UCF trustees approve $6.5 million for new Student Health Center

MARSHALL SPENCE
STAFF WRITER

UCF’s Board of Trustees voted unanimously Thursday to spend $6.5 million to renovate and expand the Student Health Center with a new, four-story facility.

Tom Huddleston, vice president of student development and enrollment services, said the new building, budgeted at $8.7 million, is needed for UCF to meet the demands of a student population that's projected to reach 45,000 by 2010.

Renovations to the existing center will be complete by next fall. Construction of the new buildings, which will be located next to the current facility, will start in November, with a scheduled completion date of September 2004.

The health center expects to see more than 50,000 students for medical appointments within the next year.

Please See New on 4

Web site asks students to pay for professor ratings

NICOL JENKINS
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With summer registration under way, students are something to pick classes with the right professors — presumably, ones who will help them on their path toward their major without damaging their GPAs.

UCF professors.com differs significantly from the many other free Web sites on which students post assessments of their instructors, and reflects a growing trend across campuses nationwide where private entrepreneurs are selling a similar service with the promise of something new.

While many students are eager to see the offering, UCF professors remain unconvinced of its value.

Senior Steven Mandell, 23, who visited the Web site and knew there had to be a better alternative to choosing professors than merely asking friends who replied with

Please See Not on 7

ATTACK ON IRAQ

Bush visit to Tampa rallies both sides

President George W. Bush, above, addresses troops at Central Command during a visit to MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa on Wednesday. UCF student Christine Godfried, 19, a member of Campus Peace Action, protests the war, below left, while others rally to support U.S. troops and the president.

UCF activists attend to convey their opposition to war

Eric Stevenson
STAFF WRITER

As President George W. Bush rallied troops at Tampa’s MacDill Air Force Base last Wednesday, protesters from UCF gathered outside the base to call for an end to war.

“I don’t think it’s justified and necessary,” said junior Christine Godfried, 19. “There’s a lot more things we should focus on domestically. We should fix that before we start killing people.”

But inside the base that serves as the home of the U.S. Central Command directing the war in Iraq, Bush remained firm, assuring soldiers and military families that the war would continue.

Please See President on 3

INSIDE THE NUMBERS

54:
UCF students on active military duty in Iraq

5:
UCF faculty members on active military duty in Iraq

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Inside: (Continued from page 2)

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Inside: (Continued from page 2)
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Drivers wanted.
Student activists wage war to win public opinion

ALEX BARCOW
STAFF WRITER

As будд в Irak and troops close in on Baghdad, the battle on campus is intensifying as well. These days, UCF resembles ground zero in an ideological explosion of pro- and anti-war demonstrations.

Campus groups long active in conserva­tive and liberal causes have taken sides in a war of opinions. Two flag­waving demonstrations on the Student Union mall. At a recent rally ver­bal sparring almost got violent — students grappling over microphones, and at one point, a war supporter unplugged a CampusPeace Action loudspeaker.

"It may have gotten a little out of hand," said freshman Matt De Vreger, 19, the public relations chairman for Campus Peace Action. He said many war supporters don't understand the anti-war message, perceiving it as anti-American or against oversees forces.

"We're trying to support the troops in the most fundamental way possible," Vlieger said. "We want them home safe with their families. We don't want to put them in harm's way unnecessarily and die.

On most days, CampusPeace Action members sit at a table in front of the Student Union, handing out flags promoting peace and other matches catching American flags. A few people stop to debate the war, or just hear what the group's heart, and the group's message is meant to be peaceful — to let the world know what the students think.

"Just want the president to know what the students think," she said.

"Tampa is joining 30 million people around the world who opposed the war," she said. "People are dying for the wrong reasons," she said.

"Instead of yelling, both sides should talk to each other," De Vreger said. "You should show people we support what we do.[

Judaism and the pro-war demonstrators. He told the activists they made him sick. He said he wished the anti-war demonstrators appreciated United States soldiers.

"We want them to support the war," he said. "I want to know what they're doing here. They should be in their place of faith, on their knees, praying for the kids and other people. Going against Bush doesn't help anything.

Inside the Air Force base, no one was going against the president, as his speech drew to a close.

"The path we are taking is not easy, and it may be long," Bush said. "Let us know our destination. We still stay on the path — mile by mile — all the way to Baghdad, and all the way to victory."
New building will employ more physicians, expand health services

From Page 1

grew, demands on the center grew as well. A university with a projected enrollment of 40,000 should have a health system that has one or two full-time psychiatrists, a sports medicine doctor, a dentist and some part-time specialists such as endocrinists or dermatologists, he said.

The new building would create room for UCF to hire those specialized health-care providers. Once the new facility is complete, the center plans to hire seven additional providers. Increasing the staff to 21.

The new facility also will offer larger exam rooms, create offices for doctors who don’t have any offices now and make space for a more comprehensive pharmacy that will offer students a larger scale of over-the-counter medicine and prescription drugs.

In addition, it will have space to centralize other campus health services near the Student Health Center, such as Victim Advocacy, Student Health Services, Deitchen said.

"This expansion will make our health center exemplary," said Michael Brechen, head of the Health Services.

"It’s clear that we need a much, much larger facility... It’s a big win," — Tom Yochum, 117 Newspaper.

\[Image of the new building and text about the expansion.\]

\[Image of the old building and text about the current state.\]

\[Image of the current health center and text about the need for expansion.\]

\[Image of the proposed building and text about the future.\]

\[Image of the current population and text about the projected enrollment.\]

\[Image of the current facilities and text about the need for more space.\]
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EOE/DFWP
Regional planners come together on conservation

Convened by UCF, mayors and others assess challenges that include 'runaway growth'

Jason Isray  Staff Writer

Bringing together the mayors of two of Florida's biggest cities along with other experts, UCF hosted a regional forum Thursday on the need for consistent conservation and urban growth.

Titled 'A Regional Perspective on Central Florida's Natural Lands,' the discussion was sponsored by UCF's Metropolitan Center for Regional Studies.

Recently elected Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer talked about the similarities between Jacksonville and Orlando, saying "What if we don't want that development there, and if the land-use tools that we have are going to allow at least some development, as much as we'd like to restrict it, what if we set about a plan to buy that land and take it out of development?"

Jacksonville did just that, with financial help from various federal and state agencies. 'We have now the only national park in the country that is actually expanding,' Delaney said. In addition, the city has preserved 100 square miles of land.

But the remaining challenges of urban growth are still the same there as elsewhere: The infrastructure falls behind, the environment suffers and old neighborhoods get neglected.

"The whole emphasis is to push that growth," he said.

Following Delaney's speech, UCF biology professor Reed Noss spoke about the virtues of regional planning, and the consequenses of failing to plan for growth.

Noss, a leading expert in the field of conservation biology who has worked around the country, compared growth for the sake of growth to cancer.

"It's over the years, several very interesting articles that make a chillingly pernicious case of the similarity between urban sprawl and the growth and metastasis of cancer in the human body," Noss said.

He argued that regional planning could help to preserve indigenous species of plants and animals that are damaged when development is allowed to proceed on a project-by-project basis.

"I think regional planning does offer a way to get around this crisis, if done intelligently," he said.

"Unfortunately, for most of the recent past, we have done our regional planning, our urban planning, our transportation planning in one sphere, whereas people working on conservation planning have been working in a completely different world."

While Delaney praised regional leaders and expressed optimism about the future of Central Florida's environment, Noss painted a much darker picture of Central Florida's growth.

"There's very little evidence that elected officials have taken growth management seriously," he said in an interview. "There's very little planning. Central Florida is one of the worst examples of runaway growth."

