Professor’s research may predict traffic accidents on I-4

MARSHALL SPENCE
STAFF WRITER

Because of Mohamed Abdel-Aty’s research, Orlando residents could see a dramatic decrease in the number of accidents that happen on Interstate 4 within the next few years, Abdel-Aty, an associate professor of transportation engineering and one of the leading traffic safety analysts in Florida, is working on a two-year project to create a computer model that can predict traffic accidents by predicting their potential of occurring based on real-time data.

Funded by the Florida Department of Transportation, Abdel-Aty’s research is able to use electronic sensors buried under I-4, called loop detectors, to detect and predicted, any accidents that occur underneath I-4, the detectors have been used by the Florida Highway Patrol for years to monitor traffic flow.

But this research is not just limited to I-4. Abdel-Aty said his model could be applied to any highway, anywhere in the U.S., as long as loop detectors are in place.

Located at half-mile intervals underneath I-4, the detectors have a built-in computer that helps monitor traffic conditions and predicts the potential for accidents to occur.

Abdel-Aty explained:

"[I-4] doesn’t have a safety sensor underneath it for the entire length of the highway. So we were trying to come up with a way to predict accidents, and this is one example of that."

But Abdel-Aty said the research is still in the early stages. He and his team are working on creating a model that can predict traffic accidents before they occur.

Abdel-Aty said the research could help reduce the number of accidents on I-4 by up to 10 to 15 minutes before they occur.

"Nobody has thought of using this data for safety until now," Abdel-Aty said.

Professor Peter Hilton’s decoding methods during World War II laid foundation for technology in today’s war

ROSEMARY DAY
STAFF WRITER

Peter Hilton has his own war story to tell. His story is more than 60 years old and unlike most typical war stories. His battle stories don’t detail German bombs and gunfire. His victories weren’t won on the front lines.

His enemies were encrypted codes; his victories were won by breaking them. Like most soldiers, he needed to be strong-minded to carry out duties that involved an exhaustive guess-and-check process to decipher Nazi Enigma and Fish codes during World War II.

Hilton’s decoding skills are the result of his work as a mathematics professor at the University of Florida, where he helped develop a computer program that could predict traffic accidents before they occur.

In 1941, Hilton was recruited by the U.S. Army to work on the Enigma machine, a complex encryption device used by the Nazis. He spent the next four years working on the problem, developing new techniques to break the code.

But the war ended before Hilton’s work was completed.

In 1945, Hilton was released from military service, and he returned to his work at the University of Florida, where he continued to develop new methods for breaking codes. His research helped to establish the field of cryptography, which is now used in a variety of applications, from secure online transactions to military communications.

Hilton’s work during World War II laid the foundation for modern technology, including the development of the Internet and the encryption of online transactions.

Professor Peter Hilton

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Former general commands attention of UCF students

BEN BAIRD
STAFF WRITER

Former NATO commander Wesley Clark is best remembered for the role he played in overseeing the 1999 Bosnian conflict.

Three years later, he is being recognized for his role in the Iraq war, though he’s doing most of his work in front of the camera instead of on the front lines.

Even retirement couldn’t convince the 58-year-old Army general to leave his military life behind. Instead of launching military operations, today he’s analyzing other commanders’ tactics — explaining to Americans the things that only an Army general would know about war, as a CNN military analyst.

Last Thursday, he visited UCF with a similar purpose in mind.

He praised commanders’ combat strategies in Iraq and talked about the aftermath of the Iraqi war.

"I think [Gen. Tommy] Franks has done an excellent job and [so have] all of his subordinate people," said Clark, who was referring to the current commander of operations in Iraq. "But the people who really deserve the appreciation are the men and women in the front pit, in the tank, in the fighting vehicle, the men and women at the bottom. They’re
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Finding a date for Saturday night? For students at highly competitive colleges, it's a prospect that often seems tougher than a term paper. Now, an alum- nius of the University of Central Florida has made the process easier at three Boston-area colleges, where students can use a Web site to find potential companions.

While looking for a date several weeks before Valentine's Day, James G. Monsarrat realized that he might not be alone in his quest. Many students and alumni probably had the same predicament at his alma mater and at nearby Harvard University and Wellesley College, he thought.

So Monsarrat, the 34-year-old founder of a computer-game company who approached MIT's Graduate Student Council to propose an online matchmaking service. When the coin was turned down, he took on the project himself.

Some 30 hours of computer program-
ning later, and a few hours after Mansarrat had uploaded his Web site—just in time for Valentine's Day—He spent $1,500 to print 500,000 and 100,000 flyers to distribute in a door-to-door and mall publicity campaign. The service is free to students and alumni.

Monsarrat's efforts paid off. Nearly 4,000 participants from the three institutions visited the site. The site, with a questionnaire designed to pinpoint what each person had to offer and what he or she was looking for in a match, quickly started.

About 1,500 MIT students, or 15 per-
cent of the undergraduate population, signed up for what The Tech, the student newspaper, called "the largest matchmaking service ever at any of the three universi-
ties."

Although he had intended to help users find dates, the overwhelming demand led him to keep the site open for an extra week of matchmaking after Feb. 14. Despite his efforts, he was forced to restart the service in June and continue it year-round.

The principal of the matchmaking process is an algorithm that processes data from each user—age, religion and drug or alcohol use. Among other things, the algorithm compares the information with that from other partic-
ants. When the electronic process is complete, participants are sent e-mail messages listing up to 20 potential matches, and have the option of contacting them by e-mail.

Still gagged

Two college students who were set to discuss anxiety weaknesses in a popu-
lar college debt- and identification-card system last weekend were prevented from revealing their findings after a Georgia Judge issued a temporary restraining order.

The students—Billy Hoffman, of the Georgia Institute of Technology, and Virgil Griffith, of the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa—were scheduled to appear on Saturday as they were prepar-
ing to talk about the system at an Information Security Conference in Atlanta. A hearing on whether they should be permanently prevented from discussing the findings is scheduled for today in Georgia Superior Court.

Blackboard has sold the electronic

Please see Hacks on 7

From page 1

Patrol for years to relay information to motorists on I-4. Data from the under-
ground detectors also feed the speed and intensity of traffic.

The data from the loop detectors is fed to the Center for Advanced Transportation Systems Simulation lab at UCF. The CATSUS lab is one of only a few federal transportation research centers in the nation. The lab operates within UCF's College of Engineering and Computer Science.

Abdel-Aty analyzes and interprets the data received by the lab.

"I'm trying to make sense of this data and compare it to previous accidents," Abdel-Aty said.

The data he analyzes takes into account factors such as vehicle speed, the direction of traffic and the amount of time a vehicle spends on the road. Abdel-Aty uses the data gathered from sections of I-4 where accidents have occurred, and compares them to data gathered on the exact same sections of I-4 when there haven't been any accidents.

"We can see the situations in traffic that would lead to a higher possibility of traffic accidents occurring," he said.

Even though the research is still in its early stages, Abdel-Aty said he's discov-
ered there are severe fluctuations in traf-
ffic characteristics before an accident occurs.

Before an accident happens, traffic is often more turbulent. Vehicles frequently speed up, slow down and change lanes. However, when an accident does not happen, vehicles tend to move at a more steady and uniform speed.

Ultimately, Abdel-Aty will use the compiled data to create a model into which real-time data can be fed and used to warn motorists in advance of areas of I-4 that have a high probability of an accident occurring.

When implemented, the model will monitor incoming data from the loop detectors under I-4 and determine whether or not conditions are ripe for an accident to occur. If so, the computer will issue special signals on the highway to avoid information and warnings to drivers.

But that step's down the road.

Abdel-Aty said he feels positive that the project will be a success.

"We're going in the right direction," Abdel-Aty said. "The concept is proven. We're into the model development phase. Abdel-Aty chose I-4 for his research because it's one of only a few highways in central Florida that has loop detectors. Two detectors near I-4 have expensive equipment that are currently only applied to freeways.

Abdel-Aty said his accident-preven-
tion strategy can only be applied to high-
ways that have loop detectors. For that reason his research can only be applied to highways and not city roads with traffic lights.

However, as more loop detectors are installed under freeways throughout the United States, city roadways may eventually implement this new technology in their future.

The possible applications for Abdel-
Aty's research are intriguing. When asked what he would do with the money he won in the contest, Abdel-Aty responded, "I don't think it's going to be used right now."

"I think it's a challenging project because there has not been any previous work done in this area of traffic safety," Abdel-Aty said. "I'd say that next year they will focus on the application of the data gathered from the detectors. Once the model is com-
pleted, "Yu and Abdel-Aty hope that other departments of transportation throughout the nation will use their model and data.

"Once we show them that our model works, can save lives and reduce [the number of] traffic accidents, I hope it will eventually influence the federal government," Yu said.

Project could have uses around the nation

Reporting, design earn honors for The Future

The Future recently won 13 awards in regional and national contests, including the title of Best All-Bound Daily Student Newspaper in a four-state region as judged by the Society of Professional Journalists.

One honor bestowed by the society:-

• First place, in-depth reporting, to Limone for a report that contained complaints about the Student Health Center.

• First place, spot news reporting, to Kristin Hartooman for an article about the UCF Board of Trustees meeting that awarded a $30,000 raise to President John Hitt without public comment.

• First place, editorial cartooning, to Christopher Arnold.

The Future is a general news reporting, to Adam Bache for coverage reporting Hitt's opposition to a formal, policy banning dis-

• Third place, feature writing, to Zillil and Andrew Millian for a story that reported the growing interest in forensics education spurred by the hit television show "CSI."

The Society of Professional Journalists' Mark of Excellence Awards recognizing the best in student journalism judged the work of The Future against publications from Florida, Georgia, Alabama and South Carolina. First-

• First place, regional winners now will advance to the national contest in September.

In another competition, this one nation-

• One statewide, the Student Society for News Design at the University of Missouri recognized Christopher Arnold and Adam Silver as first-

• First place winners for their front page design fol-

• Lower the line of the space in an article.

And The Future earned seven awards at the national convention for general Business and Advertising Managers, more than any college newspaper in the nation.

For the second year in a row, The Future was recognized at the convention for Best-

• Clas5ified Section for college pages with a circulation of under 100,000. The Future also won awards in the categories of Best Orientation Issue, Best Spot Color Display Ad, Best Overall Promotion, Best Electronic Banner Display Ad and Best Electronic Banner House Ad.

