needed in higher education. It goes back to the social distance theory in sociology which relies on the fact that to overcome prejudice, people need to somehow in order to understand each other," Wright said.

Vice President Thomas Hidlinstein believes the One Florida program, as a whole, will bring more minorities to universities.

He said that it is an effective way to enhance diversity on college campuses.

He added that one of the most important aspects of the plan is to work with middle-school students in the area of college preparation in order to promote college attendance. He said UCF promotion packages that sponsor these events.

"We believe diversity is a form of education," Wright said. "Students will receive an immediate view of the world if they attend a school which does not provide a diverse environment."

Wayne Burroughs, a psychologist professor whose specialty is racial prejudice, agrees with Wright that universities should strive for diversity. Burroughs says when people say affirmative action is not needed and that the One Florida program works fine.

He said affirmative action needs to be done both at universities and in recruiting for jobs nationwide.

"What it boils down to is whether or not you believe actions need to be taken to correct past discriminatory patterns, some of which are continued in the present times," Burroughs added. "Some are not aware of it, because [discriminatory patterns] may not be as blatant as they were in the '50s and '60s."

Though UCF does not practice a traditional method of affirmative action, there always some type of it present, Jordan Chaves, 20, executive director of admissions, said UCF does practice a discretion of affirmative action.

"We act affirmatively to admit lots of different types of students, such as athletes, musicians, (and) children, national merit scholars, etc.," Chaves said. "In fact and given good academic credentials, we might admit an oboe player over someone else. If the music department believes we need to fill the marching band. That could be a form of affirmative action."

According to Chaves, UCF has one of the best records for recruiting minority students in the state, although UCF legally cannot actively recruit minority students.

"In order to accommodate the needs of minorities in Florida, the state has created two new law schools, which cater to minority communities. The new law school at Florida A&M will attract mostly African-American applicants, while the law school at Florida International will attract Hispanics," Chaves said.

"I believe a diverse environment enhances her education.

"I think that learning how to communicate and collaborate [with] people of all races in the classroom will definitely help me to be more knowledgeable in the workplace," she said.

Society escaped persecution to Bahamas

FROM PAGE 7

Howard's book highlights the descendants of people who escaped slavery in the 1800s.

Among them were already a conglomerate of many different tribes. The former African slaves integrated and peacefully fused with the Seminoles for many years. They became known as Black Seminoles. In the meantime, the Americans invaded Florida and the Seminole Wars began.

The Seminoles, along with the Africans that had joined them, defied the U.S. forces and fought them. But the Americans eventually won. However, about 150 to 200 Black Seminoles managed to escape into the Everglades of Florida, and made their way to the southern coasts of Florida.

In 1821, with no places else to go, the Black Seminoles gathered in the woods and made their way to the Everglades. From there, they migrated throughout the island, where they have lived ever since. To this day, they consider themselves an unbeset and uncompromised people.

Howard returns to Red Bay every year to visit—she is considered a member of the community now. She tries to help the people there as much as she can. In the past, Howard has mailed countless books that her anthropology students donated to the people of Red Bay. Howard said she is now trying to help them sell their baskets on the Internet.
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Festival celebrates Nobel laureate

JASON IRSAY

After promising to appear at a conference in his honor, not even a blizzard could keep Wole Soyinka from fulfilling his word to come to UCF.

Capping a three-day festival in his honor, Soyinka, a Nobel laureate, inspired and amused a crowd of roughly 50 students and scholars Wednesday in the Pegasus Grand Ballroom.

Reading from his latest book of poetry, "Samorukadu," Soyinka, the 1986 Nobel Prize winner in literature, entertained the crowd with poems inspired by life in his native Nigeria. Soyinka is not only an award-winning writer; he also has earned fame and respect as a playwright and a poet.

Soyinka's appearance followed two and a half days of lectures from world-renowned scholars of African literature. Scholars came from as far away as the University of West England and from universities across the United States to present research papers about and discuss Soyinka's work.

This scholar included Bertha Lindofer, a visiting instructor at Harvard University, who is widely considered the most authoritative literary scholar on literature in the teaching and promotion of African literature and criticism in North America, according to the festival's organizer, Janina Obromowo, an Orlando-based freelance journalist. Lindofer presented the first lecture during the conference, titled "Wole Soyinka's First Homoeoming." James Gibbs flew in from England. He sat on a panel that discussed "African Literature and Cruciferm Now!"

Other presenters focused on Soyinka's contributions to African theater: Esteban Irón, an associate professor of International Theater at Ohio University, sat on a panel that discussed "African Theater Now: The Soyinka Premiun." He later presented "Dance, Theatre and Transcendence - The Semiotics of Spirituality in the Plays of Wole Soyinka."

Although the literary and theater communities have long recognized Soyinka as one of the world's great writers and playwrights, the UCF community largely did not know who Soyinka is or why he matters.

The ignorance of people at UCF regarding Soyinka's importance and the lack of support from the UCF community prevented organizer Obromowo from making the festival as large as he envisioned, he said.

"The lack of sponsorship was the biggest problem," Obromowo said. "Once I failed to get the type of money I needed to have the event go the way I had planned, I had to drop some activities, like stage performances of Soyinka's works and a musical concert that would have featured a renowned African artist."

However, despite the difficulties he encountered, Obromowo said he was pleased with the festival. "It's what matters, the First Wole Soyinka Festival at UCF is a great success," he said.

The first example of days of the excitement attracted little attention from the UCF community, but Soyinka's appearance Wednesday was delayed by a paralyzing snowstorm in the Northeast - drew students and admirers. Some students had heard about Soyinka's appearance from professors; others came with their professors to hear him speak.

Freshman J阿yn Botts, 19, did not want to miss a chance to hear a Nobel laureate speak. "I felt that this was an opportunity I couldn't pass," Botts said. "It's not everyday we have a Nobel Prize winner coming to speak to the student body."

Similarly, Associate Professor Corbin Rodriguez-Milanes asked her ethnic American literature class if they wanted to attend Soyinka's appearance, and they took her up on the offer. "We don't often get the opportunity to hear a Nobel laureate, and I think it's really important to hear writers that have that world recognition," Milanes said.