However, he expressed hope that the situation could improve. "It's a start to bring together counties," he said. "I think it was very beneficial to have a forum like this. It's very inefficient for each county to develop its own conservation policy without considering others' efforts," Noss said.

He added, "Whenever you look at a larger area you have economy of scale where you can achieve environmental goals more efficiently than if pursued on a county-by-county basis."

Lisa Chaplin, the director of the Metropolitan Center and former Orange County chairman, called the forum "a beginning," and pledged to continue pursuing responsible growth in Central Florida.

"We agreed that the Metropolitan Center will convene the same working group in 90 days," Chaplin said. "We will do some goal setting. We will look at data sources. We'll make certain that we are all on the same page."

As for UCF's growth, some said the university has taken a positive approach. It seems to me that we are doing quite well," Helen Donegan, the center's vice president for community relations, said. "We're pleased with the direction we're heading."

Noss neither praised nor condemned UCF's growth, saying, "I don't think UCF has really taken a particular policy on conservation," he said. "UCF has contributed to growth in east Orange County." He did, however, praise UCF's efforts in hosting a forum to address the topic.

UCF's Master Plan, which attempts to strike a balance between campus needs and the surrounding environment, will be the topic when Peter Newman, director of facilities planning, gives a presentation at 2 p.m. today in Room 202 of the Engineering II Building.

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You are so important to us that all of our services are FREE and totally confidential.
Not all professors agree with Web site's academic effectiveness

FROM PAGE 1

Inconsistent answers: "Professors are the most important part of the university," said Manosé, who hopes to create a greater unity among students and faculty with his Web site. He said his site is not meant to identify those professors who give all A's, but rather to help students pick the instructor who is the best for them.

Manosé said students will benefit from this Web site through open forums where they can communicate with one another. The site provides current information about each of UCF's professors and also offers anonymous student evaluations and comments.

But the most controversial and significant feature of the site is the grading histories of each professor. Never before have students had access to their grade averages for each professor's course. Also included will be the number of students who have dropped a course under each professor.

The Web site carries a minimum registration fee of $27, which allows access for someone to view the records for four professors; each additional professor viewed will cost another $22, though Manosé expects that his new site will offer discounted fees in its first few weeks to new users.

Junior Katie Lawrence, 20, said the fee is a small price to pay compared to withdrawing or retaking a class. "I wish this Web site was in service when I needed to choose from a list of random names for my statistics class," she said.

Senior Michael McLaughlin, 22, agrees that the site will be beneficial. "I am for anything that gets more people at UCF communicating," he said.

McLaughlin said that UCFprofessors.com would help students narrow their class choices, as well as provide them with a better understanding of what to expect from each professor. Yet sophomores Fred Wallace, 19, said it hard to believe that opinions on the site will be helpful.

"Although the Web site is a good idea, I think it is a little too biased to work effectively," he said. "You cannot always trust a student's comments to give you a fair outlook."

Professors also have conflicting views about the site, and whether their evaluations and comments should be kept private or made available to students.

Key Holsinger, a professor in the Department of Psychology who teaches research methods and developmental learning, said the Web site will affect students' learning and professors' performances.

"Most students will choose the professors with the higher grades, which may or may not indicate how much students will learn from a course," she said. "And this Web site will place more pressure on the professors to raise the grades in their classes."

Flair Taylor and Ali Kerrey both are professors in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. They worry the site could become a problem by grading course inflation.

"Taylor said students who use the Web site will choose a professor based on popularity, rather than for the right reasons."

Added Kerrey: "Students will go on this Web site looking for an easy A, and then find out when failing the course that they have to work hard to learn the material."

Holsinger, a professor of interpersonal communication, said the Web site should be allowed to find its audience.

"Students should be able to voice their opinions, as long as they are not slanderous, under the First Amendment rights," he said.

While Manosé has not contacted the Student Government Association about his Web site, he plans to do so. At other campuses, student access to such paid Web sites is subsidized by the student government.

SAIA's Chief Student Advocate, junior Wesley Hendricks, said SAIA has reviewed the Web site to ensure that its contents are not slanderous or libelous. Hendricks would want to look again at the UCF-approved site as well as similar sites elsewhere before becoming involved in an official capacity.
Ex-Israeli soldiers discuss life on the front line

SHELYA NIEVES
STAFF WRITER

Until now, most American teenagers have viewed the Israeli military as a means to an end: rising in the ranks of the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) to become a successful business leader. However, after meeting and speaking with four former soldiers and taking their experiences into account, this is a misconception that must be addressed.

Unlike most American teenagers, the majority of Israeli youths face a much different responsibility: responsibility upon graduation from high school. Rather than relishing in newfound independence, Israeli teenagers must put themselves upon the front line as members of the Israeli Defense Force.

Unlike the voluntary American armed forces, IDF service is mandatory for all 18-year-old Israeli citizens and permanent residents to join. Men serve for three years and women for five years. They remain reservists until the age of 51 and 25, respectively.

Four of these former soldiers discussed their experiences in the IDF for a forum Thursday organized by Central Florida Hillel at the Wired Café.

IDF enrollment differs from that of American universities. Most students enroll in order to get a rare look inside the corporate world, but this is not the case for Israeli youth. In the IDF, the young adults learn to interact with other people and take on new responsibilities. Also, Dorm-Avni is a former IDF soldier and adjunct lecturer for UCF's Judaic studies program.

"There's no mommy and daddy to rely on their shoulders," Avni said. "You have to learn to get along by yourself." He went on to say that he came out a different person, but this was not the message that Avni hoped for. His message "applies to all majors." The four former soldiers discussed their experiences in the IDF, serving with the majority of Israeli youths, to give a rare look inside the corporate world.

"You look across the border and feel like you have to protect her," Miller said. "You look across the border and see Israel and feel like you have to protect her.

Miller traveled to Israel during Operation Peace for Galilee as an infantryman for 10 months, but was transferred after he fell off a truck and suffered a back injury.

Miller became a naturalized citizen after living in Israel for a year and served from 1991 to 1995. He explained that IDF connected him with an adoptive family and does. wereld van een succesvolle bedrijfsleider."}

"Become a Successful Business Leader" in which he speaks at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Key West Room of the Student Union.

Walsh, a UCF alumni and the senior vice president for corporate relations for Darden, will be a guest of UCF's business community. Alphu Kappa Psi, of which he is an honorary member, Darden operates several restaurant chains, including Red Lobster and Olive Garden.

Junior Mark Onosoko, 21, the public relations chairman for Alpha Kappa Psi, said students who attend the speech will get a rare look inside the corporate mindset. "We've had Mr. Walsh come and speak to our brotherhood, but this event is open to everyone," Onosoko said. "It's a good chance for the student body to get some insight into the corporate world from a business leader."

Senior Meghan Gocklin, 21, who handles public relations for the Business Administration College Council, of which Alpha Kappa Psi is a member, said that Walsh will speak as part of the council's leadership week.

"Alpha Kappa Psi is hosting the event to show business majors what the business world is like," Gocklin said. Walsh's message "applies to anyone who wants to run their own business or someone who wants to be a business leader in general. This is information for any major," she said.

Members of AIP hope for a large turnout. "To learn from someone like Rick Walsh is a great opportunity to see what's possible out there in the corporate world," Onosoko said.

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Soldiers ‘always know someone that dies’

FROM PAGE 8

this with other immigrants to ease their loneliness. Israeli immi-
grants make up a special unit in the IDF.