In the student general interest magazine last month named The Future as an honor-

• able mention winner for the best in the nation of the best campus newspapers in Florida.

"You'd be hard-pressed to find any stud-

• ent newspaper in Florida that packages sto-

• ries as well as The Future. With the vast improvements they've made over the last three years, UCF Card, Blue UCF Group Promotion, Best Electronic Banner Display Ad and Best Electronic Banner House Ad.

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Friends, fraternity members recall ‘a guardian angel’

Junior John Peterson, 22, struck April 13
down by downtown train

Nicol Jenkins
Staff writer

About 600 friends, family
members and fraternity brot­
ehers paid their respects Tuesday
to John Warren Peterson, 22, a
junior and business major who
was killed Wednesday, April 13, when a
train struck him in downtown
Orlando.

The viewing
service followed a
celebration of life
at which friends, fel­
low students, family
and the Greek com­
munity gathered to
remember Peterson, a
brother of the Sigma Phi Epsilon
fraternity.

Seniors Shawn Findlan and
Bobbi Konyen, two of Peterson’s best
friends, spoke of
Peterson’s warmth at the can­
daylight ceremony held at the Sigma Phi Epsilon House. “This
is the least I can do for someone
who has touched and meant so
much to so many people,”
Findlan, 24, said. “He will truly
be remembered by lighting up a
room with his smile and making
others laugh.”

Konyen, also 24, vowed to
remember Peterson every day.
“Words cannot explain the
loss of a best friend, a brother and a
confidant,” Konyen said. “The
only peace, in my heart and my
head, is to know that I have a
guardian angel up in heaven
watching over me. Our memo­
ries will never be forgotten, and
I will carry them wherever I am
each day.”

During the viewing at the
Grunkow Funeral Home in
Sanford, friends honored their
fallen brother, who they called
caring and active. They said he
enjoyed working out, hanging
out with friends, working at
Benjamin’s and playing various
sports including baseball,
volleyball and golf.

Longtime friends Derek
Chontas and Ryan Dichiara
talked about
Peterson’s character.
“John was always giving,
understanding, and he always went
out of his way to let
you know that he
loved you. He will be
deeperly missed by hun­
dreds of friends and
his family,” said
Chontas, 22.

Dichiara, 22,
remembered Peterson’s enthu­
siasm. “John was my best friend
and a genuine person. He never
stopped smiling or laughing,
and it was almost contagious
when you were around him,”
Dichiara said. “John touched so
many people and loved every­
one. I’ll never stop thinking
about him.”

Peterson is survived by
his parents, Carol
and Terry, and his sister, Jessica. He was a life­
long resident of Lake Mary and
a member of the Holy Cross
Lutheran Church.

Friends say Peterson would
often say, “This is nowhere near
a goddamn, but more of ‘I’ll see
you in a little bit.’”

U.N. needed to help stabilize
Iraq, says retired commander

From Page 1
the ones who win the battle.”

Clark said the next step in
the war is to win the hearts
and minds of the Iraqi people while
stabilizing the region.

“If you take off your helmet,
sit down with somebody and
share a coffee and talk about
their problems, most of them
will give you a fair hearing …
I think our goodwill will eventual­
lly show through.”

“What the United States
has to do is to establish securi­
ty,” he said. “It has to assure
each of the minorities that their
communities will be protected.”

Clark felt that the
war itself was conducted cor­
rectly; he believes United
Nations support and interven­
tion is now needed for a sus­
tained presence in Iraq.

The United Nations would
help to legitimize the United
States’ efforts and would have
the resources to help recon­
mstruct Iraq, he said.

There are many
Americans who doubt the effec­
tiveness of the United Nations,
and I’m one of them,” he said.
“They are not the most effective
of organizations, but they are
the most legitimate organiza­
tion.”

Clark also addressed how
the situation in Iraq will affect
the Bush administration’s war
terror.

“My friends in the
Pentagon call it draining the
swamp,” Clark said. “While Iraq
is the least dangerous of the
countries that comprise the
administration’s ‘axis of evil,’
the first step in draining the
swamp has been completed by
buying a large foothold in
the region,” he said.

Clark cautioned Americans
about the need to improve
veterans’ benefits in the country—
something that might be part of
his campaign platform if Clark
makes good on rumors that he
will run for the 2004 presidency.

“We shouldn’t have
soldiers on food stamps, we
shouldn’t have soldiers who
can’t afford to buy a decent car
to drive in their jobs, and it’s not
just the men and women in uni­
form today,” he said. “I think
veterans need the kind of atten­
tion and support that they’ve
been promised, including health
care.”

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Giving sight to the blind

Alberto Guzman has a new lease on life after receiving a device that allows him to see

Diane Lazic Staff Writer

After losing much of his vision, one student, with the help of a high-tech piece of equipment, can now see, and his future seems much brighter now.

Life changed drastically for senior Alberto Guzman, 35, after an infection seriously damaged the retinas of his eyes in 1994. “The infection created so much scar tissue that my retina collapsed,” Guzman said. “I was completely blind for seven months.”

Surgery repaired some of the damage, but Guzman faced many challenges. “My prognosis was I would die in a few days. It was a long process, and I was fortunate to recover,” he said. “After recovery I had surgery again and regained a little bit of vision in my right eye.”

Guzman said the infection completely changed his life. “When you’re born blind, that’s what’s normal to you. I saw for most of my life. Knowing how different it is to have sight, then not, was very difficult.”

Mundane activities became challenges for Guzman. “Eating, putting toothpaste on your toothbrush, tying shoes, opening your clothes; that stuff I took for granted and was difficult to re-learn,” he said.

“After that point the greater focus became my life instead of my vision.”

In early April, Guzman did just that. On April 5, through the collaboration of the UCF Office of Disabilities, the Jupiter-Tequesta Sunrise Rotary Club, and Scott Hearing, a low-vision specialist, Guzman received a $4,000 technological device that will improve his vision to 20/20.

Guzman recalls Philip Kallin, the director of Student Disability Services, e-mailing him information about the Rotary Club’s search for a student with ambition who could use this technology. “I was nervous that I would be given this expensive piece of equipment that would not work for me, and someone else would be missing out who could be benefiting from it.”

Hearing said that when he started his practice, he was moved by all the patients who told him that no one could help them. He said the field has come a long way in 20 years. “I named the equipment after Jordy Ladorge, the blind character who used special eye bands to see on ‘Star Trek, The Next Generation.’”

Hearing has helped many young people, but never a UCF student prior to Guzman. He has helped six Florida Atlantic University students, one medical student attending the University of Miami, and more than 30 high school students.

The Jordy is a miniature, wearable closed-circuit TV device. Using an optional docking stand (the goggle portion is placed in a holder, looking down on the reading surface), the user can see magnified images on a monitor or a computer screen.

Guzman said, “It has such a convenient setup.”

Senior Alberto Guzman uses the imaging device he received through a collaboration of UCF Student Disability Services, the Jupiter-Tequesta Sunrise Rotary Club, and vision specialist Scott Hearing in April. Guzman lost his sight in 1994 after an infection damaged his retina.

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University of Central Florida
Graduate Studies
Blind student to pursue master’s with new vision

FROM PAGE 5

item weights less than 7 ounces. A handheld or clipped-to-belt com-
tined unit holds a rechargeable battery. The Jordy has 16-switch-
selectable magnification levels that provide magnification up to
25 times.

An object locator button temporarily returns to the lowest
magnification level to help with orientation. It has four viewing
modes: full color black and white, high-contrast positive and
high-contrast negative.

Hearing wants to make the
New}

Jordy smaller. "We are working
to get its size now down from
goggles to just a pair of glasses," he
said.

Paul Mogan, an engineer
who helped users learn and adjust
to the Jordy, worked with
Guzman. "The Jordy works for
people who need magnification," Mogan said. "We worked on
Alberto's issue, which is with
white, high-contrast positive and
batter,y.

"With the Jordy, it was perfect. It
was like when I could see for
real, like when I had 20/20
vision."" Guzman said that the
Jordy goggle will allow him to
pursue his master's degree in
disability studies at the
University of Illinois. He wants to
advance research in this technol-
ogy that will help him and others
better their lives and futures.

"This technology is amaz­
ing," Guzman said. "I can see my
foot bar on my computer; I have
not seen this good in so many
years. The Jordy makes things
worse and clear.

A Knightly display

The imaging device, called Jordy, after the billed character on 'Star Trek,' will improve
Guzman's vision to 20/20. Without the device, Guzman was almost completely blinded.

Guzman noticed
the differences immediately. "In
the library there was a little sign
that provide magnification up to
25 times.

An object locator button temporarily returns to the lowest
magnification level to help with orientation. It has four viewing
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A Knightly display

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Hackers banned from revealing tricks

FROM PAGE 3

card system, called the Blackboard Transaction System, to about 223 colleges. In seeking
the restraining order, the company argued that it faced "imminent risk of irreparable harm" from
the students' presentation.

The company's complaint said the students' findings, if disseminated, "could facilitate massive
fraud, security breaches, and other harms, threatening both the physical and financial security
of college students, and harming the universities, their vendors and Blackboard itself."

Blackboard cited federal and Georgia anti-hacking laws, as well as federal and Georgia
trade-secret laws, to justify its request for the restraining order. The complaint made no mention
of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, but a lawyer for Blackboard sent the conference organ-
izers a cease-and-desist letter that said the students' presentation could violate that law as well.

According to the cease-and-desist letter, Hoffman and Griffith planned to tell those attend-
ing the conference that "not only did we hack the system, but we hacked it so far we could build
functional [card] readers from scratch."

Hoffman, an undergraduate who is majoring in computer engineering, began two years
ago to probe the electronic underpinnings of Georgia Tech's BuzzCard, an identification card
that all of the university's students and faculty and staff members are required to have.

Hoffman detailed his findings on his Web site and his postings often launted Blackboard and
Georgia Tech computer administrators. What Hoffman has learned about BuzzCard could apply
to any such debit-card system sold by Blackboard.

In his postings, Hoffman acknowledges that he used a knife to open a metal switchbox in a dorm-
itory laundry room in June 2002. He was trying, he says in the postings, to figure out how the debit-
card system worked, as well as to understand how secure it was. Bob Hardy, a spokesman for
Georgia Tech, said the university reprimanded Hoffman for breaking into the circuitry box, but he
denied to elaborate.