Soyinka did not disappoint the attendees. He began by reading "Improved Version," a poem about a patient near-sighted in one eye and far-sighted in the other. He followed with "Walking Trees" and "Elegy for a Nation," which he read for the first time in public.

Soyinka also read "After the

Please see Event on 11
Event for writer may get a home at UCF

*

Deluge," about a tableau vision that has not been fulfilled, "Lost Vision," a poem about the poems he has misplaced over the years; and "Business Lunch."

Soyinka then opened the floor to questions from audience members. Most of the questions came from the different scholars in attendance, many of whom have spoken with Soyinka before; however, some admirers also posed questions to the Nobel laureate.

One audience member asked about Soyinka's attitude toward nihilism, a historical movement that affirmed the independent nature, quality and validity of black culture. Soyinka attributed the rise of nihilism to colonization in Africa and called it inevitable. However, he did not support it.

'The quarrel we have with nihilism was over-reactionism, which then obscured a lot of both historical and contemporary literary elements," Soyinka said.

Paschal Iluma, an assistant professor of literature at the University of Alexon, asked Soyinka about his views on globalization. Soyinka said the march of globalization could not be halted. "What I believe is our responsibility is to make sure that globalization is not Americanization, or indeed any other nationalism," Soyinka said.

Soyinka said he hates globalization but has fallen prey to it. "Being visciously against globalization, I have a confidential to make," he said. "When I travel and I am jetlagged, first thing in the morning, I'm looking for one sign, Starbucks. They make that mean espresso. ... I look around, find my espresso. Down with globalization."

The crowd laughed.

Soyinka also addressed a question about the role of religion in African culture. Soyinka talked about the two religions, Christianity and Islam, which try to exert their influence on African people. "These knowsing religions are the beginning," Soyinka said.

"The new wave we are witnessing is a rapid, fundamentalist aggression against ... the traditional religions."

Because her class arrived during the question-and-answer session and missed hearing any of his poetry, Milanes asked Soyinka to read an encore poem for her late-arriving class. Soyinka obliged and read "Some Deaths Are Worlds Apart," about the death of a Nigerian princess, which occurred at about the same time as the death of Princess Diana of England in 1997. "A death in the streets of Lagos," Soyinka said, "The death coming at the time of another death made no real sense how far apart the world can sometimes be."

Oluwafemi Balogun, a Nigerian scholar and professor of African and world literature at Delaware State University, said he enjoyed Soyinka's appearance, and said Soyinka exceeded his expectations.

"This appearance was very generous," Balogun said. "He prepared not only to answer questions, but to sit down and sign autographs, and I think this school is blessed with his presence, to have him come here."

Bots, however, expressed disappointment at the number of students who attended. "I was kind of disappointed in our student turnout," Bots said. "I think that the students should take advantage of the university sponsoring a Nobel Prize, or any author, any published author who's coming and willing to give their time."

"Omoworonshi received some funding for the festival from the Organizations, Appropriations and Finance committee through the African Association, of which he is a member. Still he hopes for more funding and support from UCF next year."

Although the university did not actually sponsor Soyinka's appearance, Omoworonshi hopes it will in the future. Students may get another chance to hear Soyinka speak next year. Omoworonshi said he wants to make the Wide Soyinka Festival an annual event at UCF if he can get cooperation and support from the UCF community.

From Page 10

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A s Orlando citizens go to the polls Tuesday to pick a new mayor, they will do so with allegations of bigotry floating around their heads. Both Pete Barr Sr and Buddy Dyer have accused the other of bigotry, Barr, a retired advertising executive, called Dyer a bigot for falsely accusing the Democratic Party-Line — not the usual definitions one associates with bigotry, and Barr knew it. But Barr’s own behavior required him to try damage control; Barr has not said much and made comments that demean blacks, women and Jews, according to two City Council members, his former employees and an official written complaint on file with the state.

All of Barr’s statements have come to light since Feb. 4, when Barr emerged from a pool of eight candidates to earn a spot in Tuesday’s runoff election with Dyer; Barr initially tried to dismiss the complaint, which was first made public by City Council member and Dyer supporter Patty Sheehan, as a veiled attack by his opponent’s campaign. But the number of others who have emerged independently with similar accounts of Barr’s behavior make the stories impossible to ignore. He apparently uses the “b-word” on a regular basis.

Although Dyer’s late entry into the mayor-campaign seemed opportunistic — he did lose the race for state attorney general in November — he has experience, and he is not a bigot. The City of Orlando needs a mayor who can bring the different factions of the city together. Based upon his comments, Barr will not do that. Dyer at least has a chance to succeed.

Unfortunately, because of Orlando’s narrowly drawn borders, most UCP employees and students have no say in the election because they do not live within the city limits. That fact should focus added attention on a study by the FBI, which is be released Wednesday, that urges considerations between the governments of Orlando and the surrounding Orange County. Consolidation would make Tuesday’s vote, and all future Orlando votes, much more important to those at UCF. Members of those who are eligible to vote in the city, Dyer is the right choice.

OUR STANCE:

There’s good and bad in SGA activism

There’s great news in the fact that a record 6,521 UCF students voted in last week’s Student Government Association (SGA) presidential election. That’s more than double last year’s total of 3,107. Such a strong turnout should keep interest high heading into today’s runoff election, when the top vote-getters — the teams of Brian Kirlew/Kevin Cortes and Brian Badillo-Joe Macallum — resume the race in bullfighting that continues through Wednesday.

But before anyone accepts puts on the back for a job well done, consider that those 6,521 votes still represent only about 17 percent of the student body. In other words, 83 percent of students did not care enough about who represents their views on the Board of Trustees to cast a ballot, even though it takes just minutes by computer to log onto a Polaris account from any location and do so.

That lack of interest is appalling. Then again, so are the occasional antics of elected student leaders, who should focus up to the fact that maybe it’s their fault students take SGA less seriously than they should.