Shabat served in IDF from 1997 to 2000. Although he wanted to be a pilot, IDF placed him in the infantry and served in the Gaza Strip, the West Bank and Lebanon.

"The sad side to the story is that you always know someone that dies," Shabat said.

He told the audience five sol-
diers with whom he went to high school died while serving their country.

The panelists talked about life in Israel, where soldiers carry their weapons at all times.

"It's so natural to see sol-
diers," Avr said.

Avni said Shabat also dis-
pelled the belief that Israelis live in constant fear of a terrorist attack.

"What you would usually call anxiousness," Avni said. "We're around with our eyes and ears open.

The audience of about 40 peo-
ples included other former IDF sol-
diers who briefly introduced them-

selves. One of those audience mem-
bers, Moshe Shabat of Longwood, recalled his experience in the IDF.

"I didn't have the experience you had," Shabat said to the panel.

"I was a bit Noobie!"

Shabat stationed on the Suez Canal and served in the IDF from 1972 to 1975 as a tank com-
mander. At a later time, he said violence and the death of about 50 percent of the soldiers in his unit charactetized his IDF time.

Shabat brought his 14-year-
old son, Jonathan, to the event. Jonathan wants to join the IDF in the future but his father opposes the idea. Shabat said he had hoped that Thursday's event would show a sobering wend of serving in the IDF to Jonathan.

"That may have been their
case," Shabat said. "I wish I had fun.

Other audience members found the event to be educational and differed with Shabat's opinion. Freshman Amy Schwartz, 18, said the panel changed her opinion about those who serve in the IDF.

"I was surprised that they were describing it as an enjoyable experience," Schwartz said. "I didn't
realize it (was) such a positive experience for everyone."

Because IDF service is mandatory, Schwartz said she thought the service would not be something that Israelis looked for-

ward to.

Senior Jay Feldman, 21, who minor in Middle studies, organi-
ized the event for the Central Florida Hillel. He said he did so because "there is no Israel-related programming" on campus and felt the panel would provide an edu-
cational opportunity.

Miss UCF steps down

DANIELLE DEPART
STAFF WRITER

Last month's newly crowned Miss UCF Kate Noland has resigned, passing the crown to first runner-up Kristy Burgess.

Emily Noland, assistant director of Student Activities, said Noland resigned for personal rea-
sons.

Noland, 21, a senior who is majoring in management informa-
tion systems, said that her reasons for resigning were health-related and related to her pageant platform, which is epilepsy education.

Noland also has qualified for an international baton-twirling competition in France that will take place during the time she would other-

wise be preparing to compete in the Miss Florida pageant.

"I don't represent UCF in the pageant and represent them in France at the same time," she said. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime oppor-
tunity for me," said Noland, who was one of three qualifiers for the baton competition from the United States.

Burgess, 21, a senior nursing major, now will represent the uni-

versity in the Miss Florida pageant June 20.

"As first runner-up, it's my duty to take on the title of Miss UCF if it becomes available throughout the year," she said.

"I'm fulfilling my job and it's nothing to do with Noa. I fully support Noa. We are working as a team to prepare for the pageant and taking this in stride."

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Salaries paid.
War debates grow intense on campus

FROM PAGE 3

the peace protesters these days have nothing to do with the war and everything to do with who’s in the White House,” he said.

Considered said liberal protesters oppose Bush, rather than the war, and use the conflict as an opportunity to condemn the Iraq war, while lowering troop morale.

To improve world opinion about the war, the American strategy is focused on using precision-guided bombs and missiles, to avoid unintended deaths and destruction.

Yet a number of technolo-

gy can completely eliminate

Iraqi suffering, Leto said.

American security concerns.

Proceeds to replacing Hussein’s regime will be so much more pressing, imminent than anyone in the country; they say. Halliburton is already there

We’re not even talking to

Iraqis who were injured or had lost money in the fighting.

“We want to help the humanitarian cause,” he said.

Senior Nolo Garey, 21, knows what wars can do to a country from her research into Central African. As the former president of the United Nations Association of UCF, she saw what oppressive military regimes can do to a country, and she says the Bush administration believes it can help the Iraqis escape their current regime.

Though she sees a benefit to replacing Hussein’s regime with a democracy, she sees little connection between Iraq and American security concerns.

“I don’t think [Hussein] poses a threat to the United States,” she said. “Even the CIA has said the threat he poses to the U.S. is if we attack him.”

Garey says the real threats to America lie with countries closer to building nuclear weapons, like North Korea.

“We’re not dealing with the more pressing, imminent threat,” she said. “North Korea’s troops are fed better than anyone in the country, they have weapons that can reach the west coast of the U.S., and we’re not even talking to them.”

North Korea admitted in October 2002 that it re-activated its nuclear program, to the dismay of the United States and the United Nations. The Bush administration has pursued a diplomatic solution to ending the program.

If Iraq was allowed more time, Considered said, it would have produced nuclear weapons too, and would have been much harder to defeat.

The message America sends by ignoring North Korea, Garey says, is far more dangerous than the Iraq threat.

She says American policy demonstrates a double standard. “If you’re weak, and if you don’t have nuclear weapons, then we’re going to attack you,” she said. “I don’t think we should do with who’s-con-bomb-ya” mentality.” She says other nations could follow America’s lead and start bombing their own enemies.

The diplomatic route was tried, and it failed, Considered, though he agreed that diplomacy should always be the first course. The war to liberate Iraq, he said, was the only option left.

America’s motivation to change the Iraqi regime has nothing to do with disarming Hussein or liberating Iraq, Leto said. It’s about oil.

Leto said all interests have driven the conflict, and that Vice President Dick Cheney’s former employer, Haliburton Corp., will benefit from the war. “Dick Cheney’s ex-company Haliburton is already there with an open-ended contract,” Leto said. Haliburton’s main business, oil-field service, could profit from the most from the war, with some estimates that rebuilding Iraq’s oil infrastructure could cost $40 billion.

Senior Jared Pearman, 23, is a vocal opponent to war, and as a member of UCF’s Pahn Gong Cultivation Society, a group that promotes spiritual health and well-being. He agrees with helping the Iraqis, though, and hopes America can peacefully help other societies, like China.

The United States has worked hard to forge diplomatic ties with China, but now allowing it to escape criticism for its own human rights abuses, while a distracted America fights Iraq, Pearman said.

Junior Heather Smith, 21, has a similar stance. “Support the troops,” she said. “I love America”

And this is a good year for America’s enemies.

Smith and other ROCK members both have attended and started pro-America and pro-war rallies, including a sign-waving event at the corner of University Boulevard and Alahaya Trail last Wednesday. Hand-made signs with slogans such as “Support our troops” and “I love America.”

Drivers responded with appeasing beeps and waves.

American values, like freedom of speech, will benefit Iraq, Smith says. “People will have a chance to think on their own, to express their opinions, and live their lives the way they want to live,” she said. “Maybe they’ll have the same opportunities we have in America.”

That hope resonates with members of ROCK, who see Americans not as invaders, as the Iraqi regime has described us, but as liberators and peace-makers, said Menas. “It will never be a totally safe world, but we can make it a safer place.”

I spent years growing up in church, but that was less of what I wanted and more of a glorified production event.

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OUR STANCE:

Research professors in person, not online

With the launch of UCFprofessors.com, students who are willing to pay will have the opportunity to learn more about the many professors, associate professors, assistant professors and instructors UCF employs before they actually enroll in their courses.

The Web site follows a trend of Web sites which evaluate professors based on a wide range of criteria. The idea of Web sites evaluating professors has merit. It is based on the idea of informing consumers, and presumably consumers are people. They pay a significant amount of money to get an education. If they want to learn more about the product they are purchasing, more power to them.