—COMPiled BY STAFF WRITER KRISTA ZUKOFF

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Professor worked with first computer to crack encryptions

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The UCP professor’s battle was no exception. Just as the role as a decoder was, in a way, the opposite of the digital age, his work in the 1940s was even more important. His work involved using mathematics to break codes, something that would later become a staple of computer technology.

Hilton’s war was one of the most significant advances should have created, according to the experts. They believed that the work mathematically, rather than a comprehensive knowledge of mathematics, Hilton said. “We weren’t actually using deep mathematical ideas that we learned,” he said. “We were just using the capacity to think mathematically, and that was something that I could do.”

The experience allowed Hilton to work with men that he considered some of the great mathematicians of the 20th century. “I got to know some of the great mathematicians,” Hilton said. “I would have expected to pay my teachers if I was good enough as a student,” he said, “I never expected to be personal friends with those people – to go to the pub, drink beer and chat with them. The work that we did in the war had a marvelous equal-aspects of war, including weaponry, but now Hilton is the reluctant one – hesitant to admit whether such advances in military weaponry are valuable.

"Now there are these sort of clever bombs – I just regret that as a very bad joke,“ he said. “War was bad enough, and now it is infinitely bad.”

"One knows that whenever you make a great scientific advance, it can be used for good or for ill,” he said. "In modern society, we think much too much in terms of good and bad. But we need more efficient killers and not enough about how we can eliminate poverty or eliminate malnutrition.”

Because of America’s technological superiority to Iraq, Hilton calls American victory over Iraq certain. At the beginning of World War II, however, victory over Germany was not definite.

"There was never any doubt in my mind that if America went to war in Iraq, we would win. We have an overwhelming superiority technologically," he said. "In the case of World War II, it was the outset of the war, as it looked if we would lose because Germany had already conquered most of Western Europe.

For Hilton, the war against Germany was a necessary measure. He is not as decisive regarding the Iraq conflict. "I hate the whole idea of war, but World War II was unquestionably a good war," he said. "I could see an alternative to war to get rid of Nazi Germany."

"While I am perfectly clear in my mind that Saddam Hussein is, or was, horrible, unfortunately there are many such men, and I am not convinced that the regime in Iraq is the worst that we are up against in this imperfect world of ours." Hilton questions America’s reasons and intentions for invading Iraq.

"We have been very careful to preserve the oil fields and less careful to preserve their museums and hospitals," he said. "It is about time that the human race stops using war as a means of putting policy into effect. It is appalling that we can’t do better."

Even discouraging to Hilton is the negative backlash that greets anyone who speaks out against the war, including today’s youth.

"I think that this current war makes things very difficult for young people because they are being asked to show patriotism," he said. "It is of course correct to be patriotic at a time of war, but if patriotism means a total suspension of any right to use one’s critical faculties, then young people are being asked to do what they shouldn’t be asked to do – namely, to accept authority rather than to form their own judgments.”

Hilton believes technological advances should have created a way to end wars, not improve them. "War should have been eliminated long ago," he said. "It’s not proper for a modern, highly technological society to devote so much of its effort to both efficient at conducting war."

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If patriotism means a total suspension of any right to use one’s critical faculties, then young people are being asked to do what they shouldn’t be asked to do – namely, to accept authority rather than to form their own judgments. - Peter Hilton

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Don’t blame Internet for rise in ID theft

Heather Newman

Identity theft is soaring, thanks to high-tech tools, light penalties and widespread publicity.

Crooks are stealing honest people’s personal information and racking up credit-card bills in their names, opening dozens of new accounts and running in days stereoing credit ratings that took years to build.

If you’re one of the many people who suspect the rise of online banking and shopping is to blame, think again. Law enforcement experts say the vast majority of identity thefts still involve low-tech crime, such as stealing mail or dumpster diving for sensitive documents thrown out in the trash.

That doesn’t mean you shouldn’t take precautions when using the Web for personal transactions. But the risk of someone intercepting your sensitive information over the Internet is much less than many folks think.

People cite fear of identity theft and credit-card fraud as one of the major reasons they won’t shop online. The recently released UCLA Internet Report, a survey of 2,000 adults, showed that fewer adults shopped on the Internet last year than before. Nine out of 10 people surveyed said they’re concerned about how secure their personal information is when or if they buy online.

Yet studies show that in cases where victims know how their identity was stolen, the No. 1 cause was having their purse or wallet swiped. Experts say in the rest of the cases, the major cause was having their personal information get into the hands of an identity thief, who was able to get their information through a job or an insider connection. Buying or selling items online fails by far the list.

If you’re watching every number you type at Amazon.com but not keeping an eye on your belongings, then you are filling out the post box or what you throw in the trash, you could be leaving yourself open to becoming the next victim.

Consider these recent cases:

A worker for a computer company that received credit reporting bureaus sold people’s personal information for 900 a record, resulting in the theft of more than 12,000 people’s identities. Virtually every adult American has a record with the three major credit-reporting agencies. The ring operated for at least two years before being busted in November.

Please See IDENTITY ON 12

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Race-neutral policy threatens diversity in law, medicine fields

MICHAEL FLETCHER
THE WASHINGTON POST

If race-conscious admissions, eliminated at the nation's professional schools, the United States will likely witness a dramatic decline in the number of black and Hispanic doctors and lawyers, according to federal officials.

According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, if its number schools relied strictly on academic measures for admissions, the proportion of black, Hispanic and Native American medical students would fall from the current 11 percent to no more than 3 percent. The situation is similar for the nation's law schools, particularly highly selective ones, the Law School Admission Council said.

As the Supreme Court deliberates in two cases that challenge race-conscious admissions at the University of Michigan, attention has been focused on the potential impact on undergraduate education nationwide. But experts say the consequences could be worse for minority students who aspire to professional schools, where competition for seats is keenest and alternatives are fewer.

The best estimate is that if there were no race-conscious admissions, the number of African Americans in an entering class of 520 would fall below 80, said Jeffrey Lehman, dean of Michigan's law school. In the past decade, Michigan has enrolled 21 to 37 black first-year law students per class. "If there were a way to enroll more underrepresented minorities without considering race, we'd do it," he said. "It is not that we like to use race-consciousness."

Michigan's law school, which is considered highly selective, admits students who average 165 on the Law School Admissions Test and a grade-point average of 3.5. Last fall, 1,421 law school applicants nationwide achieved or exceeded those grades, according to a brief the Law School Admission Council filed at the Supreme Court. Of those students, the council said, 39 were black and 114 were Hispanic.

Luis Lovato would be the first to say that he might not have made it to medical school without affirmative action. Raised by a single mother, he made stellar grades in high school but piling part-time jobs as a waiter and food service worker, he struggled as a college student. In his first year, he was accepted to the University of Michigan Medical School, where he is an assistant clinical professor of medicine.

"Getting into medical school, I definitely benefited from affirmative action," he said. "But once I got there, I reallyexcelled."

Opponents of race-conscious college admissions contend that they violate the constitutional rights of whites and Asian applicants. Racial diversity, they say, may be a worthy goal, but should be achieved through race-neutral means.

"By discriminating on the basis of race at the point of competition, innocent individuals are injured in their constitutional rights," Kirk Kolbo, an attorney representing the plaintiffs challenging Michigan's law school and undergraduate admissions policies, told the Supreme Court during oral arguments April 1.

Teresa Pell, president of the Center for Individual Rights, the public interest law firm that filed the cases against Michigan, said selective law schools and medical schools could achieve significant racial diversity simply by adjusting their admissions requirements.

"Their projections assume that if you eliminate racial preferences, you don't make any other changes in your admissions policies," he said. "There is no reason they have to look at just grades and test scores."

The Bush administration and others have also suggested that colleges turn to race-neutral strategies to achieve diversity without triggering the resentment and legal challenges that often accompany race-conscious admissions plans.

"It will take time, creativity and constant attention by government and university officials to pursue effective race-neutral policies," said Secretary of Education Rodrick Paige. "However, as Americans we owe it to our heritage and to our children to meet these challenges head on, rather than looking for short cuts that divide us by race and betray the nation's fundamental principles."

In states where racial preferences have been banned in recent years — among them California, Texas, Florida, Mississippi, Georgia and Washington — colleges and universities are expanding their recruitment efforts. They are instituting programs aimed at improving minority student achievement as early as elementary school and embarking on programs that give preferences to students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

"By the Century Foundation, a New York-based research organization, projects that if economic affirmative action replaces race-conscious

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Affirmative action divides races, opponents say

Fictitious Page 10

concessions at the nation's most selective 176 colleges, the result would be a small drop in the number of black and Latino undergraduates. But achieving diversity through race-neutral means has proven much more difficult for professional schools. Part of the difficulty is that low-income whites and Asians, on average, score significantly better than middle- and upper-income blacks and Hispanics on standardized tests, making them more compelling candidates under most race-neutral admissions scenarios.

In 2001, for example, underrepresented minorities from families with incomes of $80,000 or more averaged 213 on the Medical School Admission Test; whites and Asians from families with incomes under $30,000 averaged 257.5 and 25.5, respectively.

Accounting for economic hardship will not level the admissions playing field for minority and majority medical school candidates, the Association of American Medical Colleges asserts in a brief to the Supreme Court.

At the University of California, the percentages of black and Latino students in the medical and law schools has dropped since race-conscious admissions were eliminated in 1996.

This year, black and Latino students make up 16.5 percent of the first-year medical students at the university's five state-run medical schools and 16.2 percent of first-year law students at five public law schools. In the final years of race-conscious admissions, blacks and Latinos consistently accounted for more than 20 percent of the enrollment in those schools. The declines occurred even though the University of California employs an array of race-neutral strategies aimed at boosting minority enrollment.

UCLA's law school adopted an economic affirmative action program that admits some students based on a mix of academic factors and economic obstacles they overcome. This year, 13 percent of UCLA's law students are black or Latino. In the small group considered socioeconomically disadvantaged, 40.5 percent of those admitted are black and Hispanic.

At UCLA's medical school, efforts to boost diversity include outreach to minority high school students, a summer program that prepares disadvantaged college students to apply to medical school and another that gives special help to disadvantaged students who have been rejected in the first round of medical school applications. Admissions officials also give special scrutiny to disadvantaged applicants of all races.

"If you're not going to have affirmative action, you are going to have to do something in place to help students who have difficulty getting through the pipeline," said Patricias Pratt, director of the Office of Academic Enrichment and Outreach at UCLA's medical school.