Last Thursday’s meeting of the SGA Senate to Exhibit A. The current SGA election figure prominently as the senate meeting creeds into a circus, with various members lobbing accusations of racism, and others trying to ruin people’s reputations. The meeting turned into an ex-ercise in democracy not democracy.

Kirlew, who runs Senate meetings in his current elected role as student body vice president, doesn’t help to keep these sessions from dissolving into exercises in folly and foolishness. During Thursday’s session, when Sen. Jeff Streep — the third-place finisher in the SGA presidential election — lambasted Kirlew for his actions during the campaign, Kirlew telephoned a number of his supporters to show up and raise a ruckus. Kirlew should keep senate meetings under control, not try to incite riots.

While Streep is working to discredit Kirlew, Kirlew has been trying to undermine Dyer, his co-op president and Kirlew’s opponent in this week’s runoff election. Regardless of who wins the election, Kirlew and Badillo will have to work together until May. After what has occurred during this campaign, it would be understandable if the two never wanted to work together again.

Such behavior is symptomatic of a widespread problem in student government. As we have reported previously, SGA leaders have their own agendas, and those agendas too often do not coincide with students’ needs or wants. Senators routinely walk out of meetings, miss votes and sometimes do not bother to show up to meetings at all. They neglect legitimate student concerns to engage in petty name-calling

SGA needs more professionalism in its ranks, not less. These student politicians should remember that their No. 1 responsibility is to serve students, not smear those who disagree or challenge them. Students should do the same. Weeds need the time and work and vote for the SGA candidate slate that will not be most professional and make it a goal to instill that attitude in the Senate as well.

Letters to the Editor

If you can’t party with Ron Jeremy, you’re a party pooper

I recently bought a ticket to the opening of a new Star Wars movie. It was one of the most anticipated events of the year, and I was excited to see it. But when the movie started, I realized that I had made a terrible mistake.

I should have known better than to spend my hard-earned money on something so trivial. And I shouldn’t have trusted those big, shiny lightsabers — they were just a marketing ploy to get me to spend more money. I was so dumb.

But I learned my lesson. Now I only watch movies on my couch, with my cozy blanket and my favorite snacks. I don’t need the excitement of the theater, just the comfort of my own home. It’s much more satisfying to be in control of your own entertainment.

— Bruce Smith

Anti-war celebrities protected by free speech, too

In the opinion, celebrities shouldn’t be able to speak freely about wars, according to a recent statement made by numerous celebrities. People shouldn’t be able to make their opinions known without fear of repercussions.

Some people believe that celebrities are using their platform to promote their political views, while others argue that celebrities should be able to express themselves freely. In either case, it’s important to remember that free speech is protected by law.

— John Doe

Our opinion: If you can’t party with Ron Jeremy, you’re a party pooper

If you can’t party with Ron Jeremy, you’re a party pooper. There are many reasons for this, but the most important is that Ron Jeremy is a notorious party animal. He’s been known to party all night long, and he’s not afraid to do so in public.

Some people might say that this is just a fun-loving personality, but the truth is that Ron Jeremy is a party killer. He’s been known to ruin parties for no good reason, and he’s often been accused of being a bad influence.

If you can’t handle Ron Jeremy’s partying ways, then you might want to reconsider your social life. It’s not worth it to spend time with someone who’s going to ruin your fun.
Duct tape can’t save us from reality TV

MENTAL DOODLES

Christopher Arnold
Staff Writer

Gallon of water, Check.
Three-day supply of non-perishable food, Check.
Duct tape, Check.

With my disaster-preparation kit securely in place, there’s only one thing left to do — act normal.

Now, your average person might look at an apartment layered with cans ofsalmon tuna (it’s dolphin-safe), after all, and gallons of Evian water and question its resident’s perception of “normalcy.” Of course, if that so-called average person broke the duct-tape seal I have dutifully placed over every crack and crevice and discernible entryway to see those cans and bottles, I might be forced to switch on “abnormal” mode — you know, turn green and bulky burst out of my breathes and start speaking monosyllabically.

Oh, wait — that’s the Incredible Hulk.

So, now the old home-stead resembles something like a cheap sci-fi B-movie set from the ’50s. Some might call it the result of terrorist threat level color-coding. I just call it Monday.

Safe and secure, I am free to return to what I would have otherwise been doing — watching television.

Only then did I realize how much peril we all are in.

Despite the best intentions of this new system of preparation, the government is promoting, it failed to prepare me for what I saw:

Reality television is out of hand.

This is certainly nothing new, but one might have thought — or at least hoped — it would have passed by now. Of course, I suppose it could be passing — after all, don’t kidney stones pass slowly and painfully?

Now, as television genres go, none has ever upset me as much as reality TV. Perhaps what is most distressing is the element of misnomer that seems so fundamental to its success.

By this I mean that reality is seldom present.

A handful of strangers left in a remote and inhospitable region of the world are forced to rely upon each other and every few days compete in obstacle courses for fish and a Jog-on ideal. The Missing Link is sent to a chateau in France to not only pretend he has $50 million, but — and this is so much more of a stretch — that he’s actually a mutant gipsy involved in some surrealistic courtship ritual.

Lately, even celebrities — and I use the term loosely — have tried to get in on the action. Such logorrheic personalities as Kathy Griffin and Stephen Baldwin tried to find out what Hollywood has been actually a mole in celebrity’s clothing.

I’m told Griffin is a comedian, although I always thought that meant the person was funny. And Baldwin, well, he and his brothers resemble a real-life version of the Michael Keaton film “Multiplicity” with Stephen being a third- or fourth-level clone missing more than a little bit upstairs.

Of course, this is old news. The most laughable show is one that just recently began — ABC’s “I’m a Celebrity: Get Me Out of Here!” Yes, that’s the actual title. The premise of the show strands celebrities in Australia.

That’s pretty much all I need to know because the list of participants includes Cris Judd, Melissa Rivers and Robin Leach. Judd is in no relation to Ashley or Wynnman — his name is probably only recognized as a former Jennifer Lopez husband. Rivers can be seen regularly on NBC criticizing celebrity fashion and unhinging her jaw for moonlight feedings with mother Flora. Leach coined the phrase “champagne wishes and caviare dreams,” which should have been left in the ’80s.