However, these Web sites contain many flaws, not only for those students, but also for professors who take part in the evaluation process, but also for those who pay to obtain the information.

The accuracy of such evaluations comes into question, as only the most passionate students — the ones who really loved or really hated a professor — are likely to participate in the forums offered on such Web sites.

Students who rely on anonymous evaluations for whom the professor to take may get an accurate perception of the course and the professor, but they may also get the opinions of students who attended only a handful of classes. Students can get a much more accurate idea of how a professor grades or teaches by talking to students in the professor’s class or even attending such a class before enrolling.

These evaluations can irreparably damage a professor’s reputation. If students trash a professor who grades harshly, and prospective students decide not to take the professor’s course based on such evaluations, the professor will invariably suffer. Without a balanced view, the evaluations can destroy the professor’s career.

While scores of different evaluations can potentially serve as valuable sources of information for students — and only if they are done right — these Web sites should not be relied

In addition, students are more likely to get accurate information about professors by doing some research and actually talking to students in the professors’ classes or talking to the professors themselves.

Our stance:

Embrace diversity to end cultural fears

Hate crimes directed against Arabs, Muslims and Sikhs across the United States have increased since the beginning of the war with Iraq. About a dozen such crimes have been reported since the war began, with most of the incidents involving verbal harassment or property damage. These incidents have occurred from Arizona to Wisconsin, and on both coasts.

Like the rise in hate crimes that followed the terrorist attack of Sept. 11, 2001, these hate crimes have no justification. The American people should never tolerate racism or stereotyping of anyone. However, those crimes may continue to increase unless society takes a clear stand against such behavior.

The American people need to demonstrate that racism has no place in our culture. People need to condemn this behavior as unacceptable and reprehensible. Arguments are not a cause to protect all citizens, including those who share a religious or heritage with the country we are fighting. Americans society would betray the core values it says it fights for.

Now is the time to reach out to the Arab and Muslim communities. It is a justifiable fear that the United States’ actions egos stand against against such behavior.

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Free speech reduced to petty name-calling

MENTAL DOODLES

Christopher Arnold

Now that the United States and its allies have committed themselves to fighting in Iraq, I, like many people out there, have been glued to the news channels watching history unfold. And though there has been quite a bit written thus far, I feel now is as good a time as any to offer my two cents.

First of all, I am an absolute proponent of freedom of speech. It is, after all, what makes our country great, and it is a freedom we should always exercise and never take for granted.

That being said, there are reasons "free" cannot be shouted in a crowded movie theater and why—believe it or not—some things truly are better left unsaid. This is by no means to discourage opposing viewpoints or disrespectful discourse, but lately, it has begun to seem that the "freedom" is latched onto more often than the speech.

Speech implies communication, which, as I understand it, requires intelligible discourse to be of any real merit. Maybe it is a problem of communication, but if your only argument for your position is "just because," then maybe you need to go back and realize that freedom of speech is not being fully appreciated or understood.

Also, if the strategy of your personal demonstration is to decide the opposition with nothing more than aCatchphrase or disrespectful name-calling, there is really no point in opposing you at all. People need not be removed to offer their views.

In short, I am surprised at how much we fight over whether our country is "in" or "out." We have yet to see how this war will turn out, without any of it being of any benefit to the cause you support. If you do believe a certain way, why don’t you go about doing research and do some science—free speech should be about discussion and communication, never inciting or combative name-calling and shouting matches.

In addition, I applaud the current wave of support people are showing toward our troops. They are real-life heroes who deserve every bit of our respect and admiration. They certainly have mine.

For as much as we may profess love for our country, and as passionately as we feel about our great nation, those brave men and women actively demonstrate our national pride. This is not to knock a person who says they love their country, but why not our soldiers’ unflinching desire to put their lives on the line for their nation when summoned against those who love more than words ever be able to offer?

However, support of our soldiers does not necessarily mean support for the mission they are on, I tend to put fall into that category as I find it difficult to separate the troops from the overall duty. Unlike a number of my peers, I support the war effort. Obviously, peace would have been preferable to war that should be obvious. But there comes a time, upon exhausting other options, when it becomes necessary. The popular alternative, it seems, would have been to adopt a policy of ignoring the problem and hoping it goes away—arguably an option much more comfortable to us now, but possibly exposing us to equal or greater danger further down the road.

Granted, I have never been one of our president’s staunchest supporters, having often disagreed with his administration’s stance on particular issues. However, I do not consider my status as an independent voter to be synonymous with an anti-republican mentality, and as such, do not automatically denounce whatever President Bush offers to the nation. This is a war, unlike any our great nation has ever known. We have stricken fear. We have gone into battle without traditional allies and sans United Nations approval. We are launching 24 hours a day, facilitating by media embedded within different military units.

In a perfect world, none of this would have happened, nor would it be needed. In a perfect world, we could continue to go about our days, waking up and working, visiting home to family and friends. We could remain relatively isolated from the goings-on in other parts of the world. Unfortunately, we live in a world far from perfect.

Cold War conflicts between global superpowers have been replaced by the growing threat posed by international terrorism. While it may never be possible to completely eradicate terrorism, we find ourselves living at a point in time when action could arguably be of equal or greater detriment than action.

Terrorists’ hatred of the United States is deep and longstanding, and would not have waned if we had abstained from war. Could our actions overseas inspire future terrorists? Sure. Could terrorists and rogue states left unchecked just as equally promote and inspire future terrorists? Absolutely.

In his response to the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and Washington, D.C., the president made it clear that in the war on terrorism, we would make no distinction between terrorists and the nations that either harbor or sponsor them.

In this regard, it seems Bush has remained true to form, further displaying his conviction and his belief that this is a just course of action to ensure both American and global security.

The legal recourse for this military action lay within the United Nations resolutions established after the Persian Gulf War. They dictated the terms by which Iraq must restrict its weapons and military programs. The specifics thereof were outlined in resolution 1441, drafted in 2002. Given ample opportunity to abide by those resolutions, Iraq did so in appearance only, thereby under­mining United Nations authority.

Regardless of how sketchy certain details may have been prior to the start of the war, Saddam Hussein’s conduct since has only emphasized the need for his removal from power.

And should chemical/biological agents remain elusive, he has used several missiles that violate the terms of the United Nations resolutions. His use of civilians as shields further undermines the oppression he has subjected his people to and serves as a stark contrast to the policy of trying to protect non-military Iraqis.

Furthermore, the failed acts of alchemy on his own people, including the use of chemical/biological agents. He and his family live in opulence while impoverished Iraqi citizens struggle to survive. He represses the Shiites and the Kurds, and uses members of his armed forces to instill fear and suppress dissent in his people. His sponsorship of terrorists—he has frequently paid the families of Palestinian suicide bombers $25,000—revels the part he plays in Middle Eastern instability.

It is unfortunate that he and his regime were not removed from power following the first Gulf War. Hopefully, and thankfully, that oversight will soon be corrected.

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Men’s streak extends to 16

Tennis team improves to 16-2 on year

Sadie Sham

The No. 82 UCF men’s tennis team is on a roll. The Knights won their 10th and 11th matches in a row last week. They defeated Division II powerhouse Barry, 4-3, Friday and The Citadel, 4-3, Tuesday. The Knights improved to 16-2 on the season.