The college-level programs have established excellent records of increasing student grade-point averages and getting students into medical school. But officials said the programs reach many fewer students than the race-conscious admissions programs did.

Medical school officials said that training black and Latino doctors is crucial not only for the sake of diversity but also to help ensure that there are medical professionals willing to practice in poor and minority communities, which are typically underserved by doctors. Numerous surveys of minority medical school graduates have found that they are far more interested in practicing in poor communities than other students.

"When you're looking for medical students, there is a lot more to it than grade-point average and test scores. Nobody has shown that the best doctor is necessarily the one with the best grade-point average and MCAT scores," said Neil Parker, senior associate dean at UCLA medical school. He added that nearly every student admitted to UCLA's medical school goes on to graduate.

In evaluating medical school applicants, he said, UCLA considers a broad array of factors beyond academic credentials, including applicants' passion for medicine and ability to connect with patients.

Those are the qualities that Gilberto Hernandez Jr. believes set his medical school application apart. His undergraduate grades at UCLA were average, as were his scores on the Medical College Admission Test. But Hernandez believes he was admitted into medical school because of his volunteer work with medical outreach programs, the upward trend in his grades toward the end of his college career and the fact that UCLA considered socioeconomically disadvantaged and other factors in evaluating applicants.

Hernandez earned five letters of distinction at UCLA medical school, where he is scheduled to graduate next month. "I think people understood that I was qualified," he said, "but I just didn't have the numbers."
Identity-theft victims spend years clearing fraud claims

FROM PAGE 9

Two men who posed as computer technicians broke into the records of Florida restaurants, stealing personal information for more than 12,000 people running up more than $7 million in fraudulent charges. Those patrons had done nothing more high-tech than eating.

Workers for the Social Security Administration in Houston were caught selling personal information to get illegal aliens into the country. Given current events, that could lead to results far more sobering than a tarnished credit rating.

ID theft helped fund the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

What’s worse, there’s very little people can do to completely prevent their identity from being stolen. Victims spend up to two years to clear their names, convincing creditors they didn’t open or max out accounts. And even after everything has been settled, they aren’t protected against future thefts.

Identity theft isn’t discovered quickly and it doesn’t end quickly,” said Barbara Span, vice president of external affairs at Star Systems, the nation’s largest ATM/Debit net work. Her company regularly does ID theft research.

“Two years to clear their names, convincing creditors they didn’t open or max out accounts. And even after everything has been settled, they aren’t protected against future thefts.”

Take Michael Barlow. His case had a typical cause, but an unusual ending.

Barlow is director of curriculum for Hazel Park Schools in Detroit. A couple years ago, he got a call from one of the three agencies that compile credit reports.

The agent told him it wanted to make sure everything was O.K. There had been a flurry of activity on his account: a pile of applications for new cards, old

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Directors of bombs performed at the second annual Florida Music Festival April 10-12 in downtown Orlando. The event, organized by Axiom Magazine, created a forum for musicians and music industry executives to meet.

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The Central Florida Future • April 21, 2003

Street rock

Deans of bands performed at the second annual Florida Music Festival April 10-12 in downtown Orlando. The event, organized by Axiom Magazine, created a forum for musicians and music industry executives to meet.
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Board whacks budget behind our backs

T he chairman of the boards of trustees of Florida's 11 public universities confirmed a trend of holding executive meetings when they met privately with Gov. Jeb Bush Friday.

At the private meeting, the chairman, all appointed by Bush, discussed the state's budget, which significantly cuts funding for Florida's higher education system. Sadly, neither the public nor the press knows exactly what the chairmen talked about with the governor because neither the public nor the press could attend the meeting, possibly in violation of Florida's Open Meetings Law.

Gov. Bush anticipated criticism of the meeting afterward, "I'm sure we'll be criticized again tomorrow about this," Bush said. And they deserve criticism.

By neither announcing the meeting nor granting access to the chairmen and the governor kept the public in the dark about budget cuts that could and likely will impact the quality of education for college students throughout the state.

The chairman of the UCF Board of Trustees, Dick Nunnis, attended the meeting. Afterward, he said UCF and other universities would have to account for every dollar they spend, in light of their reduced budgets.

The budget cuts, more than $80 million, reflect the poor state of Florida's economy. Legislators seem to view public universities as less important to the state's well-being than programs such as K-12 education and health care. Perhaps they're right to sacrifice university funding for the sake of more vital programs, but they must give funding back to the universities when the economy rebounds.

However, in the meantime, while the economy crawls along, state universities will have to find new sources of revenue and cut costs. This usually causes the quality of education will suffer with reduced funding. Unless the economy improves significantly, cuts likely will follow in ensuing years. Universities should not put the brunt of the financial burden on students.

As Nunnis said, universities will have to become more accountable for their spending. They should trim expenses, avoid unnecessary projects and practices more focused conservation. They also must do more to develop basic research from the community. Universities, and UCF in particular, need all the help they can get right now especially if they want to continue growing without sacrificing the quality of education they provide.

And when the chairmen of the boards of trustees meet in the future, they should do so in public.

Our stance: Child protection continues to crumble

Although President George W. Bush wants no child left behind in education, a noble goal — his power broke something. He replaced the head of the DOE Kathleen Kennedy, last year, but her replacement, Jerry Regier, has not solved the agency's problems.

Many months after Regier took over, the same problems plague the DOE.

The DCF still needs an overhaul, including better training for caseworkers that could help prevent situations like Zachary's from happening. Zachary's continued story will not end with the death of 8-month-old boy, Zachary Bennett died while in the custody of the DCF. The caseworker continued to abuse Zachary for a month of an 8-month-old boy. Bennett died while in the custody of the DCF! We want to allow children to grow; especially at State universities, Dick Nunis; attended the meeting.

Despite the legitimate concern for children, Florida's higher education system. Sadly, Bush anticipated criticism of the meeting afterward, "I'm sure we'll be criticized again tomorrow about this," Bush said. And they deserve criticism.

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And when the chairmen of the boards of trustees meet in the future, they should do so in public.

Our stance: Disent is crucial to a vibrant democracy

As a student of history and political science, I have come to believe that the people who are the great majority of a nation's foundation, knowledge. All that the Georgia Institute of Technology experiment in government founded on the notion of free government and on the principle of government, and a government that in the opinion of government, the government should not interfere.

Reducing the merely by one step or another, they fundamentally opposed the concepts behind citizenship, which is not only in a way, but in the notion of free government, and a government that in the opinion of government, the government should not interfere.

In my mind, there exist two forms of government, one that is controlled by the people and one that is controlled by the state. The first, I think, is the only one that is important for a government that serves the people, not the government that serves the people.

Too many children have already left behind in Florida in terms of education, but children under the state's protection deserve more than what the state has provided. The DCF needs to improve right away before any more children die under the state's supervision.

Surely, after all the negative publicity that these tragic failings have generated, Gov. Bush must have the power to do something. He replaced the head of the DOE Kathleen Kennedy, last year, but her replacement, Jerry Regier, has not solved the agency's problems. Many months after Regier took over, the same problems plague the DOE.

The DCF still needs an overhaul, including better training for caseworkers that could help prevent situations like Zachary's and better compensation for caseworkers to attract more and better-qualified caseworkers. And these changes must happen sooner rather than later.

While the state shields funding for higher education, it should use some of that money to properly fund the DCF and fix its many problems. The continued incompetence and failures of the DCF embarrass the state and its residents, and call into question Florida's priorities.

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Surely, after all the negative publicity that these tragic failings have generated, Gov. Bush must have the power to do something. He replaced the head of the DOE Kathleen Kennedy, last year, but her replacement, Jerry Regier, has not solved the agency's problems. Many months after Regier took over, the same problems plague the DOE.

The DCF still needs an overhaul, including better training for caseworkers that could help prevent situations like Zachary's and better compensation for caseworkers to attract more and better-qualified caseworkers. And these changes must happen sooner rather than later.

While the state shields funding for higher education, it should use some of that money to properly fund the DCF and fix its many problems. The continued incompetence and failures of the DCF embarrass the state and its residents, and call into question Florida's priorities.

Too many children have already been left behind in Florida in terms of education, but children under the state's protection deserve more than what the state has provided. The DCF needs to improve right away before any more children die under the state's supervision.
Spoils to the victor

MICHAEL KINSLEY
THE WASHINGTON POST (D.C.)

President Bush, who was obsessed with the idea of "nation-building" during the 2003 campaign, is now nation-building America. He plans to spend something like $60 billion over the next four years to repair the "failed" nation of Iraq. The agenda includes everything from repairing the old oil fields to replacing its elementary school textbooks.

Like the Clinton administration, he now realizes that you cannot pour soldiers and bombs into a country, declare it liberated and come home.

But this is nation-building. Republican style, with huge contracts awarded in secret to politically connected companies. The Bush administration may find the "emergency" oil-field contract to Halliburton, formerly run by Vice President Cheney — and, guess, who would have predicted that Iraq's oil fields might need to be restored after a war? — is worth only $600 million, not the $7 billion originally reported. I suppose we should be grateful for that.

"In fact," in an odd twist, "we're supposed to be grateful because they're going to good old American companies and not to the filthy French or the nasty Germans or Russians who were so terribly helpless — not! — in the recent festivities." The feeling seems to be: Hey, we paid for the destruction, if it wasn't for us, there wouldn't be all these roads and bridges that need rebuilding! So if someone's going to make money rebuilding them, it ought to be us.

To be fair, the Bush administration may have had its hand in this. It didn't need to do as much as it did in securing contracts with no public bidding or discussion. Members of the House of Representatives were the ones who "choreographed" the war-financing bill that would include the awarding of reconstruction contracts to companies that didn't support the war.

The proviso was removed by the conference committee. Nevertheless, justifiable public outrage about Halliburton and other sweetheart deals has been muted by a widespread feeling that "we deserve this." Which brings to mind the punch line of that old Lennie Rager and Tonto joke ("Well, Tonto, it looks like we're surrounded by fascists"). "What do you mean, 'Wy, Kenoshe'?:"

"What am I to Halliburton? What is Halliburton to me?: Misdirected national emotion is turning into a theme of the Bush II years. We're flooded with righteous anger at Osama bin Laden, so we go and punched Saddam Hussein.

We're filled with gratitude toward the soldiers who fought this war and with self-satisfaction as the citizens who will pay for it, so we give a teary tear and a big wet kiss on the cheek to a company practically all of us have nothing to do with.