Maybe we could just leave them out there?

Besides the fact that former, fringe and wannabe celebrities have latched onto the genre of reality television as a vessel to continue waning careers or a springboard for new ones, the simple fact remains that “reality” is a misnomer.

These are game shows.

At the most, label them with the “extreme” tag that is popular today. Whether the prize is money, marriage or mer­chandise, they are still prizes the competitors envision winning. The celebrities vie for the public’s approval. In those respects, the shows are not unlike “The Price is Right” or “Jeopardy.”

Where they do differ is in their duration and their environment. Not confined to a tape for a half-hour taping, these shows take on uncharted territory. Competitors might have to commit significant blocks of time to the competition, whether that be weeks or months.

It can be argued that the reality presents itself in the interpersonal relationships and the reactions to the settings and challenges, as reflected through the unre­stricting documentation of the camera.

But let’s face it. If I were to win $25,000 playing Plinko on “The Price is Right,” my excitement would be just as real. Likewise, if I hop a jaunty pogo stick and charged Alex Trebek because an incorrectly-stressed syllable lost me the game, that would be a real reaction.

As for the documentary nature of the camera, the validity of this argument seems to be offset by the role of the editor when it’s all said and done. More than ever, reality these shows want to be compelling. They want viewers to tune in and see what happens next.

They want advertisers to pay top price for sponsorships. The editing of reality ensures this.

Mind you, a program that fails into this category is automatically bad. There are definitely some entertaining aspects to this style of programming. Conversely, there are really bad programs in every genre.

But these shows are anything but reality. For that, we have the reality novelty, which has now informed me that I am still missing moist tissues from my disaster-preparedness kit.

On the humanity.

Columnist Christopher Arnold can be reached at chivoicedotcom.

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But the team seems to have regained its shooting touch. And just in time to take over the lead in the Atlantic Sun South Division. Garnet Jessica Sena and Colestic Hudson each hit six three-pointers en route to 22 and 20 points respectively and carried the Golden Knights to a huge 74-67 victory at Florida Atlantic.

The game pitted the two teams tied atop the South Division. Now UCF (14-10, 10-2) has sole possession of first place, and Florida Atlantic (11-12, 8-3) has fallen into a tie for second with Troy State.

Both teams stayed within a few possessions of each other for most of the game. The Lady Owls got in front 7-4 early only to see Hudson and Sena hit threes that made for a 10-7 Golden Knights advantage.

UCF tied the game three times during the first half and took a brief 21-20 lead before Sena answered with yet another shot from beyond the arc. The Golden Knights allowed just one field goal during the final few minutes before halftime but the Lady Owls hit four of five attempts to keep within three points at the intermission, 26-23.

The Lady Owls' Tamra Pierce

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**Wallace plays hero**

**Knights split with East Carolina**

**By Chris Bernhardt**

The UCF baseball team split the first two games of its home weekend series versus East Carolina.

The Golden Knights (4-4), already with three home losses, took another one on the chin at Jay Bergman Field on Saturday afternoon. The Pirates upended them 8-7.

Carolina. The UCF Coach UCF Coach said, "we were looking for a short fly ball to right field. But rightfielder Dee Brown appeared to get a late break on the ball and hit a two-out double."

That proved to be Michael's last batter as Lincoln Minick, making his first relief appearance, came out of the bullpen. Minick proceeded to give up a walk, an 0-2 single and a two-run double. Suddenly the Golden Knights 5-2 advantage became a 7-2 hole.

"All we were looking for was one out in that situation and I felt like Lincoln was experienced enough to come in and get the last out," UCF Coach said.

UCF lost 77-72.

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**Knights lose their No. 1 seed chance**

**By Matt Rethon**

Ed Dotson had 14 points and nine rebounds, but UCF couldn't overcome a 10-point second half deficit, losing to Mercer 64-60 Saturday night at the UCF Arena. The Knights lost back-to-back games for the first time this season.

Playing before the home crowd for the final time in their careers, the Knights three seniors, Abellard, Dotson and Mathis Boyd, combined to score 40 points. The Knights were downed, however, on the glass, out-rebounded 40-28, UCF couldn't seem to come up with the layup when it was needed. The Knights had 14 offensive rebounds and converted them into nine second-chance points in the second half.

"When you go on the road, win the battle of the boards and limit their possessions and shot attempts, that's huge," Mercer Coach Mark Skoblar said.

The Knights came out sluggish in the first half, and trailed by five at halftime. UCF committed only seven turnovers the entire game, and helped themselves by taking care of the ball.
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This year, healthy, natural choices are in. So are bold flavors, sizzle and taste. The Marketplace featuring Real Food on Campus brings you a restaurant where you can really be a part of what’s happening. You can watch the chef prepare and present your meal in a colorful, appetizing, exciting setting. Real Food Rocks @ UCF!
FAU presents final regular-season challenge

FROM PAGE 14

featuring Mercer into 17. The Knights converted the Bears 11 second-half turnovers into 21 points.

"It encouraging we stayed in

the game, but it kind of hurts when you don't get that edge in and take the lead so they have to play from behind," Boyd said.

Abbeard and Morein added 13 points apiece for the Knights, and D阉ctor Jones had 10 points on five-of-seven shooting. Mercer was led by all-conference forward Aleeen Muhammad, who had 21 points and eight rebounds.

"The last couple of games he played OK, but not like he's capa-

ble of playing," Shuker said. "I really thought he'd have a break-

out game tonight and he backed it up."

Despite the loss, Abbeard was pleased with the team's performance throughout the stretch.

"The last six minutes of the game, I believe we gave it our all," he said. "If we would have started the game like we ended it we would have won."

Abbeard's 22 points and six 3-

pointers weren't enough Thursday night against Troy State as the Knights lost 77-72. The Knights led for much of the first half, but saw the lead evaporate into a three-

point deficit at halftime. Despite Ed Drook's dominating night on the inside, UCF wasn't able to get much going in the second half. The Knights shot just 31.8 percent from the floor in the half, Boyd just missed a double-double, replen-

ishing 10 points and nine assists, but it wasn't enough as the Trojans held on for the win.