Friday’s match was delayed for over three hours due to rain. Once resumed, the singles portion was played first. The Bucs, ranked No. 5 in Division II, won three of six matches. Thomas Hipp defeated Gabriel Strangberg, 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 at the No. 2, while Gerald Würing brought down Augusto Sanabria, 6-2, 6-4 at the No. 3. Sebastian Losavio also picked up a win for the Bucs at the No. 4, beating Antonio Sierra, 7-5, 6-2.

UCF saw outstanding power at the top spot from Catalin Brada. Brada held off Shamin MTBokan, 7-6, 6-2. Eben Gursoy got past Filip Norman, 6-3, 6-2 at No. 5. The other UCF victor was Simon Jaeger at No. 6. Jaeger defeated Dirk Berlinhaus, 6-4, 6-2.

Tied at three points each, the match came down to the doubles play. Sanabria and Jaeger beat past Berlinhaus and Alex Frorder, 8-4 at No. 2. The Bucs got a win at No. 3, where Würing and Losavio beat Gabriel Strangberg and Rhett Bass, 9-7. No. 1 doubles, where Brada and Simon Chang beat Alexander M'Bioka 7-6, 6-1.

Softball team sweeps Georgia State University

Matt Bethon

The UCF softball team swept Atlantic Sun Conference foe Georgia State on Saturday, winning both games of a doubleheader. The Golden Knights improved to 25-20 on the season and 5-5 in A-Sun play.

In the first game both teams were scoreless until the sixth inning when Jan Whitley connected on her first home run as a Knight, giving UCF a 2-0 lead. UCF added another run in the seventh inning when Stephanie Best drove in Nikki Green with an infield single to cap the scoring at 3-0. Outside Cupp picked up her 11th win of the season for the Knights, pitching the complete game while allowing only one hit. Whitley finished the game 3-for-3 with two RBIs and Best was 2-for-4.

In the rubber match, UCF scored two runs in the first inning. Georgia State pitcher Lindsey French walked the first four batters to give UCF its first run. The Knights scored the second on when LSU’s Emily Pritchett booted Kayece Clark’s hit, allowing Best to score and giving the Knights a 4-0 lead.

Georgia State scored a run in the third inning, but UCF responded with two runs in the fourth inning. The Knights torched Georgia State’s pitching staff for five more in the fifth, capped by Best’s two-run home run, her 11th of the year.

The Knights held the Panthers scoreless in the bottom of the fifth and the game ended due to the eight-run mercy rule, giving UCF a 9-1 victory. Taylor Gevera pitched the complete game and improved to 12-9 on the year. The Junior gave up only two hits and no earned runs.

Before Saturday’s sweep of Georgia State the Knights had a rough week, losing three of six. It was another week of ups and downs for the Knights. UCF wrapped up the regular season third place in the conference and will face Coastal Carolina next weekend in the conference tournament.

Please see Men’s on 15

Claessens takes athletics & academics seriously

Jon Scroggins

“Men’s streak has been easy to be an athlete without being a student,” said Peyton Manning, former standout quarterback at the University of Tennessee. “Similarily, it would have been much easier to just be a student and leave athletics for another day, but it wouldn’t have been as joyous.”

Freshman runner Astrid Claessens knows well the many difficulties facing a student athlete. It wasn’t long ago that she spoke only Dutch and no English, and she tested competition.

But she also knows the joy as she has excelled in both arenas, scholastic and athletic:

Claessens, the eldest of four children, grew up in Belgium, where her physical therapist father had his own practice. Poor were surprised when, in sixth grade, she followed in her father’s athletic footsteps and began running track.

A naturally gifted runner, she had no problems with the physical aspect of the sport. The mental part, however, did not come so naturally. The anticipation of competition would make her physically ill.

Running was the thing that made my transition easier. Running became a way of expressing myself.”

Freshman

PERSONAL BESTS:

800 meters: 2:14
1,600 meters: 5:12
3-Mile: 19:07

Personal bests: 2:14

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Men's tennis takes on FAU today

FROM PAGE 14

Antonio Sierra squared off against Miami's and Hipp, would decide the match. Brooks and Sierra, with 7-3 in the three sets to come away with a 6-3 win over the Hurricanes' top team. The match was Barry's first loss of the year. UCF has not dropped a match since Jan. 25.

On Tuesday afternoon, the Knights defeated The Citadel, 6-3 at the UCF Tennis Complex. UCF won all three doubles matches to clinch the first point of the day against The Citadel. Sierra and Brooks continued their steady play, besting Matt Stabbe and John Williams at No. 1, 8-4. Also winning at No. 3, was Jaeger and Santana. The duo paired to breeze past David and Warren Woolfolk, 8-2. At No. 3, Strangberg and Rosen held off Nicholas Medicis and Lawrence Tere, 6-4.

On the singles side, the Golden Knights won three out of six matches, despite losing the services of their top singles performers. Brooks and Strangberg. At No. 1, Sierra got past Stabbe, 6-2, 6-3. Ener Gunsoy was a 6-1, 6-4 winner over Medina at No. 3 and Jaeger took down Tere, 7-6, 6-2 at No. 4.

Lara, Woolfolk, and Williams all picked up wins for the Bulldogs.

The Knights will continue their two-match southern road swing today at Florida Atlantic. Atlantic First serve in the Atlantic Sun match is scheduled for 11 a.m.

Ener Gunsoy was one of three UCF players to earn a singles victory against Division I powerhouse Barry.
UCF blows 7-4 lead
Baseball team loses series to JSU

Chris Bernhardt, Staff Writer

To evaluate the performance of the UCF baseball team (29-19-3) in the decisive third game of their home series with Jacksonville State (17-13-6), look no further than Dee Brown. The sophomore right fielder served as a microcosm of how the Golden Knights played in that game and thus far in a season where they’ve struggled to find consistency.

With the game tied in the top of the sixth of seven innings, Brown doubled to left field, setting off a four-run rally. Unfortunately for him, he was thrown out trying to stretch the hit to a double. But Lehmann got thrown out by going to third on his hit. Kyle Bono followed with a three-run hit. But Brown’s two-out hit was the key.

The decisive blow came in the bottom of the fifth with a two-run double by Corey Stertzbach, who had come on to relieve starter Lincoln Mincks and was unable to get out of the inning. The game ended early because of darkness.

The loss erased any positive vibe felt after the Knights won the first game of the doubleheader 5-1. UCF got on top quickly, with Clay Timpner knocking in David Mann with a sacrifice fly after Mann and Kragt led off the bottom of the first with singles. Timpner also knocked in the Knights’ other two runs in the bottom of the fifth with a two-run double.

Despite the runs were plenty for Knights’ starter Mark Michael, who recorded his second straight complete game, though both came in seven-inning contests. In going to 5-1, Michael went seven innings, scattered seven hits, walked one and struck out two, giving up just one run to end the series to JSU.

The loss cut the Knights’ lead in the A-Sun standings to 1-0 and won the series to JSU.

Please see Jacksonville on 17.

UCF travels to Tennessee

From Page 14

four games. On Tuesday at the Rebel Games in Kansas the Knights defeated Wright State, 1-0, and lost to Towson, 5-1. The following day the Knights dropped two important conference games at home to Stetson.

UCF led 1-0 going into the seventh inning of the first game, but couldn’t hold on and eventually lost 5-2 in 10 innings. Best hit her 100th homer of the season to give the Knights an early 1-0 lead in the second game, but the Bulldogs scored four runs in the fifth inning and won 5-1 in six innings. The game ended early because of darkness.

The Golden Knights take the field again Friday when they travel to Nashville to take on Lipscomb in a double-header. They return to American Athletic Conference Saturday with a double-header against Belmont.