It's like getting one of those cards announcing that instead of a Christmas present, someone has made a contribution to your name to some charity you aren't interested in. "Dear American Taxpayer: We are pleased to inform you that in celebration of the birth of that old Lonesome you're going to be pouring into Iraq, the U.S. government has made a sweetheart deal on your behalf with a company you've never heard of: Fifty billion dollars — the sum of just the first expense report the Bush administration has submitted to Congress — works out to about $4,000 that needs to be kicked in by each household in the United States.

Of course we're putting it all on the credit card, to be paid for in the future, with interest. But it's still real money. If we made a contribution that big to a local public broadcasting outlet, we'd qualify for a CD recording by 30, or even 12, tenors.

From the Bush administration, we don't even get a tote bag. But at least we have the satisfaction of knowing that we share a $10 trillion economy with some milking companies that are doing well out of the war.

Reserving government contracts for domestic companies violates international law of course. It seems like just the other day that Donald Rumsfeld was scolding Saddam Hussein about the importance of obeying international law.

The World Trade Organization rules forbid government contracts against the companies of fellow members when they are looking to spend more money. This is not one of those high-minded international laws that we agreed to just because we're so noble and can't really be expected to obey, my dear fellow, we being the world's only superpower and all that.

This particular law is superpower-friendly. Our country is one of the many who benefit from open markets for government business.

We also have a smaller government share of GDP than any of our major trading partners. That means we have more to gain from access to other nations' government business than they have to gain from access to ours.

And therefore we have more to lose if other nations retaliate by cutting off our access to their government contracts, which they are understandably threatening to do. And lest we forget, the doctrine of free trade holds — based on near-mathematical proof, not just plain wishful thinking — that a nation benefits by buying foreign goods, not just by selling its own to foreigners.

As the folks boating the bill, we should want the reconstruction of Iraq to be as inexpensive as possible. If a firm from Uzbekistan can patch a pipeline for less than a firm from Texas, giving the work to that firm in Texas is just paying too much. Even if the Uzbek firm is able to understand the Texas one only because it is getting an Uzbek government subsidy, that just means a bit of the broken is being shifted from American taxpayers to the taxpayers of Uzbekistan.

Thanks so much for that Halliburton contract, George. And all the lovely deals for Bechtel and other well-connected companies. You shouldn't have.

Letters to the Editor

FROM PAGE 14

Kirke's reprise

I am more than ever shocked at the heartlessness of another writer of the magazine, but I have concerns about broken imprints brought about by the N.A.A. action against Student Body Vice President Dan Kirke. I believe what Kirke did was wrong.

I am assuming that regulations can be damaged and the jeopardy will not ever be remedied. Who cares that we do not have an accurate name about our future, or that legal letters should be read even an important charge. This in my country, though, people have said. If we do not agree with the imprudence of this, we do not agree with it. We will not do it again. And people have said, if we do not agree with the imprudence of this, we do not agree with it. We will not do it again.

If there still are products "up to temperature," I would have asked for them. Simple procedure for having the same thing. I'm not defending Mr. Kirke by any means. If I were to ask people to do this, I would have said no. But I am not concerned about broken imprints charged against the. But it is something that needs do be accounted for because of a latem date.

—JOHN TYSER

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Football will open with Sunday ESPN game

Kristy Shonka
Staff Writer

When UCF Athletic Director Steve Orsini received a call from the Mid-American Conference about changing the date of UCF's football season opener, it seemed like his wish had come true. However, the best-laid plans can often be thwarted.

Full football schedule online at ucf athletics.com

Football is a game that requires planning and strategy, and with the conference calling for a change in the opener date for both the men and the women, it becomes even more important to make the best moves at the right time. The situation at UCF was no different, as the Knights had to navigate the complexities of the conference's decision.

For the men, Stefan Wistorf became the head of the team's offense, and for the women, Anna Green led the charge. The Knights were able to compete with some of the best teams in the country, including the Georgia State Gamecocks, who came in second and third in the A-Sun Championships held in Daytona Beach, with third and fourth pace to the Knights.

The championship game was the first in the history of the A-Sun, and it was an outstanding achievement for both the men and the women. The Knights were able to win the conference title, and Orsini was thrilled with the outcome.

Men's tennis claims first A-Sun title

Sadie Sham
Staff Writer

The championship game, the level of play, the opposing team — these were all familiar aspects to the Knights, who clinched their first-ever Atlantic Sun Conference Championship on Saturday, defeating third-seeded Georgia State, 4-1.

The game was held at the University of West Florida, and the Knights were able to win both singles matches and the doubles match, leading to a 4-1 victory.

For the first time in school history With the loss, the Panthers ended their season at 16-3.

UCF defeated ninth-seeded Florida Atlantic, 4-3, Thursday afternoon and advanced to the 2003 Atlantic Sun Conference Championships semifinals. UCF will play the Owls (9-13), who finished third at the Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament, at 2003 Atlantic Sun Conference.

The championship game will take place on Saturday at the University of West Florida and is set for 1:30 p.m. on Sundays. The winner will advance to the semifinals, where they will face Georgia State. The semifinal will be played at 1:30 p.m. on Sundays.

Freshman Wistorf wins A-Sun men's golf title

Jon Kutilek
Staff Writer

The UCF men's and women's golf teams completed their seasons last Friday with the Atlantic Sun Championships held in Daytona Beach, with third and fourth pace finishes, respectively.

For the men, Stefan Wistorf became the third Knight in school history to win the conference title. The freshman set an A-Sun record for the lowest round in history with a 243, good enough for 11th overall. Green was the lowest tournament score in history with a three-day total of 849.

For the women, Anna Green led the pack with a 243, followed closely by Kristin Sordel with a 237.

The A-Sun marked the end of the season for both the men and the women, who look forward to next season to make it back to the NCAA tournament.
Knights rise, then fall

After beating FAU's ace Friday, the Knights dropped both games of Saturday's doubleheader

By CHris BERNHARDT

What started out as a series full of promise turned into a comedy of errors, literally, for the UCF baseball team this weekend. Taking on 15th-ranked Florida Atlantic in the Atlantic Sun, the Golden Knights continued a recent hot streak by producing the conference's best pitcher for an 8-1 victory Friday night to begin the three-game home set. But rather than build on that win and turn into a mid-season turnaround season around, they played two of their most inept games of the season on route to dropping both games of Saturday's doubleheader and losing the key series two games to one.

"We got out-pitched, out-hit and out-everythinged," coach Jeff Bergman said. "But you got to give Florida Atlantic credit. That's why they're ranked 15th and their pitching staff is much deeper and stronger than ours. At least it was (Saturday)."

It didn't look that way at first. Friday's series opener pit­ted two former high school teammates and current best best friends against one another, with the Blue Waves' Danny Core starting opposite Von David Stertzbach.

"That's the first time that we've ever started against each other," Stertzbach said. "I said Hi to him before the game today and wished him luck and he did the same to me. We're best friends off the field, but when we step between those lines it's time to compete. And he knows that as well as I do."

Core, who came into the game with a conference leading 1.00 ERA, had his worst outing of the season against UCF. He got a 1-0 lead early when Rusty Brown singled home Mike Murray and held it until the fourth inning, left fielder David Mann put a double down the left-field line to score both base runners and Ryan Bono knocked him home on a double that UCF needed to.

"He went out there and really established that he wanted to win that ballgame. He set the tone for the rest of the team and then we scored some runs," Stertzbach (2-4), returning to the weekend rotation after spending the last month on the hill in the bullpen, went a career-long 8 1/3 innings with a single, and after two fly outs to third base and giving up just two earned runs, striking out eight.

"I think [UCF pitching coach Greg] Cozart did a great job of keeping those guys off-balance and I located real well tonight," Stertzbach said. "I guess that's key to any pitcher but being able to locate is definitely what got me there tonight."

Then came Saturday, when UCF committed four errors and mustered just one run and five hits in two seven-inning games, losing 9-0 and 6-1.

Feeling Randy Beam (9-1, 2.49 ERA) in the first game of the double­header. UCF needed to play some of its best ball of the year. But in the top of the second inning, left fielder David Mann mishandled a fly ball off the bat of Rusty Brown into a single. Matt Pill came up next and hit a triple into the right-field corner to give the Blue Wave a 1-0 advantage.

Leading off the following inning, left-hander a ground ball to put Robert Orton on, which began a two-run rally that also included a run scored off a Wallace error at third base. That proved plenty of support for Beam, who never saw a runner reach second base and allowed just one hit and one walk in seven innings after giving up the first run in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader against Florida Atlantic. The Knights lost that game 9-0.

Please See Stertzbach on 18
Shedden wins 10,000 meters

From PAGE 16

Sophomore Ann Larsen's high jump of 5 feet, 7 inches earned her second place in the event. UCF owned the hammer throw, with Wilson, sophomore Liz Jovancik and freshman Blain Thomas finishing second, third and fifth, respectively. Wilson recorded another second-place finish in the shot-put and a fourth in the discus. Thomas finished fourth in the shot-put. Freshman Michelle Olandeau won the discus event and finished sixth in the javelin.

Freshman Sam Scheueran and freshman Kylene Colensanti rounded out UCF's domination of the field events with fourths and sixth-place finishes in the pole vault, respectively.

Outstanding senior Shedden returned from her pre-injury form and won the 10,000 meters in 37 minutes, 61.21 seconds. Freshman Andrew Morse upset the favorite to win the 3,000-meter steeplechase by finishing 10:59.72. Junior Dianna Colensanti finished fourth in the 4,000 meters in 17:44.44, and sophomore Amy Gilberg finished second in the 3,000 meters in 9:42.12, also finishing in fourth. Freshman AshtynCable finished third in the 800 meters with a time of 2:15.61.

Freshman Kim Wapph took fourth in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 14.43 seconds in an extremelty tight race—one-hundredth of a second separated fourth and fifth place. Colensanti finished one-hundredth of a second ahead of teammate Emily Pugh for third place in the 100-meter hurdles.

Garcia finished third in the 100-meter dash in 11.95 seconds and sixth in the 200-meter dash in 24.80 seconds.

Stertzbach, Fox move into weekend rotation

From PAGE 17

innings of work. FAU added two runs in the fourth to knock out UCF starter Mark Michael (0-1) and four in the seventh to quash any chance of a comeback.