The Knights only have one game left to get back on track before the Atlantic Sun Tournament begins. UCF travels to Florida Atlantic for the regular-

season finale on March 1. Abbeard is confident the team will be ready.

"The next two weeks we're gonna work on our mistakes, and we're gonna improve as a team," he said. "We're gonna get back to our old UCF style. Defense comes first."

High-school students

shadow sports marketing

KRISTY SHONKA

STAFF WRITER

When University High School

senior Alwen Alonso and her vol-

leyball teammate Blanca Alonso were called down to the main of-

ce at school one day they were not sure what to expect. When they got to the office, they found out their coach had recommended them for a job shadowing program with Junior Achievement, a career

devlopment program for students from grades 9 to 12.

The shadowing program allowed Alonso, Alonso and fellow seniors Myra Segarra and Andrew Pieters to follow UCF Sports Marketing Director Gert Garman and Assistant Director Jared Eller for half a day Thursday. Alonso was the only one of the four who already knew she would attend UCF this fall, so this was a unique experience for her. Right now she's not looking to go into sports marketing, but her love of sports and interest in UCF made this an opportunity she didn't want to miss. An avid baseball fan, tour-

ing the baseball stadium turned out to be Alonso's favorite activity.

The four seniors, all high school athletes, got to tour most of

UCF's athletic facilities and help out in some game-day operations. Secretary Lynne Roberts showed the students the baseball facility, while junior pitcher and marketing intern Taylor Sawyer gave a tour of the hockey softball facility.

They got to meet the coaching staff of both the men's and women's basketball teams, getting a real feel for the business side of sports."
Knights win in extra innings

FROM PAGE 14

that out," Bergman said. "We put him in a situa-
tion, probably my fault, that he hadn't been in
as a reliever and maybe it was a little
uncomfortable for him. So I'll take the blame
for that." East Carolina would grab another run in
the top of the eighth off a long fly by catcher
Asa Smith. His second of the game. UCF
stayed back with a run in the bottom of the
eight and ninth innings but walked out on
several chances for more. The Knights had
runners on first and second with no outs and
their two, three and four batters up against a
pitcher making his collegiate debut. Nathan
Kraft sacrificed the runners to second and
third and one runner scored on a wild pitch,
but Brown struck out swinging and Clay
Timpner flew out to left field to end the threat.
In the bottom of the ninth the Golden
Knights again got two on with one out, scored
one run of Ryan Bonito's RBI single, but got
nothing else. Matt Fire struck out swinging and
David Moon flew out to right field to end the
game.

At least took the loss, falling to 2-1. Matt
Bishop got the win for East Carolina, improv­
ing to 2-2. Greg Blum got his second save.
The loss quickly spoiled the good feel­
ings gained from Friday night's 4-3 extra
inning triumph.

In that game, third baseman Rich
Wallace played the hero, knocking in R.J.
Lehmann for the winning run with a base hit
in the bottom of the 12th.
"It felt good," said Wallace, who went 5-
for-9 over the two games. "We were playing
too long out there tonight not to get that hit.
Good to go home and get a win right now.
"
Early in the game the Golden Knights
got a 2-9 string of innings from starter
Kevin Durrat. He gave up just four hits,
one walk and no runs, striking out five. But
Pirates starter Neal Sears was equal to the
task, matching Stertzbach until the bottom of
the seventh, when UCF's Blake Stelnick went
depth for the first time this season. Wallace,
who had singled in front of Seltz, scored as
well to make it 2-0 UCF
The lead wouldn't last long, though.
East Carolina rallied the very next inning
with two runs off a single by Ryan Jones. The
Golden Knights answered with a Wallace run
scoring off a single in the bottom of the inning,
only to see the Pirates tie the game again in
the top of the ninth on another single off the hit
of Durrell Lawhorn.
UCF drew a chance to win the game in
the bottom of the ninth when pinch runner
Jason Wagnham got thrown out at home.
Then after a 30-minute rain delay. East
Carolina used a walk, a sacrifice bunt, an
intentional walk and a wild pitch to get men
on second and third with one out in the top of
the 10th. But freshman reliever Kyle Bono got
Nesrow to hit a short fly to center field and
Timpner made a perfect throw to nail Ben
Sanderson at home plate.
Bono steadied the Golden Knights ship
twice there, holding East Carolina scoreless
for the remaining two innings and getting his
first collegiate win. Glen Tucker (1-1) took the
loss for the Pirates.

Centerfielder Clay Timpner gets hit by an East Carolina pitch for the second time in Saturday's game.

Men's tennis gets revenge

MATT BETHON
STAFF WRITER

The UCF men's tennis team continued its world
play, knocking off defending Atlantic Sun champion
Georgia State and UTC/Chattanooga this past week.

On Friday, No. 65 UCF upset No. 80 Georgia
State 5-2. Playing at the No. 1 singles spot, Catalin
Brada defeated defending A-Sun singles player-of-the-
year Matthew Ornan 6-4, 6-3. The match marked the
first time in his career that Orman lost to an A-Sun
opponent. Antonio Sierra, Simon Jager and Derk
Gorsy all picked up singles victories for the Knights.

The victory avenged last season's loss to
Georgia State in the A-Sun Championship. The
Knights went into the tournament as the No. 1 seed
looking for a trip to the NCAA Tournament, but were
sent home by the Panthers. Then the Knights were
overlooked for an at-large bid to the tournament.

UCF breezed by UTC/Chattanooga 5-0 on
Saturday. Jagger stretched the match at the No. 4 posi-
tion with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Alex Mahred, Gabriel
Stramberg (No. 2), Augusto Sanabria (No. 3) and
Gorsy (No. 6) all won in two sets for UCF. The
Knights picked up the doubles point by winning
two of three matches.

The Golden Knights received more good news
this week, when junior Catalin Brada was named the
first ever Atlantic Sun men's tennis Player-of-the-
Week. When he earned the honor, Brada was 6-2 in
No. 1 singles and 5-1 overall. He and Sierra were 5-1
at the top doubles position. After last week's match­
es, Brada is 6-2 in singles play and he and Sierra are
7-1 in doubles.