Women’s tennis team upsets No. 35 Ohio State

Sadie Shaim, Staff Writer

The UCF women’s tennis team recorded its biggest win of the season Wednesday evening in the first point. Ohio State’s converse while Ohio State (8-4) lost for the second time in as many matches.

The battle came down to the No. 3 singles spot, where UCF’s Kristin Lohmos defeated her opponent for the second straight time in as many matches. Lohmos dropped the first set, but fought back to win 6-7, 6-4, 6-4, which gave the match to the Knights.

In addition to Lohmos, three other Knights won their solo matches. Julie Leskovar defeated Cincinnati, 5-2, at the No. 1 spot and 5-2 over Fernandez and Penaestean. Marinka Gumwana and Lohmos picked up the only UCF win at No. 3, 8-4.

Ohio State is the second nationally ranked team that UCF has beaten this season. The Buckeyes are also the highest ranked team the Knights have defeated since they upset No. 4 Florida on April 18.
Jacksonville State’s Corn shuts out Knights

that had switched positions with Brown for the game. Bear, an experienced and normally reliable outfielder, dropped the ball.

Florida followed with a ground ball to Cooper at shortstop, who stepped it but slipped trying to make what would have been a difficult throw. The next batter, Hicks, hit a ball just over Brown’s glove to load the bases with no outs for clean-up hitter Brian Flaherty.

Hawks hit a ball to center field that Timmer dove for but couldn’t come up with. The ball rolled past him and two runs came around to score. Hicks scored on an error by Knott, who was playing second base, to complete the scoring in the inning.

Jacksonville State chased Cobb with a pair of runs in the top of the seventh, which the usually solid fielding Cooper contributed to with an error on a ball that went right under his glove. In all, Cobb went 4 2/3 innings, striking out five while giving up four hits, three walks and two runs, though only one was earned. Still, he got the loss, dropping to 3-2.

The Knights tacked on a fifth run in the eighth, giving plenty of support to Corn. He allowed just four hits and one walk, striking out six.

Sophomore Clay Timpner was responsible for all three of UCF’s runs in the Knights’ 3-1 win over JSU. The center fielder finished with a sacrifice fly and a two-run double.

Bergman said, “He’s in control of the ball game, throws his curveball for a strike and when we get a couple runners in scoring position, he really went out and pitched well.” Having already lost two out of three to Georgia State two weeks earlier, UCF has now dropped its first two home conference series. They’ll travel to Tampa this Tuesday to face South Florida before returning home for a weekend set against yet another conference weakling in Campbell, which is fresh off a sweep of A-Sun power Stetson.
Memphis is today's target

FROM PAGE 16

es. At No. 2, Fernandez and Pecastaing held off Jen Capuzzi and Cristina Reyes, 6-4, 6-0 in singles play. Pecastaing blanked Capuzzi, 6-0, 6-0 at No. 2. Lohmos was also a sophomore winner at No. 3 against Reyes. The sophomore snatched a 6-2, 6-1 victory Fernandez fought off a late comeback attempt from Italia No. 4, prevailing 6-4, 6-2.

UCF's Luckie rallied for a 4-6, 7-6 (10-1) win over Jill Klineck at No. 5, Lyndsay Molony (No. 1) and Julie Klauck (No. 0) were victorious for Cincinnati.

Since losing at UC-Irvine on March 13, the Knights have not dropped a match. UCF will be in action again at home today against Memphis at 1 p.m.

Sante, Dell leave volleyball team

KRISTY SHONKA
SPORTS WRITER

UCF volleyball coach Meg Colado announced Wednesday that Leyre Santealla-Sante and Kristen Dell left the team and will not return in the fall. Both would have been senior outside hitters for the Knights this fall.

Sante was the Atlantic Sun Conference Player of the Year and A-Sun Tournament MVP. She led the team with 4.69 kills a game, while Dell averaged 2.88 kills in a game in limited action.

Without Sante and Dell, the Knights still return five of six starters from last year's A-Sun Championship team and Colado said she's happy with what she's seen so far in her team's spring season.

"It's been so positive and so productive," she said.

She said the Knights have been able to play a lot of six-on-six in practice and the team time has been good.

"This is by far the best spring since I've been here, hands down," Colado said. "The chemistry is amazing."

Emily Watts, one of the most versatile athletes on the team, has moved to starting outside hitter for the Knights. Watts came to UCF last year as a setter, but spent the season at right side, where she was second to Sante with 2.69 kills a game.

Colado said Watts is one of the best all-around athletes she's coached at UCF and Watts showed how she's freshman season. Watts was second in kills and assists, third on the team in hitting percentage and blocks and fourth in digs. Her performance earned her conference all-freshman honors. She should easily lead the Knights next season in kills as their No. 1 hitter, a position Colado said she'd fill her final three years at UCF.

Kelly Klinkenberg, who redshirted last season after knee surgery, has moved into the starting right side position this spring. She's a lefthander, which Colado said is harder to defend because it's a different look for teams.

Klinkenberg is still having some trouble with her knee, but Colado said she's coming along nicely.

Klinkenberg and Watts will get more match experience the weekend of April 12, when the Knights continue their spring action.

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Rebukes target the red carpet

Celebrities' stands often risk a public backlash

GENO MEHALIK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Ul Stoeckl knows that familiar figures from pop culture face certain risks when they raise their voices to oppose policies coming out of Washington, as evidenced by the dismissals that followed last week's Academy Awards show.

"To speak out is a sign of still courage," said the film director and UCF professor. "It is important to have an open forum without fear of consequences to let people know not everyone feels the same way."

Given Michael Moore's notorious Oscar acceptance speech, Madonna's controversial new single and the Dixie Chicks' denunciation of the war in Iraq, it's hard to ignore the number of celebrities who are speaking out against the war on Iraq and being met with mixed reactions.

With an audience of more than 30 million viewers, the 76th annual Academy Awards gave many stars the chance to broadcast their political opinions directly into homes across the nation.

"I thought Adrien Brody's speech was well-spoken, compassionate and genuinely heartfelt," said senior Danielle Daniel.

Not all students agree with Daniel's support for celebrity protest.

Junior Jill Bonds felt that the demonstrations at the Oscars were obnoxious.

"Michael Moore is known for it. You should have expected it," she said.

Bowles added her annoyance with celebrities in general taking a stand on world events.

"Everyone should express their opinion, but not all the time," she said.

Senior Pam Nobles said the Academy Awards was an inappropriate place for political expression.

"It wasn't a speech panel of how they feel," Stoeckl said.

Stoeckl, however, said that the sad-war comments were scarce and not out of place. Indeed, the work being honored by the Oscars represents the only form of expression available to actors and artists who make a living in the film industry. That work is precisely how they express themselves, she said. "It is our only consolation."

Though some are merely perturbed by celebrities who have taken an anti-war stand, others are taking their anger to extremes.

Please see Madonna's on 23

Putting on pounds at college? You're not alone

Mike Rieggl
STAFF WRITER

Since he moved out of his parental house and started living on his own at UCF, Gerald Teranee considers a good home-cooked meal to be a bag of Doritos and a bowl of Chef Boyardee.

"It'd be fair to say my eating habits have been in steady decline and my weight has been on a steady incline," the 20-year-old freshman said.

It's also fair to say that Teranee is not alone on this campus or at universities across the country.

While recent studies have chronicled the persistent weight gain of Americans, one study also targeted the increasingly overweight college student demographic.

Conducted by Tufts University in Medford, Mass., the study's results revealed that college students are expanding—horizontally and vertically—and it's usually caused by a diet rich in junk food and fast food.