Still, the Knights had a chance to win the series if they could pull out a victory in the season finale of the doubleheader. But more shoddy defense and poor pitching filled that notion quickly as UCF fell 7-3.

"We played... real flat,'" Bergman said. "No energy didn't make some players play in the balkage, both ballgames, that could have been made that would have golden the pitchers out of their jams."

In both, Minkes (3-5) allowed a leadoff double to Evan Bramson in the first inning and allowed him to come around and score on a single by Brown three batters later. Full then came to plate and hit a single into shallow left that Mann drove for but couldn't come up with, bringing Brown all the way from first.

Later in the inning Derek Hostin hit an RBI double to make the score 4-0, then scored when shortstop Matt Cox committed two errors by bobbng Tim Mascia's grounder then failing the throw over Derz's head at first.

Much like the first game, the Knights' bats fizzled. They did get four hits in this game and scored a run in the fifth on a single by Ryan Boon. But just two runners reached second base, as four Blue Wave pitchers combined to confound UCF through out the contest. Chris Sexton, the first reliever out of the pen, took the win to improve to 3-2.

UCF very much in danger of missing the conference tournament, fell to 25-17-1 in Regionals. In the A-Sun, FAU is now 34-10, 16-6. The Knights take on Bedingham- Cookman at home Monday night and have a road weekend series against Gardner-Webb, and are running out of time to salvage this season.

"I've done everything I can do," Bergman said. "I've enjoyed them and kicked them and done everything that you can do. I think it's just a matter of us playing like (Friday), like the three games prior to that. If I know the answers I'd be in Yankee Stadium right now."

Notes

Two Brown's hitting streak ended at 12 games when he went 0-for-3 in Saturday's first game. ... Shortstop Jon Cope hit the final three games with an ankle injury. ... Matt Fox will start and pitch four innings in Tuesday's game, then take Minkes' spot in the weekend rotation. ... Stertzbach replaced Taylor Cobb in the rotation. Cobb came on to get the final two outs of Saturday's first game.

Men's tennis earns berth to NCAAs

From PAGE 16

Gursey, who breezed at No. 5, 6-1, 6-0.

In semifinal play, UCF defeated fourth-seeded Stetson, 4-1, on Friday. It was their second meeting this season after the Knights swept the Hatters, 7-4, on Feb. 14 in DeLand.

UCF won two doubles matches to win at No. 1, Catalin Bras and Antonio Sierra blanked Berger Seidell and Vittorio Pratini, 8-4. The other victorious UCF pair was Simon Jaeger and Augusto Sanabria, who topped Alexander Antonio and Jason Correa, 8-2.

The Knights only needed three singles wins to claim the match and they did so, sweeping the No. 4 through 6 spots. Sierra defeated Pratini, 6-3, 6-1 at No. 4, At No. 3, Ener Gursey got past Marie Coyne, 6-2, 6-0. The final UCF winner was Jaeger, who ousted Cornelius, 7-6, 6-2. Only Sanabria fell to Stetson's Birger at the No.3 spot 6-4, 6-1.

"Our doubles team played great the whole tournament," UCF coach Bobby Cashman said. "That was our focus going in and I am really proud of our effort."

The Knights took control of the doubles matches early and went on to win the first point of the day at No. 2. Simon Jaeger and Augusto Sanabria defeated Matias Ormaza and Albano Franco, 6-2, 6-3. Gabriel Friedberg and Birger Strangberg clinched the Knights' point at No. 6

UCF won its first A-Sun title in its fifth attempt. Last season, the Knights lost to Georgia State, 4-0 in the final.

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The Central Florida Future • April 21, 2003
Knights open season with ‘great opportunity’

FROM PAGE 16

Now play their first game of the sea- son on Aug. 31. The change means UCF will play on a Friday night time and will have its season opener aired on ESPN for the second season in a row.

The Knights now have two nationally televised games on their 2013 schedule, with the possibility that another could be added. Along with the Virginia Tech game in Blacksburg, Va., UCF’s Nov. 13 game against East Carolina will be on either ESPN or ESPN2.

Patients with cancer problems for college teams, UCF is in the clear. One of the potential problems comes with student athletes having to go through a practice two days a week, which is not ideal for some in the medical field. The Virginia Tech game is over Labor Day weekend, which means an off-season Monday and the Knights don’t have a game the following weekend, which means they’ll have plenty of time to prepare for hosting a top 10 opponent and a non-conference game.

It was an uneventful, great ‘opportunity’” Ostoli said.

The Knights finished last season 7-5 overall and 6-2 in the AAC.

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UCF lightweight 8+ wins at SIRAS

The sixth-ranked women’s lightweight 8+ crew highlighted the list of UCF rowers at the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships at Melton Lake on Saturday.

The Lightweight 8+ boat — which included Tiffany Richmond, Lauren Gambel, Meghan Comfort, Heather Seward, Tiffany Beck, Laura Brad, Kristen Rosentreter, Katherine Motes and coxswain Summer Taylor — earned the gold medal in its event with a time of 6:35.7.

Meanwhile, the Novice 8+ crew of Aliene Bogart, Catherine Brown, Lauren Oaks, Kristin Ronch, Holly Campbell, Jackie Miller, Summer Tufull and Catherine Richardson won coxswain Heather Brown earned the bronze with 7:06.3.

After coming in fourth in the semifinals, the Novice 8+ crew was relocated to the 50-meter gate, while the pair of Celine Woolley and Ashley Shaughn earned the bronze.

The Golden Knights return to action on May 9 at the two-day Dad Val Regatta in Philadelphia, Pa.

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Women’s tennis season ends

SADIE SHAM

Staff Writer

For the win back-to-back Atlantic Sun Conference titles, the UCF women’s tennis team scraped an eight-match winning streak Friday at the Cummings Tennis Center in DeLand. The third-seeded Golden Knights fell in the conference semifinals to second-seeded Florida Atlantic, 4-1, after beating out sixth-seeded Jacksonville, 4-1, Thursday.

The Jacksonville Dolphins (14-9) earned the first point of Thursday play winning two of three doubles matches. UCF’s Mariche Guzman and Kristina Lohmos saw the only doubles victory as they won 8-4 at No. 3 over Martine Hujame and Amber Otto. The rest of the team struggled as Tammam Kaftolovich and Kristina Park defeated UCF’s Julie Peesnlag and Pamela Fernandez 6-4 at the No. 2 spot. On Larcian and Anna Westin lost to Veronica Sabatier and Lidia Martinova 8-4 (4) at No. 1.

However, UCF fought back in singles play. They picked up four victories to take the match. At No. 2, Peesnlag defeated Hujame, 6-2, 6-1. Anna Westin played No. 4, topped Strussova, 6-4, 6-1.

Also winning in straight sets was Lohmos at No. 1. The junior got past Kalothov, 6-2, 6-1. The final UCF victory of the day was No. 6, where On Larcian was a 6-1, 6-4 winner over Otto.

In Friday play, the Owls won two doubles matches to secure the first point. Guzman and Lohmos won 8-4 at No. 3, beating out Thaina Rivers and Kristy Boeg for the Knights. However, Peesnlag and Fernandez fell to Maria Aguirre-Gomez and Jessica Burrow 6-2 at the No. 2 spot.

Also defeated were Larcian and Westin, who were outpowered at the No. 5 spot 6-1 by YuMa’s Alena Dzhekucka and Karolina Rodyklova.

On the singles side, PAU quickly won three matches to clinch the victory. At the No. 1 spot Dzhekucka defeated Guzman 6-2, 6-0 and Aguirre-Gomez dropped Westin 6-1, 6-2 at the No. 2 spot. Also defeated was Fernandez as she fell to Boeg at the No. 5 spot 6-4, 7-6. UCF did have one solo win at No. 4, where Lohmos topped Hujame, 6-1, 6-1.

UCF’s season ended with a 3-7 record.

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Softball sweeps, gets swept

UCF took two from Troy State, lost two to Mercer

KRISTY SHONKA

Staff Writer

The UCF softball team had its streak of 20 consecutive Atlantic Sun Conference wins broken Saturday by Mercer. One day after upsetting Troy State, the Knights were on the receiving end of a sweep. The Bears beat UCF 5-3 and 9-0.

The losses dropped the Knights to 34-27 overall and 13-5 in the A-Sun.

Game one against the Bears began as a pitcher duel, with neither team scoring until the sixth inning. UCF got the scoring started when pitcher Double Kaywood knocked a home run to left field that scored Jten Whitley and Stephanie Best for a 3-0 lead. But the Bears rebounded in the bottom of the inning, scoring all five of their runs on two outs. Nikki Bowery got the scoring started with a solo home run, and pitcher Katie Rosentreter scored the final run of the inning on a throwing error by Kaywood Clark.

Rosentreter allowed just three UCF hits in one inning, while Cupp pitched 5 2/3 innings, giving up five runs (two earned) and striking out six.

In game two, the Knights rallied back from a 3-1 deficit to tie the score in the sixth inning, but Meghan Clark hit a walk-off home run in the seventh to win the game for the Bears. Mercer held the Knights scoreless until the fifth inning when Whitley got things started with a double. Taylor Sawyer singled, and both she and Whitley scored when Best hit her 11th home run of the season, making the score 3-4.

Whitley became just the second play- er in UCF history to hit a grand slam in the sixth inning when capping off a six-run inning for the Knights. Mercer held UCF scoreless in the seventh inning, setting up Clark’s game-ending shot.

Whitley finished the game 3-for-4 with a grand slam, double, two runs and four RBIs and Best was 2-for-3 with three RBIs and a homer. Philly Simmons got the loss in relief of Sawyer. The sopho- more pitched three innings and gave up five runs, but only one was earned.

Rosentreter pitched the final two innings for the Bears to earn her second save of the day.

The Knights played without right fielder Rachel Schmidt in the double- header. Schmidt got hurt in the first game of Friday’s doubleheader against Troy State. She played in the second game, but didn’t last. Simmons and Sawyer played right against Mercer while Lindsay Kauky and Jenna Wims set the lineup in left field.

Through Thursday Schmidt was second on the team with a 3.31 batting average, .511 slugging percentage and 37 RBIs. Whitley moved into the leadoff spot in Schmidt’s absence.

In Friday’s games against Troy State Capp got a win, and went 7- for-7 from the plate with a home run, a double and four RBIs. Capp shut out the Trojans 4-0 in the first game and UCF won 7-0 in the second.