UCF will return home and have a week off
before returning to Atlantic Sun Conference play
with a match Saturday against Campbell. The match
is set to begin at 2 p.m. UCF men's tennis is also set to
play Saturday against Campbell.

The Knights also played at Mercer on Thursday;
however, results were not made available in time for
publication.

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Orsini hires new compliance director

UCF Athletics Director Steve Orsini announced Thursday the hiring of Robert Mathner as assistant athletics director for compliance. Mathner was most recently the director of compliance at Syracuse University.

"We are looking forward to having Robert join our department," Orsini said. "He has a great deal of experience in the field of compliance and athletics administration at the NCAA Division I level and comes highly recommended. His direction will be instrumental in our efforts to build a top-notch compliance program."

Mathner fills the vacancy left when former Assistant Athletics Director for Compliance Chris King moved on to Alabama last summer. UCF's compliance office had been under the supervision of Director of Compliance B.J. Moses but recently accepted a job at Tennessee-Chattanooga.

Mathner went to Syracuse in 1980 after serving as the interim associate athletics director and compliance coordinator at Montana. Prior to that he worked in Florida State's compliance office for two years.

Mathner is a 1987 graduate of Southern Mississippi, earning a degree in business administration. He earned his master's degree in sports administration from Florida in 1986. In 1986, he earned his doctorate from Florida State in physical education with a specialization in sport management. He is scheduled to report to work at UCF March 10.

Eller hopes program exposes students to UCF sports programs

After sitting down to lunch, Allenos said that she never received a formal tour of the campus, so the day was a good experience for her.

"It just gave us a look at the facilities to tour. We are looking forward to visiting the school," Allenos said.

Eller said he wasn't really sure what to expect to the day, but that he was happy with how enthusiastic and curious the students were. He wished that he and Garman would have had more time with the students because many of them wanted to talk and learn more about the game.

"I hope we get the opportunity to do it again next year," Eller said. "If nothing else it would expose the kids to the university and UCF athletics.

IM Volleyball ends with four winners

JULIE RENES
SPORTS CORNER

Four teams applied their way to victory Thursday night as the intramural volleyball season came to a close. The night started out with the co-ed game, as the Yellowjackets went on to win 25-20, 18-25, 15-13. The recreational final featured a rally that was split by the UCF men's basketball coaches. The first game saw UCF win 25-20, 26-24, 15-13. The UCF men's basketball coaches were the best game, as the teams competed to the wins game 25-15. The Dig Bees were the women's league champions after winning 25-19. The Dig Bees won in the semi-finals against the Women's League by 25-12, 15-10. And finally the 8th Spot for UCF ordered up the Dig Bees for 3/8 Spot for UCF. The Dig Bees won for the second tournament title 25-15, 25-16, 15-13.

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UCF Athletics This Week

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Stonybrook Country Club
Come out and cheer on the Women's Golf Team as they host this invitational tournament.

Softball v. Charleston Southern
Fri., Feb. 28th - noon
UCF Softball Stadium (behind the UCF Arena)
...Bring your own chair!

Softball v. SW Missouri State
Fri., Feb. 28th - 2 p.m
UCF Softball Stadium (behind the UCF Arena)
...Bring your own chair!

Baseball v. Monmouth
Fri., Feb. 28th - 6 p.m
Joy Bergmann Field (behind the UCF Arena)

Women's Rowing
Sat., March 1st
Competing in the Metro Cup in Winter Park.
For details, log onto ucfathletics.com

Women's Tennis v. Campbell
Sat., March 1st - 10 a.m
UCF Tennis Courts (beside the Rec & Wellness Center)
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Fraternities, fun and fake?

Samantha Fredericks
Staff Writer

Many watched as the girls of MTV's reality show "Sorority Life" laughed, cried, argued and triangled each other to varying degrees. But now it's the guys' turn. With "Fraternity Life," MTV follows the male-bonding adventures of the University of Buffalo's local fraternity Sigma Chi Omega.

A group of brothers from the UCF fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon recently gathered to watch a preview of the show that will premiere at 10:30 p.m. Wednesday and give their reactions as to how real fraternity life compares to MTV's version.

Most agreed that the pledge process portrayed on the show was not accurate, or at least not how fraternities at UCF operate.

"I was surprised. I was not a huge fan," sophomore Kevin Hall, 20, said. "It's not realistic on the UCF campus. We don't rush them like they do.

They used rush like the Bee Gees, I guess. It wasn't super fun when it really was," junior Calvin Benamoud, 20, said.

The rush process on the show is more like how a sorority operates," junior Nick Cikonyko, 24, added.

Like its predecessor "Sorority Life," "Fraternity Life" follows new members through their pledge process, documenting the trials they must overcome to be included as brothers of Sigma Chi Omega. 

The first episode will introduce what MTV refers to as "brothers in arms," as they make their way through the rush process in hopes of being offered a bid.

"That would never work," Benamoud said when one of the pledges on the show was instructed to wait in his room to see if he was offered a bid. "Interviewing a kid and telling him to wait in his room for a two-hour period to see if he gets a bid is unrealizable.

But this is not the only thing on the show that would not work in many fraternities.

I saw at least three to five things that they did which would cause our fraternity charter to get pulled and kicked off campus," senior Omar Radwan, 23, said.

Yet the main criticism with such reality shows is that they are distorted by the camera's and the editing.

I saw at least three or four or five things that they did which would cause our fraternity charter to get pulled and kicked off campus," senior Omar Radwan, 23, said. "Many of the people collecting this stuff are in their late 20's or early 30's.

Old courthouses that are now comics, such as "Batman" and "G.I. Joe," sold shelf and store.

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Fraternity life gets its turn on reality TV

**FROM PAGE 19**

or will be revealed. The viewer sees what MTV wants to show, especially when it comes to the portrayal of secretiveness and fraternity life on television, junior Chris Florence, 21, said.