"Apple Jacks aren't fruit, potato chips aren't vegetables, and beer isn't a suitable replacement for water," said Mary-Jo Redmond, an Orlando dietician.

Redmond has given her speech about developing eating habits to many college students.

"I've seen some kids in some pretty dire situations over the years," she said. "The most common rationale is just plain laziness."

Redmond wants to show students that eating alternatives do exist and with an extra bit of effort they can keep the weight off and feel better about their lifestyle.

The Tufts study documented the eating habits of 1,900 college students during their freshman year, discovering that men reported an average gain of five and a half pounds and women saw an average gain of four and a half pounds.

Two thirds of freshmen also said they did not eat the recommended five servings of fruits and vegetables a day.

Please see Order on 20

Playing Russian Roulette with a lethal diet

SAMANTHA FREDRICKS
STAFF WRITER

In a society where the pressures of adhering to specific ideals of beauty and perfection dominate everyday life, diet pills have become a routine drug.

Among college students the need to cling to these physical standards is even more evident and diet drugs appear to be the easiest and most efficient means to uphold today's body image as well as provide the additional energy to deal with the stress and exhaustion of university life.

"I have taken [diet pills] off and on for the past year," senior Amanda Canion, 20, said. "I take them mostly to lessen my eating cravings and add energy to my daily routine."

As image-conscious students regularly pop these pills without thinking, they are unaware of the many dangers of diet pill ingredients. Many are dissuaded by the pill's over-the-counter accessibility without

Risks Associated with Ephedra

CAN INCLUDE:

Heart Attack
Stroke
Respiratory Intermittent Depression

AND IN RARE CASES:

Death

Illustration by Christopher Arnold / UCF

Many students are unaware of the dangers of Ephedra

Investigating the severe health risks those pills propose.

These risks include heart attack, stroke, respiratory interruption, depression and even death in rare cases.

The most popular and dangerous forms of diet pills are those containing Ephedra.

Ephedra is a 5,000-year-old Chinese herb known for increasing the metabolic rate and calorie consumption of the body. Ephedra contains ephedrine, a naturally occurring alkaloid salt, used as a sympathet-ic nerve stimulant resembling adrenaline.

The properties of this herb function as both a natural caffeine energy source and an appetite suppressant.

The easiest way to describe it is a legal form of speed," said Lori Shodran, a UCF dietician.

Like speed, ephedrine is not only dangerous but can also be addictive.

Students who stop taking ephedrine after pro-longed use typically put the weight back on, become more tired than usual and experience symptoms of depression.

Because of this people will return to the pills and often take more than the recommended dosage in order to maintain the results, Shodran said.

"Once you start taking it your body becomes addicted to it," she said. "It is never-ending and that's where I think a lot of people get into trouble."

One commonly found ephedra-based diet pill is Xenadrine. Most vitamin stores and supermarkets carry the dietary supplement for about $40 a bottle. Though many stores only allow those 18 and over to pur

Please see DIET on 20
Diet pills containing ephedrine have similar reactions as speed

Order salads if short on time, says dietician

Taste the high cards on the way to class and work, recommended by Dr. Marcella Tucker Optometrist INSIDE THE NEW LENSCASTERS at Waterford Lakes Town Center

Dr. Marcella L. Tucker Optometrist INSIDE THE NEW LENSCASTERS at Waterford Lakes Town Center

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Tue Apr 1
1:30 pm Knights of the Round Table Meeting for Clubs, SU 218D
7:30 pm EKCEL Workshop: Community, SU 316. If you are interested in building a community in your organization, this session is for you! EKCEL will offer community building ideas and answer any questions you may have about the cohesiveness of your organization.
9 pm CAB Cinema presents "The Ring," Cape Florida Ballroom
9:30 pm VUCF Bowlathon for Boys and Girls Club, Boardwalk Bowling

Wed Apr 2
7:30 pm EKCEL Workshop: Community, SU 220
8 pm CAB Comedy Knight with Dave Attell, UCF Arena. Free to all.

Fri Apr 4
Relay For Life, Fri - Sat, UCF Arena

Mon Apr 7
6 pm VUCF Green Ribbon Gala (Get Carded Banquet), Pegasus Ballroom RSVP Required

Wed Apr 9
6 pm VUCF Volunteer Award Ceremony, Key West 218 CD
8 pm CAB Spring Concert with Nappy Roots, Smilez & Southstar, and One Drop. Free to all. UCF Arena

Thu Apr 10
7:30 pm Symphony Under the Stars with UCF Orchestra & UCF Jazz Ensemble, Reflecting Pond

Sat Apr 12
9:15 am VUCF "Keep Orlando Beautiful" Park Bench Project. Meet at Millican Hall at 9:15 am to carpool

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

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Madonna’s new EP single likely to bring controversy

FROM PAGE 19

Graduate student Larry Walker Jr. stood at Alapaha Trail and University Boulevard last Wednesday with a sign that read, "Boycott Hollywood." He said it was a reactionary protest in support of the troops in Iraq.

Walker warned that while celebrities have little knowledge of politics, they have a great deal of power over mainstream society.

"With power comes responsibility," he said. "Celebrities are using their power irresponsibly."

Sophomore Patricia Xavier disagrees.

"It's amazing what these people have to say," she said. "They have such influence. Their words might make people pay attention to politics instead of just following along with blind patriotism."

For example, look for Madonna to energize listeners with her recent single, "American Life," due out April 22.

Spokesman Liz Rosenberg said that the single, "American Life," is in no way a political or anti-war statement. "According to The New York Post, the video for the song depicts crying Iraqi women, bloodstained victims and intense war images. The newspaper reported that minor alterations were expected before the video was released to television."

"As an artist, I hope that [the video and album provoke] thought and dialogue," Madonna has said. "I don't expect everyone to agree with my point of view," she said. "But I want to have the freedom to express these feelings, and that's how I honor my country."

Xavier likes celebrities who make political statements, and is confident Madonna’s video will not disappoint her fans.

"I'm sure she'll add some artistic touch to her video," Xavier said. "She always does."

"American Life" is already in rotation on radio stations across the country and was mulled No. 90 on Billboard’s Hot 100 two days after its release.

While Madonna’s occasionally controversial lyrics and image have served to self-record throughout her career, the Dixie Chicks experienced a backlash of disapproval from fans after singer Natalie Maines told fans in London that she was ashamed the president of the United States came from her home state of Texas.

The rapid response included boycotts in Texas and threats to burn their CDs. The Dixie Chicks’ airplay declined 20 percent over the seven-day period following Maines’ remarks, according to the airplay monitoring firm Mediabase.

DJ Kid Cruz, from Orlando’s XL 101.7, said people have called and requested that he not play the Dixie Chicks’ new single, a cover of an earlier Fleetwood Mac hit, “Landslide.”

"Unfortunately there are a lot of people with too much time on their hands," he said. "It’s ridiculous. If you don't like the song, change the dial."

Xavier is surprised by the reaction. "We’ve never seen people being so crude to protesters and artists, and it’s sad to see."

Indeed, according to an Associated Press report, the Screen Actors Guild released a statement saying that the threat of McCarthyism is again at hand.

"We deploy the ideas that those in the public eye should suffer professionally for having the courage to give voice to their views," a SAG spokesman said. "Even a hint of the blacklist must be revoked."

Xavier said while she is comfortable the world is protecting this war, this behavior may be dangerous.

"People are being whistled," she said. "We’re flushing our civil liberties down the drain."

WHAT CELEBRITIES ARE SAYING:

"I don’t like the way the news is portraying it. They are portray­ ing it like the ultimate reality show and I just think it’s cheap..."