Schmidt and Whitley scored in the third inning to give UCF a 4-0 lead.

Shiobara scored on an RBI single by Clark in the sixth and bested out in the seventh to give the Knights their fourth 4-0 lead. Capp scattered five hits over seven innings and struck out three, while going 5-for-4 with an RBI at the plate.

Simmons got the scoring started in game two for the Knights, hitting her first home run of the season in the second inning. Whitley added an RBI double and a two-run single in the third and fourth innings to give the Knights a 4-0 lead.

The Trojans scored their first run of the day in the bottom of the fourth, but Capp knocked a three-run home run in the fifth to give UCF a 7-1 lead.

Sawyer gave up her first earned runs in A-Sun play in the fifth inning and Capp came into the game with no outs, runners on first and second, the Knights up 7-3 and recorded three straight outs to end the scoring. Sawyer earned the win. While Capp got her second save of the season after pitching three innings with one hit or less on the day.

The Knights lost to No. 22 South Florida on Wednesday 9-0 and 5-1. The 9- 0 loss was only the second time UCF has been run-rulled this season. The Knights managed just three hits in that game and fell victim to an eight-run fourth inning. Capp pulled ahead of the Bulls twice in the second game, but both times UCF rallied to regain the lead.

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IM season ends; champs crowned

Julie Reeves
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's official. The spring semester of intramural sports action has come to an end, but not without crowning many new champions.

Flag football

In four-on-four flag football, worlds collided when the Phoenix beat Lambda Chi, 26-19 to win the competitive league flag football title.

The women's final saw one of the legendary intramural coaches finally win his first title as the Dreadnaughts knocked off Rock You. The Recreational final didn't disappoint either, as PCA took apart Phi Delta Theta, 34-14.

Flag hockey

The first-ever five-on-five co-ed flag hockey championship belittled Bulls with Nice Luggage, winning 18-3 in five innings, to keep their championship, but the Bandits were looking to double as the UCF soccer team, too. GDI put up a tough fight before scoring the game's first goal, but the Bandits were ultimately victorious, 5-4. Lambda Chi was denied their second title and they were on the sidelines as Lambda Chi took out GDI 7-1. The Bouf Cakes, who were looking to play for the playoffs this year, fell to the Red Rockets.

Floor hockey

The competitive league floor hockey final was an instant classic, as a packed house watched as the Chicks took out GDI 7-1. The Bouf Cakes, who were looking to double as the UCF softball team, too, were forced to play the title game on the 1-0 mark.

In the women's tournament, Pack Off was looking to defend their title from 2002 floor hockey, and Alpha Delta Pi was seeking their second championship of the night.

ADPI led 1-0 over Pack Off after an early goal by Lori Correnti. ADPI appeared on their way to the title with 18.5 seconds remaining, until Amanda King played hero and put one top shelf to tie the game. The game went two overtime periods before King was hero again, ending the game in sudden death, 2-1.

The comp final was another instant classic, as a packed gym watched DU and Lambda Chi go to overtime, were DU finally able to put Lambda Chi away 5-4. Lambda Chi was denied their second title of the day, although things looked good from the start. An early goal put them up 1-0, before DU stormed back to take a 2-1 lead. DU looked as if they would win in regulation, but a late 3rd period goal forced OT.

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Beware the travails of travel abroad

Author's advice: Go, but go with a plan

GENO MEHALIK CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Vivek Wagie, coordinating author of Lonely Planet's "Europe on a Shoestring," has traveled the world. But he wasn't repelling off mountainsides in Scandinavia or walking past small shops in Italy last Wednesday. Wagie's second-to-last stop on his book promotion tour was the UCF Student Union, where he offered expert advice to future travelers in the areas of planning trips, packing and staying safe abroad.

Wagie said that anyone planning to journey overseas needs to become familiar with their destination through researching maps, books or the Internet. "Guidebooks give advice and help you create an itinerary," he said. Wagie also advised travelers to bring their research materials with them.

"You're always going to change your plans," he said. "You're going to want to stay in some place longer or skip a place that doesn't look interesting. A guidebook will show you the fastest and cheapest ways to travel."

Reviewing safety tips ensures travelers will have a stress-free, fun vacation. A guidebook will show you the best cities and hotels in different regions; and which countries are safe abroad.

"I've been to all 50 states of the United States, 150 countries of Europe, and stayed in more than 40 countries of Africa, Asia and South America," said Wagie, who has traveled the world since he was a government agent. 

"Every time I've gone, I've packed less than the time before," he said.

Wagie stressed the importance of versatile clothing. Bringing matching outfits that can be worn in different combinations. Because Europe is a little more formal than other regions, bring a pair of light cotton pants and a dress.

"You're going to stay some place longer or skip a place that doesn't look interesting. A guidebook will show you the fastest and cheapest ways to travel," he said.

Please See Research on 23

Dying for an 'A'

KATRINA HAMMER STAFF WRITER

Screams echoed the halls and caution tape covered the doorways after six bodies were found in Classroom 1 building last Friday. Faculty members and student workers lay on desks and tables in various rooms on the second floor, bright red blood dripping from their bodies and clothes.

While startling, this scene was neither a gruesome act of violence nor a nasty practical joke — it was a final exam.

Alice Korosy, an instructor of Honors Elementary Spanish I, has created this murder mystery at least six times previously as a creative alternative to the traditional written test.

Divided into three small groups, the 17 students in the class had to run through the building looking for clues to the "murder." The challenge: They were only allowed to speak to each other in Spanish.

The proof is in the videotapes they made of themselves asking questions along the way, and which will be reviewed by Korosy to help determine their final grades.

Korosy hesitates to stage the skit every year because of the violent concepts associated with it. But her students understand that it's purely for entertainment and prefer her approach to more conventional teaching methods.

Sophomore Matt Dombrowski, 20, said Korosy's unique instruction is far more effective than that of other professors. "It's better than reading a book and having a quiz," he said. "It was more fun than hard, and it really gets the curiosity flowing."

As the students raced through the rooms, they found more clues and more bodies. The "victims" had been doused in stage blood by Korosy just moments before. With the help of her niece, she also ran from room to room, creating scenes for her students to encounter.

Senior Scott Anderson, 22, acted as one of the dead bodies. "All Korosy made me do it," he said, smirking. "But I didn't please see killer on 26"
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EJUCA VILLANUEVA / UCF

Research customs and laws of a country before visiting

FROM PAGE 21

comfortable shoes, he said. While heavy suitcases can make traveling difficult, a backpack is a necessity for a mobile vacationer. "If you're going from city to city, don't skimp on your backpack," he said.

"A backpack should be three things: big enough, durable and comfortable," Wagle said testing a backpack is essential. "You need to walk a good quarter mile with it before you know its quality," he said. He added that when picking a backpack, look for one that "Many people do not know it is easier to use automatic teller machines. Credit cards are accepted throughout much of Europe as well. If your card has a VISA logo, you can probably use it," he said.

"However, American Express is accepted nowhere!" Wagle also stressed the importance of knowing legal rights in each locale. He said many Americans travel abroad with no knowledge of other countries' laws, and it is important to remain responsible overseas. "Many people do not know that in Bulgaria if you are caught drinking and driving once, you are put in jail," he said. "However, if you are caught drinking and driving twice, you are executed!"

While the chances of getting in trouble with the government seem slim, the threat of being hassled by the locals is always very real. "There are more local scams than I can think of," he said.

Wagle did not wish to scare students, but he stressed caution. "It's not like everyone is out to get you," he said. "Whenever there is a whole bunch of small children around, or any large crowd for that matter, stay alert!"

Wagle said it's best for Americans traveling abroad to keep a low profile. Research the area, and know the local customs. "The price of freedom is responsibility," he said.

Yet travel offers invaluable opportunities, he said. "Traveling abroad exposes people to new experiences and cultures. It is both a communal and personally enriching experience."
Price check: Students pay for campus convenience

Many items are available for less a few blocks away

A 5,000-square-foot grocery store near the Marketplace cafe is under consideration to provide for those students who may be under nourished by current food venues, Leoland said.

In addition to creating more vendors, Leoland said UCF Dining Services readily accepts suggestions from students about improving their choices on campus. “We do try to feedback from students about pricing,” he said.

Many students welcome them, why overcharging remains a problem. Junior Melanie McNeill, 19, said the prices at the campus Subway run higher than at other off-campus Subway.

A comparison between the campus vendor and a Subway on Alafia showed the prices generally were consistent, with the exception of the Veggie Delite sandwich, which is 15 cents more on-campus.

Yet McNeill said the campus Subway does not accept coupons, another disadvantage. Because Subway restaurants are independently-owned, each store can decide whether or not to accept coupons from customers. Campus Subway Manager Ryan Bellistri said not accepting coupons may be a campus-wide policy.

The Student Union’s Wendy’s also charges more than most off-campus restaurants.

Sophomore Charles Holtan, 20, is annoyed by the lack of a 90-cent menu at the campus Wendy’s. Items from that budget menu in particular cost 10 cents more than at the Wendy’s versus off-campus.

Senior Melissa Hayes, 23, said that her finances, and those of her peers, do not match the prices charged on campus.

“We are college students, and obviously our budgets are tighter,” she said. “I think that the school should look into lowering food prices.”

However, what students pay in overcharges at campus convenience stores, they make up for in lower campus vending-machine prices. Vended beverages on-campus cost less than all other outlets surveyed, at 90 cents for a 20-ounce soda or water. Students who pay with their UCF ID card save 50 cents.

Overcharge prices for school supplies generally were more competitive with off-campus prices. At the UCF OfficePlus, a campus office supply store, black Sharpie markers cost just 48 cents, compared to $1.49 at a Mall Etc. store located north of campus.

OfficePlus’s prices on products surveyed generally ran below that of the UCF Bookstore next door, and typically were similar to the price of the same supplies off-campus.

Janet Netten, OfficePlus’s retail supervisor, said the prices reflect the contrast in business models between her store and the UCF Bookstore. OfficePlus does most of its business with academic and department business accounts for only 8 percent of the store’s revenue.

“We’re not in competition with the bookstores,” Netten said. “Our main purpose is to be here for the departments.”

She said the store sets its prices so more of the departments’ costs can go toward academics, rather than off-supplies. “They have to stretch their dollars as far as they can,” she said.