"The custom affects a lot of things," Florence said. "There are a lot of secrets and other things that are very sacred that can't be revealed." Despite the discrepancies the brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon saw with the show, they still gave it the benefit of the doubt. They all agreed that fraternities differ on each campus, but some things on the show - such as being like a family knowing the inside jokes, the drama and the typically dirty fraternity houses - were similar to how their own fraternities work.

"We all have fun going different places, we all party, we all disagree on certain things, but it just depends on where you are, how tight the school is, how tight the city is and how many other fraternities there are," Colangelo said. But when the brothers of Sigma Chi Omega offered a bid to a rusher who wound up spending more time getting to know the Hooters girls than bonding with the brothers, it sparked the same reaction among the entire group of Sigma Phi Epsilon brothers. None of them could believe Sigma Chi Omega decided to offer the rusher a bid.

"He is cooler than all of them," junior Jason Wortham said. As they continued to watch the show, uttering occasional commentary followed by laughter, they all seemed to agree that they probably would never watch the show again.

"You would have to beat me with a bat to get me to watch this," Radwan said.

"Yeah, maybe to laugh at all the retards that don't like girls," Bensaadan said.

"If I have time - and possibly if they have more socials at Hooters," Colangelo added.

Dr. Michael Deichon
UCF Student Health Services

**I get frequent indigestion and bloating, what is the problem?**

I would like to talk briefly about a very common health problem: gastro-esophageal reflux disease, or GERD. It is a very common malady that we see on a regular basis nowadays. It is primarily caused by overproduction of acid in the stomach that in turn finds its way up the lower part of the esophageal tube (esophagus). Symptoms include: frequent burping, frequent burning, nausea, chest pains, coughing, heartburn, nausea, vomiting, heartburn, chest pain, coughing.

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In young, otherwise healthy people, the main reasons for this acid-related problem is mainly lifestyle issues. Some of the changes needed to eliminate the problem are: stopping smoking, avoiding milk, chocolate, poppy-seed bread, and avoiding caffeine-laden beverages. Also, it is important to decrease sugar and refined carbohydrates content from one's diet. Some examples are: sodas, juices, sweets, high quantities of bread, rice, pasta, and potatoes, as they lead to make matters worse. We can all recall getting a bad taste of acid reflux after consuming generous amounts of pizza. It is not the tomato sauce, but mainly the high carbohydrate content of the dough that is responsible. So decreasing overall carbohydrate intake tends to be very beneficial.

Another important point is to avoid eating within three hours of going to bed, as stomach contents tend to reflux up the swallowing tube when you lie down soon after eating.

Over the counter medications can be helpful. (such as Pepcid, Zantac, Tums and other antacids). They do not really ease, or GERD. If someone is experiencing persistency of stomach pain, or any type of gastrointestinal discomfort, they should seek a medical evaluation to rule out more serious conditions.

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**Ask A Dietitian**
**UCF Marketplace 11 am to 2 pm**

**Healthy Matters Workshop**
**Campus Wellness Center**
**7 pm to 8:30 pm**

**Information Table**
**Student Union 10 am to 2 pm**

**Body Image Presentation**
by: REACH: peer education
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**February 24, 2003 • The Central Florida Nutre**
Scoot over, SUVs
Some students straddle two wheels instead of four

Mike Blakley
Staff writer

Sophomore viral Romero is easy to spot on the road—he’s the one pedaling along in the right hand lane, trying as hard as he can on his scooter to keep up with traffic.

Romero, 20, can almost go fast enough to hold his own, but more often than not, his Honda Metropolitan’s speedometer lags a little-under 40 mph, which makes him fall behind the ordinary pace that automobile traffic keeps.

Maybe it’s the weight of his wallet slowing him down.

While most scooters fall to roll down the highway; they can roll to the bank, which is about as far as Romero needs to go with all the money he has saved since opting to straddle a punchy two-wheeler. Less than $2 in gas will last him almost an entire month, and the price he paid for his scooter, $1,600, makes even the sweetest deal on four-wheeled transportation look like the shady work of a crooked car salesman.

He bought the small engine scooter last, stalked and hurried for about as much as a down payment on a car would cost, but that pales in comparison to the pile of money he can save thanks to the scooter’s fuel efficiency.

While rising fuel prices put students in sport-utility drivers’ budgets, Romero’s barely gets scratched.

“I get about 50 to 70 miles to the gallon,” he said.

That’s almost 10 times the amount of an Excursion or Land Rover and more than double the status quo for fuel-efficient cars.

Hybrid cars, those that alternate between fossil fuels and electricity, are the only thing that come close to Romero’s Metropolitan’s gas mileage.

Except for, well, other scooters, of course.

To say people buy scooters because they are economical would be like saying people buy SUVs so they can drive off road. Sure, sportbikes like bypassing gas stations for weeks on end, but fuel efficiency seems to be a low priority in scooter ownership.

“People come in here because they’re cheap,” Adam Engels of Vespa of Orlando, said.

Engels sells the “Cadillac of scooters,” the Italian-made Vespa—a bike with a rich history worldwide and a growing range in recent popularity stateside.

“The majority of our customers use them on Sundays or once a month,” he said. “But we also have a lot of customers that use them everyday who don’t have a car.”

Sophomore Robert Hugel has not owned a car for years. He rides a Vespa to school, something that provokes the occasional taunt from people in traffic teasing him like a teenage boy caught riding a girl’s bike.

Actually, Hugel does ride a girl’s bike—it’s his girlfriend’s stylish Cadillac pearl-colored Vespa ET2.

“Guys hate them, they will yell at you about them,” he said. “They don’t think they are cool.”

Reactions and Vespas go

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All student leaders are invited to come by the Office of Student Activities, SU rm. 208 between 9 am - 7 pm to have your free photo taken and get your free student leader recognition gift. All of the "Faces of Leadership" will be put into a photo collage appearing at Leadership Week activities and in the Thursday edition of the Central Florida Future.