-SHERI MARTIN, hosting the Oscars

"We live in a time where we have a man sending us to war for believable reasons, whether it’s the [mistaken] tile about the [Hil­tary] orange alerts. We are against this war. Mr. Bush! Shame on you, Mr. Bush! Shame on you!"

-MICHAEL MOORE, during his Oscar acceptance

"Protest music and different bits of culture that express political expression are very important, in not necessarily changing people’s minds but often reconfirming to them that they are not alone."

-TOM MORELLO, Audioslave

"I actually appreciate Madonna or anyone else making a statement of this nature right now, because a lot of people are too scared or they just don’t care enough."

-SERJ TANIAN, System of a Down

"Wherever you believe in, if it’s God or Allah, may he watch over you and let’s pray for a peaceful and swift resolution."

-AHMED BUKOV, during his Oscar acceptance

"It’s about how we are becoming increasingly more desensitized to things around the world that are brutal and not standing up for human values. And how the actions of the larger bodies affect the family or individ­ual and how that ultimately turns back on the larger body."

-UNIFIED BUCKINGHAM, the new Buckingham Music single, “Peacemaker”

"You probably noticed there was no fancy red carpet out front, that’s what we mean by a message!"

-STEVE MARTIN, hosting the Oscars

"Think war is based in greed and there are huge human sacrifices that will follow. I think war is never the answer to solving any problems. The best way to solve problems is to not have enemies."

-SHERI CHAY, backstage at the American Music Awards

"You won’t show us your weapons, we’ll show you ours."

-CUIN BEAC, ilks to his new single “F*ck YA’ll!"

"We are praying and hoping for the lives of all people involved, the troops, the Iraqi civilians, refugees, POWs, families of troops, the innocents — that they are safe and OK."

-MICHAEL STEPP, REM

"Thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts, to all of you, you have love and encouragement and we pray that you all come home to us and your families safe and sound."

-__HABRE MUBS, to a Navy Chief Warrant Officer overseas

"This song for me is about more than Iraq. It is about our role as people in the world and that we all should cherish freedom and peace."

-UNNY MAVYIL, on his new duet with Iraqi pop star KADV A’AL SABIR

FROM PAGE 19

Graduate student Larry Walker Jr. protests Hollywood’s view of war...
Smallpox is a serious disease that kills up to 80 percent of people it infects. It is caused by a virus that is spread from person to person, through close contact. It causes a severe rash, which can turn scabby when healed, a fever, fatigue, severe headache, backache and blindness. The last case of naturally-acquired smallpox was in 1977.

Smallpox vaccine protects people who work with smallpox or related viruses in laboratories. During an outbreak or emergency, smallpox vaccine can protect people exposed to smallpox virus.

Smallpox vaccine is made from a virus called vaccinia. Vaccinia virus is similar to smallpox virus, but less harmful. Vaccinia vaccine can protect people from smallpox. Getting the vaccine “before” exposure will protect most people from smallpox. Getting the vaccine “within” three days after exposure can prevent the disease or at least make it less severe.

Getting the vaccine “within a week after exposure” can still make the disease less severe. Protection from infection lasts three to five years, and protection from severe illness and death can last 10 years or more.

Laboratory workers who handle cultures or animals contaminated or infected with vaccinia or other related viruses and public health, hospital, and other personnel, generally 18-45 years of age, who may have to respond to a smallpox case or outbreak, should be vaccinated. Additionally, anyone directly exposed to smallpox virus should get one dose or vaccine as soon as possible after exposure. Vaccinated persons may need to be revaccinated after three to 10 years, depending on risks.

After the vaccination, a blister should form at the vaccination site. Later it will form a scab, and finally the scab will fall off. Leaving a scab may also experience swelling and tenderness of the lymph nodes lasting two to four weeks after the blister has healed. Blisters at the vaccination site, fatigue, mild fever, headache or muscle aches.

Some people should not get smallpox vaccine or should wait. Anyone who has eczema or atopic dermatitis or with any skin condition that causes breaks in the skin should not get smallpox vaccine or should wait until the condition clears up before getting smallpox vaccine.

Anyone whose immune system is weakened should not get the vaccine. HIV/AIDS, severe autoimmune disease, lupus, rheumatoid arthritis or other severe autoimmune diseases, or women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.

Smallpox vaccine is not recommended for anyone under 18 years of age. Do not get smallpox vaccine if you ever had a life-threatening allergic reaction to penicillin, a streptococcal, chloramphenicol or neomycin.

For more information about the smallpox vaccine you can contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/downloads/adult/adult-schedule.pdf.

E-mail your questions to: AskADoc@mail.ucf.edu

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The Orlando Clinical Research Center is Conducting An Important Clinical Research Study Of An Investigational Vaccine Being Developed To Immunize Against Smallpox.

To participate in this study the following must apply:
- No previous smallpox vaccine
- No history or presence of eczema or skin problems
- No immune disorders
- Willing to make 7 outpatient visits and complete a diary after vaccination

Compensation up to $2500 for time and travel.
**Student Wanted**

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**Requirements:**
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**Benefits:**
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**How to Apply:**
- Fill out an application online
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**Business Wanted**

**Services Offered:**
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**Contact Information:**
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**Hotel Wanted**

**Position:** Housekeeping Attendant

**Responsibilities:**
- Clean and maintain hotel rooms and public areas

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Email resume to jobposting@myhotel.com

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**Retail Wanted**

**Position:** Sales Associate

**Responsibilities:**
- Assist customers with product inquiries
- Maintain store appearance

**Benefits:**
- Commission-based pay
- Health insurance
- 401(k) plan

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Restaurant Wanted**

**Position:** Chef

**Responsibilities:**
- Prepare and present food
- Manage kitchen staff

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Email resume to recruitment@myrestaurant.com

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**Transportation Wanted**

**Position:** Driver

**Responsibilities:**
- Deliver packages and mail
- Maintain vehicle

**Benefits:**
- Mileage reimbursement
- Health insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Technology Wanted**

**Position:** Software Developer

**Responsibilities:**
- Develop and maintain software applications
- Collaborate with team members

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Healthcare Wanted**

**Position:** Nurse

**Responsibilities:**
- Provide patient care
- Collaborate with medical professionals

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Education Wanted**

**Position:** Teacher

**Responsibilities:**
-教 students
- Develop lesson plans

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Engineering Wanted**

**Position:** Engineer

**Responsibilities:**
- Design and develop products
- Conduct tests and experiments

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Construction Wanted**

**Position:** Electrician

**Responsibilities:**
- Install electrical systems
- Diagnose and repair electrical issues

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Legal Wanted**

**Position:** Attorney

**Responsibilities:**
- Represent clients in court
- Draft legal documents

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Professional Wanted**

**Position:** Accountant

**Responsibilities:**
- Prepare and review financial statements
- Manage budget

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Marketing Wanted**

**Position:** Marketing Specialist

**Responsibilities:**
- Develop marketing strategies
- Analyze market trends

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Graphic Design Wanted**

**Position:** Graphic Designer

**Responsibilities:**
- Create visual content
- Collaborate with team members

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**IT Wanted**

**Position:** IT Specialist

**Responsibilities:**
- Maintain IT systems
- Provide technical support

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
- Apply online

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**Other Wanted**

**Position:** General Laborer

**Responsibilities:**
- Assist with various tasks
- Maintain equipment

**Benefits:**
- Competitive salary
- Health and dental insurance
- Paid time off

**To Apply:**
- Visit our website
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**Contact Information:**
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**Additional Resources:**
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