By contrast, the UCF Bookstore does most of its business through student sales. Its UCF total is one of nearly 500 stores in the Barnes and Noble College Bookstores chain. Though bookstores comprise most of the store’s business, it also sells office supplies and some food products.

The bookstore charges the most of all on- and off-campus venues for the products surveyed. For example, four AAA Energizer batteries at the bookstore cost $3.98, more than a dollar above the off-campus average.

The $1.25 price of a 20-ounce Dasani water bottle at the bookstore also topped the comparison price list. The same bottle sells for 89 cents at the CB&S Bookstore across Alaldon Trail from campus, or can be had for 85 cents with a UCF ID card at a vending machine outside the bookstore’s doors.

“Pens and pencils are three to four times more expensive on-campus than they would be off-campus,” sophomore Justin Becerra, 20, said. “Tissue paper is about $1.29. You can get that somewhere else for half the price.”

Though students continue to gripe about the cost of living on-campus and the peril of surviving on smaller budgets, one factor seems to outweigh any discomfort the prices may cause.

Said Italian: “When it comes down to it, you are paying for the convenience.”

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Editors’ note: The prices in this report reflect a survey conducted between April 19-18 at the following outlets:

On-campus: Wendy’s, Subway, Chick-fil-A, BrightLights Convenience Store, UCF Bookstore, UCF OfficePlus and Open-Outlet vending machines.

Off-campus: Wendy’s, Subway, Chick-fil-A, Chick-fil-A, Publix, Richardson’s Market, Neighborhood Fresh Market, Publix, Publix, Mall Etc.

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TV stereotypes create a false image, says FBI agent wannabe

FROM PAGE 21

"[TV shows] hype it up and create larger-than-life personalities that don't exist," he said.

But Vliet concedes the FBI doesn't do much to correct these myths, either.

"The prestige, the excitement, the challenge—it all comes with being an FBI agent," he said.

Agents come from varying backgrounds, according to Vliet. Some are lawyers and some served in the military.

Vliet already has his bachelor's degree in psychology and is currently working on his master's in criminal justice.

Without the help of any UCF professors or former FBI agents, Vliet is paving his own path.

"I've tried to make contacts with the government," Vliet said. "I have connections with the DEA and other immigration units. I just need to work with the government a little bit."

Vliet hopes to get a job with the Drug Enforcement Agency or work with INS as a special agent in investigations.

Within five years, Vliet expects to apply for the FBI's 16-week training course, which trains future agents on everything from ethics to firearms.

Yet getting chosen for the course is difficult, he said. Background checks can take up to a year while the bureau explores a candidate's history going back 10 or 15 years.

"It's hard just to get selected to take the tests," Vliet said. "Let's say you pass the ethics portion, but fail the firearms portion; they hold you back," he said.

Vliet said his criminal justice classes are not preparing him well for his future career.

"The classes aren't really geared for an FBI profession. There are a lot of courses dealing with the police, and [they are] more geared for a career in that field."

Last summer Vliet attended a seminar at UCF dealing with the scientific study of death. He plans on attending a seminar this summer that will discuss terrorism.

Vliet is motivated by his studies on serial crimes. Another book, John Douglas' "Sometimes the Dragon Wins," about killers who were never convicted, has inspired him to work harder toward his desired career.

The author got the title for his work from a cartoon duel between a knight and a dragon, with a quote saying, "Sometimes the dragon wins."

Vliet said the cartoon implies that you can't catch everyone. But he is willing to try.

He knows there is a lot of work ahead, but he is ready for the challenge.

"It's going to take a lot of hard work. I've never been one to quit," he said. "I can't give up anything."
Hundreds of one-of-a-kind pottery pieces were for sale at UCF's annual pottery sale held in front of the Student Union last week.

Killer test puts language studies to use in ‘crime’ investigation

FROM PAGE 21

mind.

Korosy said she is always looking for ways to get students to use what they are learning. She said she would rather they master the material than memorize facts on flashcards.

"When you say anything in a language, you're going to make a mistake," she said.

Dombrowski agreed that practice is the best way to learn Spanish. "It's a speaking language," he said, "so you have to use it in conversation."

Korosy said she uses this type of exam specifically to push her students' limits. Honors students typically are highly motivated people who have wanted to learn all along, she said.

"Honors students traditionally do not like making mistakes, so this final is designed to demonstrate [their ability] to themselves," she said.

At the end of the skit, students caught Korosy "red-handed," as she met them standing in a room with stage blood covering her hands. The tapes that students filmed of themselves solving the crime will be reviewed by Korosy and will count as the oral component of the class's final exam.

At the end of the mystery trail, students encountered instructor Alice Korosy "red-handed," as she met them standing in a room with stage blood covering her hands.

The tapes that students filmed of themselves solving the crime will be reviewed by Korosy, and will count as the oral component of the class's final exam.

Eric Stevenson

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When Roger Olney used the Kazaa file-sharing service to
download a utility for his home
computer, he got a rude intro-
duction to the slippery world of
spyware.

First, he mistakenly down-
loaded and installed a file called
eblaster.exe: 

"I
am aware now after some
research that eblaster is a
program that monitors keystrokes
(gulp) in super
stealth
mode
(shiver, double
gulp)," Olney
wrote to members
of the discus-
sion group alt.privacy.spyware,
where he turned for emergency
help.

But, as
group
members
would later inform
him, the
Kazaa
Media Desktop program
itself was already monitoring
much of
Olney's
activity.

Unbeknownst to
most
users, Sharman
Networks
Ltd.'s
Kazaa
—is
the
world's
most
popular
post-Napster
file-sharing
program — has built-in
software
that spies on its
users.

Kazaa is partnered with
Brilliant Digital, which makes
software that is downloaded and
invisibly
installed with
Kazaa
Media Desktop.

Also, Brilliant's software
automatically hooks users into
yet another network, Altnet,
which can track behavior as
well as
store
and
retrieve targeted
banner ads and pop-ups.

It even seeks to profit from
spying.

Last year, the revelation
that Brilliant's software had
been piggybacking on Kazaa
led to some consumer
backlash.

Technically, the Altnet program
could be called adware, tracking
software that users
agree
to
download
as
part
of the End
User License Agreements. But
EULAs are so filled with legal
jargon that they're
largely
unread.

Many Kazaa users protested
that Brilliant's tactics qualify it
as
spyware, software that
monitors users without asking
permission. The EULA
language
is 5,000
words long and almost
incoherent, they argue. One
 programmer even
developed
Kazaa
Lite
(www.kazaalite.com), which is
Kazaa
without Altnet.

Still, more than 60
million
users worldwide have installed
the
Kazaa
Media Desktop.
Most
are unaware that their
machines
can track their
behavior
and
hook into Altnet.

"The masses are being vic-
timized all the time," says
Grey
McKenzie, CEO of SpyCop Inc.
(www.spycop.com), makers of a
program that detects
spy- and
adware. "I think you now have to
protect yourself against these
programs, just like you scan
for
viruses."

Spyware and adware are
being increasingly used by
programmers to make money. When
McKenzie started his company
three years ago, for example,
SpyCop's database recognized
only about 30 commercially
available spyware programs —
mostly monitoring software used
by spouses, parents and corpo-

DOUG BIEJELL
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS (KRT)

Popular software
keeps unwelcome
watch on PC users

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Monitoring software may be impossible to uninstall

FROM PAGE 27

nations.

Today, after expanding SpyCop’s reach to include adware, McKenzie’s database encompasses more than 350 monitoring programs.

“It’s a huge industry now,” McKenzie said. “Let’s face it. There’s big business in getting people’s attention, and people willingly partake of these programs. Then suddenly they notice they’re getting pop-ups all over their computers when they visit certain Web sites.”

McKenzie’s company sells SpyCop for $45.95, but free adware/spyware scanners are also available. They include Ad-Aware by LavaSoft (www.lavasoft.nu), which has won PC World magazine’s top award for software.

Ad-Aware has become an indispensable tool for many savvy computer repairers. Increasingly, users are complaining of programs directly attributable to adware and spyware.

F. Lee Pyles, owner of CompuC.omp Computers in Houston, Texas, says it has become commonplace to find dozens of monitoring software installations on machines he repairs. Often, these programs run in the background, invisibly sapping processing power.

“I had one the other day that had more than 125 executable files that Ad-Aware found,” Pyles said. “It was running like a dog. No sooner had I removed all that stuff and it was like I’d released the emergency brake on a car. It just came back to life.”

Some monitoring software programs are almost impossible to uninstall. They may contain fake uninstall components that trick users into reinstalling, rather than deleting them.

“Other times, you’ll try to uninstall and they’ll want you to take a survey or they ask you, ‘Why are you leaving?’” said Pyles. “Others will try and take you to their Web site. And they’ll never completely clean out the directories they create. You’ve got to do that manually.”

Most of the modern adware and spyware programming is poor quality, says McKenzie.

“It messes up your computer big time, and who’s to know?” he said. “If people realize that this kind of stuff is going on, maybe something will happen.”

Perhaps popular spots such as Download.com will some day become spy- and adware free zones, he said. But until consumers encounter widespread identification of theft or machinery problems, McKenzie holds little hope for reform.

“You’ve got an epidemic here,” McKenzie said. “This kind of programming gives an 8-year-old the ability to become a seasoned hacker. And that’s just scary.”

E-mail your questions to: Askadoc@mail.uwf.edu

Patti Stuart
KIVU Healthy Life Services

My doctor told me I have vulvodynia. Can you explain to me what it is and how it is treated?

Vulvodynia is a chronic vulvar discomfort or pain, characterized by burning, stinging, irritation or inflammation of the female genitalia in cases in which there is no infection or skin disease of the vulva or vagina causing these symptoms. Burning sensations are the most common, but the type and severity of symptoms are highly individualized. Pain may be constant or intermittent, localized or diffuse.

The causes of vulvodynia are still unknown, but it has been suggested the following may be the cause or can be contributory factors leading to this condition:

• An injury, or irritation, of the nerves of the vulva.
• An abnormal response of different cells in the vulva to environmental factors (such as infection or trauma).
• Genetic factors.
• A localized hyperexcitability to chemicals (vaginal).

Vulvodynia encompasses more than 125 executable programs on my new computer, but I can’t find a way to remove them. How can I get rid of all these programs?

SpyCop for $49.95, but you may also contact the following organizations to obtain further information or addresses of local support groups:

National Vulvodynia Association
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Telephone: (800) 399-8775
Web site: www.nva.org

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