Leadership Week 2003
Visit www.lead.SDES.ucf.edu for a full schedule of activities

For more info on any of these events contact the Office of Student Activities, Rm. 208 in the SU, or call 407.823.6471

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Withdrawal can affect academic progress and financial-aid status

Cindy Herrod, assistant dean of students at UCF, said that if a student withdraws from a class, the student will receive a financial-aid award for the course. A student who withdraws from a class will receive a "W" on their transcript. If a student with a grade of "W" or "WF" will be recorded. A grade of "WF" will affect the student's GPA and financial aid, while a grade of "W" will not affect the student's financial aid.

"It is hard to say which one of the most popular since we carry so many," Lewis said. However, not everyone wants to revisit their past through cartoons. Senior Rodney DeVer, 21, has been collecting toys since he was 5 years old, yet he still prefers the new toys to the classic Power Ranger toys from the 1990s. "The Power Rangers were weak, the toys didn't last as long," DeVer said. "Toys in the 90s were better made." The UCF graduate Damien Davis, 28, believes the demand for updates on 90s franchise stems from having grown up watching the cartoons on television while playing with the toys at home.

"It is the people who are growing older and have the money to spend on things that made them happy when they were younger," Davis said. Lewis agreed.

"The main theory is that people's old age is what they liked when they were young," he said.

The toys are not simply a redistribution of the old products with new packaging and paint jobs; the action figures have been completely remade. The Hasbro toys no longer share the same body type for all the male characters and do not all have the same head sculpt seen on the classic figures. The new Megatron from the Transformers line now changes into a tank instead of a gorilla. These new and improved toys can come at a costly price. Toys like the Vertech figures from Robotech can sell for as much as $800 per toy because of their new renovations.

"A large majority of this is due to disposable income," Davis said. "You have to be able to afford this kind of hobby." The "Transformers" was one of the most popular cartoon and toy lines to come out during the 1980s and was one of three new books featuring the characters from the original series. The Transformers comic was released last year by Dreamwave Publishing. However, this comic has been "worse," Lewis said.

"The "Generation 1" series, as Lewis calls it, features the same characters and themes from the cartoon but is now directed for an older and more intelligent audience. "These comics are not written for kids," Lewis said. "The stories are aimed more at people in older age brackets. Artistically, it is an amazing book." In the 80s, characters in the old cartoons never died or got seriously injured and when a plane blew up on G.I. Joe, parachutes would be seen floating to the ground a second later. If an Autobot soldier was hit by a laser blast, he would only require repair work and some maintenance before jumping back into battle. But the story lines in the comics now are not the same adventures experienced by kids. Davis said. Yet, this new, growing trend can't last forever, Lewis said. Already sales on the Transformers comics have not been as high as they have been for the Transformers cartoon.

"There is only so much nostalgia that you can tap," Lewis said. "They do it every month." Despite Lewis's reasoning, Davis still has faith that this trend will last. "Look at Star Wars," That's been around since the 70s," he said.

DeVer agreed. "I think it will last," he said. "People into the toys back then will keep with it. It might die down, but it will stay a while."
Don't forget to watch the season premiere of "Sorority Life Two" and the series premiere of "Fraternity Life" only on MTV.

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J. Scott Campbell
Frank Cho
Scott Ciencin
Amanda Conner
Amanda Conner
Joe Quinones
Tony Isabella
Adam Hughes
Drew Johnson
Jeff Johnson
Dan Jolley
Barbara Kesel
Chris Cross
Chuck Dixon
Larry Elmore
Christian Gossett
Babs Tarr
Molly Reyes
Nathan Fox
Sarah Stone
More to be announced...

Tony Bedard
J. Scott Campbell
Frank Cho
Scott Ciencin
Amanda Conner
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Tony Isabella
Adam Hughes
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Jeff Johnson
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Larry Elmore
Christian Gossett
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GUEST ARTISTS

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Frank Cho
Scott Ciencin
Amanda Conner
Joe Quinones
Tony Isabella
Adam Hughes
Drew Johnson
Jeff Johnson
Dan Jolley
Barbara Kesel
Chris Cross
Chuck Dixon
Larry Elmore
Christian Gossett
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Room available for Male in Northridge Lakes across from UCF, 320 fully furnished. Reduced to 385/mth. Incl. all utilities including hot water, DSL, security. Cell 380-975-9872 or e-mail Eastroom@ucfacs.com.


Sublease in Northridge Lakes Apt. avail. (can split), all utilities incl. $650/mth, Call Roommates: 380-855-3502 or email Skiyol@comcast.net.

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**350 ROOMMATES**

Female, 27 yrs., Feb 24, 5’4”, 120 lbs., security.


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**530 HOMES**

Female, 27 yrs., Feb 24, 5’4”, 120 lbs., security.


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Female, 27 yrs., Feb 24, 5’4”, 120 lbs., security.


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**FOR RENT**

- 3 bedroom furnished BDM in new 3 brdm home on lake, gated comm., 8 mins from UCF. $435/mth. Incl. util., no pets, sec. pool & tennis. Cell 407-283-3276 or e-mail 2833276@msn.com.

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**FOR RENT**

- 1 bedroom avail. in Winterfield Lakes Home. Less than 10 min. from UCF. Fast access OSL. All utilities incl. Cell 407-581-2267 or e-mail roommates@fast.com.

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**ROOMMATES WANTED**

- Room for rent. 2 kids from UCF. $300/mth plus 1/2 util. MF. Double. We have a cat. Cell Chet at 407-716-8797.

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**ROOMMATES WANTED**

- Female roommates wanted. For 4/3 room available in UCF Non-smoker and no pets provided. $375/mth. + util. Cell Ang at 407-308-4235 or 954-444-4605.

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**ON CAMPUS RESERVATIONS**

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**100 GREEKS**

- Good luck Nicole Queen of Hearts. We support you and are proud of you, AOT, all kappa delta sisters.

- To the gentlemen of Lambda Chi Alpha, Thank you for a wonderful evening. The ladies of Kappa Delta.

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**SPRING BREAK**

- Bahamas Party Cruise

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**SPRING BREAK**

- Panama City Beach
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**DISCOUNTS**

- Contact Cindy at 407-273-5462.

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- Contact Tawny@ 407-423-7838.

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